



DATE: March 11, 2025

SUBJECT: Puget Sound Regional Committees (PSRC) Update, February 2025

Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)

At its February 6 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Recommended the Executive Board certify the comprehensive plans for the cities of Lakewood, Mountlake Terrace, and Stanwood.** The comprehensive plans were reviewed by PSRC staff in accordance with the adopted plan review process using PSRC's Plan Review Manual and VISION 2050 consistency tool. The plans were found to be substantially consistent with VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan and to conform to transportation planning requirements in the Growth Management Act. The final action for certification of these plans was on the February 27 Executive Board consent agenda (below). Bellevue's comprehensive plan will go through the PSRC certification process in March. Full certification is anticipated.
- **Approved the 2025-28 member roster for the Regional Transit Oriented Development Committee.** The committee serves as a technical advisory group to the GMPB. Bellevue is now a member of the committee, holding a seat for local jurisdiction staff. The first meeting is in March. Work plan items include the Regional Transportation Plan, regional centers designation, and round robin updates.
- **Heard a briefing on state and federal legislative updates.** PSRC is coordinating with other metropolitan planning organizations to better understand best practices amidst changes from the federal administration.

The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for March 6. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

At its February 13 meeting, the TPB:

- **Approved five projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP:**
 - Duvall: 3rd Avenue Reconstruction Project
 - Everett Transit:
 - 2024 Everett Station Preventative Maintenance
 - 2025 Bus Shelters
 - Pierce Transit: 2025-2026 Preventative Maintenance
 - Seattle: Seattle Safe Streets
- **Recommended the PSRC Executive Board certify the comprehensive plans for Lakewood, Mountlake Terrace, Stanwood and Steilacoom.** See GMPB summary below for more information.
- **Received an update on the 2025 State Legislative Session and on federal activities.** On January 13, the Washington State Legislature kicked off a long 105-day legislative session. Legislators will pass a biennial budget in the face of a budget deficit, and key issues are expected to include education, public safety, housing affordability,

rent stabilization and homelessness, the transportation budget, ferries and revenue. PSRC staff gave an overview of President Trump's executive orders that counteract the previous administration's policies. U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) Secretary Sean Duffy issued two memos that outline a dramatic shift in how the USDOT will prioritize funding, with plans to eliminate programs that conflict with the President's Executive Orders. It is unclear to what extent active projects with obligated funding and authorized programs are at risk. More information on state and federal updates is included in the March 11 Council packet.

- **Discussed the regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.** This plan is under development, led by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) and funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. The federal funding for this plan may be facing uncertainties given President Trump's executive orders counteracting previous climate policies.
- **Discussed development of the 2026-2050 Regional Transportation Plan.** PSRC staff presented information on the current transportation system related to transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, and other transit-supportive programs such as Transportation Demand Management activities, mobility on demand programs and transportation services for those with mobility challenges.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for March 13. Councilmember Dave Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

Executive Board

At its February 27, 2025 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Adopted a routine amendment to the Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP).** See TPB summary for more information.
- **Approved certification for the comprehensive plans for Lakewood, Mountlake Terrace, Stanwood and Steilacoom.** See GMPB summary for more information.
- **Heard a federal legislative update.** PSRC's federal consultant provided an update on changes in the federal administration, including the budget process and potential future grant funding opportunities. More information on federal updates is included in the March 11 Council packet.
- **Welcomed Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Secretary Julie Meredith.** Secretary Meredith was appointed by Governor Ferguson. She shared her personal and professional background and vision for the agency, including developing an actionable master plan for the state. Following the meeting, board members had the opportunity to speak with Secretary Meredith.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for March 27. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.