

**COUNCIL SUMMARY BACKGROUND BRIEF:
PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL (PSRC)**
September 2015

GROWTH MANAGEMENT POLICY BOARD (GMPB)

At its September 3 meeting, the GMPB:

Received a presentation on the downtown Tacoma regional growth center plan. Staff from the City of Tacoma and University of Washington Tacoma described plans for the regional growth center. The area includes the Hilltop, South Downtown and North Downtown neighborhoods, and the Prairie Line Trail that connects downtown Tacoma and the UW Tacoma campus.

Heard an update on the Regional Equitable Development Initiative (REDI) Fund. The REDI Fund is a new financing tool for acquiring properties for equitable and affordable transit-oriented development. It has received catalyst investments from King County, City of Seattle, A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH), and a grant from the state. Details on goals, terms and governance structure are being worked out by an interagency subcommittee. Roll-out is expected in 2016 with an initial \$25 million, with opportunity for expansion of the fund in the future.

Conducted other business:

- Recommended certification of comprehensive plans for Carbonado, Edgewood, Fife, Issaquah, Kenmore, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace and Renton.
- Recommended conditional certification of the South Prairie comprehensive plan.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 1.

REGIONAL TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

At its September 11 meeting, the Regional TOD Advisory Committee:

Received a briefing from PSRC staff on results of the legislative session. The Committee proposed a list of recommendations that the Executive Board had incorporated into the agency's 2015 legislative list of recommendations. The State Legislature passed or made progress on several of the recommendations, including funding for transit, REDI fund, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure, expansion of the Housing Trust Fund and new local options for funding affordable housing.

Heard reports from the Regional Equity Network and Bellevue on implementation of Growing Transit Communities (GTC) strategies. The Regional Equity Network was a subcommittee of the GTC and continues to partner with local governments, agencies, non-profits and community groups to advance equity in transportation, housing, employment and other areas. Councilmember Chelminiak, Bellevue's representative on the Committee, presented an update on implementation of TOD at the Spring District/120th station and the Bel-Red/130th station. Highlights included the vision from the Bel-

Red planning work, challenges presented by the 130th park and ride and the OMSF, and partnering with PSRC and Sound Transit to work through those issues.

Received a briefing from Sound Transit staff on the process and status of current system expansion as well as planning for the next phase of expansion (ST3). The presentation included information about other provisions in the legislation that authorizes Sound Transit to seek voter approval for additional funding. Other provisions of that legislation include a contribution of \$20 million to a revolving loan fund and use of surplus property for affordable housing. There were also highlights of several TOD projects for which Sound Transit is partnering with other cities and agencies, including the OMSF site.

Conducted other business:

- Heard an update on the REDI Fund
- Discussed the upcoming workshop, “New Opportunities: Working Together to Build Great Transit Communities

The next meeting of the Regional TOD Advisory Committee is scheduled for Monday, December 14.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD (TPB)

At its September 10 meeting, the TPB:

Recommended the change in Transportation 2040 project status for the I-405 Corridor: SR 167 Direct HOV Ramps. The flyover ramps are the first project in the region from the new state transportation package to move forward. The \$325 million project is fully funded and has met the required steps to move forward from Candidate to Approved.

Discussed the implementation of the Transportation 2040 Financial Strategy. The new transportation package considerably improves the implementation of Transportation 2040. About 70% of the projects in the package will be in the central Puget Sound region, completing the core highway network, addressing safety and congestion hotspots, and multiple other benefits. Transportation 2040 will be even further implemented if voters decide to approve the new authority for transit agencies. There is still some unmet need in Transportation 2040 that will need to be addressed in the next update.

Conducted other business:

- Discussed Sound Transit's Priority Project List from the long-range plan and PSRC's role in the conformity finding for ST3.
- Enjoyed an updated presentation on traffic data.
- Recommended approval of a routine amendment to the 2015-18 Transportation Improvement Program.
- Recommended Certification of Comprehensive Plans for Carbonado, Edgewood, Fife, Issaquah, Kenmore, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace, and Renton.
- Recommended conditional certification of the Town of South Prairie Comprehensive Plan.

The next meeting of the TPB is scheduled for Thursday, October 8.