

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

January 2018

GROWTH MANAGEMENT POLICY BOARD (GMPB)

At its November 30 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Recommended full certification of the City of Carnation's Comprehensive Plan.** The Board found that the plan and supporting resolution are consistent with regional policies and conform to the Growth Management Act requirements for transportation planning.
- **Received a briefing on comments submitted on the Centers Framework Update draft proposal released for public comment on October 20.** The Board discussed comments and staff recommendations on re-designation criteria and procedures, deadlines for subarea plans and market studies and consequences of not meeting deadlines. The Board also discussed whether there should be a mix of uses within centers and whether to establish minimum requirements for countywide centers. The Board asked for additional information on some issues and will continue work on the centers framework at its meeting in January.

At its January 4 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Recommended full certification of the comprehensive plans for Arlington, Duvall, Granite Falls and Pacific.** The plans had been conditionally certified in 2015 and 2016. Since then, the cities have amended their plans to address conditions for full certification. The Board found that the plans are now fully consistent with regional policies and conform to the Growth Management Act requirements for transportation planning.
- **Directed staff to prepare a VISION 2050 scoping statement for a public comment period from February 2 through March 19.** The scoping process and related outreach will gather ideas about how to develop VISION 2050 and identify the regional issues that will be tackled in the plan. VISION 2050 is expected to retain the fundamental foundation and direction of VISION 2040 in terms of regional growth centers and the classification of cities (i.e. metropolitan, core, larger, small). The updated regional plan will be important to Bellevue for purposes of reinforcing the city's growth strategy as contained in the *Bellevue Comprehensive Plan* and for future regional transportation funding.
- **Continued work on the draft centers framework proposal and discussed expectations for center plans, market studies, and the mix of uses in centers.** The Board directed staff to distribute all proposed amendments on the centers proposal to Board members prior to the next meeting. At its February 1 meeting, the Board will discuss those amendments and other outstanding issues. Several of the outstanding issues that were discussed were included in Bellevue's comment letter submitted to the Board in November. The letter was based on the interest statement adopted by Council in November.

The next meeting of the GMPB is scheduled for February 1.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD (TPB)

At its January 11 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended approval of funding for projects through PSRC's 2017 Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP).** The TAP is a federal program that provides funding for community-based transportation improvements, such as bicycle/pedestrian facilities, historic preservation of transportation assets and environmental mitigation. The Board recommended a total of \$17.5 million in 2017-2020 TAP funding allocated to the region be awarded to 12 projects, and that a prioritized contingency list be established should additional TAP funding become available. The City of Bellevue submitted one application to the program, for construction of improvements to a segment of the Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail adjacent to the south side of I-90. The Bellevue application was not recommended for funding but will be highly ranked on the program's contingency list.
- **Recommended approval of policies and procedures for the 2018 project selection process for PSRC funds.** A competitive project selection process is conducted every two-to-three years for distribution of PSRC-administered Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding. A Task Force of volunteer representatives of the various PSRC boards spent four meetings between September and December reviewing the Policy Framework for the upcoming 2018 project selection process. The TPB recommended approval of all the Task Force's recommendations, which include calls for project funding applications in the first quarter of 2018. Bellevue staff is currently evaluating project candidates for application development, primarily for submittal to the FHWA funding programs.
- **Recommend adoption of Regional Safety Performance Management (PM) Targets.** PSRC has developed 2018 regional safety targets to comply with a federal rule requiring action by February 27, 2018. The Safety PM rule establishes five measures based on five-year rolling averages on all public roads, including (with the specific 2018 regional target for each measure indicated in parenthesis below):
 - Number of fatalities (172.6)
 - Rate of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (0.56)
 - Number of serious injuries (898.6)
 - Rate of serious injuries per 100 million vehicle miles traveled (2.93)
 - Number of non-motorized fatalities and serious injuries (264.5)

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) developed targets for these measures based on the State's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Target Zero, using a straight-line projection beginning in 2016 that achieves zero fatalities and serious injuries by 2030. The regional targets specified above are based on a regional share of the statewide totals.

The next meeting of the TPB is scheduled for February 8.

REGIONAL TOD ADVISORY COMMITTEE (RTODAC)

At its December 15 meeting, the Committee:

- **Reported on recent transit-oriented development (TOD) activity, accomplishments, and challenges.** Bellevue has previously reported on joint TOD efforts with Sound Transit around the 120th and 130th stations as well as plans for the Grand Connection and Wilburton redevelopment area. There will be opportunities at future meetings in 2018 to provide additional updates.
- **Received a report on the October Regional TOD event hosted by PSRC at the Centilia Cultural Center by the Beacon Hill Station.** The day-long event attracted participants from market and non-profit housing developers, local government, transit providers, community and advocacy groups to explore the components of successful transit-oriented development. Bellevue's Wilburton and Grand Connection projects were featured in one of the sessions. This was an opportunity to share information and best practices from several projects and areas of expertise. This is the second event of this type and could become a regular event every other year.
- **Heard a briefing on the PSRC Regional Transit Access and Parking Strategy.** PSRC staff reviewed recent work specific to transit access and parking issues and their incorporation into the draft Regional Transportation Plan (i.e. Transportation 2040). The work included integration of long-range transit plans from the transit service providers and development of a strategy to improve access and parking in the transit network of the region. Specific strategies and guiding principles were developed to maximize access to transit, manage parking demand and the high-usage park and ride facilities and increasing capacity in certain areas.
- **Discussed the Growing Transit Communities Monitoring Report.** PSRC staff presented recent data collected from some local jurisdictions on progress implementing the recommendations of the Growing Transit Communities report. Development around existing and proposed light rail stations and identified transit nodes has been increasing overall, though not at every location.
- **Discussed implementation of the Growing Transit Communities Strategy, next steps and a work program for the Committee.** Committee members suggested topics for the 2018 quarterly meetings. Topics can also be suggested between the scheduled meetings.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for March 16.