

## City Manager's Office

**DATE:** November 12, 2025

**SUBJECT:** Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Update, October 2025

## **Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)**

The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for November 6, and will be included in the November 2025 Update. Councilmember Vishal Bhargava represents Bellevue on the GMPB.

## **Transportation Policy Board (TPB)**

At its October 9 meeting, the TPB:

- Approved a routine amendment to the 2025-2028 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Eight agencies submitted ten projects:
  - Everett: Olympic Boulevard Fish Barrier at Pigeon Creek Number 2
  - o Kent:
    - 64th Avenue S and S 236th Street Intersection Improvements
    - W James Street Preservation
  - o King County: Green River Trail North Extension
  - Kitsap Transit: North Kitsap Base
  - Lake Stevens: 20th Street NE and Main Street Improvements
  - o Redmond: Overlake Area Bicycle/Pedestrian Improvements
  - o Shoreline: 15th Avenue NE Pavement Preservation
  - Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT):
    - State Route (SR) 203 NE 124th Street to Skykomish River Paving with Exceptions
    - SR 165/Fairfax Bridge Bridge Replacement
- Discussed PSRC 2026 Recommendations to the State Legislature. Annually, the
  Executive Board adopts recommendations to the Legislature to support progress on
  adopted regional plans and policies. PSRC staff propose following a similar framework
  to the recommendations adopted last year.
- Discussed the Ad Hoc Committee on Board Representation, which is making recommendations pertaining to GMPB and TPB membership composition. The Ad Hoc Committee developed an alternative board composition that would grant permanent seats to cities over 80,000 in population. This would create a net increase of six seats each on the GMPB and TPB by awarding seats to Auburn, Federal Way, Kent, Kirkland, Redmond, and Renton. A poll showed that TPB members were split between supporting further discussion versus supporting keeping GMPB and TPB composition as it is.
- Discussed the Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan. The plan is under development by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) and funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. PSCAA staff provided a briefing to TPB on the draft plan expected to be released for public comment in October.

- Selected a Regional Transportation Plan financial scenario. The next Regional Transportation Plan, slated for adoption in 2026, outlines transportation investments and needs through 2050, including maintenance, operations, and system improvements. In July, the TPB directed PSRC staff to develop financial models with a range of revenue and expenditure options. At the October meeting, members unanimously selected scenario 2B, which maintains the region's commitment to maintenance and operations and anticipates transit growth of two percent per year.
- Discussed Regional Transportation Plan financial strategy. The region's forecasted transportation revenues through 2050 fall short of projected expenditures by \$49 billion. To date, the TPB has identified five potential new funding sources: the road usage charge, vehicle fees, sales tax for local transit, county road levy, and retail delivery fee. Bellevue has advocated for removing retail delivery fee from the list of options.

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

## **Executive Board**

At its October 23, 2025 meeting, the Executive Board:

- Received a briefing on the Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, as described in the TPB meeting summary above.
- Received a briefing on the 2025 Housing Update: The Year of Policy Change. The Executive Board reviewed the 2025 Regional Housing Strategy monitoring update, including new data and analysis on the production of emergency housing and permanent supportive housing. Affordability in both the renter and ownership markets continues to be constrained, driven by high rents and home prices as well as elevated interest rates. Large majorities of low-income and even moderate-income households are cost burdened, spending more than 30 percent of their income on rent. More of the region's residents are experiencing homelessness than ever before.
- Discussed Regional Centers, which guide regional growth allocations, advance local planning, inform transit service planning and represent priority areas for PSRC's federal transportation funding. The Regional Centers Framework (2018) established criteria and planning expectations to ensure regional centers are developing as thriving and connected communities with sufficient market potential to accommodate new jobs and residents. To promote consistency among the existing centers, the Regional Centers Framework called for a redesignation process following the 2024 comprehensive plan updates. Following GMPB recommendation, the Executive board is expected to take action on redesignation in early 2026.
- Received a briefing on Regional Transportation Draft Plan Development. PSRC staff updated the Executive Board on the TPB's financial scenario selection, which is described in the TPB meeting summary above.

The Executive Board will not meet in November. The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for December 4. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.