



**DATE:** November 12, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Puget Sound Regional Committees Update, October 2024

### **Executive Board**

At its October 24, 2024 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Adopted a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Five agencies submitted nine projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
  - **Kitsap Transit:** Port Orchard Intermodal Terminal
  - **Northwest Seaport:** Wapato Creek Fish Passage Restoration
  - **Pierce Transit**
    - New Gantry with Depot Conductive Charging Infra for 30 Battery-Electric Buses
    - Battery Electric Buses with Wireless Inductive Charging Capabilities
  - **Seattle:**
    - East Marginal Way S Preservation
    - Roosevelt Way Preservation
  - **Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Northwest Region:**
    - State Route (SR) 3/Division Avenue & W Pleasant Street Intersection – Roundabout
    - SR 303/High School Road NE Intersection – Roundabout
    - SR 16/SR 512 Puyallup Vicinity – Remove Fish Barriers
- **Celebrated a Governor's Smart Communities Award** for PSRC's Equity Pilot: Empowering Community to Elevate Equity in PSRC's Federal Transportation Funding Competition.
- **Adopted the 2025-2028 Regional TIP.** The TIP provides a summary of transportation projects underway within King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties. These projects are funded with federal, state and local funds.
- **Discussed the Regional Safety Action Plan,** which is under development. The Puget Sound region is experiencing a traffic safety crisis. Roadway deaths have sharply risen since 2010, and an increasing number of those killed are people walking or riding a bicycle – the most vulnerable travelers. Data show that people of color are disproportionately impacted. The Regional Safety Action Plan will use a data-informed Safe System approach to foster a regional culture of safety. The plan will identify safety issues and proven countermeasures, strategies, and tools. Executive Board members

discussed the importance of recognizing local High Injury Networks within the regional plan.

- **Discussed the 2026-2050 Regional Transportation Plan development process.** PSRC's boards have identified primary themes including safety, climate, equity, preservation and maintenance, transit and accessibility, ferries, decarbonizing the system, and recognizing the diverse needs and community contexts around the region. Work on the Regional Transportation Plan will continue through 2026, when the plan is scheduled for adoption.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for December 5. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

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

At its October 10 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended adoption of the 2025-2028 Regional TIP**, as described in the October 24 Executive Board update.
- **Discussed recommendations to the 2025 Washington State Legislature.** TPB members supported a framework focusing on transportation, housing, climate and economic development, based on adopted regional plans. PSRC recommends the state create a Housing Research Center, which would support statewide research for policymakers, stakeholders, and advocates. One potential area of research is increasing the supply and lowering the cost of housing in ways that align with equity and environmental goals. The Executive Board will consider adopting the recommendations on December 5.
- **Discussed the Regional Safety Action Plan**, as described in the October 24 Executive Board update.
- **Discussed the 2026-2050 Regional Transportation Plan development process**, as described in the October 24 Executive Board update.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for December 12. Councilmember Dave Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

### **Growth Management Policy Board**

At its October 3 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Heard an update on the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Review status.** Fifty-five out of the 86 local jurisdictions have provided their draft local comprehensive plans for review and 48 comment letters have been sent. According to PSRC reviewers, highlights

observed in plans include community engagement techniques, like youth councils and community events, addressing racially disparate impacts and barriers to affordable housing, rezoning to accommodate housing needs, and climate work. Bellevue plans to submit the adopted comprehensive plan to PSRC for review in late 2024 and certification is anticipated in early 2025.

- **Heard a briefing on collaborative planning efforts with Tribes.** Puyallup Tribe staff shared information from their comprehensive land use plan and suggestions for working with Tribes. The Puyallup Tribe and other Tribes are interested in collaborating with jurisdictions on their comprehensive plans. Passed during the 2022 legislative session, House Bill 1717 facilitates Tribal participation in local planning under the Growth Management Act. Tribes typically want to collaborate on transportation, environmental, economic development and infrastructure planning.
- **Heard a briefing on PSRC's recommendations to the 2025 Washington State Legislature,** as described in the October 10 TPB update.
- **Discussed PSRC's Housing Research Center proposal to the Legislature.** PSRC provides housing data, tools, and strategies to support local governments to develop housing strategies and update their comprehensive plans. Currently there is no central location for housing research that operates statewide and PSRC's capacity to conduct housing research is limited.

The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for November 7. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.