



**DATE:** October 8, 2024

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

### **Executive Board**

At its September 26, 2024 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Approved Puget Sound Regional Council's Title VI Plan.** Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 ensures that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. PSRC updates its Title VI Plan every three years as required by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). This update provides current information on membership, planning processes, translation practices and demographic data.
- **Authorized a budget amendment and an increased contract amount for consultant services** at an amount not to exceed \$970,000. The consultant will perform additional work for PSRC's eight-year household travel survey.
- **Adopted a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Eight agencies submitted nine projects for routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
  - **Arlington:** State Route (SR) 531 Trail
  - **Community Transit:** Facilities Rehabilitation, Renovation and Maintenance
  - **Kent:** 64<sup>th</sup> Avenue S/W James Street
  - **Kirkland:** 132<sup>nd</sup> Avenue NE and Slater Avenue Crossing
  - **Kitsap County:** Colchester Drive, Duncan Creek Fish Passage Culvert
  - **North Bend:** North Bend 202/Mount Si Roundabout
  - **Northwest Seaport Alliance:**
    - Catalyzing Zero-Emission Drayage Trucking Infrastructure and Opportunities
    - Drayage Truck Demonstration Project
  - **Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Northwest Region:** I-5/Thornton Creek to Lake Washington – Fish Passage
- **Authorized a change in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project status for Bellevue's Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail: 142nd PI SE to I-90 non-motorized overcrossing at 150th Ave SE.** Bellevue requested a change in project status from "candidate" to "approved." This action is a procedural step required for regionally significant projects. This project will construct a section of a separated multi-use trail along the south side of I-90. The trail will include a 12-foot-wide hard surface facility,

trailhead treatments, wayfinding, landscaped buffer in some areas, lighting and storm drainage improvements and a mid-block pedestrian crossing west of 146th Street SE.

- **Discussed PSRC's recommendations to the 2025 Washington State Legislature.** PSRC staff is preparing recommendations in advance of the 2025 legislative session. Bellevue Councilmember Janice Zahn urged PSRC staff to include broad language in support of stable, equitable transportation revenue tools. Members noted the importance of public safety and transportation maintenance and preservation.
- **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.
- **Discussed scope development of the 2026-2050 RTP update.** The Transportation Policy Board (TPB) has been discussing priorities and themes for development of the next long-range RTP. Work on the next RTP will continue through 2026, when the plan is scheduled for adoption. Executive Board members highlighted the importance of updating the assumptions for future new transportation revenue in the RTP.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for October 24. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board and Councilmember Janice Zahn is the city's alternate.

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

At its September 12 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended the Executive Board adopt a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 TIP,** as described in the September 26 Executive Board update.
- **Recommended the Executive Board authorize a change in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project status for Bellevue's Mountains to Sound Greenway Trail project,** as described in the September 26 Executive Board update.
- **Authorized release of the draft 2025-2028 Regional TIP for public comment.** The draft TIP includes the projects approved by the Executive Board in July to receive PSRC's 2027- 2028 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and FTA funds as part of the 2024 project selection process, as well as projects with local, state and other federal funds expected to be utilized between 2025 and 2028.
- **Discussed scope development of the 2026-2050 RTP update,** as described in the September 26 Executive Board update. Members discussed the public health and public safety aspects of transportation.

- **Discussed data for the 2026-2050 RTP update.** The RTP describes the investments and actions needed to create a safe, clean and efficient transportation system essential to the region's quality of life, health and economy. The RTP identifies the investments and actions necessary to support VISION 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy, the centerpiece of which is an integrated local and regional high-capacity transit network. PSRC staff presented recent data on population and employment growth, current and future travel modes and implementation of policies and goals such as decarbonizing the transportation system.
- **Reviewed information related to potential new revenue sources for the 2026-2050 RTP update.** PSRC briefed the TPB on the financial strategy in the current RTP, which was adopted in 2022. Due to a shortage of time, Chair Becky Erickson directed PSRC staff to solicit TPB member feedback via email.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for October 10. Councilmember Dave Hamilton represents Bellevue on the TPB.

### **Growth Management Policy Board**

At its September 5 meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB):

- **Heard a briefing on Tulalip Tribes and Snohomish County Coordination.** The Tulalip Tribes and Snohomish County shared their innovative ways that they work together on land use, transportation and environmental issues. In coordination with the Tulalip Tribes and other Tribes in the area, Snohomish County created a new Tribal Coordination Element for its 2024 draft comprehensive plan.
- **Heard a briefing on regional transit-oriented development work.** The board was provided an update on PSRC's Regional Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Committee and updates from Sound Transit the Lynnwood Link Extension opening and plans for the Everett Link Extension. Sound Transit provided an update on the Model Code Partnership, an effort that helps create regulatory language and tools to facilitate TOD, multimodal transportation, affordable housing and other topics encouraged by the FTA.

The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for October 3. Councilmember Janice Zahn represents Bellevue on the GMPB.