



**DATE:** February 27, 2023

**TO:** Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

**FROM:** Genesee Adkins, Chief of External Affairs, 452-7849

**SUBJECT:** Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Committees Update

### **Executive Board**

At its January 26 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Approved contract authority for low voltage installation.** Before PSRC moves into new office space on January 1, 2024, they are responsible for certain improvements, such as cabling for access to the internet, computer networks, phones and web-streaming. The contract for cable installation is not to exceed \$121,000.
- **Authorized a change in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project status for WSDOT's I-405 Corridor: SR 522 to SR 527 Project.** The action approves WSDOT request to change the project status from "Candidate" to "Approved." The project will add a new lane in each direction on I-405 between SR 522 and the SR 527 interchange to provide dual express toll lanes. It will also construct direct access between I-405 and SR 527 in the vicinity of the SR 527 interchange.
- **Approved the Consolidated Grant Competition regional rankings.** WSDOT is conducting its biennial Consolidated Grant Program Competition, which allocates federal and state funds for special needs transportation projects statewide. WSDOT asked regional transportation planning organizations, including PSRC, to provide regional priority rankings as part of the competitive process. Recommended projects including Hopelink's Mobility Management in King County and Sound Generation's Hyde Shuttle on the Eastside.
- **Approved a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Five agencies submitted ten projects for a routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
  - Community Transit: Transit Revenue Vehicles
  - Seattle: 15th Avenue and Leary Way Bridge
  - Sound Transit: Community Rail Project – Seattle to Lakewood
  - Tacoma: Tacoma Tideflats – Port of Tacoma Strategic Emergency Response/ITS Improvements
  - Tacoma: 34th Street Deck Repair and Seismic Retrofit
  - Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Northwest Region: SR509/28<sup>th</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> Avenue S to S 188th Street – SR 509 Completion Stage 2



- WSDOT Northwest Region: SR 524 Scriber Creek to Swamp Creek Fish Passage
  - WSDOT Northwest Region: SR422/Thornton Creek Fish Passage
  - WSDOT Olympic Region: SR 303/Port Washington Narrows Bridge Paint
  - WSDOT Olympic Region: SR 7/260th Street E to SR 507 Intersection Roundabouts and Paving
- **Received an update on the Equity Advisory Committee.** The focus of the committee is to co-create products as part of the Regional Equity Strategy and advise PSRC committees and policy boards on policies and programs with an equity lens. In its inaugural year, the Equity Advisory Committee provided input to help shape both the Regional Housing Strategy and RTP. Additionally, the Equity Advisory Committee and PSRC staff have made progress on regional equity work and strategy. Five new members were recommended after several members either stepped down or had fulfilled their single-year term.
  - **Discussed the housing monitoring report and public opinion survey.** Last year, PSRC adopted a Regional Housing Strategy and took several steps toward implementation including housing data analysis, a local jurisdiction survey and a public opinion poll. The public opinion survey findings show that people cited the cost of housing as the number one issue across the state, and housing is still inaccessible and discriminatory for many.
  - **Discussed the climate change implementation strategy.** One of the early actions of the RTP is a 2030 climate analysis, which shows a 13 percent shortfall to meeting the 2030 emissions goals. PSRC staff have assessed a several “sensitivity tests” to demonstrate the greatest opportunities to reduce emissions, including more transit service, a road usage charge and electric vehicle adoption.
  - **Heard updates on development of the RTP Performance Dashboard.** RTP performance measures will be tracked through an online dashboard, which will be used to communicate progress on implementing the plan to the Board and community. An annual report using the data will be shared in late-2023.

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for February 23. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

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

At its February 9 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Six agencies submitted fourteen projects:



- Duvall: 3rd Avenue NE Reconstruction
- Federal Way: City Center Access Project – Phase 1
- Issaquah: NW Gilman Bridge Seismic Retrofit
- Kitsap County: Newberry Hill Road – Culvert
- Pierce County: Bridge Deck Rehabilitations – Mashal River, Puyallup River, Kapowsin Creek
- Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Northwest Region:
  - I-90/Soderman Creek – Fish Passage
  - SR 161/19th Way S Vicinity Unnamed Tributary to East Fork Hylebos
  - SR 202/Unnamed Tributary to Patterson Creek - Fish Passage
  - SR 515/Panther Creek to Springbrook Creek - Fish Passage
  - SR 516/Mill Creek - Fish Passage
  - US 2/Unnamed Tributaries to Skykomish River - Fish Passage
  - SR 9/Bunk Foss Creek & Cemetery Creek - Fish Passage
  - US 2/Bunk Foss Creek and Unnamed Tributary to French Creek - Fish Passage
  - US 2/Groeneveld & Unnamed Creek to Skykomish River - Fish Passage
- **Discussed the 2023 transportation work program status report**, which will track progress on key policy activity such as development of the Climate Implementation Strategy, development of the Regional Safety Plan, a convening to discuss high-capacity transit in the region and determining implementation of the RTP financial strategy.
- **Heard a briefing on the Puget Sound Regional Electric Vehicle (REV) Collaborative.** The new REV Collaborative website can assist jurisdictions in planning for a zero-emission transportation future by providing resources like example policies and programs that plan for and support zero-emission vehicles, information on funding opportunities, best practices and model code language.
- **Heard about PSRC's move to new office space in 2024.** PSRC executed a new lease for space on the fifth floor of 1201 Third Avenue. The new office space will allow for a larger board room that will be flexible in set up and size. In addition, the space will provide more meeting rooms and more flexible space to support the hybrid work environment envisioned for the future. Moving new and existing equipment and furniture will occur in late 2023 and early 2024.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for March 9. Councilmember Jennifer Robertson represents Bellevue on the TPB.



### **Economic Development District (EDD) Board**

The next EDD Board meeting is scheduled for March 1. Councilmember Conrad Lee represents Bellevue on the EDD.

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

At its February 2 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Received a briefing Housing Public Opinion Survey Report.** PSRC staff briefed the board on a review of the final results of a public opinion survey and how the results can support local housing efforts. PSRC collaborated with the state Department of Commerce to develop and field a public opinion survey that collected 4,329 responses from October 15 to November 6, 2022. Survey reports found the cost of housing is the top issue across the state, and there is widespread support for middle housing (triplexes in single-family zones).
- **Discussed Housing Place Typology.** The board provided feedback on the housing place typology, a Regional Housing Strategy implementation effort. The typology provides a common regional approach and identifies high impact housing tools and actions based on local needs and opportunities. PSRC is exploring the best way to share typology and is developing a web platform with an interactive map. The final web platform will be completed in spring 2023.
- **Discussed PSRC 2024 Office Relocation.** PSRC staff provided the board with a brief update on the new office space and plans for the move. With over ten properties viewed, PSRC executed a new lease for the fifth floor of 1201 Third Avenue in late 2022. The new space will allow for a large board room, provide more meeting rooms, and a flexible space to support a hybrid work environment. The new lease will commence January 1, 2024.

The next GMPB meeting is scheduled for March 2. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the GMPB.