

**COUNCIL SUMMARY BACKGROUND BRIEF:
PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL (PSRC)
*August 1, 2022***

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board met on July 28, and a summary will be included in the September Regional Issues packet.

At its June 23 meeting, the Executive Board:

- **Approved a budget amendment and contract authority for the Regional Household Travel Survey.** When PSRC will conduct the survey in 2023, the cities of Bellevue, Bothell and Seattle intend to purchase additional household survey samples.
- **Approved contract authority for office software programs.** The programs include software programs, including electronic mail, video meetings, word processing, spreadsheets, survey tools and presentation creation.
- **Approved a revised policy on compensating members of PSRC funded focus groups, committees, and/or community-based organizations (CBO).** Recently approved policy allows PSRC to compensate CBOs to encourage public participation. The current revision clarifies the definition of what a CBO is, what types of work and/or efforts are allowed under the policy and offers examples of CBOs in the Puget Sound area.
- **Approved a routine amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP.** Three agencies submitted ten projects for a routine amendment into the Regional TIP.
 - Everett: 41st Street to Rucker Avenue Corridor Phase 2
 - Seattle: Greenwood Avenue N Sidewalks and 1st Avenue NW Neighborhood Greenway
 - WSDOT: I-405/SR 522 to SR 527 – Widening and Express Toll Lane
 - WSDOT: SR 99/Southbound Duwamish River Bridge – Bridge Painting
 - WSDOT: I-90/Lewis Creek – Fish Passage
 - WSDOT: SR 202/Sammamish Creek – Fish Passage
 - WSDOT: Northwest Region I-90 and I-5 Tunnel Fire Suppression Systems
 - WSDOT: SR 104/Lyon Creek – Fish Passage
 - WSDOT: I-90/1.8 Miles East of Tinkham Road to Denny Cr Viaduct – Stormwater Retrofit
 - WSDOT: I-90/Franklin Falls Bridge Westbound – Bridge Painting

After completing all business items on the agenda, the Executive Board adjourned to a joint board racial equity workshop called “Implicit Bias.”

The next meeting of the Executive Board is scheduled for September 22. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

GROWTH MANAGEMENT POLICY BOARD (GMPB)

At its July 7 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Approved the extension of the Kirkland center designation application.** The City of Kirkland is working towards having Greater Downtown Kirkland designated as a Regional Growth Center. The city has been working to complete its application and requested an extension to the application window. The Growth Management Policy Board approved the extension through February 2023.
- **Received a briefing on the Climate Work Program.** The Board was briefed on several partnerships and projects related to climate, including:
 - *Regional Electric Vehicle Collaboration:* PSRC has partnered with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency to provide technical assistance and enhanced coordination on advancements towards a zero-emission transportation system. Five workshops have been held around the region, and an information clearinghouse is in process.
 - *Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative:* PSRC partnered with six other agencies to form a climate preparedness collaborative in 2014. Since then, membership has expanded to over 20 agencies. The goal of the Collaborative is to create a forum of peer learning and to leverage opportunities and resources to assist local governments and organizations in developing communities resilient to the impacts of climate change.
 - *Puget Sound Regional Emissions Analysis Project:* PSRC's planning efforts align with the regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory as developed by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency. The current inventory is based on 2015 data and is referenced in both VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan. An update of the regional emissions inventory is currently underway. This work is expected to be complete at the end of 2022.
- **Received a briefing on the Comprehensive Plan Review and Certification process.** The board was briefed on the 2024 Periodic update, review, and certification process. GMPB members provided guidance to PSRC staff on how PSRC can best guide the process and establish appropriate expectations for local plans.
- **Received a briefing on the Industrial Lands Analysis.** PSRC is in the process of updating the Regional Industrial Lands Analysis with the direction of the Growth Management Policy Board, Economic Development District Board, and Freight

Advisory Committee. The board was provided a progress report that includes an update of the project's scope and timeline, a review of local jurisdiction outreach, and initial data analysis findings.

The next meeting of GMPB is scheduled for September 1. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the GMPB.

TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD (TPB)

At its July 14 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended a routine amendment to the 2021-2024 TIP.** Three agencies submitted eight projects for a routine amendment into the Regional TIP. The Executive Board will be asked to adopt an amendment to the 2021-2024 Regional TIP with the following projects:
 - Fife: I-5/54th Avenue E Interchange – Phase 1
 - Kenmore: Complete SR 522 Improvements - Kenmore
 - Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Northwest Region: I-5/Freedom Creek Vicinity – Fish Passage
 - WSDOT Northwest Region: I-5/SR 161/SR 18 Triangle Interchange Vicinity - Improvements
 - WSDOT Northwest Region: SR 9/Unnamed Tributaries to Prairie and Quilceda Creeks – Fish Passage
 - WSDOT Northwest Region: SR 99/238th Street SW to 148th Street SW – ADA Compliance
 - WSDOT Northwest Region: SR 531/Fish Creek – Fish Passage
 - WSDOT Northwest Region: SR 410/Upper White River – Chronic Environmental Deficiency (Immediate Actions 1 and 2)
- **Recommended Critical Urban Freight Corridor (CUFC) and Critical Rural Freight Corridor (CRFC).** The designations allow a freight transportation project to be eligible to compete for National Highway Freight Program (NHFP) or INFRA (Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight & Highway Projects) funding. PSRC worked with stakeholders to develop a set of proposed corridors consistent with VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). This year, segments without a near-term planned project could be considered for designation if they have a strong freight-supportive role. Bellevue was successful in adding portions of 148th Avenue NE/SE to the CUFC list.
- **Recommended approval of the 2022 annual Federal Transit Administration (FTA) adjustments.** PSRC distributed its 2022 FTA funds as part of the 2018 project selection process using an estimate based on previous funding levels under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act. FTA updates its actual allocations on an annual basis. The final 2022 allocation made under the new Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) is higher than originally estimated, providing an increase of approximately \$93.7 million to the region.

- **Recommended approval of projects proposed for 2025-2026 FHWA Funds, as well as the recommended contingency lists.** Between February and June 2022, the project selection process to distribute approximately \$187 million of PSRC's 2025-2026 FHWA funds was conducted through a regional competition and competitions in each of the region's four counties. PSRC will prepare the Draft 2023-2026 Regional TIP, scheduled to be released for public comment in September. In October, the TPB will make its final recommendation on the 2023-2026 Regional TIP, and the Executive Board is scheduled to take final action on October 27.
- **Continued discussion of the Transportation Work Program.** Members provided feedback regarding the implementation of actions identified in the recently adopted RTP, as well as work already underway as part of the current budget and work program. The conversation focused on the timeline for the next RTP and updating the RTP prioritization measures.

The next TPB meeting is scheduled for September 8. Councilmember Jennifer Robertson represents Bellevue on the TPB.