

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) to contribute up to \$100,000 for additional Bellevue samples in the 2023 Puget Sound Regional Household Travel Survey, in support of the City's traffic modeling and transportation demand management (TDM) programs.

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Transportation Department

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This action would authorize the City to enter into an agreement with PSRC to contribute funding toward the 2023 Puget Sound Regional Household Travel Survey. If authorized, the City contribution would pay for additional targeted sampling of Bellevue households beyond the baseline number of households that would be sampled without the agreement. The resulting data would be used to inform the City's traffic modeling and TDM programs.

RECOMMENDATION

Move to adopt Resolution No. 10143

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Overview and Purpose

PSRC's Regional Household Travel Survey collects day-to-day information from households in the central Puget Sound region. Data points include the mode by which people travel, such as driving alone, bus, walk, bike, carpool, or vanpool; where they go; how long it takes to get there; and what factors people say would influence more non-drive-alone travel. All trip purposes are assessed in the PSRC survey, not just commute trips; thus the survey complements existing data sources that focus solely on the commute, such as U.S. Census and state Commute Trip Reduction data for large employers.

PSRC conducts travel surveys approximately every two years and has conducted them periodically since 1989. Although the survey geography already includes Bellevue, additional Bellevue sampling is needed to produce statistically valid data within the Bellevue sub-geography. The City has made similar, smaller-scale contributions toward additional PSRC survey samples for traffic modeling purposes, most recently in 2014.

With the City contribution of \$100,000 for the 2023 survey, PSRC will provide 400 (minimum) to 480 (targeted) additional Bellevue household samples. City and PSRC staff have determined that this quantity is needed to provide a robust dataset for current purposes. The data will be used primarily by two work groups in the Transportation Department:

- (1) Traffic modeling staff will use the data to validate and update the Bellevue-Kirkland-Redmond (BKR) traffic model that is used for modeling transportation needs based on traffic demand, to improve accuracy of future travel demand forecasts.
- (2) Transportation Demand Management staff will use the data to glean insight into proportions of non-drive-alone travel for various trip types, and to conduct analyses such as identifying which respondent characteristics are associated with the greatest use of alternatives to solo driving. The data will inform staff of which TDM strategies and approaches would be most effective for Bellevue audiences.

Timing and Deliverables

PSRC anticipates the survey to take place in the first three quarters of 2023, with data released to the City and general public in 2024. The agreement calls for PSRC to provide the Bellevue data in an electronic, geocoded format acceptable to the City.

POLICY & FISCAL IMPACTS

Policy Impact

Comprehensive Plan

This funding contribution is supported by Comprehensive Plan policies TR-8, TR-9, and TR-15, which direct the City to coordinate with other organizations to facilitate the use of transit, carpooling, vanpooling, walking, bicycling and alternative work schedules through increasing awareness, outreach and assistance. Policies TR-1 and TR-2 call for integrating land use and transportation decisions and strive to reduce congestion and improve mobility. With the BKR model being a key tool for evaluating the linkage between land use and transportation systems, keeping the travel demand forecasting model up to date is essential for serving these policy objectives.

Fiscal Impact

This action obligates the City to an agreement with PSRC to contribute up to \$100,000 toward additional targeted sampling in Bellevue for the 2023 Household Travel Survey. There is sufficient funding in the 2022 Transportation General Fund budget for the first \$60,000 to be paid to PSRC in 2022 and the remaining \$40,000 will be funded by the 2023 Transportation General Fund budget, subject to final budget appropriation. If such funds are not adequate, the agreement with PSRC may be terminated.

OPTIONS

1. Adopt the Resolution authorizing execution of an agreement (and supplements if necessary) with the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) to contribute up to \$100,000 for additional Bellevue samples in the 2023 Puget Sound Regional Household Travel Survey, in support of the City's traffic modeling and transportation demand management (TDM) programs.
2. Do not adopt the Resolution and provide alternative direction to staff.

ATTACHMENTS & AVAILABLE DOCUMENTS

Proposed Resolution No. 10143

AVAILABLE IN COUNCIL LIBRARY

Draft agreement with Puget Sound Regional Council