



DATE: January 23, 2023

TO: Mayor Robinson and City Councilmembers

FROM: Genesee Adkins, Chief of External Affairs

SUBJECT: Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) Committees Update

Executive Board

The next Executive Board meeting is scheduled for January 26. Mayor Lynne Robinson represents Bellevue on the Executive Board.

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

At its January 12 meeting, the TPB:

- **Recommended a routine amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).** Five agencies submitted ten 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:
 - 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: SR509/28th/24th 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
- **Recommended authorizing a change in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) project status for WSDOT's I-405 Corridor: SR 522 to SR 527 Project.** WSDOT submitted a request to change the status of the project 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.



- **Recommended approval of 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.
- **Discussed preliminary results from a 2030 climate analysis.** 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. Feedback from members centered on incorporating more land use considerations, refined assumptions for a road usage charge and incorporating bicycle/pedestrian modeling into the analysis.
- **Heard updates on 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 TPB meeting is scheduled for February 9. Councilmember Jennifer Robertson represents Bellevue on the TPB.

Economic Development District (EDD) Board

At its December 7 meeting, the EDD Board:

- **Discussed the Industrial Lands Analysis update, including review of initial findings from the land inventory analysis and employment and demographic data for industrial jobs.** PSRC's VISION 2050 Plan and the 2022 Regional Economic Strategy (RES) both include calls to update the Regional Economic Lands Analysis to identify trends impacting industrial lands, inform local planning efforts, and consider strategies to improve equitable access to employment in industrial jobs. PSRC staff are working to finalize the data analysis and will develop a final report for the board's review by spring 2023.
- **Discussed PSRC's Economic Development work program, highlighted accomplishments from 2022, and gathered input from the board on 2023 Economic Development Focus Areas.** In 2023, the PSRC EDD Board has identified the following work plan items for implementation, capturing ongoing efforts and additional opportunities:



- Complete the Industrial Lands Analysis.
 - Identify partnerships to analyze the economic impact and potential of emerging technologies, such as green industries, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, cybersecurity, transportation electrification, and others.
 - Implement the Regional Housing Strategy.
 - Develop a regional Equity Tracker, including measures of economic success and other equity measures.
 - Analyze and track telework in the region.
 - Coordinate an Americas Competitiveness Exchange event in 2023 to promote the region and build partnerships.
 - Participate in the WSDOT-coordinated Commercial Aviation Coordinating Commission.
 - Provide technical assistance and data to local jurisdictions.
 - Support the exploration and development of high-speed rail for the Cascadia region.
 - Support efforts by regional partners to grow broadband capacity in the region.
 - Support continued investment in critical infrastructure and workforce development programs to sustain the region's economy.
 - Support efforts by regional workforce development and higher education organizations to connect local students to educational opportunities.
- **PSRC staff also provided an update on key activities of PSRC's economic development work program** over the past quarter, including work to bring an Americas Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) delegation of the Organization of American States (OAS) in May.

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 January 5 meeting, the GMPB:

- **Was briefed by PSRC and Puget Sound Partnership staff on strategies and funding for Puget Sound recovery, consistent with VISION 2050 direction.** The board provided feedback on how to accelerate Puget Sound recovery and how to support local work.
- **Received an update on the Equity Advisory Committee's work** and the development of the Regional Equity Strategy. 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 Regional Transportation Plan. Additionally, the Equity Advisory Committee and PSRC staff have made progress on regional equity work and strategy.

- **Regional Equity Strategy Development and Equity Work Plan.** Resources in development supporting the work plan include:
 - Online Equity Tracker
 - Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report
 - Anti-Displacement Organizations Report
 - Equitable Engagement Guidance
 - Racial Equity Impact Assessment Tool
 - Equity Planning Resources
- **Provided feedback on the draft FY 2024-2025 Biennial Budget and Work Program.** PSRC's Operations Committee is developing the budget and work program for both PSRC and the Economic Development District. Comments from the boards will be compiled and reviewed by the Operations Committee on March 23, 2023. A final budget is scheduled for approval by Executive Board in April.

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