



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

April 14, 2022

[To watch a video of the meeting and hear the full discussion, please go to:  
<https://www.psrc.org/boards/watch-meetings.>]

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair. Chair Ralph announced that today's Transportation Policy Board meeting would be hybrid, allowing for remote and in-person attendance. Chair Ralph shared that the meeting was live streamed, and a call-in number provided for members of the public to listen.

A quorum was established by roll call.

#### COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Ralph informed the board that a public comment letter had been received and had been shared with the board via email this morning.

The board heard public comment from the following individuals:

- John Niles
- Laura Svancarek, Downtown On the Go
- Iris Antman
- Jennifer Mital, Seattle 350
- Larry Leveen, Forever Green Trails
- Claire Martini, Leafline Trails
- Vicky Clarke, Cascade Bicycle Club

#### REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Ralph thanked board members for all of their work on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). She announced that PSRC is organizing a second joint board session on racial equity scheduled for Thursday, June 23 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. The upcoming session will focus on implicit bias.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that due to the length of today's meeting, two actions were on the consent agenda. Ms. McGourty provided background information on consent agenda items 5d, Allocation of Unprogrammed 2022 FTA Earned Share Funding to King County and 5e, 2022 Project Extension Requests.

Ms. McGourty briefed the board on the status of the annual rebalancing efforts to meet the 2022 delivery targets. She referenced consent agenda item 5e, 2022 Project Extension Requests, and shared how it has an impact on PSRC's ability to meet annual delivery targets. The board has adopted procedures to ensure PSRC meets its delivery target, and staff is working through the rebalancing process which will require a supplemental funding action. Due to the schedule of the board and timing constraints, the funding action will go directly to the Executive Board for approval. Prior to Executive Board action, TPB will receive communication regarding the final recommended supplemental funding awards.

Ms. McGourty shared that the 2022 Project Selection Process is currently underway. Both the regional and countywide competitions for Federal Highway Administration funds are in process. The board will be briefed on the FTA funding process in June.

## CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held March 10, 2022
- b. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held March 31, 2022
- c. Routine Amendment to the 2021-2024 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- d. Allocation of Unprogrammed 2022 FTA Earned Share Funding to King County
- e. 2022 Project Extension Requests
- f. Recommend Certification of Canyon Park RGC Subarea Plan
- g. Recommend Certification of Snohomish County Countywide Planning Policies

**ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Ryan Mello and seconded by Councilmember Kate Kruller to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.**

## REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN AMENDMENT REVIEW AND ACTIONS

Chair Ralph, PSRC, reminded the board that at its March 31 meeting, the board took action on the first set of proposed amendments. Previous actions were identified in the agenda packet for today's meeting. The board would work through the remaining items today.

Chair Ralph shared that board members received a communication last week from PSRC Executive Director Josh Brown. It included a message from PSRC's President, Councilmember Claudia Balducci, with RTP amendment concepts.

Chair Ralph called on Councilmember Balducci to address the board. President Balducci shared that her RTP amendment concepts were distilled from public comments received in addition to amendments proposed by jurisdictions, TPB and Executive Board members. President Balducci asked board members to consider some of the top things that PSRC can do while working on the plan. President Balducci recapped that the RTP amendment concepts cover: climate, safety, equity, active transportation and accountability and transparency. President Balducci noted that while there was overlap in the RTP amendment concepts and the package of amendments in today's agenda, there were key differences and asked the board to consider those.

Chair Ralph thanked President Balducci for her comments and called on Ms. McGourty to begin the discussion of the remaining amendment proposals.

Ms. McGourty reminded the board that it had taken action at its March 31 meeting on technical corrections (Group 1) and several proposed amendments under Group 2. Those actions were documented in the agenda packet. Ms. McGourty noted that the agenda materials contained summarized proposals by topic and that staff responses were provided for each package of proposed amendments. The board would continue to review the remaining amendment packages under Group 2 at today's meeting. Board action will direct staff to make subsequent changes. At the end of today's meeting, the board will be asked to take action to recommend the final plan as amended to the Executive Board.

Ms. McGourty reminded the board that the RTP is updated every four years per federal and state requirements. The May deadline for plan adoption is tied to PSRC's federally approved air quality conformity determination.

Ben Bakkenta presented information on the F-1 amendment related to the financial strategy asking for language to align pricing and revenue expenditures with climate, equity and mobility goals. He also described the existing language in the plan.

**ACTION: F-1: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Ryan Mello/Robin Mayhew) to adopt the amendment. The motion failed with 7 for and 13 against.**

Ms. McGourty provided an introduction for the proposed amendment BP-1 regarding updates and analysis of the Active Transportation Plan. Ms. McGourty provided background on how PSRC addresses bicycle and pedestrian investments and active transportation throughout the RTP. She also discussed the transportation visualization tool and how bicycle and pedestrian projects are captured programmatically in the financial strategy.

**ACTION: BP-1: It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Hester Serebrin/Mayor Becky Erickson) to include language in the plan to identify future work to develop a stand-alone Active Transportation Plan document built from the existing work and RTP documentation. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendment BP-2 which asks to add a “Regional Active Transportation Network” section to Chapter 4 of the plan. She shared how the RTP currently addresses bicycle and pedestrian elements in this chapter and beyond, as well as a broader commitment to looking at the “What’s Ahead” sections of the plan.

**ACTION: BP-2: It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Rob Gelder/Mayor Becky Erickson) to include discussion in Chapter 4 of the plan of a Regional Active Transportation Network. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendment BP-3, prioritizing the development of qualitative and quantitative active transportation performance measures and objectives. Ms. McGourty shared data collection efforts at PSRC to support the bicycle and pedestrian work program. She also noted mobility metrics already included in the plan, PSRC’s prioritization measures for regional capacity projects and PSRC’s ongoing commitment to work with the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee.

**ACTION: BP-3: It was moved and seconded (Mayor Becky Erickson/Councilmember Leslie Schneider) to include language in the plan for staff to continue work to develop and improve active transportation performance measures, including as they relate to access for all ages and abilities. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty provided an overview of proposed amendments C-1a-1c regarding climate work and the development of a 2030 analysis year and implementation plan. Ms. McGourty noted that these actions would propose a plan amendment and also direct future PSRC work. Ms. McGourty shared that the amendments are aligned with the climate change program at PSRC and the adopted four-part greenhouse gas strategy. PSRC has been focused on 2050 as part of the requirement to complete the long-range analysis. Ms. McGourty discussed the work and time that would be involved to develop an interim 2030 analysis year. She shared ongoing PSRC partnerships that are aligned with these climate goals.

**ACTION: C1a-c: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Ryan Mello/Councilmember Alex Pedersen) to amend the plan to identify the work as**

**proposed and for staff to use the best available data moving forward. The motion passed unanimously.**

The board took a short break from 11:15-11:25 am.

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendment C-2 related to resiliency and environmental justice. She provided background on PSRC's commitment in the draft plan to resilience, equity and engagement work as well as current partnerships supporting this work. She also explained the difference between the RTP and the budget and work program in terms of allocating resources for staff.

**ACTION: C2: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Ryan Mello/Councilmember Kristina Walker) to strengthen the language and emphasis in the plan on resilience and environmental justice impacts. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ben Bakkenta summarized amendment C-3 related to providing regional analysis and assistance to local jurisdictions to ensure planning and growth targets are consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy. Mr. Bakkenta shared how PSRC provides technical assistance to support the Regional Growth Strategy. No motion was put forward for the amendment.

Ms. McGourty summarized amendment S-1 regarding adopting a goal of zero fatalities and serious injuries with a Safe Systems Approach. She also described the policies in VISION 2050 related to meeting the state's safety goals that are included in the RTP, as well as the implementation actions related to safety.

**ACTION: S-1: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Jennifer Robertson/Councilmember Kristina Walker) to modify the language in the plan to more clearly identify the VISION 2050 safety goal, add the State's Target Zero goal date, and clarify that the RTP works to achieve this goal through a Safe Systems Approach. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendments S-2a-d, covering the development of a regional safety plan, convening partners to set an aspirational target year for achieving zero traffic fatalities and serious injuries, publishing an annual safety progress report and pursuing resources for safety projects and programs.

**ACTION: S-2a-d: It was moved and seconded (Mayor Mary Lou Pauly/Councilmember Jennifer Robertson) to update the plan to reflect the specific proposals for PSRC's future work program on safety as described. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty summarized amendments PE-1a-c related to the evaluation of projects submitted into the RTP. Three amendments were compiled together, one submitted from a board member and the two others were elevated from public comment. Ms.

McGourty noted that the majority of project investments in the RTP are programmatic and not tracked on a line-item basis. Projects on the regional capacity project list are larger scale and must respond to the adopted prioritization framework measures at the point of submittal.

**ACTION: S-2a-d: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Kristina Walker/Councilmember Ryan Mello) that the plan identify a future work program to update the RTP Prioritization Measures and how projects are evaluated at point of submission into the next RTP, to include consideration of all ages and abilities and a Safe Systems Approach. The motion passed with one nay vote.**

Ms. McGourty provided background on the development of the RTP and the timing of project selection per federal requirements. Ms. McGourty summarized amendment PS-1 which calls for development of a plan to align the RTP and project selection processes so that the RTP guides the funding process. Ms. McGourty shared with the board options for how the sequencing could happen and still meet federal requirements.

The board discussed the timing of developing projects submitted for funding, VISION 2050 policy direction and the work of the Project Selection Task Force.

**ACTION: PS-1: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Ben Zarlingo/Mayor Becky Erickson) to amend Chapter 4 of the plan to clarify that the Project Selection Task Force will take into account the most recent RTP and staff will develop a longer term work plan regarding the alignment of RTP and project selection schedules. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendment PS-2 related to design standards for project selection.

**ACTION: PS-2: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Kate Kruller/Councilmember Kim Daughtry) to not take action on PS-2. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendment PS-4 related to setting aspirational goals for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions in each funding round. The board discussed the importance of addressing climate change, how the current evaluation process is conducted, the relationship of the project selection process to the overall climate goals and regional analysis, and when projects are developed for submittal into the grant competition.

**ACTION: PS-4: It was moved and seconded (Commissioner Hester Serebrin/Councilmember Leslie Schneider) to adopt the amendment. The motion failed with 7 for and 11 against.**

Ms. McGourty summarized proposed amendment PS-9 that would make low-scoring projects ineligible for funding until resubmitted/reevaluated. Ms. McGourty described

the adopted process of developing prioritized contingency lists of projects in each funding cycle and their role in meeting the annual FHWA delivery targets.

**ACTION: PS-9: It was moved and seconded (Mayor Becky Erickson/Councilmember Ben Zarlingo) to not take action on PS-2. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty shared that there were two combinations of amendments for the board to consider related to project selection. The first grouping (PS-3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10) are proposed by staff as having no action needed. Ms. McGourty summarized each of the amendments in the first grouping and provided an explanation for the staff proposal. The amendments addressed a variety of topics that were considered to be either outside the scope of the RTP or were already addressed under current processes.

**ACTION: PS-3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Kate Kruller/Mayor Mary Lou Pauly) to maintain the plan as is with no amendment for this grouping. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. McGourty shared that the next suite of amendments related to project selection, PS-11-13, were not put forward by a member of the board but were elevated from public comment. Ms. McGourty summarized the amendments which addressed funding targets tied to the VISION 2050 regional growth strategy, priority for investments serving people with specialized transportation needs, and a requirement for every project to have a VMT reduction plan. The board discussed the adopted Policy Framework and the direction from VISION 2050, the existing evaluation criteria, and the diversity of projects submitted. The board also discussed the appropriate scale for a VMT reduction plan, whether project level or encompassing the full transportation system.

**ACTION: PS-11-13: It was moved and seconded (Mayor Mary Lou Pauly/Mayor Becky Erickson) to not adopt PS-11-13. It was moved and seconded (Matthew Sutherland/Councilmember Dave Upthegrove) to remove amendment PS-13 from the grouping and to consider it separately. The amendment failed by voice vote. The original motion then passed unanimously.**

Mayor Ralph informed the board that all amendments had been reviewed by the board. She offered board members to come forward with any final proposals. Mayor Ralph thanked board members for their work on the draft RTP.

**ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Councilmember Kim Daughtry/Councilmember Ben Zarlingo) to recommend approval of the draft Regional Transportation Plan, as amended with the actions on March 31 and April 14, to the Executive Board. The motion passed unanimously.**

Mayor Ralph thanked board members and staff for their work developing the Regional Transportation Plan. The Executive Board will meet April 28 to act on the draft Regional Transportation Plan.

Mayor Ralph informed board members of the all-board implicit bias training scheduled June 23. The May 12 meeting is subject to cancellation.

## **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

## **TPB MEMBERS & ALTERNATES PRESENT**

See attached attendance roster.

## **GUESTS and PSRC STAFF ATTENDING**

(As determined by staff)

Monica Adkins, PSRC  
Ben Bakkenta, PSRC  
Josh Brown, PSRC  
Carolyn Downs, PSRC  
Sarah Gutschow, PSRC  
Craig Helmann, PSRC  
Paul Inghram, PSRC  
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC  
Piset Khuon, PSRC  
Kelly McGourty, PSRC  
Casey Moreau, PSRC

Attachments:

TPB April 14, 2022 Attendance Roster

Transportation Policy Board - April 2022			
Voting Members		✓	Non-voting Members
<b>King County</b>	2	CM Girmay Zahilay	<b>Associate Members</b>
		CM Dave Upthegrove	1 Island County
		Vacant Alt	1 COMM Melanie Bacon
		Vacant Alt	1 COMM Jill Johnson Alt
Seattle	2	CM Dan Strauss	1 Thurston Regional Planning Council
		CM Alex Pedersen	1 CM Dani Madrone, Olympia
		CP Debora Juarez Alt	1 COMM Carolina Mejia, Thurston Co Alt
Bellevue	1	CM Jennifer Robertson	<b>Public Agency Members</b>
		CM Janice Zahn Alt	1 Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
Cities/Towns	3	CM Kate Kruller, Tukwila	1 Cynthia Wang
		MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, <b>Chair</b>	1 Kathy Strange Alt
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah	1 Dan Gatchet
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac Alt	1 Brian Ziegler Alt
		CM Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt	1 WA Transportation
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt	1 Improvement Board
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski	1 Dave Ramsay
		Vacant Alt	1 CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt
<b>Kitsap County</b>	1	COM Robert Gelder	<b>PSRC Committees</b>
		COM Charlotte Garrido Alt	1 Regional Staff Cmte.
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1 Jesse Hamashima, Pierce Co.
		CP Michael Goodnow Alt	1 Chip Vincent, Renton Alt
Cities/Towns	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard	1 Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.
		CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl Alt	1 Russ Blount, Fife Alt
Local Transit	1	MYR Becky Erickson, Poulsbo	1 Peter Heffernan, King County
		CM John Clauson, Port Orchard Alt	1 Lindsey Sehmel Alt, Pierce Transit
<b>Pierce County</b>	1	CM Ryan Mello, <b>Vice Chair</b>	<b>Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor</b>
		CM Dave Morell Alt	1 Laborers Local Union 242
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1 exp. 12/31/22
		CM Conor McCarthy Alt	1 Dale Bright Alt
Cities & Towns	1	CM Bryan Yambe, Fife	1 WA Roundtable
		MYR Josh Penner, Orting Alt	1 exp. 12/31/22
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County	1 Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce exp. 12/31/22
		DEP MYR John Palmer, Puyallup Alt	1 Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt
<b>Snohomish County</b>	1	CM Jared Mead	1 Master Builders of Pierce County exp. 12/31/23
		CM Sam Low Alt	1 Jeremiah Lafranca Alt
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlino	<b>Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment</b>
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt	1 Seattle Aging & Disability Services exp. 12/31/23
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1 League of Women Voters of WA exp. 12/31/22
		CM Jeffrey Beeler, Sultan Alt 1	1 Public Health Seattle/ King County exp.12/31/23
		CM Michael Stevens, Marysville Alt 2	1 Shawn Frederick, SNOHD Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Kim Daughtry, Lake Stevens	1 Transportation Choices Coalition exp. 12/31/23
		CM Jan Schuette, Arlington Alt	1 Alex Hudson
<b>Regional Transit</b>	1	MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife	1 Matthew Sutherland Alt
		Vacant Alt	
<b>Federally Recognized Tribes</b>			
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	1	CM John Daniels, Jr.	
		Vacant Alt	
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Andrew Strobel	
		Robert Barandon Alt	
Suquamish Tribe	1	CM Luther (Jay) Mills	
		CHRMN Leonard Forsman Alt	
<b>Statutory Members</b>			
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle	
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt	
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jerry Litt	
		COM Hester Serebrin Alt	
WSDOT	1	SEC Roger Millar	
		ASST SEC Julie Meredith Alt 1	
		Mike Cotton Alt 2	
		Steve Roark Alt 3	
		Robin Mayhew Alt 4	1
<b>Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)</b>			
House Transportation Cmte.	2	REP Emily Wicks, D	Abbreviations
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt	CHRMN Chairman
		REP Dan Griffey, R	CM Councilmember
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt	CP Council President
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant, D	COM Commissioner
		SEN Mark Mullet, D Alt	MYR Mayor
		Vacant, R	DEP MYR Mayor
		Vacant, R Alt	SEC Secretary
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	ASST SEC Assistant Secretary
		Total Voting members present	REP Representative
			SEN Senator

Attachment: TPB April 14, 2022 Attendance Roster (3437 : Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held Apr 2022)