



Puget Sound Regional Council

MINUTES OF THE TRANSPORTATION POLICY BOARD

January 12, 2023

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

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair. Chair Ralph announced that the Transportation Policy Board meeting would be hybrid, allowing for remote and in-person attendance. The meeting will be live streamed, and a call-in number provided for members of the public to listen.

Mayor Ralph welcomed new members and alternates to the board:

- Councilmember Tim Ceder, Milton (member)
- Commissioner Nicole Grant, Washington State Transportation Commission (alternate)
- Mayor Daryl Eiding, Edgewood, Pierce Local Transit (alternate)
- Council President Jeff Coughlin, Bremerton (alternate)

A quorum was established by roll call.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Written comments were shared with the board via email. The board heard public comment from the following individuals:

- Joe Kunzler
- Alex Tsimerman, SUA

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Ralph thanked the board for their work over the last year and also acknowledged PSRC staff for their dedication and efforts.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, welcomed the board and noted the significant work program for 2023, including several small funding competitions that will be held. Ms. McGourty also noted the upcoming launch of the Regional Electric Vehicle Collaborative web-based clearinghouse. This is a partnership project with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) that has been underway for several years.

Robin Koskey, PSRC, shared that the Executive Board adopted PSRC's legislative agenda. She shared highlights of the Governor's budget and priorities for transportation including safety, ferries, and others.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held December 8, 2022
- b. Routine Amendment to the 2023-2026 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)
- c. Recommend Authorizing a Change in the Regional Transportation Plan Project Status for WSDOT's I-405 Corridor: SR 522 to SR 527 (SR 522 I/C and HOV/ETL)

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Ryan Mello and seconded by Mayor Kim Roscoe to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

CONSOLIDATED GRANT COMPETITION REGIONAL RANKINGS

Jean Kim, PSRC, provided an overview of the Consolidated Grant Competition held by WSDOT. WSDOT's consolidated grant program provides funding from a variety of federal and state sources for specialized transportation services. PSRC does not award funding, but rather allocates rankings that align with regional priorities.

Ms. Kim provided an overview of the grant process and how PSRC awards rankings. This year, PSRC initiated a new step to have presentations from applicants which was very helpful. PSRC works with the Special Needs Transportation Committee to develop regional Priority Ranking Factors. These factors are designed to support PSRC's Coordinated Mobility Plan.

Ms. Kim provided a summary of the recommendation to allocate regional priority rankings to submitted projects. After approval by the TPB, PSRC's regional priority rankings are scheduled for review and approval by PSRC's Executive Board at its January meeting.

ACTION: The motion was made by Councilmember Kate Kruller and seconded by Councilmember Ryan Mello that the Transportation Policy Board should recommend Executive Board approval of regional priority rankings for the WSDOT Consolidated Grant

competition as found in Attachment A. The motion passed unanimously.

CLIMATE CHANGE IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, shared that the board has been briefed on the 2030 climate analysis over the last several months, including sensitivity tests that were modeled to estimate further emissions reductions to meet the 2030 climate goal.

Craig Helmann, PSRC, reviewed forecasted changes in population and employment growth for 2030. Mr. Helmann noted that with projects planned in the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), there are increases in the number of transit, walk, and bike trips, and decreases in driving and delay on the system.

Mr. Helmann shared the results of sensitivity tests focused on user fees, choices, and technology. He shared the results of testing different rates of a Road Usage Charge (RUC). The RUC has a significant impact on transit ridership, vehicle miles traveled (VMT), and emissions. He noted that transportation alternatives become more important with a higher RUC rate. Mr. Helmann noted increasing transit access didn't see as big an impact in 2030 as was seen in the modeling for 2050.

Mr. Helmann further shared the results of sensitivity tests for work from home levels, elimination of roadway capacity projects, and increases in zero-emission vehicles. He noted that varying work from home levels saw strong emission reduction potential. He noted a high level of work from home rates meant lower VMT levels and lower delay on the system but also a reduction in transit ridership. Mr. Helmann shared that elimination of roadway capacity projects, many of which support transit and freight, had a minimal reduction on emissions but increased delay on the system.

Mr. Helmann referred to the analysis report included in the agenda packet for further details. The board will receive metrics at future meetings to see how different sensitivity tests change different parts of the network.

Ms. McGourty shared that PSRC created a hybrid scenario that combined the three most promising levers - user fees, work from home, and technology. Mr. Helmann described the specific levels of each that were included in the hybrid scenario. Ms. McGourty shared that the combination of the RTP, VISION 2050, state actions and the hybrid test of these three levers could meet the 2030 climate goal. However, she noted that continued commitment to implementing each element, including the planned regional growth strategy and expansion of the transit network is critical to success.

Board members discussed the differences between the assumptions on the RUC in PSRC's plans versus what is currently being discussed at the state. Board members also shared that there may be a need to increase the education level among PSRC member agencies about the nuances of the RUC and to more seriously engage for the RUC to succeed. Board members also requested additional metrics from the sensitivity

tests be provided, related to equity and co-benefits beyond emissions reduction. Suggestions on additional hybrid scenarios to analyze were made, including a reduced RUC rate, bringing in the transit sensitivities, and considering a more aggressive land use scenario.

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN PERFORMANCE DASHBOARD

Mr. Helmann shared that the board has previously shared feedback on what elements should be included in the RTP performance dashboard. Mr. Helmann reviewed the type of information currently available in the dashboard and what is still in progress. He gave an overview of the maps, data comparisons and performance metrics available in the draft dashboard and the overall approach. Board members were invited to visit the dashboard and provide staff with feedback for improvements.

Board members shared that maps are useful, and asked if the dashboard could show additional elements such as exposure disparities, health equity and cost burdens if feasible. Staff shared that anywhere PSRC has data on race, income, etc. those metrics will be included in the dashboard.

DRAFT FY2024-2025 BIENNIAL BUDGET AND WORK PROGRAM

Andrew Werfelmann, PSRC, shared progress on the new draft biennial budget and work program. The budget was prepared under the guidance of PSRC's Operations Committee. It is balanced and sustainable and supports ongoing and new work. The budget projects an increase in membership dues to meet goals for PSRC's contingency fund.

Mr. Werfelmann gave an overview of budget revenue and expenditure estimates. Board members have an opportunity to provide comments by March 16. The final budget is scheduled for approval by the Executive Board in April and adoption by the PSRC General Assembly at the May meeting.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:23 AM.

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

Craig Helmann, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Piset Khuon, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Casey Moreau, PSRC

Attachments:

TPB January 12, 2023 Attendance Roster

Transportation Policy Board - January 12, 2023						
Voting Members			ü	Non-voting Members		
King County	2	CM Girmay Zahilay	1	Associate Members		
		CM Dave Upthegrove	1	Island County	1	COMM Melanie Bacon
		Vacant Alt				COMM Jill Johnson Alt
		Vacant Alt		Thurston Regional Planning Council	1	CM Dani Madrone, Olympia
Seattle	2	CM Dan Strauss				COMM Carolina Mejia, Thurston Co Alt
		CM Alex Pedersen	1	Public Agency Members		
		CP Debora Juarez Alt		Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1	Christine Cooley
Bellevue	1	CM Jennifer Robertson				Kathy Strange Alt
		CM Janice Zahn Alt	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1	Vacant
Cities/Towns	3	CM Kate Kruller, Tukwila	1			Brian Ziegler Alt
		MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, Chair	1		1	Vacant
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah	1			CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac Alt	1	PSRC Committees		
		CM Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt		Regional Staff Cmte.	1	Jesse Hamashima, Pierce Co.
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt	1			Chip Vincent, Renton Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski		Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1	Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.
		Vacant Alt				Vacant Alt
Kitsap County	1	COM Robert Gelder	1	Transportation Operators Cmte.	1	Peter Heffernan, King County
		COM Charlotte Garrido Alt				Lindsey Sehmel Alt, Pierce Transit
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1	Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor		
		CP Jeff Coughlin Alt		Vacant exp. 12/31/25	1	Vacant
Cities/Towns	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard				Vacant Alt
		CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl Alt	1	Vacant exp. 12/31/25	1	Vacant
Local Transit	1	MYR Becky Erickson, Poulsbo	1			Vacant Alt
		CM John Clauson, Port Orchard Alt	1	Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce exp. 12/31/25	1	Lorelei Williams, WSP USA
Pierce County	1	CM Ryan Mello, Vice Chair	1			Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt
		CM Dave Morell Alt		Master Builders of Pierce County exp. 12/31/23	1	Jessie Gamble
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1			Jeremiah Lafranca Alt
		CM Olgy Diaz Alt		Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment		
Cities & Towns	1	CM Tim Ceder, Milton	1	Seattle Aging & Disability Services exp. 12/31/23	1	Dinah Stephens
		MYR Josh Penner, Orting Alt				Vacant Alt
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County	1	Vacant exp. 12/31/25	1	Vacant
		MYR Daryl Eidinger, Edgewood Alt				Vacant Alt
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead		Public Health Seattle/ King County exp.12/31/23	1	Darrell Rodgers
		CM Sam Low Alt				Shawn Frederick, SNOHD Alt
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo	1	Transportation Choices Coalition exp. 12/31/23	1	Hester Serebrin
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt				Alex Hudson Alt
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1	Non-voting	16	Non-voting members present
		CM Jeffrey Beeler, Sultan Alt 1		Ex-Officio Non-Voting Members		
		CM Michael Stevens, Marysville Alt 2		State Legislators	87	Districts within PSRC's boundary
Local Transit	1	CM Kim Daughtry, Lake Stevens	1			
		CM Jan Schuette, Arlington Alt				
Regional Transit	1	MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife	1			
		Vacant Alt				
Federally Recognized Tribes						
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				
Statutory Members						
Ports	1	COM Toshiko Hasegawa, Seattle				
		COM Cary Bozeman, Bremerton Alt	1			
WA Trans. Commission	1	COM Jerry Litt				
		COM Nicole Grant Alt	1			
WSDOT	1	SEC Roger Millar				
		ASST SEC Julie Meredith Alt 1				
		Brian Nielsen Alt 2				
		Steve Roark Alt 3				
		Robin Mayhew Alt 4	1			
Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)						
House Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant				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	22			ASST SEC Assistant Secretary
		Total Voting members present	25			REP Representative
						SEN Senator

Attachment: TPB January 12, 2023 Attendance Roster (3647 : Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held Jan 2023)