

# Preparing for PSRC's 2024 Project Selection Process

Transportation Policy Board | September 14, 2023



Puget Sound Regional Council



*We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.*

[psrc.org/equity](https://psrc.org/equity)

# Today's Briefing

- Introduction to PSRC's project selection process
- Overview of *Policy Framework* and evaluation criteria
- Key policy areas for discussion
- Schedule of activities
- Highlights from previous process



# Project Selection Process

PSRC has project selection authority over specific sources of funds from the **Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)** and the **Federal Transit Administration (FTA)**

- ~\$90 million of FHWA funds per year
  - Competitive distributions – regional and countywide
- ~\$280 million of FTA funds per year
  - Earned share and *new* Equity formula distribution
- Specific eligibilities across multiple funding sources



# Policy Framework

- Policy direction from Board adopted in the *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*
- Based on VISION 2050 policies and consistent with the Regional Transportation Plan
  - Adopted policy focus = *support for centers and the corridors that serve them*
- Projects must be consistent with local comprehensive plans
- Process conducted every two years
  - 2024 process will distribute FFY 2027-2028 funds



# Policy Framework

**Project selection process** – key direction from VISION 2050, criteria based on VISION 2050 policies and consistency with RTP and RES



*Short-range implementation* — — — *Long-range plans*



# Project Evaluation Criteria

| <b>CRITERIA</b>                         | <b>Range of Point Values<br/>(depending on funding source)</b> |
|---|--|
| Development of Centers                  | 15 – 30  |
| Circulation, Mobility and Accessibility | 14 – 27  |
| Equity                                  | 10   |
| Safety                                  | 8  |
| Air Quality / Climate Change            | 20 – 50  |
| Project Readiness / Financial Plan      | 5  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                            | <b>100</b>   |



# Additional Process Details

- Set-Asides: Preservation, Bicycle / Pedestrian
- Funding estimates
- Distribution splits
- Project tracking policies
- Contingency lists
- Caps on number of applications / funding requests



# Key Policy Areas for Discussion

- 2022 process made significant revisions to Equity and Safety criteria
  - Including establishing a new Equity Pilot, currently in process
- Emphasis areas continue to be:
  - ✓ Safety
  - ✓ Climate
  - ✓ Equity





# Current Work

## Safety

- Regional Safety Summit
  - *June 2023*
    - Draft scope of work for the Regional Safety Action Plan
      - *September 2023*
        - Inventory of local safety plans / policies / programs
          - *November 2023*
            - Final Regional Safety Action Plan
              - *1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2025*



# Current Work

## Climate

- 2030 analysis and sensitivity tests
  - *1<sup>st</sup> quarter 2023*
    - Expert review panel
      - *September – October 2023*
        - CPRG / climate action plan development
          - *March 2024 & Summer 2025*



# Current Work

## Equity

- Development of Equity Pilot with Equity Advisory Committee
  - *January through September 2023*
    - Equity Pilot competition
      - *September through October 2023*
        - Equity Advisory Committee recommendations
          - *November – pilot projects*
          - *December – process improvements*



# Schedule and Next Steps

- **October – December 2023**
  - Board discussions on key policy areas for *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*
- January 2024
  - Adoption of *Policy Framework*
- February – June 2024
  - Conduct project selection process
- July 2024
  - Project recommendations to board



# Highlights from 2022 FHWA Process

• Projects provided improvements to:

- Freight
- Transit
- Bicyclists / pedestrians
- Intersections
- Pavement preservation
- Safety
- Equity
- Emissions





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# Feedback and Questions

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