



Transportation Operators Committee Meeting Summary

Date: February 28, 2024

Location: Online Meeting Only: Zoom Remote Meeting

Welcome and Introductions

Peter Heffernan, Chair, welcomed everyone at 10:00 a.m. Peter took roll call and confirmed the members and alternates present.

Approval of Meeting Summary

The summary for the January 24, 2024, meeting was approved.

Transportation Policy Board Debrief

Gil Cerise, PSRC, provided a brief overview of the February Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting and shared the location of the Transportation work program tracker that TOC members requested be highlighted.

Discussion: PSRC Transportation Committee Assessment

Gil Cerise, PSRC, gave a brief overview of a comprehensive assessment of how PSRC engages stakeholders through advisory committees and shared that, as a result of that assessment, PSRC is proposing changes to several of its existing committees which will be rolled out over the coming weeks. For transit, we are proposing a consolidated and rebranded transit committee. PSRC will share more on this as a Discussion item at the March TOC meeting.

For more information, contact Gil Cerise at gcerise@psrc.org

Discussion: Guidance for FTA Equity Formula Funds

Sarah Gutschow, PSRC, shared updated guidance on the FTA Equity Formula funding distribution that will be used for the 2024 Project Selection process for FTA funds. The updated guidance includes clarifications based on board feedback on issues that arose in the initial distribution of these funds, as shown in the [agenda packet attachment](#) for this item.

For more information, contact Sarah Gutschow at sgutschow@psrc.org

Discussion: Updates to PSRC Project Tracking Policies

Sarah Gutschow, PSRC, provided an overview of current policies for FTA funds in the [Project Tracking Policies for PSRC's Federal Funds](#), including the application of the rules for regional funds to the new Equity Formula distribution. She then reviewed some options for providing additional flexibility under some circumstances to those policies, as detailed in the [agenda packet attachment](#) for this item. TOC members discussed the options and generally agreed that additional flexibility may be warranted under some circumstances, given the unique nature of this new distribution process.

The committee then voted unanimously to recommend the proposed changes to the Transportation Policy Board at their next meeting. As part of this recommendation, the committee requested eventually including an administrative addendum with examples of when exceptions may be considered.

For more information, contact Sarah Gutschow at sgutschow@psrc.org

Discussion: Recommendations and Next Steps for Connecting People to Transit Work Program

Jean Kim, PSRC, shared the final report from the Transit Access Working Group with recommendations for how PSRC can improve its transit access tools and resources. Jean and Gil also shared PSRC's proposed next steps for developing a regional transit access needs assessment as part of the Regional Transportation Plan 2026-2050.

For more information, contact Jean Kim at jkim@psrc.org

Discussion: Transit Agency Roundtable

During the Roundtable, the committee received updates and announcements from the following attendees:

- Lisa Wolterink, Sound Transit
- Sophie Luthin, Community Transit
- Melinda Adams, Everett Transit
- Steffanie Lillie, Kitsap Transit
- Andrew Arnes, Pierce Transit
- Ben Smith, City of Seattle
- Cordy Crockett, WSDOT
- Jillian Nordstrom, WSDOT
- Peter Heffernan, King County Metro

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

***Members and Alternates Present**

See attached attendance roster.

***PSRC Staff, Alternates and Guests Present**

Jillian Nordstrom, WSDOT; Eric Irelan, King County; Nick Roach, Community Transit

PSRC

Gil Cerise, Erin Hogan, Sarah Gutschow, Nick Johnson, Alexa Leach, Jean Kim, Kelly McGourty, Jennifer Barnes

**Attendees were present via remote participation*

TOC Attendance Roster

(Members and Alternates represented)

Date: February 28, 2024 10:00am - 12:00pm

Online/Remote Meeting Only

Agency/Jurisdiction		Name
Transit Agencies		
Community Transit (1)	x	Sophie Luthin
		<i>Kathryn Rasmussen (Alt.)</i>
Everett Transit (1)	x	Melinda Adams
		<i>Michael Schmieder (Alt.)</i>
King County Metro (1)	x	Peter Heffernan, Chair
		<i>Erik Rundell (Alt.)</i>
Kitsap Transit (1)	x	Steffani Lillie
		<i>Edward Coviello (Alt.)</i>
Pierce County Ferries (1)		VACANT
		<i>Nick Lacsina (Alt.)</i>
Pierce Transit (1)	x	Andrew Arnes
		<i>Tina Lee (Alt.)</i>
City of Seattle (1)		Jen Malley-Crawford
	x	<i>Benjamin Smith (Alt.)</i>
Sound Transit (1)		Alex Krieg
	x	<i>Lisa Wolterink (Alt.)</i>
State		
WSDOT - Washington State Ferries (1)		Jason Rogers
		<i>John Bernhard (Alt.)</i>
WSDOT (1)	x	Cordy Crockett
		<i>Jill Nordstrom (Alt.)</i>
Non-Voting Participants		
Regional FTA Caucus (1)	x	Steffani Lillie , Chair (Kitsap Transit)
		<i>Clint Ritter, Vice Chair (Pierce County Ferries) (Alt.)</i>
Intercity Transit (1)		Peter Stackpole
		<i>Jessica Gould (Alt.)</i>
Special Needs Transportation Committee (SNTC) (1)		Susan Carter, Chair (Hopelink)
		VACANT