



Puget Sound Regional Council

## **Regional Project Evaluation Committee Recommendation Summary**

**Date:** May 23, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Location:** Remote – Online Meeting Only (Zoom Connection)

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### **Introductions and Review of Meeting Procedures**

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, welcomed everyone at 9:30 a.m. Roll call of members was conducted and Kelly provided a brief overview of the agenda. She reminded the committee that if it was needed, the next meeting would be Friday, May 24, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. to conclude the project selection recommendations.

### **Action: Project Recommendations - 2024 FHWA Regional Competition\***

Kelly provided an overview of the process the committee was to follow to prepare a funding recommendation to the Transportation Policy Board including a review of the meeting procedures. Kelly and Charles Patton, PSRC, shared some observations of the overall application review and scoring. Kelly reminded the committee that in the months leading up to this process the board held in-depth discussions to refine and improve the evaluation criteria, particularly equity, safety, and climate, and strengthened the questions and relative weights of equity and safety. She stressed the importance that projects awarded PSRC funds strongly adhere to the specific and focused criteria adopted by the board, and staff's efforts this year to update the guidance to make it more thorough and navigatable. She noted that fewer applications than usual were submitted in this cycle, particularly for Congestion Mitigation & Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds, which is consistent with what has been observed on multiple fronts. This will be discussed in more depth at future meetings, but appears to reflect the limits of agencies' resources compared to the large amounts of federal funding available. Additionally, the scale of overall scores was lower than previous years. This may be due in part to a learning curve with the new criteria, but it was also clear that some of the sponsors made good use of the training, guidance, and resources provided, but others did not. Charles encouraged sponsors who did make use of these resources to note what worked well and where there were challenges, and provide that feedback to PSRC to help inform future improvements.

Kelly then provided an overview of the funds available to be distributed. In addition to the regular CMAQ and Surface Transportation Block Grant Program (STBG) funds available for the 2027 and 2028 program years, there are also additional CMAQ, STBG, and Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) funds available for 2025 and 2026. Originally it was anticipated that CMAQ requests would be ample enough to also be able to receive the CRP funds, as eligibility requirements are similar. However, since CMAQ requests

were fewer than expected, two options were presented to the committee: (1) recommend CRP funding to eligible projects – emphasizing emission reductions – regardless of which funding source was requested (CMAQ or STBG), or (2) recommend funding to CMAQ and STBG projects as usual, but set aside an amount of CMAQ / CRP funding for a separate, focused competition to be held later and solicit additional eligible projects. This option would distribute at a minimum the 2025 CRP funding to eligible emission reduction projects, to ensure delivery. The committee discussed and reached consensus to apply Option 1, in acknowledgement of the limits of agencies' capacity to seek out additional projects or submit to more competitions, as well as efficiencies and delivery needs that may be impacted with any delay in the process. With that option, Kelly reaffirmed that the committee should still award CRP or CMAQ funding only to projects that provide a demonstrated emissions benefit, and still funding the projects that best meet the adopted criteria.

The committee then proceeded with discussion of the additional factors to be used in the deliberations, above and beyond the scores. Consensus was reached to include potential consideration of geographic, agency, modal and phase balance; project completion / implementation; scalability; timing of delivery; and unique circumstances.

The committee proceeded to discuss the projects, beginning with CMAQ submittals. The committee made a preliminary recommendation on the top five ranked CMAQ projects. Upon deliberation, consensus was reached that the sixth project on the list, Community Transit's Zero Bus Emissions Bus Purchase, would have measurable air quality benefit and meets the intent of CRP. Community Transit confirmed that this project could be implemented earlier than 2027, and the committee determined that full award of this project would help support geographic balance, as all other CMAQ requests are located in King County. With those considerations, the committee recommended that this project also be fully funded with a combination of CMAQ and CRP funds. The Maple Valley project was moved to the contingency list.

The committee then moved on to discussion of STBG submittals, The committee made a preliminary recommendation on the top ranked seven projects that could be fully funded with available STBG funds, with partial funds available for the eighth project on the list. The committee then identified two of the seven top ranked projects with scopes that meet the intent of CRP, which were also confirmed by their sponsors to be able to deliver in 2025 or 2026. The committee recommended that both projects be awarded CRP funds and recommended the eighth ranked project for full funding. The next (ninth) ranked project had CRP-eligible scope and confirmed that they could deliver earlier than 2027, and was added to the recommended list.

Since the CRP funds are 2025-2026, the committee ran into complications with some of the eligible projects in the mix not necessarily being able to go that early. The suggestion was made that we look to our existing 2025-2026 STBG projects and potentially do an exchange with CRP-eligible projects – ensuring that CRP funds are going to the best projects for that source, and allowing more STBG funds to be used on the current submittals. Upon review of the current STBG projects, Kelly confirmed that

this would be feasible. This allowed the funding to move further down the list and the tenth ranked project was included in the recommendation.

The committee reviewed the geographic balance and determined that Snohomish County was at an imbalance. They recommended that Lynnwood's Poplar Way project, ranked 13<sup>th</sup> on the list, be added to the draft recommendations. The committee considered the two projects ranked higher than Lynnwood with a tied score (#11 and #12), Fife and Seattle's Aurora project. The committee acknowledged that in consideration of agency balance, Seattle already had two other higher-ranked projects recommended for full funding and the Fife project supported greater geographic balance for Pierce County. The addition of the Lynnwood and Fife projects achieved greater geographic balance but exceeded the total estimated funding by about \$4.8M.

The committee then had lengthy discussion about where a reduced award could be considered, or whether there was flexibility to increase the estimated amount of future funding. Some key points discussed were recent and ongoing delivery challenges that have led to larger gaps to be filled; the 2027-2028 funds are into the next act and the estimation process is uncertain; the overage is a small percentage of the total; and the unique challenges this cycle with new funding sources and earlier funds to distribute. It was also noted that recommending the last two projects, Fife and Lynnwood, would improve geographic balance and both have ability to deliver early. Based on these factors and with PSRC staff consensus, the committee decided to recommend the full funding of the projects as identified, exceeding the estimate by about \$4.8M. The remaining 11 projects with STBG requests were moved to the contingency list.

The committee then unanimously approved the recommendation list as described above, and recommended the contingency list projects in rank order by score. **The approved final recommendation is attached.**

All project applications, presentations and follow-up information may be found on PSRC's website at:

<https://www.psrc.org/our-work/funding/project-selection/fhwa-and-fta-regional-funding>

*For more information, contact Kelly McGourty at [kmcgourty@psrc.org](mailto:kmcgourty@psrc.org).*

The additional materials can be found on the PSRC website [here](#) and the presentation can be found [here](#).

## **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:30 p.m.

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### **\*Members and Alternates Present**

See attached attendance roster.

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

April Delchamps, WSDOT; David Paine, City of Kent; Eric Irelan, King County Metro; Glynda Steiner, Snohomish County; Gunnar Fridriksson, City of Bremerton; Ingrid Gaub, City of Auburn; Ivan Miller, King County; Janice Fahning, Snohomish County; Jennifer Keene, PSCAA; Jolena Missildine, WSDOT; Kathryn Rasmussen, Community Transit; Kimberly Scrivner, City of Kirkland; Kirste Johnson, Sound Transit; Matt Ojala, Snohomish County; Michael Kosa, City of Sumner; Ryan Medlen, Port of Tacoma

PSRC

Alexa Leach, Charles Patton, David Dixon, Doug Cox, Erin Hogan, Gil Cerise, Jean Kim, Jennifer Barnes, Kalon Thomas, Kelly McGourty, Miles Stepleton, Mitch Koch, Nick Johnson, Noal Leonetti, Olivia Ng

*\*All attendees were present via remote participation*

# RPEC Attendance Roster - Designated Members

Date: May 23, 2024 - 9:30-5:00 pm

Remote/Online Only

**NOTE: Members are invited to sit at the table and vote. Alternates may sit at the table and vote when the member is absent. Please coordinate representation in advance of the meeting.** All other Alternates and Guests are invited to attend and sit in the gallery. This roster is for attendance purposes only and should be marked by all members and alternates present at the table, regardless of voting status.

Jurisdiction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name	Jurisdiction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Name
King County (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mary Bourguignon	WSDOT-NW Region (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cameron Kukes
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter Heffernan			Mehrdad Moini (Alt.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Vander Sluis	WSDOT-Oly Region (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JoAnn Schueler
		Ruth Harvey (Alt.)			John Ho (Alt.)
		Sarah Green (Alt.)	WSDOT-MoM (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Matthew Kenna
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ivan Miller (Alt.)			April Delchamps (Alt.)
Seattle (3)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sarah Strand	WSDOT-WS Ferries (1)		John Bernhard
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jim Storment		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Krishan Aggarwal (Alt.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joanna Valencia			Todd Lamphere (Alt.)
		Bill LaBorde (Alt.)	Kitsap Transit (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steffani Lillie
		Serena Lehman (Alt.)			Edward Coviello (Alt.)
	Benjamin Smith (Alt.)			Lindsay Cook (Alt.)	
Bellevue (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Eric Miller	Pierce Transit (1)		Tina Lee
		Mia Waters (Alt.)			Wendi Gephart (Alt.)
Other Cities/Towns (5)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chad Bieren, Kent			Darin Stavish (Alt.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	John Mortenson, Issaquah	Community Transit (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick Roach
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Larissa Grundell, Duvall			Kathryn Rasmussen (Alt.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jim Seitz, Renton	King County Metro (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chester Knapp
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nytasha Walters, Shoreline			Hannah McIntosh (Alt.)
		Ingrid Gaub, Auburn (Alt.)			Lisa Shafer (Alt.)
		Jeff Hamlin, Snoqualmie (Alt.)	Sound Transit (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Wolterink
		Dan Marcinko, North Bend (Alt.)			Tyler Benson (Alt.)
	Kimberly Scrivner, Kirkland (Alt.)			Kirste Johnson (Alt.)	
	Vangie Garcia, Redmond (Alt.)			Monica Overby (Alt.)	
Kitsap County (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	David Forte	Port of Seattle (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Geri Poor
		Joe Rutan (Alt.)			Robert Giacometti (Alt.)
Bremerton (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Shane Weber, Vice Chair	Port of Tacoma (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deirdre Wilson
		Gunnar Fridriksson (Alt. 1)			Ryan Medlen (Alt.)
		Vicki Grover (Alt. 2)	Port of Everett (1)		Brandon Whitaker
Other Cities/Towns (1)		Diane Lenius, Poulsbo		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Laura Gurley (Alt.)
		Vacant (Alt.)	Port of Bremerton (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Arne Bakker
Pierce County (2)		Leticia Neal			James Goodman (Alt.)
		Melissa McFadden	PSCAA (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kathy Strange
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peter Lewis-Miller (Alt.)			Jennifer Keene (Alt.)
Tacoma (2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clint Ritter (Alt.)	Suquamish Tribe (1)		VACANT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dan Hansen			VACANT (Alt.)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brennan Kidd	Muckleshoot Tribal Cncl (1)		VACANT
		Josh Diekmann (Alt.)			VACANT (Alt.)
Other Cities/Towns (1)		Darius Thompson (Alt.)	Puyallup Tribe (1)		VACANT
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mark Burlingame, Steilacoom			VACANT (Alt.)
		Jeremy Metzler, Edgewood (Alt.)	<b>NON-VOTING</b>		VACANT - BPAC Member
Snohomish County (2)					VACANT - BPAC Alternate
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Doug McCormick, Chair			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kelly Snyder			
		Janice Fahning (Alt.)			
		Glynda Steiner (Alt.)			
	Matt Ojala (Alt.)				
Everett (1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tom Hood, City Engineer			
		Melinda Adams (Alt.)			
Other Cities/Towns (2)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rob English, Edmonds			
		VACANT			
		Jim Kelly, Arlington (Alt.)			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Steve Morikawa, Bothell (Alt.)			
		Jakeh Roberts, Monroe (Alt.)			

**PSRC 2024 FHWA REGIONAL COMPETITION - RPEC RECOMMENDATION**

**CMAQ PROJECTS: AVAILABLE FUNDS = \$42.60m (\$32.80m 2027-2028; \$9.8m 2025-2026)**

Sponsor	County	Project Title	SCORE (100)	Phase	Request		CMAQ Amount	Cumulative CMAQ	CRP Amount	Cumulative CRP	Contingency	
					Year	Amount					Amount	Rank
Sound Transit*	King	Graham Street Station - Design	75	PE	2027	\$ 8,200,000	\$8,200,000	\$8,200,000		\$0		
King County Metro	King	RapidRide K Line Project	64	PE	2027	\$ 8,200,000	\$8,200,000	\$16,400,000		\$0		
Sound Transit*	King	Boeing Access Rd Station - Vehicles	60	OTH	2027	\$ 8,200,000	\$8,200,000	\$24,600,000		\$0		
King County Metro	King	Regional Campaigns & Partner/Community TDM Capacity Building	57	OTH	2027	\$ 5,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$29,600,000		\$0		
Seattle*	King	Harrison & Mercer Transit Access Project	53	CN	2027	\$ 8,200,000	\$8,200,000	\$37,800,000		\$0		
Community Transit	Snohomish	Zero Emissions Bus Purchase	42	OTH	2028	\$ 8,200,000	\$4,800,000	\$42,600,000	\$3,400,000	\$3,400,000		
Maple Valley	King	SR 169 Pedestrian Bridge at SE 258th Street	28	CN	2027	\$ 3,500,000		\$42,600,000		\$3,400,000	\$3,500,000	1
<b>TOTAL:</b>						<b>\$49,500,000</b>	<b>\$42,600,000</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>				
							<b>\$0</b>	<b>Remaining</b>				

**PSRC 2024 FHWA REGIONAL COMPETITION - RPEC RECOMMENDATION**

**STBG PROJECTS: AVAILABLE FUNDS = \$33.16m (\$21.86m 2027-2028; \$11.30m 2025-2026)**

Sponsor	County	Project Title	SCORE (100)	Phase	Request		STBG Amount	Cumulative STBG	CRP Amount	Cumulative CRP	Contingency	
					Year	Amount					Amount	Rank
Bellevue*	King	NE Spring Boulevard Zone 3, Arterial/Multimodal Network Completion	75	PE	2027	\$ 3,500,000	\$3,500,000	\$3,500,000				
Tacoma	Pierce	Puyallup Avenue Corridor Improvements with Pedestrian Access to Fife	73	CN	2027	\$ 5,465,000	\$5,465,000	\$8,965,000				
Seattle*	King	West Seattle Link Extension (WSLE) Station Access	72	PE	2027	\$ 5,465,000		\$8,965,000	\$5,465,000	\$8,865,000		
Kent	King	Meet Me on Meeker: Interurban Trail to 6th Avenue S Connection	70	CN	2028	\$ 2,500,000	\$2,500,000	\$11,465,000		\$8,865,000		
Pierce County	Pierce	112th St E	68	ROW	2028	\$ 5,465,000	\$5,465,000	\$16,930,000				
Renton*	King	Rainier Ave Corridor Improvements - Phase 5	67	PE	2027	\$ 3,196,076		\$16,930,000	\$3,196,076	\$12,061,076		
WSDOT	Snohomish	SR 99/148th St SW Vic To Airport Rd Vic - Corridor Improvement	66	PE	2028	\$ 4,275,122	\$4,275,122	\$21,205,122		\$12,061,076		
Kitsap County	Kitsap	Ridgetop - Mickelberry to Myhre Phase 1	65	CN	2027	\$ 5,460,000	\$5,460,000	\$26,665,122				
Kirkland*	King	NE 128th Street Bike-Ped Improvements	63	CN	2027	\$ 986,000		\$26,665,122	\$986,000	\$13,047,076		
Auburn	Pierce	East Valley Highway Widening	61	CN	2028	\$ 5,465,000	\$5,465,000	\$32,130,122				
Fife*	Pierce	I-5/Port of Tacoma Road Interchange Improvement Project	59	CN	2027	\$ 2,439,606	\$2,439,606	\$34,569,728				
Seattle	King	Aurora Ave Transit Corridor and Safety Upgrades	59	PE	2028	\$ 5,465,000		\$34,569,728		\$13,047,076	\$5,465,000	1
Lynnwood*	Snohomish	Poplar Way Extension Bridge	55	CN	2027	\$ 5,465,000	\$5,465,000	\$40,034,728				
Marysville	Snohomish	156th St NE Connector	54	CN	2028	\$ 5,465,000		\$40,034,728			\$5,465,000	2
Kirkland	King	116th Avenue NE/NE 87th St Intersection Improvements	51	CN	2028	\$ 1,378,400		\$40,034,728			\$1,378,400	3
Snohomish County	Snohomish	Poplar Way: Larch Way to Lynnwood City Limits	47	PE	2027	\$ 2,000,000		\$40,034,728			\$2,000,000	4
Arlington	Snohomish	180th Street Connector	46	CN	2027	\$ 5,000,000		\$40,034,728			\$5,000,000	5
Port of Seattle	King	Air Cargo Road Reconstruction & Non-motorized Improvements	45	CN	2028	\$ 5,000,000		\$40,034,728		\$13,047,076	\$5,000,000	6
Sumner	Pierce	166th St Widening and Intersection Improvements	45	ROW	2027	\$ 2,249,000		\$40,034,728			\$2,249,000	7
Snohomish County	Snohomish	North Creek Trail Phase 2: Waxen Road to 183 St SE	43	CN	2027	\$ 5,000,000		\$40,034,728		\$13,047,076	\$5,000,000	8
WSDOT*	Pierce	SR 167/SR 512 to Ellingson Rd Vicinity - SB Congestion Management	43	PE	2027	\$ 5,465,000		\$40,034,728		\$13,047,076	\$5,465,000	9
Northwest Seaport	Multi	Port Community System	39	OTH	2028	\$ 1,500,000		\$40,034,728		\$13,047,076	\$1,500,000	10
Port of Bremerton	Kitsap	Airport Way Phase 2.2	39	CN	2027	\$ 3,196,084		\$40,034,728			\$3,196,084	11
<b>TOTAL:</b>						<b>\$91,400,288</b>	<b>\$40,034,728</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>				
							<b>-\$6,874,728</b>	<b>Remaining</b>				

**CRP Projects (\$15.1m, 2025-2026)**

**\$13,047,076 Recommendation**  
**\$2,052,924 Remaining**

**Total funds remaining - \$4,821,804**

**Geographic Distribution of 2024 Recommended Awards**

County	Total - All Sources	% of Total	% w/o Multi-County
King	\$53,447,076	56%	56%
Kitsap	\$5,460,000	6%	6%
Pierce	\$18,834,606	20%	20%
Snohomish	\$17,940,122	19%	19%
Multi	\$0	0%	n/a
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$95,681,804</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**Geographic Distribution of Population & Total Cumulative Awards - 1992-2023**

County	2023 Population	Population %	Total Awards	% of total	% - w/o Multicounty
King	2,347,800	52.9%	\$1,281,441,765	50.7%	54.7%
Kitsap	283,200	6.4%	\$176,237,648	7.0%	7.5%
Pierce	946,300	21.3%	\$491,168,626	19.4%	21.0%
Snohomish	859,800	19.4%	\$394,602,508	15.6%	16.8%
Multicounty	-	n/a	\$185,908,976	7.4%	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,437,100</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>\$2,529,359,523</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>