



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### **MINUTES**

**Transportation Policy Board  
November 14, 2024  
1201 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Ste 500, Seattle, WA 98101**

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

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mayor Dana Ralph, Chair. Chair Ralph stated that a video of the meeting would be streamed live as well as recorded. The video would be available for viewing on PSRC's website. A call-in number was provided on the meeting agenda for members of the public to call in by phone and listen to the meeting live.

Roll call determined attendance and that a quorum was present.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **REPORT OF THE CHAIR**

Mayor Ralph reminded the board that the meeting was extended for an optional in-depth conversation about the Regional Transportation Plan Financial Strategy.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Kelly McGourty, PSRC noted that the World Day of Remembrance for road traffic victims in the United States will be held Sunday, November 17th. Ms. McGourty shared information on the public outreach efforts conducted on the Regional Safety Action Plan and reminded the board the draft plan will be released for public comment in January.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approve Minutes of Transportation Policy Board Meeting held October 10, 2024

**ACTION: The motion was made and seconded (Daughtry/Wheeler) to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.**

### **ACTION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2026-2050) SCOPE OF WORK**

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, reminded the board of the key work program elements that have been underway throughout 2024 to develop the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). These include, among other things, the Regional Safety Action Plan, updates to data and inventories of the transportation system, the partnership with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency on a comprehensive regional climate action plan and gathering board feedback on key policy priorities. Ms. McGourty noted that the RTP will be based on VISION 2050 and identified the additional scope items previously discussed with the board in October such as the reevaluation of the financial strategy, regional transit access assessment and an analysis of changing travel behaviors.

Ms. McGourty reviewed the schedule and next steps for the RTP, and the board was asked to recommend Executive Board approval of the scope of work.

Members asked for the scope to highlight the work to address health and health equity in the RTP, as well as acknowledging the impacts of emerging stormwater issues. Members also suggested the plan address the consequences of not completing key projects.

**ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Mayhew/Walker) that the Transportation Policy Board recommend the Executive Board adopt the Regional Transportation Plan (2026-2050) Scope of Work. The motion passed.**

### **DISCUSSION ITEM: REVISITING PROJECT SELECTION POLICY ISSUES**

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, reviewed the two policy items that were identified for further exploration in the *2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds*. These items were (1) setting a potential scoring threshold below which projects would not be eligible for funding, and (2) potentially restricting eligibility of projects that increase general purpose vehicle lane capacity on limited access facilities.

Ms. Barnes reviewed the data provided to support both policy topics and the discussions held with the Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC). Challenges and key considerations during the committee discussions were shared that led to RPEC unanimously recommending no policy changes. This included an assessment that the

process and criteria are working and priority projects receiving competitive scores are being funded.

Members expressed appreciation for the data and the in-depth RPEC discussions. Additional data for future processes was suggested regarding projects adding general purpose capacity, such as clarifying details regarding the purpose of the capacity addition, identifying the dollar amounts for these projects vs. others, and identifying the percentage of PSRC funding in these projects. Members noted the diverse needs around the region to support growth and the connection between these projects to supporting transit services. No further action on these topics was proposed at this time.

### **DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN (2026-2050) FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

Kelly McGourty, PSRC, provided a brief overview of board discussions to date on the RTP financial strategy, including background on the process and requirements and initial board feedback on potential new revenue sources.

PSRC staff developed a preliminary approach to narrow down the field of potential new revenue sources by focusing on those that could be implemented consistently across the region and that are more likely to generate greater potential revenue. Those sources include indexing to inflation, a road usage charge, vehicle license & registration fees, sales tax increases for local transit and lifting the county road levy cap.

Craig Helmann, PSRC, then reviewed preliminary sensitivity tests that were run on several of these sources, including a road usage charge at various rates and indexed to inflation; electric vehicle fees indexed to inflation; increased sales tax rates for local transit; and a return of the motor vehicle excise tax.

Ms. McGourty reviewed next steps for this work and requested board feedback on the preliminary approach and any additional sensitivity tests that should be conducted.

Members expressed support for the approach and asked questions regarding specific funding sources. More detailed discussions will occur once the gap between current law revenue and proposed expenditures are known in the spring.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2024.

### **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

A. Attendance Roster – November 14, 2024.

Transportation Policy Board - November 14, 2024				5.a - Att. A	
Voting Members			✓	Non-voting Members	✓
<b>King County</b>	2	CM Jorge Barón		<b>Associate Members</b>	
		Vacant		Island County	1
		Vacant Alt		COMM Melanie Bacon	
Seattle	2	CM Rob Saka		COMM Jill Johnson, Alt	
		CM Robert Kettle		Thurston Regional Planning Council	1
		CM Tanya Woo, Alt		MYR Andy Ryder, Lacey	
				Marc Daily	
				<b>Public Agency Members</b>	
Bellevue	1	CM Dave Hamilton	1	Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board	1
		CM Jared Nieuwenhuis, Alt		Board	
				Vacant	
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent, <b>Chair</b>	1	Puget Sound Clean Air Agency	1
		MYR Mary Lou Pauly, Issaquah	1	CM Megan Dunn	1
		CM Peter Kwon, SeaTac		Christine Cooley, Alt	1
		CM Wendy Weiker Mercer Isl Alt		Public Health	1
		DEP MYR Jay Arnold, Kirkland Alt	1	Jessica Jeavons, Seattle-King County	1
		CM Matt Mahoney, Des Moines Alt	1	Dennis Worsham, Snohomish Co. Alt	
				WA Tran. Improvement Board	1
				Vacant	
				CM Sam Low, Snohomish Co. Alt	
Local Transit	1	CM Rod Dembowski		<b>PSRC Committees</b>	
		Vacant Alt		Equity Advisory Cmte.	1
				Annie Tran	1
<b>Kitsap County</b>	1	COM Christine Rolfes		Julius Moss, Alt	1
		COM Charlotte Garrido, Alt		Regional Staff Cmte.	1
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler	1	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake	
		CP Jennifer Chamberlin, Alt		Kelly Snyder, Snohomish Co. Alt	
				Regional Project Evaluation Cmte.	1
Cities/Towns	1	CM Leslie Schneider, Bainbridge Isl	1	Doug McCormick, Snohomish Co.	1
		CM Doug Newell, Poulsbo Alt	1	Shane Weber, Bremerton Alt	1
				Transit Operators Cmte.	1
Local Transit	1	MYR Rob Putaansuu, Port Orchard		Peter Heffernan, King County	1
		CM Anna Mockler, Bremerton		Vacant Alt	
				<b>Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor</b>	
<b>Pierce County</b>	1	CM Ryan Mello, <b>Vice Chair</b>	1	WA Trucking Associations	1
		CM Dave Morell, Alt		exp. 12/31/26	
				Sheri Call	
Tacoma	1	CM Kristina Walker	1	Jeff DeVere, Alt	
		CM Olgy Diaz, Alt		Seattle Met. Chamber of Commerce	1
				exp. 12/31/26	
				Lorelei Williams, WSP USA	
				Amy Grotefendt, Enviroissues Alt	
Cities & Towns	1	CM Tim Ceder, Milton	1	<b>Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment</b>	
		MYR Pro Tem Edward Wood, University Place Alt		Puget Sound Partnership	1
				exp. 12/31/26	
				Bebhinn Gilbert	
Local Transit	1	CM Marty Campbell, Pierce County		Larry Epstein, Alt	
		DEP MYR John Hines, Tacoma		Non-voting	13
				Non-voting members present	8
<b>Snohomish County</b>	1	CM Jared Mead			
		CM Strom Peterson, Alt			
Everett	1	CM Ben Zarlingo	1		
		MYR Cassie Franklin, Alt			
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jan Schuette, Arlington	1		
		CM Michael Dixon, Mukilteo Alt			
Local Transit	1	CM Kim Daughtry, Lake Stevens	1		
		CM Jan Schuette, Arlington Alt			
<b>Regional Transit</b>	1	CM Ed Prince, Renton	1		
		MYR Kim Roscoe, Fife 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 Jim Restucci			
		COM Nicole Grant, Alt			
WSDOT	1	Robin Mayhew	1		
		Todd Lamphere Alt			
<b>Legislative Transportation Cmte. (Not Counted for Quorum)</b>				Abbreviations	
House Transportation Cmte.	2	Vacant		CHRMN Chairman	
		REP Jake Fey, D Alt		CM Councilmember	
		REP Dan Griffey, R		CP Council President	
		REP Andrew Barkis, R Alt		COM Commissioner	
Senate Transportation Cmte.	2	SEN Marko Lias, D		DEP MYR Deputy Mayor	
		SEN Emily Randall, D Alt		MYR Mayor	
		Vacant, R		MYR Pro Tem	
		Vacant, R Alt		REP Representative	
				SEN Senator	
Voting	32	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	14		
		Total Voting members present	16		