

Government Relations Updates

Transportation Policy Board

February 13, 2025

Updated
as of
2/13/2025



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

Federal: Executive Orders



- Over 45 Executive Orders
- Immigration and border, climate, energy, regulatory freeze of rules pending review, federal return to work, hiring freeze, termination of DEI programs



Executive Orders: Local Government Impact

- [Unleashing American Energy](#)
- [Protecting the American People Against Invasion](#)
- [Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing Executive Order](#)

[Video: AWC/PSRC Federal Funding Update](#)

[Executive Order Summaries from Holland & Knight](#)



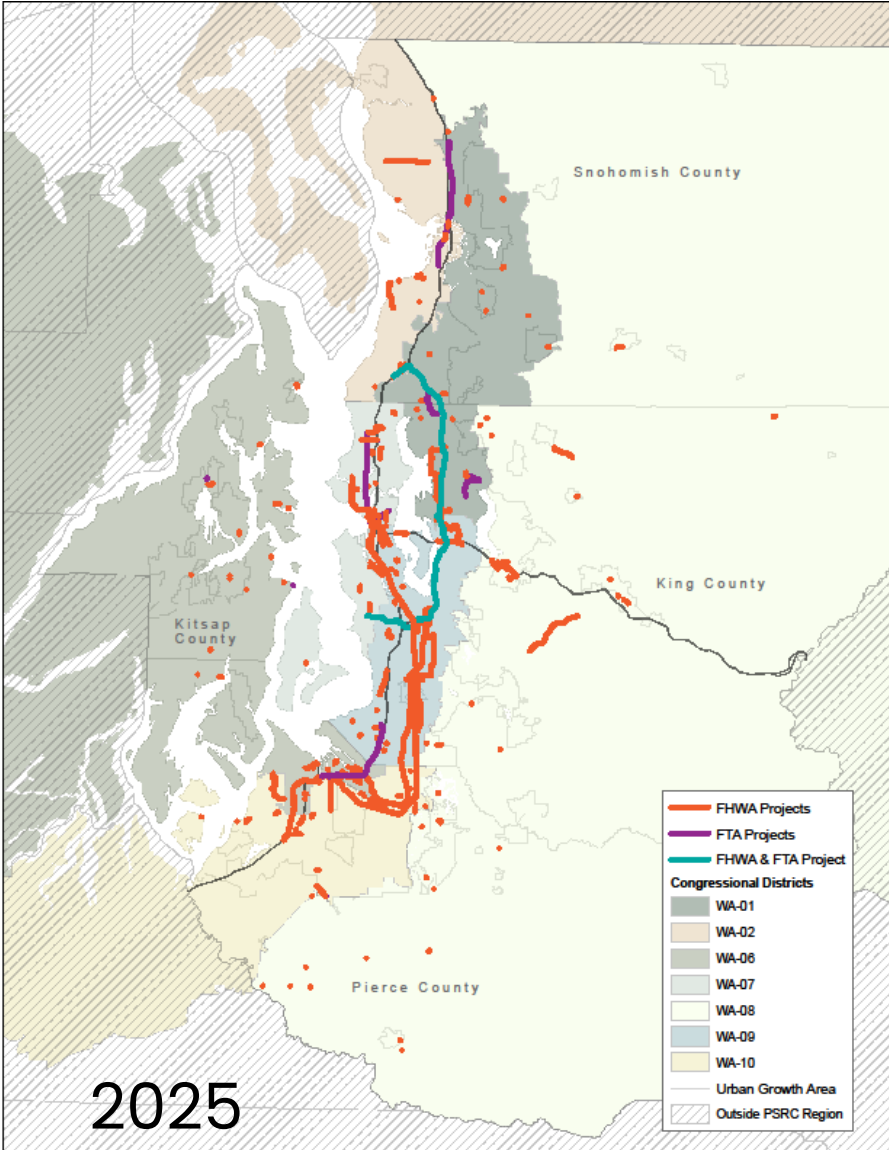
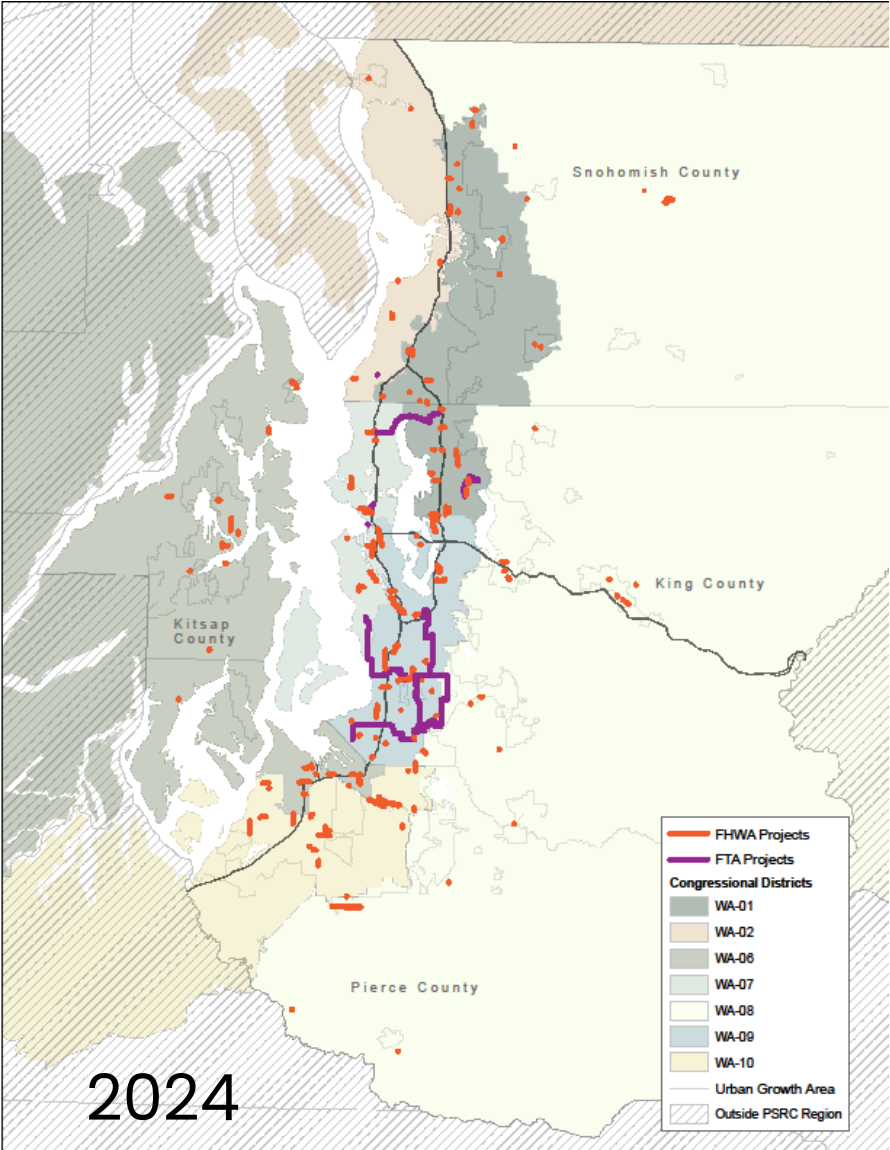
Federal Updates



- Federal Funding Pause Directive (rescinded)
- DOT Secretary Duffy confirmed [Order & Memorandum Summary](#)
- Agency Memos implementing executive orders
- Sanctuary Cities
- Continuing Resolution ends 3/14
- Surface Transportation Reauthorization



Federal Updates: PSRC Regional Impact



\$2.2 billion
in federal
funds for
projects
obligated
2024-2025



2025 State Legislative Session

- 2,024 bills introduced
- Policy cut off Feb 21
- Fiscal cut off Feb 28
- Next revenue forecast
March 18



2025 Legislative Session Budget Outlook



- Operating budget deficit of \$12 billion
- Transportation budget deficit of \$8 billion, \$1.2 billion in FY 25-27
- Governor Ferguson gave most state agencies 6% budget reduction targets
- Lawsuits and tort claims
- New revenue being discussed by legislature

[Tax Ideas](#) (WA State Standard)



Governor Ferguson Budget Priorities

- **Education**
- **Public Safety** – \$100m for law enforcement officers
- **Housing** – \$600m investment
- **Ferries** – \$20m for crew recruitment
- **Affordability** – \$240m for universal school lunches and expansion of childcare for small businesses

[Governor Bob Ferguson Budget Priorities 2025–2027](#)



Transportation Funding



Transportation Funding [HB 1324](#) (Barkis) / [SB 5550](#) (MacEwen)

Utilizes revenues from the Climate Commitment Act to fund major transportation infrastructure projects

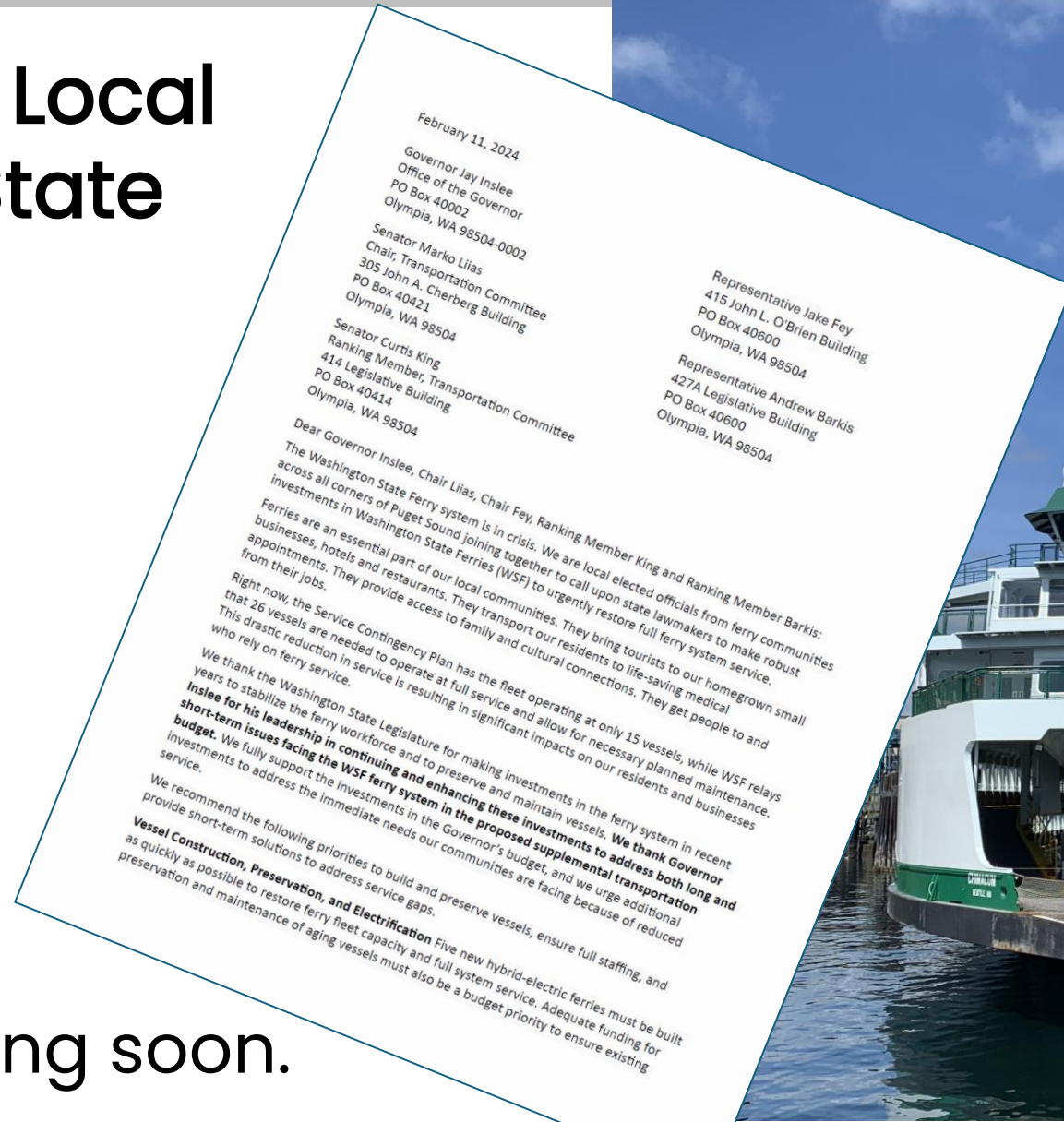


Washington State Ferries

Fund Our Ferries Local Elected Official State Sign-on Letter

Sign-on!

Federal letter coming soon.



Road Usage Charge



- [HB 1921 \(Fey\)](#) / [SB 5726 \(Ramos\)](#)
- Phased Approach
 - Phase 1 – July 2027 voluntary EV and hybrid vehicles
 - Phase 2 – July 2029 mandatory EVs and hybrid, voluntary for internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles w/more than 20 mpg
 - Phase 3 – July 2031 phase in ICE vehicles
- 2.6 cents per mile, increased over time linked to fuel tax
- Odometer reporting

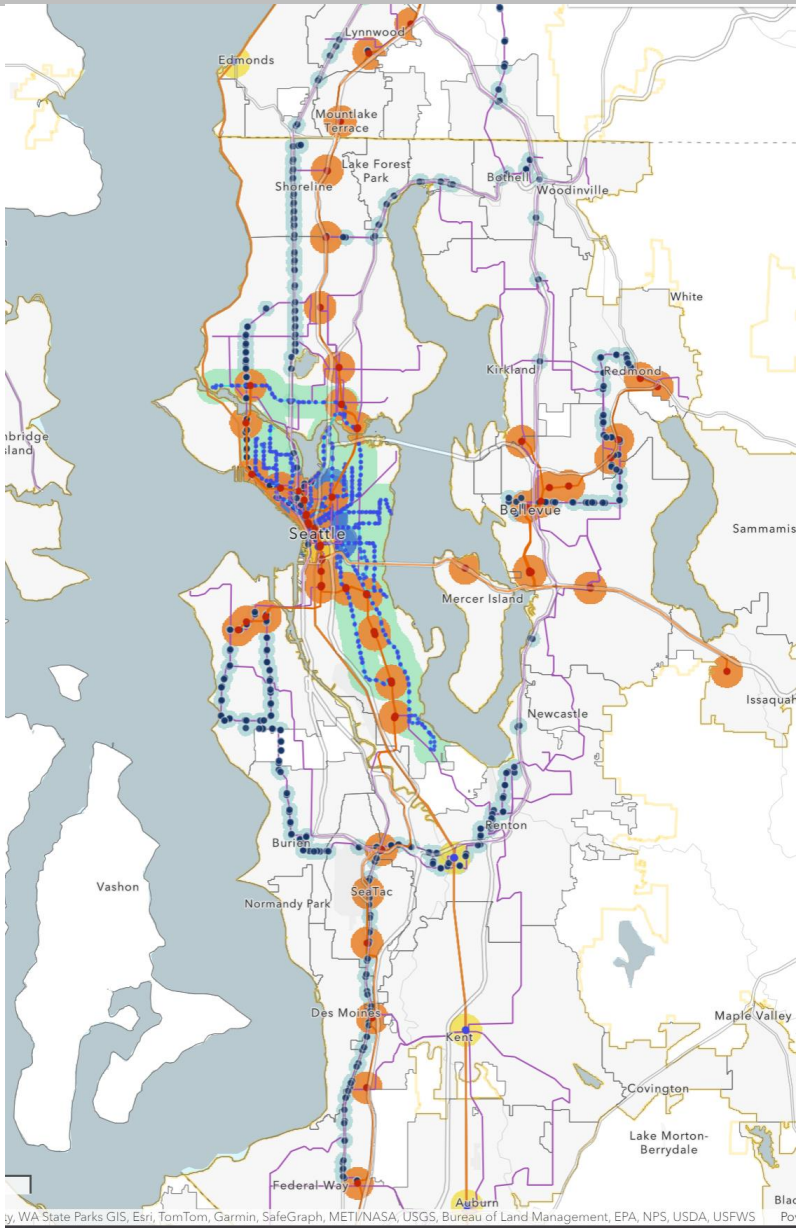


Road Usage Charge

- Use restricted to maintenance and preservation protected by the 18th amendment
- 10% road usage Assessment to support alternative transportation
- JTC study for local government revenue
- Additional RUC could be added for transit or local gov't in future using the RUC collection mechanism bill creates



Housing Supply: Transit-Oriented Development



Promoting Transit Oriented Housing Development

HB 1491 (Reed)

Creates density requirement in station areas

- 3.5 FAR w/in .5m of rail
- 2.5 FAR w/in .25m of BRT

Promoting Transit Oriented Development

SB 5604 (Lias)

Allows jurisdictions to create MFTE program with 20-year tax exemption in station areas requiring 20% of units in building to be affordable for 50 years.



Passenger Rail

Intercity Passenger Rail

[HB 1837](#) (Reed) / [SB 5667](#) (Valdez)

- Establishes targets for WSDOT for minimum trip times, roundtrips per day and trip reliability
- 2 hours 45 mins travel time Seattle / Vancouver, B.C. and 2.5 hours Seattle to Portland
- Requires WSDOT to provide yearly updates on meeting targets



Traffic Safety



Impaired Driving SB 5067 (Lovick)

- Lowers the legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit from 0.08 to 0.05.
- Establishes stricter penalties for DUI offenses.



Traffic Safety

Safe System Approach [SB 5581](#) (Shewmake)

- Integrates shared-use paths into certain highway planning, design and construction
- Requires WSDOT to identify if planned active transportation facilities provide equal or better access to destinations



Shared Streets



Shared Streets

[HB 1772](#) (Reed) / [SB 5595](#)
(Alvarado)

- Allows cities to designate shared streets where pedestrians, bicyclists and vehicular traffic share a portion or all of the same street.
- Allows cities to establish a speed limit of 10 mph on a shared street.



Housing Research Center

- [Sign on Letter](#)
- Budget ask:
\$250,000 FY 2025
and \$750,000 FY
2026 and each
subsequent year
- [One-pager](#)





Thank You!

Robin Koskey

Director, Government Relations and Communications

Rkoskey@psrc.org



Puget Sound Regional Council