

# TRANSPORTATION FUTURES

## Task Force Summary Notes

Meeting #3: Wednesday April 29, 2015, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

PSRC 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Board Room • 1011 Western Avenue • Seattle, WA

### Members Present:

Dow Constantine, King County  
Norm Dicks, Former U.S. Congressman  
Leonard Forsman, The Suquamish Tribe  
Hilary Franz, Futurewise  
Slade Gorton, Former U.S. Senator  
Kimberly Harris, Puget Sound Energy (phone)  
Troy McClelland, Economic Alliance Snohomish County (phone)

Ed Murray, City of Seattle  
Shefali Ranganathan, Transportation Choices (phone)  
Mike Sotelo, Consolidar LLC  
Rich Stolz, OneAmerica  
Arthur Rubinfeld, Starbucks

### Members Not Present:

Clare Petrich, Port of Tacoma  
Jeff Johnson, Washington State Labor Council

Jean Hernandez, Edmonds Community College  
Matt Yerbic, Aviation Technical Services  
Marilyn Strickland, City of Tacoma

### Technical Presenters:

Robin Mayhew, PSRC  
Lowell Clary, Clary Consulting

Charlie Howard, PSRC  
Ed Regan, CDM Smith  
Tim Boesch, CDM Smith

The meeting was recorded. Click [here](#) to view a video recording of the meeting.

- 1. Welcome and Meeting Overview.** Facilitator Brian Scott, BDS Planning & Urban Design, called the meeting to order at 4:11 p.m. and welcomed the Task Force. Topics and purpose for the meeting were reviewed.
- 2. Transportation 2040 Financial Strategy.** Robin Mayhew, Program Manager at PSRC presented. Robin gave a presentation on the financial strategy for Transportation 2040, the region's long-range transportation plan. After moderate discussion, the Task Force agreed on the information needed and challenges that will shape later recommendations on funding. Recorded on a wall graphic (Appendix A: Figure 1) and included:
  - Need clarity on long-term needs and connection to current Legislative Package
  - Economic impact of user fees are not evenly distributed across the range of users
- 3. Issues in Transportation Finance.** Lowell Clary, Principal at Clary Consulting, gave a presentation the major issues facing transportation funding and finance in the United States and how other regions have addressed the issues. After moderate discussion, the Task Force agreed to the following assumptions. Recorded on a wall graphic (Appendix A: Figure 1) and included:
  - Gas tax is declining, it will need to be replaced before it can be eliminated
  - The Federal government will not provide the only solution, but will be part of the solution

The Issues in Transportation Finance discussion continued and the Task Force agreed to the following challenges and opportunities to consider that will shape later recommendations on funding. Recorded on a wall graphic (Appendix A: Figure 1) and included:

- Economic impact of funding solutions (user fees, tax, etc.) across incomes & geography
  - Clarify long-term needs and connection to current Legislative Package
  - Messaging will be challenging:
    - Public & Political perception
    - Separate what funding is needed from how to get it
  - Finance vs. Funding
    - Combination scenarios
  - Limitations:
    - Restrictions of revenue generated
    - Legislative barriers
  - Regionalization
4. **Round Table.** Task Force members discussed topics of interest. Recorded on a wall graphic (Appendix A: Figure 1) and included:
- Align growth management with current need in King County
  - Align cities and counties rather than pit against each other
  - Connect across jurisdictions
5. **Public Comment.** Members of the public had an opportunity to submit comments to the Task Force, through the project website. No comments were received.
6. **Adjourn.** There were no further announcements. The meeting concluded at 5:47 p.m.

**Next Meeting.** The next Task Force meeting is **May 27, 2015, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at PSRC.** The topics will be: Transportation Funding and Finance, and Equity.

<b>Questions:</b> Please contact Ben Bakkenta, PSRC (206) 971-3286, <a href="mailto:BBakkenta@psrc.org">BBakkenta@psrc.org</a>
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## ATTACHMENT A: Graphic Recording Transcription of Meeting #3

TRANSPORTATION FUTURES TASK FORCE		Meeting #3: FUNDING		April 29, 2015	
<b>T2040 comments</b>		<b>TRANSPORTATION FINANCE comments</b>			
<b>Challenges</b> Past is based on user fees There is a range of users (income levels) \$25B in current bill is short of \$62B and is only through 2031	<b>Questions</b> Is the \$111B allocated? What policies need to be changed? What is the economic impact of a user fee across incomes? Need a baseline package slide of current bill	<b>Challenges</b> Public transit in King County has gone from receiving 21% of state funding to 2% Urbanization affected by the State There is no current way to connect local funds to solving the transportation funding problem Gas tax as a source is declining – needs to be replaced Feds won't save the region – should be part of the solution with financing vs. funding The State looks different from the region – i.e. population, economically	<b>Questions</b> Is there a trend for decreased state revenue to urban areas? What are the legislative barriers to funding opportunities? A matrix of principals to guide discussion Does regionalization have to be the solution? Will need to explore What are other funding mechanisms? How does technology help with the solution?	<b>Opportunities</b> <b>Regionalization</b> New funding mechanisms Broader taxable systems Reduce a different tax to get an increased tax revenue for transportation <i>(provide tax savings to offset new tax revenues)</i> <b>Messaging: Separate what funding is needed from how to get it</b> Severity of <b>congestion</b> will cause crisis Consider caps for acceptance Pilot ideas Messaging to various parts of State Consider how freight mobility will be affected Deal with the problem now Creative solutions, not just typical	
<b>Clarify long-term needs and connection to current Legislative Package</b>					
<b>Overall Considerations</b>					
Public & Political perception Finance		Limitations on use of revenue generated Impacted communities		Geographic context Combination scenarios	
<b>ROUND TABLE comments</b>					
Align growth management with current need in King County		Align cities and counties rather than pit against each other		Connect across jurisdictions	

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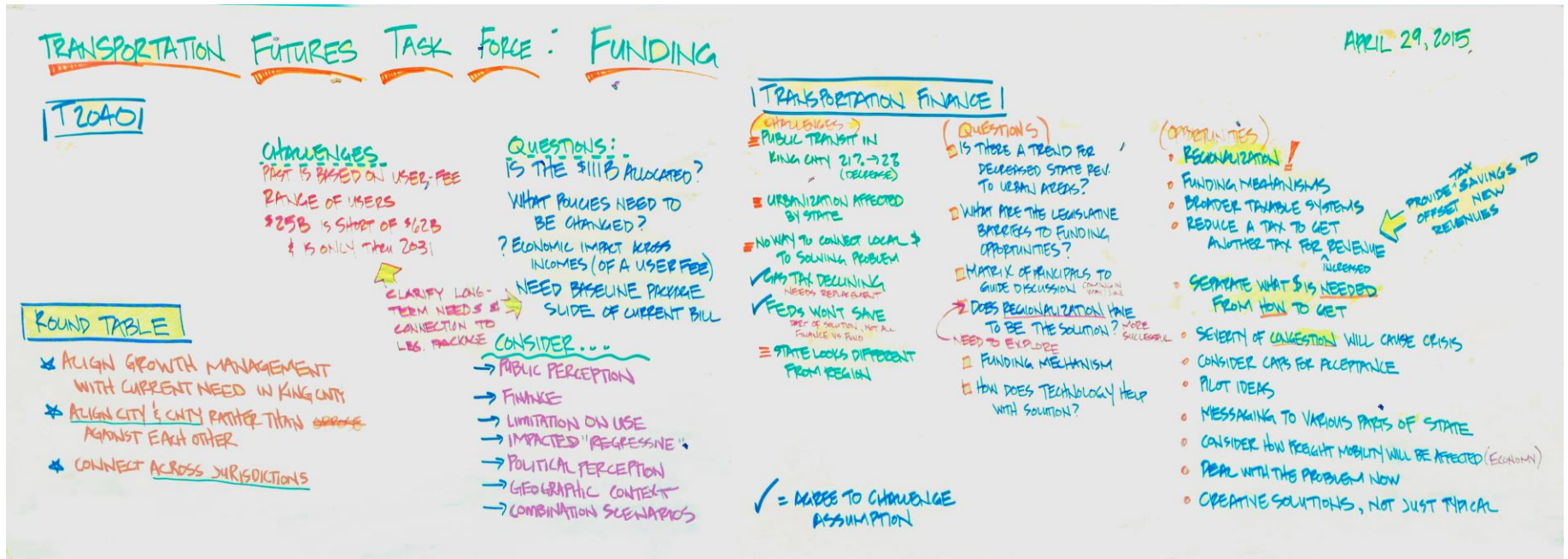


Figure 1: Wall graphic recorded during the meeting