

MEETING ISSUE BRIEF

Wednesday, September 30, 2015 • 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

King Street Center • 201 South Jackson Street, 8th Floor Conference Room • Seattle, WA

Meeting Purpose and Objectives

Review public opinion of transportation funding. Continue evaluation of potential funding sources and uses through discussion of draft scenarios. Provide staff direction for funding preferences, refinements, and additional analysis.

Public Opinion and Outreach

The Task Force will receive a short briefing summarizing existing research on the perceptions of certain demographic groups about transportation funding. The attached summary report specifically focuses on perceptions of people from rural communities, people with low incomes, communities of color, people with limited-English proficiency, people with disabilities, youth, and seniors. The Task Force will receive information about upcoming outreach efforts to these and other groups.

Funding Scenarios

In response to Task Force direction, five transportation funding scenarios have been developed and analyzed. These will be presented to the Task Force for discussion:

#1: *Adopted Transportation 2040 Plan*

- The currently adopted T2040 Plan, which relies on region-wide highway system tolling and use of relatively low flat rate Pay Per Mile to supplement losses in the fuel tax.

#2: *Flat-rate Pay Per Mile Charge*

- This scenario relies on a flat-rate pay per mile charge (higher than Scenario #1) for travel on all regional roadways, supplemented with transportation utility district fees and development impact fees.

#3: *Peak/Off Peak Pay Per Mile Charge*

- This scenario is very similar to Scenario #2, but the Pay Per Mile fee high is higher during peak periods and lower during off-peak periods to encourage additional congestion and emissions reductions.

#4: *Major Emissions Fee (with Pay Per Mile Charge)*

- This scenario adds to flat-rate pay per mile charges from Scenario #2 by including a major emissions fee. The additional funds raised would be used to off-set the sales tax and reduce the overall sales tax rate for transportation. This scenario includes modest impact fees similar to other scenarios.

#5: *Mixed Sources*

- This scenario is an update of the straw scenario presented at the July Task Force meeting. It includes a more modest flat-rate pay per mile charge, a more moderate emissions fee, and includes similar impact fees and transportation utility district fees as other scenarios. It allows for a more modest sales tax rollback than Scenario 4.

The Task Force will be asked to prioritize potential funding sources, and to begin discussion of policy considerations and implementation options associated with the different funding sources.

Remaining Meeting Schedule:

October 28, 2015

November 18, 2015

December 16, 2015