



The Seattle Department of Transportation

2014 GRANT REPORT

Year End

Summary

2014 became one of the busiest and most productive grant-seeking years in Seattle's history, with 21 awards totaling more than \$33 million. This revenue is SDOT's third-highest annual total. A cluster of major programs in the spring, along with higher-than-usual allocations in federal programs, led to a very strong year. The awards leave many high-priority projects fully funded, including Michigan Street Intelligent Transportation Systems and the upgrade or removal of two seismically vulnerable bridges. Major projects that are now substantially funded include Phase I of the Downtown Protected Bike Lanes, the Broadway Streetcar Extension, and the remainder of Seattle's "NextGen" program for Intelligent Transportation Systems. Overall success rates were also strong in 2014: approximately 60 of applications and 36% of requested funds.

The Year Ahead

While SDOT now celebrates the past year, perhaps the future has never seemed less certain. At the federal level, the Highway Trust Fund has recently teetered on the edge of insolvency. This trust fund is the source for nearly all federal grants, and it has only stayed operational due to repeated infusions from the general fund. There's broad agreement that this practice is unsustainable, but virtually no common ground on finding the right fix. Washington State's transportation budget is in a similar condition, and the Governor has produced a bold proposal for 2015 to bring in extensive new revenue.

Locally, the City's nine-year Bridging the Gap funding levy for transportation is expiring – a levy that provides about one-quarter of the City's direct revenues for transportation. Without a new source of local matching funds for grants, the City's ability to receive state and federal money would be extremely compromised. In recent analyses, staff estimates that the Bridging the Gap levy (BTG) provided at least part of the required local matching funds for \$227 million in grant awards (approximately 90% of all awards received during the BTG era). This is not a direct measure of how much grant revenue would have been reduced without BTG, but it is a strong indicator of the levy's significance to SDOT's grant program.

The only thing that's near-certain is that 2015 will be an "off year." Most of the major grant programs are inactive due to bi-annual cycles. No calls for projects are planned for the large federal programs, including the Surface Transportation, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality, and Transportation Alternatives programs. WSDOT programs are equally scarce, although a few state programs are being offered annually. For the next potentially significant calls for projects, SDOT is looking ahead to the spring of 2016. But by that point, the grants landscape is sure to change quite substantially.



GRANT APPLICATIONS AWARDED - 2014

Fund Source	Eligible Types	Project	Award	Type	Local Match	Comments
Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC), Transportation Alternatives Program	Non-motorized	7th Ave Protected Bike Lane	\$200,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Design funds only; awarded to contingency list project from 2013 competitive process
PSRC, Transportation Alternatives Program	Historic preservation	Historic District Curb Ramps	\$400,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Design funds only; awarded to contingency list project from 2013 competitive process
Washington Traffic Safety Commission (WTSC), Traffic Safety Program	Safety programs and research	Outreach to higher-risk pedestrians	\$65,000	Operations	BTG	
PSRC, Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Formula Program	Transit capital projects	Monorail	\$3,217,694	Maintenance	Monorail revenues	Full request funded; non-competitive allocation
PSRC, FTA Formula Program	Transit capital projects	South Lake Union Streetcar Maintenance	\$1,166,105	Maintenance	Streetcar operational revenues	Full request funded; non-competitive allocation
PSRC, FTA Competitive Program	Transit systems	Broadway Streetcar Extension (parallel bike lane only)	\$1,500,000	Capital Improvement	BTG, other grants	
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (Regional)	Emissions reductions	Broadway Streetcar Extension	\$8,500,000	Capital Improvement	BTG, other grants	
PSRC, Surface Transportation Program (Regional)	Mobility improvements	Center City Gateway (NextGen Intelligent Transportation Systems)	\$2,627,528	Capital Improvement	BTG	Partial award; \$3,942,472 remains on contingency list
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Regional)	Emissions reductions	Route 48 Electrification	\$200,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Design award only; \$9.8 million for construction remains on contingency list
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Countywide)	Emissions reductions	Michigan St Intelligent Transportation Systems	\$1,383,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Countywide and Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	Center City Protected Bike Lanes	\$5,000,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	Low Income Access to Bike Share	\$397,900	Capital Improvement and Operations	BTG	

GRANT APPLICATIONS AWARDED - 2014 (CONTINUED)

Fund Source	Eligible Types	Project	Award	Type	Local Match	Comments
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	7th Ave Protected Bike Lane	\$800,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Construction award only; design previously funded by PSRC
PRSC, Surface Transportation Program (Regional)	Mobility improvements	Renton Ave Preservation	\$1,500,000	Maintenance	BTG	
PRSC, Surface Transportation Program (Regional)	Mobility improvements	Roosevelt Way Preservation	\$1,500,000	Maintenance	BTG	
Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), Urban Sidewalk Program	New sidewalks	Greenwood Ave N	\$600,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	
WSDOT, Highway Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	45th St Viaduct	\$1,502,975	Maintenance	BTG	Full request funded
WSDOT, Highway-Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	Post Alley	\$1,438,361	Maintenance	BTG	Received partial award
WSDOT, Corridor Safety Program	Roadway safety improvements	Lake City Way	\$400,000	Capital Improvement	NA	Funds awarded through non-competitive process
Washington State Department of Commerce	Economic development projects	Seattle Bathroom Facility Study	\$100,000	Operations	NA	Funds awarded through non-competitive process
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality Program (Regional)	Emissions reductions	Transportation Demand Management	\$726,364	Operations	NA	Sub-recipient funds from partner agency application
Total			\$33,224,927			

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED - 2014

Fund Source	Eligible Types	Project	Request	Type	Local Match	Comments
USDOT, Integrated Corridor Management Program	Intelligent transportation systems	Mercer Corridor	\$200,000	Capital Improvements	BTG	Request not funded
WTSC, Traffic Safety Program	Safety programs and research	Hazard Awareness Program	\$70,000	Operations	BTG	Request not funded
WTSC, Traffic Safety Program	Safety programs and research	Outreach to Higher-Risk Pedestrians	\$65,000	Operations	BTG	Full request funded
PSRC, FTA Formula Program	Transit capital	Monorail	\$3,217,694	Maintenance	Monorail revenues	Full request funded; non-competitive allocation
PSRC, FTA Formula Program	Transit capital	South Lake Union Streetcar Maintenance	\$1,166,105	Maintenance	Streetcar operations revenues	Full request funded; non-competitive allocation
PSRC, FTA Competitive Program	Transit system improvements	Route 48 Electrification	\$10,000,000	Capital Improvement	NA	Request not funded
PSRC, FTA Competitive Program	Transit system improvements	Broadway Streetcar Extension	\$1,500,000	Capital Improvement	BTG, other grants	Initially requested \$10,000,000; reduced request when remainder was funded separately
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Regional)	Emissions reductions	Broadway Streetcar Extension	\$8,500,000	Capital Improvement	BTG, other grants	Initially requested \$10,000,000; reduced request when remainder was funded separately
PRSC, Surface Transportation Program (Regional)	Mobility improvements	Center City Gateway (NextGen Intelligent Transportation Systems)	\$2,627,528	Capital Improvement	BTG	Partial award; \$3,942,472 remains on contingency list
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Regional)	Emissions reductions	Route 48 Electrification	\$200,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Design award only; \$9,800,000 for construction remains on contingency list
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Countywide)	Emissions reductions	Michigan St Intelligent Transportation Systems	\$1,383,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Full request funded
PSRC, Surface Transportation Program (Countywide)	Mobility improvements	23rd Ave, Phase 2	\$5,000,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED - 2014 (CONTINUED)

Fund Source	Eligible Types	Project	Request	Type	Local Match	Comments
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Countywide and Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	Center City Protected Bike Lanes	\$5,000,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Full request funded
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	Low Income Access to Bike Share	\$397,900	Capital Improvement and Operations	Partner agency	Full request funded
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	7th Ave Protected Bike Lane	\$800,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Construction award only; design previously funded by PSRC
PSRC, Congestion Mitigation/Air Quality (Non-motorized)	Emissions reductions	Broadway Protected Bike Lane	\$1,500,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request withdrawn, funded from other sources
PRSC, Surface Transportation Program (Preservation)	Mobility improvements	Renton Ave Preservation	\$1,500,000	Maintenance	BTG	Full request funded
PRSC, Surface Transportation Program (Preservation)	Mobility improvements	Roosevelt Way Preservation	\$1,500,000	Maintenance	BTG	Full request funded
PRSC, Surface Transportation Program (Preservation)	Mobility improvements	Lander St Preservation	\$1,500,000	Maintenance	BTG	Request not funded
USDOT, Transportation Investments Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)	Transportation projects for creating jobs	Northgate Ped/Bike Bridge	\$15,000,000	Capital Improvement	BTG, partner agencies, other grants	Request not funded
WSDOT, Highway-Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	Post Alley	\$1,797,951	Maintenance	BTG	Received partial award of \$1,438,361
WSDOT, Highway-Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	Cowen Park	\$10,404,912	Maintenance	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Highway-Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	Schmitz Park	\$1,880,078	Maintenance	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Highway-Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	Airport over ARGO	\$1,544,335	Maintenance	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Highway-Bridge Program	Bridge replacement and rehabilitation	45th St Viaduct	\$1,502,975	Maintenance	BTG	Full request funded
TIB, Urban Arterial Program	Street improvements	3rd Ave Reconstruction	\$6,000,000	Maintenance	BTG	Request not funded
TIB, Urban Sidewalk Program	New sidewalks	30th Ave NE	\$600,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
TIB, Urban Sidewalk Program	New sidewalks	Greenwood Ave N	\$600,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Full request funded

GRANT APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED - 2014 (CONTINUED)

Fund Source	Eligible Types	Project	Request	Type	Local Match	Comments
WSDOT, City Safety Program	Spot improvements or citywide safety projects	School Zone Signage Upgrades	\$1,000,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Safe Routes to School Program	Improvements to school walk routes	Wing Luke Elementary	\$420,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Safe Routes to School Program	Improvements to school walk routes	Rainier View Elementary	\$420,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Pedestrian-Bicycle Program	Non-motorized facilities	Rainier Ave Crossing at Mead St	\$250,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Pedestrian-Bicycle Program	Non-motorized facilities	95th St / Lake City Way Intersection	\$750,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Pedestrian-Bicycle Program	Non-motorized facilities	Holgate Sidewalk at I-5	\$750,000	Capital Improvement	BTG	Request not funded
WSDOT, Regional Mobility Program	Transit systems	Broadway Streetcar Extension	\$4,000,000	Capital Improvement	BTG, other grants	Request not funded
Total			\$93,047,478			

UPCOMING GRANT PROGRAMS – 2015

Fund Source	Eligible Types	Applications Due	Comments
WTSC, Traffic Safety Program	Capital projects, research, other safety programs	February	Most awards are in the \$50,000 to \$100,000 range. Candidate projects are selected after reviewing specific program criteria.
WTSC, Flashing Lights for Schools Program	Lights and signage on school walk routes	February	Grant awards typically offer \$7,500 per location. Locations are chosen based on recent crash history.
Freight Mobility Strategic Investment Board (FMSIB)	Freight mobility projects	February	Pays part of construction costs for capital projects on major freight routes. Candidate projects will be selected from SDOT's Freight Access Project and Freight Master Plan, with input from the Port of Seattle and other partners.
USDOT, TIGER	Large capital projects	TBD (typically in May)	Funds transportation investments that lead to long-term job creation and ladders of opportunity. SDOT may consider an independent application and/or a joint regional application. Awards typically go up to the \$20 million range.
King County Conservation District	Capital projects or programs to increase urban greenery	Varies. Larger program in June	Mostly small awards under \$50,000.
Department of Agriculture, Urban Forestry Program	Capital projects or programs to increase urban greenery	TBD (typically in July)	Awards go up to about \$200,000.
TIB, Urban Arterial Program	Large capital projects	August	Grants go up to about \$6 million per award. Categories include Growth & Development, Safety, Physical Condition, and Mobility. Projects will be selected after reviewing specific program criteria.
TIB, Urban Sidewalk Program	New sidewalks	August	Awards go up to about \$600,000. Competitive projects should fill gaps in a sidewalk network and address a demonstrated safety concern.