

Transportation Funding Plan + Levy Renewal



Levy Oversight Committee
February 6, 2024

Purpose

- Share information about where we are in the development of the 2024 transportation levy renewal
- Gather questions and feedback from the LOC



Reminder: Funding Plan vs. Levy Renewal Plan

The Funding Plan considers transportation needs and funding sources across different time horizons. The Funding Plan considers when different funding sources expire, how they are approved or enacted, how much revenue they would generate, where the revenue can be spent, and many other factors.

Examples:

Sales Tax

Vehicle License Fees

Real Estate Excise Tax

Commercial Parking Tax

Bonds

Levies

The Levy renewal plan is a time-sensitive piece of this puzzle.
A transportation levy will be proposed for the ballot in November 2024.
We are currently focused on developing the size and scope of that levy renewal.

Investing wisely in a constrained budget

We are in an ongoing process of planning how we should invest wisely within a constrained budget

There are large, competing needs for investment in Seattle's transportation system (and nationwide)

We need a transportation levy renewal that helps to meet our needs, and is affordable for people

Public polling and outreach/engagement will help identify the size and scope for the levy renewal

We can't solve the universe of needs just with a levy, but we can make smart investments

STP, TAMP, and BSAMP are efforts which help guide investment in transportation

Our work to identify funding for our needs does not end with the levy renewal

The Funding Plan is where we explore other options to meet our safety and mobility and asset management needs

Safety and Maintenance

- Safe streets door-to-door
- Well-maintained infrastructure with structural integrity
- Clean, functional city including streets, sidewalks, plazas
- Sustainability for climate resiliency



Levy renewal informed by:

Stakeholder input	Lessons learned from the Levy to Move Seattle	Needs expressed in Seattle Transportation Plan community input
Safety assessment - high collision locations	Asset management best practices to guide strategic investments	Transportation operations and management needs
Budget evaluation and forecasting	Race and social justice tactics and equity analysis	Resident polling

Levy renewal informed by:

So far, we have touched on the items outlined in orange with the LOC.

Stakeholder **input**

Lessons learned from the Levy to Move Seattle

Needs expressed in **Seattle Transportation Plan** community input

Safety assessment - high collision locations

Asset management best practices to guide strategic investments

Transportation operations and management needs

Budget evaluation and forecasting

Race and social justice tactics and equity analysis

Resident **polling**

Levy renewal informed by:

Today, we will be talking about the items outlined in green, briefly explaining how they are informing levy renewal

Stakeholder **input**

Lessons learned from the Levy to Move Seattle

Needs expressed in **Seattle Transportation Plan** community input

Safety assessment - high collision locations

Asset management best practices to guide strategic investments

Transportation operations and management needs

Budget evaluation and forecasting

Race and social justice tactics and equity analysis

Resident polling

Key community input to date

Stakeholder **input**

Resident polling

Levy Oversight Committee

- Preliminary recommendation: strong support for a future transportation package including a levy
- Calls for flexibility, bold leadership, and investments to drive safety outcomes and investments informed by equity
- Provides insight into how a future oversight committee should function and be supported

Public polling (December 2023)

- **A majority** says they would support a measure renewing and expanding Seattle's transportation levy at both amounts tested (\$1.2B and \$1.7B), with about 2 in 3 supporting a \$1.2B levy
- **Top public priorities** include: maintain and repair bridges, repave streets in poor condition, fix potholes, expand tree canopy, and safe routes to schools
- **Close to half** recognize need for additional transportation funding in Seattle

TEW, business and transportation advocates, key agency partners

- Safety is a top priority, especially making investments in pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure and filling gaps in the network
- Support community led projects and staffing dedicated to building relationships with community
- Continue to build on lessons learned from the Levy to Move Seattle

Seattle Transportation Plan goals

Needs expressed in
Seattle Transportation
Plan community input



SAFETY

Prioritize safety for travelers in Seattle, with no serious injury or fatal crashes



EQUITY

Co-create with community and implement restorative practices to address transportation-related inequities



SUSTAINABILITY

Respond to climate change through innovation and a lens of climate justice



MOBILITY

Provide reliable and affordable travel options that help people and goods get where they need to go



LIVABILITY

Reimagine city streets as inviting places to linger and play



MAINTENANCE & MODERNIZATION

Improve city transportation infrastructure and ready it for the future

Some elements of STP informing levy renewal

Needs expressed in
Seattle Transportation
Plan community input



Investment in **People Streets and Public Spaces**, to create welcoming and safe spaces and hubs for people to safely enjoy the public right-of-way



Approach to investment in **Maintenance and Modernization**, to use opportunities for maintenance to make other needed investments in our streets

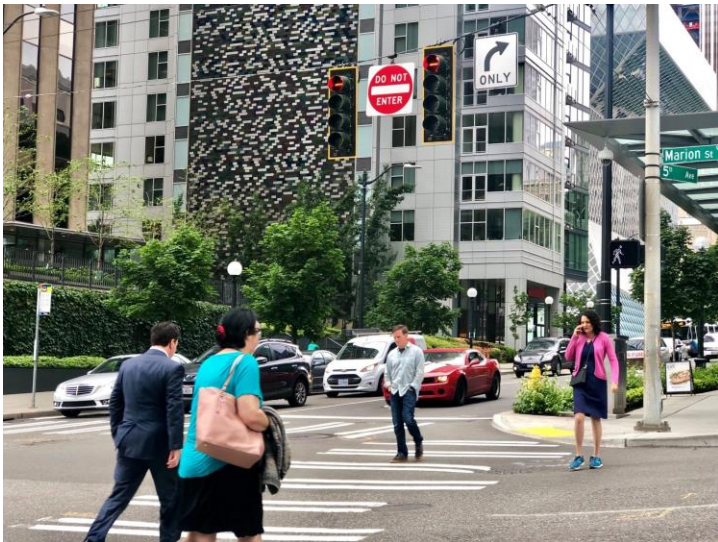


Investing in **safe and sustainable** modes of transportation, street trees and greening, and other similar efforts in neighborhoods who need them most



SAFETY PRIORITIZED THROUGHOUT

Safety + Vision Zero Action Plan



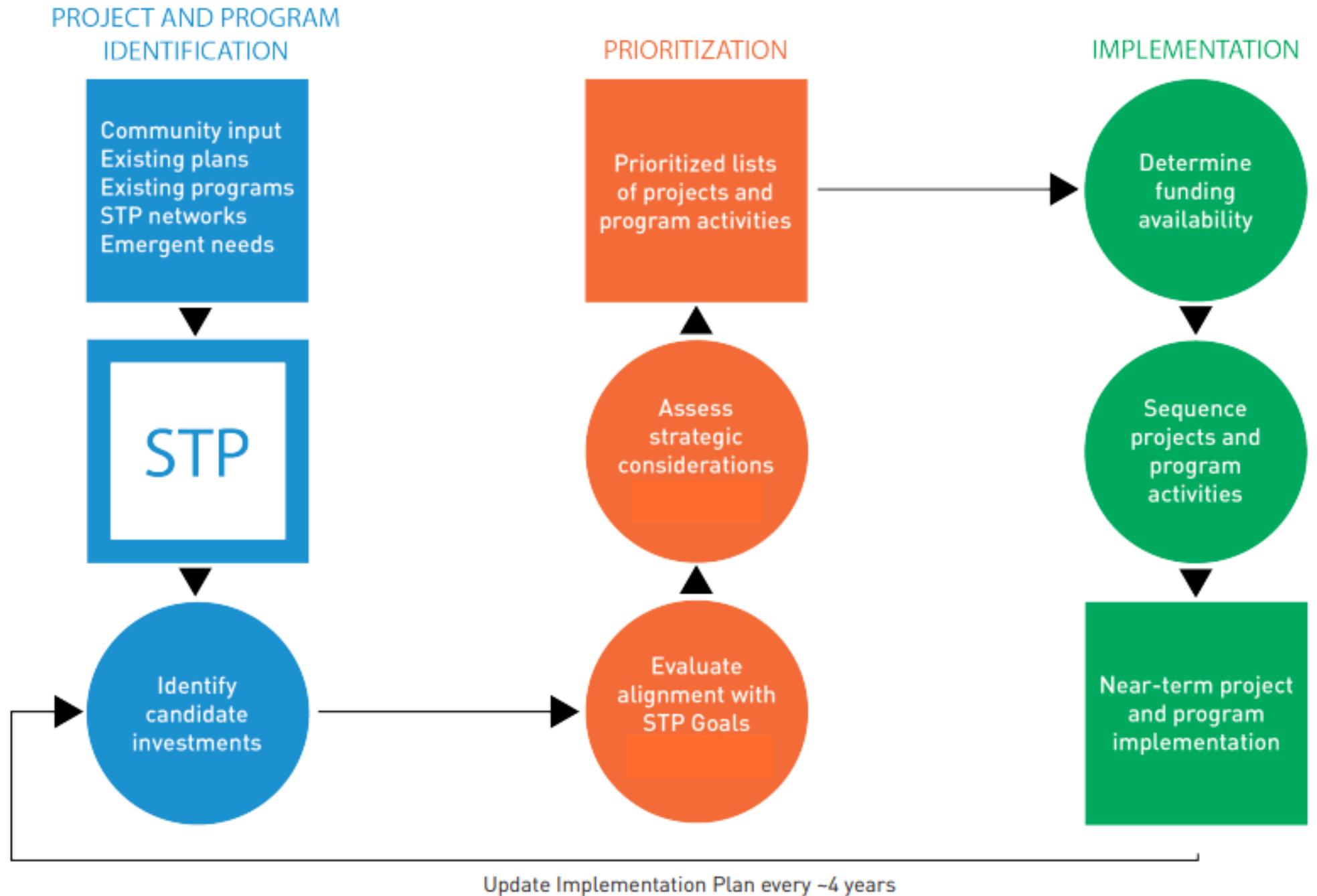
- Top-to-Bottom Review focused on how to deliver safety interventions with demonstrated effectiveness where they are most needed
- Levy funding made several momentum-building actions possible:
 - No-turn-on-red signs (shown at top left)
 - Leading Pedestrian Intervals (shown at bottom left)
- Incorporating key Top-to-Bottom Review recommendations in levy renewal planning; also in alignment with LOC's feedback, including:
 - Incorporate Vision Zero and Safe Systems approaches into every project and program
 - Prioritize street design that encourages safe behavior
 - Accelerate planning & installation of proven interventions
- Vision Zero Action Plan update coming in 2024

What does this look like in practice?

- ✓ Prioritizing safety, especially for people walking, biking, and rolling, **and** maintenance
- ✓ Developing accurate cost estimates for projects
- ✓ Maintaining flexibility to be responsive to emerging needs and priorities
- ✓ Implementing signature corridor projects, while also focusing on neighborhood-centric investments
- ✓ Identifying critical locations for major capital improvements using pavement/asphalt condition data, STP findings, equity data, and other prioritization factors
- ✓ Developing a plan to make progress on asset management, even if we cannot do everything all at once



Putting it together: Identifying components of levy renewal





How does this relate to the LOC?

- This presentation helps to explain key inputs to the levy renewal
- This is related to the LOC's task of making a recommendation about a future transportation levy, using the **scope of the City's transportation needs as a factor**
- A voter-approved transportation levy is one way that we can address our needs, **but it is not the only way**
- The **voter-approved transportation levy renewal is critical now**, but we will continue work to identify funding opportunities to fill gaps, while keeping investment affordable for our Seattle neighbors

Timeline and next steps

- Winter 2023: Vision Zero top to bottom review
- Spring 2023: Internal asset needs analysis, initial polling on priorities
- Fall 2023: DRAFT Seattle Transportation Plan, Visioning, funding scenario development
- Now: Polling on funding size and priorities, launch key stakeholder engagement
- Q1 2024: Next steps for Seattle Transportation Plan and draft Levy renewal
- Q1- Q2 2024: Levy renewal rollout for public engagement & feedback



Questions and Discussion

