PSRC's Regional Transportation Plan

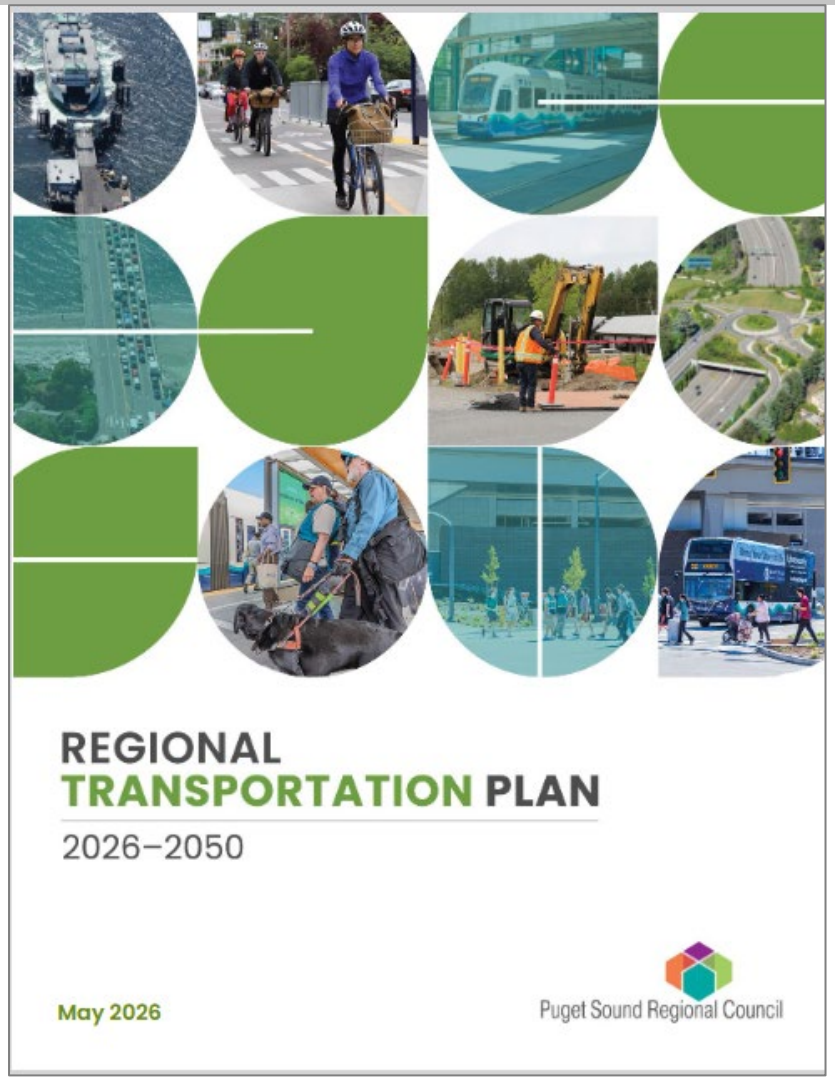
Washington State Transportation Commission

July 22, 2026

Puget Sound Regional Council

Today's Presentation

- Background on the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)
- Key components and outcomes
- Public outreach process and engagement
- RTP Performance Dashboard
- Action Items



What is a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)?

- Lays out the region's long-term transportation needs and planned investments
- Developed collaboratively with cities, counties, transportation agencies and the public
- Updated every four years according to state and federal requirements

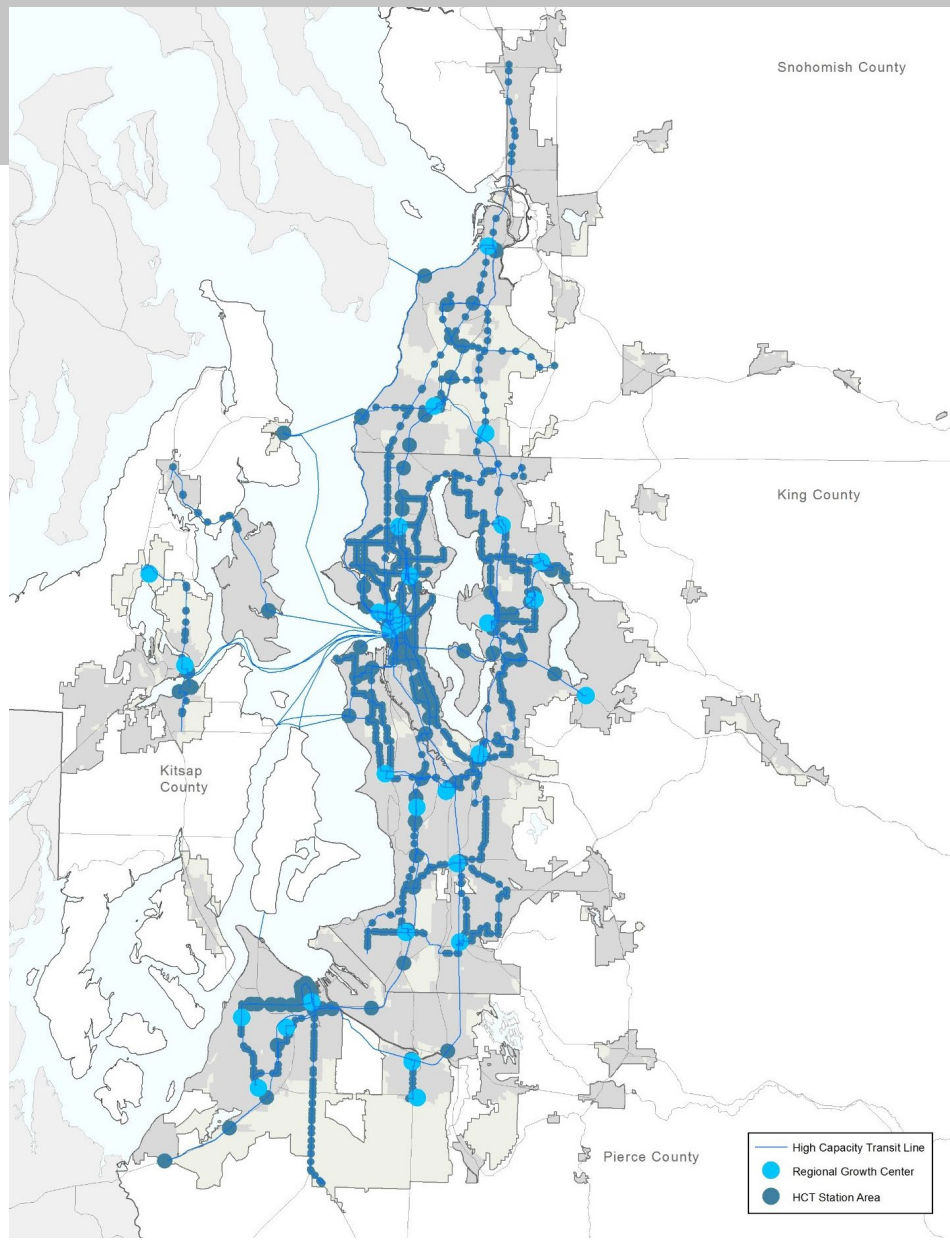
Six Policy Foundations

The board identified six key policy foundations to guide development of the 2026-2050 RTP:

- *Maintain and preserve the existing transportation system*
- *Create a multimodal system that works for everyone*
- *Promote a safe and healthy transportation system*
- *Address regional climate goals*
- *Evaluate progress toward plan goals*
- *Develop a practical financial strategy*

Grounded in VISION 2050

- Adopted in October 2020
- Regional plan for 5.8 million people
- Guide for a healthy environment, thriving communities, and a strong economy
- Goal for **65% of population growth** and **75% of employment growth** to occur in regional growth centers and station areas



Regional Growth Centers and HCT Station Areas

New Features of this Plan

- Investments based on new comprehensive plans, current transit plans, new State Highway System Plan
- Evaluation of four plan scenarios
- Reassessment of the financial strategy
- Current and future transportation system reports and visualization tools

New Features of this Plan

- Incorporates new Regional Safety Action Plan
- Incorporates new Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan
- Continuous public outreach
- Streamlined documentation

Plan Highlights

$335 billion total cost - includes a wide mix of needed investments with a focus on maintenance and transit

- Priority to fully fund backlog, maintain state of good repair into the future (*60% of plan costs)*
- Significant expansion of regional and local transit networks and service
  - ➢ *116 miles of light rail, doubling of bus rapid transit routes, 90% increase in transit service hours*

Plan Highlights

Significant progress on regional priorities

- *33% growth in people and jobs by 2050*
- *20% growth in total VMT, 12% reduction in VMT per capita*
- *An almost tripling of transit trips by 2050*
- *Walking and biking trips grow 83% and 58%, respectively*
- *83% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions*

Plan Highlights

- 83% of plan costs funded with current law revenues
  - Proposes a flexible, practical approach for new revenues into the future
    - ➢ *Regional focus on road usage charge, transit sales tax, vehicle/license fees, county road levy*
  - Recognizes unique local conditions and needs
  - Acknowledges policy and implementation issues
  - Calls for future work and collaboration

New RTP Format

Streamlined plan document

- Summary of plan results and key findings
- Actions and future work

Links and standalone documents for key plan elements

New RTP Format

View the 2026-2025 Regional Transportation Plan [PDF/2.7MB]

Dive into the key components of the plan

System & Performance

Multimodal Mobility

Climate & Environment

Health & Safety

Finance

Maintenance & Preservation

Outreach & Engagement

Administration

SEPA - Environmental Review

Continuous Public Outreach – 2025/2026

Spring – Summer

- Community tabling

Spring – Fall

- Online survey open
- 7 regional public meetings
- >600 total participants

Winter

- Public comment period on draft plan, December 15 – February 2

Feedback Themes from Regional Public Meetings

- Different needs – some communities more reliant on cars, fewer transit and walk/bike options
- Less interest in more roads, but more interest in *better* roads
- Transit ranked highly – more, more frequent, seamless connections
- Better connected and safer sidewalks and bicycle networks
- Concerns about cost – households increasingly tax burdened
- Accountability for investment – let's see results

RTP Performance Dashboard

- First developed in 2023, the RTP Performance Dashboard is a resource to help the region understand how well it is meeting long range goals and desired outcomes identified in the RTP.

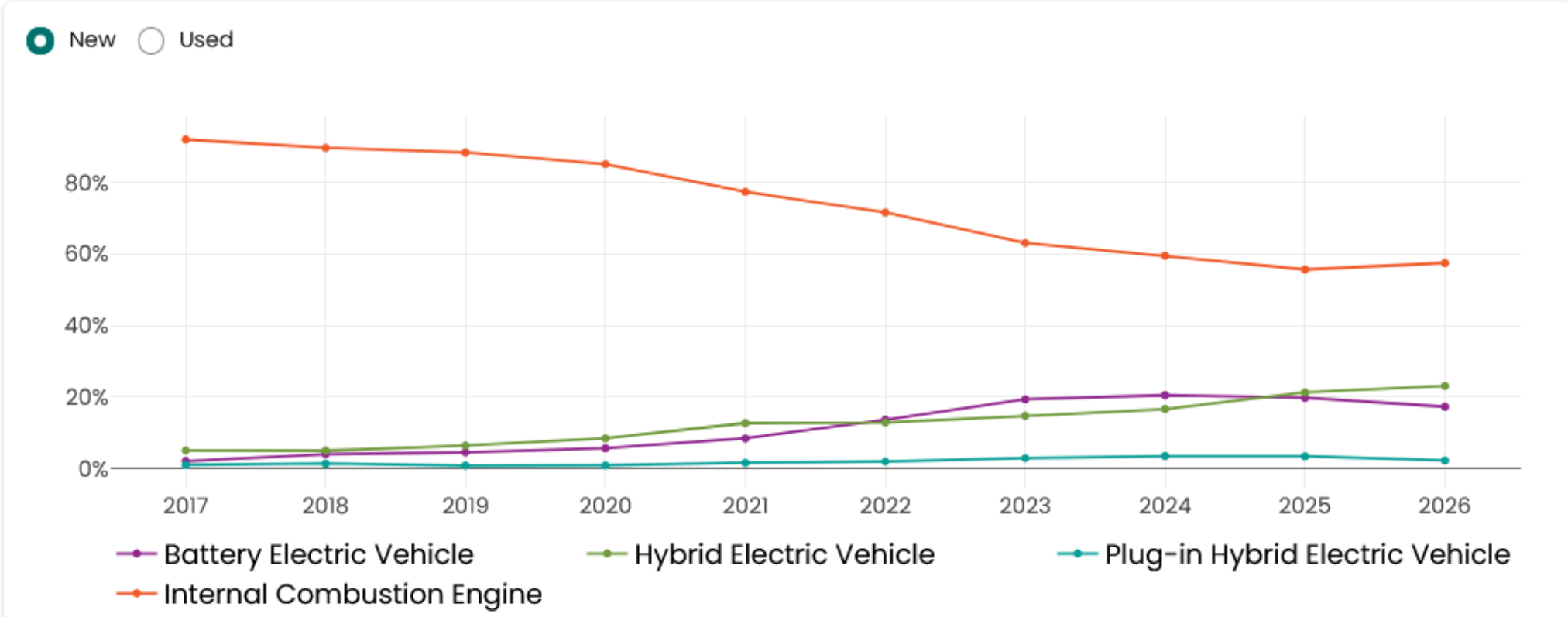
- The Dashboard is updated each fall and early winter as various Census and other transportation related data sources are released.

- Metrics include *Vehicle Miles Traveled, Vehicle Registrations, Safety, Transit Boardings, Work from Home, Travel Time, and Walking / Biking Trips*

RTP Performance Dashboard - Examples

New Vehicle Registrations in the PSRC Region

Decarbonization of the transportation fleet is an important part of the region's strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In 2025, almost 19% of all vehicle purchases (new or used vehicles) in the region were electric or plug-in electric vehicles and by the end of the year, about 47% of all new vehicle registrations were either Battery-Electric or Hybrid vehicles.

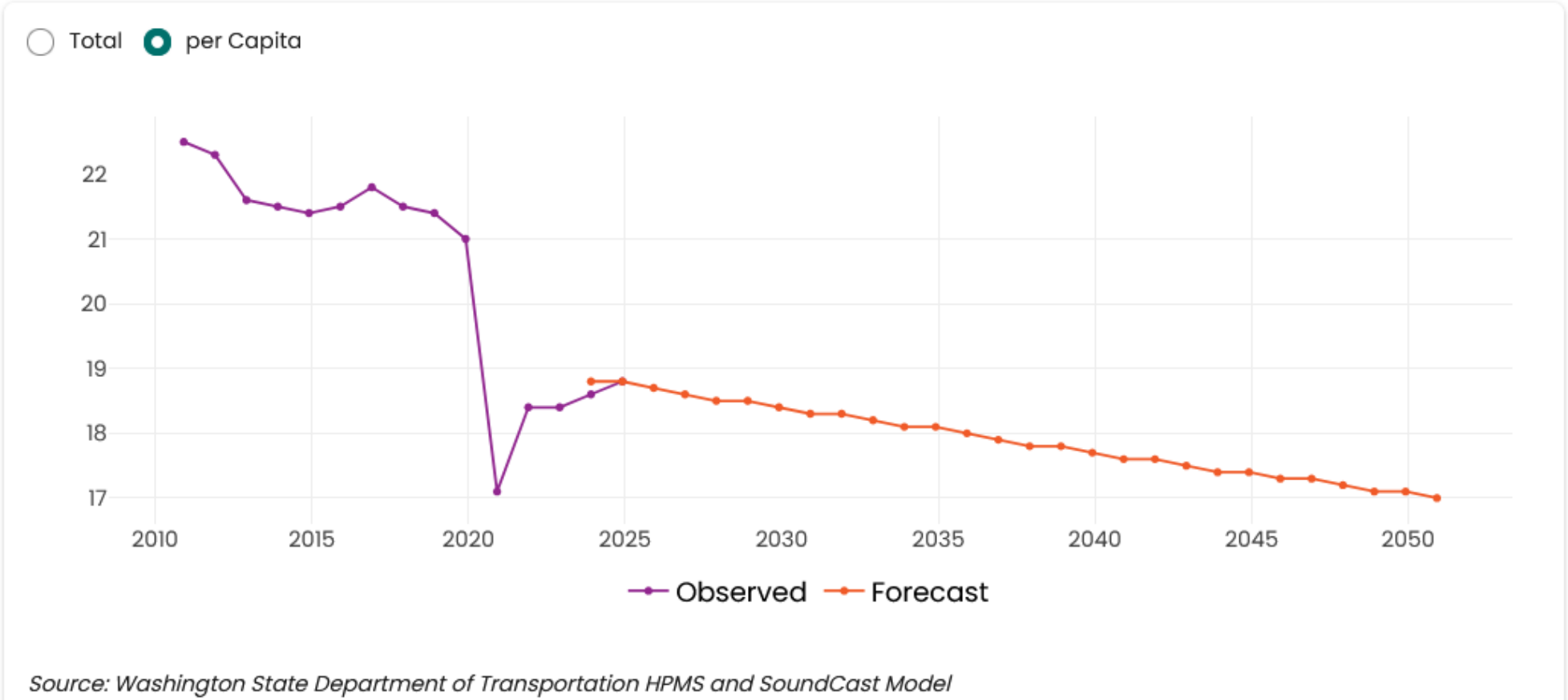


Source: Washington State Department of Licensing

RTP Performance Dashboard - Examples

Daily Vehicle Miles Traveled in the PSRC Region

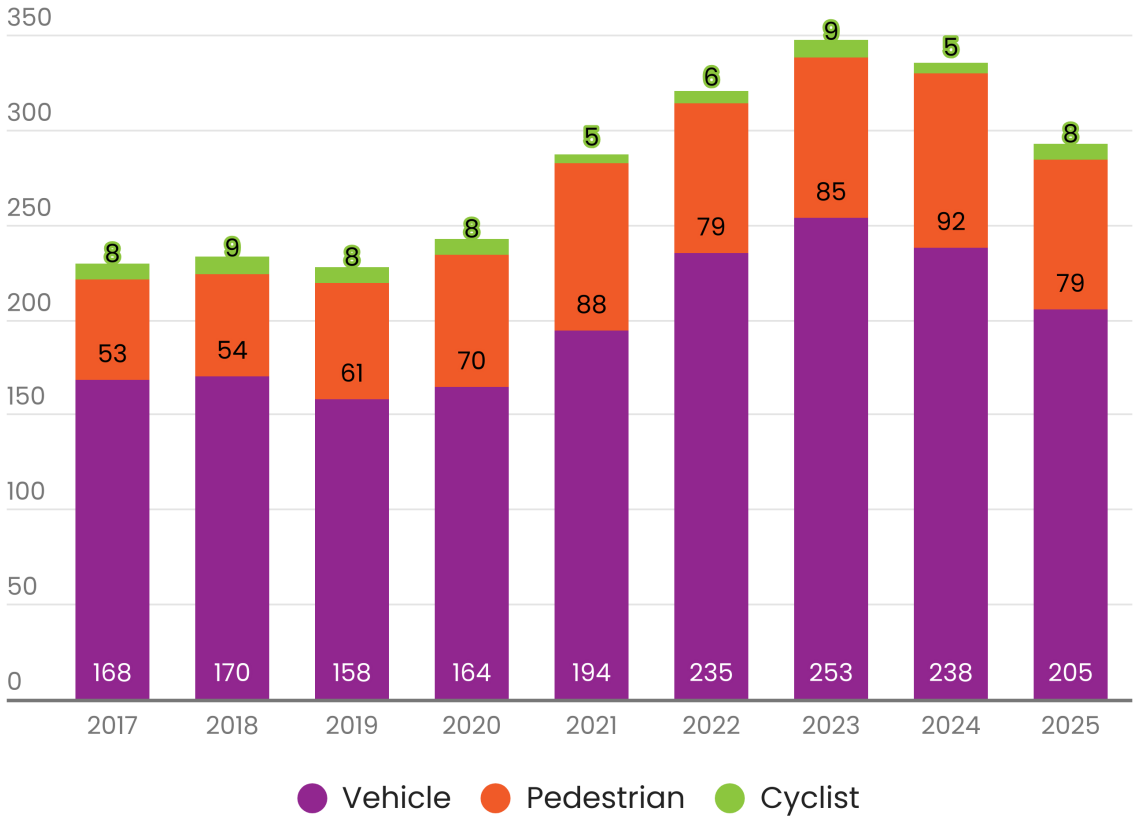
Vehicle miles traveled peaked in the late 1990's at around 24 miles per person per day. In 2018, the average miles driven per person had reduced to about 21 miles per day. Over the next thirty years, the average miles driven per capita is forecasted to reduce even further to approximately 17 miles per day per person.



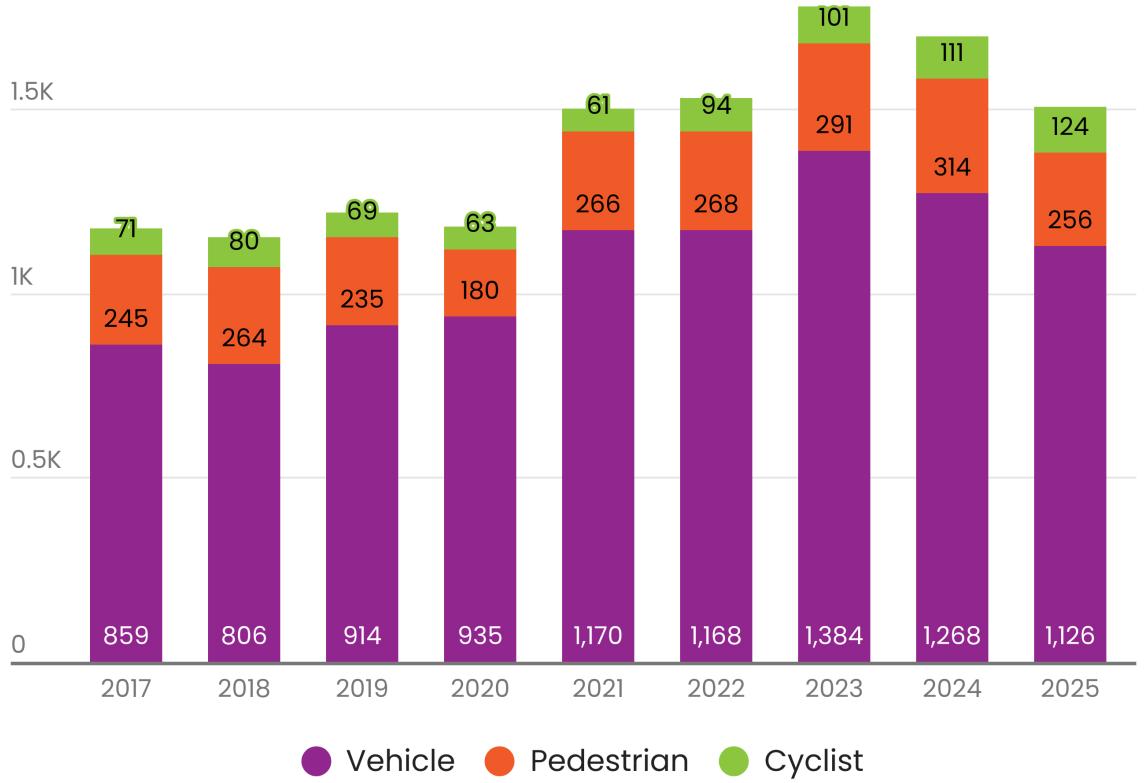
Source: Washington State Department of Transportation HPMS and SoundCast Model

RTP Performance Dashboard - Examples

Traffic Related Deaths, 2017-2025

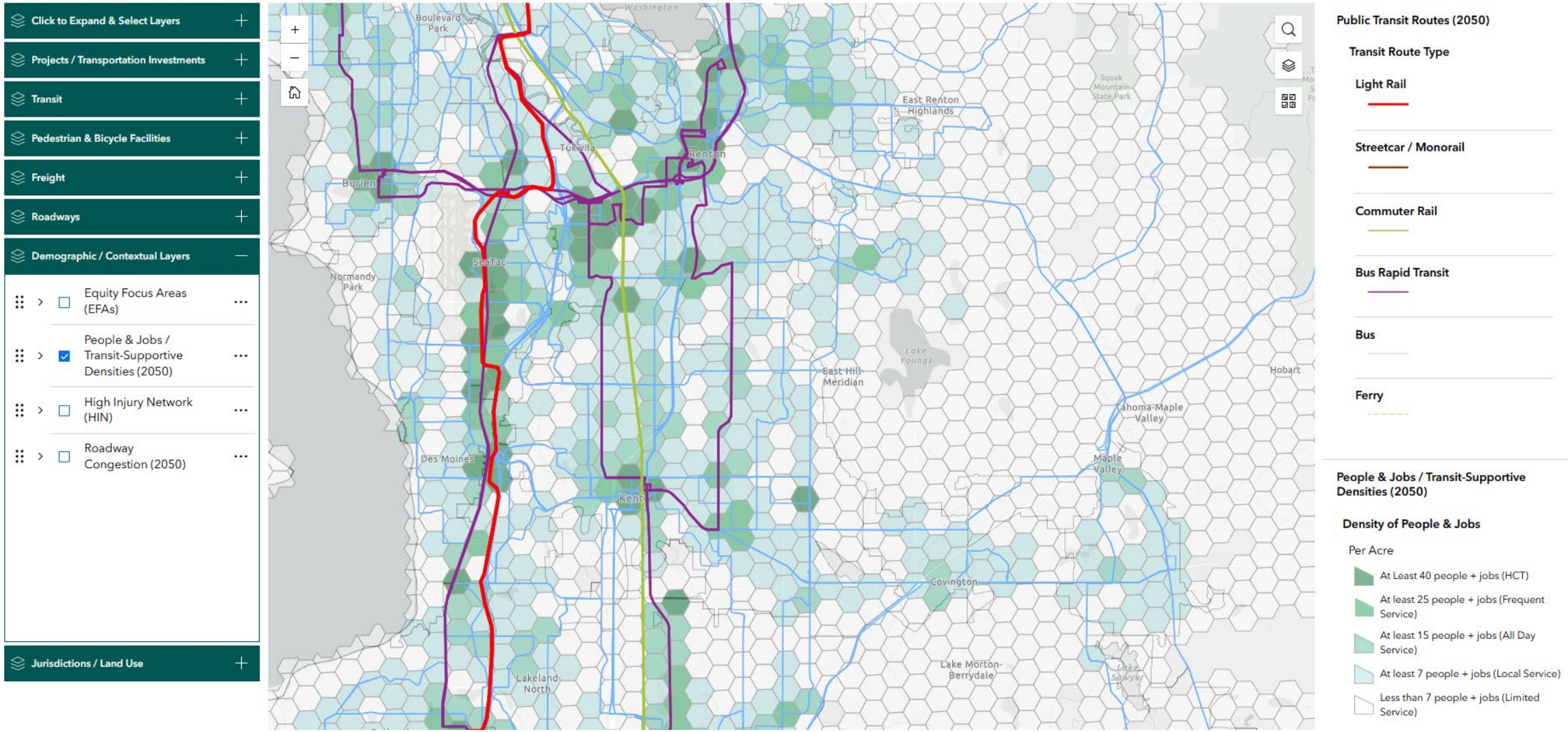


Serious Injuries, 2017-2025



Source: Washington State Department of Transportation, Multi-Row Flat File, 2025 Preliminary Data

Transportation System Visualization Tool



Plan Action Items

- Transportation Finance – ongoing work program to advance transportation funding options, particularly to address local needs
- Maintenance and Preservation – continued work to improve estimation methodologies and data collection
- Climate – advance implementation of the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan; advance work to address climate impacts and vulnerabilities of the transportation system

Plan Action Items

- Future system gaps – explore opportunities to address gaps in the future system, e.g. addressing transit gaps in alignment with the 2030 VISION and RTP update
- Safety – advance implementation of the Regional Safety Acton Plan
- Rural transportation issues – review and analyze current and future rural transportation issues and needs, including available infrastructure, services and growth impacts

Plan Action Items

- Performance measurement and monitoring – continue improving data collection, analysis and monitoring of existing and new performance measures as applicable
- Transportation technologies – monitor and advance emerging transportation technologies, as well as the challenges and evolution of current technologies

We look forward to working with you.

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Puget Sound Regional Council