



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, February 17, 2022 from 9:30-11:15 am

- 1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30)** – *Andrea Spencer, City of Bremerton, Co-Chair*
- 2. Reports (9:35)**
 - a. Meeting Summary for January 20, 2022*
 - b. PSRC Announcements and Updates
- 3. Discussion Item (9:45)**
 - a. Regional Housing Assistance* – *Laura Benjamin, PSRC*
- 4. Discussion Item (10:15)**
 - a. Regional Transportation Plan Public Comment Update* – *Ben Bakkenta, PSRC*
- 5. Discussion Item (10:30)**
 - a. Climate Preparedness Collaborative* – *Kelly McGourty, PSRC & Lara Whitley-Binder, King County*
- 6. Discussion Item (11:00)**
 - a. Comprehensive Plan Outreach and Support – *Maggie Moore, PSRC*
- 7. Next meeting: March 17, 2022**
- 8. Adjourn (11:15)**

*Supporting materials attached.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join via a smart device or web browser, go to <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/88955012990?pwd=UTZmd2ZZdGILTkJPbXNqL2Y1TFQ2Zz09> and enter Meeting ID: 889 5501 2990 and Passcode: 058311.
- To join by phone, call 877 853 5257 or 888 475 4499 and enter Meeting ID: 889 5501 2990 and Passcode: 058311.
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Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee Meeting Summary

Date: January 20, 2022

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the PSRC website: <https://www.psrc.org/rsc-meetings>. Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

Introductions and Announcements

Andrea Spencer, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Participants were asked to view the meeting attendance on the “chat” feature on Zoom, and phone-in participants were asked to identify themselves verbally.

Reports

Co-Chair Andrea Spencer welcomed the committee members and explained that PSRC staff would provide short updates on upcoming policy and Executive Board meetings and review the status of ongoing projects in the work program.

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, began his update by reminding members that PSRC offices are closed to the public. While committee meetings will continue virtually for the first quarter of 2022, PSRC has debuted hybrid meetings for the boards. The Regional Staff Committee schedule plans to continue with remote meetings, but with the addition of quarterly hybrid meetings where members will be highly encouraged to attend in person. Ben reminded members to send in their membership confirmation. Ben encouraged the committee to review the PSRC Draft Supplemental Biennial Budget and Work Program for FY2022-2023, available [here](#). He reminded members that PSRC released the draft Regional Transportation Plan last Thursday, and that the online open house is available with short videos on related topics and a variety of ways to view the draft plan chapters. You can view the materials related to the draft RTP at <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/rtp>. Ben shared that the PSRC communications team prepared a simple Social Media toolkit with links, hashtags, and suggested ways to help get the word out about the draft plan and the comment period, available [here](#). He wrapped up his staff report by reminding members to respond to a survey sent out to the region’s planning directors to learn more about the timeline, lead contacts, and focus areas for periodic updates to comprehensive plans. Responses to this survey will help PSRC to provide timely and relevant guidance documents and outreach events for comprehensive plan update.

Discussion: Regional Transportation Plan and Project Selection Process

Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, briefed the committee on the development of the Regional Transportation Plan, including how the draft plan will be released for public comment on January 13. Staff provided a summary of the plan and opportunities to engage. In addition, work has been underway to prepare for the 2022 project selection process for PSRC's federal funds. Staff also briefed the committee on key upcoming milestones for that process.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org.

Discussion: Household Travel Survey Program – 2021 Update & 2023 Announcement

Brian Lee, Program Manager, and Suzanne Childress, Data Scientist, provided an overview of the 2021 household travel survey data presently being finalized and a call for add-on samples to the 2023 survey.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Brian Lee, Program Manager, at blee@psrc.org or Suzanne Childress, Data Scientist, at schildress@psrc.org.

Discussion Item: Economic Development District Update

Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, briefed the committee on the work of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board. At its December meeting, the EDD adopted the 2022-2026 Regional Economic Strategy as the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy. In addition, the Board adopted a set of Economic Development Focus Areas for implementation in 2022.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC

Brian Lee, PSRC

Jason Thibedeau, PSRC

Kelly McGourty, PSRC

Suzanne Childress, PSRC

Brian Parry, SCA

David Paine

Eric ffitch

Erika Harris, PSRC

Grant Gibson, PSRC

Laura Benjamin, PSRC

Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC

Maggie Moore, PSRC

Nathen Lamb, City of Bothell

Noah Boggess, PSRC

Pauline Mogilevsky, Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council

Ben Kahn, PSRC

Craig Helmann, PSRC

Gil Cerise, PSRC

Josh Brown, PSRC

Kathryn Johnson, PSRC

Michelle Stewart, PSRC

PSRC Regional Staff Committee - Attendance Roster

Jurisdiction	Member	Jurisdiction	Member
King County	2 Ivan Miller, King County Executive Office	Federal, Regional, State, Tribal & Other Agencies	
	Sunaree Marshall, King County	FHWA	1 Matthew Kunic, Community Planner
	Rebecca Maskin, Demographer Alt		Vacant Alt
	McCaela Daffern, King County Alt	FTA	1 Linda Gehrke, Regional Administrator
At-Large	2 Arun Sambataro, Equity & Social Justice		Ned Conroy, Community Planner Alt
	Michael Kattermann, Bothell	R Health	1 Keri Moore, Snohomish Health Dist.
	Vacant Alt		Amy Pow, Tacoma/Pierce Health Alt 1 R
	Vacant Alt		Marianne Seifert, Tacoma/Pierce Alt 2
Transit	1 Peter Heffernan, King Co Metro Intergov Relations	R Ports	1 Lindsay Wolpa, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs
	Chris Arkills, King Co Metro Gov. Relations Alt		Deirdre Wilson, Northwest Seaport Alliance Alt R
Economic Dev.	1 Ashton Allison, King Co Exec Office, Econ Dev	R PSCAA	1 Vacant
	Hugo Garcia, King County Exec Office, Econ Dev		Kathy Strange Alt
Seattle	2 Michael Hubner, Long Range Planning	R Puget Sound	1 Stephanie Suter, Planning Program Director
	Jonathan Lewis, SDOT	R Partnership	Dan Stonington, Planning Manager Alt
	Patrice Carroll, Planning & Comm Dev Alt	R Sound Transit	1 Matt Shelden, Planning & Innovation
	Joanna Valencia, SDOT Alt	R	Alex Krieg, Planning & Integration Alt
Bellevue	1 Thara Johnson, Planning Manager, Comm Dev	R Tribal	1 Vacant
	Katie Kuciemba Halse, Transportation, Alt	R Representatives	Vacant Alt
Cities/Towns	3 Chip Vincent, Renton, Planning, Co-Chair	US EPA	1 Susan Sturges R
	Diana Hart, City of Woodinville	R	Vacant Alt
	Brian Davis, City of Federal Way	US HUD	1 Jack Peters
	Vacant Alt		Vacant Alt
	Minnie Dhaliwal, City of Issaquah, Alt	WA Dept. of	1 Steve Roberge
	Bob Sterbank, City of Snoqualmie, Alt	Commerce	Dave Andersen
Kitsap County	1 Eric Baker, Policy	WSDOT	1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT R
	Jeff Rimack, Alt		April Delchamps, WSDOT Alt
At-Large	1 Heather Wright, Planning Director	PSRC Committees	
	Vacant Alt	PSRC Co-Chair	1 Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning R
Transit	1 Edward Coviello, Kitsap Transit	BPAC	1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT R
	Vacant Alt		Eric Goodman, Community Transit Alt
Economic Dev.	1 Vacant	FAC	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs R
	Vacant Alt		Vacant Alt
Bremerton	1 Andrea Spencer, Comm Dev, Co-Chair	R RPEC	1 Doug McCormick, RPEC Chair
	Garrett Jackson, Senior Planner, Alt		Russ Blount, Fife, RPEC Vice Chair Alt R
Cities/Towns	1 Nick Bond, Comm Dev., Port Orchard	R SNTC	1 Vacant
	Heather Wright, Bainbridge Island, Alt		Vacant Alt
Pierce County	1 Dan Cardwell, Long Range Planning	R TDM	1 Vacant
	Vacant Alt		Nathan Howard, Snohomish County, Alt
At-Large	2 Jesse Hamashima, Transportation, Co-Chair	RTOC	1 Vacant
	Tiffany Speir, Lakewood, Planning		Vacant Alt
	Ryan Windish, City of Sumner, Alt	R = Remote attendance	
	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake, Plan. & Build., Alt		
Transit	1 Lindsey Sehmel, Pierce Transit	R	
	Darin Stavish, Pierce Transit, Alt		
	Duane Wakan, Pierce Transit, Alt		
Economic Dev	1 Rob Allen, Economic Development	R	
	Vacant Alt		
Tacoma	1 Peter Huffman, Planning & Dev Srvcs		
	Vacant		
Cities/Towns	1 Katie Baker, Puyallup		
	David Swindale, University Place, Plan & Dev Alt		
Snohomish County	1 Mike McCrary, PDS Director	R	
	David Killingstad, Planning & Development		
At-Large	2 Kelly Snyder, Director, Co-Chair	R	
	Ken Klein, Executive Director		
	Jay Larson, Transportation Specialist, Alt	R	
	Joshua Dugan, Chief of Staff, Alt		
Transit	1 Roland Behee, Director of Planning		
	Sabina Araya, Manager of System Planning		
Economic Dev	1 Neepaporn Bounjaktha, Economic Dev	R	
	Vacant Alt		
Everett	1 Yorik Stevens-Wajda, Planning Director	R	
	Becky Ableman McCrary, Long Range Planning Mgr		
Cities/Towns	1 Russ Wright, Lake Stevens, Comm Dev. Director		
	Patricia Love, Stanwood, Comm Dev. Director, Alt.		
Total Members	51	Attended	27



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

February 17, 2022

TO: Regional Staff Committee
FROM: Laura Benjamin, Senior Planner
SUBJECT: **Regional Housing Assistance**

IN BRIEF

Housing access and affordability are key policy areas in [VISION 2050](#), the region's long-range plan for growth. The committee will be provided an update on the development of the Regional Housing Strategy and the upcoming regional housing assistance work. The committee will be asked to provide feedback to help develop the regional housing work program for the next 1-2 years.

DISCUSSION

The collective work of PSRC, counties, cities, and other agencies and organizations is needed to implement VISION 2050 and meet the region's housing needs. Past housing planning efforts underscore that a plan is only as strong as its ability to be implemented. VISION 2050 and the draft Regional Housing Strategy strive to engage all 86 jurisdictions in the central Puget Sound region to address housing in a more coordinated and collaborative way, while also recognizing local circumstances.

For many years PSRC has been providing data, guidance, and technical assistance to support jurisdictions in their efforts to adopt best housing practices and establish coordinated local housing and affordable housing targets. Past efforts include:

- [Housing Innovations Program](#) – A collection of planning resources that local governments can use to promote housing affordability and new housing choices in their communities.
- [2019 Housing Incentives and Tools Survey](#) – A survey to local jurisdictions to learn how they use regulatory incentives and tools to promote housing development and affordability.
- [Housing Element Guide](#) – A resource for developing effective housing elements that address housing choices and affordability in local comprehensive plan updates due under GMA in 2015 and 2016.
- [Annual Housing Affordability Performance Trend](#) – A brief data story about housing costs and affordability for owners and renters.

In 2016 PSRC developed [Taking Stock](#), an assessment of the collective efforts of the region's counties and cities to implement VISION 2040, as viewed immediately following the 2015-2016 cycle of local comprehensive plan updates and looking ahead to develop VISION 2050. Taking Stock found that with housing costs climbing, housing affordability was an important and challenging policy area across the region. Many plans included robust housing needs analyses, new tools and commitments to explore housing strategies, however, regulatory tools and subsidies are insufficient to meet the growing need.

Regional Housing Strategy

A new housing action in VISION 2050 (H-Action-1) directs PSRC to develop a regional housing strategy, including a regional housing needs assessment. The Regional Housing Strategy is intended to serve as a “playbook” of regional and local actions to move towards the region's goal to preserve, improve, and expand its housing stock to provide a range of affordable, accessible, healthy, and safe housing choices to every resident and to promote fair and equal access to housing for all people.

The Regional Housing Strategy will help to shape PSRC's housing work moving forward, including future technical assistance and legislative support. The strategy will also be used when reviewing local comprehensive plans, although housing elements have not been a certification focus area under the current plan review policy.

At the October 7, 2021 meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board unanimously recommended the [draft Regional Housing Strategy](#) to the Executive Board. The Executive Board and Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) have been reviewing the GMPB recommended strategy and action is anticipated at the February 24 Executive Board meeting. Based on board and EAC feedback, the strategy has been updated to include stronger language on racial equity, better acknowledges the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and includes stronger language on the current housing crisis and need for action. A full list of proposed changes is available [online](#).

As the strategy is still under review by the Executive Board, details of implementation are still to be determined. A few implementation items that may get underway in early 2022, based on board feedback include:

- Monitoring— PSRC will develop a framework to track performance and outcomes over time and identify challenges or barriers over time.
- Typology – PSRC will work with stakeholders to develop and use a typology to identify the strategies, tools, and actions that have the most potential to make an impact in different types of places.
- Plan Review – PSRC will work to develop resources and guidance and convene stakeholders to support the implementation of VISION 2050 and the GMA during the 2024 major periodic comprehensive plan update.

PSRC staff will brief the committee on Regional Housing Strategy implementation following Executive Board action.

Additional Regional Housing Work

In addition to implementing the Regional Housing Strategy, VISION 2050 also calls for regional housing assistance.

H-Action-2 – Regional Housing Assistance— PSRC, in coordination with subregional, county, and local housing efforts, will assist implementation of regional housing policy and local jurisdiction and agency work. Assistance shall include the following components:

- Guidance for developing local housing targets (including affordable housing targets), model housing policies, and best housing practices
- Technical assistance, including new and strengthened tools, to support local jurisdictions in developing effective housing strategies, action plans, and programs
- Collection and analysis of regional housing data, including types and uses of housing and effectiveness of zoning, regulations, and incentives to achieve desired outcomes
- Technical assistance in support of effective local actions to address displacement, including data on displacement risk and a toolbox of local policies and actions

Several components of housing assistance may overlap with implementation of the Regional Housing Strategy.

Questions for the committee:

- What resources and technical assistance are needed for upcoming housing work, such as the major periodic comprehensive plan update?
- How can PSRC best support housing work and fill in gaps over the next 1-2 years? Is there other work that should be a focus after the 2024 plan updates?

Next Steps

Staff will provide a more in-depth briefing on implementation of the Regional Housing Strategy following adoption by the Executive Board, which will inform the complete regional housing work program over the next couple years.

Lead Staff

For more information, contact Laura Benjamin, Senior Planner, at LBenjamin@psrc.org or 206-464-7134, or Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management at PInghram@psrc.org or 206-464-7549.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

February 17, 2022

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning

SUBJECT: Regional Transportation Plan Public Comment Update

IN BRIEF

The draft Regional Transportation Plan has been released for a public review and comment period through February 28, 2022. An online open house is available with draft plan documents, short topical videos and an online comment form. In addition, three public webinars were held in early February. The Regional Staff Committee will be briefed on preliminary themes from early comments received by the time of the February 17 meeting, and a full report will be provided in March once the comment period has concluded and staff has had time to comprehensively review and process.

DISCUSSION

Significant outreach has been conducted over the last two years, leading up to the release of the draft plan for public comment. Engagement activities have included a representative public survey reaching over 1,900 residents; 22 follow-up interviews with individuals in four languages; outreach to over 570 individuals on the needs of people with special transportation needs; engagement with over 50 middle and high school aged youth; and an online survey that yielded almost 1,400 responses. Five focus groups have also been held, reaching communities in all four counties within the region.

As part of the online open house for the draft plan public comment period, three public webinars were held in early February. Targeted advertisements and social media posts were made to reach historically underrepresented communities, as well as outreach to individuals who participated in the representative survey. Outreach to the business community, tribal governments and the military is also proceeding.

At the February 17 meeting, staff will provide a report on preliminary comment themes received through early February. The committee will also be briefed on next steps and information to be provided in the coming months once the public comment period concludes.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at 206-971-3286 or bbakkenta@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

February 17, 2022

TO: Regional Staff Committee
FROM: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning
SUBJECT: Climate Preparedness Collaborative

IN BRIEF

At their meeting on February 17, the Regional Staff Committee will be briefed on ongoing work relating to climate preparedness and resilience, including policies and actions contained in VISION 2050 and the coordinated work of the Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative.

DISCUSSION

Climate preparedness and resilience has been addressed in the Regional Transportation Plan since 2010, and additional efforts and regional coordination have been ongoing since that time. This includes the development and work of the Puget Sound Climate Preparedness Collaborative, the updated resilience policies and actions adopted in VISION 2050, and ongoing mapping tools and resources developed for the Regional Transportation Plan.

At the meeting on February 17, the Regional Staff Committee will be provided an overview of current efforts, including work to develop guidance supporting local comprehensive plan development. An overview of the Collaborative and opportunities to engage into the future will also be provided.

Next Steps

Resilience and preparedness work is ongoing, but staff will provide future briefings to the committee as guidance and best practices are developed.

Lead Staff

For more information contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

February 17, 2022

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Maggie Moore, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Plan Outreach and Support

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will brief the committee on planned outreach activities and support opportunities for the 2024 comprehensive plan updates. VISION 2050 calls for PSRC to support efforts to update local comprehensive plans through updates to plan review and certification guidance and building awareness on VISION 2050 (RC-Action-1 and RC-Action-4). Staff will provide an overview of upcoming outreach events and share results of a recent survey to cities and counties.

DISCUSSION

PSRC develops data, guidance, and resources to support implementation of VISION through local planning. PSRC has published numerous guidance documents to date, which are available on the [VISION 2050 Planning Resources](#) page. Following adoption of VISION 2050 in 2020, [PSRC has updated the Plan Review Manual](#) and issued [guidance on growth target development](#).

Upcoming Outreach

To support staff in updating local comprehensive plans, PSRC staff are working along with the Department of Commerce and MRSC to develop a series of workshops. These workshops will provide pertinent information on changes in state law since the last periodic update, VISION 2050 and PSRC's Plan Review and Certification program, and resources available from the agencies. Workshops will also be responsive to local needs as identified in the survey and other communication. Staff welcome feedback from the committee on important topics to highlight.

Survey Findings

In January and February 2022 PSRC fielded a survey to city and county staff to learn more about the comprehensive update process and schedule. The survey included an opportunity for participants to share questions and areas of focus around specific topics included in local plans. A summary of survey results will be shared at the February meeting.

Next Steps

Staff will provide more information to committee members and staff from local jurisdictions with specifics on the upcoming workshop series.

Lead Staff

For more information, contact Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, at 206-464-6171 or mmoore@psrc.org.