



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, June 2, 2022 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Optional: Pre-Meeting Icebreaker from 5:00-5:30 pm and Post-Meeting Q&A from 7:30-8:00 pm

Optional Pre-Meeting Icebreaker (5:00) – Charles Patton, PSRC

1. Welcome and Roll Call (5:30) – Co-Chairs

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for May 5, 2022*
- b. EAC Member Report Out
- c. Staff Announcements

3. Discussion Item (5:45)

- a. Equity Planning Resources – Follow-up Discussion* – *Liz Underwood-Bultmann & Erin Hogan, PSRC*

4. Break (6:30)

5. Discussion Item (6:40)

- a. Introduction to the Racial Equity Impact Assessment* – *Ben Kahn & Grant Gibson, PSRC*

6. Zoom Poll (7:25)

7. Adjourn (7:30)

8. Next meeting: July 7, 2022

Optional Post-Meeting Q&A (7:30) – Charles Patton, PSRC

*Supporting materials attached.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join the webinar, please click the following link: <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/84581550281?pwd=V2NxeWlvUWRDRWpMeWJpK2l6R2xyZz09> and enter Passcode: 730351.
- To join by phone, call 888 475 4499 or 833 548 0276 and enter Webinar ID: 845 8155 0281 and Passcode: 730351.

- Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling (206) 464-7090 or TTY Relay 711.
- العربية | Arabic, 中文 | Chinese, Deutsch | German, Français | French, 한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng Việt | Vietnamese, visit <https://www.psrc.org/contact-center/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: May 5, 2022

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the PSRC website:

<https://www.psrc.org/eac-meetings>. Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

Introductions & Welcome

Chris Stearns, from King County, and Shannon Turner, from Kitsap County, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The co-chairs welcomed everyone, and asked Mikayla to begin the roll call for attendance.

EAC Member Report Out

Committee members were given an opportunity to share out about upcoming events or projects in their region. Shannon Turner mentioned that in the city of Bremerton, they are preparing to celebrate Juneteenth. Jewel Shepherd Sampson agreed with Shannon and shared that the celebration and march will be held on June 18, and that she will circulate the flyer when it is available. Chris Stearns shared that May 5 was Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Day, and he spoke on how indigenous women in Washington state experience this violence at a high rate. He also shared that the Muckleshoot Tribe is hosting a Veterans Pow Wow from June 10-12 and that members of the public may attend. Dionne Bonner shared that she is collaborating with other artists to create a Black Lives Matter mural and will update members as events surrounding the mural develop through June. Mindy Woods also mentioned that May 5 was Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women's Day, with an event honoring those affected the previous day. She shared too that on May 6-8 Edmonds College will be hosting a Pow Wow, and that members of the Diversity Commission in Edmonds are planning a Juneteenth event. Debbie Lacy mentioned that East King County will hold their third annual Juneteenth celebration on June 18, from 12-4 pm at Juanita Park in Kirkland. She announced that the King County Equitable Development Initiative is open for members of the public to share feedback and thoughts with the county, including on topics such as anti-displacement.

Staff Announcements

Charles updated members on the Equity Tracker, and that PSRC staff apologize for the delay in sharing the draft with the committee after encountering some technical difficulties. Additionally, he shared that Noah Boggess has accepted the position as Senior Public Engagement Specialist within the agency.

VISION 2050 Comprehensive Plan Overview

Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, and Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, provided an overview to the Equity Advisory Committee of VISION 2050 and the role of local comprehensive plans. Long-range plans and policies are developed by the region's counties, cities, countywide planning groups, and transit agencies to help shape communities and plan for growth. The Regional Equity Strategy includes several components intended to inform the next round of comprehensive plan updates due in 2024.

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

Questions? Contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org, Maggie Moore at mmoore@psrc.org.

Equity Planning Resources

Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, and Erin Hogan, Associate Planner, introduced the Equity Planning Resources component of the Regional Equity Strategy, and asked for the committee's input on the direction of the work.

You can view the presentation [here](#). Note that the presentation for "Equity Planning Resources" begins on page 26.

Questions? Contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org or Erin Hogan at ehogan@psrc.org.

Adjourn

At the close of the meeting, members participated in a poll to evaluate the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.

Members Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC
Charles Patton, PSRC
Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC
Erin Hogan, PSRC
Maggie Moore, PSRC
Robin Koskey, PSRC
Cynthia Wang



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

June 2, 2022

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner
Erin Hogan, Associate Planner

SUBJECT: Equity Planning Resources – Follow-up Discussion

IN BRIEF

At the May meeting PSRC staff introduced the Equity Planning Resources component of the Regional Equity Strategy implementation work and asked for committee input on the general direction and approach to developing these resources. Staff has taken that input and will bring a Phase 1 resource sample back to the committee at the June meeting and continue the discussion of Phase 2 resources.

DISCUSSION

As a reminder of the May meeting discussion, below is a summary of PSRC's approach to developing the Equity Planning Resources.

Approach

PSRC develops data, guidance, and resources to support implementation of VISION 2050 through local plans. To support integrating equity considerations and measures into local plans and policies, staff is also preparing a collection of Equity Planning Resources.

PSRC staff is proposing two phases of work to develop and share these resources with local planners:

- ***Phase 1:*** Jurisdictions in the region are beginning work on updates to their comprehensive plans, which must be completed by December 2024. PSRC proposes collecting resources and sample policies that effectively address inequities, organized by VISION 2050's main policy areas to support jurisdictions in this process. These policy areas include: Regional Collaboration, Regional Growth Strategy, Environment, Climate Change, Development Patterns, Housing, Economy, Transportation, and Public Services.
- ***Phase 2:*** PSRC staff, in consultation with the Equity Advisory Committee, will identify other plans and planning processes in the region where equity could be

better addressed or centered in the work and explore resources PSRC could develop or other ways PSRC can support advancing equity in that work.

Previous Discussion

At the May meeting the committee emphasized the importance of community representation and hearing from people often excluded from the planning process, providing resources to make it straightforward to center equity in planning, and the value of best practices and case studies. The committee also discussed how to address equity in other types of planning, including how transit agencies serve communities.

Next Steps

PSRC staff will continue developing Phase 1 Equity Planning Resources for local jurisdictions as they begin or continue work on their comprehensive plan updates, integrating any feedback from the EAC on the sample resource shared at the June meeting. Staff will begin developing a list of topics to address in Phase 2 based on feedback from the EAC and begin brainstorming potential resources for these topics. Staff will provide an update to the committee on the project in the fall.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org or Erin Hogan, Associate Planner, at ehogan@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

June 2, 2022

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Ben Kahn, Associate Planner
Grant Gibson, Associate Planner

SUBJECT: Introduction to the Racial Equity Impact Assessment

IN BRIEF

As part of the Regional Equity Strategy, PSRC staff are developing a Racial Equity Impact Assessment. At the June meeting, PSRC staff will provide an overview of the concept of a Racial Equity Impact Assessment, the explicit goals for PSRC's Racial Equity Impact Assessment, and ask for the committee's input on developing the assessment for PSRC and PSRC member jurisdictions.

DISCUSSION

What is a Racial Equity Impact Assessment?

In general, racial equity impact assessments are designed to integrate explicit consideration of racial equity in planning and policy decisions. These assessments typically use a series of questions that encourage the user to conduct community engagement to address potential blind spots, identify disparities and strategies to address those disparities, and develop a structure to hold the agency accountable for this work moving forward. Use of a racial equity assessment can help to develop strategies and actions that reduce racial inequities and improve success for all groups.

Connection to VISION 2050 and the Regional Equity Strategy

The need for a Racial Equity Impact Assessment came from the recognition that jurisdictions need to better address racial equity in planning and policymaking efforts. At present, there are few mandates, best practices, and tools available to assess how specific communities – particularly communities of a specific racial, ethnic, or national origin – are impacted by planning decisions. As a result, equity is often a secondary consideration.

VISION 2050 [RC-Action-3](#) calls for PSRC to develop a [Regional Equity Strategy \(RES\)](#) to improve outcomes for marginalized communities and how the agency operates

internally. RC-Action-3 further calls for PSRC to consider developing and adopting a racial equity impact assessment to evaluate PSRC decisions and community engagement practices.

The Racial Equity Impact Assessment will be a key component of the RES and is intended to be a hub for other resources housed under the RES, particularly the Equity Tracker, the Equitable Engagement Guidance, and the Equity Planning Resources.

How will this Racial Equity Impact Assessment be used?

While Racial Equity Impact Assessments can be used in a broad range of decisions, the PSRC-developed assessment is intended to be used explicitly by local jurisdictions in updating their comprehensive plans. By using the Racial Equity Impact Assessment, local jurisdictions will be able to think more deeply about the unintended, harmful consequences on marginalized groups and strategies to mitigate this.

PSRC is working to develop a number of other products to support local jurisdictions as they advance racial equity through the updates of their Comprehensive Plans. The Racial Impact Assessment will pull together these products to provide guidance on how to consider impacts to racial equity in all aspects of the comprehensive planning process, including scoping, outreach and engagement, data collection and analysis, and implementation.

Examples of Racial Equity Impact Assessments

While there are a variety of examples of successful racial equity impact assessment tools in use by local governments and other public agencies around the country, many of them share a common framework and process to evaluate how a planning decision impacts equity. One example of this framework comes from [GARE's Racial Equity Toolkit](#):

- 1. Proposal:** What is the policy, program, practice or budget decision under consideration? What are the desired results and outcomes?
- 2. Data:** What's the data? What does the data tell us?
- 3. Community engagement:** How have communities been engaged? Are there opportunities to expand engagement?
- 4. Analysis and strategies:** Who will benefit from or be burdened by your proposal? What are your strategies for advancing racial equity or mitigating unintended consequences?
- 5. Implementation:** What is your plan for implementation?
- 6. Accountability and communication:** How will you ensure accountability, communicate, and evaluate results?

Racial Equity Impact Assessments in the Central Puget Sound Region

A few local jurisdictions in the central Puget Sound region have adopted or are considering adopting racial equity impact assessments or similar tools to better consider racial equity in planning and policymaking efforts:

- [King County's Equity Impact Review \(EIR\) Process](#) helps inform planning, decision-making, and implementation of actions that affect equity in King County. The EIR process includes five phases and a checklist of items to complete throughout the development and implementation of a proposed action.
- The [City of Redmond has developed guidance](#) to review comprehensive plan elements and policies to ensure that implementation addresses and mitigates impacts on marginalized communities. Like King County's EIR Process, The City of Redmond's guidance includes an iterative, phased approach to help planners effectively consider and implement equitable policies.

Questions for the Equity Advisory Committee

- What questions does the Equity Advisory Committee have for us regarding the Racial Equity Impact Assessment?
- Is there additional information or context that would be helpful?
- Have you ever used or had experience with a Racial Equity Impact Assessment or similar tool?

Next Steps

Following the introduction of the Racial Equity Impact Assessment at the June EAC meeting, PSRC staff will consider feedback and come back in July with a detailed review of the draft assessment. Staff will share sample draft documents ahead of a continued discussion at the July EAC meeting.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Ben Kahn, Associate Planner at bkahn@psrc.org, or Grant Gibson, Associate Planner at ggibson@psrc.org.