

Equity Program Update

Transportation Policy Board
December 8, 2022



Puget Sound Regional Council

Agenda

1. The role of the Equity Advisory Committee
2. Year in Review
3. Looking Ahead



Regional Equity Strategy



Community Engagement

Equity Advisory Committee

- Center equity in PSRC work
- Involve stakeholders early and often
- Co-create Equity Strategy



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Micah Santiago



Michelle Stewart



Mindy Woods

PSRC Core Equity Team

Cross Agency Team

- Dr. Charles Patton – Lead
- Laura Benjamin – Growth Management
- Noah Boggess – Regional Planning
- Jean Kim – Transportation
- Robin Koskey – Communications
- Brian Lee – Data
- Kristin Mitchell – Data
- Mary Richards – Data
- Gary Simonson – Transportation
- Liz Underwood-Bultmann – Growth Management

Regional Representation

Counties

- King: **7** members
- Kitsap: **3** members
- Pierce: **4** members
- Snohomish: **5** members



2022 Work Program-Regional Planning Projects

Regional Housing Strategy

- **EAC reviewed the RHS in January and provided feedback**
- **RHS was adopted by the PRSC Executive Board in February of 2022**
- **Final RHS brought before the EAC at March meeting**

Regional Transportation Plan-EAC Feedback

- **Future Data and Analysis Improvements:**
 - *Include affordability as a metric and goal in the RTP.*
 - *Traveling half-a-mile to a transit stop may be unreasonable for some people with disabilities and should be reconsidered.*
 - *Develop clear goals for wait times and travel times.*
- **Future Outreach Improvements:**
 - *Future RTP engagement should include increased outreach with Tribal partners.*
 - *PSRC should explore innovative ways to conduct outreach with marginalized communities, such as those with limited English proficiency and those that don't have access to the internet.*
- **Health and Safety:**
 - *Invite more people from the healthcare area to serve on the Special Needs Transportation Committee to improve transit accessibility to health services.*
 - *Encourage transit providers to invest in safe and welcoming transit stations.*
 - *Provide greater emphasis on coordination between transportation and health care to address the needs of equity focus areas.*
- **Terminology:**
 - *Review terms and language used and remove outdated references (e.g., “special transportation needs”).*

Regional Equity Strategy

The Strategy includes a suite of resources co-created with the Equity Advisory Committee. It will provide guidance to help members and staff work towards the region's equity goals.



Capacity Building

- ▶ Learning Opportunities
- ▶ Prioritizing Equity
- ▶ Inclusive Procurement
- ▶ Hiring and Retention



Data and Research

- ▶ Equity Tracker Data
- ▶ Data and Analysis
- ▶ Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report



Community Engagement

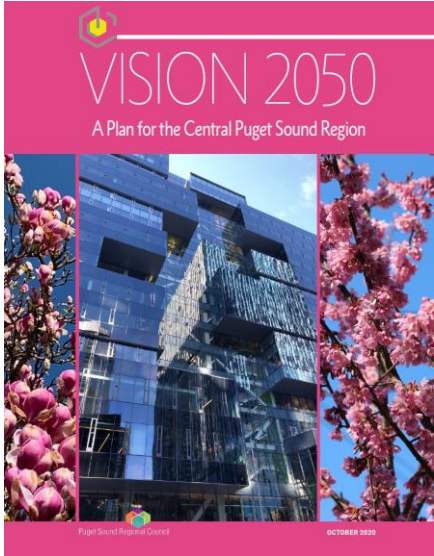
- ▶ Equity Advisory Committee
- ▶ Anti-Displacement Organizations Report
- ▶ Equitable Engagement Guidance



Best Practices

- ▶ Racial Equity Impact Assessment
- ▶ Equity Planning Guidance

Equity and Local Plan Updates



VISION 2050 PLANNING RESOURCES
Plan Review Manual
May 2021



REGIONAL EQUITY STRATEGY

2012 King County
Countywide Planning Policies

With amendments ratified by June 25, 2016



**City of Edmonds
Comprehensive Plan**



Adopted July 28, 2015
Updated December 15, 2017

Regional Collaboration

The plan supports **collaboration for a healthy environment, thriving communities, and opportunities for all**, including coordination with other jurisdictions and agencies, tribes, ports, military installations, and adjacent regions.

Policies and programs should:

Support regional collaboration	Page/Policy Reference
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include a statement about how the plan relates to countywide planning policies, VISION 2050, and planning requirements of the Growth Management Act 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordinate with other jurisdictions, agencies, tribes, ports, military installations, special purpose districts, and adjacent regions (RCW 36.70A.070(6)(a)(v), MPP-RC-1, RC-4-5) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize services and access to opportunity for people of color, people with low incomes, and historically underserved communities to ensure all people can attain the resources and opportunities to improve quality of life and address past inequities (MPP-RC-2) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address land use, transportation, and housing opportunities and challenges related to military installations, when applicable (MPP-RC-6) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prioritize investments in centers, including regional centers, countywide centers, high-capacity transit areas with a station area plan, and other local centers (MPP-RC-8-9) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore funding sources, changes to regulatory, pricing, taxing, and expenditure practices, and other fiscal tools to meet infrastructure and other needs (MPP-RC-10-11, RC-Action-7, RC-Action-9) 	

Additional comments on Regional Collaboration or additional documents to share [optional]: _____



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Data and Research



Equity Tracker (Upcoming Spring 2023)

Public facing dashboard that quantifies equity related policies in VISION 2050 to track, explain, and share solutions for disparities.



Data and Analysis

Conduct research on racial equity and provide data support for other REAP teams.



Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report (Upcoming Spring 2023)

Historical overview of structural racism in the Puget Sound region and how this history informs existing disparities.



Community Engagement



Equity Advisory Committee (Launched Fall 2021)

Co-create products with staff and the Executive Board, as well as advise PSRC committees and boards on policies and programs with an equity lens.



Anti-Displacement Organizations Report (Upcoming Spring 2023)

Develop a directory to connect member agencies and interested parties to organizations that are developing locally appropriate and community-driven solutions for displacement. Explore potential opportunities to support these efforts.



Equitable Engagement Guidance (Available Now)

An equitable engagement guidebook that empowers member agencies and PSRC staff to develop and implement engagement plans for marginalized communities.



Best Practices



Racial Equity Impact Assessment (Upcoming Spring 2023)

Help cities and counties assess the impact of planning initiatives and implementation efforts on different populations.



Equity Planning Guidance (Upcoming Fall 2022)

A resource for cities and counties to address racial disparities in housing, transportation, and other policies and planning.

Looking Ahead to 2023

- Complete Regional Equity Strategy
- 2023 EAC cohort will include five new members
- Project Selection Equity Pilot Program begins in January
- Co-create workplan



2023 Work Program-Equity Pilot Program

New set-aside for an Equity Pilot Program

- **For the 2022 process \$6 million are set aside for a new Equity Pilot Program.**
 - *This amount equals 5% of the total FHWA Funds*
- **The EAC will develop this pilot starting in January 2023, with the following scope:**
 - *Evaluate the outcomes of the 2022 project selection process and the effectiveness of the revisions to the equity and safety criteria*
 - *Advise on the scope, eligibility and criteria for the equity pilot competition*
 - *Advise on procedural roles and responsibilities for conducting the competition*



Other Potential Topics for 2023

- Regional Safety Plan
- Zero Emissions Vehicle Strategic Plan
- Household Transportation Survey
- Regional Housing Strategy Implementation
- Equity in Procurement and Contracting



Thank you

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning

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Puget Sound Regional Council