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Welcome to PSRC's comprehensive planning newsletter, highlighting information on resources for local plan updates and the plan review process. *Please forward this newsletter on to others who may be interested – new readers can [subscribe](#) here. You can unsubscribe at any time from this list by clicking “unsubscribe” at the bottom of this email.*

Contact Maggie Moore at mmoore@psrc.org with suggestions, questions, or comments.

New Housing Resources

There is a lot of talk about housing and local comprehensive plans. PSRC and the Washington State Department of Commerce have been developing guidance documents and webinars to help you in your work.

PSRC recently published the draft [2022 Housing Element Guide](#) to help local cities develop effective housing elements for their comprehensive plans that address housing choices and affordability. This builds on the 2014 PSRC Housing Element Guide and includes updated information on new requirements in the Growth Management Act, regional policy direction in VISION 2050, and lessons learned and best practices from the last major periodic updates.

The Department of Commerce is working on Racially Disparate Impact Guidance to support housing element updates. The guidance will address new requirements regarding racially disparate impacts in housing, exclusion, and displacement risk.

A Passport to 2044 webinar on displacement and racially disparate impacts was held in October 2022. This is the first of two housing focused webinars. Watch the webinar recording and browse the resources on [PSRC's website](#).

Register now! On February 15, PSRC and the Department of Commerce are holding a virtual Passport to 2044 webinar on housing need and capacity.

Passport Series Continues

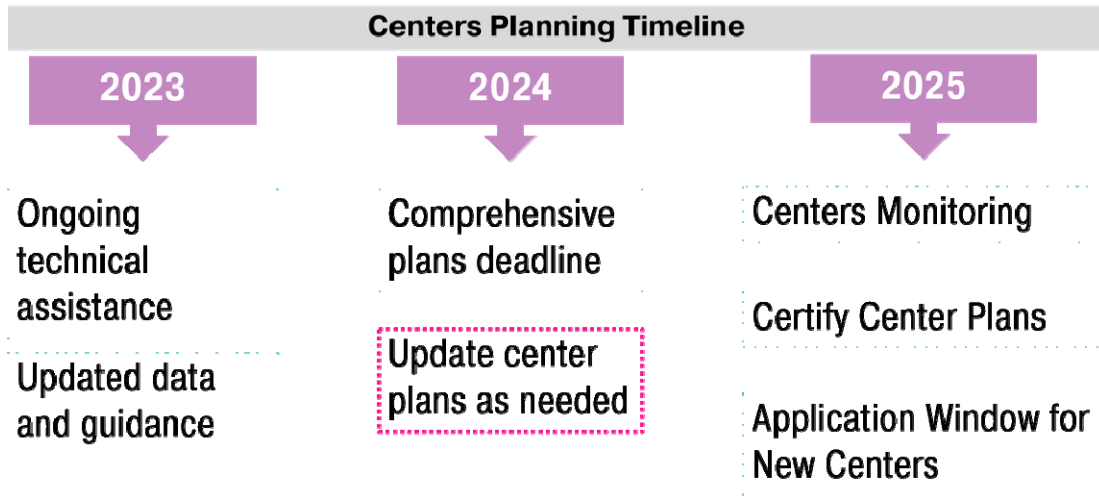
2022 was a busy year for PSRC and the Passport to 2044 series! In partnership with Commerce and MRSC, we hosted nine events on topics ranging from climate change to economic development and more. These events had over 1,000 attendees from cities and counties in our region, multiple consulting firms, and others. Thank you for joining us!



There's more to come in 2023. In addition to the Housing Needs and Capacity event in February, PSRC is planning for another workshop on equity and one specifically tailored for elected officials and planning commissioners. More information on future topic-specific workshops and resources is available on the [PSRC website](#).

2025 - A Year for Designated Regional Centers!

While local comprehensive plan updates are getting underway, this is a great time to be thinking about our region’s 39 designated centers.



In 2025, PSRC will conduct a monitoring review to ensure that all existing regional centers fully meet eligibility and designation criteria similar to new centers. These requirements include local commitment, an updated subarea plan, and other criteria as documented in the [Regional Centers Framework Update](#). Learn more about requirements and process from the December 2022 [Passport to 2044: TOD & Centers](#) webinar.

Considering a designated regional center in your community? Review the [eligibility requirements](#) and contact PSRC staff for more information and to chat about the process. The comp plan process is also a great time to consider the role of countywide and local centers in your planning.

Expand Early Coordination in Your Planning

As the regional planning agency PSRC is all about coordination, and we want to share that spirit and encourage you to coordinate with state agencies and other governments during the scoping and update of your comprehensive plan and associated SEPA activities. Materials should be submitted to the Department of Commerce through the [PlanView](#) system. Plans can also be submitted to WSDOT for early coordination to the NW Region (King and Snohomish) or the Olympic Region (Kitsap and Pierce) by email (NWRCCompPlanSupport@wsdot.wa.gov or ORPlanView@wsdot.wa.gov). PSRC’s recent [Tribal Coordination guidance](#) also highlights requirements and recommendations to coordinate with tribal governments. This guidance is currently being updated to reflect updates from local tribes – stay tuned for more information!

New Guidance Documents and Resources from PSRC

- [Climate Change and Resilience Guidance](#)

Provides guidance on incorporating climate related policies and actions in VISION 2050 into local planning. Learn more from the recording and presentation materials of the August 2022 [Passport to 2044: Climate webinar](#).

- [PSRC Plan Review and Comprehensive Plans FAQ](#)
Includes frequently asked questions on PSRC's plan review process and local comprehensive planning. PSRC will continue to update this document so keep asking your questions to planreview@psrc.org!
- [Community Profiles](#)
Provides data snapshots for all 86 cities and counties in the central Puget Sound region. Peruse the profiles to find data on housing, employment, people, and transportation in your community and others in the region.
- [VISION 2050 Comprehensive Plan Consistency Tool](#)
Planning checklist to help cities and counties integrate VISION 2050 into their local comprehensive plans. Planners are encouraged to use the tool to scope the extent of plan element updates. More information is included in the [Plan Review Manual](#).
- [Commerce Growth Management Act Periodic Update](#)
The WA Department of Commerce recently updated its planning checklists for fully planning cities and counties. Check out their website for more information on state requirements and funding for the periodic update.
- [WSDOT Land Use & Transportation Planning Resources](#)
WSDOT provides a list of resources to assist cities and counties with their GMA Comprehensive Plan updates. Also includes a list of email addresses for support by region.

Links and Contacts

- [PSRC Plan Review Website](#)
- [Planning Resources](#)
- For questions about PSRC's plan review newsletter or work program, please contact Maggie Moore at mmoore@psrc.org.



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