



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, March 2, 2023 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Optional: Post-Meeting Q&A from 7:30-8:00 pm

1. Welcome (5:30) – *Shannon Turner, Co-Chair*

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for February 2, 2023*
- b. Staff Announcements & Co-Chair Selection Update* – *Charles Patton, PSRC*

3. Discussion Item (6:00)

- a. Project Selection Process and Equity: Project Evaluation Simulation* – *Kelly McGourty & Charles Patton, PSRC*

4. Break (6:45)

5. Discussion Item (6:55)

- a. Project Selection Process and Equity: Project Evaluation Simulation cont.*
–*Kelly McGourty & Charles Patton, PSRC*

6. Information Item

- a. Joint Board Session on ACT, Friday, April 28, 10:00 am -12:00 pm

7. Zoom Poll (7:25)

8. Adjourn (7:30)

9. Next meeting: April 6, 2023

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

*Supporting materials attached.

Members can access the attendance sheet [here](#) to complete and submit to finance@psrc.org for compensation.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join the webinar, please click the following link: <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/82850548613?pwd=SZZMK0d2bEtrWm1CSjl4N3ByeXJNQT09> and enter Passcode: 441512.
- To join by phone, call 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: 828 5054 8613 and Passcode: 441512.
- For TTY-based telecommunications relay service dial 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/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: February 2, 2023

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the [Equity Advisory Committee webpage](#). Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

EAC Meet and Greet

Shannon Turner, from Kitsap County, and Charles Patton, PSRC, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The co-chair welcomed everyone, and asked Mikayla to begin the roll call for attendance.

Staff Announcements & Co-Chair Selection Update

Charles shared that PSRC is leading a series of equity workshops for board members, including the upcoming, Joint Board Session on Interpersonal Racism, scheduled for April 28. He reminded members that instead of conducting a community event report out during EAC meetings, members are asked to share PDF fliers for events with Mikayla to include in following agenda packets. Charles shared information about HB 1474 SB 5496, a bill addressing home ownership disparities for communities systematically impacted by discriminatory housing practices in Washington state. Lastly, Charles briefed the committee on the EAC co-chair selection process and provided members with next steps.

Project Selection Process and Equity: Review of PSRC's Current Process Continued

Staff continued briefing members on the current PSRC project selection process. The discussion included an in-depth review of the equity criteria strengthened in 2022 and an assessment of the projects awarded funding from an equity lens.

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

Questions? Contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org.

Project Selection Process and Equity: Learning from Other MPOs

Staff informed the committee of how other Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPOs) across the country have incorporated equity in the project selection process, and asked for thoughts on what strategies might be useful for PSRC to consider.

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

Questions? Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org.

Adjourn

At the close of the meeting, members participated in a poll to evaluate the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Members Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC

Charles Patton, PSRC

Noah Boggess, PSRC

Kelly McGourty, PSRC

Ben Bakkenta, PSRC

Violet Kashewa

Laurie Arnold, Clarity Consulting NW

PSRC Equity Advisory Committee - Attendance Roster

Jurisdiction	Member				
King County	Annie Tran	1			
	Ben Sung Henry	1			
	Debbie Lacy	1			
	Hien "Elly" Trinh				
	Julia Jannon-Shields	1			
	Lalita Uppala				
	Lisa Espinosa	1			
	Megan Espinoza	1			
	Thanh Nguyen	1			
	Kitsap County	Jewel Sheperd-Sampson	1		
Shannon Turner		1			
Pierce County	Brendan Nelson	1			
	Julius Moss	1			
	Laurenne Sayles	1			
Snohomish County	Autrina Martindale	1			
	Lupe Valtierra-Prieto				
	Michelle Stewart	1			
	Mindy Woods	1			
Total Members		Attended	15		



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

March 2, 2023

TO: Equity Advisory Committee
FROM: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning
SUBJECT: **Project Selection Evaluation Simulation**

IN BRIEF

Between January and September 2023, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) will work with PSRC staff to review PSRC's current project selection process as it relates to equity, and ultimately develop an equity pilot program to distribute approximately \$6 million of PSRC's 2025-2026 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds. The EAC will also develop recommendations for potential further equity improvements in future PSRC project selection processes.

During the upcoming meeting of the Equity Advisory Committee, members will continue the briefing on the current PSRC project selection process. The discussion will also include a simulation of the current PSRC scoring and evaluation process. Members will evaluate transportation projects from previous years to get more familiar with the process.

DISCUSSION

PSRC conducts a project selection process to distribute federal transportation funds every two years. The process and the criteria used to evaluate every project is based on policies and outcomes detailed in [VISION 2050](#) and the [Regional Transportation Plan](#). These include elements such as accessibility, multimodal mobility, safety, equity and climate, as well as financial and project readiness considerations.

In addition to substantial improvements to how equity was incorporated into the existing project selection process, as part of the 2022 *Policy Framework* approximately \$6 million of PSRC's FHWA funds were set aside for an Equity Pilot Program. The EAC is asked to co-create this program, developing the parameters by which projects would be selected for funding, with an overarching focus on improving equity with transportation investments.

During the January meeting, members of the Equity Advisory Committee were provided an overview of the current project selection process and outcomes. These discussions were complemented by the February meeting, where members heard examples of how other MPOs have incorporated equity into their project selection process.

During the March meeting, EAC members will walk through a simulation of the current PSRC scoring and evaluation process. Members will evaluate transportation projects from previous years to get more familiar with the process. More specifically, members will 1) hear an overview of how PSRC currently evaluates transportation projects related to equity (i.e., PSRCs rubric), 2) view example responses to the equity related questions, 3) be asked to evaluate the example responses with and without the PSRC rubric, 4) hear how PSRC scored each example response.

After the presentation, members will be asked the following questions:

- What's missing from our current process? Are there any issues with our current process?
- How should our current Equity Criteria questions be altered?
- Do you have any suggestions for how we can improve our rubric?
- Which types of transportation projects offer the most equitable outcomes?

For reference, the materials related to the project selection evaluation process may be found on the [January](#) and [February](#) EAC webpages. The rubric can be found on the [Regional FHWA Project Evaluation Criteria](#) (see pgs. 10 – 12). And the 2022 transportation project applications can be found on the [Regional FHWA Applications](#) webpage.

Next Steps

The next meeting of the Equity Advisory Committee will be held on April 6, 2023. During this meeting, members will begin the process of co-creating the Equity Pilot Program, which will help shape the future of project selection at PSRC.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives, at cpatton@psrc.org.

Joint Board Session on ACT

Affirm, Counter, Transform

Friday, April 28

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Hybrid Meeting



Puget Sound Regional Council

The joint board session will cover how to apply ACT (Affirm, Counter, Transform) as a tool to address challenging conversations about racial equity and educate others about the topic. The session will provide board members with the opportunity to practice applying ACT to racial equity issues impacting our region today.

All PSRC board members are highly encouraged to attend. You do not need to have attended a past session to participate.

RSVP information coming soon.

