



Big Topics in Local Comprehensive Plans

May 18, 2023



Puget Sound Regional Council



Washington State
Department of
Commerce

Key Issues for Plan Updates



- Lots of interest and questions about plan updates!
- Starting place to highlight the topics we are hearing about the most
- Comp plans cover a lot of topics, many shared issues across the region
- City and county staff are your local experts





state city term airport
rural development action transit balancing
land climate process engagement
public transportation comp comprehensive
policy needs middle housing plan esp etc use new displacement requirements
elements legislation updates element participation
density hb areas changes best
change toward planning trees plans
cities community issues funding update
services

PSRC & Local Jurisdictions



- PSRC has met with close to 70% of jurisdictions
- 10 Passport to 2044 events with over 1,000 attendees

VISION 2050 Planning Resources
Equitable Engagement for Comprehensive Plans
JULY 2022

The Growth Management Act establishes a baseline for public participation as a component of the planning process. However, many traditional methods and approaches do not facilitate effective engagement with historically impacted communities.

Traditional outreach methods, such as online open houses, public hearings, and online surveys, often only reach a subset of community members. These community members are typically those who are already familiar with the local planning process and have the time to stay up to date with what is happening. As a result, many planning processes fail to adequately consider the perspectives of marginalized communities most impacted by planning decisions. This can lead to additional burdens on impacted communities, exacerbating disparities in the region.

VISION 2050 calls for PSRC to develop a regional equity strategy with tools, resources and strategies for centering equity, including best practices for ensuring equitable engagement. This guide is intended to help consider new strategies and practices to build a foundation of equitable engagement for comprehensive planning efforts.

This guide includes four recommendations for conducting equitable engagement most impacted, develop public engagement goals and outcomes, establish needs and remove barriers to engagement. Each of these considerations includes an ed to carry out engagement, and questions to consider. This guide can be used as an engagement. Resources linked throughout the document provide additional info these strategies.

VISION 2050 Planning Resources | Equitable Engagement for Comprehensive Plans |

VISION 2050 Planning Resources
Coordination with Tribes in Comprehensive Planning

Tribes of the Salish Sea

The central Puget Sound region is a part of a larger area that has been the traditional aboriginal territory of the Coast Salish peoples. The Coast Salish Tribes have lived here since time immemorial and while each Tribe is unique, all share in having a deep historical connection and legacy of respect for the land and natural resources. These sovereign Tribal Nations enrich the region through environmental stewardship, cultural heritage, and economic development, and collaborate with local governments to shape the region's future.

Under treaties signed with the United States in the 1850s, many Tribes in the region ceded most of the state of Washington, but in exchange reserved fishing and hunting rights including off-reservation rights to fish in all usual and accustomed fishing grounds and the right to hunt and gather on open and unclaimed lands.

PSRC recognizes and respects the full sovereignty of each Tribe and its traditional lands located within the jurisdictional boundaries of PSRC members. By law, Tribal sovereignty must be observed and protected. As sovereign nations, each Tribe has its own form of government, constitution or charter, laws, and planning processes.

VISION 2050 Planning Resources | Coordination with Tribes in Comprehensive Planning |



PUBLIC SQUARE

Key Topics in Comprehensive Plans

Community Engagement



- Traditional outreach methods often only reach a subset of community members
- New models for community engagement exist in our region
- Many jurisdictions are going above and beyond requirements to hear from more community members





Resources to Learn More

- ▷ PSRC: [Equitable Community Engagement for Comprehensive Plans](#)
- ▷ MRSC: [Equitable Community Engagement](#)
- ▷ IAP2: [Public Participation Toolbox](#)

Key Questions for Local Plans

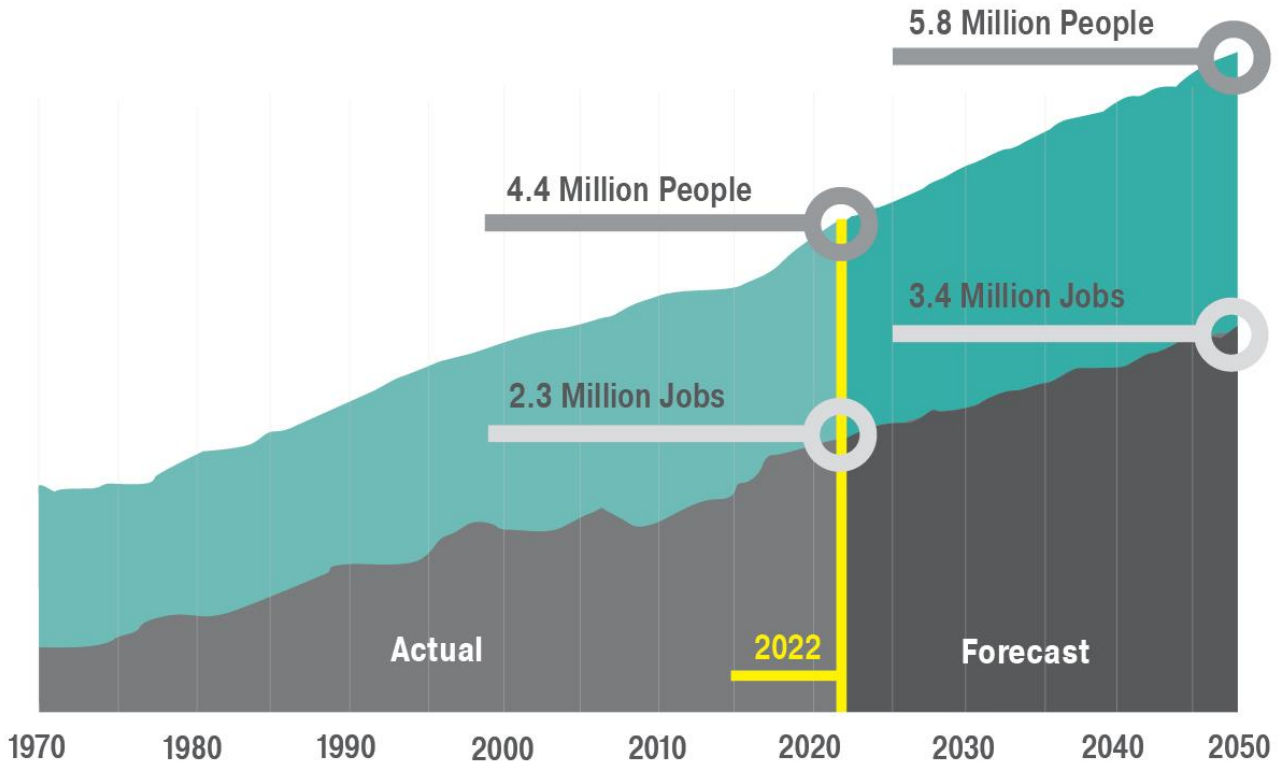
- Who has not been included in the planning process?
- What tools can your community use to hear from more people?
- How are you reflecting community input in the plan?

Regional Growth



- We're planning for 1.4 million more people
- VISION 2050 establishes a framework for regional growth
- 2044 population, housing, and employment growth targets for communities have been set through the countywide process

Historic and Forecast Regional Population and Employment Growth



Source: PSRC, 2018 Regional Macroeconomic Forecast



Resources to Learn More

- ▷ Growth Targets:
 - ▷ [King](#)
 - ▷ [Kitsap](#)
 - ▷ [Pierce](#)
 - ▷ [Snohomish](#)
- ▷ PSRC: [TOD guidance](#)

Key Questions for Local Plans

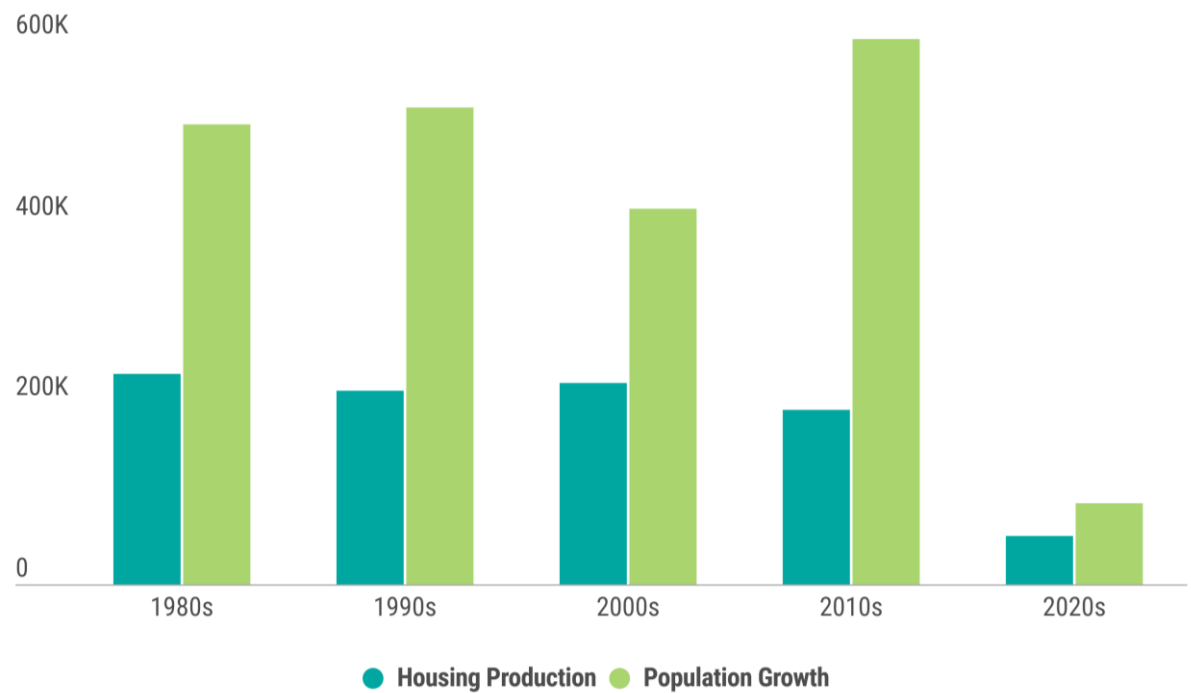
- Where do you want growth in your community and what should it look like?
- How is your community supporting growth in downtowns, other centers, and areas well-served by transit?

Housing Affordability



- We need 800k more housing units, and region is behind on housing production
- Housing requirements have changed since the last update
- Many communities will need more capacity and new tools for affordability

Population Growth vs Housing Production by Decade





Resources to Learn More

- ▷ Commerce: [Planning for Housing](#)
- ▷ PSRC: [Housing Incentives and Tools Survey](#)
- ▷ PSRC: [Housing Innovations Program](#)

Key Questions for Local Plans

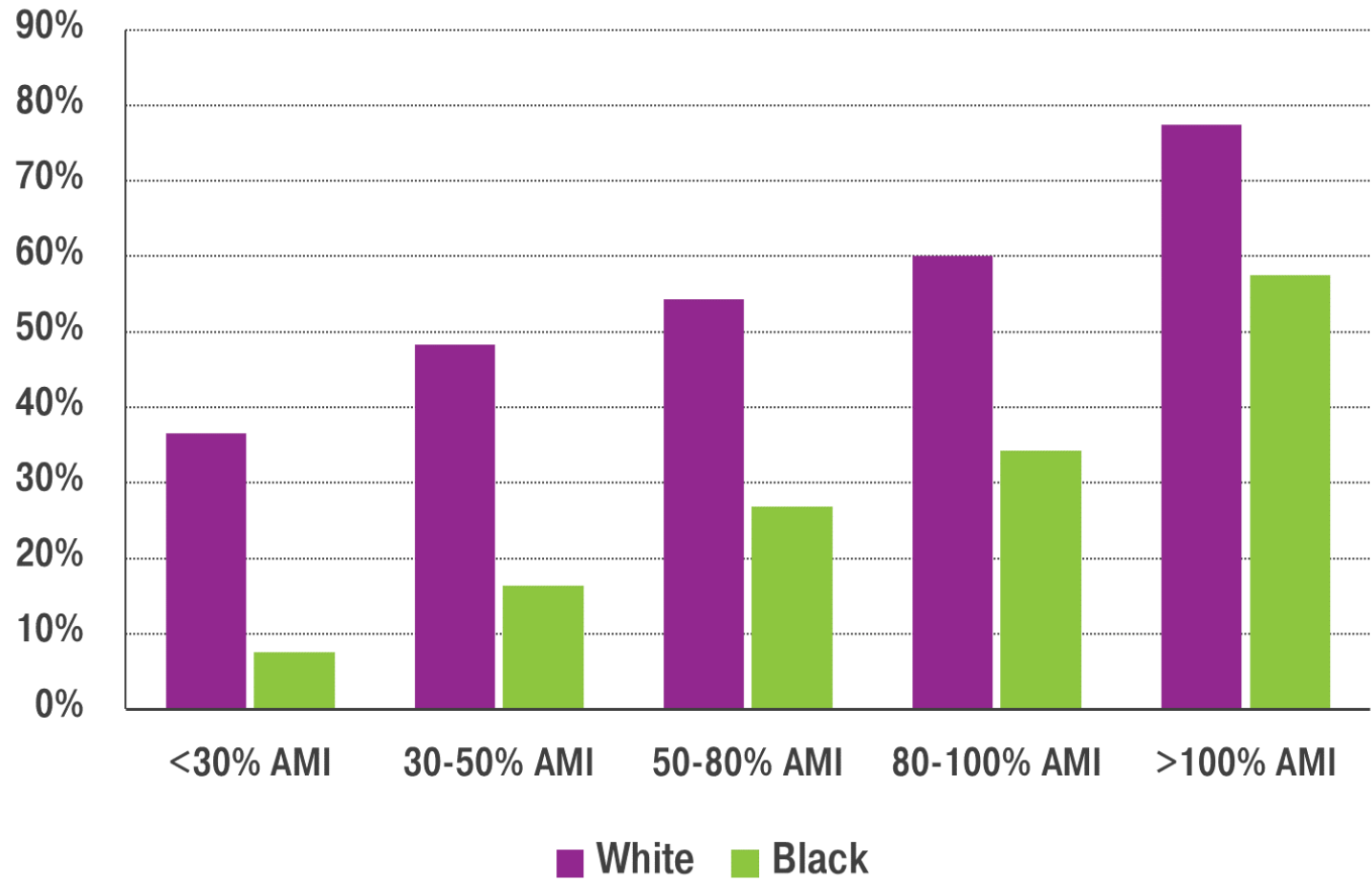
- How much housing does your community need to plan for?
- What barriers exist today for developing more affordable housing?
- What tools for housing affordability does has your community adopted?
- How does your community envision meeting your housing needs?

Racial Inequities



- Past and current housing practices have perpetuated substantial inequities in wealth, ownership, and opportunity
- BIPOC households tend to pay a greater share of their income on housing than white households

Homeownership by Race/Ethnicity and Income, 2013–2017





Resources to Learn More

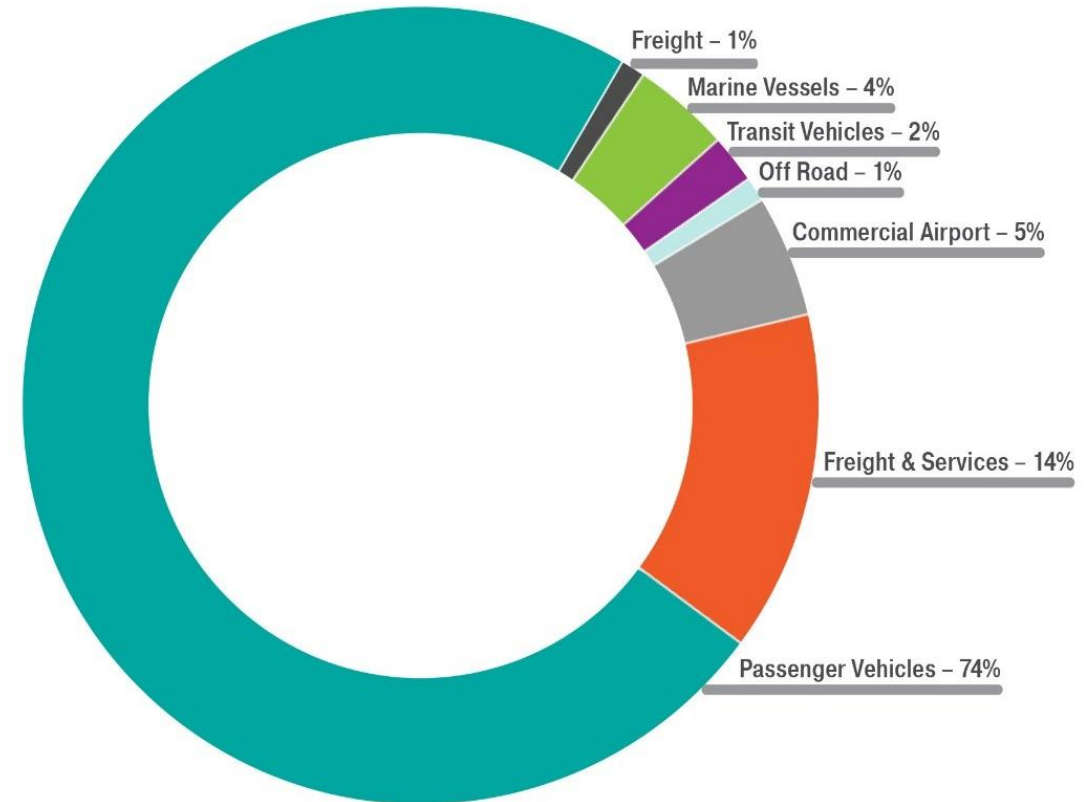
- ▷ PSRC: [Planning for Equity](#)
- ▷ Commerce: [Racially Disparate Impacts Guidance](#)
- ▷ King County: [Resources for Documenting the Local History of Racially Exclusive and Discriminatory Land Use and Housing Practices](#)

Key Questions for Local Plans

- What is the displacement risk in your community?
- What is your community doing to assess disparities that exist today?
- Has your jurisdiction committed to prioritizing equity and eliminating past harms?

- Urgent environmental, economic, and equity threat requiring coordinated action
- Substantial emission reduction goals for 2030 and 2050
- VISION addresses climate change
- New legislation (HB 1181) will require a stand-alone climate element by 2029

Sources of Transportation Emissions



SOURCE: Puget Sound Clean Air Agency Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

Resources to Learn More

- ▷ [Commerce comprehensive plan guidance \(draft\)](#)
 - ▷ [Menu of model policies](#)
- ▷ [PSRC Climate Change guidance](#)
- ▷ [Puget Sound Hazard Mapping](#)
- ▷ [County Emissions Inventory](#)
- ▷ [Passport to 2044 recording](#)

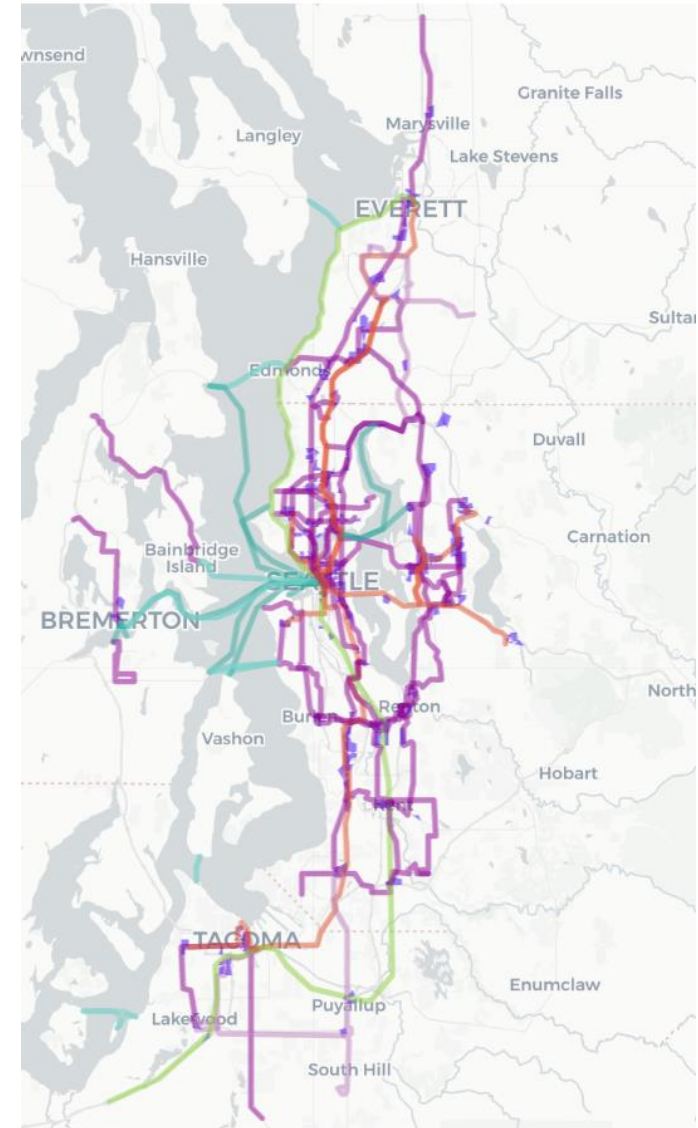
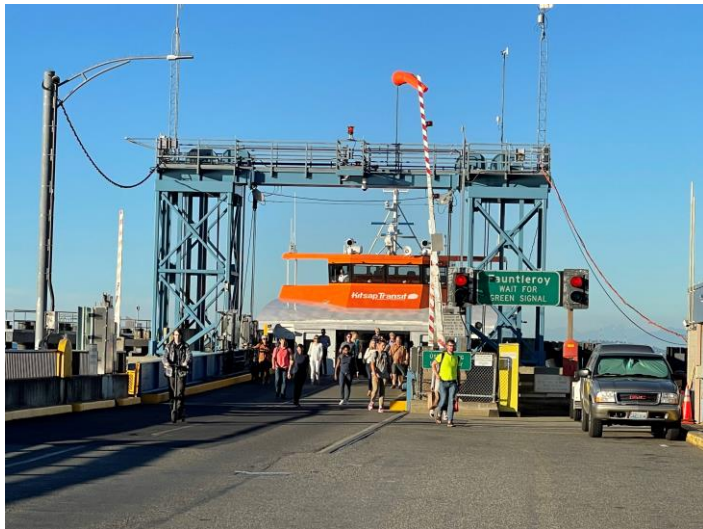
Key Questions for Local Plans

- What are the biggest climate hazards for your community?
- What strategies is your jurisdiction using to reduce transportation-related emissions?
- Do you have a climate element in your existing comprehensive plan?

Transit Investments



- The region is making generational investments in high-capacity transit
- The Regional Growth Strategy has ambitious goals for growth around transit
- All communities should be planning for transit





Resources to Learn More

- ▷ PSRC: [Transportation Visualization Tool](#)
- ▷ PSRC: [Transportation Guidance](#)
- ▷ Commerce: [Transportation Element Guide](#)

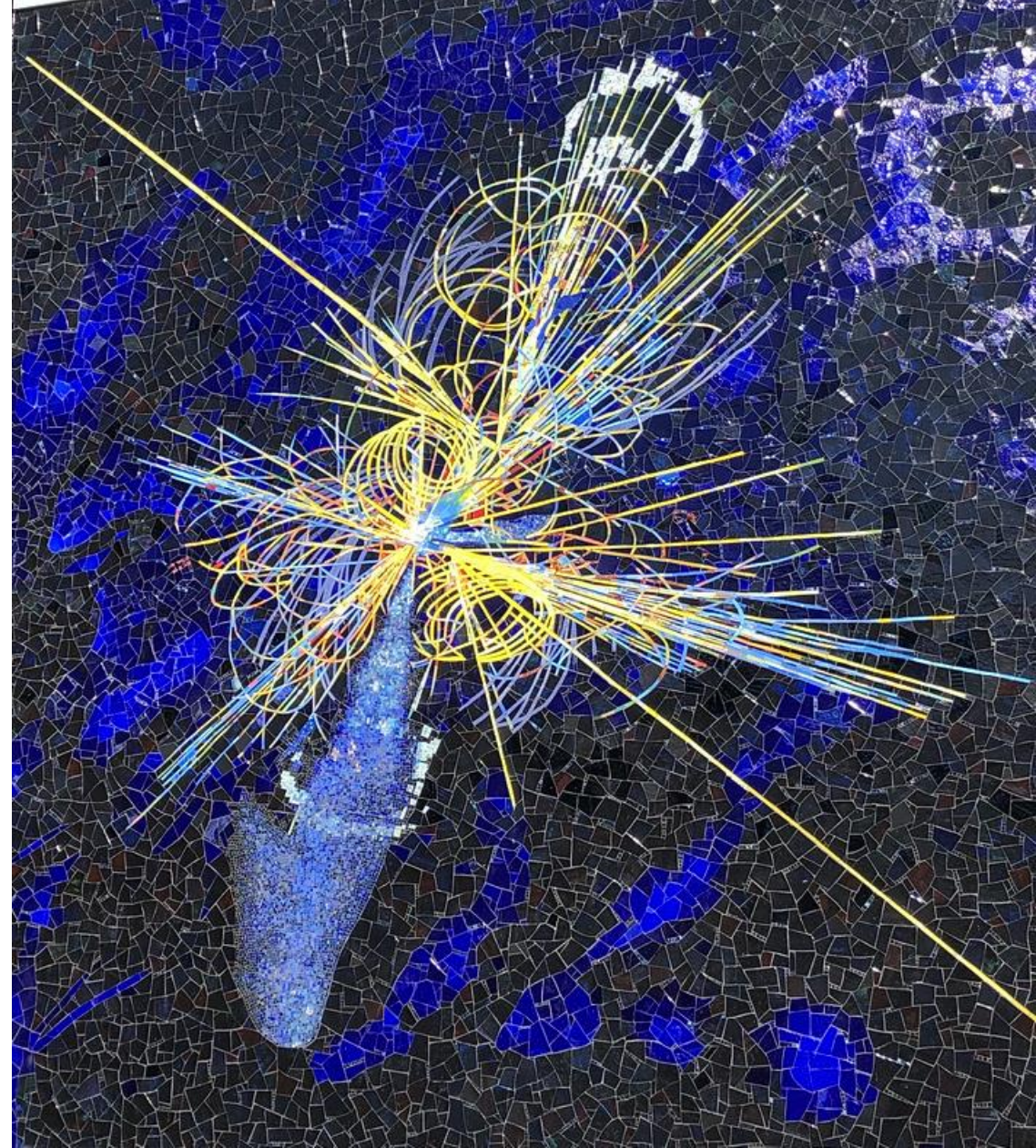
Key Questions for Local Plans

- What should transit in your community look like?
- What multimodal investments is your community making to support transit, walking and biking?
- How are you working with transit agencies and other partners?

Your Opportunity



- The region is growing and changing
- Every community has a role to play
- Shared goals around climate change
- Urgent need for more affordable housing
- Major public investments in transportation





Thank you!

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