



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### **Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only**

**Date: Thursday, June 1, 2023 from 5:30-7:30 pm**

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

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**1. Welcome (5:30)** – *Shannon Turner & Julius Moss, Co-Chairs*

**2. Reports**

- a. Meeting Summary for May 4, 2023\*
- b. EAC Member Announcements\*
- c. Staff Announcements

**3. Discussion Item (6:00)**

- a. Equity Tracker Update\* – *Brian Lee & Mary Richards, PSRC*

**4. Discussion Item (6:15)**

- a. Equity Planning Resources Next Steps\* – *Liz Underwood-Bultmann & Erin Hogan, PSRC*

**5. Break (6:35)**

**6. Discussion Item (6:45)**

- a. Public Participation Plan Follow Up\* – *Michele Leslie & Noah Boggess, PSRC*

**7. Zoom Poll (7:25)**

**8. Adjourn (7:30)**

**9. Next meeting: July 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](mailto:finance@psrc.org) for compensation.

### **Zoom Remote Connection Details**

- To join the webinar, please click the following link: <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/88120414714?pwd=bGRXQkFpeVFBTmJ2KytvNmQrUGhtZz09> and enter Passcode: 498368.
- To join by phone, call 877 853 5257 US Toll Free or 888 475 4499 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 881 2041 4714 and Passcode: 498368.
- 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: May 4, 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.

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#### **Welcome**

Julius Moss, from Pierce County, and Shannon Turner, from Kitsap County, 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**

Charles did not have any staff announcements, but asked Noah to share announcements regarding the Summer Planning Academy. Noah reminded members to share the application with their communities and networks and gave a brief overview of some of the tours that students will be attending as part of the program. He also shared that the age range was lowered to 15 years old and above, to allow rising high school freshman to participate too. More information can be found at <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/summer-planning-academy>.

#### **Equity Pilot Program Co-Creation**

Members revisited the feedback they shared during the May EAC meeting. Following this brief review, members continued the process of co-creating the Equity Pilot Program.

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

Questions? Contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at [kmcgourty@psrc.org](mailto:kmcgourty@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.

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#### **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  
Sandy  
Crystal Koch, Health District  
Nancy Buonanno Grennan, PSRC





# JUNETEENTH

— FREEDOM CELEBRATION —

## Thursday, June 15th

5 to 8 p.m. at Tollefson Plaza (1548 Commerce St.)



Family Friendly Celebration with  
music and performances.

**MAYOR WOODARDS, C. IVAN JOHNSON,  
POET LAUREATE CHRISTIAN PAGE**

AND THE ARTIST COLLECTIVE - CREATIVE DIRECTION BY KENYA ADAMS

Add your Handprint to the Black Lives Matter Mural, designed by mural artist Dionne Bonner

Bajan Station Caribbean Food

**Free entry** to Tacoma Art Museum

TACOMA  
ART  
MUSEUM





# Puget Sound Regional Council

## DISCUSSION ITEM

June 1, 2023

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Brian H. Y. Lee, Ph.D., Program Manager, PSRC

**SUBJECT:** Updates on the Development of the Equity Tracker

## IN BRIEF

PSRC staff met with the committee three times in 2022 about the Equity Tracker: in February to provide an introduction, in April to discuss key design elements (data, context, and solutions), and in October to review feedback from members on draft webpages. In this June session, staff will report on progress made since last fall and provide updates on the development process.

## DISCUSSION

### Background

PSRC is developing an Equity Tracker centered on [VISION 2050](#). It will use data to help measure wellbeing for different communities in our region. This resource will track progress on equity-related [VISION 2050](#) goals and policies and help hold PSRC and others accountable as we work towards a region where race no longer predicts life outcomes and people have improved choices and opportunities.

The Equity Tracker will complement existing PSRC [Data](#) and [Equity](#) resources, which support agency work programs and help center equity in regional plans and strategies. As a pillar of the Data and Research component of the [Regional Equity Strategy](#), the Equity Tracker will help elevate equity in agency work. Further, it will enhance PSRC's ability to support members and stakeholders in pursuit of their own equity objectives.

PSRC staff is taking an iterative approach to develop the Equity Tracker and starting with a bounded set of priorities for the initial version. We envision subsequent versions to include additional features and functionalities.

### Engagement with the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC)

In the [February 2022 EAC meeting](#), PSRC staff introduced the Equity Tracker project and discussed with members about options for future engagement. Members,

- Expressed a desire to learn more about “data, context, and solutions,” the three main components for each life outcome being measured and tracked; and

- Identified testing draft products and providing feedback on specific materials through surveys as top choices for involvement in the development process.

Based on their feedback, PSRC staff provided members with additional details on the data, context, and solutions elements of the Equity Tracker in the [April 2022 EAC meeting](#). Subsequently, we offered an opportunity for members to examine draft webpages, provide feedback on their experiences accessing various data, and offer suggestions on content.

In the [October 2022 EAC meeting](#), PSRC staff reviewed what we heard from members regarding the draft webpages and how the feedback was shaping development. We also discussed the new PSRC website, data preparation work to help improve measurements of disparities, and research on environmental and climate-related data.

In this June session, PSRC staff will report on development progress made since October. They include new draft webpages within the framework of the new PSRC website and updates on data indicators.

### **Next Steps**

PSRC staff will continue to develop the Equity Tracker and engage with EAC members again when we have updates.

### **Lead Staff**

For more information, please contact Brian H. Y. Lee, Ph.D., Program Manager, at [BLee@psrc.org](mailto:BLee@psrc.org), or Mary Richards, Associate Planner, at [MRichards@psrc.org](mailto:MRichards@psrc.org).





# Puget Sound Regional Council

## DISCUSSION ITEM

June 1, 2023

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee

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

**SUBJECT: Equity Planning Resources for Comprehensive Planning – Next Steps**

## IN BRIEF

A year ago, PSRC staff introduced the Equity Planning Resources component of the Regional Equity Strategy implementation work and received feedback from the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) on the approach for this project. Since then, staff have worked on Phase 1 of the project, consulting the EAC at key milestones for input. At the June meeting, PSRC staff will provide an update on Phase 1 and ask for input from the committee on Phase 2 of this work.

## DISCUSSION

The purpose of the Equity Planning Resources is to support integrating equity considerations and measures into local plans and policies. Phase 1 of this work was focused on developing resources specifically for comprehensive plans, a key piece of local planning work that sets priorities for a jurisdiction and guides ordinances, zoning, and other policies consistent with VISION 2050. Updates to comprehensive plans are certified by PSRC and must be completed by December 2024.

The full draft of the [Equity Planning Resources for Comprehensive Plans](#) document was posted on PSRC's website in early May. The resources include local examples, policy guides, and data resources to advance equity-oriented policies in VISION 2050. Staff are in the process of finalizing the document and will share how committee feedback was incorporated in the project and the approach for sharing resources with local planners throughout the region.

Feedback from the EAC last year indicated there may be more work to the Equity Planning Resources beyond guidance for comprehensive plans, acknowledging there are other plans and planning processes where equity could be better addressed. Transportation planning processes, with an emphasis on transit equity, were identified

as a potential area of focus. Staff will continue this conversation with the EAC at the June meeting and begin scoping out Phase 2 work.

**Next Steps**

Staff will finalize Equity Planning Resources for Comprehensive Plans, completing Phase 1 of this project, and begin scoping for Phase 2 based on feedback from the EAC.

**Lead Staff**

For more information, please contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at 206-464-6174 or [lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org](mailto:lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org) and/or Erin Hogan, Associate Planner, at 206-971-3054 or [ehogan@psrc.org](mailto:ehogan@psrc.org).



# Puget Sound Regional Council

## DISCUSSION ITEM

June 1, 2023

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee  
**FROM:** Michele Leslie, Principal Communications Manager  
**SUBJECT: Public Participation Plan**

## IN BRIEF

PSRC staff have developed a draft Public Participation Plan with input from agency boards and committees. The [draft plan](#) was reviewed by PSRC boards this spring before being released for public comment from March 23 to May 8, 2023. Staff will update the EAC on the public comments received and the next steps to finalize the plan.

## DISCUSSION

### Public Participation Plan Background

The Puget Sound Regional Council maintains a Public Participation Plan to establish consistent procedures to ensure people have opportunities to be involved in the regional planning process and provides examples of the types of tools and techniques the agency may use to communicate with the public. It is a technical document that serves as a blueprint for PSRC's engagement strategies, detailing the approaches and resources that are available to PSRC project managers. Public Participation Plans are a federal requirement for Metropolitan Planning Organizations. The goal of the Public Participation Plan is to clearly describe the methods with which PSRC staff members will engage the public on future projects. The Public Participation Plan was last updated in 2018.

### Update Process

PSRC staff members began the Plan update in Summer 2022. The update process built off the work of the Inclusive Engagement team of the Regional Equity Action Plan to include updated goals, desired outcomes, and guiding principles, as well as a suite of new techniques and best practices for engagement. These additions were shaped with EAC feedback from the July and December 2022 meetings.

The draft Plan was presented to PSRC Policy Boards before being released for public comment by the Executive Board in March 2023. The public comment period also included focus groups and direct interviews with engagement professionals throughout

the region who are well-versed in outreach techniques and could comment specifically on the agency architecture for public participation.

### **Comment Themes**

The following themes emerged from our engagement to the policy boards, public comment period, focus groups, and direct interviews:

- *Positive feedback on the increased focus on equity.* Plan outreach showed an appreciation for the increased attention to equity in the goals, desired outcomes, guiding principles, and best practices for equitable engagement.
- *Relationship building with community-based organizations.* Many comments encouraged PSRC to continue building inroads with community-based organizations throughout the region to empower their existing efforts in engaging community. This was especially discussed at our focus group with engagement professionals, all of whom stressed the importance of co-creating engagement strategies alongside organizations already embedded in communities.
- *Oral public comment at PSRC Board meetings.* One commenter suggested we move to written only comment for PSRC Board meetings.
- *Research pools.* One commenter suggested PSRC use a research pool for providing regular feedback on agency activities.
- *Other:* a few commenters shared interest in PSRC's other activities related to transportation and open space that were not relevant to the Public Participation Plan.

### **Questions for the Equity Advisory Committee**

- Are there any additional comments on the agency framework for Public Participation moving forward?
- Do you have any questions or suggestions about how to make our public comment periods open and inclusive spaces?
- What other practices can we consider in our long-term plans to engage with community members?

### **Next Steps**

PSRC staff will incorporate the edits from our public comment period into the final Public Participation Plan. This document will be presented to the Executive Board later this month with the request that the Board approve the final Plan.

**Lead Staff**

For more information, contact Michele Leslie, Principal Communications Manager, at [mleslie@psrc.org](mailto:mleslie@psrc.org) or Noah P. Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at [nboggess@psrc.org](mailto:nboggess@psrc.org).