



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, October 5, 2023 from 5:30-7:30 pm

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

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

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for September 7, 2023*
- b. EAC Member Announcements*
- c. Staff Announcements
- d. 2023-2024 EAC Board Representation

3. Discussion Item (6:00)

- a. State Legislative Agenda: Draft Policy Areas and EAC Feedback* – *Robin Koskey, PSRC*

4. Break (6:45)

5. Discussion Item (6:55)

- a. Regional Safety Plan Draft Scope of Work Outline* – *Gary Simonson, PSRC*

6. Zoom Poll (7:25)

7. Next meeting: November 2, 2023

8. Adjourn (7:30)

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/88614522111?pwd=Xa4NJyjJDSYS6PUw_zd2dgW3jR-MEA.zhC8U60BsfnsxWt6 and enter Passcode: 329196.

- To join by phone, call 833 548 0282 US Toll Free or 877 853 5257 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 886 1452 2111 and Passcode: 329196.
- For TTY-based telecommunications relay service dial 711.
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Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: September 7, 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.

Welcome

Julius Moss, from Pierce 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 demonstrated how to use the new attendance sheet on the agenda cover for members to submit to the PSRC Finance team for compensation. He also introduced Katie Enders, a new PSRC staff member on the Regional Planning team, and shared the rubric she helped co-create for evaluating applicants for the new cohort of Equity Advisory Committee members.

Equity Pilot Program: Design Review and Discussion

From January and September 2023, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) worked 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.

From July to August, a subgroup of EAC members attended staff meetings to help design the Pilot. Moving forward, the EAC will also develop recommendations for potential further equity improvements in future PSRC project selection processes.

At the September 7 meeting of the Equity Advisory Committee, members revisited the feedback they shared during these meetings. Following this brief review, members confirmed the design of the Pilot aligns with their recommendations and offered additional feedback.

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

Questions? Contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 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.

Members Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC

Charles Patton, PSRC

Katie Enders, PSRC

Doug Cox, PSRC

Casey Moreau, PSRC

Kelly McGourty, PSRC

Kia McGlone, City of Auburn

Gwen McCullough

Jean Kim, PSRC



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

September 28, 2023

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications

SUBJECT: State Legislative Agenda: Draft Policy Areas and EAC Feedback

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff have begun work to support the adoption of recommendations to the Washington State Legislature in advance of the 2024 legislative session. PSRC staff will update the Equity Advisory Committee on the process to adopt legislative priorities and seek feedback on potential legislative policy items.

DISCUSSION

Last fall, the Executive Board adopted Recommendations to the 2023 Washington State Legislature after consultation with the Economic Development District Board, Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board. The Executive Board directed staff to consult with the Equity Advisory Committee on 2024 recommendations and staff briefed EAC members on the process to adopt legislative priorities and PSRC's role at the legislature in July.

Background: PSRC Role at the State Legislature

In July PSRC staff relayed that as a regional planning agency, PSRC provides data and background information about the impact of proposed legislation to the Washington State Legislature to provide policy makers with tools to allow well-informed decision making.

Typically, PSRC remains neutral and does not sign-in to support individual policy or budget bills. If PSRC does weigh in on a bill or budget, an action by the Executive Board will be taken.

2024 Recommendations to the State Legislature:

PSRC staff propose following a similar framework to the recommendations adopted last year (2023 Recommendations to the State Legislature attached) based on adopted regional plans and policies in the following focus areas:

- **Transportation** - Keep the Region Moving
- **Housing** - Increase Housing Choices and Affordability
- **Climate** - Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- **Economic Development** – Sustain a Strong Economy

Next Steps

Staff sought input on this initial list of recommendations from the Executive Board and the Economic Development District Board in September. The Growth Management Policy Board and the Transportation Policy Board will also be briefed on the priorities in October. Staff proposes the Executive Committee will finalize recommendations based on all feedback and the Executive Board adopt the legislative priorities at the December meeting.

Discussion Question

What are your suggestions as we develop the 2024 set of recommendations to the Washington State Legislature?

Lead Staff

Questions? Contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications at rkoskey@psrc.org.

Attachment: PSRC Recommendations to the 2023 State Legislature

Recommendations to the 2023 State Legislature



The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) supports adoption of state legislation that provides an exceptional quality of life, opportunity for all, connected communities, a spectacular natural environment and an innovative, thriving economy in alignment with adopted regional plans.



Keep the Region Moving

VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan lay out a foundation for completing regional transportation investments and future work to strengthen connections to and between the region's centers. PSRC supports:

- Sustaining the transportation investments made with Move Ahead Washington during the 2021 legislative session
- Developing an equitable road usage charge (RUC) system through the work of the Washington State Transportation Commission to generate necessary revenue to eventually replace the gas tax, fund the state's long-term transportation needs, including multimodal connections and introduce revenue flexibility
- Maintain agreed upon state and local funding split decisions as agreed upon by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) workgroup

Increase Housing Choices and Affordability

PSRC's Regional Housing Strategy identifies coordinated strategies, policies, and actions to expand housing options, create greater affordability, and promote fair and equal housing access to address the housing affordability crisis in our state. The PSRC region needs to build 800,000 more homes by 2050 and 20% of these homes need to be affordable to people earning less than half of the Area Median Income. PSRC supports legislation and funding in three action areas:

- **Supply:** Build more housing of different types
- **Stability:** Provide opportunities for residents to live in housing that meets their needs
- **Subsidy:** Create and sustain long-term funding sources to create and preserve housing for very low-income households and unhoused residents

Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan outline how state, regional, and local partners can act in coordination to reduce emissions in the region and prepare for climate impacts. PSRC supports state legislation to respond to the urgent environmental, economic and equity threat of climate change in alignment with the essential components of regional long-range planning:

- Transit-focused land use
- Multimodal transportation choices
- Pricing the transportation system
- Decarbonization of the transportation system, including improvements to freight and passenger vehicles and fuels

PSRC supports state legislation to address these components to respond to the urgent environmental, economic, and equity threat of climate change.

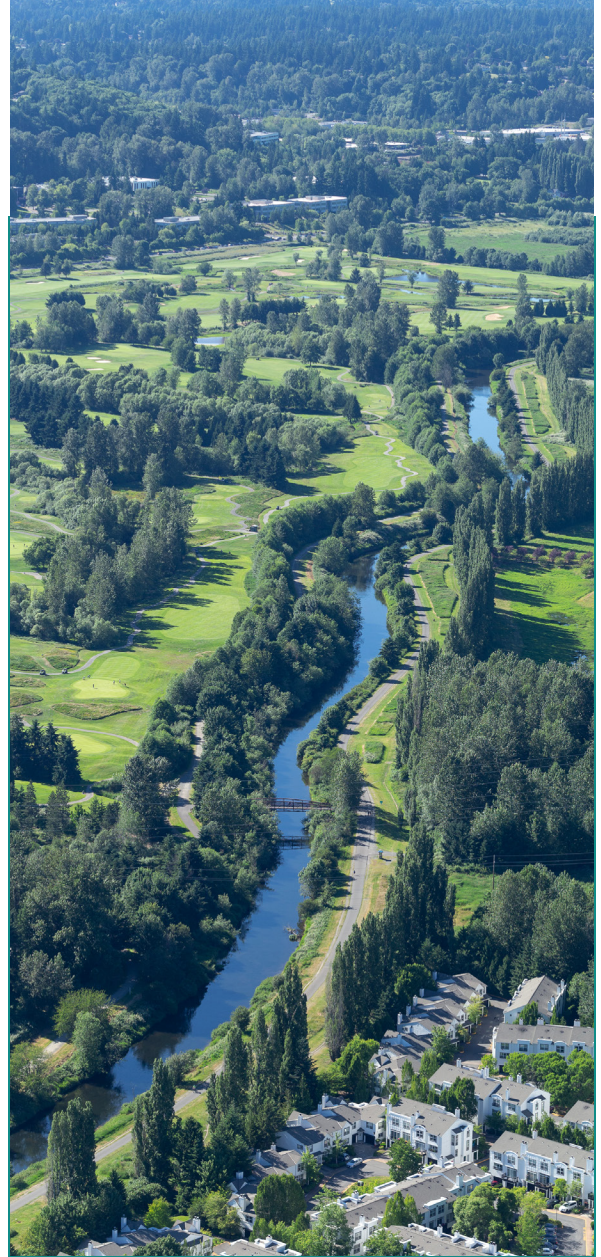
Sustain a Strong Economy

VISION 2050 and the Regional Economic Strategy plan for economic growth and opportunity that creates widespread prosperity and living-wage jobs throughout the region. PSRC supports continued investments in critical infrastructure and workforce development programs that help sustain the region's economy.

PSRC supports strong state engagement for a successful American Competitiveness Exchange (ACE) learning visit by up to 50 senior-level government, business, policy, and economic decision-makers from across the Americas exploring economic development, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the Puget Sound region.

For more information, please contact:

Robin Koskey
Director of Government Relations & Communications
RKoskey@psrc.org
206-798-4462



Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) develops policies and coordinates decisions about regional growth, transportation and economic development planning within King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties. PSRC is composed of nearly 100 members, including the four counties, cities and towns, ports, state and local transportation agencies and Tribal governments within the region.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

September 28, 2023

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Charles Patton, Program Manager, PSRC

SUBJECT: Regional Safety Plan Draft Scope of Work Outline

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff has developed a draft scope of work for a Regional Safety Plan, which is being developed through funding awarded by the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program. The Equity Advisory Committee will be briefed on the draft scope of work and have an opportunity to provide feedback at the October 5th meeting.

DISCUSSION

Traffic-related deaths and serious injuries in the central Puget Sound region have increased significantly in recent years, with all modes seeing a substantial spike. While transportation safety is an issue throughout the region and for all users of the system, the data shows that traffic deaths disproportionately impact people of color.

In order to address this massive challenge, the 2022 Regional Transportation Plan directs PSRC to develop a Regional Safety Plan, including actions, targets, and performance indicators. It also directs PSRC to seek resources for regional and local planning and projects and, going forward, to use the Regional Safety Plan to help inform future regional and local planning.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) adopted in 2021 established the new SS4A discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over five years. In 2022, PSRC, in coordination with the Cities of Burien, Everett, Kent, Redmond, Tukwila, and Pierce County, applied for the program and in February 2023 was awarded \$4.9 million for safety planning. PSRC is using its portion of grant funding to develop a Regional Safety Plan.

To better understand expectations and goals for the Regional Safety Plan, for the first time PSRC held a Regional Safety Summit on June 29, 2023. Approximately 140 participants gathered at the Seattle Convention Center to discuss transportation safety issues, challenges, and opportunities facing the region. The purpose of the summit was to bring together stakeholders – including elected officials, transportation experts,

engaged citizens, agency staff, and others – to foster a shared understanding of the state of road safety in the region and to advance the conversation on how we can best move the region forward to achieving zero fatalities and serious injuries on our roadways.

Responding to the feedback heard at the summit, as well as to components required by USDOT under the provisions of the SS4A planning grant, PSRC has developed a draft scope of work for a Regional Safety Plan. The plan is intended to follow a Safe System Approach for equitable and impactful progress on achieving the safety goals across our diverse four-county region.

Next Steps

The Equity Advisory Committee will be briefed at their meeting on October 5th and asked to provide feedback on the draft scope of work as outlined in Attachment A, per the following questions.

1. What types of transportation safety concerns and issues would you like to see addressed in the Regional Safety Action Plan?
2. How can we most effectively engage with equity populations in the region regarding the Regional Safety Plan?
3. Are there safety questions and measures you'd like to see added to the staff proposal?

Attachment A: Regional Safety Plan Draft Scope of Work Outline

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, at gsimonson@psrc.org.

ATTACHMENT A

PSRC Regional Safety Plan Draft Scope of Work Outline

Executive Summary

Chapter 1. Overview

- Introduction: What is the Regional Safety Plan?
- Safe System Approach: Key Focus, Difference from Traditional Approach
- Identify Need for the Plan. Why is the plan important?
 - High-level trends: Crashes and Serious Injuries
 - Disproportionate Impacts
 - Estimates of Cost of Crashes to Society
 - Major Issues and Challenges
- Visions and Goals: State and Regional Commitment to Zero Deaths & Fatalities, Adopted Regional Goals
- Regional Safety Action Plan Purpose – Call to Action
 - Summary of Local Safety Plan/Policy Inventory
 - Regional Culture of Safety
 - Regional vs. Local Safety Action Plans
 - Technical Assistance and Resources for Local Jurisdictions
- Oversight of Project. How was the Plan Developed?
- How is the Regional Safety Plan Structured?

Chapter 2. Safety and Equity Analyses. What and Where are the Regional Safety Issues?

- Problem Identification and Approach
 - Area Covered/Scales of Analysis
 - Data Used
 - Analysis Methods
- Common Problems – High Level Takeaways
 - Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes

- High Injury Network
- Other Issues
- High Crash Locations (HCL)/High Injury Network (HIN) for All Users, by:
 - Facility types
 - User groups – pedestrians, bicyclists, transit, vehicles, freight
 - Community context – neighborhood / land use characteristics
 - Demographics – PSRC’s 6 equity focus areas
 - Other correlations / analyses based on discovery
 - Review / analysis of associated factors
- Safe System Approach - Regional Priority Emphasis Areas. What is the data telling us / what are the priority areas?
 - Physical / Community / Population Attributes
 - Infrastructure Issues
 - Human Factors
 - Other Issues

Chapter 3. Engagement and Collaboration

- PSRC Board and Committee discussions
- Public Engagement Activities
 - Public Workshops
 - Public Events Attended/Partnerships
 - Regional Survey
 - Focus Groups
- Online Engagement
 - Online Open House
 - Social Media Engagement
- Key Additional Stakeholders on Roadway Safety
 - EMS
 - Traffic Enforcement
 - Public Health
 - Vehicle Safety
 - Roadway/Infrastructure Engineers

- NHTSA
- Other Safety Organizations
- Others?

Chapter 4. Strategies, Countermeasures, and Actions

- Safety Actions and Strategies / Proven Countermeasures
- Proposed List of Actions, Strategies, and Countermeasures to Address Identified High Crash Corridors/Areas/Contextual Locations
- Regional Data Products/Resources and Uses
 - Toolkits, regional to local scale

Chapter 5. Implementation and Next Steps

- Roles and Responsibilities of Regional Safety Stakeholders
- Call to action for development of local safety plans, other actions
- Call for analysis of regional policies and procedures
 - E.g., Updates to the RTP, project selection
- Pursuit of implementation funding
- Monitoring and Tracking