



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, January 4, 2024 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-Chair*

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for December 7, 2023*
- b. EAC Member Announcements*
- c. Staff Announcements

3. Discussion Item (5:50)

- a. Icebreakers and Quarterly Engagement Activity* – *Noah Boggess, PSRC*

4. Break (6:30)

5. Discussion Item (6:40)

- a. PSRC State Legislative Agenda* – *Robin Koskey, PSRC*

6. Discussion item (7:05)

- a. Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program* – *Kelly McGourty, PSRC*

7. Next meeting: February 1, 2024

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/82480406205?pwd=zKpKunqLwtG6BBQWkqDf33q0flzUTg.6Tc6bXKA0MEyuZN4> and enter Passcode: 805641.
- To join via phone, call 888 475 4499 US Toll Free or 833 548 0276 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 824 8040 6205 and Passcode: 805641.
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Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: December 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

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.

Shannon Turner also recognized the following outgoing members of the EAC:

- Brendan Nelson
- Dionne Bonner
- Lalita Uppala

Staff Announcements

Noah Boggess shared that throughout 2024, EAC members will join breakout sessions, which will serve as loosely structured times for the EAC to meet in groups of five and get to know one another better. Each member will have the opportunity to serve as a facilitator and will be responsible for moving the conversation along. The first breakout will be at the January 4 meeting.

Charles Patton shared the roster and biographical information of the incoming 2024 EAC members. The new committee members are:

- Amarlin Lily Distelhorst
- Corey Orvold
- Maria Fergus
- Keshreeyaji Oswal

More information can be found [here](#).

ACTION ITEM: Equity Pilot Program: Project and Policy Recommendations

The committee made recommendations to PSRC's Transportation Policy Board on both the award of funding to projects, as well as advancing a suite of equity improvements to be incorporated into PSRC's 2024 project selection process. These recommendations include:

- Weaving equity throughout the project selection process, rather than limiting it to one criterion
- Increasing the number of points allocated to the Safety criterion in the full project selection process

- Fund all the projects that were submitted and include a message on expecting better guidance from PSRC and better responses from project sponsors moving forward

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
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Noah Boggess, PSRC
Doug Cox, PSRC
April Delchamps, WSDOT



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

January 4, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist

SUBJECT: Icebreakers and Quarterly Engagement Activity

IN BRIEF

Throughout 2024, EAC members will join breakout sessions, which will serve as loosely structured times for the EAC to meet in groups of five and get to know one another better. These sessions will last about 20 minutes.

Each member will have the opportunity to serve as a facilitator and will be responsible for moving the conversation along. Facilitators will have their choice to:

- Introduce themselves to the group in more detail, sharing about their career and journey to the EAC.
- Discuss the EAC workplan, bouncing ideas off of fellow members about topics in the year to come.
- Discuss issues the region is facing (e.g. affordable housing crisis).
- Get to know the small group better and continue to break the ice with the new cohort.

January Leads Mindy Woods Debbie Lacy Autrina Martindale Michelle Stewart	March Leads Lisa Espinosa Shannon Turner Corey Orvold Hien 'Elly' Trinh	May Leads Jewel Shepherd-Sampson Megan Espinoza Thanh Nguyen Lily Distelhorst
July Leads Maria Fergus Julius Moss Lupe Valtierra-Prieto Annie Tran	October Leads Laurenne Sayles Keshreeyaji Oswal Ben Sung Henry Julia Jannon-Shields	

Staff want this lift to be as light as possible and members are not expected to spend too much time or energy preparing for it. Staff will have some questions for facilitators in the event they are unable to prepare to facilitate a meeting.

Lead Staff

Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org with questions or comments.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

January 4, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee

FROM: Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications

SUBJECT: PSRC State Legislative Agenda

IN BRIEF

The PSRC Executive Board adopted 2024 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature in December. PSRC staff will update the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) on the recommendations and changes that were made.

DISCUSSION

Last fall, when the Executive Board adopted Recommendations to the 2023 Washington State Legislature PSRC staff were directed to consult with the Equity Advisory Committee on 2024 recommendations. Staff briefed the EAC on the process to adopt legislative priorities and PSRC's role at the legislature in July and consulted with the committee on the contents of the 2024 recommendations in October. Staff will present the final 2024 recommendations included in the agenda packet.

Background: PSRC Role at the State Legislature

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.

Process to Adopt 2024 Recommendations

In addition to the EAC, PSRC staff consulted with the Executive Board, Economic Development Board, Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board on 2024 recommendations to the state legislature in September and October. Feedback from each of the policy boards, the EAC and the Executive Committee was incorporated into draft recommendations presented to the Executive Board for adoption in December 2023.

2024 Recommendations to the State Legislature:

PSRC staff followed a similar framework to the recommendations adopted last year 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

The following changes were made to the 2024 recommendations:

- Mission statement was updated to new version adopted by PSRC in 2023 that includes racial equity.
- **Transportation:** added restore WA State Ferries
“Funding and policies to restore, improve and modernize the Washington State Ferries system to ensure reliable cross-sound service and reduce environmental impact.”
- **Housing:** added BIPOC Homeownership
“Action is needed to address racially discriminatory housing policies and increase homeownership for Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) households.”
- **Economy:** added Economic Development District Priorities:
 - Workforce development
 - Critical infrastructure, including broadband
 - Clean energy industry technology

The Executive Board unanimously adopted the 2024 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature at their December meeting.

Discussion Questions:

- Do you have suggestions about the process of adopting or content of the Recommendations to the State Legislature?
- Are you hearing about any policy proposals or budget items that will be in play at the state legislature this year?

Lead Staff

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



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

January 4, 2024

TO: Equity Advisory Committee
FROM: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning
SUBJECT: **Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program**

IN BRIEF

The Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) is leading an effort in collaboration with PSRC and several other organizations to develop a Regional Climate Action Plan. This work is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) program authorized under the Inflation Reduction Act, passed in August of 2022.

Staff will provide an overview of these planning efforts, upcoming milestones, and funds available from this program for implementation activities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

DISCUSSION

Under the CPRG program, funds were made available to states, Metropolitan Statistical Areas (or regions), and tribal governments around the country for climate planning. The State of Washington received \$3 million and the Puget Sound region received \$1 million for this planning work. A consortium of agencies is working collaboratively under the leadership of PSCAA on developing the required elements for the region.

The requirements of the CPRG funding include the following:

- Development of a Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) by March 1, 2024, to include identification of near-term, implementation-ready, priority greenhouse gas emission reduction measures across all sectors. Implementation grant funding is tied to completion of the PCAP and to the measures identified within.
- Development of a Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) by 2025. The CCAP will include more detailed information on significant sources of greenhouse gas emissions from all sectors, and include both near- and long-term emission reduction goals and strategies.
- By 2027 a progress report and next steps must be developed, including any updated analyses and plans.

In September 2023 EPA released the Notice of Funding Opportunity for the CPRG implementation grant funding. A total of \$4.6 billion is available nationwide for this competitive grant program, and as noted above, the grants are tied to implementation of measures identified in the PCAP. EPA anticipates awarding individual grants between \$2 million and \$500 million, within five tiers of funding levels. Applications will be due in April of 2024.

Next Steps

PSCAA intends to release the regional draft Priority Climate Action Plan for public comment in January, prior to full submittal to EPA in March. Phase 2 grant applications from a variety of agencies are currently being developed and coordinated for priority greenhouse gas reduction measures, with the goal of maximizing competitiveness in the national program. Additional briefings will be made available in the future as additional milestones are reached. More information on the CPRG program may be found on EPA's website [here](#).

Lead Staff

Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or kmcgourty@psrc.org.