



Puget Sound Regional Council

Growth Management Policy Board

Thursday, July 18, 2024 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

Watch or listen

- Watch the meeting live at <https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>
- Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 834 3848 5752, Passcode: 733446

Attend

- The public can attend meetings at [PSRC's office](#).
- PSRC staff will be available to provide floor access 30 minutes before the meeting's start time and up to 15 minutes after the meeting's start time.
- If you arrive outside of these times, please call 206-464-7090 for assistance.

Provide public comment

- **Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda. Each member of the public will have 2 minutes to speak.**
- **In-person**
Public comment may be made in person at PSRC's office.
- **Comment during the meeting by Zoom or phone**
[Registration](#) is required and closes at 8:00 a.m., the day of the meeting. Late registrations will not be accepted.
- **Written comments**
Comments may be submitted via email to hculver@psrc.org by 8:00 a.m. the day of the meeting. Comments will be shared with board members.

Public comments are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter [42.56](#).

1. **Call to Order (10:00) – Councilmember Ed Prince, Chair**
2. **Communications and Public Comment**
Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda.
3. **Report of the Chair**
4. **Director's Report**
5. **Consent Agenda - Action Items (10:15)**
 - a. Approve Minutes of Growth Management Policy Board held June 6, 2024
6. **Discussion Item (10:20)**
 - a. Open Space Trends – *Erika Harris, PSRC*

- 7. Discussion Item (10:50)**
 - a. Protecting Mature Trees While Adding Housing – *David Moehring, Former Seattle Urban Forestry Commissioner; Mike Carey, City of Tacoma*
- 8. Discussion Item (11:30)**
 - a. Tree Equity Collaborative – *Michael Liang, Department of Natural Resources*
- 9. Information Items**
 - a. GMPB Meeting Calendar 2024
- 10. Next Meeting: September 5, 2024 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. (no meeting in August)**

Major Topics for September:

 - Local Coordination with Tribes
 - Transit-Oriented Development Updates
- 11. Adjourn (12:00)**

Board members please submit proposed amendments and materials prior to the meeting for distribution. Organizations/individuals may submit information for distribution. Send to Heather Culver, e-mail hculver@psrc.org, or mail.

For language or ADA assistance at PSRC board meetings, please contact us at 206-464-7090 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. 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

MINUTES

**Growth Management Policy Board
Thursday, June 6, 2024
1201 3rd Ave., Ste 500, Seattle, WA 98101**

[To watch a video of the meeting and hear the discussion, go to <https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>]

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. by Council President Ed Prince, Chair.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Prince reflected on PSRC's General Assembly the previous week and recapped PSRC leadership reelections and the adoption of the PSRC budget and work program. Chair Prince then welcomed new board members Tracy Stanton from Emerald Alliance, Charlotte Murry from the Snohomish-Island County Labor Council and new alternate Director Chantell Harmon Reed of the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Growth Management Director Paul Inghram welcomed the board, reminded the board of the meeting date change in July to avoid the holiday and provided a preview of the meeting's discussion items.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Growth Management Policy Board Meeting held May 2, 2024.

ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Bader/Bushnell) to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN REVIEW WORK PLAN AND APPROACH

Senior Planner Maggie Moore reviewed PSRC’s process for reviewing and certifying the 2024 comprehensive plan updates. Plans are due December 31, 2024, so it is expected that board review of most of the plans will be in early 2025. Maggie highlighted early findings from draft plans and walked the board through the process of certification. Staff answered questions from the board including how to find information on anti-displacement tools and strategies, example policies, the role of inclusionary zoning and growth targets vs. capacity questions.

DISCUSSION ITEM: HOUSING TRENDS FOR ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER POPULATIONS

Carol Naito, Data Program Manager, and Joanne Lin, Assistant Data Programmer and Analyst, briefed the board on the Equity Trend for Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) populations inspired by AANHPI Heritage Month, which detailed the experiences of AANHPI residents and the disparities in renter cost burden, homeownership rates and income across AANHPI communities. Findings from the trend display that while Asian Americans as a whole have a relatively low poverty rate and the highest median income across all racial groups, there is considerable variation based on ethnicity, country of origin and length of time in the United States. Discussion followed with questions from the board on physical geography of the data, looking into the roots of the disparities among the populations and discussion on the limitations of accessing data at the city level.

DISCUSSION ITEM: PSRC EQUITY TRACKER

Brian Lee, Program Manager of Data Solutions and Research, and Mary Richards, Associate Planner, briefed the board on the Equity Tracker project, a tool that uses data to help measure the well-being of different communities in our region. Brian and Mary gave a demonstration of the interactive web tool and discussed with the board various uses for the tool and PSRC’s plans to continue to work on the tool to address displacement risk. The Equity Tracker site is publicly available, with staff continuing to make refinements which will be followed by updates and additions.

NEXT MEETING

The board will meet on Thursday, July 18, 2024, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Topics include:

- Tree Equity Collaborative
- Tree Protection Ordinances
- Open Space Trends
- Transit Access

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Attendance Roster – June 6, 2024

Growth Management Policy Board - June 6, 2024			
Voting Members			✓ Non-voting Members ✓
King County	2	CM Sarah Perry Vacant	1 Associate Members Alderwood Water and Wastewater District
			1 COM Paul McIntyre John McClellan Alt
Seattle	2	CM Tammy Morales CM Maritza Rivera CM Tanya Woo, Alt	1 Thurston Regional Planning Council Public Agency Members
Bellevue	1	CM Janice Zahn CM Dave Hamilton, Alt	1 Commerce 1 Dave Andersen Mark Barkley Alt
Cities/Towns	3	MYR Traci Buxton, Des Moines CP Ed Prince, Renton - Chair CM Melissa Stuart, Redmond	1 Public Health Agencies 1 Dr. Gib Morrow, Kitsap Public Health District DIR Chantall Harmon Reed, Tac-Pierce Cnty Alt
		MYR Kelli Curtis, Alt - Kirkland CM Pam Stuart, Alt - Sammamish CP Lindsey Walsh, Alt - Issaquah	1 PSRC Committees Regional Staff Committee 1 Andrea Spencer Arun Sambataro, Alt 1 Shannon Turner Equity Advisory Committee 1 Lisa Espinosa, Alt
Kitsap County	1	COM Katie Walters COM Christine Rolfes, Alt	Private/Civic Members-Business/Labor
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler CP Jennifer Chamberlin, Alt	1 Master Builders of King and Snohomish Counties 1 Jennifer Anderson Brian Holtzclaw
Cities/Towns	1	DM Jon Quitslund, Bainbridge Isl CM Ashley Mathews, Alt - Bainbridge Isl	1 Natural and Built Environments (exp. 1 Angela Rozmyn Robert Pantley Alt
Pierce County	1	CM Robyn Denson CM Paul Herrera, Alt	1 Individual 1 Charlotte Murry Vacant Alt
Tacoma	1	CM Joe Bushnell CM Sarah Rumbaugh, Alt	1 Private/Civic Members-Community/Environment Futurewise 1 Alex Brennan Tiernan Martin Alt
Cities & Towns	1	CM Nikki Bufford, Fircrest MYR Josh Penner, Alt - Orting	1 Housing Development Consortium - Seattle/King 1 Patience Malaba Jesse Simpson Alt
Snohomish County	1	CM Megan Dunn - Vice Chair CM Sam Low, Alt	1 Emerald Alliance for People, Nature, and Community 1 Tracy Stanton Vacant Alt
Everett	1	CM Scott Bader MYR Cassie Franklin, Alt	
Cities/Towns	1	CM Mike Dixon, Mukilteo MYR Pro Tem Bryan Wahl, Alt - Mntlake Terr.	1 Non Voting 12
			7
Federally Recognized Tribes			
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe	1	Vacant	
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Andrew Strobel Jennifer Keating Alt	
Suquamish Tribe	1	Rob Purser Alison O'Sullivan Alt	1
Statutory Members			
Ports	1	COM Don Meyer, Tacoma COM Deanna Keller, Alt - Tacoma	
WSDOT	1	Jeff Storrar JoAnn Schueler, Alt	Abbreviations CM Councilmember COM Commissioner CP Council President
Voting	22	(Quorum = 11) Quorum Total	17 DM Deputy Mayor



Puget Sound Regional Council

July 11, 2024

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Growth Management Policy Board
From: Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management
Subject: **Open Space Trends**

IN BRIEF

PSRC is developing a [report](#) on trends in open space conservation and enhancement to monitor implementation of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan. The board will be provided with a summary of research findings and will be asked for feedback to support the work.

DISCUSSION

Farms, forests, aquatic systems, parks and other types of open space provide food, building materials, flood control, recreation, clean air and water and many other ecosystem services. Because this natural infrastructure provides so many benefits to the region, VISION 2050 includes ambitious expectations for protecting open space, reducing growth pressure in rural and resource lands and improving access to urban parks and regional trails. MPP-En-12 directs the region to identify, preserve and enhance significant regional open space networks and linkages across jurisdictional boundaries through the implementation and update of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan. MPP-En-15 calls for providing parks, trails and open space within walking distance of urban residents and to prioritize historically underserved communities for open space improvements and investments.

The 2018 [Regional Open Space Conservation Plan](#) maps the open space network across the region and identifies priority actions needed to increase access to and sustain open spaces for the long term. A [Conservation Toolkit](#) helps implement the plan.

The regional open space network includes the most important open spaces in the region to maintain, protect and enhance. It covers about 340 miles of regional trails and 3 million acres of public and private land, including natural lands, farmlands, working forests, aquatic systems and urban open space. Continued strong growth and development in the region puts pressure on the open space network, in particular the many acres that are on private land. The plan identifies approximately 463,000 acres of the regional open space network that are most at risk and includes short and long-term goals for conservation. The plan also identifies 47 of the highest priority areas to improve equitable access to urban parks and open space and 300 miles of trails to complete the regional trail network.

The report on open space trends reviews key open space information such as data on land cover, conservation easements, tree canopy cover, housing development and park and trail locations. This information will help to assess how the region's open spaces are evolving and be compared to goals in the Regional Open Space Conservation plan to monitor progress. The [draft report](#) is now available on PSRC's [Open Space Conservation webpage](#). PSRC staff will share key findings in the report at the board's July meeting. In addition to the board and Regional Staff Committee, it will also be shared with counties and other implementing partners.

The report and feedback on it will help to inform a more in-depth analysis to be conducted in the next year or two as part of an update to the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan.

Questions for the board:

- Do you have any reactions or feedback on the open space information provided?
- What additional information should PSRC review for a more in-depth analysis and update of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan?
- What are ways that PSRC could support jurisdictions' work to protect and enhance open space?

NEXT STEPS

Board members are encouraged to review the open space report and share it with staff who work on natural resources, park, trail and open space issues. Suggestions are encouraged and can be sent to Erika Harris at eharris@psrc.org by August 23. PSRC staff will integrate feedback on the draft and finalize it in September.

For additional information, please contact Erika Harris, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org or 206-464-6360.



Puget Sound Regional Council

July 11, 2024

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Growth Management Policy Board
From: Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management
Subject: **Protecting Mature Trees While Adding Housing**

IN BRIEF

At its July meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board will be provided with a presentation on how mature trees can be protected even while cities work to accommodate housing.

DISCUSSION

VISION 2050 includes policies to enhance urban tree canopy to support community resilience, mitigate urban heat, manage stormwater, conserve energy, improve mental and physical health and strengthen economic prosperity. Trees also clean air, support social connections, provide a natural safety buffer between cars and people, and provide many other benefits. Larger and more mature trees tend to provide the most benefits.

Tree canopy cover has been decreasing in the region's urban areas. This might not seem surprising given the fast pace of development. However, mature trees are needed to make higher density communities healthy and attractive. Having both mature trees and more housing together is possible if supportive policies, incentives and processes are in place. This is a critical time to put these strategies in place as jurisdictions work to support more housing development to address the housing crisis, the Growth Management Act and VISION 2050's Regional Growth Strategy.

David Moehring, an architect and former Seattle urban forestry commissioner, will share strategies to protect mature trees while adding housing. He will provide examples of housing projects that incorporated mature trees into the development. He will also share

planning, site design and other considerations. Mike Carey, Tacoma Urban Forest Program Manager, will discuss Tacoma's work on this issue.

PSRC staff are looking into guidance and other resources that cities and counties can use to embrace both mature trees and more housing. Cities4Forests has a resource called [Urban Forests for Healthier Cities: Policy, Planning, Regulations, and Institutional Arrangements](#). A resource developed for the local context with local examples could provide additional support.

Questions for the board:

- Does your jurisdiction have a successful approach to protecting mature trees and supporting housing development?
- Would a local guidance document on this topic be helpful?

NEXT STEPS

Board members are encouraged to share this information with staff and let PSRC know if a guidance document with more information on this topic would be helpful.

For additional information, please contact Erika Harris, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org or 206-464-6360.



Puget Sound Regional Council

July 11, 2024

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Growth Management Policy Board
From: Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management
Subject: **Tree Equity Collaborative**

IN BRIEF

At its July meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board will be provided with a presentation on the Washington State Tree Equity Collaborative.

DISCUSSION

Trees are known to mitigate urban heat island effect, an impact of climate change and a major health concern. VISION 2050 includes policies to enhance urban tree canopy to support community resilience, mitigate urban heat, manage stormwater, conserve energy, improve mental and physical health and strengthen economic prosperity.

Approximately 85% of urban neighborhoods in Washington State have inadequate tree cover.¹ Recognizing that trees are critical urban infrastructure essential to public health and well-being, American Forests and the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR) launched the Washington State Tree Equity Collaborative. The board will hear a presentation by Michael Liang from DNR about the collaborative.

The collaborative aims to enhance neighborhood tree canopy cover by engaging cities, community organizations and stakeholders in building rigorous and inclusive urban forestry programs. Collaborative members receive many benefits such as access to a statewide network for urban forestry professionals and stakeholders, invitations to Tree Equity Learning Labs, technical assistance from the Department of Natural Resources and American Forests, and access to urban forestry news, updates and funding opportunities. Another resource is American Forests' [Tree Equity Score tool](#) which provides information to help prioritize expanding tree cover equitably.

The collaborative's steering committee includes representatives from Kent, King County, Seattle, Snohomish County, Snoqualmie, Snoqualmie Tribe and Tacoma. Many other jurisdictions are members, and the collaborative is looking to expand its membership.

Questions for the board:

- Who might be unexpected allies and stakeholders that could be invited into the collaborative?
- The collaborative is creating a more detailed tree equity map for urban areas in Washington State. What layers, features or information would you like to see?

NEXT STEPS

Board members are encouraged to share information on the Tree Equity Collaborative with staff and consider membership.

For more information, visit the [Tree Equity Collaborative website](#) or contact Michael Liang at Michael.Liang@dnr.wa.gov or Erika Harris at eharris@psrc.org.

ⁱ American Forests. Tree Equity Collaborative. <https://www.americanforests.org/project/washtec/>.

2024 PSRC Growth Management Policy Board Meetings

January						
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July Meeting Updated						

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No meeting in August						

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No meeting in December						

Meetings are held 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. the first Thursday of the month. As needed, the Transportation Policy Board and the Growth Management Policy Board meet in joint session to coordinate activities and make decisions/recommendations.

Meeting dates and times are subject to change. If a meeting is changed or cancelled, GMPB members and alternates will be notified. Updated meeting dates are listed at <https://www.psrc.org>.