Regional Transportation Plan & Coordinated Mobility Plan

Equity Advisory Committee • February 6, 2025

Puget Sound Regional Council

We are leaders in the region to realize equity for all. Diversity, racial equity and inclusion are integrated into how we carry out all our work.

psrc.org/equity

Today

- **Overview of Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA)**

- **Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)**

- **Approach to Apply REIA**

- **Coordinated Mobility Plan**

- **Early Engagement Findings**

- **Next Steps**

Regional Equity Strategy

The Strategy includes a suite of resources co-created with the EAC. It will provide guidance to help members and staff work towards the region's equity goals.

Community Engagement

- Equity Advisory Committee
- Anti-Displacement Organizations Report
- Equitable Engagement Guidance

Capacity Building

- Learning Opportunities
- Prioritizing Equity
- Inclusive Procurement
- Hiring and Retention

Best Practices

- Racial Equity Impact Assessment
- Equity Planning Resources

Data and Research

- Equity Tracker
- Data and Analysis
- Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report

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Best Practices

- ▶ **Racial Equity Impact Assessment**
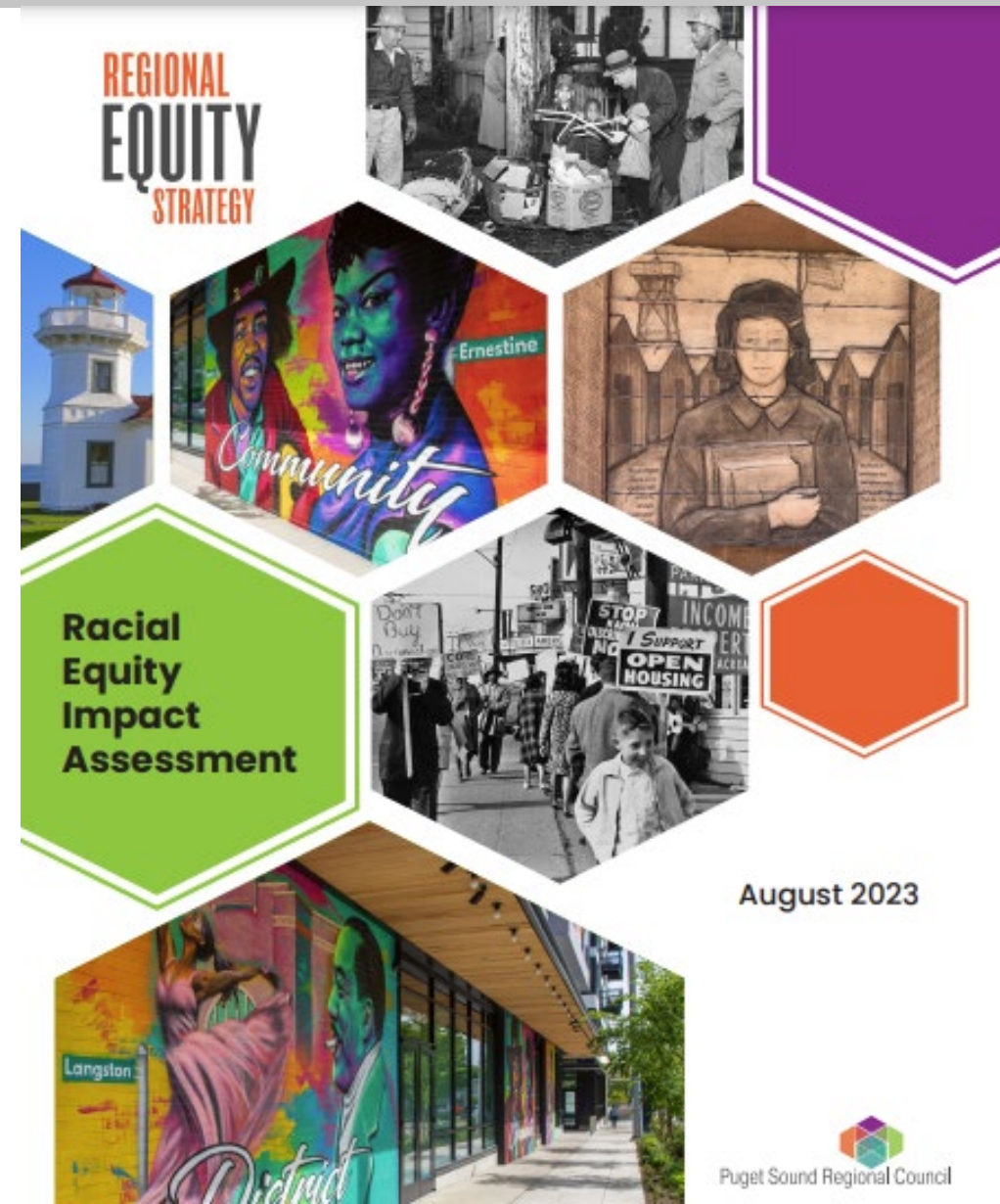- ▶ Equity Planning Resources

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Overview of Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA)

- Racial equity assessments are designed to **integrate explicit consideration of racial equity in decisions, including policies, practices, programs, and budgets.**

- Use of a racial equity tool can help to develop strategies and actions that **reduce racial inequities and improve success for all groups.**

Equity Impact Assessment Steps

Comprehensive Plan Development Process

Plan Scoping → Data Development & Analysis → Plan Development → Plan Implementation

Equity Impact Assessment Steps

Early Inclusive Engagement

STEP 1 | Identify comprehensive plan proposals to assess

STEP 2 | Gather and analyze information and data

STEP 3 | Engage Communities

STEP 4 | Identify strategies for advancing racial equity

STEP 5 | Ensure accountability

STEP 6 | Evaluate outcomes and next steps

What is a Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)?

Responds to planned growth to 2050

- VISION 2050 transit-focused regional growth strategy

Objectives:

- Plan for future investments to accommodate planned growth in population, employment, travel

- Make progress on existing challenges

- Address current and future needs of the transportation system

Puget Sound Regional Council

REGIONAL TRANSPORTATIONPLAN 2022–2050

2022

RTP Scoping Approach

Board feedback to date on policy priorities for the next plan have confirmed the commitment to:

RTP Scoping Approach

Additional significant elements of the next plan include:

- Reevaluation of the Financial Strategy

- Continued analysis and monitoring of equity outcomes

- Analysis of changing travel behavior

- Regional transit access assessment

- Emerging stormwater issues and mitigation

- Growth targets and investments from 2024 comprehensive plans

- Identify actions and outcomes

REIA Questions

Early Engagement

- What equitable engagement was conducted?

- What key issues emerged from engagement?

- XYZ

Quantitative Data

- What are the demographics?

- What disparities exist?

- How has structural racism informed disparities?

Qualitative Data

- What transportation priorities were identified by EFAs?

- What challenges are experienced by EFAs?

- What are potential unintended consequences?

Strategies for Disparities

- How will EFA priorities and challenges be addressed?

- What are strategies to remediate past harms?

- How will unintended consequences be addressed?

REIA Questions

Early Engagement	Quantitative Data	Qualitative Data	Strategies for Disparities
What equitable engagement was conducted?	What are the demographics?	What transportation priorities were identified by EFAs?	How will EFA priorities and challenges be addressed?
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Planned RTP Public Engagement

Community Events & Interviews

Online Engagement Hub

Regional Public Meetings

Focus Groups

PSRC Board/ Committee Briefings

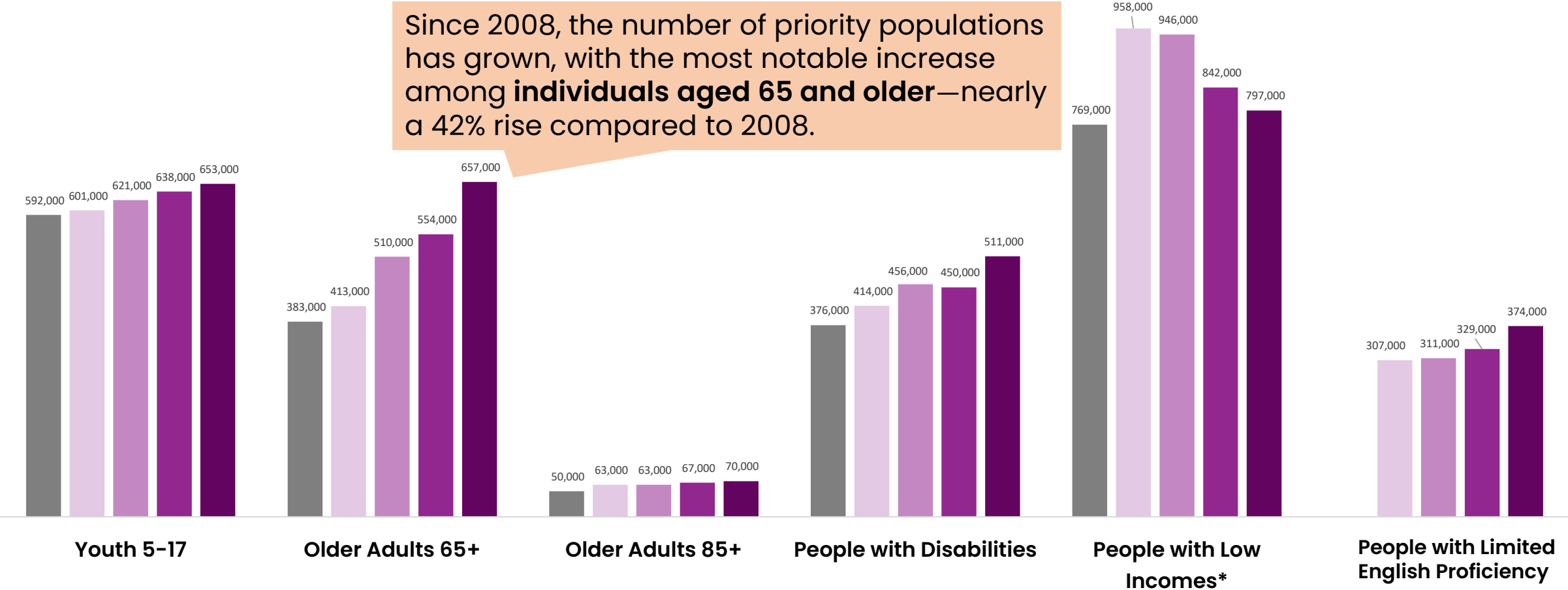Public Comment Process

Public Opinion Survey

Priority populations in our region are growing

Coordinated Mobility Plan's Priority Populations Changes, 2008-2023

■ 2008 ■ 2011 ■ 2015 ■ 2019 ■ 2023

Since 2008, the number of priority populations has grown, with the most notable increase among **individuals aged 65 and older**—nearly a 42% rise compared to 2008.

Youth 5-17: 592,000 | 601,000 | 621,000 | 638,000 | 653,000

Older Adults 65+: 383,000 | 413,000 | 510,000 | 554,000 | 657,000

Older Adults 85+: 50,000 | 63,000 | 63,000 | 67,000 | 70,000

People with Disabilities: 376,000 | 414,000 | 456,000 | 450,000 | 511,000

People with Low Incomes*: 769,000 | 958,000 | 946,000 | 842,000 | 797,000

People with Limited English Proficiency: 307,000 | 311,000 | 329,000 | 374,000

*People with Low Incomes defined as people with incomes at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level

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Source: U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey 1-year Estimates

What's included in the Coordinated Mobility Plan?

- Information on **population trends.**

- **Transportation needs** of the people with accessibility and mobility challenges, due to their age, income, or ability.

- **Prioritized strategies** addressing the needs.

- A **regional inventory** of existing transportation programs.

Link to the current plan:
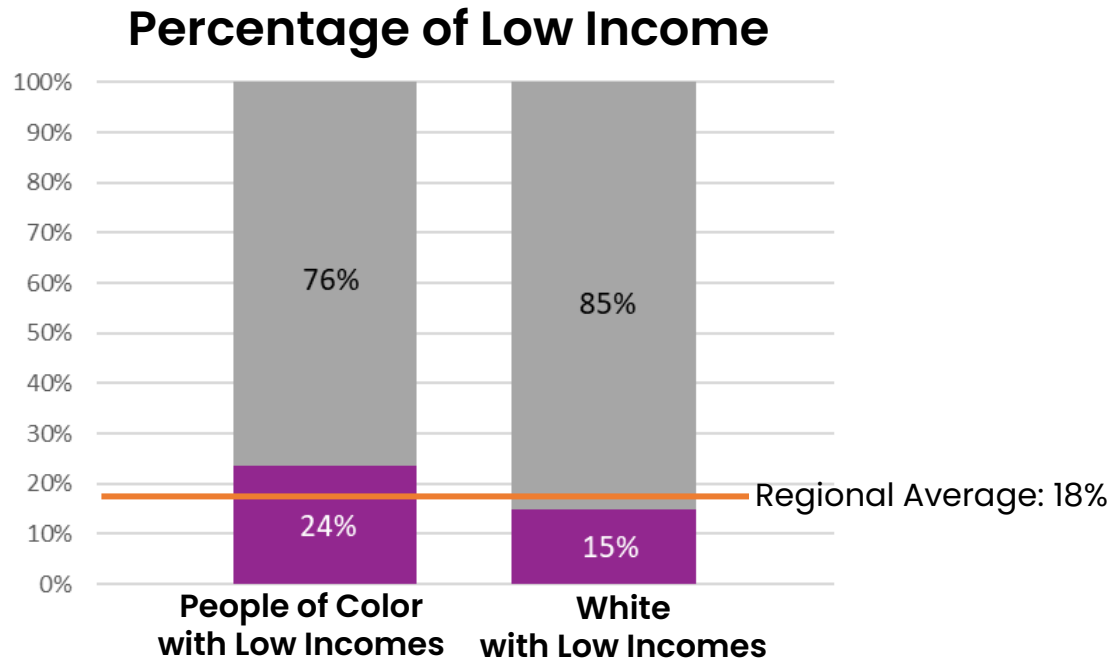https://www.psrc.org/planning-2050/regional-transportation-plan/coordinated-mobility-plan

The plan addresses equity and inclusion by:

- Incorporating people of color in conjunction with age, income, and ability.

- Highlighting the **mobility needs of the historically marginalized and underserved communities**, identified through engagement.

A Larger percentage of people of color have low incomes.

Percentage of Low Income

Regional Average: 18%

People of Color with Low Incomes: 76% / 24%
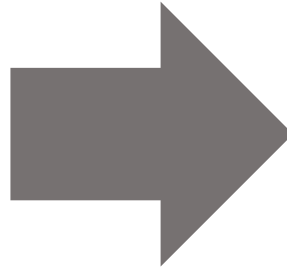
White with Low Incomes: 85% / 15%

- **Low-income rates are even higher** (above 30%) for some of the race/ethnicity groups.

- 23% of women of color have low incomes.

Coordinated Mobility Plan Engagement

Phase I (Fall 2024-Spring 2025)

Phase II (Summer-Fall 2025)

Review feedback and data to assess the **mobility needs** of priority populations.

Develop prioritized strategies to address the needs.

Outreach continues

Key Mobility Needs

Highlights To Date:

- Lack of services at times when needed
- Difficulty in cross-county travel
- Long travel and transfer times
- Limited or no services in areas outside of transit district boundaries, especially in rural areas
- Difficulty getting to/from medical appointments, pharmacies, and grocery stores
- Lack of ADA-accessible infrastructure

PSRC engaged three county mobility coalitions so far.

- King County Mobility Coalitions
- Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition
- Snohomish County Transportation Coalition (SNOTRAC)

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Sample Mentimeter Activity Results

Which of the following groups are you representing today?

13 Youth (ages 5-17)

16 Older Adults (65+)

20 Persons with a Disability

16 People with Low Incomes

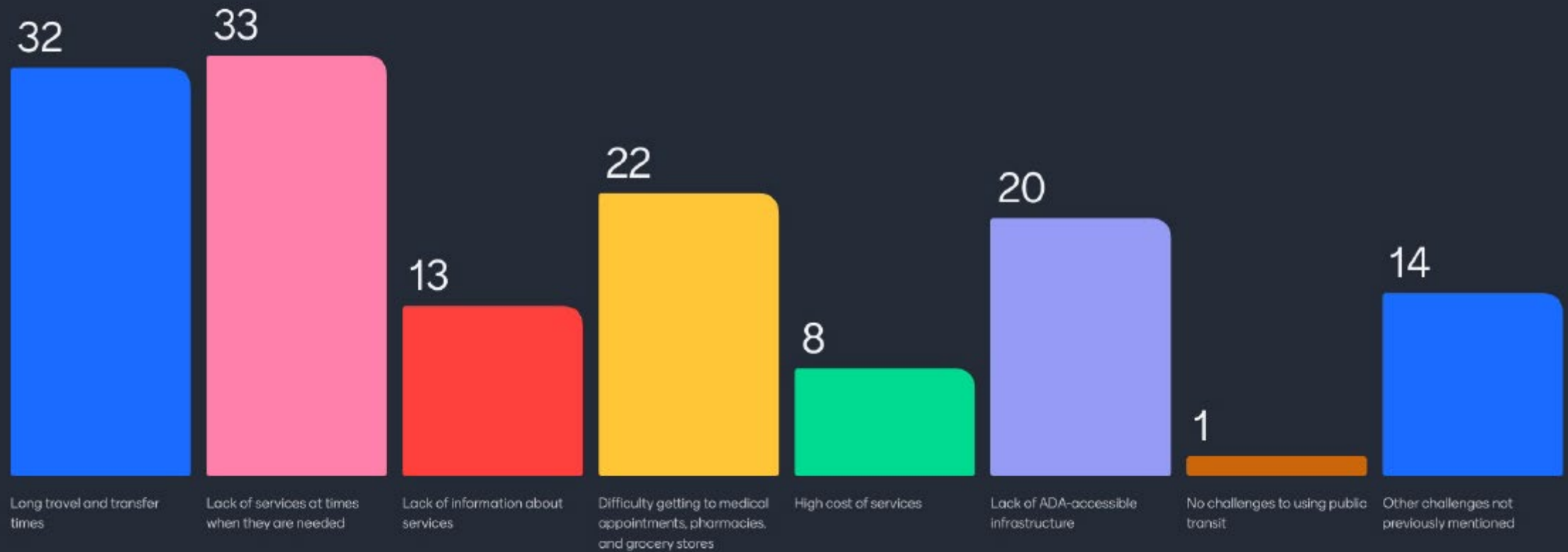**13** People with Limited English Proficiency (LEP)

10 Veterans

16 Others

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Do you or the groups you represent experience any of the following challenges to using public transit services (buses, rail, ferries)?

Value	Category
32	Long travel and transfer times
33	Lack of services at times when they are needed
13	Lack of information about services
22	Difficulty getting to medical appointments, pharmacies, and grocery stores
8	High cost of services
20	Lack of ADA-accessible infrastructure
1	No challenges to using public transit
14	Other challenges not previously mentioned

Are there any other challenges using <u>public transit</u>? Please describe.

Can't schedule rides late at night. Challenging for attending events and work

Current roads/infrastructure acting as a barrier for public transit. Ex: roads not wide enough, on street parking preventing buses on the road, etc.

Long waiting times in bad weather

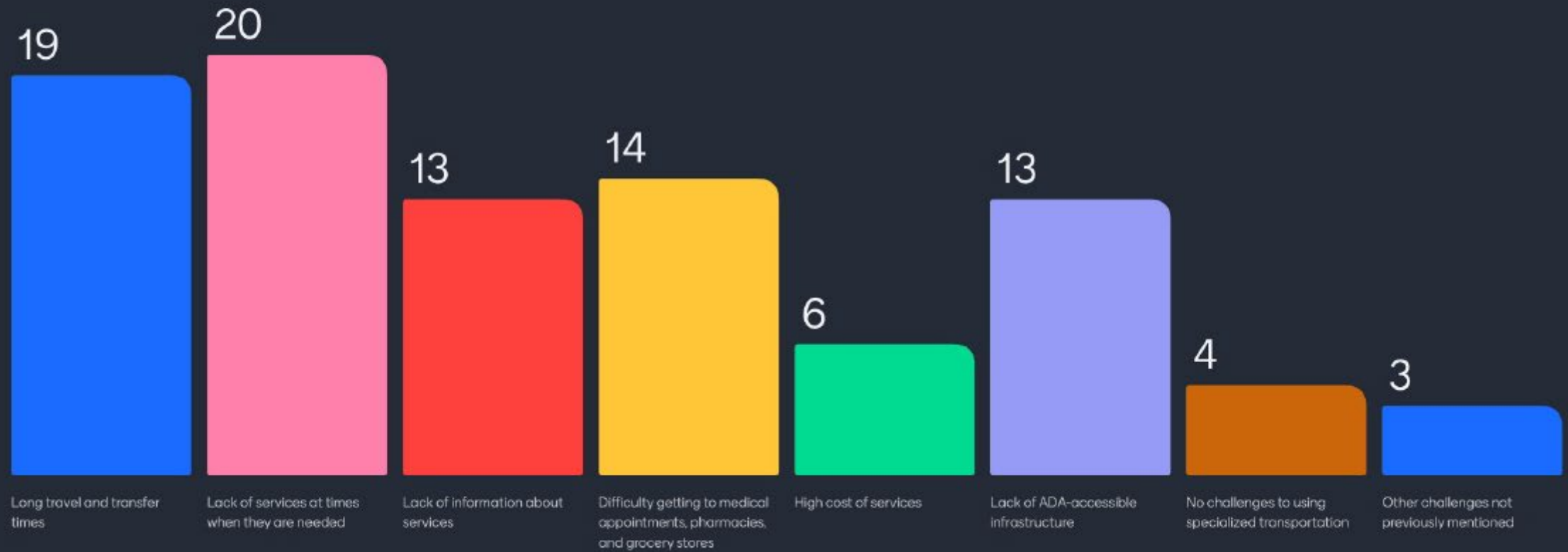Not enough braille signage provided at decision points.

safety for drivers and riders

Rural transportation desert where people need to have their own vehicle to be able to survive

Bike safety and infrastructure

Safety late at nights

Are there any other challenges to using <u>specialized transportation</u>? Please describe.

Need for continuity of solution and opportunities.

I hear complaints about transfers. Also need more coordination between Homage TAP and CT DART & Metro ACCESS is needed.

I see DART buses on campus multiple times each day. CT also offers ZIP service for our community that get over to HWY 99 for specializde transportation

Cross-border challenges for TAP.

Non-drivers already lack the ways to effectively meet ASAP travel needs in the same way drivers do. Not being able to use fixed-route transit makes this worse.

Continuity of service across jurisdictions

The dream is on-demand service for paratransit users, but it's challenging for the providers.

Eligibility determination can be intimidating and can scare away clients who would otherwise qualify

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Are there any other challenges getting around (such as walking, biking, riding a taxi)?

Bike friendly infrastructure is ver limited.

bike routes/networks are frequently disconnected and indirect.

Bike lanes are too close to cars - there need to be physical barriers for biker safety. It is even more dangerous because drivers may be using their phone on the road.

Lack of safe routes, clear information including consistent signage and navigation information, connections to transit.

I'd like to see continuity in micromobility options across city/county lines.

Sidewalks and curb ramps are NOT compliant with ADA across the county. Transition plans pay lip service, but this is not a priority for repair work.

Cars are required to be built with an incredible number of passenger safety devices. Pedestrians are required to be protected by white paint. This doesn't seem equitable.

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Organizations Engaged in 2020-2021

- Arlington Youth Council
- Bellevue Network on Aging (BNOA)
- City of Seattle Disability Commission
- Disability Rights Washington & Transit Riders Union
- Edmonds Youth Commission
- El Centro de la Raza
- Housing Hope
- Issaquah Youth Council
- King County Disability Consortium
- **King County Mobility Coalition** (KCMC)
- Kitsap Aging Advisory Council
- Kitsap County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee
- Kitsap County Commission on Children and Youth
- Kitsap County Council for Human Rights

- Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board
- Kitsap County Parent Coalition
- Kitsap ERACE Coalition
- NAACP Snohomish Chapter
- North Pierce County Community Coalition
- Partnering for Youth Achievement-Bremerton
- People First of Snohomish County
- **Pierce County Coordinated Transportation Coalition (PCCTC)**
- Regional Alliance for Resilient and Equitable Transportation (RARET)
- **Snohomish County Mobility Coalition (SNOTRAC)**
- Snoqualmie Valley Transportation Coalition
- Sound Transit Citizens Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Tacoma Area Commission on Disabilities
- YESS Pierce County

Discussion

- **What outreach opportunities do you know about where we can reach the priority populations?**
  - Our emphasis will be late February-May 2025

- **What resources should we review?**
  - Data, reports, and studies related to the mobility needs of priority populations

- **Any comments or questions?**

Next Steps

Integrate REIA into engagement framework

Engagement events throughout the region and with EAC

- February-May 2025: Phase 1 engagement
- June-October 2025: Phase 2 engagement

Incorporate community feedback into RTP

Winter 2025-Early 2026: Develop draft plan that will be released for public comment early 2026

Thank You!

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Puget Sound Regional Council