



Puget Sound Regional Council

Transit Operators Committee Agenda

Date: Wednesday, February 26, 2025, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Online Meeting Only: Use Zoom Connection Information Provided Below

1. Welcome and Introductions (10:00) – Peter Heffernan, King County Metro

2. Action: Approval of Meeting Summary – January 22, 2025* (10:05)

3. Transportation Policy Board Debrief (10:10) – Gil Cerise, PSRC

The 'At Work' reports for the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meetings are available on the PSRC website at: <https://www.psrc.org/board/transportation-policy-board>.

4. Action: King County Metro Redistribution Request for Atlantic Base Trolley System Power Supply Replacement* (10:15) – Doug Cox, PSRC

5. Discussion: Guidance on RTP inputs from transit agencies* (10:20) – Gil Cerise, Kelly McGourty, and Craig Helmann, PSRC

PSRC staff will provide time to review the February 5th communication to transit agencies (sent to TOC members and other transit staff) on expectations for consistent transit agency inputs to the RTP. This will be an opportunity for transit agencies to ask questions and seek clarification on issues such as long-range planning financial constraints. PSRC staff will request specific technical contacts from each agency to follow-up on RTP inputs.

6. Discussion: RTP Current System Report* (10:45) – Gil Cerise and Craig Helmann, PSRC

PSRC staff will share highlights from the transit-related elements of the existing transportation system, as part of development of the next RTP. TOC feedback will be sought on key findings and messaging.

7. Discussion: Regional Transit Performance Targets (11:05) – Erin Hogan and Gary Simonson, PSRC

PSRC staff will share progress on developing regional targets and collecting actual data on Transit Asset Management (TAM) and Transit Safety, per FTA requirements.

8. Discussion: Update of PSRC's Park & Ride Dashboard (11:25) – Grant Gibson and Mary Richards, PSRC

PSRC staff will share an update on the PSRC Park & Ride dashboard, including park & ride data and how it is displayed.

9. Discussion: Transit Agency Roundtable (11:40)

As time permits, transit agency staff will provide updates on their work to share with regional partners.

10.Information: Regional TOD Committee members representing local transit*

11.Information: 2025 TOC meeting topics*

12.Information: VISION2050 – Call for Nominations 2025

13.Next Meeting: March 26, 2025

Calendar Link: <https://www.psrc.org/calendar>

14.Adjourn (12:00)

*Supporting materials attached

Zoom Connection:

- [Join the meeting](#)
- Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499
- Meeting ID: 817 0086 3118 Passcode: 553746

Other Formats:

- Sign language, and communication material in alternative formats, can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling 206-464-7090, TTY Relay 711.
- العربية | Arabic, 中文 | Chinese, Deutsch | German, Française | French
한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng Việt | Vietnamese, visit <https://www.psrc.org/contact/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Transit Operators Committee Meeting Summary

Date: January 22, 2025

Location: Online Meeting Only: Zoom Remote Meeting

Welcome and Introductions

Peter Heffernan, King County Metro, welcomed everyone at 10:00 a.m. Peter took roll call and confirmed the members and alternates present.

Approval of Meeting Summary

The summary for the December 4, 2024, meeting was approved.

Action: TOC Vice-Chair for 2025

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared that PSRC only received one nomination for Vice-Chair to complete the term initiated by Melinda Adams (Everett Transit). When Melinda left the agency, this left a vacancy in this key committee leadership position. Alex Krieg (Sound Transit) has agreed to take on the role of Vice-Chair through the remainder of the term, ending in December 2025.

Discussion/Action: Local Transit representation on the Regional TOD Committee

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared information on the Regional TOD Committee request that TOC fill two membership seats for local transit on that committee. The seats are currently held by King County Metro and Pierce Transit. Gil clarified conditions of the three-year membership term, and shared that there are designated membership seats on RTOD Committee for Sound Transit, WSDOT, and City of Seattle. The committee agreed to provide nominations by email, following the meeting. The committee agreed with Gil's suggestion that a vote-by-email be completed prior to the February TOC meeting to select local transit members.

For more information, contact Gil Cerise at GCerise@psrc.org.

Discussion: Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan

Gil Cerise, PSRC, shared that Kelly McGourty was unable to attend today's meeting. She will share information on the Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan with the TOC membership between meetings.

For more information, contact Kelly McGourty at KMcGourty@psrc.org

Discussion: Transit in the RTP (Frequency/Span)

Gil Cerise and Craig Helmann, PSRC, shared information that PSRC has been developing to illustrate quality of transit service to the board and in RTP documents. Craig shared options for how PSRC characterizes frequency of service and span of service to illustrate areas of the region that do/do not have access to frequent service and service that reaches people working and using transit outside of normal commute hours. Craig also shared density thresholds to identify needs for density of households and jobs (activity units) for various types of transit. These illustrations and data associated with them can tell a story about where there are gaps in transit service today, and then the agency will assess future conditions later in the RTP development process.

The presentation can be found on the PSRC website [here](#).

For more information, contact Gil Cerise at GCerise@psrc.org.

Discussion: RTP Transit programmatic inputs and process

Gary Simonson and Miles Stepleton, PSRC, provided information to the TOC on programmatic investment inputs that transit agencies are asked to provide for RTP development. Gary and Miles indicated that transit agencies should expect surveys to be distributed in February with a turnaround of information by end of March (deadline will be included in the email).

The presentation can be found on the PSRC website [here](#).

For more information, contact Gary Simonson at GSimonson@psrc.org.

Discussion: Review initial analysis of microtransit inventory

Jean Kim, PSRC, shared initial findings from a survey of Mobility On Demand (MOD) services, including microtransit services provided by several transit agencies within the region. Jean got feedback from the agencies on survey results, which will be incorporated into the RTP Existing Conditions report.

The presentation can be found on the PSRC website [here](#).

For more information, contact Jean Kim at JKim@psrc.org.

Discussion: Transit Agency Roundtable

- Andrew Arnes, Pierce Transit

- Sabina Araya, Everett Transit
- Sophie Luthin, Community Transit
- Peter Heffernan, KCM

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00 p.m.

***Members and Alternates Present**

See attached attendance roster.

***PSRC Staff, Alternates and Guests Present**

Amanda Koerber, Everett Transit; Heidi Soule, Pierce Transit; Jacob Brett, KCM; Jessica Roberts; Jillian Nordstrom, WSDOT; Julie Stutzke, Pierce Transit; Kim Pearson, SDOT; Lisa McVay; Ryan Packer; Sarah Streiffert, Pierce Transit

PSRC

Alexa Leach, Gil Cerise, Nick Johnson, Jean Kim, Erin Hogan, Craig Helmann, Miles Stepleton, Philip Harris, Gary Simonson

**Attendees were present via remote participation*

TOC Attendance Roster

(Members and Alternates represented)

Date: January 22, 2025 10:00am - 12:00pm

Online/Remote Meeting Only

Agency/Jurisdiction		Name
Transit Agencies		
Community Transit (1)	x	Sophie Luthin
		<i>Kathryn Rasmussen (Alt.)</i>
Everett Transit (1)	x	Sabina Araya
		<i>Amanda Koerber (Alt.)</i>
King County Metro (1)	x	Peter Heffernan, Chair
		<i>Jacob Brett (Alt.)</i>
Kitsap Transit (1)		Steffani Lillie
		<i>Edward Coviello (Alt.)</i>
Pierce County Ferries (1)		VACANT
		<i>Vacant (Alt.)</i>
Pierce Transit (1)	x	Andrew Arnes
		<i>Tina Lee (Alt.)</i>
City of Seattle (1)	x	Jen Malley-Crawford
		<i>Benjamin Smith (Alt.)</i>
Sound Transit (1)	x	Alex Krieg
		<i>Lisa Wolterink (Alt.)</i>
State		
WSDOT - Washington State Ferries (1)		Jason Rogers
		<i>John Bernhard (Alt.)</i>
WSDOT (1)	x	Cordy Crockett
		<i>Jill Nordstrom (Alt.)</i>
Non-Voting Participants		
Intercity Transit (1)		Peter Stackpole
		<i>Jessica Gould (Alt.)</i>
Skagit Transit (1)		Rebekah Tuno
		<i>VACANT (Alt.)</i>

rev. 6/24

King County Metro Redistribution Request

Request: King County Metro (KCM) requests to redistribute \$1,864,761 in Seattle-Tacoma Everett Urbanized Area (STE UZA) FFY2023 5337 HIFG funds between the projects identified below.

Explanation: KCM requests to redistribute funds from MET-235 (Atlantic Base Trolley Power System Replacement) to new project MET-284 (SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge Trolley Infrastructure Replacement). The redistribution is needed because MET-235 has been significantly delayed and is on pause until approximately 2030. KCM has identified MET-284 as an eligible priority project that is in need of funding in order to move forward and to help maintain Metro trolley bus service on routes utilizing this infrastructure. The redistribution will allow KCM to maintain the schedule with WSDOT's related bridge replacement project.

FFY 2023 STE UZA 5337 HIFG Funds

Appropriation Year	TIP ID	Project Title	Source	Current	Proposed Change	Final
2023	MET-235	Atlantic Base Trolley Power System Replacement	5337 HIFG Earned Share	\$1,864,761	-\$1,864,761	\$0
2023	MET-284	SR 520 Portage Bay Bridge Trolley Infrastructure Replacement	5337 HIFG Earned Share	\$0	\$1,864,761	\$1,864,761

PSRC Guidance to Transit Agencies on RTP Inputs

February 5, 2025 email to transit agencies who provide these RTP inputs to PSRC. Updates to the February 5, 2025 email to transit agencies are included in **red font**.

To TOC members and other transit stakeholders:

We are including all TOC members and alternates on this email, as well as any transit agency staff who participated in local transit outreach meetings with PSRC in December 2024.

As part of developing the next Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), PSRC is gathering long-range transit planning data and planning assumptions from the region's transit agencies, including:

- **Regional Capacity projects**, meeting thresholds established under federal and state rules (see: <https://www.psrc.org/media/7615>). **The call for submissions is planned for the week of March 24, 2025. Transit agencies will be notified when the date is finalized. Contact is Jennifer Barnes, Program Manager: jbarnes@psrc.org.**
- **Future transit network data** (in GTFS format) for both 2035 and 2050, to account for PSRC's planning horizon and an interim planning period. As in past collaborations on this work, attributes that PSRC seeks include service characteristics, route and stop locations for bus, rail, and ferry modes. Future transit network submissions are requested by **April 1, 2025. Please send this data to Erin Hogan, Associate Planner, at ehogan@psrc.org.**
- **Financial strategy/Maintenance and Preservation** data and assumptions to assist PSRC in developing reasonably expected costs for future transit operations, maintenance, and programmatic capital investments. **PSRC sent a survey to transit agency staff on February 13, 2025. The deadline to submit survey responses is March 18, 2025. Please submit surveys or ask questions by contacting Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, at gsimonson@psrc.org.**

We recognize that each transit agency develops their long-range plan with varying financial constraint parameters, resulting in variations in how each transit agency submits data to PSRC. For the next RTP, PSRC is providing guidance for how agencies should submit this data to PSRC to provide more regionally consistent long-range planning parameters.

1. We request that agencies provide data that is **based upon their latest long-range plans**, factoring in transit agency board and/or executive management direction on changed circumstances and updates since the long-range plan was last adopted.
2. If several scenarios were considered and adopted in the long-range plan, we request that the agency **use only its preferred alternative or the alternative** that most closely matches the agencies' current long-range planning direction. Project submissions and service data should be based on decisions adopted by transit agency boards or clearly articulated by agency leadership.

3. PSRC's RTP includes a financial strategy containing both current law revenues and an identification of new revenue sources determined to be feasible to achieve over the long-range planning horizon, the combination of which demonstrates full funding of the investments in the plan. With respect to **consistent financial assumptions** to be submitted, PSRC requests that agencies provide information on projects and services levels that could be funded through a combination of existing revenues and reasonably expected new revenues (whether that means additional taxation authority within existing law, or development of new revenue sources that could be considered to be in place by 2050, even if yet to be determined). Rather than submitting only those investments for which current funding is available, agencies should submit investments that the agency is **planning for and committed to** that may require additional sources. We further ask that information on the necessary additional funding be provided.
4. The RTP will also have space to address more **aspirational project ideas**, outside of the project list and financial strategy. We will no longer include the "unprogrammed" category on the Regional Capacity Projects list. The RTP will instead provide separate space for articulating those projects that need further planning before being included as a candidate project by the 2050 planning horizon. The distinction between "aspirational" projects and projects requiring additional funding sources comes down to the level of planning and commitment. Please confer with PSRC staff if there are questions in determining which investments may fall under which category.

PSRC staff plan to continue these discussions through the Transit Operators Committee (TOC) and other forums, as well as through individual meetings to obtain as consistent information as we can across transit agencies.

Please reach out to Gil Cerise at gcerise@psrc.org if you have questions about the information we will be seeking over the coming months. However, we plan to include time on the **February 26, 2025 TOC agenda to further this discussion**. We invite any transit agency staff who will assist in providing the above-mentioned information to participate in the discussion at that time.

Thank you,

Gil Cerise (he/him)

Program Manager

Puget Sound Regional Council

Phone 206-971-3053 | Cell 206-330-9091

gcerise@psrc.org

www.psrc.org

1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101



Transit



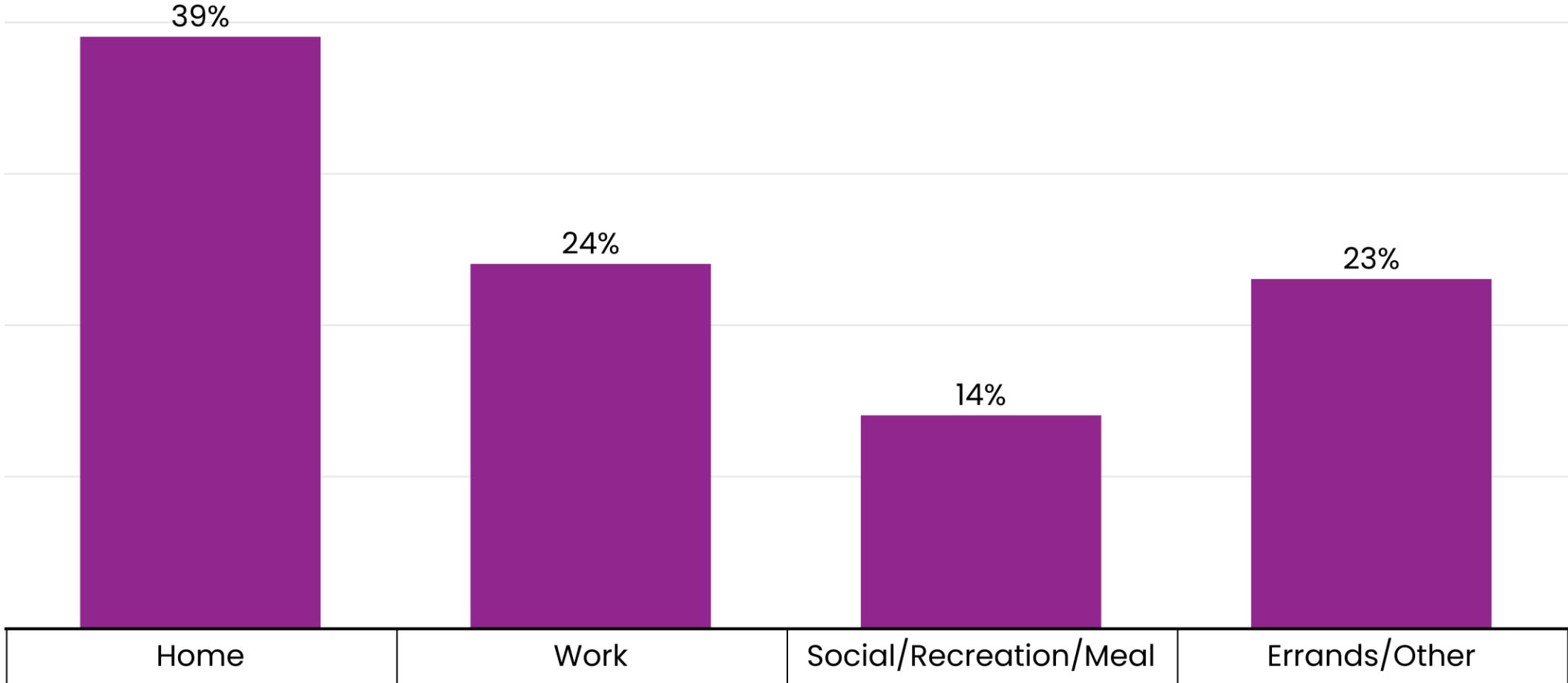
Transit is experiencing:

- Continued recovery from the pandemic
 - 75% of 2019 ridership
 - 90% of 2019 service provided
- People rely upon transit for a variety of needs, peak hour commuting is a smaller market today.
- Link light rail expansion has helped fuel ridership recovery for that mode.

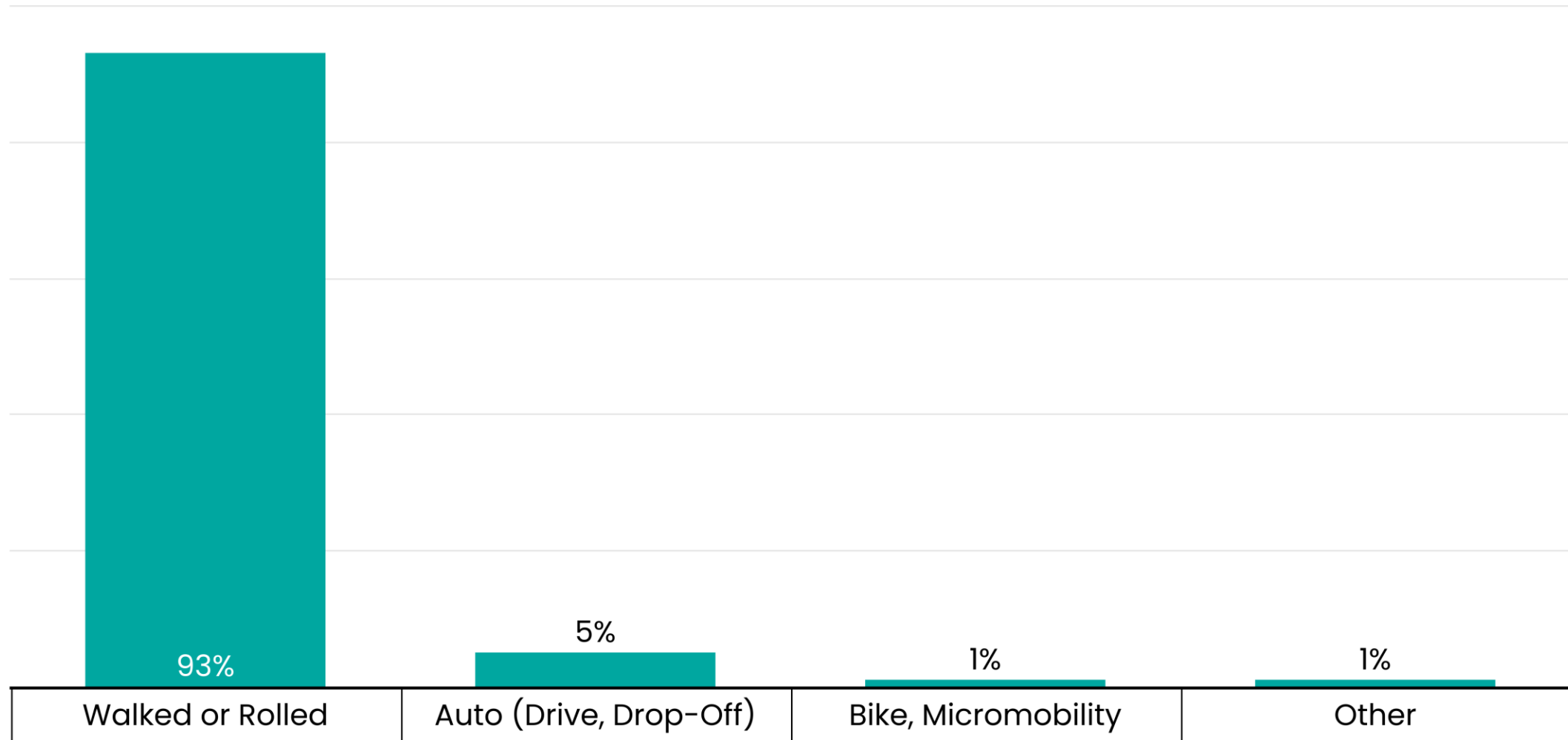


Transit riders use the system for **many** purposes

Trip Purposes for Transit Riders: Spring 2023



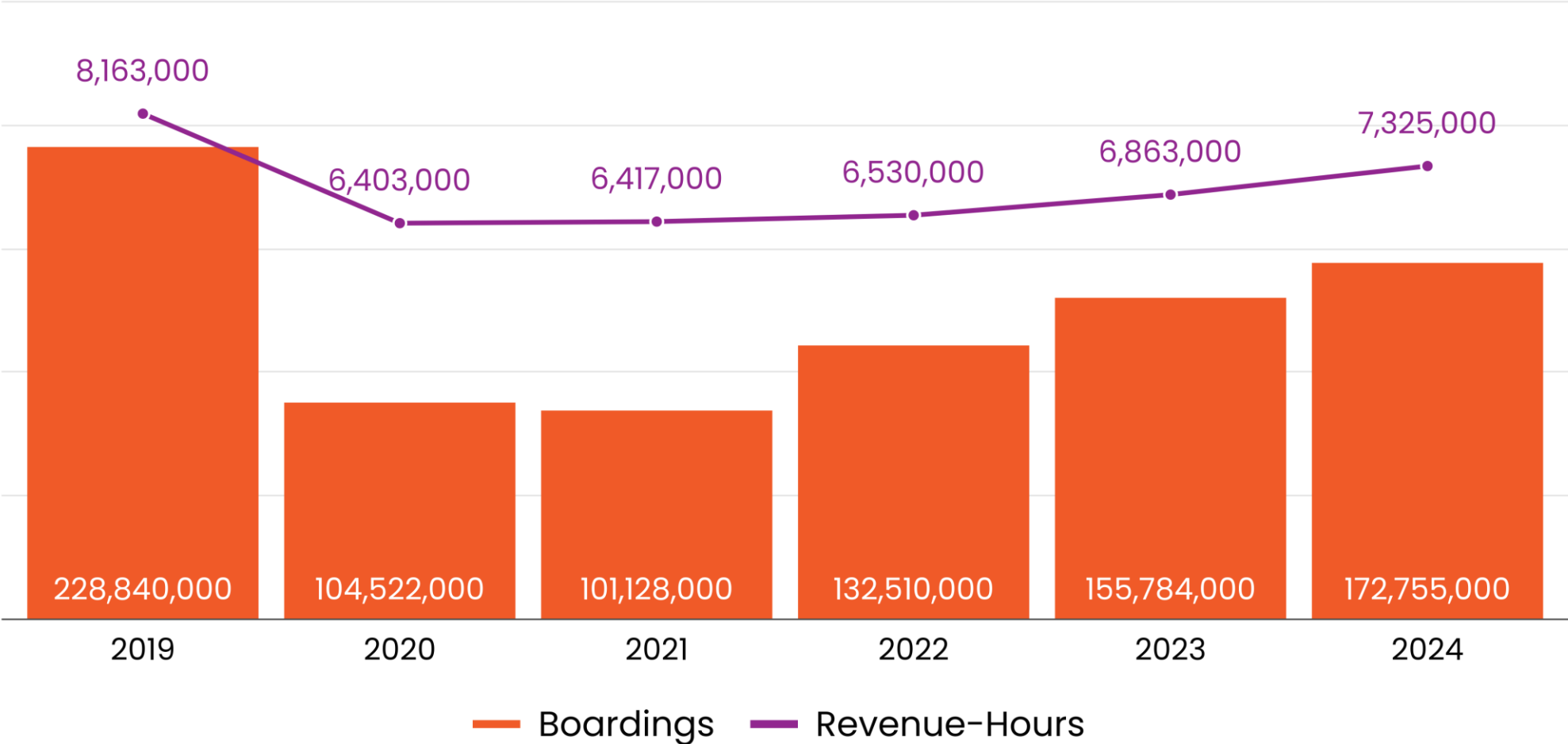
Access Mode for Transit Riders: Spring 2023



2024 Boardings were 75% of 2019 levels with 90% of the hours

Item 6

Annual Transit Boardings & Revenue-Hours



The RTP will analyze gaps in areas with supportive densities item 6

Transit Service & Densities

Density	Frequency & Span	Transit Service
at least 7 people + jobs per acre	Service with at least 2 trips per hour between 6am and 8pm	Local Transit
at least 15 people + jobs per acre	Service with at least 3 trips per hour between 4am and 10pm	All Day Service
at least 25 people + jobs per acre	Service with at least 5 trips per hour between 6am and 6pm	Frequent Service
at least 40 people + jobs per acre	BRT, Light Rail, Commuter Rail or Ferry	High-Capacity Transit

All analysis will include details for:

- Equity Focus Areas
- Counties
- Regional Geography
- Regional Centers



Gaps for Local Transit: 2024

Access to Local Transit Service: 2024

Density	# of People in these areas without service
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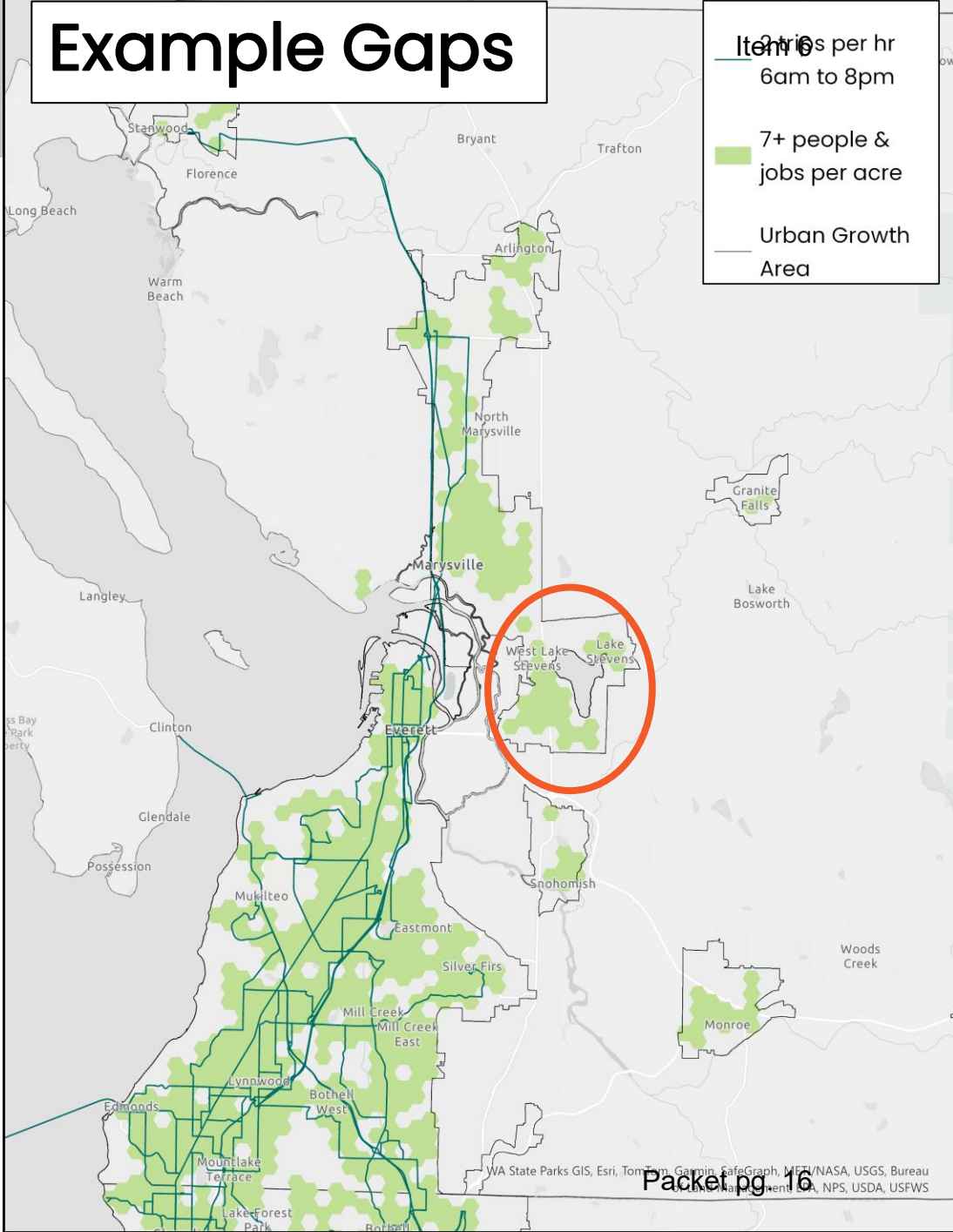
People in areas with 7 or more people & jobs per acre with service with at least 2 trips per hour between 6am and 8pm (**Local Transit**)

524,000
(18%)

Source: OFM Small Area Estimates, ACS 5yr Data & Fall 2024 GTFS by Agency

The Equity Focus analysis highlighted larger gaps in areas with higher shares of households with children under 18

Example Gaps



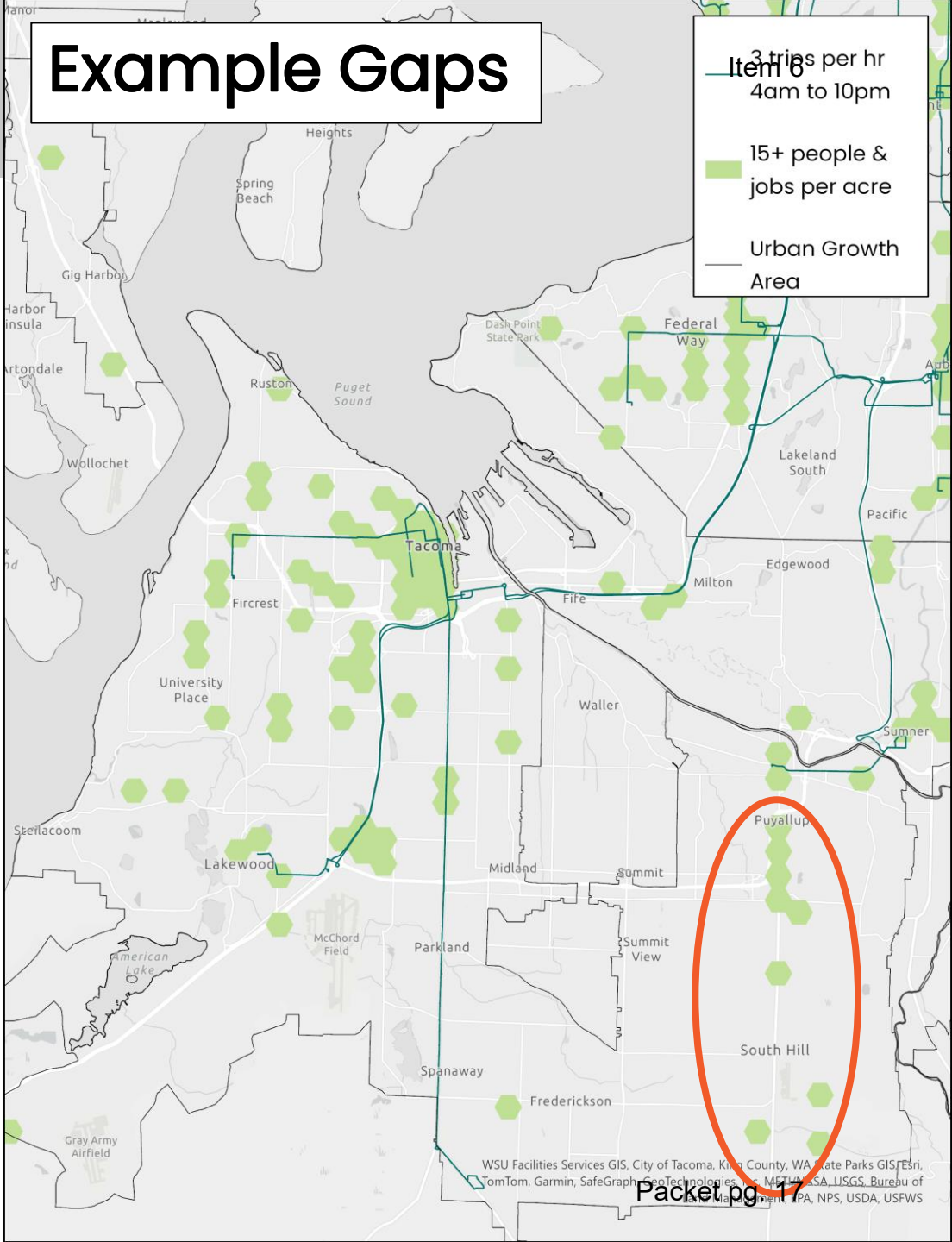
Gaps for All Day Transit: 2024

Access to All Day Transit Service: 2024

Density	# of People in these areas without service
<p>People in areas with 15 or more people & jobs per acre with service with at least 3 trips per hour between 4am and 10pm (All Day Transit)</p>	<p>234,000 (18%)</p>

Source: OFM Small Area Estimates, ACS 5yr Data & Fall 2024 GTFS by Agency

The Equity Focus analysis highlighted smaller gaps in areas with higher shares of households with Limited English proficiency



Gaps for Frequent Transit: 2024

Access to Frequent Transit Service: 2024

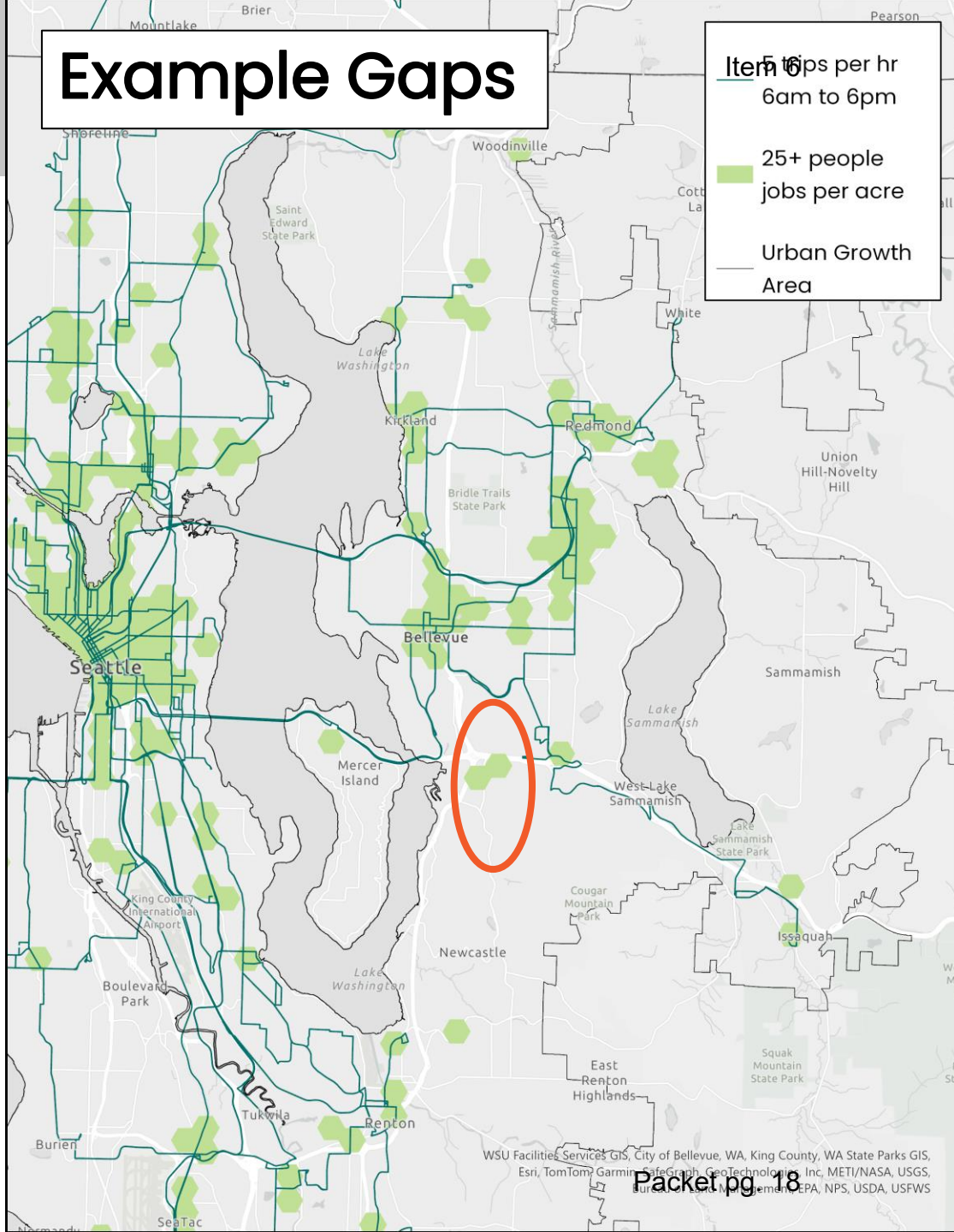
Density	# of People in these areas without service
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People in areas with 25 or more people & jobs per acre with service with at least 5 trips per hour between 6am and 6pm (**Frequent Transit**)

42,000 (7%)

Source: OFM Small Area Estimates, ACS 5yr Data & Fall 2024 GTFS by Agency

The Equity Focus analysis highlighted larger gaps in areas with higher shares of households with Lower Incomes



Gaps for HCT Transit: 2024

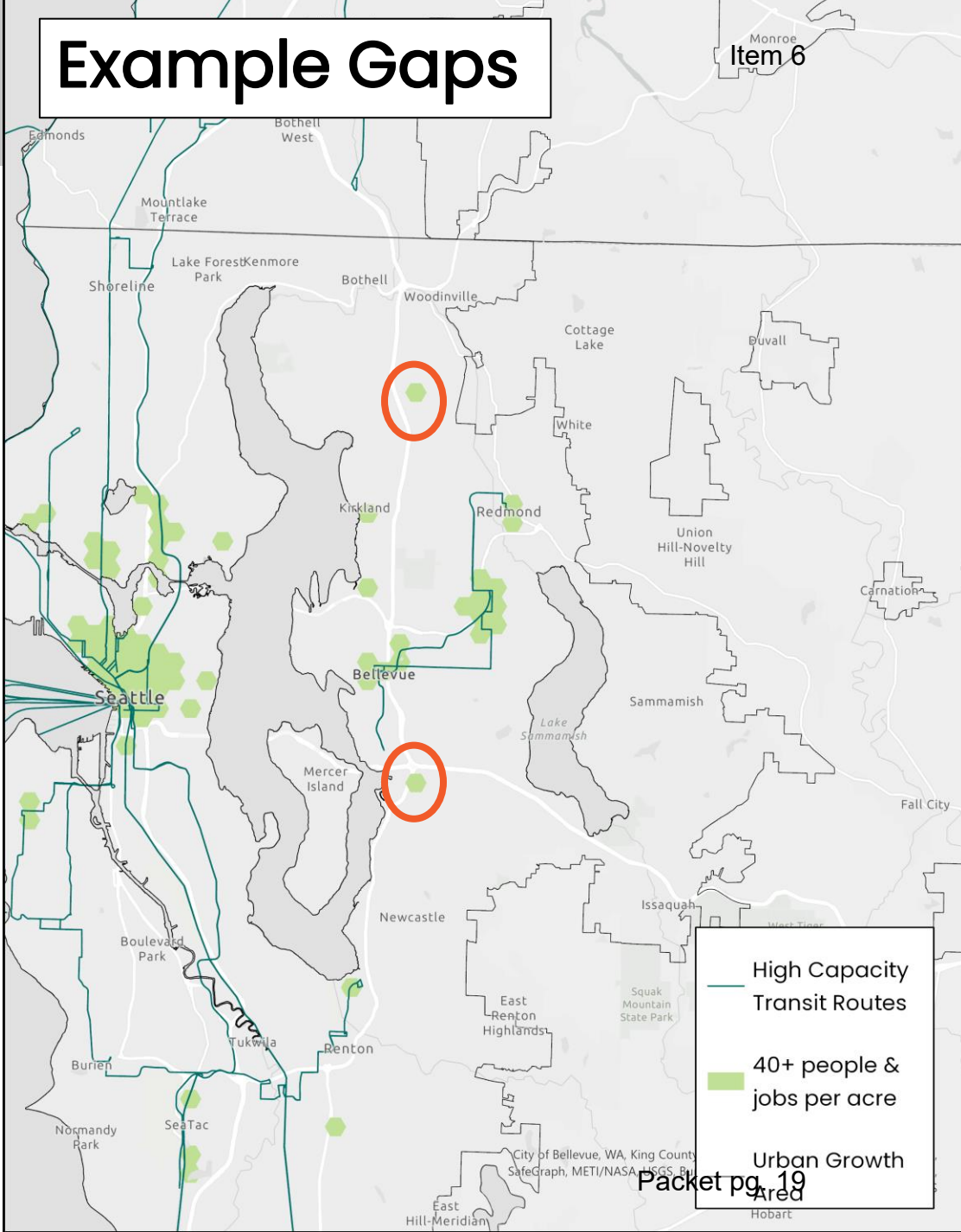
Access to HCT Transit Service: 2024

Density	# of People in these areas without service
People in areas with 40 or more people & jobs per acre with BRT, Light Rail, Streetcar, Commuter Rail or Ferry (High-Capacity Transit)	38,000 (12%)

Source: OFM Small Area Estimates, ACS 5yr Data & Fall 2024 GTFS by Agency

The Equity Focus analysis highlighted larger gaps in areas with higher shares of households with Older Adults

Example Gaps



Monroe
Item 6

- Transit ridership is recovering
- People take transit for more reasons than just to get to work
- There are gaps for all span & frequency combinations, based on where people and jobs are today
- Places with a higher share of people under 18 tend to have a larger gap than the entire region



Regional Transit-Oriented Development (RTOD) Committee
Local Transit Representation
2025-2027

Membership confirmed through a Transit Operations Committee (TOC) vote-by-email in February 2025.

King County Metro – Sarah Lovell

Everett Transit – Sabina Araya

Reminder: Sound Transit, WSDOT, and City of Seattle are already represented on the RTOD Committee through other membership nomination processes. The full RTOD Committee membership can be found at: <https://www.psrc.org/committee/regional-transit-oriented-development-committee-rtod>

Questions on the RTOD Committee can be directed to Liz Underwood-Bultmann at LUnderwood-Bultmann@psrc.org.

2025 TOC Planned Meeting Topics

Quarter 1 (January – March)

February 26:

- Discussion: PSRC guidance on RTP inputs from transit agencies
 - Future transit networks – 2035 and 2050
 - Regional Capacity Projects – only financially constrained. No unprogrammed
 - Financial and Maintenance & Preservation inputs
- Discussion: RTP Existing Conditions Report transit-related topics
 - Includes information on all types of transit, including micromobility and specialized transportation, MOD, TDM
- Discussion: Park & Ride Dashboard update
- Discussion: FTA-required regional transit performance metrics and actuals
- Info Item: TOC appointed local transit agency representatives on RTOD Committee (2025-2027)

Separate from TOC – hold a TDP coordination/outreach meeting.

March 26:

- Discussion: Check-in on transit inputs for RTP
- Discussion: Development of a Regional Transit Access Assessment
 - Schedule and initial discussion
- Discussion: Ferries and maintenance & preservation in the RTP
- Discussion: State of TDM and associated needs – follow-up on regional convening

Quarter 2 (April – June)

- Anticipate FTA annual adjustments – NOTE: PSRC will provide an update on this, as information is made available. In recent years, the annual adjustments have occurred in Q2 of the year.

April 23:

- Discussion: Introducing longer range transit corridor planning: how to identify future corridors?
- Discussion: Follow-up on RTP transit inputs for financial strategy discussion and modeling:
 - Review of Future Transit Network delivery and follow-ups
 - Potential: questions/discussion on transit-related financial data collection
- Discussion: Transit-related elements of RTP scenarios
- Discussion: Development of a Regional Transit Access Assessment

May 28:

- Discussion: Ferries in the RTP

- Discussion: Development of a Regional Transit Access Assessment
- Discussion: Transit-related elements of RTP scenarios
- Discussion: Coordinated Mobility Plan
 - Review of mobility needs
 - Developing strategies to address the needs

June 25:

- Discussion: Continuation on longer range transit corridor planning: how to identify future corridors? (if needed)
- Discussion: TDM needs and strategies

Quarter 3 (July – September)

July 23:

- Discussion: Development of a Regional Transit Access Assessment
- Discussion: Data collection for Regional FTA-required performance metrics
 - Update on method and timing of data collection
- Discussion: Microtransit/On-demand transit needs and strategies

August 27:

- HOLD MEETING DATE, if needed (Note: in 2024, TOC members requested cancellation of meetings in August)

September 24:

- Discussion: Initial modeling results – what it means for transit?
- Discussion: Development of draft RTP transit-related narrative focusing on future conditions
 - Includes all modes and types of transit, as well as transit-related programs, such as TDM, TOD, etc.

Quarter 4 (October – December)

October 22:

- Discussion: Development of draft RTP transit-related narrative focusing on future conditions
 - Includes all modes and types of transit, as well as transit-related programs, such as TDM, TOD, etc.
- Discussion: Regional Transit Access Assessment
- Discussion: Upcoming schedule for draft RTP release and formal comment period

December 3:

- HOLD MEETING DATE, IF NEEDED.



VISION 2050 AWARDS

Call for Nominations 2025

The Puget Sound Regional Council is seeking nominations for the VISION 2050 Awards Program through April 18, 2025.

The VISION 2050 Awards celebrate progress to enhance the region's communities and natural environment while advancing equity and opportunity for all. The awards recognize innovative work to create a better future for central Puget Sound.

We welcome nominations in the following categories:

On the Ground

Projects that show VISION 2050 in action today, including housing, mixed-use development or redevelopment, expanding access to opportunity, open space preservation, and transportation investments.

Planning Ahead

Comprehensive or subarea plans, economic development plans, climate action plans, equity initiatives, design guidelines, outreach programs, and other similar efforts that are shaping a positive future for the region.

Working Together

Cross-jurisdictional or public/private partnerships focused on solutions or working together to tackle tough problems and advance VISION 2050. Examples include multijurisdictional work on housing affordability, environmental and climate initiatives, corridor transportation planning, or other similar efforts to face long-term regional challenges.

The region's vision for 2050

is to provide exceptional quality of life, opportunity for all, connected communities, a spectacular natural environment, and an innovative, thriving economy. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at www.psrc.org

Eligibility

PSRC will only be accepting nominations directly from its [membership](#). Others seeking to nominate projects can do so through the member jurisdiction in which the project is located. PSRC will help connect potential nominees with local governments to help with the nomination process. Please contact [Michele Leslie](#) with questions.

Nominations must be for projects, programs, plans or partnerships within the four-county region of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties that help achieve VISION 2050. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at psrc.org/vision.

All nominated projects must be completed and open, plans must be adopted by their jurisdictions, programs must be in operation and partnerships must be formally working together.

Submit a Nomination!

Nominations must be submitted online through the [VISION 2050 Awards Nomination Form](#)

Learn more at: www.psrc.org

Scan the code for
the nomination form



Schedule

- April 18, 2025 – Nominations due
- April–May 2025 – Awards Selection Committee composed of PSRC board members will select the award winners
- Summer 2025 – Awards presented on location around the region

