

Regional Centers Monitoring and Redesignation | Scope of Work January 2024

Purpose

The Regional Centers Framework (2018) established criteria and planning expectations to ensure regional centers are developing as thriving and connected communities with sufficient market potential to accommodate new jobs and residents. At the time, several existing centers did not meet all adopted requirements.

The redesignation process will evaluate individual regional centers to determine how they meet criteria, planning the jurisdiction has completed, and redesignate as appropriate.

The monitoring process will evaluate how the region's system of centers is meeting regional objectives and determine whether updates to the framework may be needed.

Outcomes

Evaluate the success of the system of centers:

- Is the region achieving desired outcomes from the system?
- Does the region have the right number of centers?
- Are any changes needed to the Regional Centers Framework or in future updates to VISION 2050 to better achieve the desired outcomes for centers?

Consider designation applications for new regional centers:

Should any new regional centers be designated?

Confirm designation of existing centers with a clear redesignation process:

- Are individual centers meeting the criteria?
- How should the board address centers that don't meet criteria or have limited market potential?



Process and Timeline

Scoping

Products & Process:

- GMPB and PSRC committees provide initial direction on project scoping (Q3-Q4 2023)
- GMPB and Executive Board review final scope of work (Q1 2024)

System Monitoring

Products & Process:

- PSRC staff collect and analyze data based on existing data sources and local centers planning (Q1-Q3 2024)
- PSRC staff develops an initial system report evaluating how the regional system of centers is achieving desired outcomes (Q4 2024)
- PSRC staff updates system report to reflect comprehensive plan updates, growth targets, and revised capacity (Q1-Q3 2026)
- GMPB provides recommendations to the Executive Board on future updates to the Regional Centers Framework (e.g. density criteria, types of centers) (Q4 2026)

Key Questions:

- Is the region achieving desired outcomes from the system of centers?
 - Data categories include growth, mobility, housing, environment, social equity and opportunity, economic development, public health, and urban form
- Does the region have the right number of centers?
- Are any changes needed to the Regional Centers Framework or in future updates to VISION 2050 to better achieve the desired outcomes for centers?

New Center Application & Designation

Products & Process:

- PSRC staff issue call for applications and conduct outreach for new candidate centers (Q2-Q3 2025)
- Interested jurisdictions submit completed center applications (Q2-Q3 2025)

- PSRC staff review applications and provide recommendations to GMPB and Executive Board for designation (Q3-Q4 2025)
- GMPB makes recommendations and Executive Board takes action on any center designations (Q4 2025)

Key Questions

• Should any new regional centers be designated?

Criteria Reports for Individual Centers & Center Redesignation

Products & Process:

- PSRC staff develop draft criteria reports for individual centers on alignment with Regional Centers Framework requirements (Q1-Q3 2025)
- Jurisdictional staff review draft criteria reports and provide any additional context to support board review
- GMPB evaluates existing centers for redesignation and makes recommendations to Executive Board (Q4 2025)
- Executive Board takes action on centers redesignation (Q4 2025)
 - General Assembly action to update VISION 2050 may be required if changes impact regional geographies

Key Questions:

- Are individual centers meeting the criteria?
- How should the board address centers that don't meet criteria or have limited market potential?

Timeline

2024

- Scope of work
- Systems monitoring data collection & reporting

2025

- Applications & designation for new centers
- Criteria reports & redesignation of existing centers

2026

- Systems monitoring refresh
- Recommendations for Regional Center Framework update

Local Comprehensive Plan Adoption & Certification

For more information, please contact Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, at MMoore@psrc.org