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VISION 2040

Final Environmental Impact Statement

Puget Sound Regional Council



April 2008

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April 2008

Dear Member of the Puget Sound Regional Council and Interested Parties:

Enclosed is a copy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for VISION 2040, the long-range growth management, environmental, economic, and transportation strategy for the central Puget Sound region. VISION 2040 is scheduled to be adopted by the General Assembly of the Puget Sound Regional Council on April 24, 2008.

Preparation of VISION 2040 and the Final Environmental Impact Statement has included extensive agency and public involvement. Work on VISION 2040 and its environmental review was guided by the Regional Council's Growth Management and Transportation policy boards, the Economic Development District Board of Directors, and the Regional Council's Executive Board.

The Regional Council adopts and maintains VISION 2040, which addresses the question of how and where can the region absorb growth forecasted to the year 2040 while protecting the environment and our overall quality of life. VISION 2040 contains a regional growth strategy and the region's multicounty planning policies. Together, VISION 2040 and its functional plans for transportation (*Destination 2030*) and the economy (the Regional Economic Strategy) envision a future for our region and identify the actions we need to take to get there.

The Final Environmental Impact Statement analyzes the regional growth strategy (referred to as the Preferred Growth Alternative in the environmental review), as well as four other conceptual growth alternatives, for accommodating forecasted growth. For each element of the built and natural environment, the Final Environmental Impact Statement describes existing conditions, potential environmental impacts associated with each alternative, potential measures to mitigate the impacts of the growth, and potential unavoidable adverse impacts.

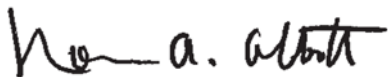
The Final Environmental Impact Statement combines the information found in the Draft and Supplement Draft Environmental Impact Statements, which were released in May 2006 and July 2007. The information in both of these drafts has been updated based on comments submitted during the two public comment periods.

In addition to the main environmental review document, there are two volumes of appendices. Volume I contains the supporting technical materials for the environmental impact statement. Volume II describes the public outreach process used to develop VISION 2040, includes all of the comment letters submitted, and includes a response to each comment within each comment letter.


The Final Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared in accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act, Revised Code of Washington 43.21C, and the adopted procedures for environmental impact statement preparation under Washington Administrative Code 197-11.

Copies of VISION 2040 and the Final Environmental Impact Statement are available through the Regional Council's Information Center at 206-464-7532, on the web at psrc.org, or through local libraries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Norman A. Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Norman A. Abbott
Director of Growth Management Planning and SEPA Responsible Official

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ivan Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'I'.

Ivan Miller
VISION 2040 EIS Project Manager



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