



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, January 8, 2026 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Optional: Post-Meeting Q&A from 7:30-8:00 pm

1. Welcome (5:30) – Julia Jannon-Shields & Shannon Turner, Co-Chairs

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for November 6, 2025*
- b. EAC Member Announcements & Check In
- c. New Member Introductions
- d. Staff Announcements
- e. Policy Board Meeting Summaries*

3. Discussion Item (5:50)

- a. Review 2026 EAC Calendar* – *Charles Patton, PSRC*

4. Discussion Item (5:55)

- a. Tribal Engagement* – *Erika Harris, PSRC*

5. Break (6:30)

6. Discussion Item (6:40)

- a. Tribal Engagement Cont.* – *Erika Harris, PSRC*

7. Discussion Item (6:50)

- a. Quarterly Engagement Activity* – *Noah Boggess, PSRC*

8. Zoom Poll (7:25)

9. Next meeting: February 5, 2026

The EAC regularly meets on the first Thursday of the month, from 5:30-7:30 pm, unless otherwise specified. See below for the 2026 meeting dates:

- February 5
- March 5
- April 2
- May 7
- June 4
- July 9 - Held on the second Thursday
- No meeting in August
- September 3
- October 1

- November 5
- December 3

10. Adjourn (7:30)

Optional Post-Meeting Q&A (7:30) – Charles Patton, PSRC

*Supporting materials attached.

Members can access the attendance sheet [here](#) to complete and submit to finance@psrc.org for compensation.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join the webinar, please click the following link: <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/87411440791?pwd=3H2vNylajib7CJlQRcUOAj1hT0gE2.1> and enter Passcode:697382.
- To join by phone, call 833 548 0282 US Toll Free or 877 853 5257 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 874 1144 0791 and Passcode: 697382.
- 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

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: November 6, 2025

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the [Equity Advisory Committee webpage](#). Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

Welcome

Shannon Turner, from Kitsap County, and Julia Jannon-Shields, from King County, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The co-chairs welcomed everyone and asked Mikayla to begin the roll call for attendance.

Staff Announcements

Charles updated the committee on the incoming EAC member selection process and shared that the PSRC Executive Board would be taking action on the proposed cohort at the December meeting. The 2026 membership roster of the Equity Advisory Committee is available [here](#).

Charles encouraged members to attend, or share with their networks, the virtual public meeting PSRC hosted for public feedback on the draft Regional Transportation Plan.

The flyer is available [here](#).

Charles and EAC representatives briefed the committee on the work of the Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board.

Discussion Item: GMPB and TPB Board Representatives Selection

Charles shared more about the roles and responsibilities of Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) and Transportation Policy Board (TPB) representatives and alternates.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

Members then completed a poll to select the EAC members and alternates to serve on the two PSRC policy boards. The individuals representing the EAC are:

Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)

- Corey Orvold – GMPB representative
- Laurene Sayles – GMPB alternate

Transportation Policy Board (TPB)

- Autrina Martindale – TPB representative
- Jewel Shepherd-Sampson – TPB alternate

Questions? Contact Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives, at cpatton@psrc.org.

Discussion: Regional Economic Strategy Update

Due to technical issues, the schedule was updated for this topic to be presented before the PSRC 2026 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature. Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, led a discussion with the Equity Advisory Committee on the update process and opportunities to advance equity in the agency's economic development work. Members shared feedback on the draft Regional Economic Strategy that prioritized:

- Affordable housing, prioritizing housing within a one-hour commute of areas with job development
- Affordable childcare
- Concern for community access to public transit for daily tasks during major sporting events, i.e. the World Cup
- ADU programs that allow individuals living on a fixed income without extra finances to build an ADU
- Mindful of descriptors for different working sectors

You can view the presentation [here](#).

Questions? Contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org.

Discussion: PSRC 2026 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature

Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, briefed the Equity Advisory Committee on the process to adopt recommendations to the 2026 Washington State Legislature and asked the committee for feedback.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

Questions? Contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org.

Adjourn

At the close of the meeting, members participated in a poll to evaluate the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Members Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Charles Patton, PSRC
Mikayla Svob, PSRC
Robin Koskey, PSRC
Jason Thibedeau, PSRC

ATTACHMENT:

A. EAC Member Attendance for the November 6, 2025, Meeting

PSRC Equity Advisory Committee - Attendance Roster

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Growth Management Policy Board | At Work


Puget Sound Regional Council

November 6, 2025

Federal and State Policy Update

PSRC staff briefed the Growth Management Policy Board on the federal government shutdown and the state operating budget. Staff also thanked board members for signing a letter to Senator Murray about protecting Continuum of Care funding, a program that supports homelessness programs around the region. [Learn more](#) about the support letter. View the [policy update video](#) and [policy update presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org.

Regional Centers Redesignation

The board reviewed regional centers criteria and continued the discussion of redesignation for existing centers. PSRC staff shared drafts of center criteria and certification reports for nine existing centers in Everett, Seattle, and Tacoma.

In early 2026, staff will ask the board to make a recommendation to the Executive Board on redesignating regional centers. View the [Centers video](#) and [Centers presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Liz Underwood Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org, or Nancy Ferber, Senior Planner, at nferber@psrc.org.

2025 Housing Monitoring Update: The Year of Policy Change

The Growth Management Policy Board provided feedback on how housing monitoring data can help jurisdictions meet new state housing requirements. PSRC staff shared new metrics and analysis on housing affordability, the production of emergency housing, and permanent supportive housing.

The housing policy landscape is evolving at all levels of government and PSRC will continue to monitor and report findings to the board. View the [Housing Monitoring video](#) and [Housing Monitoring presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Eric Clute, Associate Planner, at eclute@psrc.org.

Regional Economic Strategy Update

PSRC staff provided a brief update on the development of the Regional Economic Strategy, including an overview of the draft process and in particular the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis. The inputs from the SWOT analysis in tandem with the Engagement Hub responses will inform the update to the Regional Economic Strategy.

In December, the Economic Development District Board will discuss strategy prioritization for implementation and PSRC's role in regional economic development. View the [RES video](#) and [RES presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org or 206-389-2879.

A video of the meeting is available on the [Watch Board Meetings page](#). Meeting materials, including agendas and presentations, can be found on the [Agendas & Resources page](#). Results can be filtered by board or committee name.



December 13, 2025

Regional Transportation Plan Release for Public Comment

The board reviewed the draft Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and authorized its release for public comment. The public comment period begins December 15 and will end February 2, 2026. Visit the [RTP Engagement Hub](#) for draft plan materials. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601 or Gil Cerise, Program Manager, at gcerise@psrc.org or 206-971-3053

PSRC's Project Selection Process

The board was briefed on the schedule for the next project selection process for PSRC's Federal Highway Administration and Federal Transit Administration funds. Staff will work with the board and PSRC's advisory committees in 2026 to review the Policy Framework, with the call for projects anticipated to occur in early 2027. The processes to distribute Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program and Transportation Alternatives Program funding, originally scheduled to occur in fall 2025, will be held in early 2026. [View video](#).

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.

Year In Review

Staff provided highlights of transportation investments and milestones that occurred in the region throughout 2025. The 2025-2028 Regional Transportation Improvement Program included over 600 projects and over \$16 billion programmed, representing over \$60 billion of project investments. Examples of project completions, ribbon cuttings and major milestones were noted, A look ahead to 2026 including expected project completions and PSRC's work program was also provided. [View video.](#)

For more information, please contact Jennifer Barnes, Program Manager, at jbarnes@psrc.org or 206-389-2876.

A video of the meeting is available on the [Watch Board Meetings page](#). Meeting materials, including agendas and presentations, can be found on the [Agendas & Resources page](#). Results can be filtered by board or committee name.



Puget Sound Regional Council

January 8, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee
From: Erika Harris, Senior Planner
Subject: Tribal Engagement

IN BRIEF

The Equity Advisory Committee will hear about Puget Sound Regional Council's work to engage and coordinate with Tribes in the region.

DISCUSSION

The central Puget Sound region is a part of a larger area that is the traditional aboriginal territory of the Coast Salish peoples. The [Coast Salish Tribes](#) have lived here since time immemorial and while each Tribe is unique, all share in having a deep historical connection and legacy of respect for the land and natural resources. These sovereign Tribal Nations enrich the region through environmental stewardship, cultural heritage and economic development, and collaborate with local governments to shape the region's future.

PSRC recognizes and respects the full sovereignty of each Tribe, and their traditional lands located within the jurisdictional boundaries of PSRC members. Treaties are the highest law of the land and were made between sovereign Tribes and the United States. As sovereign nations, each Tribe has its own form of government, constitution or charter, laws and planning processes.

[VISION 2050](#) added an increased emphasis on Tribes in the region and supports meaningful, regular and ongoing exchange of information for better informed decision-making and mutual understanding between Indian Tribes as sovereign nations and PSRC member jurisdictions.

VISION 2050 policy, MPP-RC-4, directs the members of PSRC to coordinate with Tribes in regional and local planning, recognizing the mutual benefits and potential for impacts between growth occurring within and outside Tribal boundaries. In coordination with the Tribes in the region, PSRC has prepared [guidance on coordination with Tribes in comprehensive planning](#). Further, PSRC supports partnerships with Tribes on cultural and natural resource protection, fish and wildlife habitat restoration, economic development, climate change adaptation and mitigation actions and other issues of Tribal interest. To provide information on the past treatment of Tribes, PSRC created a Tribes chapter in the interactive report on the [Legacy of Structural Racism](#). This includes information on [Tribal treaty rights](#).

Passed during the 2022 legislative session, [HB 1717](#) facilitates Tribal participation in planning under the Growth Management Act, including comprehensive plan updates. HB 1717 creates a procedure for Tribes to communicate their intention to participate in comprehensive plan updates and provides a way to formalize the agreement to collaborate. The new law also includes a provision for mediation services for parties to resolve conflicts. These services are coordinated by the Department of Commerce.

This intentional effort to coordinate planning with the Tribes has not always been the case. VISION 2040 provided much less guidance about Tribes, and the coordination with Tribes during local comprehensive plan updates has often been cursory. With the changes in VISION 2050 and state law and a broader recognition of the Tribes in our region, the engagement and coordination between Tribes and local governments is improving.

At the January meeting, Erika Harris, AICP, a Senior Planner in PSRC's Growth Management group, will present information on PSRC's engagement and coordination with Tribes in the region. This will include current transportation and Puget Sound recovery planning work.

Questions for the committee:

- Have you worked with communities that have limited capacity? How have you navigated this challenge to make the engagement experience more meaningful and collaborative?
- PSRC will engage with Tribes on the development of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan in 2026. Do you have any suggestions for improving engagement with Tribes on this topic?

NEXT STEPS

Committee members are encouraged to share the [Tribal coordination guidance document](#) with local jurisdictions that they work with.

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



Puget Sound Regional Council

January 8, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee

From: Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist

Subject: **Icebreaker and Future Quarterly Engagement Activities**

IN BRIEF

The EAC is adding five more members at the beginning of 2026. The January meeting will be an opportunity for new and existing members to share a bit about themselves and get to know one another. This will be facilitated through an icebreaker activity for the entire EAC.

Looking ahead as we move through 2026, EAC members will join breakout sessions, which will serve as loosely structured times for the EAC to meet in groups of five and get to know one another better. These sessions will last about 20 minutes.

Each member will have the opportunity to serve as a facilitator and will be responsible for moving the conversation along. Facilitators will have their choice to:

- Introduce themselves to the group in more detail, sharing about their career and journey to the EAC.
- Discuss the EAC workplan, bouncing ideas off fellow members about topics in the year to come.
- Discuss issues the region is facing (e.g. affordable housing crisis).
- Get to know the small group better and continue to break the ice with the new cohort.

April Leads	June Leads
Annie Tran	Erin Bryant-Thomas
Debbie Lacy	Rhea Biswas
Julia Jannon-Shields	Thanh Nguyen
Lisa Espinosa	Gabriela A. Ituarte
Megan Espinoza	Jewel Shepherd-Sampson

September Leads	October Leads
Maria Fergus	Laurenne Sayles
Shannon Turner	Sophia Lana Castro
Corey Orvold	Autrina Martindale
Julius Moss	Vivian Obah
Keshreeyaji R. Oswal	

Staff want this lift to be as light as possible, and members are not expected to spend too much time or energy preparing for it. Staff will have some questions for facilitators in the event they are unable to prepare to facilitate a meeting.

NEXT STEPS

Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org with questions or comments.