



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, February 5, 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 January 8, 2026*
- b. EAC Member Announcements & Check In
- c. Staff Announcements
- d. Policy Board Meeting Summaries*

2. Discussion Item (5:50)

- a. Co-chair Background and Selection Process* – *Charles Patton, PSRC*

3. Discussion Item (6:05)

- a. PSRC Federal and State Budget Priorities and 2026 Recommendations to the WA State Legislature* – *Robin Koskey & Alyssa Quinn, PSRC*

4. Break (6:30)

5. Discussion Item (6:05)

- a. PSRC Federal and State Budget Priorities and 2026 Recommendations to the WA State Legislature Cont.* – *Robin Koskey & Alyssa Quinn, PSRC*

6. Information Item

- a. VISION 2050 Awards: Call for Nominations Flyer*

7. Zoom Poll (7:25)

8. Next meeting: March 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 upcoming 2026 meeting dates:

- 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/85059272661?pwd=LdM5XmAJJg67doAERxKbKvuaaz0rmd.1> and enter Passcode:060458.
- To join by phone, call 888 475 4499 US Toll Free or 833 548 0276 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 850 5927 2661 and Passcode: 060458.
- 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: January 8, 2026

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.

Jewel Sheperd-Sampson and Shannon Turner both shared Martin Luther King Jr. Day events happening throughout Bainbridge Island and Kitsap County, including the MLK Celebration 2026 with Kitsap ERACE, Living Arts Cultural Heritage Project, and other local organizations. More information is available [here](#).

New EAC members were encouraged to introduce themselves and to share more about their work in community and the region.

Staff Announcements

Noah Boggess shared that the draft Regional Transportation Plan is out for public comment and encouraged members to share the [Regional Transportation Plan Public Comment Outreach Toolkit](#) with their networks. He also prepared members for an ice breaker engagement activity later in the evening.

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

Discussion Item: Review 2026 EAC Calendar

Charles shared a brief overview of topics on the EAC calendar.

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

Discussion Item: Tribal Engagement

Erika Harris, Senior Planner, shared with the committee the work of Puget Sound Regional Council to engage and coordinate with Tribes in the region. In breakout rooms, members discussed the topics below:

Topic 1:

Have you worked with communities that have limited capacity? How have you navigated this challenge to make the engagement experience more meaningful and collaborative?

- Coordinate with other agencies that work alongside communities with limited capacity to share information before overburdening communities by re-asking questions
- Engage with communities by attending events you were invited to; work to build relationships that extend beyond the transactional
- Reach out and connect on a personal level with staff and community members
- When opportunities for funding arise, share information and resources, and/or contribute to events and partnerships
- Approach Tribes at their elder council meetings and introduce yourselves
- Maintain regular email and text relationships
- These partnerships require time and continuous effort to be meaningful and genuine

Topic 2:

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?

- Engage with the Tribes ready to listen
- Acknowledge the harm caused by the agencies or organizations you are a part of
- Have the Tribes communicated how they prefer to engage or communicate?
- Go into conversations with a mindset of what you can offer, not what just what you can take

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

Questions? Contact Erika Harris, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org.

Discussion Item: Quarterly Engagement Activity

EAC members participated in an ice breaker, where each member shared an item of personal significance and explained the background of each item to the committee.

Questions? Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@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
Noah Boggess, PSRC

Erika Harris, PSRC

ATTACHMENT:

A. EAC Member Attendance for the January 8, 2026, Meeting



January 15, 2026

Government Relations Update

PSRC staff updated the Growth Management Policy Board on the ongoing state legislative session and federal funding changes. Staff highlighted aspects of Governor Ferguson's proposed budget and encouraged Board members to [sign a support letter](#) for the Governor's supplemental transportation budget proposal. View the [legislative update video](#) and [legislative update presentation](#).

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

Recommend Certification of Comprehensive Plans

The Board recommended certification of the Des Moines comprehensive plan. PSRC staff presented highlights of the overall certification process and comprehensive plan updates. Staff also shared initial results from a survey on the PSRC comprehensive plan certification process and asked for additional feedback from Board members to capture successes and challenges. View the [Certification video](#) and [Certification presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Paul Ingraham, Director of Growth Management, at pingram@psrc.org, or Liz Underwood Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org.

Regional Centers Redesignation

The board reviewed regional growth centers criteria and continued the discussion of redesignation for existing centers. PSRC staff shared the next batch of draft center criteria and certification reports for 12 centers.

Next month, staff will share a final batch of reports and 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.

2026 Regional TOD Committee Work Plan

The Board reviewed the 2026 work plan for the Regional Transit-Oriented Development Committee (RTODC) and provided input. The committee will begin implementation of the work plan at its next meeting on March 20, 2026. View the [TOD video](#) and [TOD presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Liz Underwood Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org.

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.



January 8th, 2026

Legislative Briefing

The board was provided with updates on current and upcoming work of the Washington State Legislature. The 2026 Washington State legislative session will begin on January 12. Current transportation budget plans include \$1 billion for three ferries and \$2.1 billion in maintenance and preservation. View [the press release budget summary](#). [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at Rkoskey@psrc.org or 206-798-4462.

Project Tracking Policies

The board was briefed on two potential updates to PSRC's adopted project tracking policies. The purpose of PSRC's project tracking program is to monitor the delivery of projects awarded PSRC's federal funds. PSRC's Regional Project Evaluation Committee (RPEC) has been discussing two revisions to the adopted tracking policies. These include modifying the limit for administrative transfer of PSRC funds between phases of a project and consideration of increased cost estimates during annual supplemental funding awards and application of increased federal shares. The board will review and take action on the final RPEC recommendation in February. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

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

2026 Work Program

The board discussed PSRC's 2026 transportation work program. The first part of the year will include reviewing public comments on the Regional Transportation Plan and finalizing the plan before adoption by the General Assembly in May. The board

was asked for feedback on other topics of interest throughout 2026, including briefings on major transportation projects, safety, climate and others. Staff will prepare a refreshed Transportation Work Program Tracker to be included in future agenda packets. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

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

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

February 5, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee
From: Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives
Subject: **EAC Co-chairs**

IN BRIEF

During its meeting on February 5, 2026, Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) members will learn about the roles and responsibilities of committee co-chairs and about how they will select co-chairs.

DISCUSSION

During its meeting on February 5, 2026, EAC members will learn about the roles and responsibilities of committee co-chairs and about how they will select co-chairs. Members will also be asked about their interest in serving a one-year term as a co-chair for the committee. Responsibilities for the position include:

- Meeting preparation (e.g., participating in meeting dry runs)
- Facilitating discussions (e.g., monitoring the chat for questions)
- Providing leadership (e.g., representing the committee at one to two Executive Board meetings)

Members who express interest in this position will be asked to submit a brief questionnaire (see Attachment A). This will be used to provide some additional information about each candidate, so EAC members can make an informed decision about who they would like to serve as their co-chairs. The responses to this questionnaire will be included in the meeting packet for the March meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The election will be held during the March 5, 2026, EAC meeting using an online polling platform. All votes will be anonymous.

For additional information, please contact Charles Patton, Program Manager, at cpatton@psrc.org.

ATTACHMENT:

- A. Example Co-chair Candidate Form – Stearns

Chris Stearns

(he/him)

King County



Chris serves as a councilmember for the City of Auburn. He’s been committed to fighting for racial equity and justice as a lawyer representing Indian tribes across the nation and has also served in positions within the federal government devoted to upholding treaty rights and improving services to Indian tribes.

Why do you want to serve as a co-chair (75-word limit)?

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What experiences and/or skills do you have that will help you serve as an effective co-chair (75-word limit)?

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Why are you interested in advancing racial equity and what have you done to help reduce racial inequities (75-word limit)?

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Puget Sound Regional Council

February 5, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee

From: Robin Koskey, Director, Government Relations & Communications &
Alyssa Quinn, Senior Government Relations Specialist

Subject: **Federal and State Policy Updates & PSRC 2026 Recommendations to the State Legislature**

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will brief the Equity Advisory Committee on current state and federal budget and policy developments and provide an update on the PSRC 2026 recommendations to the Washington State Legislature.

DISCUSSION

Federal

PSRC continues to monitor the impact of proposed legislation, rule-making, and federal funding directives for our region, including progress on appropriations, Continuum of Care and surface transportation reauthorization. We are also keeping in close contact with members of our federal delegation to relay consequences of actions at the federal level to local governments and our region.

State

The Washington State Legislature began their 60-day, short legislative session on January 12, 2026, and PSRC is tracking legislative proposals and the Legislature's response to Governor Ferguson's proposed supplemental budget.

PSRC 2026 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature

On an annual basis, the Executive Board adopts recommendations to the Legislature to support progress on adopted regional plans and policies. PSRC staff discussed the recommendations and asked for feedback from the EAC in November. An update will

be provided on the final 2026 recommendations as adopted by the Executive Board in December of 2025.

Discussion Questions:

- What emerging issues are you or your networks working on the federal level and during the 2026 state legislative session?

For more information, contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org or 206-798-4462.

ATTACHMENT

- A. PSRC 2026 Recommendations to the State Legislature

Recommendations to the 2026 State Legislature



Puget Sound Regional Council

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) seeks to address regional growth through policies that advance affordable housing, connected transportation, sustainability and a strong economy.

We acknowledge the challenging economic conditions facing our state and region, compounded by federal-level uncertainty and declining state revenue. PSRC values the Legislature's continued partnership and commitment to working with local governments and elected officials to implement shared priorities.

Keep the Region Moving Safely

A reliable, efficient transportation system is critical infrastructure to build a thriving region where people are connected to homes and jobs. All transportation investments should be planned and implemented with emphasis on safety to reduce deaths and serious injuries on the region's roadways.

- Sustain transportation investments to fully fund maintenance and preservation, ensure projects of regional significance are built, and provide tools to address local funding needs, the largest revenue gap for the region.
- Develop an alternative to the state gas tax through an equitable road usage charge or highway use fee system.
- Continue capital and workforce investment in the Washington State Ferries system to ensure reliable service.

Increase Housing Choices and Affordability

Housing affordability continues to be a top concern of residents and local elected officials in communities in the region. We need to build 620,000 more homes by 2044 and 50% of these homes need to be affordable to people earning less than half of the Area Median Income.

- Invest in operating and capital subsidies to create affordable homes to meet local needs and create homeownership opportunities for Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) households.
- Adopt policies to increase housing supply in coordination with local governments to ensure practical and effective implementation.
- Establish the Housing Futures Center at the University of Washington to provide timely analysis and data-driven research for policymakers to address urgent housing needs in our state.

Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Enact legislation to respond to the urgent environmental, health, economic and equity threats of climate change through:

- Transit-focused land use.
- Multimodal transportation choices.
- Pricing the transportation system.
- Decarbonization of the transportation system, including freight, transit, ferries, passenger vehicles and fuels.

Sustain a Strong Economy

- Invest in workforce development programs to support workers and meet the needs of employers and a growing economy, including electrification of the transportation system.
- Commit resources to critical infrastructure to support economic development, including broadband.
- Support clean energy industry technology like Sustainable Aviation Fuel (SAF), offshore wind, fusion, hydrogen, and other emerging technologies.

For more information, please contact:

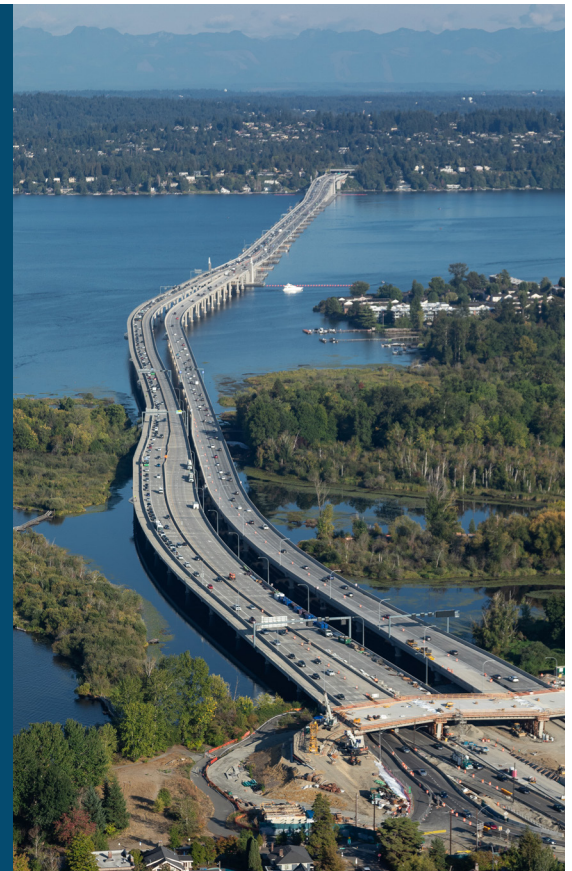
Robin Koskey

Director of Government Relations & Communications
RKoskey@psrc.org | 206-798-4462

Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) develops policies and coordinates decisions about regional growth, transportation and economic development planning within King, Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties. PSRC is composed of nearly 100 members, including the four counties, cities and towns, ports, state and local transportation agencies and Tribal governments within the region.

PSRC recommendations to the Washington State Legislature support implementation of regionally adopted policies and plans, including:

- [VISION 2050](#)
- [Regional Transportation Plan](#)
- [Regional Housing Strategy](#)
- [Comprehensive Climate Action Plan](#)
- [Regional Economic Strategy](#)



VISION 2050 AWARDS



Puget Sound Regional Council

Call for Nominations 2026

The Puget Sound Regional Council is seeking nominations for the VISION 2050 Awards Program through **March 27, 2026**.

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.

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



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