

Regional Centers Framework Scoping

Growth Management Policy Board

June 18, 2026



Puget Sound Regional Council

Agenda

- Centers Background
- Purpose and Timeline
- Potential Framework Topics
 - Regional Growth Centers
 - Manufacturing/Industrial Centers
- Discussion: Direction on Scope
- Next steps



Questions to Consider

- Does the board have any feedback regarding the proposed list of topics for the Framework update to address?
- Given the limited scope of this update, are there any topics that would be better addressed during a future review or during the VISION update?
- Other thoughts?



Regional Centers Background

Regional Centers Context

VISION 2050 & Regional Growth Strategy



Planned for major growth



Focus for local planning



Major transit destinations



Protect rural and natural resource areas



Priority areas for PSRC's federal transportation funding

30
Regional
Growth
Centers

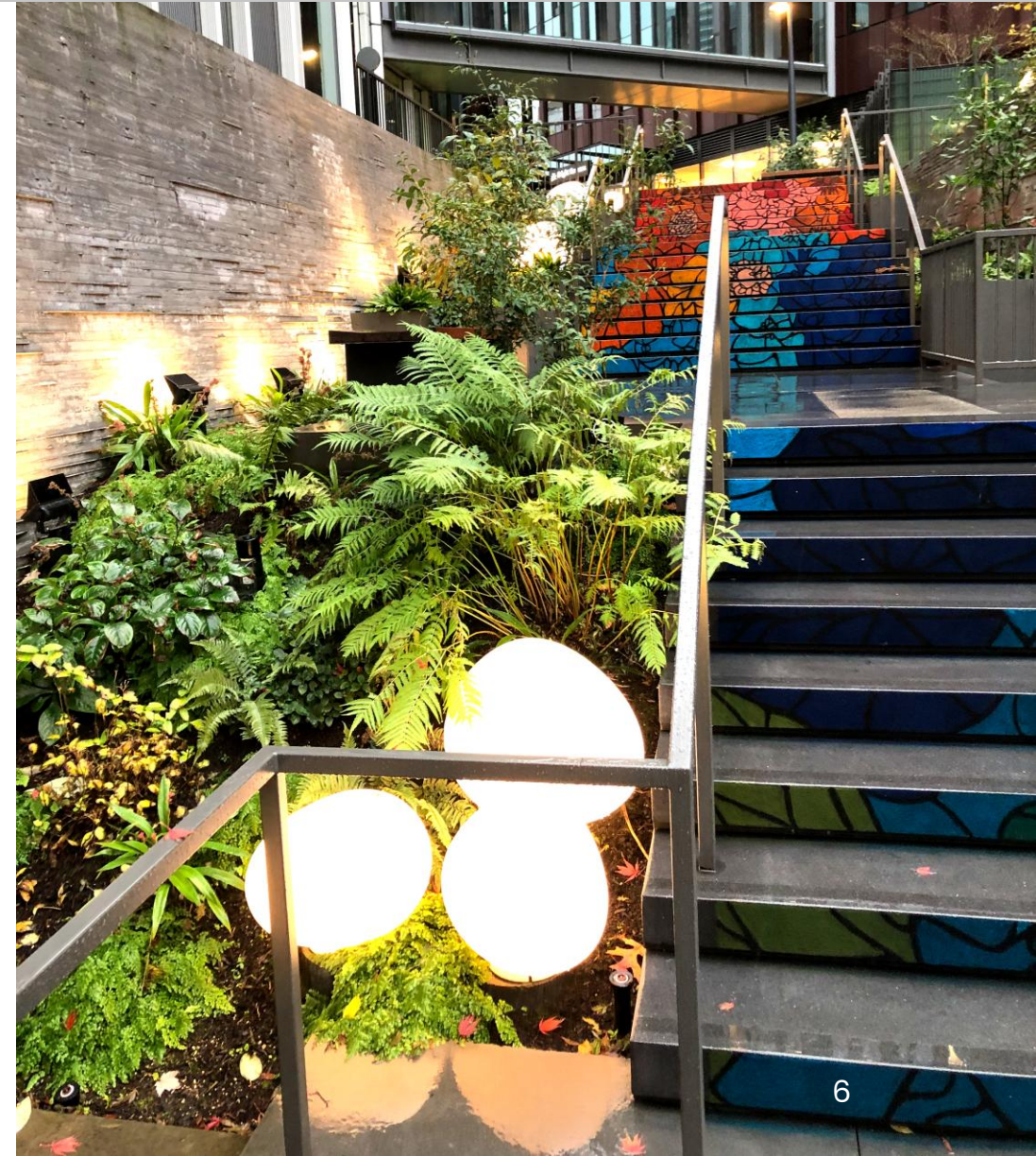
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Manufacturing
Industrial
Centers



Role of the Regional Centers Framework

2018 Regional Centers Framework

- Criteria and planning expectations for regional centers
- Process to designate countywide centers
- Monitoring/redesignating process



Why Update the Centers Framework Now?

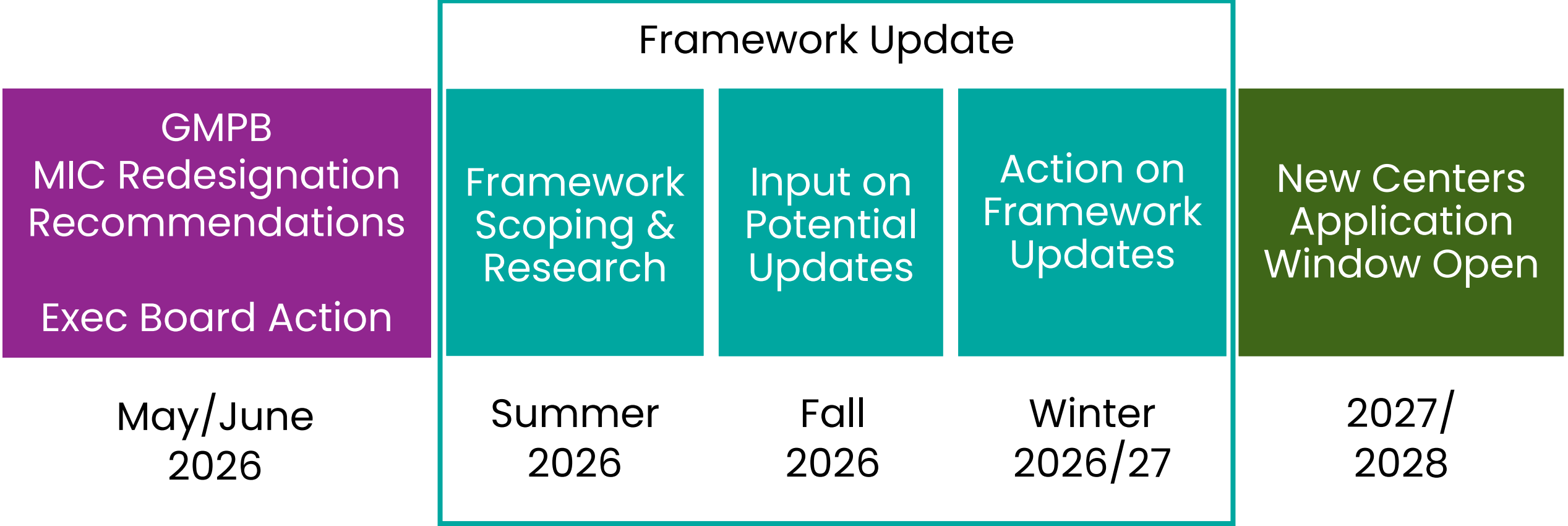


- New state laws for TOD and housing
- Feedback from redesignation and systems monitoring
- Changes on the ground
- New centers application window (2027)

Goal: continue to support centers



Regional Centers Process & Timeline



Engagement & Outreach

Group	Focus
Regional Staff Committee	Review policy options
Equity Advisory Committee	Review subarea planning checklists
Regional Transit-Oriented Development Committee	Consistency with state TOD law
Countywide Planning Groups	Communication/Key Milestones





Framework Updates – Identifying Themes



Previous Board Discussion



- Establish a boundary exception policy
- Align policies with other requirements
- Support housing affordability
- Encourage “sense of place” to promote livable communities
- Improve clarity for new center applications



Proposed Topics



Regional Growth Centers

- TOD/Density
- Housing
- Boundaries
- Sense of Place



Manufacturing/ Industrial Centers

- Economic Demands
- “Core Industrial Zones”
- Environmental Impacts



Other

- Minor updates & process improvements
- EAC –Subarea Planning Input



Proposed Topics: Regional Growth Centers

Density & Alignment with TOD

- Review existing/planned densities
- Consistency with HB 1491 (density near transit)

Housing

- Types & affordability
- Consistency with new state laws

Boundaries & Connectivity

- Size, shape, addressing areas divided by highways
- Board directed exception policy

Sense of Place

- Encourage unique sense of place/livable centers



Board Feedback



Regional Growth Centers

- TOD/Density
- Housing
- Boundaries
- Sense of Place

- Is this the right list of regional growth center topics to explore in this update?



Proposed Topics: Manufacturing/Industrial Centers

Compatible Uses

- Reevaluate definition of “core industrial zoning”

Environmental Impacts

- Research/guidance on disproportionate community impacts

Economic Shifts

- Evaluate shifts of demand within MICs
- Assess job impacts

Admin/Other

- Minor updates to process or criteria
- EAC input on subarea planning



Board Feedback



Manufacturing/ Industrial Centers

- Economic Demands
- “Core Industrial Zones”
- Environmental Impacts

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Summary Policy Priorities: Regional Staff Committee

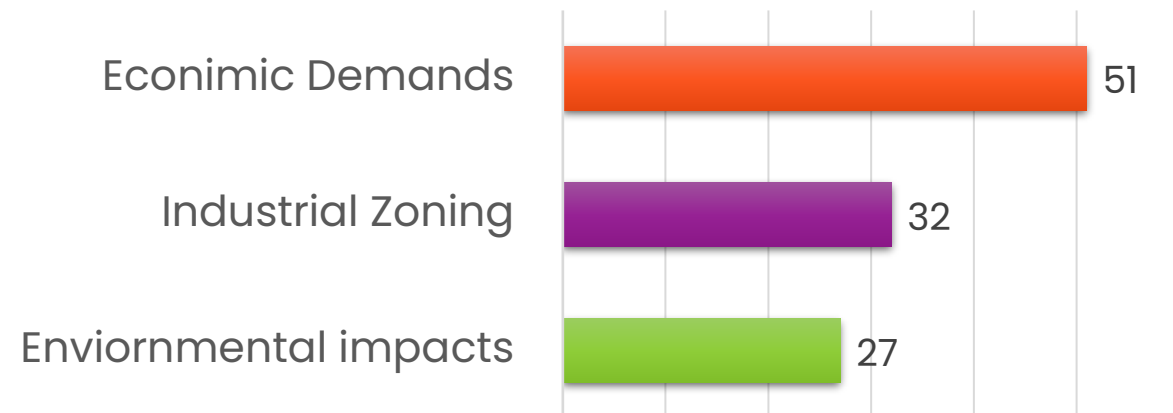
Committee Input:

- List captures major areas of interest
- Support for a focused update given other local requirements
- Connect with countywide organizations and cities with centers

Regional Growth Centers



Manufacturing/Industrial Centers



Discussion Questions

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GMPB Next Steps



- July 2026: Finalize scope
- Fall 2026: Review and provide direction on policy options
- Winter 2026/27: Board recommendation on updates



Thank You!

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