



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Project Evaluation Committee

Friday, August 28, 2026, from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

Online Meeting Only

Attend Zoom Connection

- [Join the meeting at zoom.com](https://psrc.zoom.us/j/84781268394)
 - Listen by phone 1-888-475-4499, Meeting ID: 847 8126 8394 Passcode: 167856
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1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30)

2. Transportation Policy Board Debrief (9:40)

Information from the Transportation Policy Board (TPB) meeting is [available on the PSRC website](#).

3. Discussion Item: Transit Access Tool Demonstration (9:45)

PSRC staff will provide a demonstration of a newly developed regional transit access tool and encourage use of the tool by member organizations.

4. Discussion Item: Project Evaluation Criteria Update Process (10:15)*

Continuing discussion from the June meeting, PSRC staff will share additional information on updates to the project evaluation criteria for the next project selection process. Background is provided in the attached materials, and further details and visuals will be shared at the meeting.

5. Other Business (10:55)

6. Information Items:

- a. RPEC At Work – June 26, 2026*

7. Next Meeting: September 25, 2026, 9:30 – 11:00 a.m.

8. Adjourn (11:00)

*Supporting materials attached

For more information, contact Jennifer Barnes at jbarnes@psrc.com.

Sign language, and communication material in alternative formats, can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling 206-464-7090, TTY Relay 711

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>.

2027 PROJECT EVALUATION CRITERIA UPDATE PROCESS

At the June 24, 2026 RPEC meeting PSRC introduced three topics from the adopted Regional Transportation Plan, Regional Safety Action Plan and/or board direction that will inform the next project selection process – safety, active transportation and aligning with current federal guidance.

Key components of each topic as it relates to project evaluation criteria for the next process include:

- **Safety** – continued focus on the Safe System Approach and proven safety countermeasures addressing vulnerable users, and prioritizing locations on the regional, state or a local high injury network
- **Active transportation** – incorporating the [Pedestrian / Bicycle Facility Typology](#) and Bicycle Level of Stress considerations, in coordination with feedback from PSRC's Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee
- **Aligning with current federal guidance** – new Opportunity Index developed in collaboration with PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee focuses on outcomes and transportation disparities rather than individual characteristics

At the August 28, 2026, RPEC meeting, staff will review the draft approach for updates to the project evaluation criteria related to each topic above. For example:

- **Safety** – Among other factors, applicants will describe the safety issue being addressed by the project and identify if the project is located on a facility on the regional, state or a local high injury network.
- **Active transportation criteria** – Pedestrian and bicycle components are addressed in several ways in the criteria, including mobility and safety. Among other factors, the type of improvement in relation to the speed and volume of the roadway facility per the [Pedestrian / Bicycle Facility Typology](#) will be considered, as will a facility's location on a pedestrian / bicycle high injury network.
- **Aligning with current federal guidance** – The new Opportunity Index will be incorporated into each criterion, evaluating how well projects address needs and provide improvements for residents living in areas of Low or Lowest Opportunity. Attachment 1 was shared with RPEC after the June meeting. Attachment 2 illustrates the five Opportunity Index maps which include the Combined Index across all categories and each of the four individual categories (Transportation, Amenities, Housing and Economic).

Within each criterion, points will be awarded if the project demonstrates support of an area of Low or Lowest Opportunity in an individual category Index, but higher points will be awarded for demonstrating support of an area of Low or Lowest Opportunity in the Combined Index.

ATTACHMENT 1

2026 OPPORTUNITY INDEX

DESCRIPTION OF OPPORTUNITY INDICATORS

 Transportation System	 Amenities	 Housing	 Economic
▶ Access to Living Wage Jobs via Transit ▶ Access to a vehicle ▶ Sidewalk Completeness ▶ Historic Transportation Investments ▶ Access to Paratransit and ADA service	▶ Proximity to Healthy Food ▶ Proximity to Parks ▶ Proximity to Medical Care ▶ Proximity to Libraries	▶ Homeownership ▶ Renter Cost Burden ▶ Housing Vouchers ▶ SNAP or Public Assistance Income	▶ Poverty ▶ Unemployment Rate ▶ High School Graduation Rate ▶ Access to the Internet ▶ Transportation Revenue Potential

Transportation System Indicators

1. Access to Living Wage Jobs via Transit

- Number of living wage jobs accessible via a 45-minute transit trip (including access time) in a census tract
 - Living wage jobs are based on NAICS codes and were identified as a part of previous Regional Economic Strategies

2. Access to a Vehicle

- Number of households that live in a zero-car household
 - This indicator is reflective of how many households in a census tract do not have access to a personal vehicle
 - This measure does not differentiate between people who choose to be car-free and those who do so because of financial constraints

3. Sidewalk Completeness

- Percentage of the regional network that has complete sidewalk facilities
 - Is measured on the regional network, so only includes larger roadways
 - Does not include condition, only if there are sidewalks on each side of the road

4. Historic Transportation Investments

- The number of projects that intersect a census tract
 - The indicator captures projects included in the Region's TIP since 2015

5. Access to Paratransit and ADA Service

- Percentage of households in a Census Tract that are within an identified coverage area for ADA paratransit service provided by the region's transit agencies.

Amenities Indicators

1. Proximity to Healthy Food

- The share of people within ¼ mile of a grocery store based on Open Street Map Amenity data
 - Rural residents tend to live farther from nearby grocery options

2. Proximity to Parks

- The share of people within ¼ mile of a park based on PSRC Open Space data
 - Tracts further east tend to be farther from parks, but also tend to be located in areas with larger lot sizes

3. Proximity to Medical Care

- The share of people within ½ mile of a hospital, clinic, or doctors' office
 - The data used in the map excluded pharmacies, many of which overlap with grocery stores
 - Data includes dental and optical care as well as general medical clinics

4. Proximity to Libraries

- The share of people within ¾ mile of a public library
 - Does not include libraries at Public Schools
 - Libraries are a resource for people who lack access to the internet at home and are hubs for access to other social services

Housing Indicators

1. Homeownership

- The share of households that own their own home (either with a mortgage or outright)
 - Rural and suburban areas tend to have the highest share of home ownership rates

2. Renter Cost Burden

- The share of households that spend more than 50% of their income on rent
 - Households in areas with higher shares of income going to housing have less income available for transportation alternatives

3. Housing Vouchers

- The share of households that receive some level of housing assistance as reported to HUD. This includes households that live in subsidized housing units.

4. SNAP or Public Assistance Income

- The share of households that receive either Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Public Assistance Income
 - Can also be a leading indicator for other indicators that lack readily available data like people who are unstably housed

Economic Indicators

1. Poverty

- The share of households that are 200% or below the Federal Poverty definition
 - Households in poverty are more reliant on the transportation system and are more likely to face displacement pressures
 - 200% of the federal poverty level is used because of the high cost of living in the central Puget Sound region

2. Unemployment Rate

- The unemployment rate by Census tract
 - Higher levels of unemployment are concentrated in tracts along the I-5 corridor
 - Increased transportation options can connect residents to more employment opportunities

3. High School Graduation Rate

- The share of people with at least a High School diploma or equivalent
 - The highest share of people without a high school diploma are in South King County and Tacoma
 - Education is a key to accessing employment opportunities

4. Access to the Internet

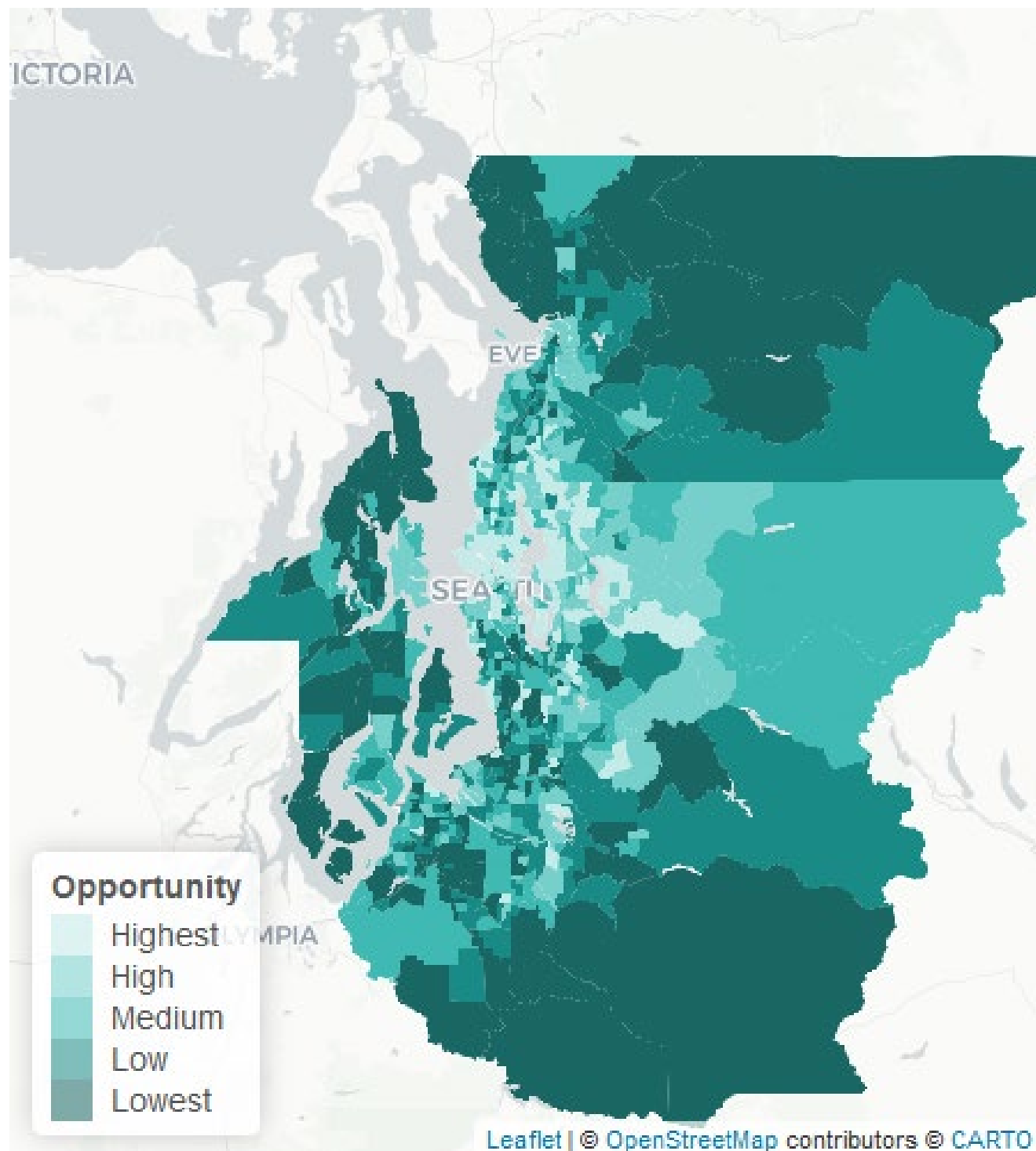
- Share of households with access to the internet via either a home internet subscription or a cell phone plan
 - Lack of digital access makes it difficult to interface with the regional transportation system

5. Existing Transportation Revenues

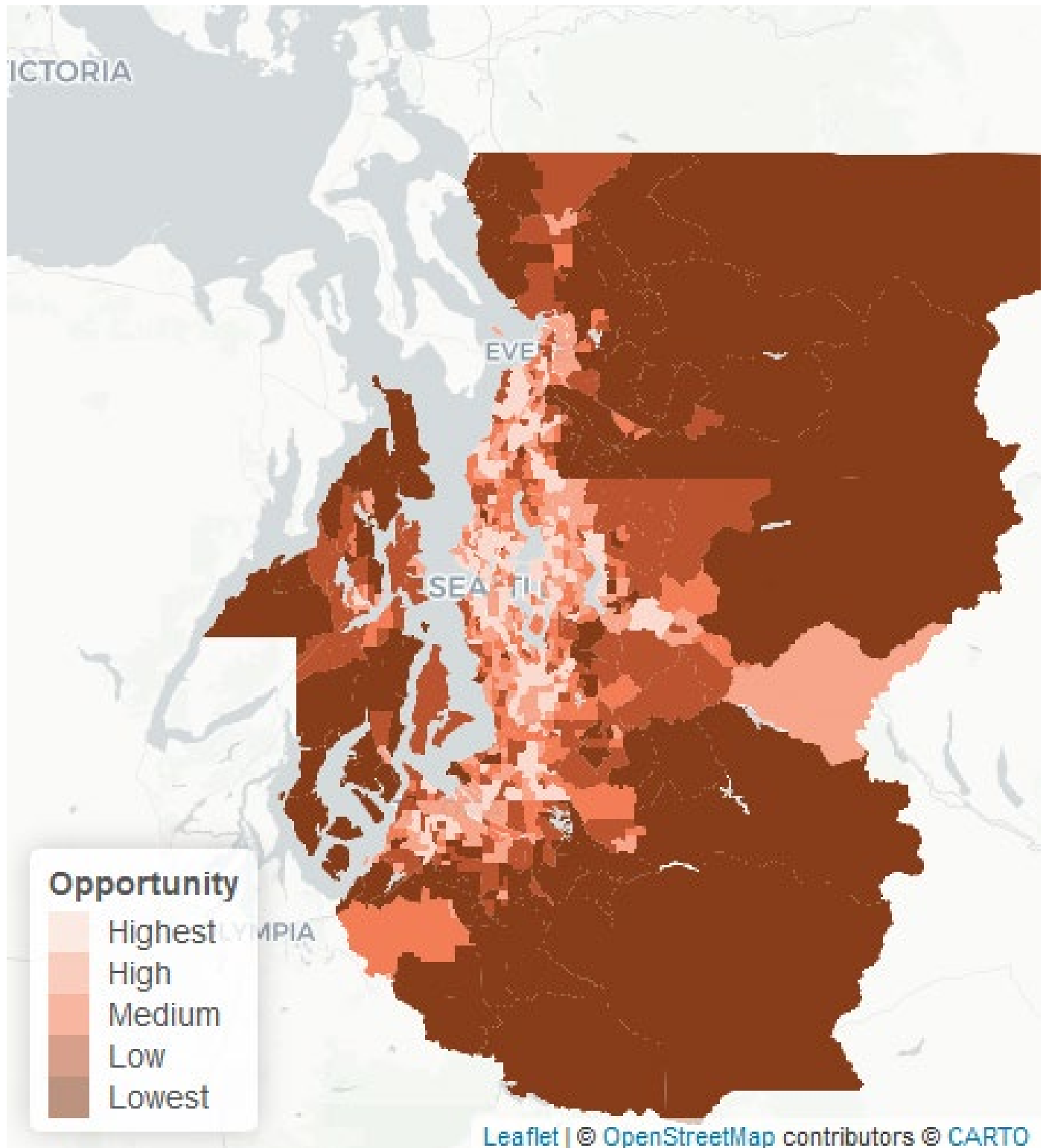
- The total value of existing transportation revenues collected in a census tract available for transportation projects. These include:
 - Transportation Benefit Districts (either license fees, sales tax or both)
 - Property taxes collected for transportation purposes
 - Sales Tax collections for regional and local transit providers
 - License and Vehicle fees
 - Estimates of state and federal gas tax collected

ATTACHMENT 2

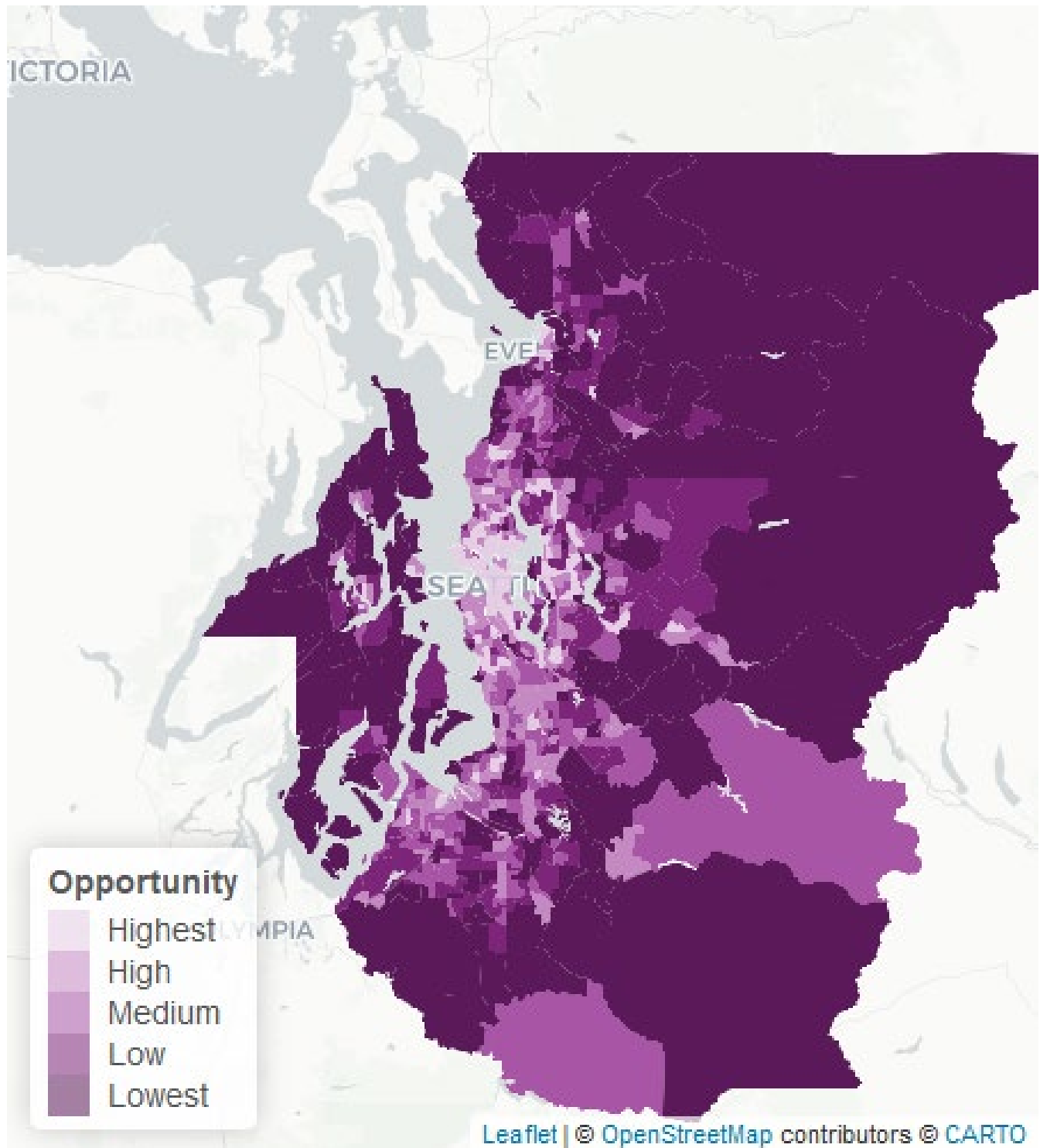
The darker the color in the maps, the higher the need.

Combined Opportunity Index

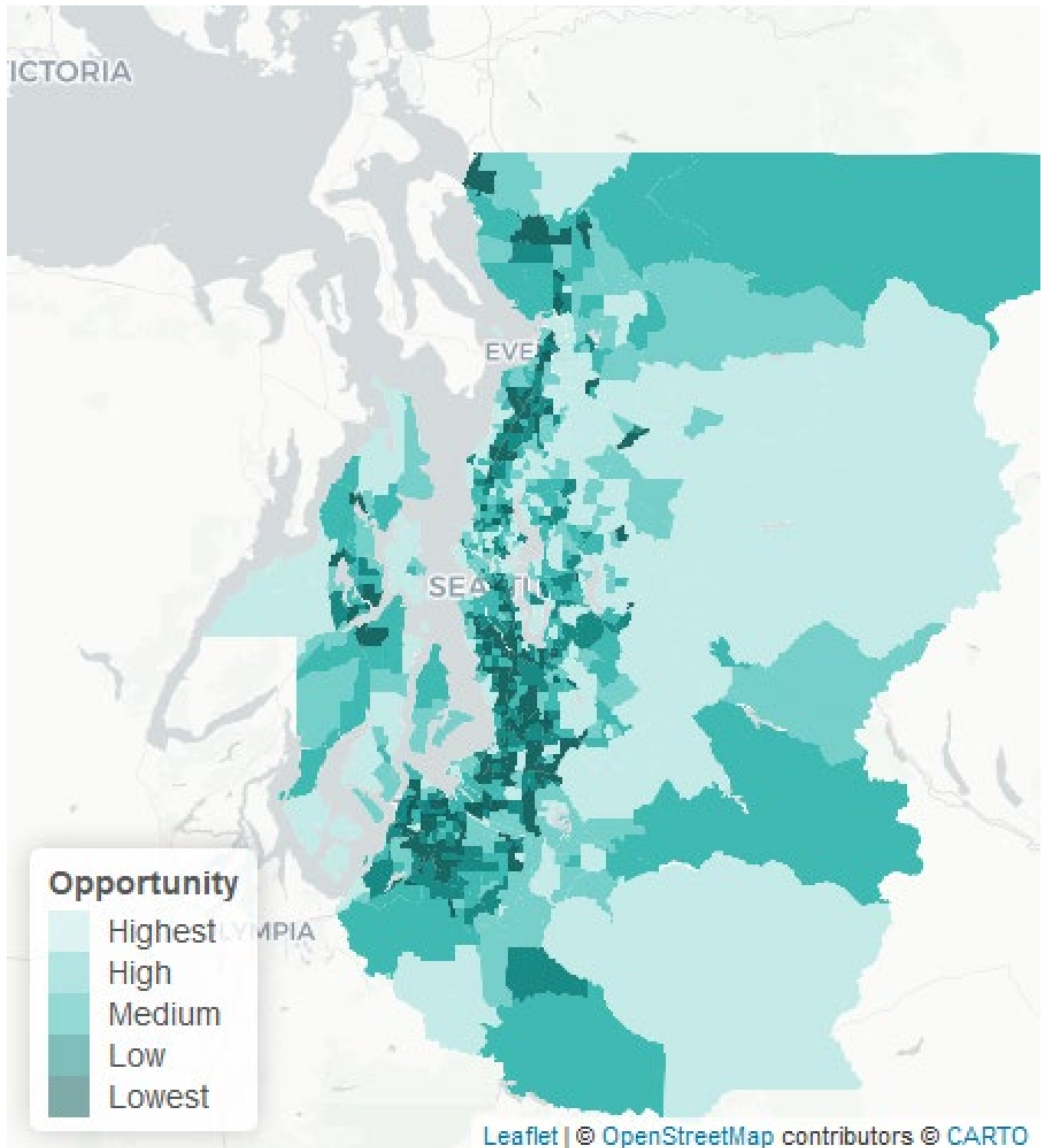
Transportation System Index



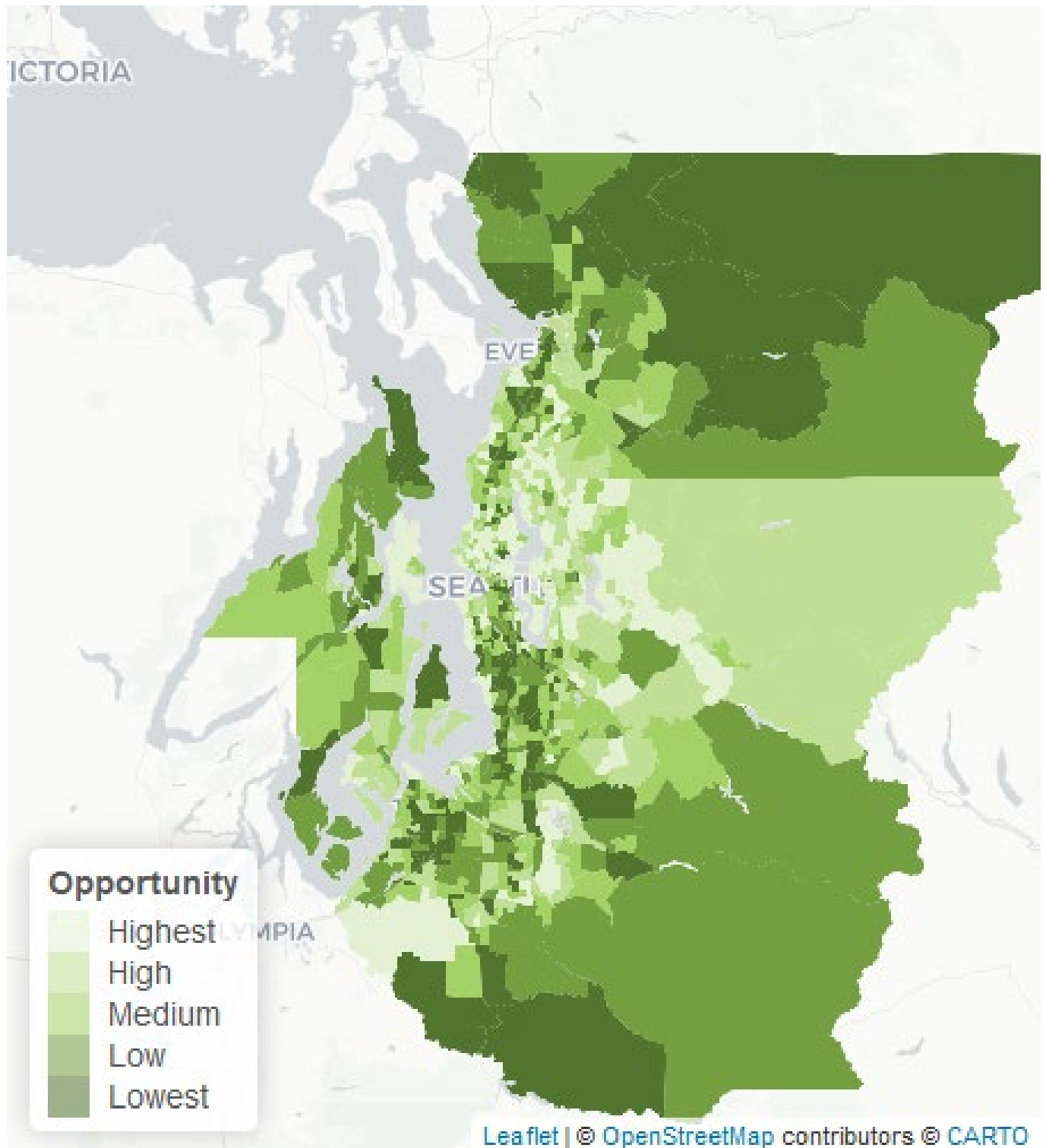
Amenities Index



Housing Index



Economic Index





Puget Sound Regional Council

AT WORK

Regional Project Evaluation Committee

June 26, 2026

Remote Only

Project Delivery Update

Jennifer Barnes, PSRC, provided an update on current status and upcoming milestones in the region's 2026 delivery of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds.

[View the Presentation on PSRC's Website](#)

For more information, contact Jennifer Barnes at JBarnes@psrc.org or Kalon Thomas at KThomas@psrc.org

Regional Transportation Plan and Project Selection Next Steps

Kelly McGourty, Craig Helmann, Charles Patton, and Nick Johnson, PSRC, provided an overview of action items and future work programs identified in the recently adopted Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). An introduction to preparing for the next project selection process was also provided, including addressing the Regional Safety Action Plan, the new Regional Transportation Plan, and updates from PSRC's Equity Advisory Committee.

[View the Presentation on PSRC's Website](#)

For more information, contact Kelly McGourty at kmcgourty@psrc.org.

Information Items

RPEC At Work – May 22, 2026

Attachments

a. Member Attendance – June 26, 2026

RPEC Attendance Roster (Designated Members & Alternates)

Item 6.a - Att. A

Date: June 26, 2026 - 9:30-11:00 am

Remote/Online Only

NOTE: Members are invited vote. Alternates may vote when the member is absent. Please coordinate representation in advance of the meeting. All other Alternates and Guests are invited join the meeting. This roster is for attendance purposes only and should be marked by all members and alternates present at the table, regardless of voting status.

Jurisdiction	✓	Name	Jurisdiction	✓	Name
King County (3)		Mary Bourguignon	WSDOT-NW Region (1)		Cameron Kukes
	☒	Peter Heffernan			Mehrdad Moini (Alt.)
	☒	John Vander Sluis	WSDOT-Oly Region (1)	☒	JoAnn Schueler
		Andrew Kim (Alt.)			John Ho (Alt.)
		Sarah Green (Alt.)	WSDOT-MoM (1)	☒	Matthew Kenna
		Erin Auzins (Alt.)			April Delchamps (Alt.)
Seattle (3)	☒	Sarah Strand	WSDOT-WS Ferries (1)		Nicole Knudson
	☒	Jim Storment			Siri Olson (Alt.)
	☒	Joanna Valencia	Kitsap Transit (1)		Steffani Lillie
		Bill LaBorde (Alt.)			Jeff Davidson (Alt.)
		Emily Reardon (Alt.)	Pierce Transit (1)		Tina Lee
		Katie Lyle-Beshai (Alt.)		☒	Erin Hoiland (Alt.)
Bellevue (1)		Eric Miller	Community Transit (1)	☒	Clint Lambert
	☒	Mia Waters (Alt.)			Tarin Tesfaye (Alt.)
Other Cities/Towns (5)	☒	Chad Bieren, Kent			Kathryn Rasmussen (Alt.)
	☒	John Mortenson, Issaquah	King County Metro (1)		Chester Knapp
	☒	Kimberly Scrivner, Kirkland			Lisa Shafer (Alt)
	☒	Ingrid Gaub, Auburn	Sound Transit (1)	☒	Lisa Wolterink
	☒	Dan Marcinko, North Bend			Tyler Benson (Alt.)
		Aaron Bert, Redmond (Alt.)		☒	Kirste Johnson (Alt.)
		Rob Stietzer, Burien (Alt.)			Monica Overby (Alt.)
		Ellen Talbo, Renton (Alt.)	Port of Seattle (1)	☒	Geri Poor
	☒	Tricia Juhnke, Shoreline (Alt.)			Robert Giacometti (Alt.)
		Vacant (Alt.)	Port of Tacoma (1)		Deirdre Wilson
Kitsap County (1)		David Forte		☒	Ryan Medlen (Alt.)
	☒	Joe Rutan (Alt.)	Port of Everett (1)		Brandon Whitaker
Bremerton (1)	☒	Shane Weber, Vice Chair			Laura Gurley (Alt.)
		Gunnar Fridriksson (Alt. 1)	Port of Bremerton (1)		Arne Bakker
		Vicki Grover (Alt. 2)			Cole Barnes (Alt.)
Other Cities/Towns (1)		Diane Lenius, Poulsbo	PSCAA (1)		Kathy Strange
		Vacant (Alt.)			Jennifer Keene (Alt.)
Pierce County (2)		Bekah Osterhaus	Suquamish Tribe (1)		VACANT
	☒	Peter Lewis-Miller			VACANT (Alt.)
		Letticia Neal (Alt.)	Muckleshoot Tribal Cncl (1)		VACANT
		Clint Ritter (Alt.)			VACANT (Alt.)
Tacoma (2)	☒	Jennifer Kammerzell	Puyallup Tribe (1)		VACANT
	☒	Brennan Kidd			VACANT (Alt.)
		Darius Thompson (Alt.)	NON-VOTING		VACANT - BPAC Member
		Vacant (Alt.)			VACANT - BPAC (Alt)
Other Cities/Towns (1)		Mark Burlingame, Steilacoom			
		Hans Hunger, Puyallup (Alt.)			
Snohomish County (2)	☒	Doug McCormick, Chair			
		Kelly Snyder			
		Janice Fahning (Alt.)			
	☒	Glynda Steiner (Alt.)			
		Matt Ojala (Alt.)			
Everett (1)		Tom Hood			
	☒	Angelique Thompson (Alt.)			
Other Cities/Towns (2)	☒	Steve Morikawa, Bothell			
		Vacant			
		Jim Kelly, Arlington (Alt.)			
		David Mach, Lynnwood (Alt.)			