



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 3, 2026 • 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Attend

- Join the webinar at <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/84832732721?pwd=M4tu5YBFAYbr3pgab9NVUVdTQeQzxl.1> and enter Passcode:112563.
 - Listen by phone at 888 475 4499 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 848 3273 2721 and Passcode: 112563.
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1. Welcome and Introductions (5:30)

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for July 9, 2026*
- b. EAC Member Announcements & Check In
- c. Staff Announcements
- d. Policy Board Meeting Summaries*

3. Discussion Item (5:50)

- a. Title VI Demographic Profile* – *Carol Naito & Kristin Mitchell, PSRC*

4. Break (6:30)

5. Discussion Item (6:40)

- a. Title VI Demographic Profile Cont.* – *Carol Naito, PSRC*

6. Discussion Item (7:10)

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

7. Zoom Poll (7:25)

8. Information Items

- a. TOOLBOX Series Flyer: Local Economic Development Efforts*
- b. TOD Series Flyer: TOD on a Roll – Making the Most of New Transit Connections*

9. Next Meeting: October 1, 2026, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

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:

- October 1
- November 5
- December 3

10. Adjourn (7:30)

***Supporting materials attached**

For more information, contact Mikayla Svob at msvob@psrc.org.

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>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

Date: July 9, 2026

Location: Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the [Equity Advisory Committee webpage](#).

Welcome

Julia Jannon-Shields and Jewel Sheperd-Sampson, EAC co-chairs, 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

Noah asked members to respond to a poll at the end of the meeting regarding their planned attendance at the EAC field trip in September. Charles shared the EAC topics calendar with the committee to provide an overview for upcoming discussions for the rest of 2026. EAC board representatives and staff provided a summary of the Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board meeting actions.

Discussion Item: Regional Centers – Subarea Plan Checklist

Nancy Ferber, Senior Planner, and Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, discussed the role of subarea plans and the key elements of successful plans. The committee reviewed the current subarea planning checklists used by PSRC to review these plans. The discussion focused on identifying opportunities to improve the checklist and strengthen equity-focused outcomes in subarea planning.

Plan Vision/ Regional Collaboration

Members responded to the question, “What important equity-related outcomes should cities be planning for centers? What’s missing from the checklist that could be improved?”

- Clarify to the public what the city already is responsible for
- Access to healthy food, mixture of businesses, services, and a greater focus on quality of life (e.g. limiting commute times, jobs at various levels, trades, education levels)
- Prioritize a mixture of diverse jobs and differing housing affordability price points, including multi-generational options
- How to measure services offered to people of color? How were they prioritized? How to account for language access to help residents navigate centers?

- Focus on collaboration with indigenous voices and communities instead of just listening – work together to create solutions for equity issues within our communities (e.g., tree canopy coverage, mobility access, etc.).

Environment & Climate Change

Members responded to the question, “What important equity-related outcomes should cities be planning for centers? What’s missing from the checklist that could be improved?”

- Include indigenous and native peoples voices within environmental uses
 - Important to include because we are on native land and should center those voices in equitable policies
- Increasing tree canopy
 - How do we verbalize that?
 - Thinking about spaces that do or do not have trees and how that affects communities
 - Marginalized communities tend to have fewer trees and associated benefits
- People using mobility scooters or other assistive devices are often unable to navigate terrain on trails and in parks
- Transit schedules are not conducive to accessing many of these areas

Land Use/Development Patterns

Members responded to the question, “What important equity-related outcomes should cities be planning for centers? What’s missing from the checklist that could be improved?”

- Land uses for youth and seniors – medical services, schools, other educational uses, childcare, full-service grocery stores
- Ownership – who gets to develop the land. Land is scarce with disproportionately white ownership
- Neighborhood use, community gathering spaces, non-profit spaces, and small businesses
- Lack of communication with communities that are undergoing development, with communities finding out about decisions after the fact.
- Equality is not equitable development – equitable community development looks like opportunities for facilities owned by people of color, equal partnership with developers, etc.
- Concern about locating a police substation in a center and the impact on communities of color
- Third Spaces
 - Include more equitable third places that have little to no cost for communities to gather in.

- Libraries and parks are great third places, but would like to emphasize community events and perhaps partner with local businesses to host free or low-cost events for people

Housing

Members responded to the question, “What important equity-related outcomes should cities be planning for centers? What’s missing from the checklist that could be improved?”

- Alternative housing pathways, such as promoting community land trusts. Include prompting language to consider alternative ownership models that may require public support or funding
- Support more permanent subsidy for housing (not a 20-year expiring MFTE program)
- Incentives for residential advisory groups or renters’ commissions to center renter voices
- Consider the cost that parking fees add to housing prices, particularly for subsidized housing

Economy

Members responded to the question, “What important equity-related outcomes should cities be planning for centers? What’s missing from the checklist that could be improved?”

- Which economic development partners are involved? What organizations, who is involved in stakeholder engagement?
- Engaging diverse communities; language access
- Criteria related to engaging the non-profits, what is the process of getting them involved
- How is the pipeline equitable, what criteria are used, including measurable data
- Plan for outreach related to job creation-pool, and manage data to identify disparities
- Diversify business mix and industry clusters; prioritizing businesses that rely on each other (keeping things local) utilizing raw material that’s co-located nearby (reducing import travel), and industrial symbiosis, i.e. how to use waste from one business to another, creating a support network of businesses
- Town-hall meetings to provide input about economic needs and how to meet the needs; hear from local store/business owners
- Lower barriers to entry for small businesses, including licenses, small business advocates, and creating small business systems

Transportation/Public Services

Members responded to the question, “What important equity-related outcomes should cities be planning for centers? What’s missing from the checklist that could be improved?”

- Bus shelters have been removed, creates barriers for inclement weather (hot and cold)
- Adding language for specific mobility needs rather generalizing with “pedestrians”
- Focus has been more on creating safety for cyclists rather than pedestrians; many pedestrians have special needs for infrastructure
- Challenges for e-bike users who don’t feel safe on the street but are creating unsafe conditions on sidewalks; communities should draft guidance on safe usage of e-bikes

View the [Regional Centers: Subarea Planning](#) presentation.

Questions? Contact Nancy Ferber, Senior Planner, at nferber@psrc.org, or Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org.

Adjourn

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

Members Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Charles Patton, PSRC
 Mikayla Svob, PSRC
 Noah Boggess, PSRC
 Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC
 Nancy Ferber, PSRC
 Paul Inghram, PSRC
 Erin Auzins, King County

ATTACHMENT:

A. EAC Member Attendance for the July 9, 2026, Meeting

2.a - Att. A

Packet pg. 7



Growth Management Policy Board At Work

A video of this meeting is available on the [Watch Board Meetings webpage](#).

July 16, 2026

Regional Centers Framework Scoping

The board discussed and finalized the scope of updates to the Regional Center Framework. Staff will begin research on policy topics and share policy options for the board to review in September. 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.

Regional Open Space Conservation Plan Update

PSRC staff provided an update on the development of the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan. The board gave input on strategies and tools to include in the plan. In the fall, staff will share the draft plan for review. View the [Open Space video](#) and [Open Space presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Erika Harris, AICP, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org.

Puget Sound Recovery

Mindy Roberts, the Executive Director of the Puget Sound Partnership, led the board in discussion on Puget Sound recovery efforts. The board shared ideas for collaboration with PSRC and Puget Sound Partnership staff and how to integrate support for Puget Sound recovery into local work. View the [Recovery video](#) and [Recovery presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Erika Harris, AICP, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org.

Build Here, Puget Sound!

Staff announced the launch of Build Here, Puget Sound!, a housing data and policy platform tool. [Register to join the virtual kick-off](#) on Wednesday, July 22 at 12 p.m. to see a live demo and learn how this tool can work for you.

Legislative Update

PSRC staff updated the board on economic and revenue changes at the state and federal level. View the [Legislation video](#) and [Legislation presentation](#).

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



Transportation Policy Board At Work

A video of this meeting is available on the [Watch Board Meetings webpage](#).

July 9, 2026

2026 Federal Transit Administration Adjustments

Staff briefed the board on the required annual adjustments process for PSRC's Federal Transit Administration funds, which aligns the estimates used for programming to the final federal allocations. An overview of each transit agency's proposed adjustments was provided, including one new project that was released for public review and comment between June 29 and July 23. The Transportation Policy Board recommended the Executive Board approve the 2026 annual adjustments of PSRC's FTA funds. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Doug Cox at dcox@psrc.org or 206-971-3050.

Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program / Transportation Alternatives Program Project Recommendations

Between January and May 2026, PSRC conducted competitive project selection processes for the Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program (RTCC) and the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Six projects totaling approximately \$6.07 million were recommended for RTCC funding, and fourteen projects totaling approximately \$16.1 million were recommended for TAP funding. The board released the list of projects for public review and comment between June 11 and July 23, 2026. The Transportation Policy Board recommended the Executive Board approve the projects recommended for funding for both programs. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Doug Cox at dcox@psrc.org or 206-971-3050.

2025 Safety Data

The board received a report on current traffic safety data through 2025, made available from the Washington State Department of Transportation and the Washington Traffic Safety Commission. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Craig Helmann, Director of Data, at chelmann@psrc.org or 206-389-2889.

Updated ST3 System Plan and Next Steps

Sound Transit staff provided a briefing on the Enterprise Initiative to address a funding shortfall through 2046. Information was provided on the updates to the ST3 System Plan adopted by the Sound Transit board and next steps in the coming months. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For more information, please contact Gil Cerise, Program Manager, at gcerise@psrc.org or 206-971-3053.



Puget Sound Regional Council

September 3, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee
From: Carol Naito, Program Manager
Subject: Title VI Demographic Profile

IN BRIEF

The Equity Advisory Committee will revisit the draft Demographic Profile interactive report – last discussed in July 2025 – and have an opportunity to comment on two new chapters currently in development: (1) Language, and (2) More Demographics. The Committee will also receive a briefing on demographic research efforts intended to promote a deeper understanding of our region's people of color communities.

DISCUSSION

Demographic Profile StoryMap Project

As part of its Title VI responsibilities, PSRC develops and maintains a [Title VI Plan](#) which includes a demographic profile of people of color, low-income, and other populations relevant to supporting the agency's Title VI and other regional planning work programs, including public outreach and engagement activities. The Demographic Profile StoryMap project is an effort to adapt the profile into a more accessible and visually interactive online format for a broad audience that includes local planners, elected officials, other regional stakeholders, and the general public.

At its September meeting, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) will receive an overview of two new StoryMap chapters in development. The Language chapter covers common languages spoken in the region other than English as well as limited English proficiency. The More Demographics chapter explores additional populations with specialized accessibility, mobility and transportation needs such as children and youth, older adults, individuals with a disability and zero-vehicle households.

Through a smaller breakout group session, committee members will be asked to provide feedback on the draft StoryMap chapters to help the project team refine content. Discussion questions members are asked to consider include:

- What key equity considerations are important to keep in mind when planning for the demographic populations covered in the Language and More Demographics chapters?
- What additional data and information may be helpful to support effective planning, outreach and engagement with these populations?

Demographic Data Exploration

The EAC will also receive a briefing on demographic research efforts underway intended to support a deeper and more nuanced understanding of our region's people of color communities.

One research effort is exploring a new data method – as an alternative to the traditional approach used by the U.S. Census Bureau – for tabulating households by race and Hispanic/Latinx origin. The alternative method better recognizes multirace households (i.e. households with members of different racial and ethnic identities) that account for 20% of the region's total households. This research also highlights the downstream data impacts of accounting for multirace households independent of other major race and ethnicity categories.

A second data effort has begun to explore Hispanic/Latinx subpopulations and their income characteristics, building upon earlier [work that investigated Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander \(AANHPI\) subpopulations](#) and the wide variations in their income and housing characteristics.

The committee is encouraged to provide feedback through a second breakout group session. Discussion questions that will be posed to the committee include:

1. What data findings were the most surprising?
2. What additional questions did this session raise for you? Your feedback can help shape further research efforts.

NEXT STEPS

The Demographic Profile StoryMap project team will continue to develop and refine the full interactive report over the fall and winter. Publication is currently targeted for early 2027.

PSRC staff will continue its current demographic research efforts, with the aim of publishing results in 2027.

For additional information, please contact Carol Naito, Program Manager – Data Applications, at cnaito@psrc.org or 206-464-7535.

EAC members who are interested in accessing the draft StoryMap to review and offer additional comments may reach out to Lauren Engel, Senior Planner/GIS Analyst, at lengel@psrc.org or 206-464-7540.



Puget Sound Regional Council

September 3, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee

From: Noah P. Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist

Subject: **Quarterly Engagement Activity**

IN BRIEF

Throughout 2026, EAC meetings will feature engagement activities once per quarter to continue to build camaraderie among members. These activities are a continuation of the Quarterly Engagement Activities from previous years, with some adjustments to make them more engaging. The goal of these structured times is to allow EAC members to become more familiar with one another and the work they do outside of the monthly meetings with PSRC.

Each Quarterly Engagement Activity will feature interesting facts about several members of the EAC and will allow space for them to share about this experience or piece of their background. EAC members will only share facts and statements with their approved consent prior to each meeting.

For additional information, please contact Noah P. Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org or 206-464-6170.



TOOLBOX SERIES

TOOLBOX: Local Economic Development Efforts



Time: 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Date: September 25, 2026

[Registration](#)

This TOOLBOX session will highlight a variety of economic development efforts from across the central Puget Sound region. PSRC staff will provide an overview of the Regional Economic Strategy and share key takeaways from a review of local comprehensive plan economic development elements. Staff from jurisdictions around the region will then highlight local initiatives related to placemaking, arts, public-private partnerships and regional collaboration.

Participants will be eligible to claim one AICP CM credit.

SPEAKERS

- Puget Sound Regional Council
- City of North Bend
- City of Shoreline
- City of Lakewood



Puget Sound Regional Council

TOD on a Roll: Making the Most of New Transit Connections



The region has been on a roll opening new transit stations, fulfilling a decades-long promise to connect communities with high-capacity transit. Join community leaders to hear highlights of recent TOD opportunities and discuss what's next. A webinar will highlight recent work to support transit-oriented development. In-person walking tours will feature work in Shoreline and Redmond to improve transit access, provide more housing, and connect neighborhoods.

Friday, October 16, 2026



10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Zoom – Virtual Event

[Register for the webinar](#)



1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Shoreline TOD Walking Tour

[Register for the tour](#)

Friday, October 23, 2026



1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Marymoor and Downtown Redmond Walking Tour

[Register for the tour](#)

Free to attend. Space limited for walking tours.