



Puget Sound Regional Council

Equity Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 1, 2026 • 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Webinar

Attend

- Join the webinar at <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/87991168589?pwd=Hd2Hwm8hesckXvIAMTdmOble37kW4O.1> and enter Passcode:827659.
- To join by phone, call 888 475 4499 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 879 9116 8589 and Passcode: 827659.

1. Welcome and Introductions (5:30)

2. Reports

- a. Meeting Summary for September 3, 2026*
- b. EAC Member Announcements & Check In
- c. GMPB and TPB Board Representatives Selection*
- d. Policy Board Meeting Summaries*
- e. Meeting Topics Overview: Quarter Four

3. Discussion Item (5:50)

- a. PSRC 2027 Recommendations to the State Legislature* – Robin Koskey & Alyssa Quinn, PSRC

4. Break (6:15)

5. Discussion Item (6:25)

- a. Regional Economic Strategy: Equity Data and Best Practices* – Carol Naito & Jason Thibedeau, PSRC

6. Zoom Poll (7:25)

7. Information Items

- a. TOD Series Flyer: TOD on a Roll – Making the Most of New Transit Connections*
- b. Joint Board Session on Community Outreach Flyer*

8. Next Meeting: November 5, 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:

- November 5
- December 3

9. 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: September 3, 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.

Autrina Martindale welcomed members to attend the upcoming Freedom Run 5K 2026 event.

Staff Announcements

Noah encouraged members to RSVP for the upcoming trip to the Washington State History Museum in September.

EAC board representatives and staff provided a summary of the Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board meeting actions.

Discussion Item: Title VI Demographic Profile

Carol Naito, Program Manager – Data Applications, and Kristin Mitchell, Associate Planner, revisited the draft Demographic Profile interactive report – last discussed with the EAC in July 2025. Staff welcomed members to comment on two new chapters currently in development: (1) Language, and (2) More Demographics. The committee also received a briefing on demographic research efforts intended to promote a deeper understanding of our region's people of color communities.

Members responded to the following:

“What additional data and information may be helpful to support effective planning, outreach and engagement with populations covered in the Language and More Demographics StoryMap chapters:

- Limited English proficient speakers
- Youth
- Older adults
- Individuals with disabilities

- Zero-vehicle households

Any other comments?”

- Display the language chart – including all data and regional and county numbers. Consider symbols to supplement translation for those who are not fluent in reading and writing
- Recorded translations may be a helpful resource
- Appreciation for PSRC staff outreach at local farmer’s markets, but suggested having other language options (e.g. translated materials, staff able to speak common languages) at outreach events
- Share out surveys in other languages to facilitate participation
- Go into communities by way of community-based organizations, and include staff of different backgrounds at events
- Attendance at senior centers, YMCA’s, etc. for outreach
- Include an accessibility statement in the StoryMap that highlights PSRC’s values, guidelines, limitations, etc.
- Intergenerational households may inflate the income of some ethnic communities and mask disparities
- How is data of vulnerable communities being handled?
- How is open-source data being presented and made available?
- Lack of identifying low-income communities - how can we identify these communities? [Note: Income is addressed in the Race & Income and More Demographics chapters]
- Spanish language data does not include the breadth of indigenous languages
- ORCA card usage and renters may offer additional data sources or lenses
- Can we expand on different types of disabilities?
- Outreach to folks experiencing homelessness
- Be mindful of engagement since PSRC is a local government, and many communities have mistrust

Members responded to the following:

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

- More multi-race households were captured using the alternative method, which affirms the lived experience of this community; demonstrates how data using the current method can be misleading.
- How are multi-generational households captured in data?
- Reliance on kids to navigate systems in immigrant communities – is there a way to show that?
- Public safety for protected populations?
- How to account for Census Bureau not hiring enough interpreters for data collection
- Mindful of how data can be used by other groups

- How do we account for income characteristics of communities that are paid in cash?
- Data often comes from self-selected individuals, including those likely more fluent in English – how do we reach the larger community to collect accurate information of the subpopulations?
- Washington was part of Mexico - not all people of Mexican ancestry are immigrants - include this information to educate the community
- Growing African communities in the region – can we explore data for this group?
- What would it look like to support local governments in implementing these new household data approaches?
- What would a roll-out look like?

View the [Title VI Demographic Profile \(PDF\)](#) presentation.

Questions? Contact Carol Naito, Program Manager – Data Applications, at cnaito@psrc.org.

Discussion Item: Quarterly Engagement Activity

The quarterly engagement activity was postponed to a future meeting.

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
 Carol Naito, PSRC
 Eric Clute, PSRC
 Kristin Mitchell, PSRC
 Lauren Engel, PSRC
 Erin Auzins, King County

ATTACHMENT:

A. EAC Member Attendance for the September 3, 2026, Meeting

2.a - Att. A

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Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee

From: Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives

Subject: **GMPB and TPB Board Representatives Selection**

IN BRIEF

During its meeting on October 1, 2026, Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) members will learn about the roles and responsibilities of [Growth Management Policy Board \(GMPB\) and Transportation Policy Board \(TPB\) \(PDF\)](#) representatives and alternates. Members will also learn about how they will select the EAC representatives and alternates for these boards.

DISCUSSION

During its meeting on October 1, 2026, EAC members will learn about the roles and responsibilities of Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB) and Transportation Policy Board (TPB) representatives and alternates. The current representatives and alternates are:

- Corey Orvold - GMPB representative
- Laurene Sayles - GMPB alternate
- Autrina Martindale - TPB representative
- Jewel Shepherd-Sampson - TPB alternate

Members will also learn about how they will select EAC representatives and alternates for these boards. Additionally, members will be asked about their interest in serving a one-year term as a board representative or alternate. Responsibilities for the position include:

- Share the views of the EAC during monthly GMPB / TPB board meetings (staff will share notes from previous EAC meetings to provide a sense of how the committee feels about a topic, when relevant)
- Provide short meeting summaries to the EAC (staff will assist with this summary presentation)

Members who express interest in this position will be selected by the EAC via an anonymous poll during the November 5th meeting. Below please find the rules for the selection process:

- The member who receives the most votes will get to choose which board they would like to serve as a representative for
- The member who receives the second most votes will serve as a representative on the other board
- Third most votes, gets to choose which board they would like to serve as an alternate for
- Fourth most, serves as an alternate for the other board

Representatives and alternates will be compensated \$125 per meeting, if they are not already compensated by their employer to attend meetings covering similar topics. Current representatives and alternates can reapply for the position.

NEXT STEPS

The election will be held during the November 5, 2026, EAC meeting using an online polling platform.

For additional information, please contact Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy & Initiatives, at cpatton@psrc.org.



Growth Management Policy Board At Work

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

September 17, 2026

21st Century ROAD to Housing Implementation

Leslie Pollner from PSRC's federal consultant, Manatt, briefed the board on the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act and discussed what this important legislation means for local jurisdictions. View the [ROAD to Housing video](#) and [ROAD to Housing presentation](#).

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

Housing Production — Are We on Track?

Staff shared about housing production by regional geography and by jurisdiction. Overall, the region is growing ahead of targets, but areas on track and those falling behind vary across the region. The board provided feedback on how this work can help jurisdictions meet the housing needs laid out in their comprehensive plans. View the [Housing Strategy video](#) and [Housing Strategy presentation](#).

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

Regional Housing Needs Assessment Update

PSRC is updating the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) to guide and inform policy updates ahead of the regional plan update in 2030. Staff shared the scope and timeline for development of the RHNA. The board offered input on how the RHNA and related data resources can best support regional and local planning objectives.

In January, staff will return with a progress update to share initial findings from the research and data collection. View the [RHNA video](#) and [RHNA presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact David Dixon, Associate Planner, at ddixon@psrc.org.

Regional Centers Framework Update

The board reviewed update options for five parts of the Regional Centers Framework related to regional growth centers. The board discussed these options to identify areas for further development, ahead of recommendations to the Executive Board and completion of the Framework update in 2027. View the [Centers video](#) and [Centers presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Paul Ingraham, Director of Growth Management at pinghram@psrc.org, or Nancy Ferber, Senior Planner, at nferber@psrc.org.



Transportation Policy Board At Work

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

September 10, 2026

Cascadia High Speed Rail and I-5 Program

WSDOT staff introduced the Cascadia High-Speed Rail and I-5 Program, which included an overview of the I-5 Master Plan, the Cascadia High-Speed Rail program and Amtrak Cascades. Current work and the schedule of milestones for each component were discussed. WSDOT also provided information on upcoming engagement opportunities, including a webinar to be held on September 21 for local agencies and a public survey in October. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Kelly McGourty at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.

Regional Transit Access Assessment Tool

PSRC staff provided an update on development of a Regional Transit Access Tool designed for use by local jurisdictions and transit agencies. The presentation included background on this work program item, development of the online interactive tool that relies upon regional data and thresholds, and an explanation on how the tool is designed to interact with strategies to address transit access needs. PSRC will release the tool for public use as part of a redesigned website that will be ready by November 2026. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

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

Preparation for the 2027 Project Selection Process

PSRC staff provided the board an overview of the schedule and key activities leading up to the adoption of the next *Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds* in January

2027. Background was provided on PSRC's project selection process and information was shared on key updates from the recent adoption of the Regional Transportation Plan. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

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



Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee

From: Robin Koskey, Director, Government Relations & Communications

Subject: **PSRC 2027 Recommendations to the State Legislature**

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will brief the Equity Advisory Committee on the process to adopt recommendations to the 2027 Washington State Legislature and ask the committee for feedback.

DISCUSSION

PSRC is developing recommendations to the Washington State Legislature in advance of the 2027 legislative session. On an annual basis, the Executive Board adopts recommendations to the Legislature to support progress on adopted regional plans and policies.

PSRC staff propose following a similar framework to the recommendations adopted last year (2026 Recommendations to the State Legislature attached) based on adopted regional plans policies in the following focus areas:

- Transportation - Keep the Region Moving
- Housing - Increase Housing Choices and Affordability
- Climate - Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Economic Development – Sustain a Strong Economy

NEXT STEPS

Staff gather input from the Economic Development District Board, Growth Management

Policy Board, Transportation Policy Board, Regional Staff Committee and the Equity Advisory Committee throughout the fall, before the Executive Board reviews and adopts the legislative agenda at its December meeting.

Discussion Questions:

- What are your suggestions as we develop the 2027 set of recommendations to the State Legislature?
- What emerging issues are you or your networks working on in advance of the 2027 state legislative session?

For more information, contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org or 206-798-4462 or Alyssa Quinn, Senior Government Relations Specialist, at aquinn@psrc.org or 206-587-4822.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. 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

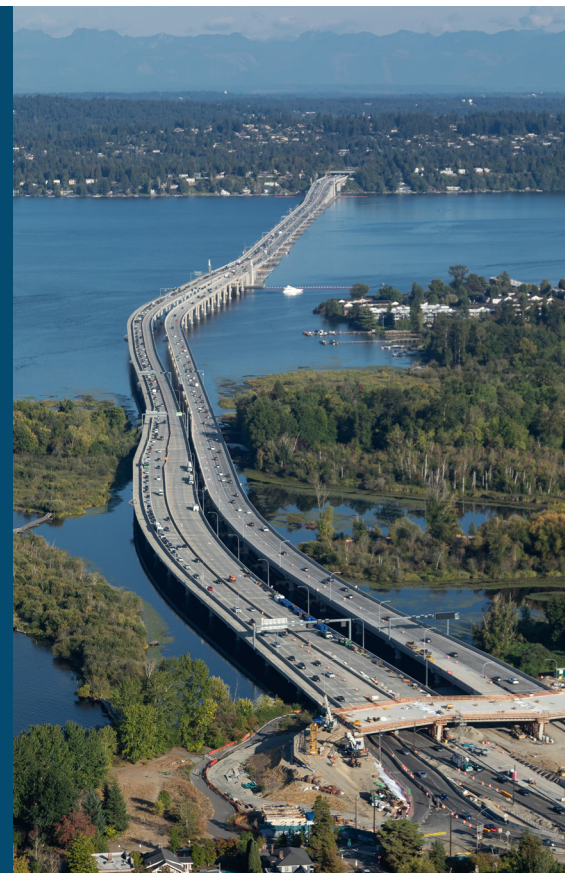
Director of Government Relations & Communications

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](#)





Puget Sound Regional Council

October 1, 2026

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Equity Advisory Committee

From: Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager
Carol Naito, Data Applications Program Manager

Subject: Regional Economic Strategy: Equity Data and Best Practices

IN BRIEF

Staff will lead a discussion with the Equity Advisory Committee on equity data that can be used to measure opportunities and outcomes related to economic development activities.

DISCUSSION

2026 Update to the Regional Economic Strategy

PSRC is working to finalize the update to the Regional Economic Strategy. The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD) is responsible for updating the region's Regional Economic Strategy (RES) every five years. The RES is designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of the region, building off other planning efforts. Implementation of the RES is accomplished by a broad set of regional stakeholders, highlighting important ongoing economic development programs and initiatives as well as identifying new opportunities for implementation. Adoption of the regional RES enables local jurisdictions and eligible organizations to qualify for funding under U.S. Economic Development Administration programs.

The first phase of the RES update occurred in 2025 focusing on development of a summary background of the region's economic conditions and a strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT) analysis. This analysis served as a foundational resource for the development of strategic elements in 2026. A draft strategy is being released for a 30-day public comment period in the fall, with expected adoption of the RES at the Economic Development District Board's December 2 meeting.

Racial Equity Action Plan Team to Advance Equitable Economic Development

Alongside the work to update the Regional Economic Strategy, PSRC formed a Racial Equity Action Plan (REAP) team focused on the agency's economic development work.

The REAP team is focused on identifying ways to better measure and promote equity in terms of economic opportunities and outcomes for the region's residents. This work was informed by analysis of common strategies focused on advancing equitable economic development as well as effective data metrics for tracking economic disparities based on race and sex and the region's progress (or lack of) in narrowing these gaps over time. PSRC staff led a discussion with the EAC at its November 2025 meeting on equity focused economic development strategies.

The goal of the REAP team is to develop a core set of data measures for monitoring and analyzing racial and gender equity in economic development to inform the work of the Economic Development District Board and its stakeholders as well as PSRC's regional planning efforts in the economic development arena.

At the October Equity Advisory Committee meeting, staff will provide an overview of the Advancing Equity in Economic Development REAP team project and share a preliminary set of proposed equity data measures for committee review and comment.

Staff will lead a discussion to address the following questions:

- Do the data measures presented provide insight into equitable economic opportunities and outcomes in the region?
- Are there other economic development strategic areas or data measures that should be considered?

NEXT STEPS

Staff will work to develop the set of regional equity data measures and produce a summary analysis of key findings.

For more information contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org or 206-389-2879 or Carol Naito, Program Manager – Data Applications, at cnaito@psrc.org or 206-464-7535.

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.

Learn more about the event at psrc.org.

Joint Board Session on Community Outreach

Thursday, October 29
10:00 AM — 12:00 PM
Hybrid Meeting



PSRC is hosting a joint board session focused on innovative community outreach practices. There will be examples from across the region highlighting how to engage the public including hard to reach populations.

Designed for both board members and their staff, we hope you can take away ideas to use in your jurisdiction to help cultivate inclusive and resilient communities with opportunity for all. Participants will be eligible to claim one AICP CM credit. All PSRC board members are highly encouraged to attend.

Register [here](#) to RSVP.

Questions?

Email **Charles Patton** at cpatton@psrc.org.



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