Implementing VISION 2050 Through Local Planning

Long-range plans and policies are developed by the region’s counties, cities, countywide planning groups, and transit agencies to help shape communities and plan for growth. PSRC reviews local plans for consistency with state law, VISION 2050, and the Regional Transportation Plan.

State law requires PSRC to review and certify countywide planning policies, local comprehensive plans, and Sound Transit’s long-range plan. PSRC also certifies regional center plans and provides comments on local transit plans.

PSRC’s plan review includes topics such as mobility, emissions, regional growth, housing, and intergovernmental coordination. Compared to the previous regional plan, VISION 2050 provides new and additional focus on several issues, including housing affordability, climate change, racial equity, coordination with Tribal Nations and other stakeholders, and planning for high-capacity transit.

Types of Review

Why certification?

- **Regional Collaboration.** Challenges such as climate change, housing affordability, congestion, and racial disparities require regional coordination. PSRC’s review and certification of local plans and policies supports local governments and public agencies in addressing regional issues.

- **Requirements in State Law.** Certification ensures state requirements for transportation planning are being met.

- **Transportation Funding.** Certification of local comprehensive plans is required by PSRC for jurisdictions to be eligible for PSRC’s federal transportation funding.
**Process**

PSRC has a Plan Review Manual and checklists to help local governments and agencies understand certification requirements. Local governments and agencies are encouraged to review the checklists and planning guidance throughout their plan update to understand the process in advance of certification review.

1. **Plan Visioning/Scoping Stage**
   a. Review VISION 2050 and applicable Consistency Tool
   b. Schedule a one-on-one consultation with PSRC staff
   c. Review previous certification reports

2. **Plan/Policy Development**
   a. Review policy-specific resources from PSRC
   b. Provide draft plans or policies to PSRC, with completed VISION 2050 Consistency Tool, for review/comment

3. **Review/Adoption Process**
   a. Complete or update the VISION 2050 Consistency Tool and submit to PSRC along with the adopted plan or policies
   b. Work with PSRC to prepare certification report
   c. PSRC’s boards review and certify

**Resources**

- **VISION 2050** – the region’s long-range plan for growth
- **Plan Review Manual** – guidance for understanding the process and how plans and policies can meet certification requirements and demonstrate consistency with regional plans and state requirements
- **VISION 2050 Consistency Tools** – planning checklists to support plan certification and highlight innovative work
- **Planning Resources** – webpage with guidance and supporting materials organized by VISION 2050 policy topic area
- **Certification Reports** – view findings and recommendations from previous plan review cycles
- **Plan Review Webinar** – hear about PSRC’s plan review program and view a tutorial on using the VISION 2050 Consistency Tools

**Contact us!**

We want to hear from you. PSRC staff is available to answer questions, meet about plans or policies, review drafts, or give presentations about the plan review and certification process. Email planreview@psrc.org.