



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023 from 9:30-11:00 am

1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30) – *Andrea Spencer, City of Bremerton*

2. Reports (9:35)

- a. Meeting Summary for March 16, 2023*
- b. PSRC Announcements and Updates

3. Discussion Item (9:45)

- a. Safe Streets and Roads for All Safety Action Plan Grant* – *Gary Simonson, PSRC*

4. Discussion Item (10:00)

- a. Stormwater Parks and Stormwater Comprehensive Plan Guidance* – *Erika Harris, PSRC*

5. Discussion Item (10:30)

- a. Comprehensive Planning and Plan Review Update* – *Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC*

6. Next meeting: June 15, 2023

7. Adjourn (11:00)

*Supporting materials attached.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join via a smart device or web browser, go to <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/89026931929?pwd=Wjdidlk0K2wvZ1FUK2dUQi9admViQT09> and enter Meeting ID: 890 2693 1929 and Passcode: 248215.
- To join by phone, call 888 475 4499 US Toll-free or 833 548 0276 US Toll-free and enter Meeting ID: 890 2693 1929 and Passcode: 248215.
- For TTY-based telecommunications relay service dial 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

Regional Staff Committee Meeting Summary

Date: March 16, 2023

Location: Hybrid Meeting

Presentations from the meeting are available on the PSRC website:

<https://www.psrc.org/rsc-meetings>. Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

Introductions and Announcements

Jesse Hamashima, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Participants were asked to view the meeting attendance on the “chat” feature on Zoom, and phone-in participants were asked to identify themselves verbally. Those attending in person signed the attendance sheet, and identified themselves at the table by their corresponding table tents.

Reports

Co-Chair Jesse Hamashima welcomed the committee members and explained that PSRC staff would provide short updates on upcoming policy and Executive Board meetings and review the status of ongoing projects in the work program.

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, reminded members about submitting nominations for the 2023 VISION 2050 Awards through April 1, 2023. He also shared that this summer PSRC will host a youth engagement program called PSRC Summer Planning Academy (SPA) for high school students.

The goals of SPA include: introducing students to the planning process and profession at an early age; engaging young people on a regular basis to provide input on PSRC’s policies and programs; and promoting equity in the region by actively recruiting and engaging youth from diverse backgrounds including Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) communities, low-income residents, and people with disabilities. The program is open to high school students in the region who will be 16 years old by the start of the program. SPA will take place on four consecutive Fridays beginning July 21, 2023, covering topics such the Basics of MPOs, Transit Planning, Environment, Housing, and Equity. The applications for SPA are due May 15, and the application is available [here](#).

Following Ben’s report out, Robin Koskey, PSRC’s Director of Government Relations and Communications provided a brief update on the Olympia Legislative Session.

Discussion: PSRC Public Participation Plan

PSRC staff have been working with the Equity Advisory Committee to update the Public Participation Plan. A draft version is being reviewed by PSRC boards this month with the goal of releasing the plan for public comment from March 23 to May 8, 2023.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org or Michele Leslie, Principal Communications Manager, at mleslie@psrc.org.

Discussion: Making Room for Housing near Transit: Zoning's Promise and Barriers

Yonah Freemark, Senior Research Associate with the Urban Institute, briefed the committee and reviewed findings from the research report *Making Room for Housing Near Transit: Zoning's Promise and Barriers*, published in January 2023.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

Discussion: Place Typology for Housing Actions and Tools

Following up from the committee's last briefing in 2022, the committee was provided an update on the development of the Housing Opportunities by Place (HOP) typology, an implementation item identified in the Regional Housing Strategy. Committee members will have the opportunity to beta test the forthcoming typology web platform later in March.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Laura Benjamin, Principal Planner, at lbenjamin@psrc.org.

Discussion: Greater Downtown Kirkland Regional Growth Center Application

PSRC and city staff provided an overview of the City of Kirkland's application for regional growth center designation. The committee had opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback to staff.

You can find the PSRC presentation [here](#), and the City of Kirkland presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Maggie Moore, Senior Planner, at mmoore@psrc.org.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC
Paul Inghram, PSRC
Robin Koskey, PSRC
Maggie Moore, PSRC
Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Ted Vanegas
Brian Lee, PSRC
Laura Benjamin, PSRC
Adam Weinstein, City of Kirkland
Lindsay Levine, City of Kirkland
Mary Richards, PSRC
Yonah Freemark, Urban Institute
Gil Cerise, PSRC
Noah Boggess, PSRC
Michele Leslie, PSRC
Heather Culver, PSRC
Thatcher Imboden
Diane Wait
Eric Clute, PSRC
Nancy Buonanno Grennan, PSRC

PSRC Regional Staff Committee - Attendance Roster

Jurisdiction	Member		Jurisdiction	Member	
King County	2 Ivan Miller, King County Executive Office		Federal, Regional, State, Tribal & Other Agencies		
	Sunaree Marshall, King County		FHWA	1 Matthew Pahs, Community Planner	
	Rebecca Maskin, Demographer Alt	R		Vacant Alt	
	McCaella Daffern, King County Alt	R	FTA	1 Ned Conroy, Community Planner	
At-Large	2 Arun Sambataro, Equity & Social Justice	R		Vacant Alt	
	Vacant		Health	1 Keri Moore, Snohomish Health Dist.	R
	Vacant Alt			Richard Gelb, King County Alt 1	R
	Vacant Alt			Jennifer Halverson Kuehn, Tacoma/Pierce Health Alt 2	R
Transit	1 Peter Heffernan, King Co Metro Gov. Relations		Ports	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs	
	Chris Arkills, King Co Metro Gov. Relations Alt	1		Deirdre Wilson, Northwest Seaport Alliance Alt	R
Economic Dev.	1 Ashton Allison, King Co Exec Office, Econ Dev		PSCAA	1 Amy Fowler, Policy Manager	R
	Hugo Garcia, King County Exec Office, Econ Dev			Kathy Strange, Air Quality Programs Director Alt	
Seattle	2 Michael Hubner, Long Range Planning	1	Puget Sound	1 Larry Epstein, Deputy Director	
	Jonathan Lewis, SDOT	R	Partnership	Dan Stonington, Planning Manager Alt	
	Patrice Carroll, Planning & Comm Dev Alt		Sound Transit	1 Matt Shelden, Planning & Innovation	
	Joanna Valencia, SDOT Alt			Alex Krieg, Planning & Integration Alt	R
Bellevue	1 Thara Johnson, Planning Manager, Comm Dev	R	Tribal	1 Vacant	
	Katie Kuciamba Halse, Transportation, Alt		Representatives	Vacant Alt	
Cities/Towns	3 Chip Vincent, Renton, Planning, Co-Chair		US EPA	1 Susan Sturges	R
	Bob Sterbank, City of Snoqualmie, Alt			Erik Peterson Alt	
	Brian Davis, City of Federal Way	R	US HUD	1 Jack Peters	
	Jeff Churchill, City of Redmond, Alt	R		Vacant Alt	
	Diana Hart, City of Kirkland, Alt		WA Dept. of Commerce	1 Chris Green	
	Andrea Snyder, City of Issaquah, Alt			Marie Davis	
Kitsap County	1 Eric Baker, Policy		WSDOT	1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT	1
	Jeff Rimack, Alt			April Delchamps, WSDOT Alt	
At-Large	1 Heather Wright, Planning Director		PSRC Committees		
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt	1	PSRC Co-Chair	1 Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning	1
Transit	1 Edward Coviello, Kitsap Transit		BPAC	1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT	1
	Vacant Alt			Eric Goodman, Community Transit, Alt	
Economic Dev.	1 Joe Morrison, KEDA		FAC	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs	
	Vacant Alt			Vacant Alt	
Bremerton	1 Andrea Spencer, Comm Dev, Co-Chair	R	RPEC	1 Doug McCormick, RPEC Chair	R
	Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager, Alt			Shane Weber, RPEC Vice Chair	R
Cities/Towns	1 Nick Bond, Comm Dev., Port Orchard		SNTC	1 Susan Carter, SNTC Chair	
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt	1		Vacant Alt	
Pierce County	1 Jesse Hamashima, Transportation, Co-Chair	1	TDM	1 Jennifer Hass, Community Transit	
	Vacant Alt			Sarah Spicer, City of Seattle, Alt	
At-Large	2 Tiffany Speir, Lakewood, Planning	R	RTOC	1 Vacant	
	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake, Planning			Vacant Alt	
	Ryan Windish, Sumner, Alt		R = Remote attendance		
	Angelie Stahlnecker, Milton, Alt				
Transit	1 Lindsey Sehmel, Pierce Transit	R			
	Darin Stavish, Pierce Transit, Alt				
Economic Dev	1 Rob Allen, Economic Development	R			
	Vacant Alt				
Tacoma	1 Peter Huffman, Planning & Dev Svcs				
	Vacant				
Cities/Towns	1 Kendall Wals, Puyallup	R			
	Chris Larson, Fife, Alt				
Snohomish County	1 Mike McCrary, PDS Director				
	David Killingstad, Planning & Development	R			
At-Large	2 Kelly Snyder, Director, Co-Chair	1			
	Ken Klein, Executive Director				
	Jay Larson, Public Works Supervisor, Alt				
	Joshua Dugan, Exec Operations Officer, Alt				
Transit	1 Roland Behee, Director of Planning				
	Melinda Adams, Everett Transit Alt	R			
Economic Dev	1 Neepaporn Bounjaktha, Economic Dev				
	James Henderson, Economic Dev Alt				
Everett	1 Yorik Stevens-Wajda, Planning Director	1			
	Becky Ableman McCrary, Long Range Planning Mgr				
Cities/Towns	1 Russ Wright, Lake Stevens, Comm Dev. Director				
	Patricia Love, Stanwood, Comm Dev. Director, Alt.				
Total Members	51	Attended	33		



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

May 18, 2023

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Gary Simonson, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Safe Streets and Roads for All Action Plan Grant and Safety Summit

IN BRIEF

At its May meeting, the Regional Staff Committee will be briefed on a \$4.9 million USDOT Safety Action Plan grant recently awarded to PSRC and 6 member partners, and hear about future funding opportunities under the [Safe Streets and Roads for All \(SS4A\) program](#).

DISCUSSION

Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Discretionary Grant Program.

The [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#) (BIL) established the new USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) discretionary program with \$5 billion in appropriated funds over 5 years. The SS4A program funds regional, local, and Tribal initiatives through grants to prevent roadway deaths and serious injuries.

[PSRC received a \\$4.9 million grant](#) under the first round of FY 2022 funding to develop a Regional Safety Plan and to assist and provide administrative oversight to six member agencies to develop their own local safety action plans. USDOT strongly encouraged this regional coordination and consolidation of grant requests and conveyed that regional collaboration will be expected for successful second round applications as well.

The second round of USDOT's SS4A grant program for FY 2023 has now been released. PSRC is considering submitting a proposal in the second round of funding to continue this regional support role for up to six additional jurisdictions who are seeking to complete local safety action plans meeting the SS4A requirements. The grant criteria prioritize support for communities with higher rates of fatalities and serious injuries, and a higher proportion of underserved communities.

Next Steps

To meet the July 10 deadline for the grant application, PSRC is soliciting interest from member agencies who wish to participate. **Please complete [this form](#) by May 26, 2023 if you are interested in joining a consolidated regional SS4A grant application.** The form asks for a few key details:

- Brief description of the work you plan to conduct
- Estimated grant request amount and 20% local required match
- Estimated timeline for completion of work

PSRC will review submittals and determine which partner grants will be consolidated in early June.

Regional Safety Summit – Save the Date!

In a related topic, PSRC will host a regional safety summit on June 29, 2023 in Downtown Seattle, final location tbd. The one-day conference will gather diverse voices to discuss how we move the region toward reaching zero road fatalities. The summit will be a first step to inform the creation of a regional safety plan. We look forward to hearing from elected officials, transportation experts, engaged citizens and other stakeholders. More details and registration information to follow.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, at gsimonson@psrc.org or (206) 971-3276.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

May 18, 2023

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Erika Harris, AICP

SUBJECT: Stormwater Parks and Stormwater Comprehensive Plan Guidance

IN BRIEF

The Regional Staff Committee will be briefed on two related stormwater projects: stormwater parks and guidance on integrating stormwater solutions into comprehensive plans. The committee will be asked for feedback on the draft guidance.

DISCUSSION

One of the largest contributors to pollution in Puget Sound and its water bodies is stormwater. Stormwater is difficult to manage because it is everywhere, following the topography from high points to low and crossing jurisdictional and property boundaries. Improper stormwater management can lead to flooding, erosion, dry streams and wells, pollution, and ultimately health impacts to people and wildlife. Land use and transportation development practices have the potential to either degrade or improve water quality and hydrology.

VISION 2050's MPP-En-18 seeks to reduce stormwater impacts from transportation and development through watershed planning, redevelopment and retrofit projects, and low impact development. These strategies are consistent with the Puget Sound Action Agenda and very competitive to receive grant funding through various sources such as the Washington State legislature, EPA's National Estuary Program, Commerce's Community Economic Revitalization Board program, and Ecology's Water Quality Combined Funding program. Funding levels for these programs have increased due to state and federal support.

Stormwater Parks

Developing stormwater parks is one innovative strategy for Puget Sound recovery that can fix legacy stormwater problems in an efficient way by both treating stormwater from a larger area and providing recreational opportunities for surrounding communities. For example, Manchester Stormwater Park in Kitsap County doubles as a regional stormwater treatment facility and a public park in the heart of Manchester.

PSRC was awarded a Puget Sound National Estuary Program grant to help catalyze the development of new stormwater parks. The project has three main parts:

1. Lessons learned from already-built stormwater parks: PSRC prepared fact sheets on seven stormwater parks in the region, highlighting their approach to integrating water quality and park features. A summary document is available on PSRC's [stormwater parks webpage](#).
2. Technical assistance for planning six new stormwater parks: Kirkland, Kitsap County, Lynnwood, Marysville, Puyallup, and Woodinville received technical assistance from AHBL including community engagement, feasibility studies, alternatives development, conceptual design, graphics development for community meetings, and cost estimates. This work allows the jurisdictions to apply for funding to further design and construct the stormwater parks. These six parks could have the combined potential to treat runoff from approximately 400 acres and would provide new or improved trails, play areas, benches, sport courts, picnic tables and shelters, gardens, bicycle and vehicle parking, wildlife habitat, and educational signage.
3. Guidance document on [planning stormwater parks](#): Findings and lessons learned from the project were summarized in a guidance document. The goal of this planning guidance is to make it easier for other jurisdictions to plan for and construct stormwater parks in the region and improve water quality. The guidance is available on PSRC's stormwater parks webpage.

A recording of the [TOOLBOX: Peer Networking session on Stormwater Parks](#) is also available.

Integrating Stormwater Solutions into Comprehensive Plans Guidance

Stormwater parks and other stormwater solutions can be integrated into comprehensive plan updates. This will help position projects to take advantage of increased funding resources. Comprehensive plan updates can also provide the opportunity to integrate stormwater information, policies, and projects across elements and departments. An integrated approach can accelerate and expand the implementation of stormwater solutions by addressing the variety of places that stormwater touches: private property, transportation facilities, natural resources, parks, and other public facilities.

To share proven stormwater solutions and implementation steps, PSRC is preparing guidance on integrating stormwater solutions into comprehensive plans. The guidance discusses stormwater solutions across comprehensive plan elements. For example, stormwater solutions in the land use element could include programs to incentivize developers and property owners to add more green stormwater infrastructure to their properties. Examples of other stormwater solutions include watershed-based land use plans, roadside natural drainage retrofits, stormwater parks, and community benefit public-private partnerships. The stormwater solutions listed in the guidance were identified through research and interviews on successful practices from around the region and beyond. The guidance provides model policies, project examples, and resources that can provide the groundwork for implementing these solutions.

The [draft guidance](#) was shared by email with the committee in April and with the Growth Management Policy Board at their May 4 meeting. The committee is encouraged to share the draft guidance with planning, stormwater, transportation, parks, and other staff.

Next Steps

PSRC would appreciate feedback on the draft guidance by May 22. The finalized guidance document will be shared with the committee in June 2023.

Lead Staff

Questions? Contact Erika Harris, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

May 18, 2023

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner

SUBJECT: Comprehensive Planning and Plan Review Update

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will brief the committee on recent guidance, technical assistance, countywide work, and other support for the 2024 comprehensive plan updates. VISION 2050 calls for PSRC to support efforts to update local comprehensive plans through updates to plan review and certification guidance and building awareness on VISION 2050 (RC-Action-1 and RC-Action-4).

DISCUSSION

PSRC develops data, guidance, and resources to support implementation of VISION through local planning. PSRC has published numerous guidance documents to date, which are available on the [VISION 2050 Planning Resources](#) page. Following adoption of VISION 2050 in 2020, PSRC updated the Plan Review Manual and issued guidance on growth target development, economic development, climate change, coordination with Tribes, housing, equitable engagement, and transit-oriented development.

Recent Publications

As part of the [Regional Equity Strategy](#), PSRC staff have been working with the [Equity Advisory Committee](#) to develop resources to center equity in planning. [Equity Planning Resources for Comprehensive Plans](#) compiles example policies from local plans, local and national policy guides, and data resources on equity for comprehensive plans. The resources focus specifically on equity topics addressed in [VISION 2050](#).

Transportation elements are important components to local comprehensive plans and a key area for PSRC's certification review. PSRC recently published [Draft Transportation Guidance](#) to provide best practices and information on the required components of transportation elements, both to meet state requirements and to ensure consistency with VISION 2050.

PSRC staff have also been compiling frequently asked questions on comprehensive plans and the plan review process. PSRC staff will provide highlights from the latest version of the [FAQ](#).

Countywide Planning Policies

Following adoption of VISION 2050, work began to update the countywide planning policies. PSRC's boards have been working through certification of updated countywide planning policies. Staff will provide an update on countywide work to implement VISION 2050 and reflect changes in state law.

Outreach

To support staff in updating local comprehensive plans, PSRC staff have been working along with the Department of Commerce and MRSC on the Passport to 2044 series of webinars. Ten events took place in 2022 and early 2023 covering available resources, best practices, and changes in state law since the last periodic update. PSRC staff will continue the Passport to 2044 series in 2023 and fielded a survey to solicit input on additional sessions. A session for elected officials and planning commissioners is also being planned for May 18, 2023, covering key issues in the region and a panel of elected officials. A session focusing on the legislative session and comprehensive plan updates will occur later this summer.

In the first quarter of 2023, PSRC staff reached out to all the 86 cities and counties in the region to share resources and information on the plan review process. Staff will provide an update on one-to-one outreach with local jurisdictions.

PSRC staff welcome any feedback from the Regional Staff Committee on information and tools needed for the comprehensive plan updates, as well as approach to engage with local staff.

Next Steps

Staff will provide future updates on progress to update comprehensive plans due in 2024.

Lead Staff

For more information, contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at 206-464-6174 or LUnderwood-Bultmann@psrc.org.