



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee | Hybrid Meeting

1011 Western Ave # 500, Seattle, WA 98104

Date: Thursday, September 21, 2023 from 9:30-11:30
am

1. **Welcome and Introductions (9:30)** – *Kelly Snyder, Snohomish County*
2. **Reports (9:35)**
 - a. Meeting Summary for July 20, 2023*
 - b. PSRC Announcements and Updates
3. **Discussion Item (9:45)**
 - a. Black Home Initiative* – *Marty Kooistra, Civic Commons*
4. **Discussion Item (10:15)**
 - a. Regional Centers Monitoring and Redesignation* – *Maggie Moore & Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC*
5. **Discussion Item (11:00)**
 - a. Equity Advisory Committee Update* – *Charles Patton, PSRC*
6. **Information Item**
 - a. TOD Save the Date – From Pandemic to Prosperity: Downtowns Reimagined – Friday, September 29, 2023*
7. **Next meeting: October 19, 2023**
8. **Adjourn (11:30)**

*Supporting materials attached.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join via a smart device or web browser, go to <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/81032100961?pwd=ZnhzR1dKc05ZMTdBVHBYTi81VTFYUT09> and enter Meeting ID: 810 3210 0961 and Passcode: 122153.
- To join by phone, call 888 475 4499 US Toll-free or 833 548 0276 US Toll-free and enter Meeting ID: 810 3210 0961 and Passcode: 122153.
- 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: July 20, 2023

Location: Remote Only

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

Kelly Snyder, 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.

Reports

Co-Chair Kelly Snyder 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, shared that PSRC, in conjunction with the Equity Advisory Committee, launched the [Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report](#), a powerful new web-based tool that chronicles the history of discriminatory policies in the Puget Sound region. The report is available in StoryMap form [here](#) as well. He welcomed members to attend the August 22 virtual training session on the **Racial Equity Impact Assessment (DOCX) (PDF)**, a tool designed to systematically weave equity into comprehensive plans. This session included breakout rooms where participants had the opportunity to practice using the tool. The presentation and recording may be found on the [Passport to 2044: Comprehensive Plan Workshop Series](#) webpage. Lastly, Ben shared a reminder for the TOD event, “From Pandemic to Prosperity: Downtowns Reimagined,” scheduled for Friday, September 29, with a webinar and an in-person walking tour component.

Discussion: Middle Housing Update

The committee was briefed by Dave Osaki of the Washington State Department of Commerce with an update on Middle Housing work, grant funding, and resources developed by the department.

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

For more information, contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at bbakkenta@psrc.org.

Discussion: Middle Housing Pro Forma Tool

The committee heard a presentation from Alex Steinberger of Cascadia Partners about a middle housing pro forma tool developed for the Department of Commerce. This tool helps cities analyze the market potential of middle housing and how policy decisions impact housing costs.

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

For more information, contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at bbakkenta@psrc.org.

Discussion: Findings from Affordable Housing Developer Outreach

PSRC staff conducted outreach to affordable housing developers to assist jurisdictions in understanding and documenting challenges and opportunities identified by developers. At the July 20th meeting, PSRC staff provided the committee with an overview of the process taken to achieve this, the findings, and next steps to document the work. The committee was asked for feedback on the work completed and how to share the findings with local governments.

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

For more information, contact Ananda Gordon-Peabody, Housing/Planning Intern, at agordon-peabody@psrc.org, or Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Heather Culver, PSRC
David Osaki, WA State Department of Commerce
Nicole Palczewski
Amber Piona, Snohomish County
Maggie Moore, PSRC
Mary Richards, PSRC
Lindsay Masters
Mike Stanger, ARCH
Alex Steinberger
David Paine, City of Kent
Robin Koskey, PSRC

Brian Lee, PSRC
Jason Thibedeau, PSRC
Katie Enders, PSRC
Anne Fritzel, WA State Department of Commerce
Josh Brown, PSRC
Pauline Mogilevsky
Michelle Stewart
Carol Naito, PSRC
Steve Butler, MRSC
Charlotte Garrido, Kitsap County Commissioner
Ananda Gordon-Peabody, 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		
	McCaella Daffern, King County		FHWA	1 Matthew Pahs, Community Planner	
	Rebecca Maskin, Demographer Alt	R		Vacant Alt	
	Valerie Kendall, King County Alt		FTA	1 Ned Conroy, Community Planner	
At-Large	2 Arun Sambataro, Equity & Social Justice	R		Vacant Alt	
	Kwame Simmons, Policy Advisor Alt		Health	1 Keri Moore, Snohomish Health Dist.	R
	Dan Cardwell, King County	R		Richard Gelb, King County Alt 1	R
	Vacant Alt			Jennifer Halverson Kuehn, Tacoma/Pierce Health Alt 2	
Transit	1 Peter Heffernan, King Co Metro Gov. Relations	R	Ports	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs	R
	Chris Arkills, King Co Metro Gov. Relations Alt			Deirdre Wilson, Northwest Seaport Alliance Alt	
Economic Dev.	1 Ashton Allison, King Co Exec Office, Econ Dev		PSCAA	1 Amy Fowler, Policy Manager	
	Hugo Garcia, King County Exec Office, Econ Dev			Kathy Strange, Air Quality Programs Director Alt	
Seattle	2 Michael Hubner, Long Range Planning	R	Puget Sound	1 Larry Epstein, Deputy Director	
	Jonathan Lewis, SDOT		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	R	Representatives	Vacant Alt	
Cities/Towns	3 Vacant		US EPA	1 Susan Sturges	
	Bob Sterbank, City of Snoqualmie, Alt			Erik Peterson Alt	
	Brian Davis, City of Federal Way		US HUD	1 Vacant	
	Jeff Churchill, City of Redmond, Alt	R		Vacant Alt	
	Diana Hart, City of Kirkland, Alt		WA Dept. of	1 Chris Green	
	Andrea Snyder, City of Issaquah, Alt	R	Commerce	Marie Davis	
Kitsap County	1 Eric Baker, Policy	R	WSDOT	1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT	R
	Jeff Rimack, Alt			April Delchamps, WSDOT Alt	
At-Large	1 Heather Wright, Planning Director		PSRC Committees		
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt		PSRC Co-Chair	1 Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning	R
Transit	1 Edward Coviello, Kitsap Transit		BPAC	1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT	R
	Vacant Alt			Eric Goodman, Community Transit, Alt	
Economic Dev.	1 Joe Morrison, KEDA		FAC	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs	R
	Vacant Alt			Vacant Alt	
Bremerton	1 Andrea Spencer, Comm Dev, Co-Chair		RPEC	1 Doug McCormick, RPEC Chair	
	Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager, Alt	R		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			Vacant Alt	
Pierce County	1 Vacant		TDM	1 Jennifer Hass, Community Transit	R
	Vacant Alt			Sarah Spicer, City of Seattle, Alt	
At-Large	2 Tiffany Speir, Lakewood, Planning		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				
	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	R			
	David Killingstad, Planning & Development				
At-Large	2 Kelly Snyder, Director, Co-Chair	R			
	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				
Economic Dev	1 Neepaporn Bounjaktha, Economic Dev				
	James Henderson, Economic Dev Alt				
Everett	1 Yorik Stevens-Wajda, Planning Director				
	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	25		



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

September 14, 2023

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning

SUBJECT: **Black Home Initiative**

IN BRIEF

The committee will be briefed on the [Black Home Initiative](#) (BHI), a new regional effort that seeks to target the racial inequities at the core of the housing ecosystem in an effort to increase homeownership among Black households.

DISCUSSION

Forty-two percent of Black households in Washington state have zero net worth, and the City of Tacoma reports a loss of more than fifty percent of its Black homeowners in its central neighborhoods since 2007.

The displacement of Black families and businesses not only scatters and breaks family connections, but it also ends legacy businesses, erases cultural identity, threatens economic livelihoods, and reduces the opportunity of building the intergenerational wealth necessary for a down payment on a home. Homeownership plays a critical role in maintaining these vital elements of economic opportunity and prosperity.

Marty Kooistra, former Executive Director of the Housing Development Consortium of Seattle-King County, is now at the Seattle Foundation's [Civic Commons](#) as Network Weaver of the Black Home Initiative. Marty will brief the committee on the BHI, the collective work of a network of nonprofits, private companies, philanthropy, governments, and associations making up our region's ecosystem focused on increasing Black homeownership.

Short term goals include an effort to create opportunity for 1,500 new low- and moderate-income Black households to own a home in South Seattle, South King County, and North Pierce County within the next five years.

Next Steps

As part of implementation of the Regional Housing Strategy, PSRC will continue to update the committee on BHI work as it progresses.

Lead Staff

For more information, contact Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at bbakkenta@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

September 14, 2023

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Maggie Moore, Senior Planner

SUBJECT: Regional Centers Monitoring and Redesignation

IN BRIEF

The committee will hear an update on the regional centers work program, including new data profiles and early planning for redesignation and monitoring called for by the [Regional Centers Framework](#).

DISCUSSION

Centers are the hallmark of VISION 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy. They guide regional growth allocations, advance local planning, inform transit service planning, and represent priority areas for PSRC's federal transportation funding.

The region has designated 30 regional growth centers. These are locations of the region's most significant business, governmental, and cultural facilities and are planning for growth. The region's ten designated regional manufacturing/industrial centers are locations for more intensive industrial activity. Both regional growth centers and regional manufacturing/industrial centers are focal points for planned growth, economic development and transportation infrastructure investments.

2023 CENTERS PROFILES

PSRC is developing a data dashboard with profiles for individual regional centers, which will be updated annually. This dashboard will replace profiles last updated in 2013. Data in the center profiles comes from the WA Office of Financial Management, US Census Bureau American Community Survey, and PSRC. Data includes measures on demographics, housing, transportation, and urban form. All data in the profiles will be available for download and can be used for centers planning by local jurisdictions.

Staff will share high-level findings from the 2023 centers profiles and preview the profile pages with the committee.

REGIONAL CENTERS FRAMEWORK

In 2018, PSRC's Executive Board adopted the [Regional Centers Framework](#) to identify more consistent criteria for regional centers. This includes developing a framework to track performance and outcomes of centers over time, providing guidance on planning for centers, and the redesignation of existing centers.

Based on criteria in the Framework, PSRC staff are starting early work to define data needs and components of the 2025 monitoring and redesignation process. Potential data measures and sources will be shared, along with key questions informing the monitoring process.

2025 MONITORING AND REDESIGNATION PROCESS

This process will evaluate the success of regional centers in achieving the region's desired outcomes, analyze how individual centers are performing, and redesignate existing centers.

Key questions for this process include:

- How have regional centers performed in accommodating growth?
- What level of planning has been done for centers?
- What is the potential for accommodating future growth?
- What's next for the Regional Centers Framework and VISION?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

At the September committee meeting, PSRC staff will engage the committee in answering the following questions:

- Are we asking the right questions to be able to review existing centers in 2025?
- What do you think would be helpful to know about regional growth centers?
- What other data may be needed for successful monitoring and redesignation?

Next Steps

PSRC staff will finalize updated center profiles and will incorporate board and committee feedback in an updated scope of work for the centers monitoring process. PSRC will continue to update and seek feedback from the committee as work progresses.

Lead Staff

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



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

September 14, 2023

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Charles Patton, PhD, Program Manager for Equity Policy and Initiatives

SUBJECT: Equity Advisory Committee Update

IN BRIEF

Equity is a key policy area in [VISION 2050](#), the region's long-range plan for growth. A new action in the draft VISION 2050 plan (RC-Action-3) directs PSRC to develop a regional equity strategy, which is intended to make equity central to PSRC's work and to support the 2024 local comprehensive plan updates.

PSRC staff and the [Equity Advisory Committee](#) (EAC) have made progress on regional equity work, including co-creating elements of the [Regional Equity Strategy](#), which will provide guidance to help members work in a coordinated manner towards the region's goal of providing an exceptional quality of life and opportunity for all. During the upcoming Regional Staff Committee meeting, staff will share the progress the committee has made co-creating various resources within the Regional Equity Strategy.

Additionally, since January of 2023, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) has worked with PSRC staff to review PSRC's current project selection process as it relates to equity, to ultimately develop an equity pilot program to distribute approximately \$6 million of PSRC's 2025-2026 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funds. The EAC will also develop recommendations for potential further equity improvements in future PSRC project selection processes. During the upcoming Regional Staff Committee meeting, staff will also share the progress the committee has made preparing to design the Equity Pilot.

DISCUSSION

Regional Equity Strategy

Based on feedback from PSRC boards and committees as well as various stakeholders from around the region, staff worked with the Equity Advisory Committee to co-create the Regional Equity Strategy. The strategy includes components such as:

Capacity Building

- Learning Opportunities
- Prioritizing Equity
- Inclusive Procurement
- Hiring and Retention

Data and Research

- Equity Tracker
- Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report
- Data & Analysis

Community Engagement

- Equity Advisory Committee
- Anti-Displacement Organizations Report
- Equitable Engagement Guidance

Best Practices

- Equity Planning Resources
- Racial Equity Impact Assessment

In anticipation of upcoming comprehensive plan updates, staff engaged with the EAC on the resources most relevant to this process: Equity Tracker, Legacy of Structural Racism Interactive Report, Anti-Displacement Organizations Report, Equitable Engagement Guidance, Equity Planning Resources, and Racial Equity Impact Assessment. Staff will share an update on the progress they have made co-creating these resources with the Equity Advisory Committee.

Equity Pilot

PSRC conducts a project selection process to distribute federal transportation funds every two years. The process and the criteria used to evaluate every project is based on policies and outcomes detailed in [VISION 2050](#) and the [Regional Transportation Plan](#). These include elements such as accessibility, multimodal mobility, safety, equity and climate, as well as financial and project readiness considerations.

In addition to substantial improvements to how equity was incorporated into the existing project selection process, as part of the 2022 *Policy Framework* approximately \$6 million of PSRC's FHWA funds were set aside for an Equity Pilot Program. The EAC has been asked to co-create this program, developing the parameters by which projects would be selected for funding, with an overarching focus on improving equity with transportation investments.

There are four phases for this program. Phase one was focused on education and included a series of meetings during the first quarter that helped EAC members understand the nuances of the project selection process. These meetings explored PSRCs current project selection process and how other Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) across the country have incorporated equity into their processes. The EAC also engaged in a simulation exercise where members evaluated transportation projects from 2022.

Phase two focused on designing the Pilot. During this phase, the EAC proposed ideas about the structure of the Equity Pilot Program. Additionally, from July to August, a few members of the EAC joined staff meetings to implement the suggestions shared by the committee and design the Equity Pilot. During phase three staff will release the pilot, conduct the pilot, and review which projects were recommended with the EAC.

The EAC will end the year with phase four, reviewing the outcomes of the pilot program, discussing what went well and sharing recommendations for the next full project selection process, based on the experience designing the Equity Pilot. In December, the board will review the EACs recommendations for how project selection should be improved and then adopt the framework in January of 2024.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives, at cpatton@psrc.org, or Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, at bbakkenta@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

FROM PANDEMIC TO PROSPERITY: Downtowns Reimagined



REGISTER TODAY!

Friday, September 29, 2023



Part 1

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**Zoom & In-person
Panels**



Part 2

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

**In Person Walking Tour,
Downtown Seattle**

Visit [the event page on psrc.org](https://psrc.org) for more information.

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted downtowns and urban cores in unforeseen ways that now provide opportunities to revitalize these places to better serve all people. Join national experts and community leaders to explore cutting edge data analysis, innovative techniques, and best practices to reimagine downtowns for our shared prosperity.

Free to attend | Online registration at psrc.org