



## Puget Sound Regional Council

### **Equity Advisory Committee | Remote Only**

**Date: Thursday, April 4, 2024 from 5:30-7:30 pm**

**Optional: Post-Meeting Q&A from 7:30-8:00 pm**

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#### **1. Welcome (5:30) – Debbie Lacy & Maria Fergus, Co-Chairs**

#### **2. Reports**

- a. Meeting Summary for March 7, 2024\*
- b. EAC Member Announcements
- c. Staff Announcements\*
- d. GMPB and TPB Meeting Summaries\*

#### **3. Discussion Item (5:45)**

- a. Preparation for 2024 PSRC Regional Priority Ranking Process\* – *Gil Cerise, Jean Kim, & Erin Hogan, PSRC*

#### **4. Break (6:25)**

#### **5. Discussion Item (6:35)**

- a. VISION 2050 Overview\* – *Liz Underwood-Bultmann & Paul Inghram, PSRC*

#### **6. Discussion Item (7:05)**

- a. Launch of the Equity Tracker\* – *Brian Lee & Mary Richards, PSRC*

#### **7. Information Items**

- a. Save the Date: 2024 Annual PSRC General Assembly, May 30, 2024 from 9:30 am – 1:00 pm\*

#### **8. Zoom Poll (7:25)**

#### **9. Next meeting: May 2, 2024**

#### **10. Adjourn (7:30)**

**Optional Post-Meeting Q&A (7:30) – Charles Patton, PSRC**

\*Supporting materials attached.

Members can access the attendance sheet [here](#) to complete and submit to [finance@psrc.org](mailto:finance@psrc.org) for compensation.

### **Zoom Remote Connection Details**

- To join the webinar, please click the following link: <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/81379601142?pwd=iCaWPgQtfgxxsXGvriiswJbALDBEMg.mkzKtEZ7854koPJC> and enter Passcode: 013462.
- To join by phone, call 877 853 5257 US Toll Free or 888 475 4499 US Toll Free and enter Webinar ID: 813 7960 1142 and Passcode: 013462.
- 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

### Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Summary

**Date:** March 7, 2024

**Location:** Remote Only

Presentations from the meeting are available on the [Equity Advisory Committee webpage](#). Audio recording of the meeting is available by request.

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#### **Welcome**

Shannon Turner, from Kitsap County, and Julius Moss, from Pierce County, 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 Boggess shared with members plans to schedule an optional in-person tour of the Wing Luke Museum [Redlining Heritage Trail Tour](#) for a Saturday in June. A poll was administered at the end of the meeting to determine the best available date. Charles Patton thanked Julius Moss and Shannon Turner for their leadership and dedication as co-chairs for the 2023-2024 term on the EAC. He also welcomed Debbie Lacey and Maria Fergus as the new co-chairs beginning in April, for the 2024-2025 term. Charles briefed the committee on the work of the Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board, whose meeting summaries were included in the EAC agenda packet on pg. 6-9.

#### **Discussion Item: Icebreakers and Quarterly Engagement Activity**

Noah Boggess shared the structure and purpose of these breakouts with the committee and explained that different members of the committee would lead these small groups for member relationship building.

Questions? Contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at [nboggess@psrc.org](mailto:nboggess@psrc.org).

#### **Discussion Item: Demographic Profile & Title VI Introduction**

Staff briefed the committee on PSRC's forthcoming work to conduct a triannual update to its Title VI demographic profile, a component of the agency's broader Title VI Plan. Committee members were asked to provide their thoughts and feedback on the proposed scope of work for the 2024 profile update.

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

Questions? Contact Carol Naito, Program Manager, at 206-464-7535 or at [cnaito@psrc.org](mailto:cnaito@psrc.org).

**Discussion Item: Preparation for 2024 PSRC Regional Priority Ranking Process**

PSRC staff provided the EAC with background on the Regional Priority Ranking Process for the state's Consolidated Grant competition and asked for input and suggestions for incorporating equity into the PSRC's evaluation and ranking process.

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

Questions? Contact Jean Kim, Senior Planner, at [jkim@psrc.org](mailto:jkim@psrc.org) or 206-971-3052, or Gil Cerise, Program Manager, at [gcerise@psrc.org](mailto:gcerise@psrc.org) or 206-971-3053.

**Adjourn**

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

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**Members Represented at the Table**

See attached attendance roster.

**PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present**

Mikayla Svob, PSRC  
Charles Patton, PSRC  
Noah Boggess, PSRC  
Jean Kim, PSRC  
Erin Hogan, PSRC  
Gil Cerise, PSRC  
Carol Naito, PSRC  
Diana

## PSRC Equity Advisory Committee - Attendance Roster

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# Puget Sound Regional Council

## DISCUSSION ITEM

April 4, 2024

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy and Initiatives

**SUBJECT: GMPB and TPB Meeting Summaries**



March 7, 2024

### **Puget Sound Recovery Update**

Staff from the Puget Sound Partnership, Kitsap County and the City of Poulsbo briefed the board on Puget Sound recovery efforts and sought feedback on how the Partnership and PSRC can further support local work. Puget Sound water quality and wildlife habitat has been degraded. Puget Sound recovery is a goal in VISION 2050 and is addressed through several policies like En-Action-2, which directs PSRC and the Puget Sound Partnership to coordinate to support watershed planning to inform land use, transportation and stormwater planning that improve the health of the Puget Sound. Staff also described funding opportunities for projects and activities that support the Puget Sound recovery. To find more resources about restoring the health of Puget Sound, view PSRC's [guidance on Integrating Stormwater Solutions into Comprehensive Plans](#) developed to support recovery through comprehensive planning. [View video](#) and [presentation](#).

For additional information, please contact Erika Harris, AICP, Senior Planner, at [eharris@psrc.org](mailto:eharris@psrc.org) or 206-464-6360.

### **Zoning for Early Childhood Education**

Barbara Rosen, a consultant for Enterprise Community Partners, and Maria Tobin, representing the South Sound Military and Communities Partnership provided the board with information about barriers to developing early childhood education facilities. Costs for land and building across the region are escalating, making the siting and development of early childhood care facilities challenging. Lack of access to early childhood care can lead to increased congestion, higher costs, and more time wasted. Enterprise Community Partners and South Sound Military and Communities Partnership explore how land use regulations may create unintended barriers to developing new childcare facilities and how addressing those barriers could improve childcare opportunities for families. [View presentation.](#)

For additional information, please contact Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, at [pinghram@psrc.org](mailto:pinghram@psrc.org), or Barbara Rosen at [br@barbararosenconsulting.com](mailto:br@barbararosenconsulting.com).

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March 14, 2024

### **2024 Project Tracking and Supplemental Funding Action**

Staff reported on the delivery status of projects awarded PSRC's 2024 Federal Highway Administration funding and the impacts to meeting the required annual delivery target. Due to requested project extensions and the return of funds, there is a gap to the target and a supplemental funding action required. Staff reminded the board of recently approved revisions to the project tracking policies and the adopted steps for developing supplemental funding actions. The board recommended approval of a list of projects to receive an increase in their awarded federal funding to help achieve the annual delivery target. The board also discussed options for additional funding to address higher costs. Staff will return in April with a recommendation on the project extension requests for 2024, and with more information on the overall state process related to higher costs. [View presentation.](#)

For more information, please contact Jennifer Barnes, Program Manager, at (206) 389-2876 or [jbarnes@psrc.org](mailto:jbarnes@psrc.org).

### **Climate Work Summary and Future Planning**

Staff provided a briefing on ongoing climate work and the schedule of activities through the development of the next Regional Transportation Plan. The briefing included information on partnership projects such as the regional greenhouse gas emissions inventory project, PSRC's 2030 climate analysis work, the convening of a climate expert review panel, and current efforts related to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program for planning and implementation. [View presentation.](#)

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at (206) 971-3601 or [kmcgourty@psrc.org](mailto:kmcgourty@psrc.org).



### **Regional Transportation Plan (2026-2050) Development Process**

The board continued their discussion on priorities and key themes for the Regional Transportation Plan. Themes and priorities that board members have highlighted to date include safety, climate, equity, ferries and maintenance of the system. Board members also discussed ideas for innovations and data analysis for the next plan. The board will further refine key priorities and policy focus areas as the development work of the next plan continues. [View presentation.](#)

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or [kmcgourty@psrc.org](mailto:kmcgourty@psrc.org) or Gil Cerise, Program Manager, at 206-971-3053 or [gcerise@psrc.org](mailto:gcerise@psrc.org).

### **Project Selection Future Work Items**

The board had a brief discussion on further direction to staff on the scope and timeline for the two items not recommended as part of the 2024 Policy Framework for PSRC's Federal Funds. The two items are prohibiting projects adding general purpose capacity expansion on limited access highways from competing for PSRC funds and setting a threshold for funding projects only above a certain total score. Given time constraints, staff will follow up with a communication to the board to gather additional feedback and will return in the fall with options for consideration. [View presentation.](#)

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or [kmcgourty@psrc.org](mailto:kmcgourty@psrc.org).

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# Puget Sound Regional Council

## **DISCUSSION ITEM**

April 4, 2024

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Jean Kim, Senior Planner, Transportation Planning  
Erin Hogan, Associate Planner, Transportation Planning

**SUBJECT: Preparation for 2024 PSRC Regional Priority Ranking Process**

## **IN BRIEF**

Following up on the March meeting presentation, PSRC staff will provide a quick review of the Regional Priority Ranking process for the state's Consolidated Grant competition and continue the discussion on incorporating equity into PSRC's evaluation and ranking process.

## **DISCUSSION**

Every two years, Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) awards state and federal funds for specialized transportation services through a competitive process, called the Consolidated Grant program. Specialized transportation fills mobility gaps when public transit is unavailable or does not fully meet the needs of people with accessibility and mobility challenges, including older adults and people with disabilities. Grant recipients can use the funds to operate accessible shuttles or volunteer driver programs, purchase vehicles, or offer information referral services that help riders with accessibility and mobility needs understand and use available transportation options.

PSRC's role in the state Consolidated Grant process is to allocate regional priority rankings to applications from the region<sup>1</sup>. WSDOT allocates each region a fixed number of A, B, and C rankings to award. PSRC's Special Needs Transportation Committee (SNTC) develops initial recommendations for project rankings, and the Executive Board takes final action. PSRC then submits the priority rankings to WSDOT. All "A" projects automatically receive funds. For "B" and "C" projects, points associated with each ranking (higher points for B and lower points for C rankings) are added to their score for the statewide competition. PSRC can also distribute an unlimited number of D rankings,

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<sup>1</sup> King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties participate in the WSDOT Consolidated Grant through PSRC's regional priority ranking process. Kitsap County is a member of both PSRC and the Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization (RTPO) and participates in the Consolidated Grant through the Peninsula RTPO.

which do not contribute any additional points to the statewide score. However, the D ranking allows the project to compete, relying solely on its state score. PSRC staff review the grant applications first to provide an initial sorting of projects as a starting point for the SNTC's deliberation and ranking recommendations. Therefore, these factors need to be easily quantified and articulated in grant application materials. In 2022, the staff assessment considered four priority ranking factors (shown in Table 1) derived from the [Coordinated Mobility Plan](#).

**Table 1.** Regional Priority Ranking Factors Used For the 2022 Process

Priority Ranking Factors	Evaluation Questions
<b>Project Type (Preservation vs. New/ Expansion)</b>	Is the project needed to support the ongoing operations of an existing program? This includes fleet replacement and maintenance, or other capital needs to support an existing program at existing service levels.
<b>Support for PSRC's Coordinated Mobility Plan</b>	Does the project support PSRC's Coordinated Mobility Plan by addressing at least one "high" priority strategy identified in the plan?
<b>Uniqueness of Service</b>	Does the application demonstrate the uniqueness of the project and how it meets the needs that are not met by other transportation services in the same geographic area serving similar priority populations?
<b>Financial Sustainability</b>	Does the application demonstrate that it is providing more than the federal minimum required match from local sources in its project budget?

In addition to the above factors used for the staff assessment, SNTC can identify "additional factors for consideration" to use during their deliberations to further distinguish applications. These additional factors should be different from the factors described in Table 1 to avoid duplication in assessment.

During the 2022 process, SNTC agreed that racial and social equity are important factors for consideration. The committee used demographic data and equity-related information derived from applications as a resource for its deliberations. However, the committee acknowledged that there was limited information provided by applicants to develop a stand-alone equity factor at that time and agreed to work on further incorporating racial and social equity in future deliberations.

Therefore, at the April meeting, PSRC staff will review a few potential proposals to incorporate equity into this process and ask for the EAC to provide feedback and any other suggestions. Members will be asked questions such as:

- Which staff proposals for integrating equity most resonate with you?
- Are there any other ideas you have in mind to improve PSRC's Regional Priority Ranking Process?

### **Next Steps**

PSRC will continue to work with the Special Needs Transportation Committee at its May meeting to finalize Regional Priority Ranking factors for this funding cycle, ahead of applications opening in June. Following the conclusion of the Regional Priority Ranking process in early 2025, PSRC staff will return to the Equity Advisory Committee to share and evaluate outcomes from the process.

### **Lead Staff**

For more information or to provide further feedback, contact Jean Kim, Senior Planner, at [jkim@psrc.org](mailto:jkim@psrc.org) or 206-971-3052, or Erin Hogan, Associate Planner at [ehogan@psrc.org](mailto:ehogan@psrc.org) or 206-971-3054.



# Puget Sound Regional Council

## DISCUSSION ITEM

April 4, 2024

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner  
Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management

**SUBJECT: VISION 2050 Overview**

## IN BRIEF

Staff will provide the Equity Advisory Committee with an overview of VISION 2050, the region's long-range growth plan, and how it shapes other regional and local planning.

## DISCUSSION

[VISION 2050](#) is the region's plan for growth. By 2050, the region's population will reach 5.8 million people. The region's cities, counties, Tribes, ports, agencies, businesses, and communities worked together to develop VISION 2050 to prepare for this growth and serve as a guide for sustaining a healthy environment, thriving communities and a strong economy.

VISION 2050 was adopted in 2020 and includes the region's multicounty planning policies, local and regional actions, and a strategy for how and where we grow through 2050. The plan includes actions to guide the collective work of PSRC, counties, cities, and other agency partners for implementation. VISION 2050 sets the stage for updates to local comprehensive plans done by cities and counties. It also informs updates to the Regional Transportation Plan, Regional Economic Strategy and other PSRC work.

VISION 2050 directed PSRC to develop a Regional Equity Strategy to make equity central to PSRC's work (RC-Action-3). The action included launching the Equity Advisory Committee to provide feedback on and help implement the Regional Equity Strategy.

Staff will provide the Equity Advisory Committee with an overview of VISION 2050 and its relationship to other regional and local planning.

### ***Questions for the Equity Advisory Committee***

- What aspects of VISION 2050 would you like to learn more about?

- What parts of VISION 2050 do you see as most critical for addressing equity?

**Lead Staff**

For more information, contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at [LUnderwood-Bultmann@psrc.org](mailto:LUnderwood-Bultmann@psrc.org) or Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, at [PInghram@psrc.org](mailto:PInghram@psrc.org).



# Puget Sound Regional Council

## DISCUSSION ITEM

April 4, 2024

**TO:** Equity Advisory Committee

**FROM:** Brian H. Y. Lee, Ph.D., Program Manager, PSRC

**SUBJECT:** Launch of the Equity Tracker

## IN BRIEF

PSRC staff met with the committee four previous times to develop the Equity Tracker. In this April session, staff will report on the latest progress, including plans for its launch.

## DISCUSSION

### Background

PSRC is developing an Equity Tracker centered on [VISION 2050](#). It will use data to help measure wellbeing for different communities in our region. This resource will track progress on equity-related [VISION 2050](#) goals and policies and help hold PSRC and others accountable as we work towards a region where race no longer predicts life outcomes and people have improved choices and opportunities.

The Equity Tracker will complement existing PSRC [Data](#) and [Equity](#) resources, which support agency work programs and help center equity in regional plans and strategies. As a pillar of the Data and Research component of the [Regional Equity Strategy](#), the Equity Tracker will help elevate equity in agency work. Further, it will enhance PSRC's ability to support members and stakeholders in pursuit of their own equity objectives.

PSRC staff is taking an iterative approach to develop the Equity Tracker and starting with a bounded set of priorities for the initial version. We envision subsequent versions to include additional features and functionalities.

### Engagement with the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC)

In the [February 2022 EAC meeting](#), PSRC staff introduced the Equity Tracker project and discussed with members about options for future engagement. Based on their feedback, PSRC staff provided members with additional details on specific elements of the Equity Tracker in the [April 2022 EAC meeting](#). Subsequently, we offered an opportunity for members to examine draft webpages, provide feedback on their experiences accessing various data, and offer suggestions on content.

In the [October 2022 EAC meeting](#), PSRC staff reviewed what we heard from members regarding the draft webpages, reported on how the feedback was shaping development, and discussed other progress. Most recently, in the [June 2023 EAC meeting](#), PSRC staff revealed new draft webpages within the framework of the new PSRC website and updates on data indicators.

In this April session, PSRC staff will report on the upcoming launch for the Equity Tracker, the list of data indicators that will be included, and plans for post-launch development work, including getting feedback from members of the EAC.

**Next Steps**

PSRC staff will notify EAC members once the Equity Tracker website is publicly available and then ask for feedback.

**Lead Staff**

For more information, please contact Brian H. Y. Lee, Ph.D., Program Manager, at [BLee@psrc.org](mailto:BLee@psrc.org), or Mary Richards, Associate Planner, at [MRichards@psrc.org](mailto:MRichards@psrc.org).





## SAVE THE DATE

### Puget Sound Regional Council

# 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

 **May 30, 2024 | 9:30 AM – 1:00 PM**

 **Seattle Convention Center – Summit Building**  
900 Pine Street  
Seattle, WA 98122

PSRC's General Assembly will meet on **May 30, 2024**, to vote on major decisions, establish the budget, and elect new officers. Please save the date!

All mayors, county executives, commissioners, and councilmembers of PSRC member jurisdictions and tribes have votes at the Assembly and are encouraged to participate.

Registration will open in **early April**.

For questions, please contact **Sheila Rogers** at **(206) 354-6560** or email [srogers@psrc.org](mailto:srogers@psrc.org).



Puget Sound Regional Council