



## Puget Sound Regional Council

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

**Date: Thursday, January 9, 2025 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 December 5, 2024\*
- b. EAC Member Announcements & Check In
- c. Staff Announcements
- d. GMPB and TPB Meeting Summaries

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

- a. 2025 EAC Calendar\* – Charles Patton, PSRC

**4. Discussion Item (6:05)**

- a. PSRC State Legislative Agenda\* – Robin Koskey, PSRC

**5. Break (6:30)**

**6. Discussion Item (6:40)**

- a. Quarterly Engagement Activity\* – Noah Boggess, PSRC

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

**8. Next meeting: February 6, 2025**

**9. 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/89088613987?pwd=Y0dehbTsPsty9u3m1BrsOgYE3WvvLr.1> and enter Passcode:986021.

- To join by phone, call 833 548 0282 US Toll Free or 877 853 5257 US Toll Free and enter Passcode: 986021.
- 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: December 5, 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.

#### **Welcome**

Debbie Lacy, from King County, and Maria Fergus, from Kitsap 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.

Then, the co-chairs created space for members to share their thoughts and feelings on the state of their communities and encouraged resource sharing. Debbie Lacy invited members to join the Eastside for All event, A Joyful Jam! Reunión Festiva, on December 7 from 11am-1pm at the Together Center. Corey Orvold shared that through the Black Home Initiative and the Covenant Homeownership Act, 130 families have closed on their first home. Jewel Sheperd-Sampson shared that she is running for state committee member for the 26<sup>th</sup> legislative district.

#### **Staff Announcements**

Charles reminded members that the first EAC meeting of 2025 will be held on the second Thursday, January 9. He also reshared that the EAC representation on PSRC boards for 2025 are as follows:

#### **Growth Management Policy Board (GMPB)**

- Michelle Stewart (representative)
- Thanh Nguyen (alternate)

#### **Transportation Policy Board (TPB)**

- Shannon Turner (representative)
- Julius Moss (alternate)

Charles and EAC representatives 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: 2024 Project Selection Update**

PSRC staff provided a brief presentation on the work to date on the 2024 Project Selection Process.

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

Questions? Contact Doug Cox, Principal Planner, at [dcox@psrc.org](mailto:dcox@psrc.org), or Jennifer Barnes, Program Manager, at [jbarnes@psrc.org](mailto:jbarnes@psrc.org).

**Discussion Item: Title VI Demographic Profile**

Equity Advisory Committee members participated in a series of conversations regarding PSRC's Title VI demographic profile and associated work program. They provided feedback on analyses completed to date and commented on the ongoing and future work PSRC is undertaking with the EAC subcommittee formed to collaborate with staff on the demographic profile.

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

Questions? Contact Carol Naito, Program Manager – Data Applications, at [cnaito@psrc.org](mailto:cnaito@psrc.org).

**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**

Charles Patton, PSRC  
Mikayla Svob, PSRC  
Noah Boggess, PSRC  
Nancy Ferber, PSRC  
Maria Suchoski, PSRC  
Doug Cox, PSRC  
Jennifer Barnes, PSRC  
Carol Naito, PSRC

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## Puget Sound Regional Council

January 9, 2025

### DISCUSSION ITEM

**To:** Equity Advisory Committee

**From:** Charles Patton, Program Manager – Equity Policy & Initiatives

**Subject:** 2025 EAC Calendar

### IN BRIEF

At its meeting on January 9, 2025, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) will review the topic calendar for upcoming meetings in 2025 and the associated work program.

### DISCUSSION

At its meeting on January 9, 2025, the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) will review the topic calendar for upcoming meetings in 2025 and the associated work program. The calendar includes at least one topic from each area of focus at PSRC: data, economic development, growth, and transportation (see below).

## Equity Advisory Committee

### 2025 Topic Areas

 <b>Data</b>	 <b>Economic Development</b>	 <b>Growth</b>	 <b>Transportation</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Demographic Profile	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Economic Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Housing Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Housing Research Center <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Centers	<input type="checkbox"/> Regional Transportation Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Coordinated Mobility Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Regional Safety Action Plan <input type="checkbox"/> Project Selection

Topics for the upcoming quarter include: the State Legislative Agenda, Regional Transportation Plan, Coordinated Mobility Plan, and Regional Economic Strategy (see below).

SCHEDULED MEETINGS & TOPICS		
January 9, 2025	February 6, 2025	March 6, 2025
<b>Growth</b>  <b>Transportation</b>  <b>Data</b>  <b>Economic Development</b>  <b>Regional Equity Strategy</b>  <b>Other</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Icebreakers and Quarterly Engagement Activity</li> <li>State Legislative Agenda</li> </ul>	<b>Growth</b>  <b>Transportation</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Transportation Plan</li> <li>Coordinated Mobility Plan</li> </ul> <b>Data</b>  <b>Economic Development</b>  <b>Regional Equity Strategy</b>  <b>Other</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation and poll for members interested in serving as co-chairs</li> </ul>	<b>Growth</b>  <b>Transportation</b>  <b>Data</b>  <b>Economic Development</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Economic Strategy</li> </ul> <b>Regional Equity Strategy</b>  <b>Other</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Co-chair elections</li> </ul>

The topics were selected because EAC members have previously expressed interest in them, and they are critical pieces of agency work. Staff thought this would serve as an opportunity to put topics in front of the EAC that members are passionate about and give members the opportunity to shape products, plans and policies that are critical to agency work.

Additionally, as staff were developing the calendar, they focused on addressing a number of the concerns that were raised by EAC members in the annual survey. For example, staff heard that members wanted more time to reflect on presentations and more time for Q&A, so future meetings will be limited to one main topic area. Moreover, staff are striving to make the presentations more interactive, and they are also making more of an effort to have presenters meet with EAC members multiple times over the course of the year so members can gain a deeper understanding of these topics and feel more equipped to shape this work.

## NEXT STEPS

Moving forward, staff will provide an overview of meeting topics at the beginning of each quarter. Staff will share an overview of the topics that will be covered in the second quarter of the year during the April 3, 2025, meeting.

For additional information, please contact Charles Patton, Program Manager, at [cpatton@psrc.org](mailto:cpatton@psrc.org) or 206-971-3285.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

January 9, 2025

### DISCUSSION ITEM

**To:** Equity Advisory Committee

**From:** Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications

**Subject:** **PSRC State Legislative Agenda**

### IN BRIEF

The PSRC Executive Board adopted 2025 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature in December. PSRC staff will update the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) on the recommendations and changes that were made.

### DISCUSSION

Each year in consultation with policy boards and the EAC, the PSRC Executive Board adopts recommendations to the Washington state legislature that would help PSRC implement regional plans. Staff briefed the EAC on the process to adopt legislative recommendations and PSRC's role at the legislature in July and consulted with the committee on the contents of the 2025 recommendations in October. Staff will present the final 2024 recommendations included in the agenda packet.

#### **Background: PSRC Role at the State Legislature**

As a regional planning agency, PSRC provides data and background information about the impact of proposed legislation to the Washington State Legislature to provide policy makers with tools to allow well-informed decision making.

#### **Process to Adopt 2025 Recommendations**

In addition to the EAC, PSRC staff consulted with the Executive Board, Economic Development Board, Growth Management Policy Board and Transportation Policy Board on 2025 recommendations to the state legislature in September and October. Feedback from each of the policy boards, the EAC and the Executive Committee was incorporated into draft recommendations presented to the Executive Board for adoption in December 2024.



### 2025 Recommendations to the State Legislature:

PSRC staff followed a similar framework to the recommendations adopted over the last two years based on adopted regional plans and 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

The following changes were made to the 2024 recommendations:

- **Transportation**

- Added **Safety** in Keep the Region Moving title and the following new language to highlight PSRC’s Regional Safety Action Plan work:

“PSRC is drafting a Regional Safety Action plan to help address the troubling increase in deaths and serious injuries on our roadways and to support the Washington State Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Target Zero. We urge transportation policies and investments prioritizing a Safe Systems Approach to eliminate or reduce the severity of crashes in our communities.”

- Added bold language to include stable revenue sources, ensure major projects move forward and highlight maintenance and preservation needs:

“Sustaining the transportation investments made with Move Ahead Washington and the Climate Commitment Act and **exploring stable new revenue sources to address declines in existing revenue, ensure projects of regional significance are built and fully fund maintenance and preservation.**

- **Housing**

- Added Housing Research Center:

“To help address urgent housing needs in our state, PSRC supports creating a **housing research center** at the University of Washington to provide timely analysis and data driven research to help guide policymakers to adopt bold strategies to create more affordable homes.”

- **Economy**

- Added bold language to specifically include workforce development programs to meet new needs related to transportation system electrification:

“Workforce development programs to meet the needs of employers and a growing economy, **including electrification of the transportation system.**”

The Executive Board unanimously adopted the 2025 Recommendations to the Washington State Legislature at their December meeting.

**Discussion Questions:**

- Do you have suggestions about the process of adopting or content of the Recommendations to the State Legislature?
- Are you hearing about any policy proposals or budget items that will be in play at the state legislature this year?

**NEXT STEPS**

For additional information, please contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at [rkoskey@psrc.org](mailto:rkoskey@psrc.org).

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Recommendations to the 2025 State Legislature

# Recommendations to the 2025 State Legislature



Puget Sound Regional Council

The Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) supports adoption of state legislation that advances solutions to achieve a thriving, racially equitable and sustainable Puget Sound region through leadership, visionary planning, and collaboration.

## Keep the Region Moving Safely

VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan lay out a foundation for completing regional transportation investments and future work to strengthen connections to and between the region's centers. PSRC is drafting a Regional Safety Action plan to help address the troubling increase in deaths and serious injuries on our roadways and to support the Washington State Strategic Highway Safety Plan, Target Zero. We urge transportation policies and investments prioritizing a Safe Systems Approach to eliminate or reduce the severity of crashes in our communities. PSRC supports:

- Sustaining the transportation investments made with Move Ahead Washington and the Climate Commitment Act and exploring stable new revenue sources to address declines in existing revenue, ensure projects of regional significance are built and fully fund maintenance and preservation.
- Developing an equitable road usage charge (RUC) system through the work of the Washington State Transportation Commission to generate necessary revenue to eventually replace the gas tax, fund the state's long-term transportation needs, including multimodal connections, and introduce revenue flexibility.
- Funding and policies to restore, improve and modernize the Washington State Ferries system to ensure reliable cross-sound service and reduce environmental impact.

## Increase Housing Choices and Affordability

PSRC's Regional Housing Strategy identifies strategies to expand housing options, create greater affordability and promote fair and equal housing access to address the housing affordability crisis in our state. The PSRC region needs 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. Action is needed to address racially discriminatory housing policies and increase homeownership for Black, Indigenous and people of color (BIPOC) households.

To help address urgent housing needs in our state, PSRC supports creating a **housing research center** at the University of Washington to provide timely analysis and data driven research to help guide policymakers to adopt bold strategies to create more affordable homes.



## Attachment A

PSRC also supports legislation and funding in three action areas:

- **Supply:** Build more housing of different types as soon as possible.
- **Stability:** Provide opportunities for residents to live in housing that meets their needs.
- **Subsidy:** Create and sustain long-term funding sources to create and preserve housing for very low-income households and unhoused residents.

### Significantly Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

VISION 2050 and the Regional Transportation Plan outline how state, regional and local partners can act in coordination to reduce emissions in the region and prepare for climate impacts. PSRC supports state legislation to respond to the urgent environmental, health, economic and equity threat of climate change through:

- Transit-focused land use.
- Multimodal transportation choices.
- Pricing the transportation system.
- Decarbonization of the transportation system, including improvements to freight and passenger vehicles and fuels.

### Sustain a Strong Economy

VISION 2050 and the Regional Economic Strategy plan for economic growth and opportunity that creates widespread prosperity and living-wage jobs to help sustain the region's economy. PSRC supports continued investments in:

- Workforce development programs to meet the needs of employers and a growing economy, including electrification of the transportation system.
- Critical infrastructure to support economic development, including broadband.
- 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

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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.



## Puget Sound Regional Council

January 9, 2025

### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

**To:** Equity Advisory Committee  
**From:** Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist  
**Subject:** **Quarterly Engagement Activity**

### **IN BRIEF**

Throughout 2025, EAC meetings will feature engagement activities once per quarter to continue to build camaraderie among members. These activities are a continuation of the Quarterly Engagement Activities from 2024, with some adjustments to make them more engaging. The goal of these structured times is to allow EAC members to become more familiar with one another and the work they do outside of the monthly meetings with PSRC.

For the first meeting of 2025, the engagement activity will feature the entire EAC cohort, rather than utilizing breakout groups as has been done in the past. Prior to the 10-minute break at the January meeting, EAC members and staff will be asked to locate one item that they feel helps to tell the story of their life, career, or journey. Examples could include a memorable book, diploma, piece of art, or any other item they choose to share. Members will then share the item they chose and how it helps to tell their personal story.

At the end of the meeting, EAC members will be asked to share reflections on how they would like further engagement activities to be conducted. Feedback on things such as topic, structure, and length are much appreciated.

For additional information, please contact Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at [nboggess@psrc.org](mailto:nboggess@psrc.org) with questions or comments.