



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, March 20, 2025 from 9:30-11:30 am

- 1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30)** – *Andrea Spencer, City of Bremerton*
- 2. Reports (9:35)**
 - a. Meeting Summary for February 20, 2025*
 - b. PSRC Announcements and Updates
- 3. Discussion Item (9:45)**
 - a. Federal and State Government Relations Updates* – *Robin Koskey, PSRC*
- 4. Discussion Item (10:00)**
 - a. Single Family Covenant Research* – *Shaun Kuo, PSRC*
- 5. Discussion Item (10:30)**
 - a. Regional Safety Action Plan – Public Comments and Proposed Amendments & Upcoming TPB and EB April Action* – *Gary Simonson, PSRC*
- 6. Discussion Item (11:00)**
 - a. Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Development* – *Sara Hetrick, PSCAA*
- 7. Information Items**
 - a. VISION 2050 Awards: Call for Nominations Flyer*
 - b. Save the Date: PSRC Annual General Assembly, Thursday, May 22, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.*
- 8. Next Meeting: April 17, 2025**
- 9. 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/89740130044?pwd=f8uNNqej8wnybbWVZTyQOjcnttYUF1.1> and enter Meeting ID: 897 4013 0044 and Passcode: 633901.
- To join by phone, call 833 548 0276 US Toll-free or 833 548 0282 US Toll-free and enter Meeting ID: 897 4013 0044 and Passcode: 633901.

- 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: February 20, 2025

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

Andrea Spencer, 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

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning, welcomed committee members and provided short updates on upcoming policy and Executive Board meetings and reviewed the status of ongoing projects in the work program.

He welcomed new RSC members and alternates and reminded committee members to confirm their appointments for 2025. New members wishing to meet with Ben one on one to learn more about the committee may reach out to Mikayla Svob, at msvob@psrc.org to schedule a call.

Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, provided a brief legislative update. This presentation can be viewed [here](#).

Discussion: Regional Safety Action Plan – Preliminary Comments

PSRC has completed a draft of the Regional Safety Action Plan, funded through the USDOT Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Grant Program. The Regional Staff Committee has received multiple briefings throughout the previous year regarding the various components of the plan. At the February meeting, Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, and Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, briefed the committee on the findings from the initial public comment process.

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

For more information, contact Gary Simonson, Senior Planner, at gsimonson@psrc.org, or Noah Boggess, Senior Public Engagement Specialist, at nboggess@psrc.org.

Discussion: Comprehensive Plan Certification Guidance

Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, and Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, led a discussion on Comprehensive Plan Certification Guidance and asked members to provide input on the review of comprehensive plans, including how to consider the new housing requirements of the Growth Management Act.

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

For more information, contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org, or Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, at pinghram@psrc.org.

Discussion: Regional Centers System Monitoring

David Dixon, Associate Planner, and Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, updated the RSC on early findings from the forthcoming report on Regional Centers System Monitoring, which will highlight recent data and outcomes from the region's system of regional growth centers and manufacturing/industrial centers.

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

For more information, contact David Dixon, Associate Planner, at ddixon@psrc.org, or Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Principal Planner, at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org.

Discussion: Regional Economic Strategy: Scope of Work and Work Plan

Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, discussed the goals and timeline for the update to the Regional Economic Strategy, which is due in 2026.

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

For more information, contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC
 Josh Brown, PSRC
 Paul Inghram, PSRC
 Robin Koskey, PSRC
 Shaun Kuo, PSRC
 Gary Simonson, PSRC

David Lynam
Sarah Strozyk
Isaiah LaCombe
Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC
David Dixon, PSRC
GAH
Nancy Ferber, PSRC
Brandon Park, Snohomish County Health Department
Jeff Aken
Jason Thibedeau, PSRC
Hester Serebrin
Katie Enders, PSRC
Brian Lee, PSRC
Pauline Mogilevsky
Nancy Buonanno Grennan, PSRC

ATTACHMENT:

- A. RSC Member Attendance for the February 20, 2025, Meeting

PSRC Regional Staff Committee - Attendance Roster

2.a - Att. A

Jurisdiction	Member	Jurisdiction	Member
King County	2 Ivan Miller, King County Executive Office	R	Federal, Regional, State, Tribal & Other Agencies
	McCaela Daffern, King County	R	FHWA
	Rebecca Maskin, Demographer Alt		1 Matthew Pahs, Community Planner
	Valerie Kendall, King County Alt	FTA	1 Vacant Alt
At-Large	2 Arun Sambataro, Equity/Social Justice, Co-Chair	R	1 Ned Conroy, Community Planner
	Kwame Simmons, Policy Advisor Alt		Danielle Casey Alt
	Dan Cardwell, Local Services/Utilities, King Co	R	Health
	Susan McLain, Local Services/Subarea Planning Alt		1 Cristina Ciupitu-Plath, Snohomish County
Transit	1 Peter Heffernan, King Co Metro Gov. Relations	R	1 Richard Gelb, King County Alt 1
	Chris Arkills, King Co Metro Gov. Relations Alt		Jennifer Halverson Kuehn, Tacoma/Pierce Health Alt 2
Economic Dev.	1 Amie Danielewicz, King Co Exec Office Alt	R	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs
	Jesse Reynolds, Local Services/Econ Dev Alt	R	Deirdre Wilson, Northwest Seaport Alliance Alt
Seattle	2 Michael Hubner, OPCD		PSCAA
	Jonathan Lewis, SDOT	R	1 Jennifer Keene, Program Director
	Jim Holmes, OPCD Alt		Kathy Strange, Air Quality Programs Alt
	Joanna Valencia, SDOT Alt		Puget Sound
Bellevue	1 Thara Johnson, Planning Manager, Comm Dev		1 Larry Epstein, Deputy Director
	Lacey Jane Wolfe, Alt	R	Partnership
	Laura Benjamin-LaPitz, Alt		1 Bebhinn Dechery Alt
Cities/Towns	3 Minnie Dhaliwal, City of Issaquah	R	Sound Transit
	Eric Perry, City of Renton	R	1 Alex Krieg, Planning & Innovation
	Mark Rigos, City of North Bend	R	Vacant Alt
	John Vicente, City of Kenmore, Alt	R	Tribal
	Becky Frey, City of Redmond, Alt	R	1 Vacant
	Rhonda Ender, City of Carnation, Alt	R	Representatives
Kitsap County	1 Rafe Wysham, Kitsap County		US EPA
	Scott Diener, Alt		1 Susan Sturges
At-Large	1 Heather Wright, Planning Director		US HUD
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt		1 Erik Peterson Alt
Transit	1 Vacant		1 Gary Gant, Director
	Vacant Alt		Vacant Alt
Economic Dev.	1 Joe Morrison, KEDA		WA Dept. of
	Vacant Alt		1 Grace Yoo
Bremerton	1 Andrea Spencer, Community Dev, Co-Chair	R	Commerce
	Garrett Jackson, Planning Manager, Alt		Keith Swenson
Cities/Towns	1 Nick Bond, Comm Development, Port Orchard	R	WSDOT
	Patty Charnas, Bainbridge Island Alt		1 April Delchamps, WSDOT
Pierce County	1 Mike Galizio, Transportation Planning Supervisor, Alt	R	1 Matthew Kenna, WSDOT Alt
	Alon Bassok, PPW Long Range Planning Manager, Alt		PSRC Committees
At-Large	2 Tiffany Speir, Lakewood, Planning	R	PSRC Co-Chair
	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake, Planning, Co-Chair		1 Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning
	Ryan Windish, Sumner, Alt		RPEC
	Angelie Stahlnecker, Milton, Alt		1 Doug McCormick, RPEC Chair
Transit	1 Vacant		Shane Weber, RPEC Vice Chair
	Darin Stavish, Pierce Transit, Alt		R = Remote attendance
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		
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 Melissa Cauley, Community Transit		
	Sabina Araya, Everett Transit Alt		
Economic Dev	1 Mike Fong, Economic Dev		
	Vacant Alt		
Everett	1 Yorik Stevens-Wajda, Planning Director		
	Alice Ann Wetzel, Long Range Planning Mgr	R	
Cities/Towns	1 Russ Wright, Lake Stevens, Comm Dev. Director		
	Karl Almgren, Lynnwood, Alt	R	
Total Members	45	Attended	31



Puget Sound Regional Council

March 20, 2025

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Regional Staff Committee
From: Robin Koskey, Director Government Relations and Communications
Subject: **Federal and State Government Relations Updates**

IN BRIEF

PSRC continues to track federal developments and the work of the Washington State Legislature related to regional budget and policy priorities. PSRC's Director of Government Relations and Communications, Robin Koskey, will brief the committee on recent federal and state activity and policy proposals.

BOARD CALENDAR

The Growth Management, Transportation, and Executive Boards will continue to be briefed on state legislative developments at their monthly meetings throughout the 2025 session and on federal developments as critical issues emerge.

DISCUSSION

Federal

PSRC is monitoring the impact of federal funding directives and staff reductions for our region during President Trump's first few months in office. We are also keeping in close contact with members of our federal delegation to relay consequences of actions at the federal level to local governments and our region.

State

The Washington State Legislature is just past halfway through the 105-day legislative session. Budget development, addressing significant budget deficits and revenue have taken center stage as legislators are charged with passing a biennial budget. Over 2,100 bills were introduced so far this session, with legislative priorities identified by

what remains in play after the House of Origin cutoff on March 12.

The Regional Staff Committee will be briefed on federal and state budget and policy developments with regional impact.

For more information, please contact Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, at rkoskey@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

March 20, 2025

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Regional Staff Committee
From: Shaun Kuo, Assistant Planner
Subject: **Single Family Covenant Research**

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will introduce research on single family covenants and their effect on implementation of middle housing. PSRC staff will present key issues presented by covenants and collect feedback on if and how PSRC could assist local jurisdictions on the issue.

BOARD CALENDAR

No boards are planned to be briefed on the single family covenant research in its current stage of development.

DISCUSSION

With middle housing implementation widely taking effect in June 2025, single family covenants will become more apparent in their restriction on housing production. HB 1110 and HB 1337 allowed declarations and governing documents created before the effective date of the legislation to continue to prohibit middle housing.

Information on the location and prevalence of single-family covenants is not readily available and not well understood. To respond to this gap in understanding, PSRC conducted outreach to scholars, planners, and other professionals that may have experience with single family covenants. Staff inquired about the work, research, and resources available to understand the prevalence of single-family covenants.

Key issues emerging from the research include single family covenants being common and builders being stymied by covenants. Single family home Homeowners

Associations (HOAs) have also been found to be proxy for covenants, a connection that some local jurisdictions have used to understand the covenants in their jurisdictions. Outreach to local staff has yielded piecemeal qualitative data on covenants.

PSRC continues to conduct outreach to local planners and jurisdictions, as they have experience with builders who encounter covenants and knowledge of HOAs located within their jurisdictions. Local jurisdictions can also inform PSRC on if and how the agency can assist local staff on better understanding single family covenants.

NEXT STEPS

PSRC staff will collate information submitted to a [survey](#) on local interest and knowledge on single family covenants and conduct outreach to interested jurisdictions.

For additional information, please contact Shaun Kuo, Assistant Planner, at skuo@psrc.org.



Puget Sound Regional Council

March 20, 2025

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Regional Staff Committee

From: Gary Simonson, Senior Transportation Planner

Subject: **Regional Safety Action Plan Public Comments and Next Steps**

IN BRIEF

PSRC released the Draft Regional Safety Action Plan for public comment in mid-January, concluding on February 14, 2025. At the March 20 meeting, the Regional Staff Committee will be briefed on high level themes from the comments received and next steps.

BOARD CALENDAR

This topic will be presented at the Transportation and Executive Boards at their March and April meetings. The Boards will be asked at their April meetings to recommend the General Assembly adopt the Regional Safety Action Plan at PSRC's annual meeting on May 22, 2025.

DISCUSSION

The Regional Safety Action Plan (RSAP) has been under development since Fall of 2023, following the June 2023 Regional Safety Summit and receipt of grant funding from USDOT's Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) program. The Transportation Policy Board was briefed regularly over the last 15 months on key milestones and findings, including the scope of work for the plan, data and analysis results, best practices, emphasis areas, tools and strategies, and community engagement efforts.

In January 2025, the Transportation Policy Board authorized the release of the plan for public comment. Opportunities for public comments included an online engagement hub, email to PSRC, direct mail or PSRC board meeting. Notice was provided to PSRC mailing lists, on PSRC's website, through social media, and by partner networks. The

public comment period closed on February 14, 2025.

Comments were received from approximately 60 members of the public, PSRC member jurisdictions, and other organizations. Comments will be delineated and categorized by topic and noted as being either general plan comments, technical corrections or clarifications, or comments requiring board review. A spreadsheet of the comments is posted on PSRC's website at <https://www.psrc.org/our-work/regional-safety-action-plan>. Once comments are categorized and responses prepared, this spreadsheet will be updated.

Staff and the public engagement consultant team, Uncommon Bridges, are reviewing all comments and staff will summarize high level themes and discuss next steps at the March 20 Regional Staff Committee meeting.

NEXT STEPS

The Transportation Policy Board will be asked to recommend approval of the final Regional Safety Action Plan at their meeting in April, with final adoption scheduled for the May 22, 2025 General Assembly meeting.

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



Puget Sound Regional Council

March 20, 2025

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Regional Staff Committee
From: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning
Subject: **Regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan Development**

IN BRIEF

Work is underway to develop the regional Comprehensive Climate Action Plan, led by the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency (PSCAA) and funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program. At the meeting on March 20, 2025, PSCAA staff will provide the Regional Staff Committee with a briefing on the status and schedule of this work.

BOARD CALENDAR

The PSCAA presented to the PSRC Transportation Policy Board on February 13, 2025, with a briefing on the status and schedule of this work. This topic will be presented later this month to the PSRC Executive Board at the meeting on March 26, 2025.

DISCUSSION

Climate is a significant element of VISION 2050, the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and PSRC's project selection processes. PSRC has collaborated with partner agencies around the region to further advance work related both to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for climate impacts.

PSRC's focus as the Metropolitan Planning Organization is emissions from on-road transportation, with emission reduction strategies that address land use, transportation choices, pricing and technology. However, the state and regional climate goals are reflective of emissions from all sectors of the economy, including energy, agriculture and others. As such, the current RTP called for PSRC to continue working with partner

agencies to develop a climate implementation strategy for achieving the region's climate goals and to monitor progress.

In the spring of 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program (CPRG). The CPRG program provided funds to states and large urban areas to develop near- and long-term climate action plans. PSCAA is leading the planning efforts on behalf of the region, in collaboration with PSRC, the four counties and several cities. The near-term Priority Climate Action Plan was submitted to EPA on March 1, 2024. The Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) is due by December 2025 and development efforts are currently underway. More information may be found on PSCAA's [website](#).

PSCAA staff will brief the committee on these efforts at the meeting on March 20, 2025. Further discussions will be held in the coming months to identify how the CCAP will inform development of the next RTP, to be adopted in 2026.

For more information, please contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at 206-971-3601 or kmcgourty@psrc.org.

VISION 2050 AWARDS



Puget Sound Regional Council

Call for Nominations 2025

The Puget Sound Regional Council is seeking nominations for the VISION 2050 Awards Program through April 18, 2025.

The VISION 2050 Awards celebrate progress to enhance the region's communities and natural environment while advancing equity and opportunity for all. The awards recognize innovative work to create a better future for central Puget Sound.

We welcome nominations in the following categories:

On the Ground

Projects that show VISION 2050 in action today, including housing, mixed-use development or redevelopment, expanding access to opportunity, open space preservation, and transportation investments.

Planning Ahead

Comprehensive or subarea plans, economic development plans, climate action plans, equity initiatives, design guidelines, outreach programs, and other similar efforts that are shaping a positive future for the region.

Working Together

Cross-jurisdictional or public/private partnerships focused on solutions or working together to tackle tough problems and advance VISION 2050. Examples include multijurisdictional work on housing affordability, environmental and climate initiatives, corridor transportation planning, or other similar efforts to face long-term regional challenges.

The region's vision for 2050

is to provide exceptional quality of life, opportunity for all, connected communities, a spectacular natural environment, and an innovative, thriving economy. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at www.psrc.org

Eligibility

PSRC will only be accepting nominations directly from its [membership](#). Others seeking to nominate projects can do so through the member jurisdiction in which the project is located. PSRC will help connect potential nominees with local governments to help with the nomination process. Please contact [Michele Leslie](#) with questions.

Nominations must be for projects, programs, plans or partnerships within the four-county region of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish counties that help achieve VISION 2050. More information about the goals and themes of VISION 2050 can be found at psrc.org/vision.

All nominated projects must be completed and open, plans must be adopted by their jurisdictions, programs must be in operation and partnerships must be formally working together.

Submit a Nomination!

Nominations must be submitted online through the [VISION 2050 Awards Nomination Form](#)

Learn more at: www.psrc.org

Scan the code for
the nomination form



Schedule

- April 18, 2025 – Nominations due
- April–May 2025 – Awards Selection Committee composed of PSRC board members will select the award winners
- Summer 2025 – Awards presented on location around the region





SAVE THE DATE

Puget Sound Regional Council

2025 ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

 **Thursday, May 22, 2025 | 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

 **Location TBD**

PSRC's General Assembly will meet on **May 22, 2025**, 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.



Puget Sound Regional Council