REMI* Follow-Up
Additional model details and Q&A

* = Regional Economic Models, Inc https://www.remi.com/

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Outline

- Recap from Last Meeting

- Objectives for today

    - More detailed REMI overview
    - Extended question and answer period
    - Scenario demo (time permitting)

- Wrap Up

Quick Summary from March LUTAC Meeting

- PSRC has been reviewing modeling options for next regional forecast

- Decision to lease REMI model for deeper exploration

- High Level REMI overview:
  - Five major modeling blocks
  - Major data sources include BEA, BLS, Census
  - Extensive input and output database with county-level detail
  - Simulations can be run to show impacts of policy variable changes

- Attendees expressed interest in a 'deeper dive' into REMI model details and extended Q&A

Deeper Dive and Q&A with REMI staff

Specific PSRC Observations

- Current REMI baseline forecasts are lower than PSRC's 2018 REF
  - Population projections comparable to OFM's 2022 forecasts

- Ability to adjust regional forecast to reflect alternative sources

- Some REMI outputs require further processing
  - Missing HHs and split between HH and GQ Pop
    - Apply HAPT methodology
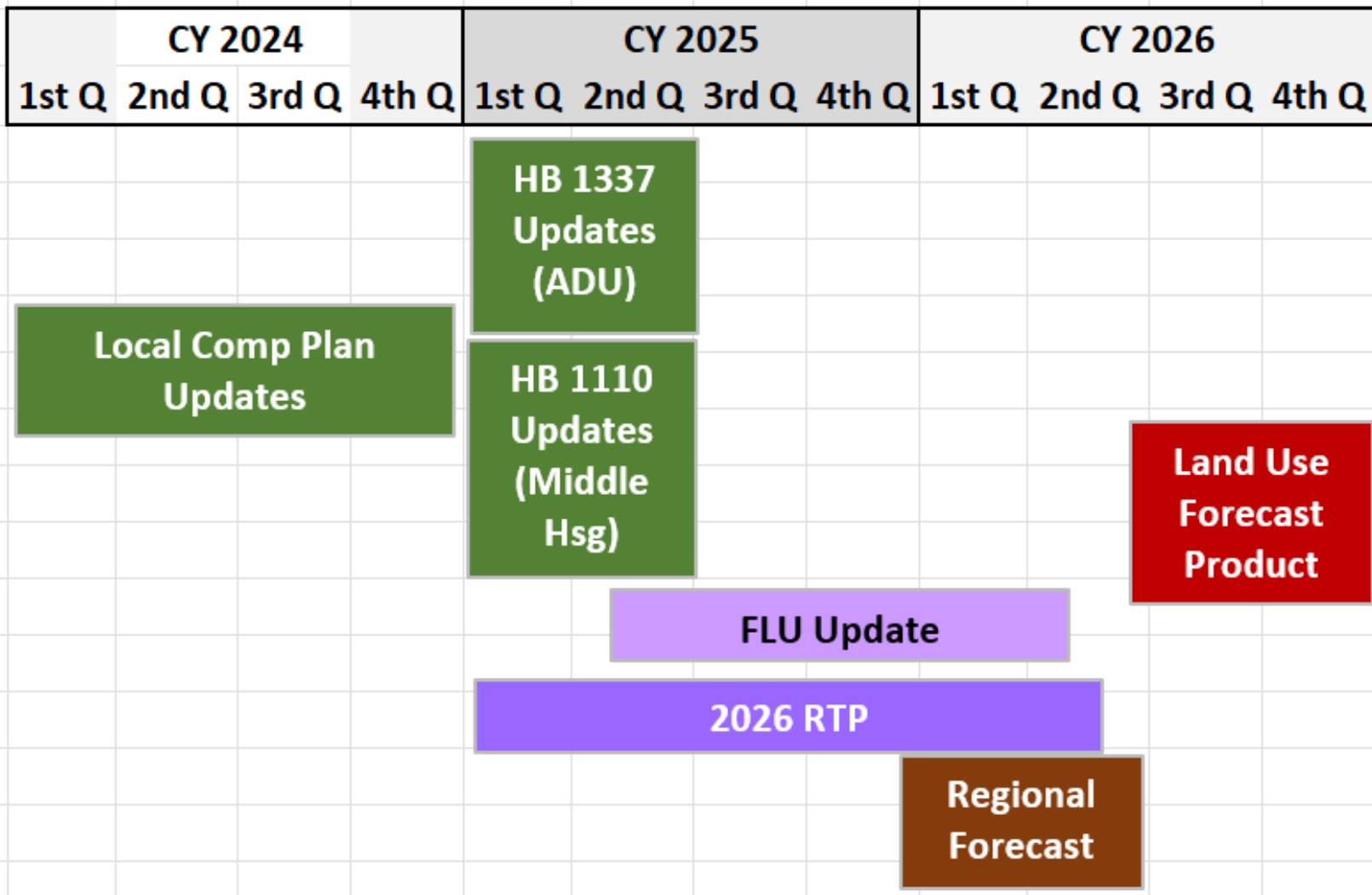 - Translate jobs from BEA to internal Total Employment definition

Notes from the Discussion Today

- Combines a bottom-up, top-down methodology
  - Incorporates a slate of exogenous US forecast products from BLS, CBO, RSQE, US Census

- "Place to Work" and "Place to Live"
  - Relative strength of regional economy & key sectors a driver to migration portion of pop growth

- Blends together multiple approaches
  - Gen Equilibrium, Input-Output, Econometric, Economic Geography, Cohort-Component (with 3 types of Migration)

- Model's linkages and wide range of modifiable variables support what-if analysis work
  - Shocks to inputs can be compared vs baseline forecast and impacts quantified

Wrap Up

A timeline chart spanning CY 2024, CY 2025, and CY 2026 (each divided into 1st Q, 2nd Q, 3rd Q, 4th Q) showing:
- Local Comp Plan Updates
- HB 1337 Updates (ADU)
- HB 1110 Updates (Middle Hsg)
- FLU Update
- 2026 RTP
- Regional Forecast
- Land Use Forecast Product

- Any follow-ups needed after today's deeper dive?

- PSRC planning to wrap up internal evaluation process and circle back at an upcoming LUTAC with more on future direction

Questions from LUTAC in Advance

1) Impacts from falling birth rates- what kind of rate(s) or average(s) does the model use for longer range forecast years?

2) Are the (international) migration assumptions used in the model locally adjusted or are they national-level assumptions?

3) Household size decreases – Are we projecting as sharp a decline as we've previously expected or are there any expectations some of that trend will be offset by multigenerational households or shared-living?

4) In your experimentation w/ REMI, are there model factors or assumptions that PSRC especially sought to adjust?

5) Curious about the sub-regional (county) level forecasts- what are PSRC's plans for validating or potentially releasing county-level forecasts from the REMI model? Maybe a subset of model detail?

6) Given post-pandemic trends (Remote work & telecommuting) should we be thinking about our forecasted employment growth differently now? Or maybe just how we plan for it?

Thank You &
Reach Out with Questions and Comments

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