



Puget Sound Regional Council

Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board

Wednesday, June 4, 2025 • 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

Watch or listen

- Watch the meeting live at <https://www.psrc.org/watch-meetings>
- Listen by phone at 833 548 0276 US Toll-free or 833 548 0282 US Toll-free and enter Meeting ID: 832 8548 6344 and Passcode: 782811

Attend

- The public can attend meetings at [PSRC's office](#).
- PSRC staff will be available to provide floor access 10 minutes before the meeting's start time and up to 15 minutes after the meeting's start time.
- If you arrive outside of these times, please call 206-464-7090 for assistance.

Provide public comment

- **Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda. Each member of the public will have 2 minutes to speak.**
- **In-person**
Public comment may be made in person at PSRC's office.
- **Comment during the meeting by Zoom or phone:**
[Registration](#) is required and closes at 8:00 a.m., the day of the meeting. Late registrations will not be accepted.
- **Written comments**
Comments may be submitted via email to msvob@psrc.org by 8:00 a.m. the day of the meeting. Comments will be shared with board members.

Public comments are public records and may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act, RCW Chapter [42.56](#).

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (10:00) – *Councilmember Conrad Lee, EDD President*

2. Communications and Public Comment

Public comment must relate to an action or discussion item on the agenda.

3. President's Remarks (10:15)

4. Staff Report (10:20)

5. Consent Agenda - Action Items (10:40)

- a. Approve Minutes of Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board Meeting held March 5, 2025

- b. Approve Vouchers dated February 28, 2025 through April 30, 2025 in the amount of \$2,879.81
- c. Adopt Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Budget and Work Program

6. Discussion Item (10:45)

- a. Regional Economic Strategy Update – *Jason Thibedeau, PSRC*

7. Discussion Item (11:00)

- a. 2026 FIFA World Cup - *Lynnette Buffington, Chief of Staff, Seattle Metro Chamber, Vaughn Taylor, VP Economic Development, Seattle Metro Chamber, & Matt Morrison, CEO, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region*

8. Information Items

- a. PSRC Staff Report

9. Next Meeting: September 3, 2025, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

10. Adjourn (12:00)

Board members please submit proposed amendments and materials prior to the meeting for distribution. Organizations/individuals may submit information for distribution. Send to Mikayla Svob, msvob@psrc.org, or mail.

For language or ADA assistance at PSRC board meetings, please contact us at 206-464-7090 at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting. 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

MINUTES

Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board

Wednesday, March 5, 2025

Hybrid Meeting – PSRC Board Room: 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98101

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board of Directors was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Councilmember Conrad Lee, President. To determine attendance and a quorum was present, a verbal roll call was conducted by staff.

To watch a video of the meeting and hear the full discussion, please go to:
<https://www.psrc.org/boards/watch-meetings>.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Alex Tsimmerman provided public comment.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Lee welcomed members and thanked them for their attendance. He shared that staff from the Washington State Department of Transportation would be joining to share updates on the Cascadia High-Speed Rail and I-5 Program. Later in the meeting, Robin Koskey, Director of Government Relations and Communications, would brief members on federal and state policy and budget updates, and Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, updated the EDD Board on the Regional Economic Strategy update.

STAFF REPORT

Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, updated the board on PSRC projects and events, included as information items in the March 5, 2025, agenda packet, on pages 22-23. This agenda, as well as past materials for the board, can be found on the [Economic Development District Board webpage](#).

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Meeting held December 4, 2024
- b. Approve Vouchers dated October 15, 2024, in the amount of f \$1,944.60
- c. Ratification of 2025-2026 Executive Committee

ACTION: It was moved and seconded (Morell/Rhyne) to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed.

DISCUSSION ITEM: CASCADIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AND I-5 PROGRAM UPDATE

Staff from the Washington State Department of Transportation, including Rob Berman and Nick Fiorillo, provided an update on the Cascadia High-Speed Rail and I-5 Program.

DISCUSSION ITEM: FEDERAL AND STATE POLICY AND BUDGET UPDATES

PSRC is tracking federal developments and the work of the Washington State Legislature related to regional budget and policy priorities. Director of Government Relations and Communications, Robin Koskey, briefed the board on recent federal and state activity and policy proposals.

DISCUSSION ITEM: REGIONAL ECONOMIC STRATEGY UPDATE

PSRC is working to develop an economic analysis in 2025 that will be used to inform the development of the Regional Economic Strategy update in 2026. Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, led a discussion on the timeline and process to develop the analysis.

NEXT MEETING

The board will meet on Wednesday, June 4, 2025, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Adopted this 4th day of June 2025.

Councilmember Conrad Lee, President
Central Puget Sound Economic Development District

ATTEST: _____
Josh Brown, Executive Director
Puget Sound Regional Council

ATTACHMENT

A. EDD Member Attendance for the March 5, 2025, Meeting

Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board						
Voting Members			Voting Members			
King County	2	EXEC Dow Constantine	Ports			
		Vacant Alt	Port of Bremerton	1	COM Axel Strakeljahn*	1
		Ashton Allison Alt			COM Cary Bozeman Alt	
		CM Reagan Dunn	Port of Everett	1	COM David Simpson	
		Vacant Alt			COM Glen Bachman Alt	
		Cody Eccles Alt	Port of Seattle	1	COM Ryan Calkins	1
Seattle	2	CM Alexis Mercedes Rinck			Vacant Alt	
		CM Cathy Moore Alt			Annie Tran Alt	1
		Vacant Alt	Port of Tacoma	1	COM Deanna Keller	
		MYR Bruce Harrell			COM Kristin Ang Alt	
		Vacant Alt	Commerce			
		Markham McIntyre Alt	WA Dept. of Commerce	1	Grace Yoo	1
Bellevue	1	CM Conrad Lee*			Keith Swenson Alt	
		MYR Lynne Robinson Alt	Chambers of Commerce	1	Andrea Reay, Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce*	1
		Corbin Hart Alt			Vacant Alt	
Cities/Towns	2	MYR Dana Ralph, Kent	Economic Development			
		CM Lydia Assefa-Dawson, Federal Way	EDC - Seattle & King	1	Rachel Smith	
		CM James Alberson, Renton Alt			Lynnette Buffington Alt	
		CM Tracy Taylor-Turner, Auburn Alt	KEDA - Kitsap	1	Joe Morrison	
Kitsap County	1	COM Oran Root			James Davis Alt	
		COM Katie Walters Alt	EASC - Snohomish	1	Ray Stephanson	1
Bremerton	1	MYR Greg Wheeler			Daniel Tappana Alt	1
		CP Eric Younger Alt	EDB - Tacoma & Pierce	1	Michael Catsi	1
Cities/Towns	1	CM Ed Stern, Poulsbo*			Sarah Bonds Alt	
		CM John Morrissey, Port Orchard Alt	Workforce Development Councils			
Pierce County	1	CM Dave Morell*	WDC - Olympic	1	William Dowling	
		CM Bryan Yambe Alt	WDC - Sea-King		Marie Kurose Alt	
Tacoma	1	CM Joe Bushnell	Organized Labor			
		CM Kiara Daniels Alt	WSLC	1	April Sims, WSLC President	
Cities/Towns	1	Mayor Jason Whalen, Lakewood			Chelsea Mason-Placek Alt	
		Mayor Dave Olson, Edgewood Alt	Presidential Appointments			
Snohomish County	1	CM Jared Mead			Brian Surratt, President & CEO, GSP*	
		CM Megan Dunn Alt			Rebecca Lovell, COO, GSP Alt	
Everett	1	CM Paula Rhyne			Tom Florino, Amazon*	
		MYR Cassie Franklin Alt			Terry Ryan, Snohomish County*	1
		Dan Eernisse Alt			Michael Greer, President & CEO, ArtsFund	1
Cities/Towns	1	CM Jason Moon, Mukilteo				
		CM Erin Murray, Mountlake Terrace Alt	Non-voting Members			
Federally Recognized Tribes			PSRC President, Ex-Officio		Bob Drewel	
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	1	Vacant	PSRC President		MYR Becky Erickson	
		Vacant Alt	Navy Region NW		Bill Bulis, Executive Director	1
Suquamish Tribe	1	CHR Leonard Forsman			Russell Byrd, CPLO Alt	1
		CM Jay Mills Alt				
			Abbreviations			
			CM Councilmember		* Executive Committee	
Voting	33	(Quorum = 14) Quorum Total	18	COM Commissioner	1 = Voting Member for Meeting	
				CHR Chair		



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 4, 2025

CONSENT AGENDA

To: Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board

From: Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager

Subject: **Approve Vouchers dated February 28, 2025 through April 30, 2025 in the amount of \$2,879.81**

IN BRIEF

PSRC vouchers are reviewed by the Operations Committee and approved by the Executive Board. To comply fully with RCW 42.24.080, vouchers for the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (CPSEDD) should be approved by the EDD Board as well.

DISCUSSION

The EDD Board should approve the following vouchers:

Approved Vouchers dated February 28, 2025 through April 30, 2025 in the amount of			
\$2,879.81			
REQUESTED			
<u>WARRANT DATE</u>	<u>VOUCHER NUMBER</u>		<u>TOTALS</u>
2/28/2025	PR 00342		\$ 506.00
4/24/2025	AP 001384, 001385, 001386, 001393		\$ 2,085.34
4/30/2025	PR 00650		\$ 288.47
			\$ 2,879.81

For more information, contact Andrew Werfelmann, Budget Manager, at 206-971-3292, or awerfelmann@psrc.org.

ATTACHMENTS

A. A/P Check Batches



Date: June 4, 2025

A/P Check Batches		
Dated	Check Numbers	Amount
02/28/25 – 04/30/25	000220, 000221, 000224, 000229	\$ 2,085.34
Payroll Checks	PR00342, PR00650	\$ 794.47
<u>Total</u>		<u>\$2,879.81</u>

Payment Certification RCW(42.24.080)

We, the undersigned, do hereby certify under penalty of perjury, that the materials have been furnished, the services rendered, the labor performed as described, or that any advance payment is due and payable pursuant to a contract or is available as an option for full or partial fulfillment of a contractual obligation, and that the claim(s) is(are) just, due and unpaid obligations against the above-named governmental unit, that we are authorized to authenticate and certify to said claim(s).

Authorized District Signature(s) for Payment Claims (Auditing Officer(s) or Board Member(s)):

 Authorized District Signature	05/09/25 Date	Authorized District Signature Date
Authorized District Signature	Date	Authorized District Signature Date

Check Summary Report

Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board Meeting - June 4, 2025

Check Number	Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
PR00342	2/28/2025	Shaun Kuo	Per Diem for Denver Conference	506.00
000220	4/24/2025	KEDA	Luncheon Registration - Thibedeau	135.23
000221	4/24/2025	EASC	Conference Registraton - Thibedeau	88.01
000224	4/24/2025	WEDA	Conference Registraton - Thibedeau	283.25
000224	4/24/2025	WEDA	Conference Registraton - Enders	283.25
000229	4/24/2025	Hyatt	Hotel APA Conference - Kuo	175.01
000229	4/24/2025	APA	Registration APA Conference - Kuo	785.00
000229	4/24/2025	Alaska Air	Flight APA Conference - Kuo	311.61
000229	4/24/2025	Allianz	Flight Ins APA Conference - Kuo	23.98
PR00650	4/30/2025	Jason Thibedeau	Travel Expenses	288.47
Total				2,879.81

Attachment A

AP Register Detailed

Company/Branch: PSRC

From Period: 07-2025
To Period: 11-2025

Att. A - 5.b

Page: 1 of 2
Date: 5/9/2025 10:14 AM
User: Andrew Werfelmann

Doc. Type	Ref. Number	Status	Terms	External Ref.	Doc. Date	Vendor	Vendor Name	Branch	Currency	Currency Orig. Amount	Orig. Doc. Amount
Bill	000241	Closed	00	March 2025	3/25/2025	USBA63	US Bank - PSRC 1	PSRC	USD	135.23	135.23
Batch Number		Period		Status							
001384		09-2025		Posted							
Branch	Account	Subaccount		Ref. Number	Tran. Description					Debit	Credit
CPSEDD	60315	0		000241	KEDA 2025 Luncheon-JThibedeau_KEDA					135.23	0.00
Total:									135.23	0.00	
Bill	000243	Closed	00	March 2025	3/25/2025	USBAN2	US Bank - PSRC 2	PSRC	USD	88.01	88.01
Batch Number		Period		Status							
001385		09-2025		Posted							
Branch	Account	Subaccount		Ref. Number	Tran. Description					Debit	Credit
CPSEDD	60315	0		000243	EASC Annual Mtg J Thibedeau_EASC					88.01	0.00
Total:									88.01	0.00	
Bill	000244	Closed	00	March 2025	3/25/2025	USMO63	US Bank - Monica A.	PSRC	USD	566.50	566.50
Batch Number		Period		Status							
001386		09-2025		Posted							
Branch	Account	Subaccount		Ref. Number	Tran. Description					Debit	Credit
CPSEDD	60315	0		000244	!WEDA Conference J Thibedeau_WEDA!					283.25	0.00
CPSEDD	60315	0		000244	WEDA Conference K Enders_WEDA!030725					283.25	0.00
Total:									566.50	0.00	
Bill	000251	Closed	00	March 2025	3/25/2025	USSH63	US Bank - Shaun K.	PSRC	USD	1,295.60	1,295.60
Batch Number		Period		Status							
001393		09-2025		Posted							

Attachment A
AP Register Detailed

Company/Branch: PSRC

From Period: 07-2025
To Period: 11-2025

Att. A - 5.b

Page: 2 of 2
Date: 5/9/2025 10:14 AM
User: Andrew Werfelmann

Doc. Type	Ref. Number	Status	Terms	External Ref.	Doc. Date	Vendor	Vendor Name	Branch	Currency	Currency	Orig. Amount	Orig. Doc. Amount
CPSEDD	60300		0		000251		APA Conf;Hotel S Kuo_HYATT				175.01	0.00
CPSEDD	60315		0		000251		APA Conference S Kuo_APA				785.00	0.00
CPSEDD	60300		0		000251		APA Conf; Air Travel S Kuo_ALASKA AIR!				311.61	0.00
CPSEDD	60300		0		000251		APA Conf; Flight/Travel Insurance_ALLIANZ!				23.98	0.00
Total:											1,295.60	0.00



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 4, 2025

ACTION ITEM

To: Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board

From: Jason Thibedeau, Principal Economic Development Manager

Subject: **Adopt Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Budget and Work Program**

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt the Economic Development District element of PSRC's Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Budget and Work Program as the budget for the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District.

DISCUSSION

The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD) is a nonprofit corporation in the State of Washington. The EDD has a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Puget Sound Regional Council (PSRC) under which the two agencies have consolidated staff services to increase government efficiency and further integrate the EDD's economic development work with the regional growth management and transportation planning at PSRC. Through the MOA, PSRC provides contract services to support EDD's work program.

The Puget Sound Regional Council operates under a two-year (biennial) budget and work program. The Economic Development District (Task 300) element of PSRC's biennial budget serves as the basis for the budget for the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District organization. The EDD Board is required in its bylaws to take action to adopt its budget.

PSRC's overall budget and work program supports regional objectives, local government priorities, and legal mandates associated with PSRC's responsibilities as the federal Metropolitan Planning Organization, state Regional Transportation Planning Organization, as well as facilitator of the region's Economic Development District. The

work program covers regional transportation, growth and economic development planning, and technical, data and administrative services.

Projects that are identified through the core economic development planning activities frequently require additional funding to implement. Funding sources for these projects can include other PSRC funds, contributions from regional partners, or grants from the EDA or other sources. Implementation of the annual [Economic Development Focus Areas](#) is also supported through elements of PSRC's budget outside of the Economic Development District (Task 300) element. This includes the Regional Planning (Task 000) element, which supports agency wide departmental administration, special projects, and other support tasks. It also includes the Council Support (Task 500) element which supports agency wide communications as well as EDD board management assistance.

PSRC's General Assembly adopted the agency's Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Biennial Budget and Work Program on May 22, 2025, which covers the period from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027. The adopted budget includes agency revenues and expenditures of \$41.8 million. The Economic Development District (Task 300) portion of the biennial budget includes revenues and expenditures of \$567,000. Revenues for this budget task consist of \$200,000 from the EDA Partnership Planning Program grant, as well as \$367,000 in dues collected from PSRC's membership allocated to support the district's work. The full adopted budget is available online at: <https://www.psrc.org/about/budget>.

Base funding for the EDD's work program is provided through a Partnership Planning Program grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. The grant provides the EDD with \$300,000 over a three-year period, with a required \$300,000 local match. The EDD recently completed the second year of a three-year grant cycle, which ended on March 31, 2025.

Budget Development Timeline

- Late 2024: PSRC staff developed the draft Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Budget and Work Program in partnership with PSRC's Operations Committee.
- December 2024: EDD Board met to develop the Economic Development Focus Areas for 2025 and reviewed the draft budget to help support this work.
- December 2024 - February 2025: The draft supplemental budget was shared with the Executive Board, Economic Development District Board, Growth Management Policy Board, Transportation Policy Board, and the Regional Staff Committee. Members and the public were invited to forward any comments to the Operations Committee for review.
- April 2025: The Operations Committee recommended approval of the budget by PSRC's Executive Board.
- April 2025: The Executive Board recommended the budget for adoption by the General Assembly.

- May 22, 2025: PSRC's General Assembly met and adopted the Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Supplemental Budget and Work Program, which covers the period from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2027.
- June 4, 2025: EDD Board meets to adopt the Economic Development District element (Task 300) of PSRC's Fiscal Years 2025-2027 Budget and Work Program as the budget for the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District.

The Economic Development District Board is being asked to adopt the Economic Development District element (Task 300) of PSRC's Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Budget and Work Program as the budget for the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District.

For more information, please contact Andrew Werfelmann, Budget Manager, at awerfelmann@psrc.org or 206-971-3292.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Economic Development District (Task 300)

Economic Development District (Task 300)

Objective

Provide staff support to the Economic Development District (EDD) Board of Directors. Maintain the central Puget Sound region's eligibility for economic development planning and technical assistance funding from the federal Economic Development Administration. Develop, update and assist in implementation of the Regional Economic Strategy, which serves as the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Under direction from the EDD Board of Directors, coordinate with public, private and community stakeholders to develop and implement initiatives that strengthen the region's economy.

Sub-Tasks

Sub-Task 1. EDD General

Ongoing administrative, managerial and operational efforts are required to maintain status as the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD), including:

- a. Convene and provide staff support to the EDD Board of Directors, subcommittees and other working groups or taskforces.
- b. Annually update the Regional Economic Strategy.
- c. Develop and maintain tracking tools, performance measure data and other products to facilitate strategy implementation.
- d. Coordinate events and programs, as appropriate, to aid in implementation of the Regional Economic Strategy.
- e. Prepare budget and work program.
- f. Review and evaluate employee performance.
- g. Develop, apply for, and monitor grants and contracts in support of the Regional Economic Strategy.
- h. Secure and manage U.S. Economic Development Administration Planning Grant.

Sub-Task 2. Regional Economic Strategy Implementation

The Regional Economic Strategy, adopted in December 2021, is the guiding document for key regional economic initiatives. The EDD Board will maintain a work plan of initiatives to implement the strategy, informed by ongoing evaluation. Economic development staff will work with regional partners to implement these initiatives, including:

- a. Identify emerging industry opportunities, subsectors or cross-cluster opportunities;
- b. Identify challenges and opportunities faced by the region's economy;
- c. Perform and coordinate qualitative and quantitative analysis to help detail the region's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats and develop targeted strategies to improve the region's competitive position;

- d. Develop, run and collaborate on events that bring together economic development interests in the region and highlight regional priorities.

Unfunded Sub-Tasks

None

Major Milestones and Products

1. Annual Economic Development Work Plan Developed (*2026 and 2027*)
2. U.S. Economic Development Administration Planning Grant Secured (*April 2026*)
3. Regional Economic Strategy Updated (*January 2027*)

Mandates

This work element provides for program development, administration and management of regional economic development planning activities as required by:

1. **EDD/PSRC Memorandum of Agreement** dated June 27, 2002.
2. Authority for the CPSEDD creation is by a **Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement** between the counties of King, Kitsap, Pierce and Snohomish dated May 5, 1971, and amended November 13, 2003.
3. Federal authority for the creation, recognition and funding of multi-jurisdictional economic development districts is found in the **Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965** (Public Law 89-136, 42 U.S.C. 3121 *et seq.*) as amended, including the comprehensive amendments by the Economic Development Administration Reform Act of 1998 (Public Law 105-393) and the Economic Development Administration Reauthorization Act of 2004 (Public Law 108-373). Criteria for district program functions and funding are found in 13 CFR Part 301 (area eligibility), 302 (district designation), 303 (district planning process) and 306 (planning assistance).

Policy Direction and Interagency Staff Involvement

Economic Development receives policy direction from the EDD Board of Directors.

Summary of Revenues and Expenditures

Summary Revenues & Expenditures	
Revenues:	
EDA Grant	\$200,000
EDD Dues	\$326,000
PSRC Local	\$42,000
Total	\$567,000

Expenditures:	
Salaries & Benefits	\$372,000
Overhead	\$172,000
Direct Costs	\$23,000
Consultants	\$0,000
Total	\$567,000

Budget Comparison:	
Draft FY 26-27	\$567,000
July 24 Amended Supplemental FY 24-25	\$501,000

FTE Staffing Comparison:	
Draft FY 26-27	1.13
July 24 Amended Supplemental FY 24-25	1.13

Summary of Consultants within Economic Development District



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 4, 2025

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board

From: Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager

Subject: **Regional Economic Strategy Update**

IN BRIEF

PSRC staff will provide an update on strategy development tools, data and outreach efforts that are being utilized to inform the Regional Economic Strategy update.

DISCUSSION

The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District (EDD) is responsible for updating the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) every five years. The CEDS is designed to build capacity and guide the economic prosperity and resiliency of a region, building off other regional planning efforts. The CEDS is required to include a summary background of the region's economic conditions, a SWOT analysis, and a set of strategies to address the identified challenges and opportunities.

Implementation of the CEDS is accomplished by a broad set of regional stakeholders, highlighting important ongoing economic development programs and initiatives as well as identifying new opportunities for implementation. Adoption of a regional CEDS enables local jurisdictions and eligible organizations to qualify for funding under U.S. Economic Development Administration programs.

The EDD Board adopted the current CEDS, referred to locally as the Regional Economic Strategy, at its December 2021 meeting. The strategy covers the period from 2022-2026. The EDD is required to adopt an updated 5-year CEDS by the end of 2026.

At the March 2024 meeting, staff provided an overview of the proposed two-phased

approach to the development of the updated Regional Economic Strategy. The first phase will take place in 2025 and focus on the development of a summary background of the region's economic conditions and a SWOT analysis. This analysis will serve as a foundational resource for the development of an implementation plan and evaluation framework in 2026.

At the June meeting, staff will provide an update on strategy development tools, data and outreach efforts related to the strategy update.

For more information, contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org or 206-389-2879.



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 4, 2025

DISCUSSION ITEM

To: Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board
From: Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager
Subject: **2026 FIFA World Cup**

IN BRIEF

Staff from the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER), and other regional leaders will provide an overview on planning and expected impacts related to FIFA World Cup 2026 activities.

DISCUSSION

The 2026 FIFA World Cup will be held from June 11 to July 19, 2026, and will be jointly hosted by 16 cities in three North American countries: the United States, Canada and Mexico. In June 2022, FIFA announced Seattle as one of the host cities for the tournament, hosting six matches at Lumen Field, including four group stage matches and two knockout-round matches. It is estimated that the Seattle region will receive around 750,000 visitors over the event period.

SeattleFWC26 is the local organizing committee for Seattle's participation in the tournament. As a not-for-profit organization, SeattleFWC26's vision is to foster a lasting legacy for the region, guided by the spirit of soccer, innovation and inclusion. In addition to soccer matches hosted at Lumen field, the region will be home to FIFA World Cup fan zones, which are designated areas where fans can watch matches, enjoy live entertainment, and participate in various activities. These fan zones will be located in Pierce, Snohomish and Kitsap counties.

Visit Seattle projects that the tournament will generate \$929 million in economic impact in King County, with additional economic impact across other parts of the region seen through hotel properties, venues, soccer facilities and fan zone activities.

Vancouver B.C. has also been designated as a host city for the tournament. Vancouver B.C. will host seven matches and welcome up to 900,000 visitors. The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a public-private non-profit partnership established in 1991 by the U.S. states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington, along with the Canadian provinces of British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon and the Northwest Territories. PNWER has long served as a platform for cross-border coordination, bringing together elected officials and industry leaders from both countries.

To support regional efforts around the World Cup, PNWER launched a Regional Tourism Council composed of an elected official and an industry representative from each of its ten jurisdictions. The Regional Tourism Council's current focus is on leveraging the 2026 World Cup to improve coordination on tourism, border issues and regional visitor planning.

At the June meeting, representatives from the Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER), and local leaders organizing fan zone activities will provide briefings on preparations and expected impacts of the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

For additional information, please contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org or 206-389-2879.



Puget Sound Regional Council

June 4, 2025

INFORMATION ITEM

To: Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board

From: Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager

Subject: June 2025 Staff Report

DISCUSSION

PSRC's Executive Board Continues Certifying Local Comprehensive Plans

PSRC's Executive Board is continuing to certify local comprehensive plans that conform to the Growth Management Act and are substantially consistent with multicounty planning policies. As of May, the Executive Board has certified 22 plans. Another 14 plans have been recommended to the Executive Board for certification by the Growth Management Policy Board. The process of certifying comprehensive plans will continue through 2025, as staff continue to assess comprehensive plans for board review.

General Assembly

On May 22, 2025, PSRC's General Assembly met at the Seattle Convention Center. The General Assembly includes all mayors, county executives, commissioners and councilmembers of PSRC member jurisdictions. At the meeting, the General Assembly adopted PSRC's Fiscal Years 2026-2027 Biennial Budget and Work Program, which includes funding for the work of the Economic Development District. In addition, the General Assembly adopted the Regional Safety Action Plan and elected PSRC's President and Vice President. Shailen Bhatt, former Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, was in attendance and led a discussion on moving to action to reduce fatalities and serious injuries on regional roadways.

NARC Annual Conference and Exhibition in Seattle

PSRC is preparing to host the National Association of Regional Council's Annual Conference from June 8-11, 2025. The program will include a strategic focus on economic development efforts in the central Puget Sound region and will highlight the region's strengths in maritime, aerospace and technology industries. NARC is an organization that responds to the professional and legislative needs of America's

emerging, multi-purpose, multi-jurisdictional organizations of local governments.

TOOLBOX: Streamlining Housing with Pre-Approved ADU Plans

On May 9th, PSRC hosted a TOOLBOX session exploring the successes and challenges of pre-approved ADU programs in the central Puget Sound region. Experts from the Washington State Department of Commerce, City of Renton, City of Poulsbo, City of Seattle and the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council shared insights on implementation strategies, program successes and lessons learned. The next TOOLBOX session will be held on July 18, 2025, and will explore the topic of community-led engagement efforts. Visit [PSRC's website](#) to view recordings from past sessions and to register for upcoming sessions.

For additional information, please contact Jason Thibedeau, Economic Development Program Manager, at jthibedeau@psrc.org or 206-389-2879.