

From: [Joe A. Kunzler](#)
To: [Sheila Rogers](#)
Cc: [Josh Brown](#)
Subject: JAK Public Comment for 26 June 2025
Date: Wednesday, June 25, 2025 4:25:20 PM

25 June 2025

Hi there PSRC Exec Board;

Being I won't know until almost 8 AM tomorrow if I'll be able to give oral public comment, I'm going to e-mail some acute thoughts. Here goes:

a) RE: Regional Transportation Plan Financial Strategy and Investments, I read a very disturbing [report in the Urbanist](#) that our transits need more funding and this discussion is about addressing the funding gap.

Let me start with: I don't think it's fair or equitable to ask Snohomish County voters to keep subsidizing Skagit Transit riders (e.g. ME) without upping the sales tax rate. Ditto King County voters subsidizing Pierce Transit. It's time for both counties to make clear that self-help needs to be done. Call the damn question in November 2026.

The pressure needs to come not just from regular public commentators, but from you also. It has to be made very clear that the federal grants are going to dry up. That the State is doing what they can w/ the Climate Commitment Act/CCA - and the CCA is what is keeping our state of transit out of the death spiral/crisis mode of other states, like California.

Finally, I may not ride paratransit, but I sure am feeling the consequences of what happens when paratransit cost controls are insufficient. Any new money from the State of Washington or the PSRC for transit should include requiring innovation in transit to reduce the cost of providing vital transit to provide more service. I suggest the next transportation package include:

- Taxi scripts
- Investment in automated vehicles
- Investment in on-demand service

I'm no socialist, I want free market solutions to the disability community's needs that the disability community can afford to be full members of community. Like Umo. I'll stop there.

b) I appreciate that Avrum (Alex) Tsimmerman has been excluded for three (3) years from PSRC events. I wish PSRC members would adopt the same exclusion policies for their jurisdictions. We really do NOT need more illegal campaigning, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, ableism, sexism, racism, and illegal campaigning in our communities. Thank you.

Very thoughtfully;

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