



TOOLBOX Resource Sheet

Community-Led Engagement Efforts

July 18, 2025

Background

As a regional planning agency, PSRC makes decisions that shape transportation, land use, and the built environment. In the past, many of these decisions have excluded the voices of people of color, people with lower incomes and other communities who have been left out of the decision-making process. PSRC's continued focus on community engagement explores new ways for the agency to work with community members in developing priorities for its plans.

In 2024, PSRC brought on consultant [Uncommon Bridges](#) to actively engage the central Puget Sound community around the [Regional Safety Action Plan](#) (RSAP). More information about the engagement process can be found in [Appendix B](#) of the RSAP. Continuing to build on the successful partnership, Uncommon Bridges is currently working with PSRC on community engagement in support of the 2026 [Regional Transportation Plan](#).



Regional Safety Action Plan Meeting in Kitsap County, September 2024



Puget Sound Regional Council

1201 Third Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle WA, 98101-3055 | psrc.org | 206-464-7090



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Resources from Session Speakers

[Equity Advisory Committee](#) | PSRC: The Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) is [a cross-sector working group](#) composed of residents as well as governmental and community-based organizations in the Puget Sound region representing BIPOC communities. The Committee co-creates products, including data tools and planning resources, for the Regional Equity Strategy and other agency projects with PSRC staff and the Executive Board. The EAC also advises PSRC committees and policy boards on policies and programs with an equity lens. EAC members who are not already compensated by their employers for participation in the committee [are eligible to receive \\$125 compensation](#) per meeting from PSRC.

[Summer Planning Academy](#) | PSRC: The Summer Planning Academy (SPA) is a leadership development opportunity offered free of charge to students interested in planning a better future for our region. Over four days, SPA introduces students to planning topics through [engaging sessions, activities, and site visits](#) led by regional planning experts at PSRC, colleagues from partner agencies, and leaders from the community. Upon successful completion of SPA, students are eligible to receive a \$500 scholarship. Students will also receive a certificate to include in college, vocational or job applications.

[Equitable Engagement Guidance](#) | PSRC: This guide is a starting point for engagement that includes four recommendations for conducting equitable engagement: identify communities most impacted, develop public engagement goals and outcomes, establish meaningful relationships and remove barriers to engagement. Each recommendation includes a background statement, suggested strategies, and questions for consideration. Resources are linked throughout the document that provide additional information on carrying out these strategies.

Additional Resources

- [Community Engagement Resources](#) | Municipal Research and Services Center (MRSC)
- [Spectrum of Public Participation](#) | International Association for Public Participation (IAP2)
- [Community Co-Creation in the Digital Era](#), PAS QuickNotes 108 | American Planning Association
- [Planning With Diverse Communities](#), PAS Report 593, Ch. 4 | American Planning Association
- [6 Tips for Inclusive Public Meetings](#), Planning Magazine, 2019 | American Planning Association



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