Regional Staff Committee

September 19, 2019 • 9:30 – 11:30 am
PSRC Board Room • 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500 • Seattle, WA 98104

9:30  1. Welcome and Introductions – Ben Bakkenta, PSRC

9:35  2. Reports:
   a. Meeting Summary for June 20, 2019*
   b. PSRC Board Reports*
   c. Updates from PSRC Planning Department

9:50  3. Discussion: Puget Sound Partnership*
      Stephanie Suter, Puget Sound Partnership

10:20 4. Discussion: Draft VISION 2050 Plan*
      a. Draft Plan and Comments Update
      b. Regional Growth Strategy – Targets and Consistency
         Paul Inghram and Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC

5. Future Meeting: October 23, 2019, 9:30 am, PSRC Board Room

6. Information Items:
   a. 2019 Regional Staff Committee Schedule*
   b. Bringing the Region Together Flyer - Regional TOD Event October 4

11:30 7. Adjourn

*Supporting materials attached

Meeting Call-in Option Available Upon Request – Contact Casey Moreau, cmoreau@psrc.org

| العربية | 中文 | Deutsch | German, Français | French, 한국어 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng việt | Vietnamese, Call 206-587-4819. |
Regional Staff Committee Meeting Summary

Date: June 20, 2019
Location: PSRC Board Room, 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104

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 9:32 am. There were around the room introductions.

Reports
Co-Chair Ben Bakkenta introduced new PSRC staff – Charles Patton, Equity Manager and Hannah Bahnmliller, Assistant Planner. Ben spoke about the Peer Networking event happening on Friday, October 4 from 9 am to 3 pm in Bellevue. The event will bring together the community and industry leaders to explore innovative techniques and best practices for building thriving and equitable BRT communities. The committee was encouraged to share the event information.

Discussion: Work of the CPS Economic Development District Board
Jason Thibedeau, PSRC, briefed the committee on recent work of the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board and its focus areas for board engagement in 2019. These focus areas include efforts to build out public broadband infrastructure, tribal economic development, as well as a focus on efforts to sustain regional industries such as maritime, tourism and global health. These focus areas align with goals and strategies in the region's economic strategy, Amazing Place, which was adopted in July 2017.

You can view the presentation here.

For more information, contact Jason Thibedeau at jthibedeau@psrc.org or 206-389-2879.
Discussion: VISION 2050 Outreach

Andrea Harris-Long and Maggie Moore, PSRC, briefed committee members on the recent VISION 2050 outreach efforts and upcoming events that support the release of the draft VISION 2050 plan in July 2019. PSRC uses a variety of tools and techniques for outreach, including direct engagement, digital and electronic materials, printed materials, and meetings and interagency coordination.

PSRC’s ongoing outreach efforts, including board and committee meetings, the agency website, email communications, PSRC participation at countywide and regional forums, have been leveraged for VISION 2050 engagement throughout the planning process. This summer PSRC is planning a variety of ways for residents and stakeholders to engage in the plan review and provide feedback.

- Public workshops in each county (locations and dates will be announced at the June 20 committee meeting)
- Online open house
- Tabling at local events to raise awareness of PSRC and VISION 2050
- Recorded webinar that reviews the draft plan
- Outreach toolkit for members and stakeholders to easily share information about VISION 2050 with their communities and elected bodies
- Blog post series to highlight policy areas and related data trends
- Social media and targeted outreach efforts to promote engagement opportunities to groups historically underrepresented in the planning process

Staff will review outreach efforts with the Growth Management Board and Executive Board at their July meetings. Periodic updates on outreach and feedback received during the development of VISION 2050 will continue to be shared with the Regional Staff Committee.

You can view the presentation here.

For more information, contact Laura Benjamin at lbenjamin@psrc.org, 206-464-7134, Andrea Harris-Long at aharris-long@psrc.org, 206-464-6179, or Maggie Moore atmmoore@psrc.org, 206-464-6171.

Discussion: VISION 2050 Draft Plan Status and Public Review Process

Paul Inghram, PSRC, briefed the committee on the progress of developing a public review draft of VISION 2050 for the July 11, 2019 GMPB meeting. The Growth Management Policy Board held an extended meeting on June 6, reviewing a draft preferred alternative for the Regional Growth Strategy as part of its work developing a public review of VISION 2050. PSRC staff compiled board member requested edits into a single draft Desk Packet for the committee to review. The committee was updated with the most recent board direction, the potential changes requested, and how the Kitsap request would change the definitions of regional geographies.
You can view the presentation here.

For more information, contact Ben Bakkenta at bbakkenta@psrc.org, 206-971-3286 or Paul Inghram at pinghram@psrc.org, 206-464-7549.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Co-Chairs’ Working Session

The Co-Chairs’ working group met from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm to continue the agenda discussion. Audio recording of this discussion is available upon request.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Laura Benjamin, PSRC; Tammi Chick, PSRC; Enjoleah Daye, City of Everett; Erika Harris, PSRC; Andrea Harris-Long, PSRC; Paul Inghram, PSRC; Ben Kahn, PSRC; Scott Lindquist, Snohomish County Planning & Development; Hilary McGowan, Snohomish County Planning & Development; Maggie Moore, PSRC; Brian Parry, Sound Cities Association; Tracy Stanton, Emerald Alliance; Hester Serebin, Transportation Choices; Karen Stewart, City of Everett; Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC
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<td>Ivan Miller, County Executive Office, Alt.</td>
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<td>Sunaree Marshall, County DCHS</td>
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<td>Anur Sambataro, County Executive Office, Equity &amp; Social Justice</td>
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<td>Tracy Krawczyk, SDOT</td>
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<td>WA Dept. of Commerce (1)</td>
<td>Eric Baker, Planning</td>
<td>Ike Nwankwo, Growth Management</td>
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<td>Karla Boughton, Planning &amp; Econ, Poulsbo</td>
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<td>Theresa Turpin, Olympic Region</td>
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<td>Andrea Spencer, Comm Dev, RSC Co-Chair</td>
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<td>Allison Satter</td>
<td>Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs</td>
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<td>Dan Cardwell, Long Range Planning</td>
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TO: Regional Staff Committee
FROM: PSRC Staff
SUBJECT: PSRC Board Reports

The Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board met July 10, 2019, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm.
The post “At Work Summary” of the meeting is available on the CPSEDDB meeting materials page.

For information on the CPSEDDB, contact Jason Thibedeau, Principal Economic Development Manager, jthibedeau@psrc.org, 206-389-2879.

The Executive Board met July 25, 2019, 10:00 am – 11:30 am.
The post “At Work Summary” of the meeting is available on the EB meeting materials page.

For information on the EB, contact Sheila Rogers, Executive Assistant, srogers@psrc.org, 206-464-5815.

The Growth Management Policy Board met September 5, 2019, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm.
The “At Work Summary” of the meeting is available on the GMPB meeting materials page.

For information on the GMPB, contact Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management, pinghram@psrc.org, 206-464-7549.

The Transportation Policy Board met September 12, 2019, 9:30 – 11:30 am.
The “At Work Summary” of the meeting will be available on the TPB meeting materials page.

For information on the TPB, contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, kmcgourty@psrc.org, 206-971-3601.
MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Stephanie Suter, Planning Program Director, Puget Sound Partnership

SUBJECT: Puget Sound Partnership as the Backbone Organization Leading Puget Sound Recovery

In Brief

The committee will be informed of the role that the Puget Sound Partnership plays in ecosystem recovery efforts.

DISCUSSION

The Puget Sound Partnership is the state agency leading the region’s collective effort to restore and protect Puget Sound. The Puget Sound Partnership brings together hundreds of partners to mobilize partner action around a common agenda, advance Sound investments, and advance priority actions by supporting partners. The committee is welcome to ask questions about the Partnership’s role and discuss opportunities for support and improved partnerships.

Lead Staff

Stephanie Suter, Planning Program Director, (360) 791-3154, stephanie.suter@psp.wa.gov.
MEMORANDUM

September 19, 2019

TO: Regional Staff Committee
FROM: Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management

SUBJECT: Draft VISION 2050 Plan

In Brief

Staff will brief the committee on the draft VISION 2050 plan ask the committee to hold an in-depth discussion regarding PSRC guidance for local application of the Regional Growth Strategy.

Discussion

At the July 11 Growth Management Policy Board meeting, the board acted to release the draft growth strategy, policies, and actions for public review and comment during a 60-day comment period that runs through September 16. Following board action, staff assembled a complete plan document that combines each of the policy chapters and includes sections of narrative discussion.

At the September meeting the Regional Staff Committee will be asked to:
  • Hear an overview of the draft plan, engagement efforts, and preview of public comments
  • Hold an in-depth discussion of the guidance in the draft plan on alignment with the Regional Growth Strategy

Draft Plan

At its July 11 meeting, the Growth Management Policy Board acted to release the draft growth strategy, policies, and actions for public review and comment during a 60-day comment period that runs through September 16. Following board action, staff assembled a complete plan document that combines each of the policy chapters and includes several sections of narrative discussion.

Staff have used a variety of outreach strategies of the summer to get the word out about the draft plan and solicit comments. The primary goal for this public comment period was to offer a range of opportunities for residents and stakeholders to learn about and comment on the draft plan. Nearly 200 people attended five work sessions and five open houses held throughout the four counties. These events provided an opportunity
for elected officials, agency staff, and members of the general public to directly engage with PSRC staff and share their thoughts and concerns.

PSRC also staffed booths at the Pierce County Fair, Burien’s B-Town Fiesta, Evergreen State Fair, and Bremerton Farmers Market and met hundreds of people who typically do not engage with PSRC but were interested to learn about VISION 2050. Staff has been busy presenting about the draft plan to countywide groups, city councils, and other community groups.

Supporting these in-person events, PSRC developed an online open house that is available through September 16. As of early September, the draft VISION 2050 plan has been downloaded close to 1,000 times and the VISION 2050 webpage has over 5,000 views. Social media has extended the reach of the engagement efforts. Posts, tweets, and blog entries have been clicked, shared, and followed to consistently remind residents of the comment period and opportunities to engage with PSRC staff. VISION 2050 on-line ads have reached nearly 200,000 people.

VISION 2050 materials were translated into nine languages (Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, Russian, Korean, Arabic, German, French, and Tagalog) and distributed to community-based organizations around the region to get the word out to non-English speaking residents. The online open house is available for translation in these nine languages as well.

As a result of these different engagement efforts, a variety of comments have been submitted, both through the in-person events and the online comment form. Staff will provide an early preview of public comments, with more information to follow at future meetings as staff are able to process comments.

**Overview of Draft Plan**

By now, many of the committee members have probably had a chance to review the draft plan. The draft of VISION 2050 includes chapters that address each of the policy areas reviewed by the board:

- Regional Collaboration
- Regional Growth Strategy, including numeric growth allocations for regional geographies
- Environment
- Climate Change
- Development Patterns
- Housing
- Economy
- Transportation
- Public Services
These chapters show the policy and actions as developed by the board during the drafting process. Policies and actions are renumbered and ordered. A matrix tracking the changes from the VISION 2040 policy wording and translating old and new numbering is available online.

Each chapter includes an updated narrative to frame the policies. Chapters state the overarching goal, the need to address relevant issues, a summary of the different roles PSRC, local jurisdictions, and other agencies play, and provide the current context to support understanding of the policies. The intent is to provide information to help the reader understand the purpose and intent of the policies, while keeping the overall focus of each chapter on the policies. More detailed information is provided in background papers on-line. The intent is to not duplicate that more detailed information within the plan.

VISION 2050 also includes an introduction to the central Puget Sound region, a discussion of the future vision of the region, and a summary of key strategies that are addressed by the plan. A glossary of terms and other background resources are available on the VISION 2050 website.

At its July and September meetings, the Growth Management Policy Board has indicated intent to do additional review and potentially propose edits related to fiscal sustainability, climate change, and jobs/housing balance.

**Regional Growth Strategy – Guidance for Consistency**

The draft VISION 2050 includes the Regional Growth Strategy, which provides a numeric framework for planning for population and employment growth in countywide targets and local comprehensive plans. The update of VISION extends the planning horizon for the growth strategy to 2050 and updates the shares of growth for counties and regional geographies.

The Growth Management Policy Board and Regional Staff Committee have been working to develop goals, policies, and a final preferred alternative for the Regional Growth Strategy in VISION 2050.

Regional Staff Committee members expressed interest in additional discussion about how the Regional Growth Strategy is translated to countywide growth targets and planning assumptions. The Regional Growth Strategy chapter describes includes a discussion of how the growth strategy is implemented through countywide targets and local plans. While this narrative text reflects current laws and agreements, it is an important section that helps users understand how the Regional Growth Strategy connects to regional and local efforts.
The Implementation chapter in VISION 2050 provides additional background narrative, including about the plan review and certification process and PSRC’s legal authority.

At the meeting, staff will provide background on previous guidance related to countywide growth targets and will provide an overview of the guidance provided in the draft VISION 2050 plan. The committee will be asked to discuss whether the language in the draft plan is clear, whether additional language should be included about directionality of different types of regional geographies in accommodating growth, and whether additional language is needed in the plan.

Following adoption of VISION 2050, PSRC will update planning guidance resources and the Plan Review Manual to reflect provisions in the adopted plan. The committee may discuss whether guidance is needed in the draft plan or in subsequent, more detailed guidance documents.

The draft VISION 2050 plan includes a chapter on the Regional Growth Strategy (see p. 23 – 46). See Attachment A for language in the draft plan on guidance for aligning growth targets.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Paul Inghram at 206-464-7549, pinghram@psrc.org or Liz Underwood-Bultmann at 206-464-6174, LUnderwood-Bultmann@psrc.org.
Guidance for Aligning Growth Targets

Counties and cities work together to establish growth targets for each jurisdiction to accommodate projected growth. These targets set by countywide planning bodies support implementation of the Regional Growth Strategy and VISION 2050 objectives of housing production, better jobs-housing balance, and greater growth near the region’s transit investments. Counties and their cities will define new countywide growth targets prior to the next cycle of local comprehensive plan updates. This section addresses principles to guide regional review of countywide growth target allocations and comprehensive plan certification.

- PSRC will provide updated guidance and technical assistance to counties and cities as they develop countywide growth targets and prepare comprehensive plan updates. Guidance will address housing, regional centers, goals for transit-oriented development, support for jobs-housing balance, and other aspects of VISION 2050.

- PSRC will review countywide adoption of growth targets with recognition of good faith efforts to be consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy and VISION 2050 over the long-term. Targets should demonstrate how cities and counties are working towards the outcomes and objectives of the Regional Growth Strategy. In some cases, countywide growth targets may not fully align with the precise shares in the Regional Growth Strategy. For example, there are jurisdictions where high-capacity transit is planned to be built and operational late in the planning period, and higher growth rates may not occur until the last decades of this plan.

- Comprehensive plans for cities and counties are expected to include their adopted countywide growth targets. The Growth Management Act requires counties and cities to, at a minimum, accommodate 20-year projected growth targets.

- PSRC review and certification of local plans is based on actions and measures to implement VISION 2050 and work towards the Regional Growth Strategy, and not simply on whether local planning assumptions match targets. In developing comprehensive plan updates, jurisdictions will be asked to explain how the plan supports VISION 2050 and works to meet the Regional Growth Strategy over the long term.

- In its review of comprehensive plans for certification, PSRC reviews consistency of the plan with adopted countywide growth targets. As VISION 2050 is implemented, PSRC will update the Plan Review Manual to provide additional guidance on planning for growth targets prior to comprehensive plan updates.

- If adjustments to countywide growth targets are needed, they should be coordinated through the countywide process.

Regional Growth Strategy Adjustments to Support Targets

Cities and unincorporated areas are grouped into their respective regional geographies based on designated regional centers, planning for annexation and incorporation, and existing and planned high-capacity transit. PSRC recognizes that some of these qualities may change based on future planning. To reflect these changes, PSRC’s Executive Board may make a technical amendment to the Regional Growth Strategy to potentially reclassify cities and unincorporated areas. Technical amendments are limited to those updates needed to support establishing Growth Management Act population and employment targets; other amendments to the Regional Growth Strategy are subject to approval by the General Assembly.
The Regional Staff Committee meets the third Thursday of each month, 9:30 am, PSRC Board Room, 1011 Western Avenue, 5th Floor. Agendas and supporting materials are available the Thursday prior to the meeting on our website: www.psrc.org. Meetings are subject to change or cancellation based on the agenda. The August meeting is not regularly scheduled.
Building on the region’s commitment to bus rapid transit—growing from 8 lines today to 42 lines in 2040—join community and industry leaders at a day-long event to explore innovative techniques and best practices for building thriving and equitable BRT communities.

$30 registration fee, breakfast and lunch included. Limited scholarships available.

Register online at https://psrc-brt-event.eventbrite.com

Regional TOD Event
Friday, October 4, 2019
9 a.m. – 3 p.m.
Bellevue Youth Theatre
16051 NE 10th St.,
Bellevue, WA 98008