Regional Staff Committee

November 15, 2018 • 9:30 – 12:00 pm
PSRC Board Room • 1011 Western Avenue, Suite 500 • Seattle, WA 98104

9:30 1. Welcome and Introductions – Jesse Hamashima, Pierce County, Co-Chair

9:35 2. Reports:
   a. Meeting Summary for October 18, 2018*
   b. PSRC Board Reports*
   c. Updates from PSRC Planning Department

9:50 3. Discussion: VISION 2050 Environment Chapter Update*
   Paul Inghram, PSRC

10:35 4. Discussion: VISION 2050 – Equity Work Program, Tools, and Approaches*
   Ben Bakkenta, PSRC, Maggie Moore, PSRC and Brian Lee, PSRC

11:10 5. Discussion: Development Patterns: Centers and Transit Oriented Development*
   Maggie Moore, PSRC and Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC

6. Future Meeting: December 20, 2018, 9:30 am, PSRC Board Room

7. Information Items:
   a. 2018 Regional Staff Committee Schedule*
   b. October RSC Co-Chairs’ Working Session*
   c. Washington State Space Economy Report*

12:00 8. Adjourn

*Supporting materials attached

Meeting Call-in Option Available Upon Request – Contact Tammi Chick, tchick@psrc.org

Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling (206) 464-7090 or TTY Relay 711. 中文 | Chinese, 한국 | Korean, Русский | Russian, Español | Spanish, Tagalog, Tiếng việt | Vietnamese call 206-587-4819.
Regional Staff Committee

October 18, 2018

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table
(See attached Attendance Roster)

Other Guests Present (for all or part of the meeting):
Tiffany Speir, Lakewood-via remote and Brian Parry, Sound Cities-via remote

PSRC Staff: Laura Benjamin, Paul Inghram, Ben Bakkenta, Tammi Chick, Kathryn Johnson, Ben Kahn, Liz Underwood-Bultmann, Jason Thibeudeau

Welcome and Introductions, Public Comment

Jesse Hamashima, Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 9:34 am.

There were around the room introductions.

No one provided public comment.

Reports

Co-Chair Hamashima reported on the work of the RSC Co-Chair’s VISION 2050 Working Session. The group met Wednesday, September 19 to discuss VISION 2050 Housing Chapter Updates and Regional Growth Strategy Scenarios. Another work session will be held on October 18 and will continue focusing on regional geographies and growth scenarios as well as jobs-housing balance and transit-oriented development. Committee members are welcome to attend these work sessions.

Co-Chair Bakkenta informed the committee about the VISION 2050 youth event coming up in the spring of 2019. This event is intended to involve more of the region’s youth in the planning process. He asked committee members to please refer any contacts they may have to assist in reaching out to youth leaders (e.g., teachers, city personnel, etc.). Ben also put out a call for regional photography to potentially be used in VISION 2050 materials. Please send digital media to Ben Bakkenta at bbakkenta@psrc.org. The committee was also reminded of the upcoming, Peer Networking session on December 7, which will focus on social equity. To learn more visit the event page.

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.

VISION 2050 Housing Chapter Update

Laura Benjamin informed the committee on the proposed updates to the housing chapter in VISION 2050, including:

- Updating the narrative and housing data
- Providing data on housing need for all income levels
- Planning for both long-term and short-term housing
- Retaining current housing policies with direction from GMPB on specific changes
- Exploring new housing actions
Committee members discussed regional tools and incentives, accountability and tracking for meeting targets, housing density, and making sure VISION 2050 places on emphasis on housing affordability for lower income residents. Laura indicated that GMPB has begun discussion on these areas of concern and there is an expectation that there will be a more focused discussion on these issues, as well as plenty of opportunities to review the draft versions, in early 2019.

For more information, contact Laura Benjamin, PSRC (206) 464-7134, lbenjamin@psrc.org.

Regional Growth Strategy Scenarios

Liz Underwood-Bultmann continued the conversation from last month regarding the objectives for the Regional Growth Strategy (RGS), covering the schedule and process, scenarios, screening factors, and GMPB guidance. The growth scenarios will inform selection of alternatives for environmental analysis of VISION 2050.

The VISION 2050 growth scenarios under consideration include:

- Stay the Course – extends VISION 2040 growth assumptions to 2050
- Forward from 2017 – resets VISION 2040 growth assumptions to a 2017 base
- Dispersed Urban Growth – distributes growth broadly across urban growth area
- Transit Focused Growth – distributes more growth around high capacity transit

Based on scenario feedback about the amount of growth allocated to High Capacity Transit Communities, Transit Focused Growth inputs and screening factors have been updated and are now identified as Version 2.

Liz reviewed with the committee GMPB feedback regarding developing a hybrid scenario which combines Forward from 2017 and Dispersed Urban Growth.

The hybrid scenario would:

- Allocate cities and towns, urban unincorporated and rural growth based on Dispersed Urban Growth
- Allocate metro, core and high capacity transit community growth based on Forward from 2017, with scaled down assumptions

Committee members discussed the importance of evaluating the Transit Focused Growth scenario under SEPA, understanding travel time compared to ‘delay’, identifying the types of jobs and wages when analyzing the outcomes, and screening measures for social equity. Members expressed support for the proposed staff recommendation to include Transit Focused Growth, Stay the Course, and the new hybrid scenario as alternatives for study. Members would like additional information on what the staff is learning from the screening factors, particularly as it pertains to the equity issues identified in the letter sent from Transportation Choices Coalition, Washington Environmental Council, The Wilderness Society, Futurewise, and Housing Development Consortium. Liz informed the board that the upcoming November meeting would be covering these topics.

Liz let the committee know that staff is looking for the board to select two action scenarios for the DSEIS and would appreciate feedback as soon as possible due the materials being presented at the GMPB meeting (November 1).

For more information, contact Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC (206) 464-6174, lunderwoodbultmann@psrc.org.

VISION 2050 – Survey and Other Chapters

Paul Inghram provided the committee with an overview of the VISION 2050 schedule and highlighted that between now and the beginning of February 2019, staff will be reviewing VISION chapters in preparation of the DSEIS release.

The objectives of the updates:

- Make the document more accessible and diversified
- Visually appealing – better maps, graphics, and photographs
- Improve the organization of the content
• Place an emphasis on people not simply policy

Jason Thibedeau spoke about the updates to the Economy chapter. He covered the Amazing Place strategy which encourages economic growth across all parts of the region. It was noted that there are no significant gaps between the Economic Development District Board strategies and the VISION strategies; there is a good alignment between both. There will be some narrative updates with an emphasis on including policies that focus on a broader, regionally shared and dispersed economic growth (rural, free-standing cities, economically distressed, etc.).

Ben Kahn provided information on minor updates to VISION 2050 Public Services chapter. The existing chapter encourages conservation, reliability and efficiency of public services. There is one policy change that is mandated due to the 2017 GMA amendments regarding school siting. The requirement is to modify the language related to Pierce County as outlined in RCW 36.70A.211.

Laura Benjamin presented the committee with the current (not scientific) results of the VISION 2050 Online Survey. As of the end of September there were roughly 2,000 responses with most respondents identifying as residents of urban and suburban areas of King and Snohomish Counties.

Snapshots from the online survey:

• Quality of Life – 64% selected Good or Excellent
• Best Part of living in Puget Sound region – Natural environment (34%)
• Least Part of living in Puget Sound region – Cost of living (29%)
• Top Change You Would Most Like – Less traffic congestion (19%)
• Affordable Housing Access – 64% selected Difficult or Very Difficult

The online survey will run until October 31st. To view the current results visit the PSRC website – VISION 2050 Online Survey.

Committee members discussed the results of the online survey and were pleased to see that it is tracking closely to the last scientific study conducted in March 2018. Members expressed concern about not having a complete picture of the socio-economic background of the respondents, particularly when it comes to people of lower incomes and racial diversity. It was noted the importance to make sure that all demographics be appropriately represented, especially as our communities are growing more and more diverse.

For more information, contact Paul Inghram, (206) 464-7549, pingham@psrc.org.

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 am. Next meeting: Thursday November 15, 2018, 9:30 – 12:00 pm
INFORMATION ITEM

November 15, 2018

TO: Regional Staff Committee
FROM: PSRC Staff
SUBJECT: PSRC Board Reports

The Executive Board met October 25, 2018, 10:00 am – 11:00 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 November 1, 2018, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm.
The “At Work Summary” of the meeting is available on the GMPB meeting materials page.

For information on the GMPB, contact Paul Inghram, Program Manager, pinghram@psrc.org, 206-464-7549.

The Transportation Policy Board met November 8, 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, Senior Program Manager, kmcgourty@psrc.org, 206-971-3601.
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MEMORANDUM

November 15, 2018

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management

SUBJECT: VISION 2050 Environment Chapter Update

In Brief

Staff will present potential changes to the Environment Chapter for VISION 2050.

Discussion

The Environment Chapter in VISION 2040 acknowledges the importance of the environment in the region’s quality of life and economy. The chapter provides a solid foundation for the update in VISION 2050. The chapter provides information, goals, multicounty planning policies, and actions for five environmental issues: stewardship, earth and habitat, water quality, air quality, and climate change. VISION 2040’s environment goals, policies and actions are listed in Attachment A.

The November RSC meeting discussion of Environment chapter will seek to:

- Provide additional direction on potential changes to environmental policies and actions

Some environmental issues have evolved substantially since VISION 2040 was adopted in 2008, pointing to the need to update information and provisions to address them. Climate change has become a more urgent issue, and promising mitigation measures and the impacts from climate change to the region are better understood. The health of Puget Sound has also become a more urgent issue, with the death of orcas, the decline of salmon populations, and the ruling requiring removal of fish blockage culverts being regularly featured in the news. Strategies that can help to recover the health of Puget Sound are also better understood, but funding to implement them is limited. In addition, the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan was recently published. It identifies a regional open space network and strategies to protect, restore and improve access to these regionally-important open spaces.

The issues outlined above point to areas where PSRC can update information, policies, and actions to support local, tribal, regional, state, and federal initiatives related to these issues. The overarching environment goal could remain essentially the same, with only minor wording updates such as removing “potential” to the phrase “addressing potential climate change
impacts.” The sections below describe potential updates to the climate change, water quality, earth and habitat, air quality, and stewardship sections in VISION 2040’s Environment Chapter.

Since VISION 2040’s adoption, PSRC has been further exploring and defining its role in environmental planning. The Growth Management Policy Board provides regional policy direction for environmental planning. PSRC’s role in environmental planning has included:

- Collecting and sharing data, information, and innovative practices across the region
- Encouraging the consideration of environmental resources at the regional scale
- Integrating information and discussions to address interdisciplinary challenges and encourage multiple-benefit solutions, including the benefits and impacts of the Regional Growth Strategy
- Developing and assisting in the development of regional-scale environmental planning information and policies

The committee is encouraged to discuss other roles for PSRC in environmental planning.

**Overall Discussion Question:** Are these potential changes to the Environment chapter on the right track? Are there other changes that should be considered?

**Climate Change**

Information on climate change will be updated to include regional greenhouse gas emissions from the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory and regional climate impacts reported by the University of Washington’s Climate Impacts Group. Information on the state and regional regulatory framework will also be updated. VISION contains policies on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and analyzing climate impacts in environmental review, reducing energy use per capita both in buildings and transportation activities, pursuing energy management technologies, expanding conservation and alternative energy sources, reducing vehicle miles travelled, reducing carbon through increasing trees, and addressing climate change impacts on water sources. At the October meeting, Kelly McGourty discussed climate change and PSRC’s four-part greenhouse gas reduction strategy with the committee. To further reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resiliency, the committee made several policy suggestions, such as further supporting electrification of the vehicle fleet, increasing tree canopy, addressing the built environment, and purchasing renewable energy for municipal needs.

**Water Quality**

In the water quality section, information from Puget Sound Partnership on the state of Puget Sound’s health and the Action Agenda will be updated. VISION 2040 contains policies on maintaining natural hydrological functions, restoring the region’s freshwater and marine shorelines, watersheds and estuaries, reducing the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers, and identifying and addressing climate change impacts on hydrological systems. Despite current efforts and the policies above, many Puget Sound species are struggling. Stormwater pollution and changes in the hydrology of runoff patterns are the biggest threats to Puget Sound
water quality and are not currently well integrated into land use and transportation planning. Coordination on stormwater issues across jurisdictions is also needed. To address these water quality issues, a new policy on reducing stormwater pollution through encouraging the integration of stormwater, transportation, and land use planning on the watershed scale can be considered.

Earth and Habitat

Information and mapping from the Regional Open Space Conservation plan will be added to the Earth and Habitat section. VISION 2040 contains policies on identifying, preserving, and enhancing significant open space networks, designating, protecting, and enhancing significant open spaces, natural resources, and critical areas, preserving and enhancing habitat, identifying and protecting wildlife corridors, and preserving and restoring native vegetation. Although progress has been made in conserving open space in the region, many regionally-important open space lands remain unprotected, gaps in access to parks and open space remain, and tree canopy is in decline. The advisory committee for the plan recommended updating VISION’s open space policies to reflect recommendations from the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan, such as increasing equitable access to open space, protecting and restoring lands in the regional open space network, and enhancing tree canopy in the region. “Open Space” could be added to the title of this subsection as most open space issues fall within this section.

Environmental Stewardship

The information on environmental stewardship will be made more concise. VISION 2040 has policies on developing and coordinating on regionwide environmental strategies, using integrated and interdisciplinary approaches for environmental planning, maintaining and improving air and water quality, soils, and natural systems, ensuring a healthy environment for all, minimizing the impacts of development to natural features through careful locating and using innovative and environmentally sensitive development practices, using the best available information, and mitigating noise impacts. The Regional Open Space Conservation Plan identified stewardship as a key strategy to preserve the ecological value of open space lands. Although the public can benefit from stewardship actions on both public and private lands, support for these actions is not adequate. To address this issue, the open space advisory committee recommended a new regional policy on encouraging stewardship on public and private land.

Air Quality

Information on air quality in the region will be updated, as well as Puget Sound Clean Air Agency policies. VISION 2040 contains policies on maintaining or doing better than existing standards, reducing levels for air toxics, fine particulates, and greenhouse gases, and continuing efforts to reduce pollutants from transportation activities. A policy update to emphasize continuing to improve the quality of the region’s air would strengthen these provisions.
Actions

To help implement the regional policies, several new actions are recommended. An action to implement and update the Regional Open Space Conservation Plan has been recommended by the advisory committee for the plan. An action on climate change could focus on leading and participating in regional planning efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase resiliency. This could include providing a forum to share best practices across the region and developing an inventory of hazards from climate impacts. A potential action to address stormwater pollution involves developing watershed planning resources to inform land use, transportation and stormwater planning and projects that improve water quality. An action on protecting and restoring tree canopy, such as developing a regional canopy enhancement plan and funding strategy, would support many regional environmental initiatives. The Regional Staff Committee will be encouraged to discuss county-level and local environmental actions that should be included in the update.

Next Steps
After incorporating input from the Regional Staff committee, staff will discuss the update to the environment chapter with the Growth Management Policy Board at its November 29 meeting.

Lead Staff
Erika Harris, Senior Planner, (206) 464-6360, eharris@psrc.org
Attachment A

The following are goals, policies and actions in the Environment Chapter of VISION 2040.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal: The region will safeguard the natural environment by meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

MPP-En-1: Develop regionwide environmental strategies, coordinating among local jurisdictions and countywide planning groups.

MPP-En-2: Use integrated and interdisciplinary approaches for environmental planning and assessment at regional, countywide and local levels.

MPP-En-3: Maintain and, where possible, improve air and water quality, soils, and natural systems to ensure the health and well-being of people, animals, and plants. Reduce the impacts of transportation on air and water quality, and climate change.

MPP-En-4: Ensure that all residents of the region, regardless of social or economic status, live in a healthy environment, with minimal exposure to pollution.

MPP-En-5: Locate development in a manner that minimizes impacts to natural features. Promote the use of innovative environmentally sensitive development practices, including design, materials, construction, and on-going maintenance.

MPP-En-6: Use the best information available at all levels of planning, especially scientific information, when establishing and implementing environmental standards established by any level of government.

MPP-En-7: Mitigate noise caused by traffic, industries, and other sources.

EARTH AND HABITAT GOALS AND POLICIES

Goal: The region will preserve the beauty and natural ecological processes of the Puget Sound basin through the conservation and enhancement of natural resources and the environment.

MPP-En-8: Identify, preserve, and enhance significant regional open space networks and linkages across jurisdictional boundaries.

MPP-En-9: Designate, protect, and enhance significant open spaces, natural resources, and critical areas through mechanisms, such as the review and comment of countywide planning policies and local plans and provisions.

MPP-En-10: Preserve and enhance habitat to prevent species from inclusion on the Endangered Species List and to accelerate their removal from the list.

MPP-En-11: Identify and protect wildlife corridors both inside and outside the urban growth area.
**MPP-En-12:** Preserve and restore native vegetation to protect habitat, especially where it contributes to the overall ecological function and where invasive species are a significant threat to native ecosystems.

**WATER QUALITY GOALS AND POLICIES**

**Goal:** The region will meet or do better than standards established for water quality. The quality of the water flowing out of the region — including Puget Sound — should be as good as or better than the quality of water entering the region.

**MPP-En-13:** Maintain natural hydrological functions within the region’s ecosystems and watersheds and, where feasible, restore them to a more natural state.

**MPP-En-14:** Restore — where appropriate and possible — the region’s freshwater and marine shorelines, watersheds, and estuaries to a natural condition for ecological function and value.

**MPP-En-15:** Reduce the use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers to the extent feasible and identify alternatives that minimize risks to human health and the environment.

**MPP-En-16:** Identify and address the impacts of climate change on the region’s hydrological systems.

**AIR QUALITY GOAL AND POLICIES**

**Goal:** The overall quality of the region’s air will be better than it is today.

**MPP-En-17:** Maintain or do better than existing standards for carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulates.

**MPP-En-18:** Reduce levels for air toxics, fine particulates, and greenhouse gases.

**MPP-En-19:** Continue efforts to reduce pollutants from transportation activities, including through the use of cleaner fuels and vehicles and increasing alternatives to driving alone, as well as design and land use.

**CLIMATE CHANGE GOAL AND POLICIES**

**Goal:** The region will reduce its overall production of harmful elements that contribute to climate change.

**MPP-En-20:** Address the central Puget Sound region’s contribution to climate change by, at a minimum, committing to comply with state initiatives and directives regarding climate change and the reduction of greenhouse gases. Jurisdictions and agencies should work to include an analysis of climate change impacts when conducting an environmental review process under the State Environmental Policy Act.

**MPP-En-21:** Reduce the rate of energy use per capita, both in building use and in transportation activities.
MPP-En-22: Pursue the development of energy management technology as part of meeting the region’s energy needs.

MPP-En-23: Reduce greenhouse gases by expanding the use of conservation and alternative energy sources and by reducing vehicle miles traveled by increasing alternatives to driving alone.

MPP-En-24: Take positive actions to reduce carbons, such as increasing the number of trees in urban portions of the region.

MPP-En-25: Anticipate and address the impacts of climate change on regional water sources.

REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS

Regional Environmental Planning: En-Action-1
The Puget Sound Regional Council, in particular the Growth Management Policy Board, will determine its ongoing role in regional environmental planning and coordination, including sustainable development and addressing the impacts of climate change.

- Short-term / MPP-En-1, 2
- Results and Products: report and recommendations to Growth Management Policy Board and Executive Board, best practices toolkit or other resources to provide guidance for addressing environmental provisions in VISION 2040

Regional Green Space Strategy: En-Action-2
The Puget Sound Regional Council, its member jurisdictions, open-space agencies, and interest groups shall develop a regional green space strategy. (Address regional trail development in such a strategy.)

- Mid-term / MPP-En-8, 9
- Results and Products: Regional Green Space Strategy

Critical Areas Coordination: En-Action-3
The Puget Sound Regional Council will review and report on efforts between counties and cities to coordinate the designation and protection of critical areas.

- Mid-term / MPP-En-2, 6
- Results and Products: report and recommendations to Growth Management Policy Board and countywide coordination groups

Water Quality: En-Action-4
The Puget Sound Regional Council will determine its role in addressing regional water quality issues.

- Mid-term / MPP-En-13 through 16, MPP-PS-17 through 20
- Results and Products: report and recommendations to Growth Management Policy Board and Executive Board
- See also action for counties and cities (below), as well as action on water quantity in the Public Services section
Estuary Restoration: En-Action-5
The Puget Sound Regional Council will work with its member jurisdictions and other relevant agencies to develop a best practices toolkit for estuary restoration and redevelopment along urban waterways.
- Mid-term / MPP-En 14
- Results and Products: best practices toolkit for local jurisdictions

Air Quality: En-Action-6
The Puget Sound Regional Council and its member jurisdictions will work with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency to identify steps to improve air quality beyond the minimum standards.
- Mid-term / MPP-En-17 through 19
- Results and Products: air quality guide with identified steps

Climate Change Action Plan: En-Action-7
The Puget Sound Regional Council and its member organizations will work with the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency, state agencies, and other environmental professionals to prepare an action plan containing regional and local provisions. The plan should investigate ways to: (a) address climate change in accordance with the Governor’s 2007 Climate Change initiative and state legislation on greenhouse gas emissions reduction (RCW 80.80.020), (b) reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and (c) take specific mitigation steps to address climate change impacts. The plan should also address establishing a regional climate change benchmark program.
- Short-term / MPP-En-20 through 25
- Results and Products: action plan for climate change, climate change benchmark program

COUNTY-LEVEL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS

Critical Areas Coordination: En-Action-8
Counties and cities will coordinate their work to designate and protect critical areas to make identifying and regulating environmentally sensitive areas more consistent.
- Short-term / MPP-En-2, 5, 6
- Results and Products: Revised Countywide Planning Policies and/or other coordinated plans, regional report and recommendations on progress and outcomes

Habitat Assessment: En-Action-9
Counties and cities shall develop common methodologies for assessing the habitat needs of critical and sensitive species.
- Short-term / MPP-En-10 through 12
- Results and Products: common methodology

Water Quality Standards and Targets: En-Action-10
Counties and cities, together with water providers, will develop standards and targets to monitor the region’s waterways.
- Mid-term / MPP-En-14, 15, MPP-PS-17 through 20
- Results and Products: local standards and targets
LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS

Environmental Planning: En-Action-11
Local jurisdictions, with assistance from the Puget Sound Regional Council, will expand their efforts to conduct environmental planning, specifically to incorporate a more comprehensive systems approach to ecological considerations. The Regional Council will:
- Assist with information on system approaches, such as landscape-scale analysis and adaptive management principles
- Provide guidance on how to incorporate regionwide environmental planning initiatives — such as the Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) process — into local comprehensive plans
- Develop a system of map overlays to enhance a systems approach to environmental planning
  • Mid-term / MPP-En-2
  • Results and Products: expanded ecological assessment in the preparation of local plans
DISCUSSION ITEM

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning

SUBJECT: VISION 2050 – Equity Work Program, Tools, and Approaches

In Brief

Staff will brief the committee on the social equity work for VISION 2050.

Discussion

VISION 2040 envisions the region’s growth as benefiting all people by increasing economic development and access to jobs, expanding housing and transportation choices, promoting neighborhood character and vitality, and improving public health and environmental quality.

There are multiple policies in VISION 2040 aimed at encouraging the region’s growth to benefit all residents, but social equity is not called out or defined in the document. Since the adoption of VISION 2040, PSRC, as well as peer organizations and local jurisdictions, have done a lot of work to advance this topic and provide a base for what may be included in VISION 2050.

As part of VISION 2050 scoping, the Growth Management Policy Board identified social equity as an important policy issue for review and incorporation in VISION 2050. Equity and social justice came up numerous times in scoping comments, which included recommendations to define social equity, assess policies to see how they affect residents, and develop strategies to mitigate disparities and reduce displacement.

At the November 15 meeting, PSRC staff will provide an overview of what is included in VISION 2040 and work done pertaining to social equity since its adoption, including the Growing Transit Communities Strategy.

Other identified work items to support VISION 2050 will also be covered, including:

- In spring 2018 PSRC hired consultants MAKERS and Rule Seven to assist in incorporating social equity into VISION 2050 and the agency’s future planning work. Consultant work items include interviewing regional and local organizations actively working on issues of social equity and conducting outreach on proposed equity analysis tools to be incorporated into an Equity Analysis Recommendations Report. PSRC staff will present on preliminary findings.

- PSRC staff will present on updates to the opportunity mapping and the development of a new displacement risk analysis.
Information on an Equity Briefing Paper, the incorporation of equity in the SEIS and an upcoming Equity Analysis, and how equity may be addressed in the VISION 2050 document.

Next Steps
The December 7 Peer Networking Series on social equity will be an extended work session. This work session includes an overview of social equity evaluation tools and small-group breakouts to begin to evaluate social equity in existing regional policy.

The February 7 Growth Management Policy Board meeting will include an extended work session for board members to look at social equity in VISION 2050.

For more information please contact Ben Bakkenta at 206-971-3286 or BBakkenta@psrc.org, Brian Lee at 206-971-3270 or BLee@psrc.org, or Maggie Moore at 206-464-6171 or MMoore@psrc.org.
MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Paul Inghram, Director of Growth Management

SUBJECT: VISION 2050 – Development Patterns Chapter Update: Transit-Oriented Development and Centers

In Brief

PSRC staff will present the first part of potential revisions to the Development Patterns chapter for the committee to review and provide input on policy and actions regarding transit-oriented development (TOD) and centers.

Discussion

The Development Patterns chapter in VISION 2040 describes the character of the development patterns to support the Regional Growth Strategy, livable and healthy communities, and other land use concepts under GMA. The chapter emphasizes an integrated approach to development and traditional and innovative approaches to maintaining a wide variety of healthy, accessible, and well-designed communities. The chapter discusses the growth of regional and subregional centers, building on the concept of creating mixed-use central places and vibrant communities connected by an efficient transportation system.

Development Patterns is the largest chapter in VISION, with 56 policies and 18 actions. Discussion of the chapter will occur through multiple meetings of the Regional Staff Committee and Growth Management Policy Board. The first part will focus on discussion of transit-oriented development and centers. Upcoming discussions with boards and committees will focus on the urban growth area and annexation, health, Regional Growth Strategy implementation, and other provisions within the Development Patterns chapter.

The November RSC meeting discussion of Development Patterns will seek to:

- Provide additional direction on potential changes to TOD and centers policies and actions

Recent Initiatives on Transit Oriented Development and Centers

Since VISION was adopted in 2008, PSRC has completed work that can inform updates to the Development Patterns chapter.
Completed in 2013, the **Growing Transit Communities Strategy** is an implementation plan to promote thriving and equitable transit communities in the central Puget Sound region. As the region continues to build out a regional high-capacity transit network and has committed to billions of dollars in additional investments in the coming decades, this initiative focused on equitable development outcomes in station areas to benefit both existing and future residents. The **GTC Strategy** advances goals of attracting a significant share of the region's growth around high-capacity transit, providing housing choices affordable to a full range of incomes near high-capacity transit, and increasing access to opportunity for existing and future community members in transit communities. The strategies that emerged apply to these and many other transit-served locations in and outside of light rail corridors, including many regional, countywide, and local centers.

Among the GTC Strategy’s recommendations are numerous actions to be taken by state, regional, and local governments, transit agencies, and non-governmental organizations. VISION 2040 supports growth in centers and near transit, but the GTC Strategy places additional emphasis on planning and growth near high capacity transit communities. The strategy includes calls for PSRC to explore potential next steps that include formal designation of transit communities, recognizing the role of transit-oriented development in the Regional Growth Strategy, promoting transit-supportive densities, and making targeted transportation investments that support growth and equity in transit communities.

In 2018, PSRC’s Executive Board adopted the **Regional Centers Framework Update**. The framework reassessed the system in place today and identified opportunities to recognize other places that are serving important roles in the region. The Regional Centers Framework outlines a revised structure and criteria for regional and countywide centers and direction to update policies and procedures to update the regional centers framework. There are many avenues to implement the Regional Centers Framework Update, including updated procedures and guidance, updating countywide planning policies, and regular monitoring. Executive Board action on the framework called for incorporating appropriate provisions in VISION 2050.

In the context of VISION, the framework identifies different types of regional growth centers and manufacturing/industrial centers, with different growth expectations for each. Major military installations are also proposed to be included as a regional geography in the Regional Growth Strategy.

**Proposed Changes for Discussion**

The following excerpts from the Regional Growth Strategy objectives can inform proposed changes to the Development Patterns chapter:

- Within cities, create and support centers to serve as concentrations of jobs, housing, services, and other activities
- Build transit-oriented development around planned infrastructure
- Use existing infrastructure and new investments efficiently

**Overall Discussion Question:** Are these potential changes on the right track to address the region’s goals for TOD and centers? Are there other changes that should be considered?
Development Patterns Chapter Overall

- **Reorganize Chapter**
  The current Development Patterns chapter is divided into two subsections: (1) Land Use and (2) Elements of Orderly Development and Design. Staff propose reorganizing the chapter and combining these sections to acknowledge the importance of design features of urban development before defining the different land uses. Reorganizing the chapter could improve the flow and help streamline text throughout the chapter.

Growing Transit Communities

- **Incorporate new policies to address Growing Transit Communities**
  Staff propose including additional MPPs that reflect the region’s objective to leverage transit infrastructure investments by planning for growth in transit station areas. Transit station areas have been defined through the Regional Growth Strategy update as the walkshed around high capacity transit stations, such as light rail, bus rapid transit, ferries, and commuter rail stations. Depending on future development of the preferred alternative for the Regional Growth Strategy, the board may consider incorporating a regional goal for the amount of overall population and employment growth in transit station areas. The board could also consider policies to encourage jurisdictions with significant transit investments to direct a significant share of growth to those areas. MPPs related to equitable development around current and future transit station areas may also be considered.

- **Transit-Supportive Densities and Land Uses**
  The Growing Transit Communities Strategy calls for adopting land use plans and zoning regulations that accommodate and promote transit supportive uses and densities. Based on previous board and committee discussion, the plan could include policies encouraging or requiring densities to support transit near high capacity stations, policies to encourage middle density housing, or policies to promote use of inclusionary or incentive zoning when considering upzones near high capacity transit stations.

- **Update Terminology to Promote Transit Station Areas and TOD**
  VISION 2040 includes discussion of “station areas along major transit routes,” “other centers,” and “subregional centers” as secondary hubs that serve important roles. The goal for subregional centers, plan text, and DP-11–DP 13 should be updated to reflect more current terminology for countywide centers and transit station areas.

- **Update Action to Address Monitoring Implementation and Goals for GTC**
  An existing action calls for PSRC to study, track, and evaluate growth and development occurring in the region to assess progress in meeting the goals and objectives of the regional vision. Consistent with the GTC strategy, staff recommend incorporating regular monitoring of growth goals in transit station areas and implementation of the Growing Transit Communities Strategy.

- **Incorporate an Action to Promote Planning for Transit Station Areas**
  The Growing Transit Communities Strategy encourages subarea planning for transit station areas. VISION could include a local action to adopt station area plans and/or
policies for high capacity transit communities which are expected to attract significant new population and employment growth.

Regional Centers

- **Update Text and Mapping to Address Regional Centers**
  Update text and mapping in the Development Patterns chapter to reflect the different types of regional growth centers and manufacturing/industrial centers defined in the Regional Centers Framework, goals for each, and references to designation criteria for these centers.

TOD and Centers in Other Sections of VISION 2050

- **Supplemental Guidance for the Regional Growth Strategy**
  Through development of the Regional Growth Strategy alternatives, the RSC and GMPB have discussed that the strategy does not provide specific growth assumptions for each set of local circumstances. However, the revised Regional Growth Strategy could include additional guidance on other issues raised regarding the development of growth targets and implementation of the strategy. While the guidance is likely to accompany the Regional Growth Strategy section of the plan, TOD and centers are likely to feature prominently in that guidance.

Potential TOD and centers topics for additional Regional Growth Strategy guidance:
  - The role of manufacturing/industrial centers in establishing employment targets
  - Expectations for cities with more than one regionally-designated center
  - Communities with different levels of transit investments
  - Other factors

Input from the committee on key issues to address for centers and transit station areas would be helpful as staff draft supplemental guidance for discussion.

Next Steps

Staff will brief the Growth Management Policy Board on transit-oriented development and centers at their November 29 meeting and continue to brief the committee as work moves forward.

The committee will continue to discuss Development Patterns at future meetings and will be briefed on potential annexation and urban growth area policy issues for the Development Patterns chapter at their December meeting.

Lead Staff

Maggie Moore, (206) 464-6171 or MMoore@psrc.org
Liz Underwood-Bultmann, (206) 464-6174 or LUnderwood-Bultmann@psrc.org
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](http://www.psrc.org). Meetings are subject to change or cancellation based on the agenda. The August meeting is not regularly scheduled.
INFORMATION ITEM

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Ben Bakkenta, AICP, Director of Regional Planning

SUBJECT: RSC Co-Chairs October 18 Work Session Summary and Future Meeting Topics

In Brief

This memo summarizes the October 18 Regional Staff Committee Co-Chairs Work Session and previews future Work Session topics.

RSC Co-Chairs Work Session Meeting Summary

1. VISION 2050 Housing
   - Housing Chapter Update. The group was briefed on the housing discussions to date, language revisions in the VISION 2050 housing chapter, potential changes to addressing long-term housing supply and promoting affordable housing in all communities across the region.
   - Peer Networking Event. The group was briefed on the upcoming December 7 Peer Networking event which will focus on social equity. The session is going to take a “deep dive” into how regional policies and actions can ensure that all people can attain the resources and opportunities that improve their quality of life. This session will include an overview of social equity evaluation tools, including a new regional analysis of neighborhoods that may face higher risk of displacement due to redevelopment and other factors.

2. Regional Growth Strategy
   - Regional Geographies and Growth Scenarios. The Working Group provided additional input for refining regional geographies and Regional Growth Strategy scenarios. Working Group members expressed general support for the proposed staff recommendation that Transit Focused Growth, the new hybrid scenario, and Stay the Course be selected for environmental review. The working group also discussed how to present materials to the board.

November 15 RSC Co-Chairs Work Session Agenda

The Co-Chairs group will meet on November 15 to preview and provide comment on material to be discussed at the December 20 RSC meeting. The meeting topics will include:

1. Development Patterns: Centers and Transit Oriented Development
2. Next steps with other VISION 2050 chapters and topics

Please contact either Ben Bakkenta, (206) 971-3286 or bbakkenta@psrc.org, Paul Inghram, (206) 464-7549 or pinghram@psrc.org, or Liz Underwood-Bultmann, (206) 464-6174 or lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org with any questions.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 27, 2018

Contact:

Anne Avery
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aavery@psrc.org

Space industry supports 6,200 jobs and contributes $1.8 billion to Washington’s economy

SEATTLE – Washington state is well positioned to compete in a growing commercial space industry, according to a new study led by the Puget Sound Regional Council.

From rocket development and launch services to satellite and space vehicle manufacturing, Washington is an increasingly important hub for a growing commercial space sector.

“This study shows that the space industry today supports thousands of good paying jobs throughout our region and state and has the potential for significant growth in the future,” said Terry Ryan, Snohomish County Councilmember and Economic Development Board President.

“The central Puget Sound region is already a worldwide leader in aerospace and information technology, and we plan on being a world leader in the space industry as well,” Ryan said.

According to the Washington State Space Economy report, several companies in the region directly employ about 2,900 people in the space industry.

Blue Origin employs an estimated 1,100 people, with SpaceX, Aerojet Rocketdyne, Spaceflight Industries, Planetary Resources, and Boeing also supplying direct industry jobs.

Another 1,100 jobs are indirectly created through the local supply chain and another 2,200 jobs are induced through the spending of the industry and its employees.
The space industry has a strong economic impact throughout the central Puget Sound region and Washington state.

Business activities tied to direct, indirect and induced impacts of the space industry will contribute an estimated $1.8 billion in economic activity to Washington communities in 2018.

The estimated 6,200 jobs in the state supported by the space industry will provide an estimated $610 million in payroll. In addition, the space sector contributes about $62 million annually in state and local tax revenues.

The study highlights trends in the overall sector that will help this global industry grow an estimated seven times its current size by 2045, to $2.7 trillion. These trends include lower costs to build and launch satellites and rockets, leading to an increase in the range of applications that can utilize space.

Washington has strengths that have helped establish the state in the industry, including long-term investments in space and aerospace supply chains, a large, skilled labor pool, support from universities and strong representation of private firms.

The analysis identifies areas for future work to grow the industry. On the list: supporting space related startups through expanded access to venture capital, business incubators, and other services; expanding the state’s robust aerospace supply chain to meet the needs of the burgeoning space industry, growing the local talent pipeline for the high skill jobs in demand for the industry; and targeting tax credits for space craft and satellite manufacturing.

The *Washington State Space Economy* report was developed to help industry leaders, elected officials, policy makers, and local economic development professionals strengthen and support the commercial space sector.

PSRC’s Economic Development Board initiated the study of the region’s space sector as a priority action for the regional economic strategy, *Amazing Place*.

Analysis was performed by BERK consulting, and was supported by contributions from Blue Origin, City of Kent, Suquamish Tribe, City of Redmond, Snohomish County, City of Federal Way, City of Everett, Port of Bremerton, and City of Seattle.

Download a copy of the *Washington State Space Economy* report.

###

Regional Staff Committee-November 15, 2018
A study by the Puget Sound Regional Council analyzes the space economy in Washington state, identifying the region’s competitive strengths and the actions needed to help grow the space sector.

**Economic Impact**

The space economy of Washington state is largely concentrated in the Puget Sound region. However, small and large companies are based elsewhere, such as Vancouver and Spokane.

**Washington State’s Competitive Position**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STRENGTHS</th>
<th>WEAKNESSES</th>
<th>OPPORTUNITIES</th>
<th>CHALLENGES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term investment</td>
<td>Restrictions on available labor</td>
<td>Growing industry</td>
<td>Few opportunities for lower-skilled workers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Historic local supply chains</td>
<td>Limited state tax incentives</td>
<td>High value add activities</td>
<td>National and international competition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong representation of private firms</td>
<td>Strong competition from other sectors for labor</td>
<td>High quality of life in state</td>
<td>Vertical integration creates supply chain issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support from universities</td>
<td>No launch facilities in the state</td>
<td>Collaboration with tech firms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Large, skilled labor pool</td>
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<td>Space sector supports economic diversity</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Actions Needed to Support the Local Space Economy**

- Assist with venture capital for smaller space companies
- Support space-related startups with business incubators and other services
- Expand supplier relationships between companies within the region
- Grow local talent to fill workforce including boosting number of students in STEM programs
- Support state tax credits for space craft and satellite manufacturing

Read the report: [Washington State Space Economy](www.psrc.org/space-study)
National Competition

In addition to Washington state, the space economy is expanding across the US. Eight other regions each with their own characteristics, compete with Washington for space sector jobs.

Growing Commercialization of Space

The space economy has typically been the domain of governments. However, technological and policy advancements have opened the door to increased commercialization.

- Lower production costs
- Fewer barriers to entry
- Greater range of applications
- Increasing private investment
- Exploration and colonization

Modern Space Economy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOWER–TIER SUPPLIERS</th>
<th>UPPER–TIER SUPPLIERS</th>
<th>SPACE LAUNCH SERVICE PROVIDERS</th>
<th>SPACE–RELATED GOODS AND SERVICES</th>
<th>SPACE–SUPPORTED BUSINESSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Provide key raw materials, parts and services used for space-related applications.</td>
<td>Create the major components for spacecraft launch vehicles and satellites.</td>
<td>Provide for the launch of spacecraft and satellites, and their ongoing management and operation.</td>
<td>Provided directly by firms via operating spacecraft, satellites, and other space-based equipment.</td>
<td>Incorporate the output of satellites and spacecrafts into a range of goods and services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Power systems</td>
<td>- Launch vehicle engine manufacturing</td>
<td>- Launch facilities</td>
<td>- Global Positioning Systems (GPS)</td>
<td>- Satellite TV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Communication systems</td>
<td>- Structural assemblies</td>
<td>- Private launch services</td>
<td>- Satellite telecommunications</td>
<td>- Weather forecasting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Structural components</td>
<td>- Spacecraft manufacturing</td>
<td>- Spacecraft and satellite mission management</td>
<td>- Earth observation</td>
<td>- Vehicle fleet management</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Machined parts</td>
<td>- Satellite manufacturing</td>
<td></td>
<td>- Space exploration and colonization</td>
<td>- Space-supported research</td>
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<td>- Support services</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>- Asteroid mining</td>
<td>- Defense applications</td>
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Read the report: Washington State Space Economy • [www.psrc.org/space-study](http://www.psrc.org/space-study) • Sept 2018

Regional Staff Committee-November 15, 2018