



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee | Remote Only

Date: Thursday, July 15, 2021 from 9:30-11:30 am

1. Welcome and Introductions (9:30) – *Chip Vincent, City of Renton, Co-Chair*

2. Reports (9:35)

- a. Meeting Summary for June 17, 2021*
- b. PSRC Announcements and Updates

3. Discussion Item (9:45)

- a. Administrative Procedures for Regional Centers* – *Andrea Harris-Long, PSRC*

4. Discussion Item (10:15)

- a. Regional Electric Vehicle Collaboration* – *Kelly McGourty, PSRC; Sara Nichols, Puget Sound Clean Air Agency; Michael Breish, Washington State Department of Commerce*

5. Discussion Item (11:00)

- a. Regional Growth Trends* – *Craig Helmann, PSRC*

6. Next meeting: September 16, 2021

7. Adjourn (11:15)

*Supporting materials attached.

Zoom Remote Connection Details

- To join via a smart device or web browser, go to <https://psrc-org.zoom.us/j/93176657243?pwd=QnY1T0tRZWxHM3FjZkdSSDZsRUhadz09> and enter Meeting ID: 931 7665 7243 and Passcode: 909963.
- To join via phone, call 833-548-0282 and enter Meeting ID: 931 7665 7243 and Passcode: 909963.
- Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice by calling (206) 464-7090 or TTY Relay 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-center/language-assistance>.



Puget Sound Regional Council

Regional Staff Committee Meeting Summary

Date: June 17, 2021

Location: Remote Only

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

Chip Vincent, Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Participants were asked to view the meeting attendance on the “chat” feature on Zoom, and phone-in participants were asked to identify themselves verbally.

Reports

Co-Chair Chip Vincent welcomed the committee members and explained that PSRC staff would provide short updates on upcoming policy and Executive Board meetings and review the status of ongoing projects in the work program.

Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning at PSRC, informed the committee that PSRC will be hosting a webinar on June 30th to go into more depth regarding the Plan Review Manual, and encouraged members to register. He also updated the committee on PSRC’s plan for virtual to in-person meetings, with board meetings scheduled to resume in a hybrid format in the fall. Ben informed the committee that both the Regional Transit Oriented Committee and the Equity Advisory Committee are seeking members, with applications linked on the PSRC website. He concluded the staff report by honoring both Shane Hope and Barb Mock, longtime Regional Staff Committee members, as they begin their retirement from the City of Edmonds and King County, respectively.

Discussion: Growth Communication Resources

Liz Underwood-Bultmann and Maggie Moore shared with the Committee that staff are developing a resource to assist local jurisdictions in connecting comprehensive plan work to VISION 2050 while outlining benefits of growth. They asked the Committee for feedback on the approach and common concerns heard in their jurisdictions on growth.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Maggie Moore, Associate Planner, at 206-464-6171 or mmoore@psrc.org or Liz Underwood-Bultmann, at 206-464-6174 or lunderwoodbultmann@psrc.org.

Discussion: Planning for Stormwater Parks

Erika Harris, Senior Planner, briefed the Committee on the Stormwater Parks project, including technical assistance that will be provided for the planning of up to four new stormwater parks. The Committee was encouraged to share information about the upcoming funding opportunity to plan for new stormwater parts with other staff.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Erika Harris, Senior Planner, at eharris@psrc.org.

Discussion: Regional Housing Strategy

Laura Benjamin, Senior Planner, as part of the development of the Regional Housing Strategy and in advance of public review later this summer, presented the draft list of strategies for committee feedback. Feedback was also sought on high level approaches to implement the strategy.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, contact Laura Benjamin, Senior Planner, at lbenjamin@psrc.org.

Discussion: Regional Transportation Plan

Gil Cerise, Program Manager, provided an update on the development of the Regional Transportation Plan, including a briefing on discussions by the Transportation Policy Board on key policy focus areas.

You can view the presentation [here](#).

For more information, Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or Gil Cerise, Program Manager, gcerise@psrc.org.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Members and Alternates Represented at the Table

See attached attendance roster.

PSRC Staff and Other Guests Present

Mikayla Svob, PSRC
Ivy Langston
Liz Underwood-Bultmann, PSRC
Gil Cerise, PSRC
Laura Benjamin, PSRC
Maggie Moore, PSRC
Brad Gaolach, WSU Metro Center
Erika Harris, PSRC
Brian Parry, Sound Cities Association
Rebecca McCrary
Charles Patton, PSRC
Tsukuru Kunii Anderson, PSRC
Paul Inghram, PSRC
Nancy Buonanno Grennan, PSRC
Andrea Harris-Long, PSRC
Josh Brown, PSRC
Lexie Abrahamian, PSRC
Melissa Taylor, PSRC
Grant Gibson, PSRC
Miller
Doug McIntyre
Jennifer Barnes, PSRC
Kelly McGourty, PSRC
Craig Helmann, PSRC
Anne Avery, PSRC
Kathryn Johnson, PSRC
Andi Markley, PSRC

PSRC Regional Staff Committee - Attendance Roster

Jurisdiction	Member	Jurisdiction	Member
King County	2 Karen Wolf, County Executive Office	R	Federal, Regional, State, Tribal & Other Agencies
	Sunaree Marshall, County DCHS		FHWA
	Ivan Miller, County Executive Office Alt		1 Matthew Kunic, Community Planner
	Kelly Rider, County DCHS Alt		Vacant Alt
At-Large	2 Arun Sambataro, Equity & Social Justice	R	FTA
	Michael Kattermann, Bothell	R	Health
	Rebecca Maskin, Demographer Alt		1 Linda Gehrke, Regional Administrator
	Vacant Alt		Ned Conroy, Community Planner Alt
Transit	1 Peter Heffernan, King Co Metro Intergov Relations	R	Ports
	Chris Arkills, King Co Metro Gov. Relations Alt		1 Keri Moore, Snohomish Health Dist.
Economic Dev.	1 Ashton Allison, King Co Exec Office, Econ Dev		Amy Pow, Tacoma/Pierce Health Alt 1
	Hugo Garcia, King County Exec Office, Econ Dev		Marianne Seifert, Tacoma/Pierce Alt 2
Seattle	2 Michael Hubner, Long Range Planning	R	Lindsay Wolpa, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs
	Jonathan Lewis, SDOT	R	Deirdre Wilson, Northwest Seaport Alliance Alt
	Patrice Carroll, Planning & Comm Dev Alt		1 Craig Kenworthy, Executive Director
	Joanna Valencia, SDOT Alt	R	Kathy Strange Alt
Bellevue	1 Nicholas Matz, AICP, Senior Planner		Puget Sound
	Joyce Nichols, Intergovernment Relations, Alt		1 Stephanie Suter, Planning Program Director
Cities/Towns	3 Chip Vincent, Renton, Planning, Co-Chair	R	Partnership
	Diana Hart, City of Woodinville	R	Vacant Alt
	Brian Davis, City of Federal Way		1 Matt Shelden, Planning & Innovation
	Vacant Alt		Alex Krieg, Planning & Integration Alt
	Minnie Dhaliwal, City of Tukwila, Alt		1 Vacant
	Bob Sterbank, City of Snoqualmie, Alt		Representatives
Kitsap County	1 Eric Baker, Policy		1 Vacant Alt
	Jeff Rimack, Alt		1 Susan Sturges
At-Large	1 Karla Boughton, Planning & Econ, Poulsbo		Vacant Alt
	Heather Wright, Bainbridge Island, Alt	R	US EPA
Transit	1 Edward Coviello, Kitsap Transit	R	1 Susan Sturges
	Vacant Alt		Vacant Alt
Economic Dev.	1 Vacant		US HUD
	Vacant Alt		1 Jack Peters
Bremerton	1 Andrea Spencer, Comm Dev, Co-Chair	R	Vacant Alt
	Allison Satter, Planning Manager, Alt		1 Steve Roberge
Cities/Towns	1 Nick Bond, Comm Dev., Port Orchard	R	Commerce
	Heather Wright, Bainbridge Island, Alt		1 Dave Andersen
Pierce County	1 Dan Cardwell, Long Range Planning		1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT
	Vacant Alt		Theresa Turpin, Olympic Region
At-Large	2 Jesse Hamashima, Transportation, Co-Chair	R	PSRC Committees
	Tiffany Speir, Lakewood, Planning		PSRC Co-Chair
	Ryan Windish, City of Sumner, Alt		1 Ben Bakkenta, Director of Regional Planning
	Jason Sullivan, Bonney Lake, Plan. & Build., Alt		1 Thomas Noyes, WSDOT
Transit	1 Lindsey Sehmel, Pierce Transit		Eric Goodman, Community Transit Alt
	Darin Stavish, Pierce Transit, Alt	R	1 Geri Poor, Port of Seattle, Gov. Affairs
	Duane Wakan, Pierce Transit, Alt		Christine Wolf, Northwest Seaport All. Alt
Economic Dev	1 Rob Allen, Economic Development		1 Doug McCormick, RPEC Chair
	Vacant Alt		Russ Blount, Fife, RPEC Vice Chair Alt
Tacoma	1 Peter Huffman, Planning & Dev Svcs		1 Vacant
	Vacant		Vacant Alt
Cities/Towns	1 Katie Baker, Puyallup	R	1 Vacant
	David Swindale, University Place, Plan & Dev Alt		Vacant Alt
Snohomish County	1 Mike McCrary, Deputy Director	R	TDM
	David Killingstad, Planning & Development		1 Vacant
At-Large	2 Kelly Snyder, Director	R	RTOC
	Ken Klein, Executive Director		1 Vacant
	Jay Larson, Transportation Specialist, Alt	R	Vacant Alt
	Joshua Dugan, Chief of Staff, Alt		R = Remote attendance
Transit	1 Roland Behee, Director of Planning		
	Sabina Araya, Manager of System Planning		
Economic Dev	1 Kendee Yamaguchi, County Exec Office		
	Vacant Alt		
Everett	1 Yorik Stevens-Wajda, Planning Director	R	
	Becky Ableman McCrary, Long Range Planning Mgr		
Cities/Towns	1 Shane Hope, Edmonds, Development, Co-Chair	R	
	Patricia Love, Stanwood, Comm Dev. Director, Alt.		
Total Members	47	Attended	30



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

July 15, 2021

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Andrea Harris-Long, Senior Planner, PSRC

SUBJECT: **Administrative Procedures for Regional Centers**

IN BRIEF

VISION 2050 calls for the continued implementation of the [Regional Centers Framework](#) (March 2018), which directs PSRC to develop administrative procedures for regional centers. Staff will update the committee on this work and ask for feedback on draft procedures.

DISCUSSION

Centers are the hallmark of VISION 2050 and the Regional Growth Strategy. They guide regional growth allocations, advance local planning, inform transit service planning, and represent priority areas for PSRC's federal transportation funding.

In 1995, PSRC established a regional centers framework to manage growth in urban areas. The first regional centers were designated at that time, and over the years, regional and local policies have focused investments and growth into these central places. Today, there are 29 regional growth centers and 10 regional manufacturing/industrial centers.

In March 2018, the Executive Board adopted an updated Regional Centers Framework that made significant changes to regional centers. The Framework calls for the development of administrative procedures for existing centers. Procedures are needed to implement the Framework and ensure regional consistency in centers planning and monitoring. The first regional centers were designated in 1995 and several have been designated since then. Inconsistent designation procedures and changes to the regional framework over time resulted in an uneven playing field and different expectations for new versus existing centers. The Regional Centers Framework Update establishes criteria and planning expectations that apply to all regional centers.

The administrative procedures are intended to clarify expectations for new and existing centers and address common questions on boundary changes, name changes, designation status, and other administrative topics. The procedures also reiterate

expectations on redesignation outlined in the Regional Centers Framework. Staff briefed the Regional Staff Committee on proposed topics in July 2020 and has been working to develop draft procedures.

Attachment A provides an overview of proposed administrative procedures. Staff will seek feedback from the committee on the proposed procedures.

Next Steps

PSRC is seeking feedback on the draft administrative procedures for regional centers through August 6, 2021. Staff will review comments and make any necessary changes before reviewing the procedures with the Growth Management Policy Board in September. The board will be asked to adopt the procedures in the fall.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Andrea Harris-Long at aharris-long@psrc.org, or Liz Underwood-Bultmann at lunderwood-bultmann@psrc.org.

Attachment:

A – Draft PSRC Administrative Procedures for Regional Centers

ATTACHMENT A
Draft PSRC Administrative Procedures for Regional Centers

OVERVIEW

[VISION 2050](#) and the [Regional Centers Framework](#) (2018) provide a framework for designating and evaluating Regional Growth Centers and Manufacturing/Industrial Centers. The Framework calls for PSRC to develop administrative procedures for centers monitoring.

BACKGROUND ON REGIONAL CENTERS MONITORING

PSRC conducts centers monitoring to assess each center's performance in accommodating growth consistent with the Regional Growth Strategy, describe physical characteristics, assess potential for accommodating future growth, and review for consistency with Framework criteria. PSRC works with jurisdictions to share data, review and certify subarea plans, and update center characteristics.

PURPOSE OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

These administrative procedures work to clarify processes and questions from jurisdictions and support PSRC boards in consistently monitoring regional centers. The procedures ensure both ongoing maintenance and periodic monitoring of centers is consistent across all regional centers.

Note: Countywide and local centers are monitored at the local level. These procedures only apply to regional centers.

PART 1. CHANGING CENTER CHARACTERISTICS

Local planning efforts can result in changing center characteristics. This section details how PSRC and jurisdictions work together to ensure regional centers maintain consistency with the Regional Centers Framework as additional planning work, such as updating subarea plans or comprehensive plans, is done.

- A. Name Changes.** If a jurisdiction decides to change the name of a regional center, they should provide a letter to PSRC staff denoting the name change based on an adopted plan or council resolution. The jurisdiction should also notify the countywide planning group of the name change.
- B. Center Boundary Changes.** Center boundaries should follow parcel boundaries and splitting parcels should be avoided. Boundaries should not appear gerrymandered or irregular, and centers should be contiguous areas. Inclusion of non-contiguous parcels is discouraged. Center boundaries may be refined as subarea planning occurs, but boundary changes can have implications for the overall configuration and make-up of the center.
 - 1. **Minor boundary changes** include one or more of the following that increases the center boundary by less than 10%:
 - a. Adjustments that better follow geographic features or topography. These may include fixing mapping errors from previous plans.
 - b. Adjustments that result from changes to rights-of-way or property line adjustments.
 - c. Adjustments based on updated subarea planning and development opportunities.

Minor boundary changes are processed administratively by providing PSRC staff with an updated GIS shapefile and explanation of changes.

- 2. **Major boundary changes** include one or more of the following:
 - a. An increase or decrease of the center size by more than 10%.

ATTACHMENT A
Draft PSRC Administrative Procedures for Regional Centers

- b. Those resulting in inconsistency with center criteria, including size requirements, mix of uses, etc.
- c. Gerrymandered or irregular changes that result in less compact, walkable centers or noncontiguous centers.

Jurisdictions should submit a written request and updated shapefile. Major boundary changes require review and approval by the Growth Management Policy Board. Jurisdictions will work with PSRC staff to prepare a report detailing the requested boundary change. Jurisdictions should notify countywide planning groups of requests for major boundary changes prior to Growth Management Policy Board review.

- C. Center Typology Reclassification.** Changes to a center’s typology (RGC-Urban, RGC-Metro, MIC-Industrial Growth, and MIC-Industrial Employment) may occur following a PSRC monitoring period or during a regional plan (VISION) update. If a jurisdiction requests a change to typology outside of these windows, they must work with PSRC staff to request an amendment to the regional plan.
- D. Voluntary Removal of Designation.** If a jurisdiction no longer wishes to have a regionally designated center, the following coordination is required:
 - 1. The jurisdiction must notify the countywide planning group of their intent to de-designate a center. The countywide planning group may require an amendment to the countywide planning policies.
 - 2. The jurisdiction’s council must adopt and submit to PSRC a resolution or formal letter requesting that the PSRC take action to remove regional designation.
 - 3. PSRC staff will work with the jurisdiction to prepare a staff report for PSRC board consideration. The action would require a VISION plan amendment.

PART 2. DESIGNATION MAINTENANCE & MONITORING

PSRC works with jurisdictions to conduct periodic performance monitoring periods for regional centers. Centers monitoring reports are presented to PSRC boards for consideration and the following procedures outline potential actions that may result.

- A. Center Redesignation.** After monitoring occurs, all regional centers who meet each of the criterion outlined in the Regional Centers Framework are automatically redesignated.
- B. Typology Reclassification.** If a center is classified as RGC-Metro or MIC-Industrial Employment and are not meeting the criteria for these center types, the center could be reclassified as RGC-Urban or MIC-Industrial Growth. If a center is classified as RGC-Urban or MIC-Industrial Growth and meets the criteria for increased growth, the center could be reclassified as RGC-Metro or MIC-Industrial Employment.
- C. Removal of Designation.** If a center is not meeting the majority of Framework criteria at the time of centers monitoring, PSRC staff may recommend that PSRC boards remove the regional center designation or consider probationary status until planning requirements are met. Note: The Regional Centers Framework states that in 2025, existing centers will remain designated if they do not meet the new center existing density criteria, provided that the jurisdiction completes a market study and the center is consistent with other criteria identified in the Framework.

ATTACHMENT A
Draft PSRC Administrative Procedures for Regional Centers

- D. Subarea Plan Certification.** If a center does not have a certified subarea plan by 2025, PSRC boards may consider removing regional center designation or probationary status until planning requirements are met.

DRAFT



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

July 15, 2021

TO: Regional Staff Committee

FROM: Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, PSRC

SUBJECT: Regional Electric Vehicle Collaboration

IN BRIEF

At their July meeting, the Regional Staff Committee will hear a briefing on the joint efforts of PSRC and the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency on a Regional Electric Vehicle forum. Information will also be provided on recently passed legislation related to electric vehicles.

DISCUSSION

Transitioning the region's vehicle fleet to cleaner, alternative fuels has been a key element of PSRC's four-part greenhouse gas strategy since it was first adopted in 2010. VISION 2050 also calls for a transition to electric vehicles, with a specific action identified for PSRC to collaborate with partner agencies to support this transition.

Sara Nichols from the Puget Sound Clean Air Agency will join the meeting to provide an overview of the joint effort with PSRC on development of a Regional Electric Vehicle forum, which has been ongoing for the past several years. In addition, Michael Breish from the Washington State Department of Commerce will join to provide an overview of recent legislation related to electric vehicles.

Lead Staff

For more information, contact Kelly McGourty, Director of Transportation Planning, at kmcgourty@psrc.org or 206-971-3601.



Puget Sound Regional Council

DISCUSSION ITEM

July 15, 2020

TO: Regional Staff Committee
FROM: Craig Helmann, Director of Data, PSRC
SUBJECT: **Regional Growth Trends**

IN BRIEF

At the July 15 Regional Staff Committee meeting, PSRC staff will provide a background presentation on the latest Trends in the Puget Sound region.

DISCUSSION

As part of the long-range performance-based planning process, PSRC is involved in an ongoing effort to track a variety of regional demographic and transportation trends across the region. This presentation will look at several trends that highlight how our region is changing. Some of the data includes changes in jobs and unemployment within the region along with changes in vehicle and transit usage.

Following the presentation, PSRC staff will take questions and comments from committee members.

Lead Staff

For more information, please contact Craig Helmann, Director of Data, at chelmann@psrc.org.