Outreach and Early Comment Themes
Regional Staff Committee • February 17, 2022
Current Outreach Efforts

- Online Open House
- Community Focus Groups
- Employer/Business Interviews
- Virtual Public Meetings
Online Open House

• Opportunity to submit comment
  • January 13 through February 28, 2022
  • [https://engage.psrc.org/welcome-rtp](https://engage.psrc.org/welcome-rtp)
    ➢ Short videos available

• Public Webinars
  • Wednesday, February 2, 8-9 am
  • Tuesday, February 8, 12-1 pm
  • Wednesday, February 9, 5:30-6:30 pm
Welcome to the Regional Transportation Plan Open House

PSRC is seeking public comment on the draft Regional Transportation Plan through February 28, 2022.

Learn more about the draft plan from this online open house. It is organized around key elements of the plan, including: climate, equity, transit, walking and biking, the Coordinated Mobility Plan, system performance, freight, safety, the financial strategy, the plans' visualization tool, maintenance and preservation, and demand management. Each topic includes a short video with highlights of the plan and the opportunity to comment. View all the topics. Download the draft plan from the column on the right.

We will also be hosting three webinars with a live presentation and time for questions. Check back here for the Zoom links:

- Watch the video from February 2
- Tuesday, February 8, 12-1 pm
- Wednesday, February 9, 5:30-6:30 pm

What is the Regional Transportation Plan?

The Regional Transportation Plan is updated every four years to describe how the four-county central Puget Sound region plans for and improves the transportation system into the future, while addressing existing needs and expected growth.

Building from the polices and goals in VISION 2050, the plan outlines investments the region is making in transit, rail, ferry, streets and highways, freight, bicycle and pedestrian and other systems to ensure the safe and efficient movement of people and goods. It lays the region on the path to:

- reduce greenhouse gas emissions and meet regional climate goals
- help create a healthier, safer, more equitable system with access to an expanded transit network

View the draft plan documents

- Draft plan by chapter
- Full Draft Regional Transportation Plan
- Appendices

How to comment

- Use the comment form
Virtual Public Meetings

Participants
• 65
• All four counties and beyond

Transportation Priorities
• Reliable, well-connected transit
• Complete bike-ped networks
• Reliable, well-maintained roads

Comment/Question Themes
• Active participants, great questions
• Clarifying plan content

Videos Posted on Online Open House
Early Comments

Comment on the draft Regional Transportation Plan

Your comment will be shared with PSRC’s decisionmakers and become a part of the public record. You can type your comment directly into the comment form and/or use the file upload option to submit a word document or PDF letter.

1. Share your comments on the draft plan

answer

2. Upload your comments as a word or PDF document

Choose file

3. What is your zip code *

answer

This is to help us understand the geographic representation of the comments received.

Comments by Letter

• Usually, majority of comments
• End of comment period

Online Comment Form

• 44 comments (through 2/14)
• Largely anonymous
• Mix of positive and negative
“Everything about this is awesome. Emphasizing the role of public transit --- local, intra-, and inter-regional rail especially --- is vital. And de-emphasizing new road projects, unless they bring a benefit to intermodal or transit concerns, is another huge part of addressing our climate problems. Make it happen!”

- Anonymous
Early Comments – Themes

• Several **project specific** comments (both for and against)
• Support for more **bicycle and pedestrian** infrastructure; transit connections
• **Accelerate** light rail and **transit implementation**
• **Opposition to** more transit investment
• **Safety.** Recognize **disparities** for people of color, people with lower incomes
• Support for **passenger-only ferries** and **water taxies**; reach and frequency
• **Support for/opposition to** highway and roadway investments (generally)
• Support for **user fees/Road Usage Charges**; **revenues**
Community Focus Groups

December

- 5 virtual focus groups, each county and younger adults (30 participants)
- BIPOC, lower income
- Participants compensated for their time

Purpose

- Understand more about the needs of community members
- Increase representation
Community Focus Groups

Reports at [https://www.psrc.org/our-work/rtp](https://www.psrc.org/our-work/rtp)

Themes

- Reducing commute times
- Reducing reliance on single occupant vehicles
- Connecting pedestrian pathways; quality/maintenance
- Creating safer conditions
- Human infrastructure
- Region-wide coordination (transit)
Major Employers and Business Interests
February 2022

- Connect with current networks
- Builds off Regional Economic Strategy work

Purpose

- Understand the priorities, concerns and opportunities of employers, business owners, industry groups
January 13 – February 28, 2022

Online Open House

• Information about the draft plan, comment portal

Presentations to interested groups & PSRC committees
Regional Transportation Plan Next Steps

February 2022

• Review of early comments, additional outreach

March 2022

• Review of all comments received – categorization, themes (full report shortly after meeting)
• Discussion of potential plan revisions

April 2022

• Discussion of potential plan revisions
• Recommendation of plan adoption to Executive Board
Review of Comments

• Comments will be coded into categories
  • For example: climate, transit, safety, freight, projects, general, etc.

• Themes from comments in majority categories will be provided
  • I.e., deeper dive into the categories / topics that received the most comments

• Information will be provided on commenter location
Review of Comments

Comments will also be grouped into three types

- **General** – no plan changes necessary
- **Technical Corrections** – minor changes, corrections, clarifications; no policy implications
- **Board Review** - potential plan or work program implications; board direction sought

Full report will be provided and posted on PSRC’s website
Schedule

• Board review of comments **March and April**
• Discussion of proposed revisions –
  • From public comments through February 28
  • *Any additional board proposals please send by March 4\(^{th}\) for review at meeting on March 10*
• Recommendation in April

*Questions about Board process?*