

Regional Transportation Plan—2018

Tacoma Pierce-County Health Department Staff Comment

Chapter 1: Towards a Sustainable Transportation System

- Improve and Promote Health (P.22): Recommend extending the scope beyond air quality, physical activity and personal safety. More than 50% of our health outcomes are affected by social determinants of health, including the built environment (places) we live, work and play. Besides supporting the current draft paragraphs, focus also on providing **affordable and reliable public transit** to help low-income populations access work opportunities that could provide living wage incomes to support healthy lifestyles.

Chapter 4: Performance Measures:

- Support using an equity lens in measuring all aspects of transportation outcomes. Continue to ask these equity-related questions and embed them into performance management practices: Who (and whose health) is being affected? Were underserved groups fully identified in the process? What population groups were overlooked? What further actions are required to address these groups? Where were investments made? Were capital investments focused in areas showing higher health disparities?

Chapter 5—Plan Implementation:

- In order to manage transportation performance to achieve Region’s Growth Strategy, identify triggers to inform changes in investment strategies to bring the RGS on track. Should growth targets be phased in to correspond to transportation concurrency?
- P.89—PSRC’s Approval Process: Consider adding a [Health Lens Analysis Tool](#) to address health equity from a triple-bottom line approach.

Appendix B—Equity Analysis Report

- Recommend tracking those metrics in P. 35 over time by places/neighborhoods to guide future investment decisions.
- Track also the combined “transportation and housing burden index” by income levels.