What is the Puget Sound Regional Council?
The Puget Sound Regional Council works with local governments, businesses, and citizens to build a common vision for the region’s future, expressed through three connected major activities: VISION 2040, the region’s growth strategy; Transportation 2040, the region’s comprehensive long-range transportation plan; and Prosperity Partnership, which develops and advances the region’s economic strategy.

How can I find out more?
VISION 2040 and all associated reports, documents, and maps are accessible on the PSRC website at psrc.org, or contact the Information Center at 206-464-7532 or info@psrc.org.

VISION 2040
The central Puget Sound region is a wonderful metropolitan area in which to live, work, and play. It is internationally known as a clean, healthy, safe, and diverse place with a vibrant economy and a temperate climate. However, we are expecting an additional 1.5 million people to move to our region in the next few decades. Unless we make smart decisions about how to accommodate this additional population, our enviable quality of life could be compromised. VISION 2040 was developed and adopted by elected leaders from Kitsap, King, Pierce, and Snohomish counties to help maintain and enhance this great place.
VISION 2040 is the central Puget Sound region’s official plan for protecting our people, our prosperity, and our planet. It represents regional agreement on how to meet the needs of a growing population while ensuring that resources and a healthy environment remain for future generations.

VISION 2040 was developed by many people working together to create a shared strategy for growth management, the environment, economic prosperity, and transportation. This shared strategy will help us wisely accommodate the 5 million people and over 3 million jobs that are forecast to be in our region in the year 2040. It establishes a common vision for the future.

What is VISION 2040 trying to accomplish?
VISION 2040 will help contain the outward spread of the region’s urban area. This has many benefits, including: allowing us to reduce the cost of transporting people and goods in our region, decreasing the amount of pavement and other impervious surfaces, reducing pollutants and toxins that move through the food chain and affect plants and animals and reducing airborne pollutants that harm human health and contribute to climate change.

How will we know if we are achieving VISION 2040?
VISION 2040 contains a monitoring program that measures progress and reports results to the public and local decision-makers.

Who is implementing VISION 2040?
We need the combined efforts of individuals, governments, organizations and the private sector to realize this VISION. However, government actions play a key role. VISION 2040 recognizes that local, state, and federal governments are all challenged to keep up with the needs of a growing and changing population. VISION 2040 contains policy guidance, concrete actions, and measurable objectives to assist the region’s cities, towns, businesses and organizations in taking steps towards making the VISION a reality.

Who developed VISION 2040?
VISION 2040 came about through an inclusive and three year process. Participants included the region’s elected officials, public agencies, interest groups, and many individuals. The Puget Sound Regional Council adopted VISION 2040 in April 2008.

Why is VISION 2040 Needed?
Elected officials in our region face a major challenge in determining how to accommodate new residents while retaining the quality of life we enjoy today. Upcoming growth and development decisions should not be made in a vacuum, jurisdiction by jurisdiction, but require a regional framework for coordination. By providing this framework, VISION 2040 helps us accomplish common objectives that transcend jurisdictional borders.

How does VISION 2040 fit in with other planning activities in the region?
VISION 2040 is part of a planning and implementation system that includes roles for the state, the region, the counties, and individual cities. This planning system is governed by the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA). GMA established 13 broad goals to guide development. VISION 2040 provides the regional policy framework required by GMA to meet these goals at the regional, county, and local levels.

How will VISION 2040 do this?
VISION 2040 provides policy guidance and practical steps to help all jurisdictions in King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties work together. It includes policies and specific actions for improving our region’s housing, employment, transportation, infrastructure and environment to accommodate some 1½ million more residents in the next three decades.

Focusing development in cities
Conserving rural areas and natural resource lands