

# ANNUAL REPORT



Puget Sound Regional Council  
JUNE 2020



## Message from the President and Executive Director

Our region has experienced immense challenges over the last few months. Central Puget Sound had some of the first known cases of COVID-19 and our hearts go out to those who have lost loved ones. State and local leaders have led the way in fighting the virus, leveraging the knowledge and expertise of public health and research institutions. In recent days, shocking instances of brutality across the nation have given rise to protests. Thousands of people throughout the region have taken to the streets to call for action to address long-standing racial injustices and inequality.

COVID-19 has hit the region hard, causing substantial job losses. No one can predict how the pandemic will affect the region's economy in the long term, but early data shows that it is having severe impacts on our member jurisdictions, small and large businesses of all kinds, and individuals, especially people of color and those who are most economically vulnerable.

PSRC continues to support our members with planning resources, transportation funding and regional data, and provides a place for leaders to work together on solving the challenges ahead of us. One recent example is PSRC's work to distribute \$538 million in federal CARES Act funding to the region's transit agencies to address COVID-19 impacts. This unanimous action taken at an emergency meeting of the Executive Board in April helped ensure the agencies received the funds as quickly as possible.

Like other organizations and businesses, PSRC has had to adjust to new ways of keeping our day-to-day business going. Technology is allowing us to keep working remotely and we are all getting better at using these tools. It's too early to tell if this abrupt shift to teleworking for many businesses is temporary or will become more commonplace. PSRC will continue to track data on telecommuting, jobs, travel patterns and other trends that inform regional and local planning.

Our focus during this challenging time is on supporting efforts to protect public health while fulfilling our mission to ensure a strong and vibrant region now and into the future. This annual report describes major milestones over the past year and steps we are taking to help the region respond and recover.

**Executive Bruce Dammeier, PSRC President**

**Josh Brown, Executive Director**



**CARES Act Apportionment by UZA**

UZA	APPORTIONMENT
Bremerton (KITSAP TRANSIT)	\$11,716,276
Marysville (COMMUNITY TRANSIT)	\$6,126,677
* Seattle–Tacoma–Everett (MULTIPLE TRANSIT AGENCIES)	\$520,621,224
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$538,464,177</b>

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION FUNDING**

\* CARES Act Apportionment by Agency  
Seattle–Tacoma–Everett UZA

AGENCY	CARES TOTAL
Community Transit	\$33,045,123
Everett Transit	\$3,010,410
Intercity Transit	\$6,850,789
King County	\$243,712,053
Kitsap Transit	\$1,736,118
Pierce County Ferry	\$2,660,518
Pierce Transit	\$20,679,602
City of Seattle	\$2,294,002
Skagit Transit	\$1,112,870
Sound Transit	\$166,282,134
Washington State Ferries	\$39,237,605

**\$538 million in CARES Act funding for region’s transit agencies**

The region’s transit agencies are experiencing severe financial impacts due to COVID-19, with abrupt drops in ridership and farebox revenue, along with increased costs for cleaning vehicles and facilities. PSRC worked to quickly distribute federal funding to transit agencies for operating expenses. The funding was included in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) approved by Congress and signed by the President in March 2020.

**Regional funding competition moves ahead**

PSRC’s process to select projects to receive over \$540 million in federal transportation funding available to the region in 2023 and 2024 is underway. This competitive, merit-based process is based on the policy framework established by the Executive Board, and supports the region’s transportation, economic development and growth planning.

Project evaluation criteria include:

- Support for housing, employment and the development plans of a center
- Health and equity
- Improved accessibility, circulation, mobility and provision of a range of modes
- Active transportation
- Safety and security
- Emissions reduction
- Project readiness and financial feasibility

The process distributes funds via regional competitions, earned share distributions for transit agencies, as well as through processes established within each of the four counties. Final approval of these funds by PSRC’s Executive Board is anticipated by October 2020.



## \$5 million for Rural Town Centers and Corridors

In 2019, PSRC provided \$5 million through the Rural Town Centers and Corridors Program to seven projects. The program directs Federal Highway Administration funds to projects supporting smaller towns and cities in rural areas of the region.

- Poulsbo Complete Streets Plan, \$215,000. A study of pedestrian, parking, transit and streetscape improvements
- Kitsap County SR 104 Realignment, \$1,400,000. An effort to realign ferry traffic in Kingston by adding lanes on NE 1st Street and removing lanes on Main Street
- Skykomish US 2 Street Roundabout Design, \$259,500. This project will design a three-legged roundabout at the intersection of 5th Street and US 2 and include pedestrian facilities
- Stanwood Viking Way Phase 2, \$432,500. This project will provide design and right of way to extend Viking Way 200 feet to 92nd Avenue NW including sidewalks
- Carnation Tolt Ave CBD Improvements, \$450,000. This project constructs transportation improvements in Carnation's downtown including paving, widened sidewalks, lighting and landscaping
- Eatonville SR 161/Washington Ave N. Corridor Streetscape Phase 2, \$2,145,200. Improvements include new sidewalks with ADA compliant curb ramps, lighting, stormwater drainage, landscaping, and a rapid rectangular flashing beacon system at the intersection of SR 161 and Carter Street E
- Roy Yelm Prairie Line Trail, \$45,000. A planning study to examine alignments of a shared use path from downtown Roy to the Nisqually River to connect Roy to Yelm



POULSBO



KITSAP COUNTY



SKYKOMISH



STANWOOD



CARNATION



EATONVILLE



ROY YELM PRAIRIE LINE TRAIL



#BLM



YOUTH COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT

## PLANNING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE IN THE CENTRAL PUGET SOUND REGION

*“VISION 2050 reflects the region’s cities, counties, tribes, agencies, and others coming together to address our most urgent issues, serving as a guidepost for how we will work together to tackle challenges and make the region an even better place to live in the years to come.”*

• • • • Ryan Mello, Immediate Past Chair, Growth Management Policy Board Chair



### VISION 2050 will guide the region’s future growth

By 2050 the central Puget Sound region’s population will grow to nearly 6 million. VISION 2050 is the region’s plan for growing in ways that will keep the people, economy and environment of the central Puget Sound region healthy and thriving.

Over the past two years, PSRC has worked with local governments, businesses, organizations, and individuals to create this long-term vision for a vibrant and prosperous region. The plan emphasizes how the region will address shared regional challenges like housing affordability, climate change, social equity, and mobility.

### Planning for 2050 with tomorrow’s leaders

To get more youth involved in regional planning, PSRC staff met with middle school and high school students to learn more about how they envision the future of their communities.

Youth committees from the cities of Arlington, Bellevue, Edmonds, Issaquah, Mukilteo and Tacoma invited PSRC to participate in their meetings. More than 100 students shared their thoughts on the current state of their city and how they would like it to grow. Local elected officials also participated in some of the discussions.

## VISION 2050 Milestones

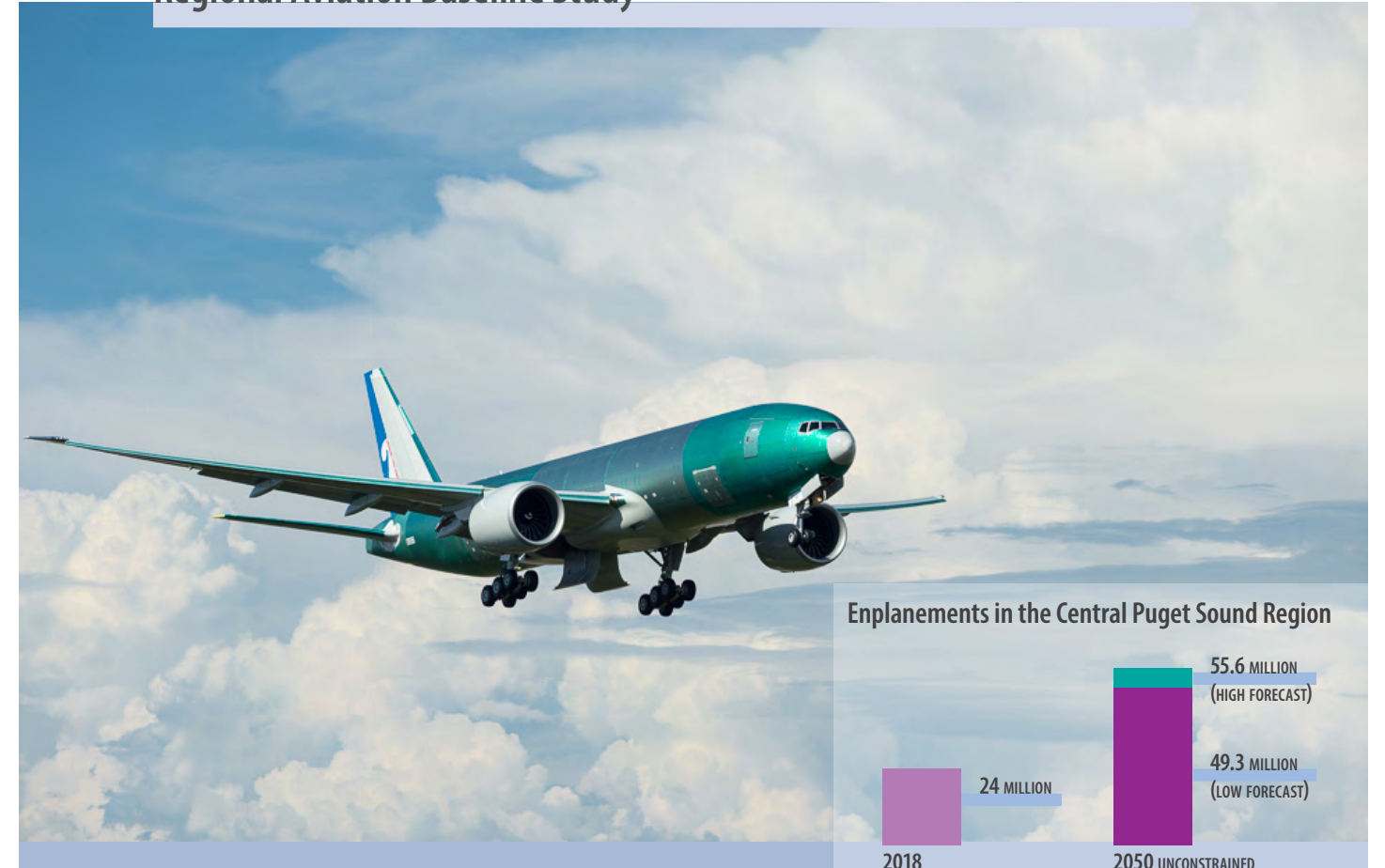
- FEBRUARY 2019** ■ ■ VISION 2050 Draft Supplemental Environment Impact Statement released
- SPRING 2019** ■ ■ Engagement with area youth councils
- JULY 2019** ■ ■ Draft VISION 2050 plan released for public comment
- AUGUST 2019** ■ ■ Online and in-person open houses, workshops, and tabling events around the region
- DECEMBER 2019** ■ ■ Growth Management Policy Board unanimously recommends adoption of final draft VISION 2050 plan to Executive Board
- MARCH 2020** ■ ■ VISION 2050 Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement released
- FUTURE STEPS** ■ ■ Review and recommendation by Executive Board and adoption by General Assembly

## Focus on regional housing needs

Housing affordability and access continue to be major challenges in central Puget Sound communities. For many households, housing costs are a greater burden today than a decade ago. In 2019, PSRC surveyed local jurisdictions to learn how they use incentives and tools to promote housing development and affordability. The findings highlight strengths and gaps and will help to inform future work on housing policy in the region.



## Regional Aviation Baseline Study



Aviation plays a critical role for people and businesses in the growing central Puget Sound region. Continued, coordinated planning is essential for ensuring that the regional airport system can support existing and future demand.

Regional demand for enplanements (passengers boarding for departure) is expected to grow from 24.0 million in 2018 to between 49.3 million and 55.6 million by 2050. This reflects an increase of between 105% to 132%.

PSRC is leading a baseline study to provide a clear picture of the aviation activities and needs in the region and get ready for future planning efforts. The study is organized in three major phases, ending with a final report summarizing key study findings.

- ■ **TECHNICAL ANALYSIS (WINTER-FALL 2019)** ■ ■  
Compile data about existing conditions, aviation activity, and regional forecasts. Analyze regional airspace and feasibility of airports in the region to accommodate demand.
- ■ **SCENARIO EVALUATION (WINTER-SUMMER 2020)** ■ ■  
Identify and evaluate future scenarios. Summary of community perspectives. Identify next steps.
- ■ **PROJECT COMPLETION (SUMMER-WINTER 2020)** ■ ■  
Publish final report.
- ■ **PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT (THROUGHOUT)** ■ ■  
Engage with stakeholders to support the analysis.

## Regional Passenger-Only Ferry Study

Ferries play an essential role in the regional transportation system and economy, connecting people to jobs, services and recreation.

The Washington State Legislature has directed PSRC to conduct a Puget Sound Passenger-Only Ferry Study involving the counties bordering Puget Sound and on Lake Washington and Lake Union.

The ferry study launched in early 2020 and will review potential routes and terminals, ridership demand, costs and use of alternative fuels, and suggest recommendations to accelerate the electrification of the ferry fleet. A final report is due to the Legislature in 2021.

## Looking ahead to the Regional Transportation Plan update

PSRC develops a long-range regional transportation plan every four years as required by federal and state laws. The current plan was adopted in 2018 and the next one is scheduled for adoption in 2022.

The plan will continue to address critical needs to maintain the regional transportation system and improve mobility as the region grows. The plan will identify new opportunities and challenges expected in the region over the next several decades, including potential investments in rail, aviation and passenger-only ferries.



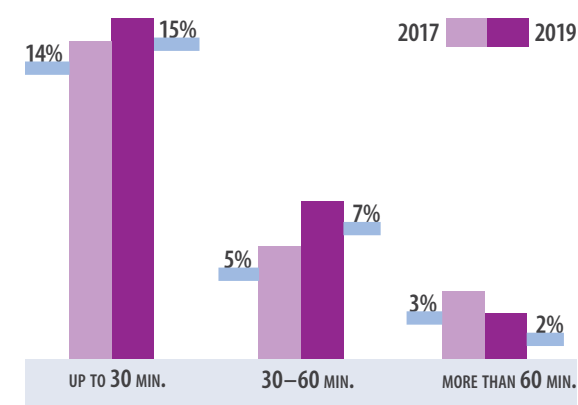
## DATA FOR REGIONAL PLANNING

PSRC serves as a center for regional data and forecasts on population, housing, land use, transportation and the economy.

### Providing technical support

PSRC provides data products and technical support to PSRC member jurisdictions to support local planning and data needs.

People that shopped online on an average weekday  
[WHETHER OR NOT A PURCHASE WAS MADE]



### Household Travel Survey: Collecting regional travel data

The Household Travel Survey program collects travel and household information from thousands of participating households in the central Puget Sound region. PSRC conducted the latest wave of the survey in spring 2019. These frequent surveys of real people in the region allow PSRC to collect real-world data that is used to inform planning decisions and feed into computer models.

### Forecasting future land use and travel conditions



PSRC maintains economic, transportation and land forecasting models that are key to the agency's planning efforts, supporting analysis of land use and travel conditions. The models help predict how many people and jobs the region can expect decades from now and how traffic patterns may change, providing the foundation for long-range plans.

# WORKING TOGETHER



*“We accomplish things by working with people who see things differently than we do.”*

– King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci, PSRC Vice President

*“We have some things in common and we have some things that are very different. We’ve got to do the hard work of finding those good solutions that will benefit the broader region.”*

– Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier, PSRC President

The region comes together at PSRC to make decisions about transportation, growth management and economic development.

## Regional Workshop for Newly Elected Officials

PSRC hosted a workshop in January 2020 for newly elected councilmembers, mayors and commissioners from around central Puget Sound. The new officials had a chance to hear about recent growth trends and an overview of the role PSRC plays in regional planning.

The new elected officials offered their perspectives on important regional issues – noting that traffic congestion, making transit accessible for more people, and ensuring communities have enough

affordable housing are all issues that need to be addressed regionally.



The workshop also included perspectives from veteran elected leadership: King County Councilmember Claudia Balducci, Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier, Poulsbo Mayor Becky Erickson, Kent Mayor Dana Ralph, and Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers.

## TOOLBOX Peer Networking Series

PSRC hosts quarterly work sessions with information on best practices for planning. Recent TOOLBOX topics included:

- Transit Access
- Partnerships to Tackle Big Problems
- Parking and Housing Affordability
- Bringing the Region Together – BRT Event

*“We’ve got some real challenges. If we have a good dialogue throughout the region, we share the information on what’s happening and how we need to address it, working together we have a good future in front of us.”*

– Snohomish County Executive Dave Somers, PSRC Immediate Past President

## PSRC joins the Government Alliance for Racial Equity

A team of PSRC employees representing all departments in the agency participated in a year-long training provided by the Government Alliance for Racial Equity (GARE). The central Puget Sound region was well represented in this training cohort. Other participating jurisdictions included Bellevue, Issaquah, Kent, King County, Lakewood, Lynnwood, Port of Seattle, Seattle, Shoreline and Tacoma.

At GARE training events and monthly meetings, the teams learned information about the effects of racism in government policies, along with best practices, tools and techniques that organizations can use to make their actions and policies more equitable and improve outcomes for people of color.

Moving forward, PSRC will explore offering equity training for all staff, review hiring and recruitment practices, and work to ensure that regional plans and funding processes help to advance racial equity in the region.

## Celebrating the VISION 2040 Award Winners



In 2019, PSRC honored innovative projects and programs that help ensure a sustainable future as the region grows.

### COMMUNITY TRANSIT'S SWIFT GREEN LINE

The new 12-mile green route connects Paine Field and Boeing's Everett Factory via Mill Creek on SR 527 to Canyon Park in Bothell with frequent service.

### JUDKINS PARK STATION ACCESS STUDY

The study worked with a stakeholder group established by the Lighthouse for the Blind to participate in neighborhood walks with deaf and deafblind employees to provide data on how to better serve these needs in accessing the station.

### KENMORE DOWNTOWN CREATION PROJECT

Kenmore purchased nearly 10 acres of downtown property and worked to create a village consistent with the city's visioning process and comprehensive planning.

### SUMNER-PACIFIC MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIAL CENTER SUBAREA PLAN

Sumner and Pacific worked together to develop a subarea plan that dedicates over 2,100 acres to manufacturing and industrial land uses within easy access of the ports of Seattle and Tacoma and supports the continued growth of industrial and manufacturing jobs in the area.

### 30BELLEVUE

30Bellevue provides 63 green and affordable apartments ranging from studio to 3-bedrooms, more than half of which will directly serve formerly homeless households.

## ABOUT THE PUGET SOUND REGIONAL COUNCIL

PSRC is the regional planning organization for the central Puget Sound region. Our members include King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Kitsap counties and cities and towns, tribal governments, ports, and state and local transportation agencies within the region.

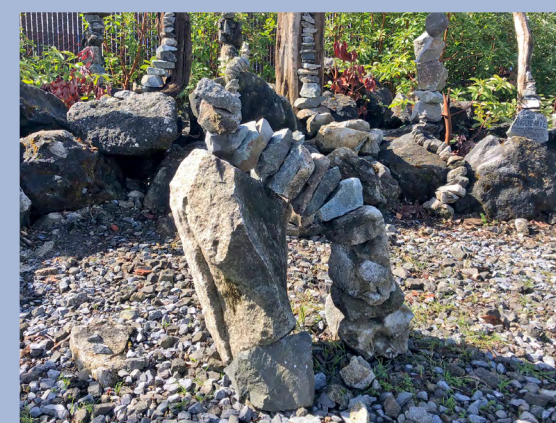
### Major activities:

- Developing long-range regional plans for transportation, growth management and economic development
- Distributing more than \$260 million annually to priority transportation projects in the region and maintaining the four-year Regional Transportation Improvement Program
- Providing regional data and forecasts on transportation, land use, population and the economy

## Budget and Funding Sources

The Puget Sound Regional Council operates under a two-year budget and work program funded by a combination of federal and state grants, dues paid by members, and other local sources. The agency's proposed 2021-2022 budget is \$33 million. It supports PSRC's core regional planning, funding and data activities and essential services to PSRC members.

## PSRC membership is growing



### Welcome to new members of PSRC:

Carnation, Roy and Wilkeson recently joined as new members. The Tulalip Tribes moved from associate membership to full membership, and the Cascade Water Alliance joined as an associate member.





# Puget Sound Regional Council

## MEMBERSHIP

COUNTIES — King County ■ Kitsap County ■ Pierce County ■ Snohomish County

CITIES & TRIBES — Algona ■ Arlington ■ Auburn ■ Bainbridge Island ■ Beaux Arts Village ■ Bellevue ■ Black Diamond ■ Bonney Lake ■ Bothell ■ Bremerton ■ Buckley ■ Burien ■ Carnation ■ Clyde Hill ■ Covington ■ Darrington ■ Des Moines ■ DuPont ■ Duvall ■ Eatonville ■ Edgewood ■ Edmonds ■ Enumclaw ■ Everett ■ Federal Way ■ Fife ■ Fircrest ■ Gig Harbor ■ Granite Falls ■ Hunts Point ■ Issaquah ■ Kenmore ■ Kent ■ Kirkland ■ Lake Forest Park ■ Lake Stevens ■ Lakewood ■ Lynnwood ■ Maple Valley ■ Marysville ■ Medina ■ Mercer Island ■ Mill Creek ■ Milton ■ Monroe ■ Mountlake Terrace ■ Muckleshoot Indian Tribe ■ Mukilteo ■ Newcastle ■ Normandy Park ■ North Bend ■ Orting ■ Pacific ■ Port Orchard ■ Poulsbo ■ Puyallup ■ Puyallup Tribe of Indians ■ Redmond ■ Renton ■ Roy ■ Ruston ■ Sammamish ■ SeaTac ■ Seattle ■ Shoreline ■ Skykomish ■ Snohomish ■ Snoqualmie ■ Stanwood ■ Steilacoom ■ Sultan ■ Sumner ■ Tacoma ■ The Suquamish Tribe ■ Tukwila ■ Tulalip Tribes ■ University Place ■ Wilkeson ■ Woodinville ■ Woodway ■ Yarrow Point ■

STATUTORY MEMBERS — Port of Bremerton ■ Port of Everett ■ Port of Seattle ■ Port of Tacoma ■ Washington State Department of Transportation ■ Washington Transportation Commission ■

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS — Alderwood Water & Wastewater District ■ Cascade Water Alliance ■ Port of Edmonds ■ Island County ■ Puget Sound Partnership ■ Snoqualmie Tribe ■ Thurston Regional Planning Council ■ University of Washington ■ Washington State University ■

TRANSIT AGENCIES — Community Transit ■ Everett Transit ■ Kitsap Transit ■ Metro (King County) ■ Pierce Transit ■ Sound Transit

Funding for this document provided in part by member jurisdictions, grants from U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, Federal Highway Administration and Washington State Department of Transportation. PSRC fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see <https://www.psrc.org/title-vi> or call 206-587-4819.

### Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Information:

Individuals requiring reasonable accommodations may request written materials in alternate formats, sign language interpreters, physical accessibility accommodations, or other reasonable accommodations by contacting the ADA Coordinator, Thu Le, at 206-464-6175, with two weeks' advance notice. Persons who are deaf or hard of hearing may contact the ADA Coordinator, Thu Le, through TTY Relay 711.

Additional copies of this document may be obtained by contacting:

Puget Sound Regional Council

Information Center

1011 Western Ave., Suite 500

Seattle, WA 98104-1035

■ 206-464-7532 ■

■ [info@psrc.org](mailto:info@psrc.org) ■ [psrc.org](http://psrc.org) ■