

# Growing Transit Communities Partnership

*The Central Puget Sound Region's  
Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant*

*March 22, 2013*

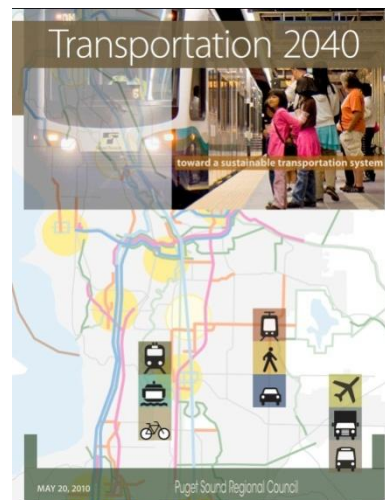
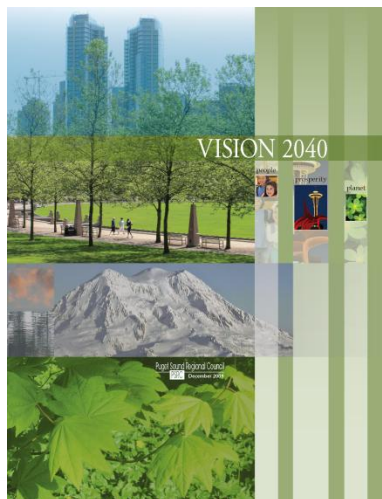
# Central Puget Sound Region

- 3.8 million population
- 4 counties
- 82 cities & towns
- Urban & rural





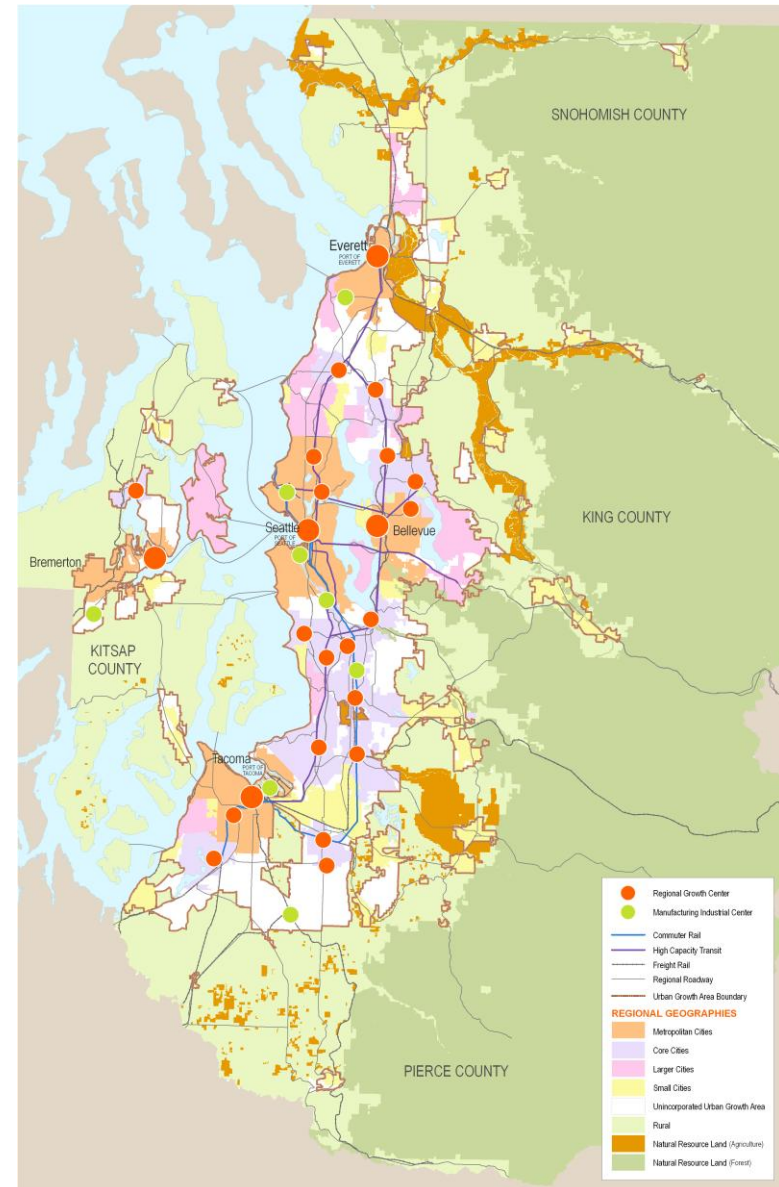
# Integrated Plan for Sustainable Development



# Regional Plan for Sustainable Development

## VISION 2040

- Growth Management Act (1990)
- Urban Growth Area
- Centers strategy
- Fast, frequent public transportation
- Minimize incompatible rural, resource area development



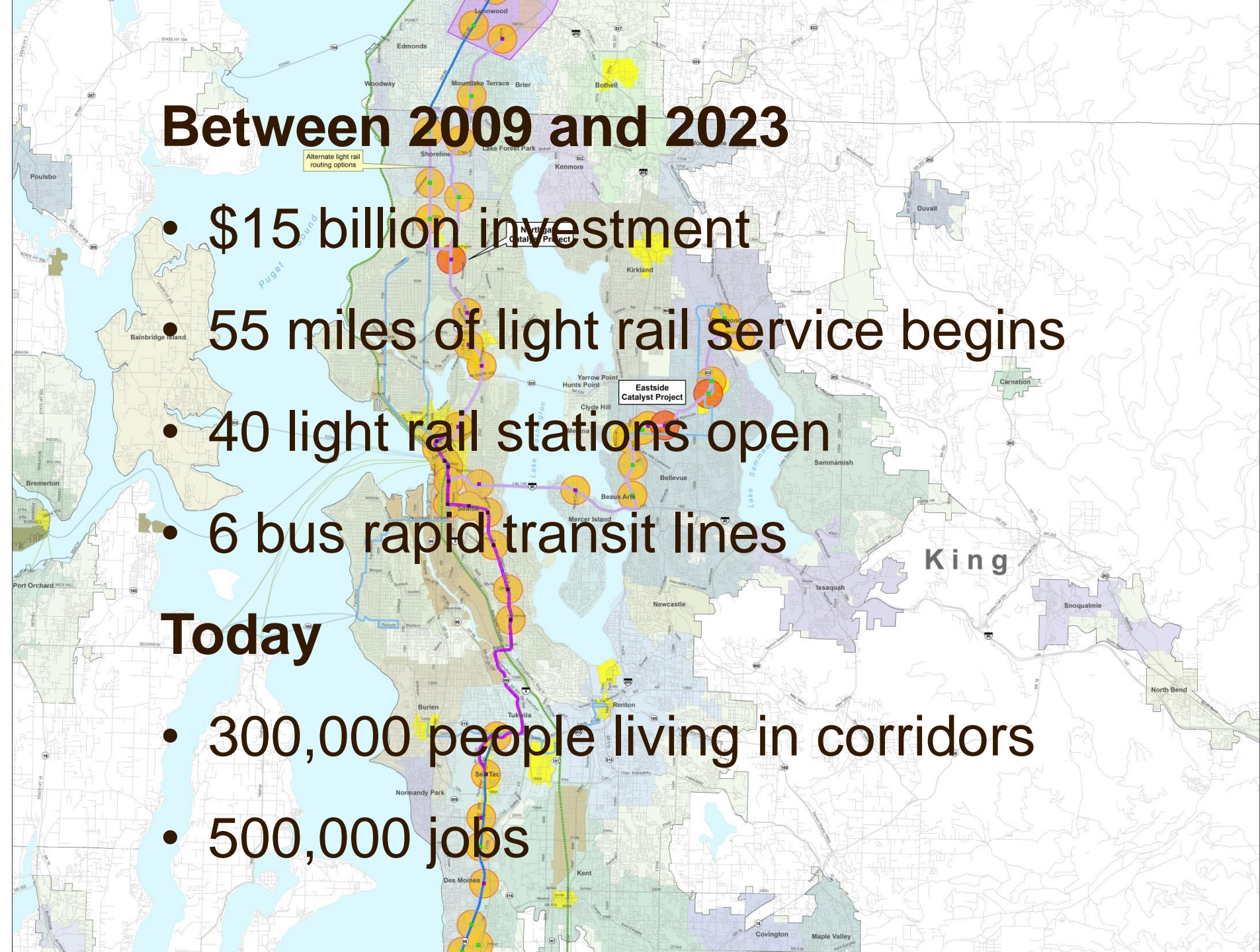


# Between 2009 and 2023

- \$15 billion investment
- 55 miles of light rail service begins
- 40 light rail stations open
- 6 bus rapid transit lines

# Today

- 300,000 people living in corridors
- 500,000 jobs





# Implementing the Region's Plans

## Corridor Action Strategies

- Growth near transit
- Housing affordability
- Access to opportunity

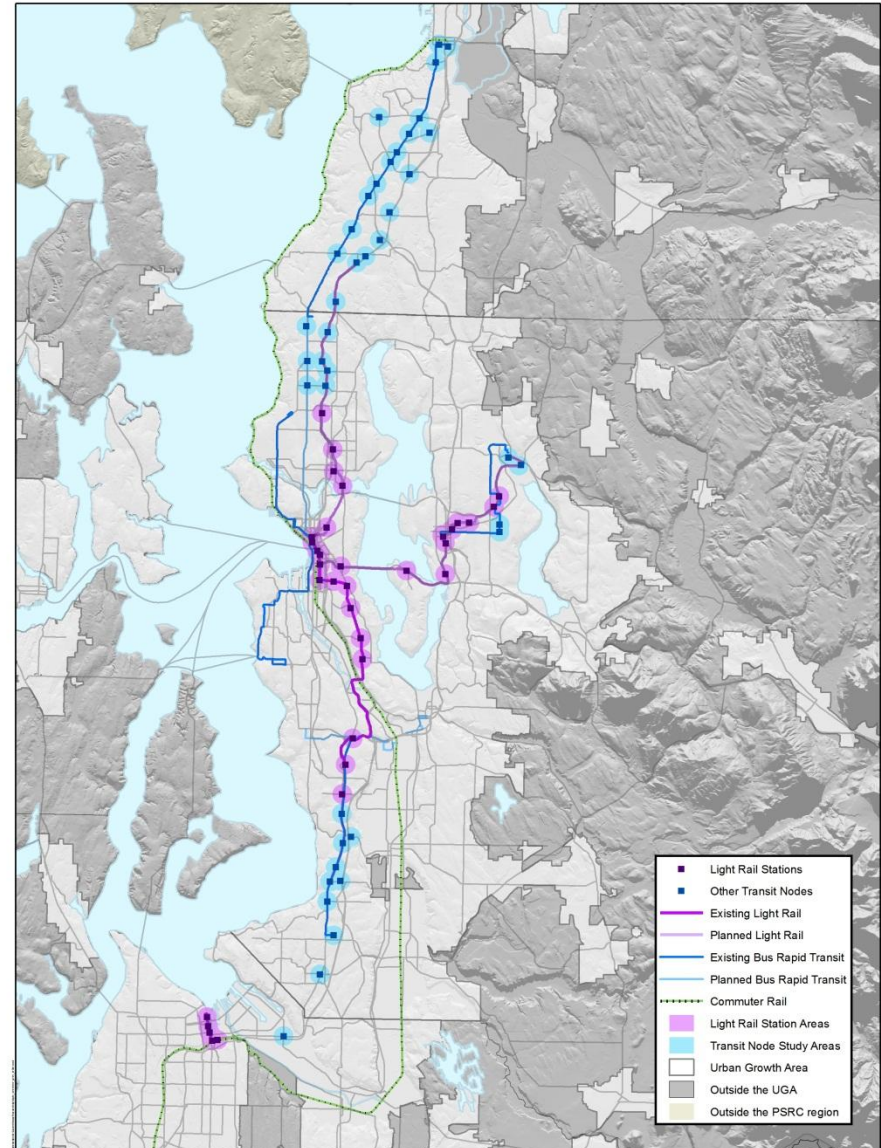
## Regional Equity Network

- Capacity and engagement

## Affordable Housing

- Financial tools, local commitments

## Demonstration Projects



# PSRC Governance



Commissioner Josh Brown  
*Kitsap County - President*

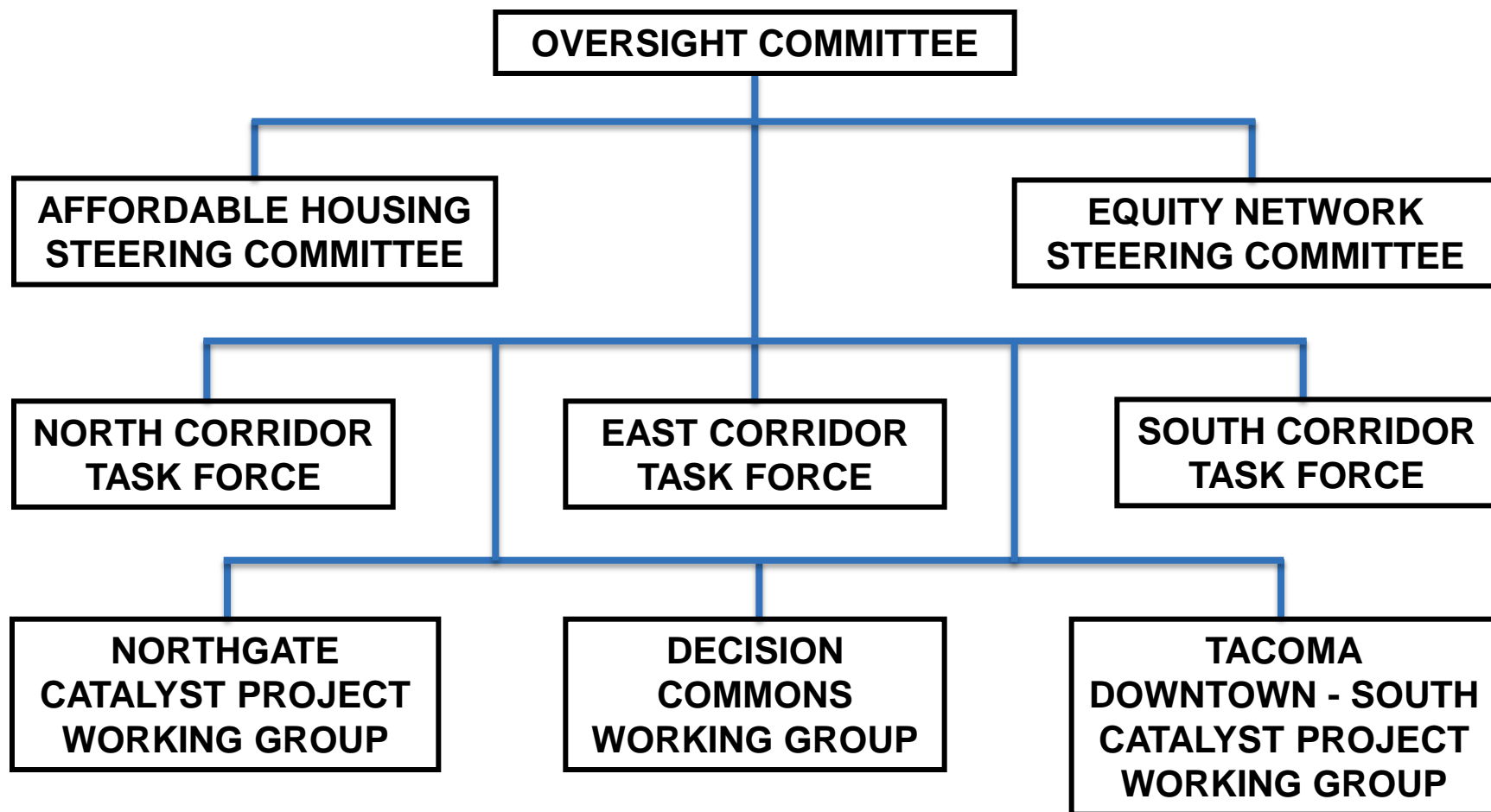


Executive Pat McCarthy  
*Pierce County - Vice-President*



- Interlocal Agreement
- Executive Board and General Assembly
  - Elected officials appointed by members
- Business, labor, civic, environmental seats on advisory Policy Boards

# Project Oversight







# Regional Equity Network

# Regional Equity Network

**40+ Organizations**

**Built on Community Development Collaborative**

**Equity Network Manager**



## Community Equity Grant Program

- \$450,000
- Education, outreach, organizing, research
- Involvement in program



**Friends of Little Saigon/ SCIDPDA**



**Rainier Beach Community Empowerment Coalition  
Transit Justice Youth Project**

# Capacity Building Grants

- African American Leadership Forum
- Associated Ministries of Tacoma-Pierce County
- Capitol Hill Champion
- Cascade Bicycle Club
- Community Network Council
- Cross Cultural Collaborative of Pierce County / Centro Latino
- East African Community Services
- El Centro de la Raza
- Futurewise/ 185th Station Citizen Committee
- Got Green (c/o White Center Community Development Association)
- HomeSight
- Hopelink/ Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative
- Housing Consortium of Everett and Snohomish County
- OneAmerica
- Pilchuck Audobon Society
- Rainier Beach Community Empowerment Coalition
- Refugee Federation Service Center
- Refugee and Immigrant Services Northwest
- Seattle Chinatown International District PDA
- Solutions for Humanity, Community and the Environment
- Somali Community Services Coalition
- Somali Youth and Family Club
- Snohomish County Transportation Coalition / Senior Services of Snohomish County
- Tacoma-Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium
- Tacoma Urban League
- Transportation Choices Coalition
- University Heights Center

## 38 Grants to 29 organizations

- Technical Support
- Planning 101
- Regional Convenings





# Affordable Housing

# Housing Strategy

## Required to Plan

- Growth Management Act, Countywide Planning Policies

## Tools and Resources

- HIP, TOD Affordable Housing Fund, Value Capture Financing

## Policy

- Distribution
- Surplus Public Land

## Fair Housing

- Regional Priorities



# Technical Assistance & Coordination



49 tools, incentives, other strategies for encouraging affordable housing




**Housing Innovations program**

Visit the Housing Innovations Program website:  
[www.psrc.org/growth/hip](http://www.psrc.org/growth/hip)

The Housing Innovations Program is a new collection of planning resources available to local governments in the central Puget Sound region to promote housing affordability and smart growth in their communities.

The provision of diverse and affordable housing options for households of all income levels and demographic characteristics is a key objective of both the Washington Growth Management Act (RCW 36.70A) and VISION 2040. Succeeding in this endeavor is crucial to achieving the regional vision of smart, equitable development patterns and a thriving, sustainable future.

Housing Innovations Program provides a wealth of information to assist jurisdictions throughout the region in finding and implementing the right tools to promote and create housing opportunity for all residents.

**PSRC Local Government Survey**  
 Results from the 2009 member survey about housing policies implemented around the region

**Housing Element Guide**  
**FORTHCOMING:** A guide to crafting robust housing elements that establish a comprehensive strategy for promoting affordability and compact urban development

**Housing Toolkit**  
 Profiles of 49 tools that stimulate affordable and diverse housing, with featured tools illustrated by local and national case studies. Tools are organized around five key focus areas: urban centers, transit oriented development, expensive housing markets, innovative single family development, and education & outreach

**Additional Resources**  
 Links to local, state, and national housing websites, affordable housing resources, key data sources, and organizations serving the central Puget Sound region

**Visit and contribute at:** <http://www.psrc.org/growth/hip>

**For more information:**  
 Contact Carol Naito at [cnaito@psrc.org](mailto:cnaito@psrc.org), 206-464-7535

Puget Sound Regional Council

<http://www.psrc.org/growth/hip/>



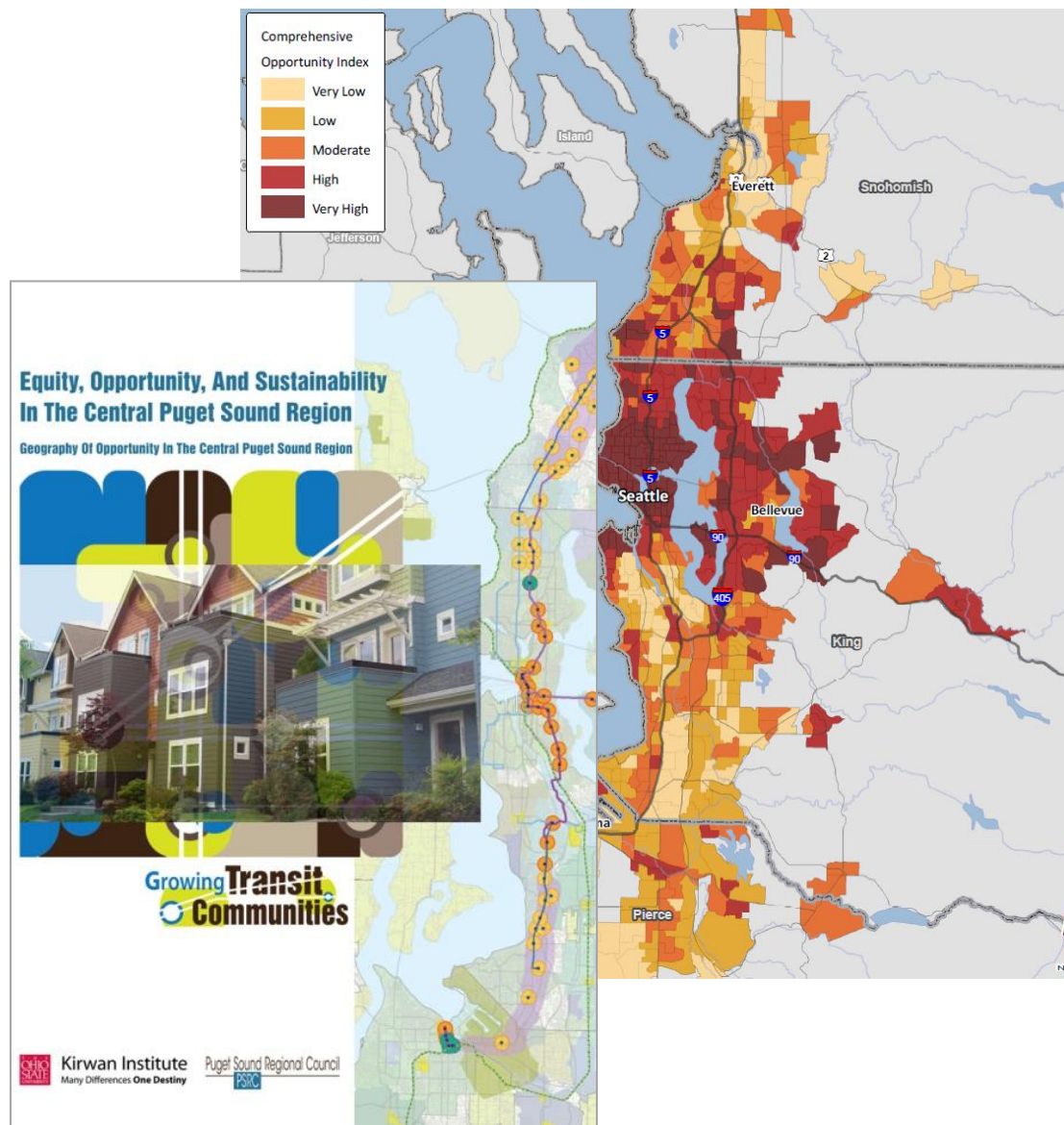
# Opportunity Maps

## Geographies of Opportunity Report

- Kirwan Institute
- Access to opportunity
- Online maps

## Application

- PSRC transportation project prioritization
- WA State Low Income Housing Tax Credit Allocation Criteria



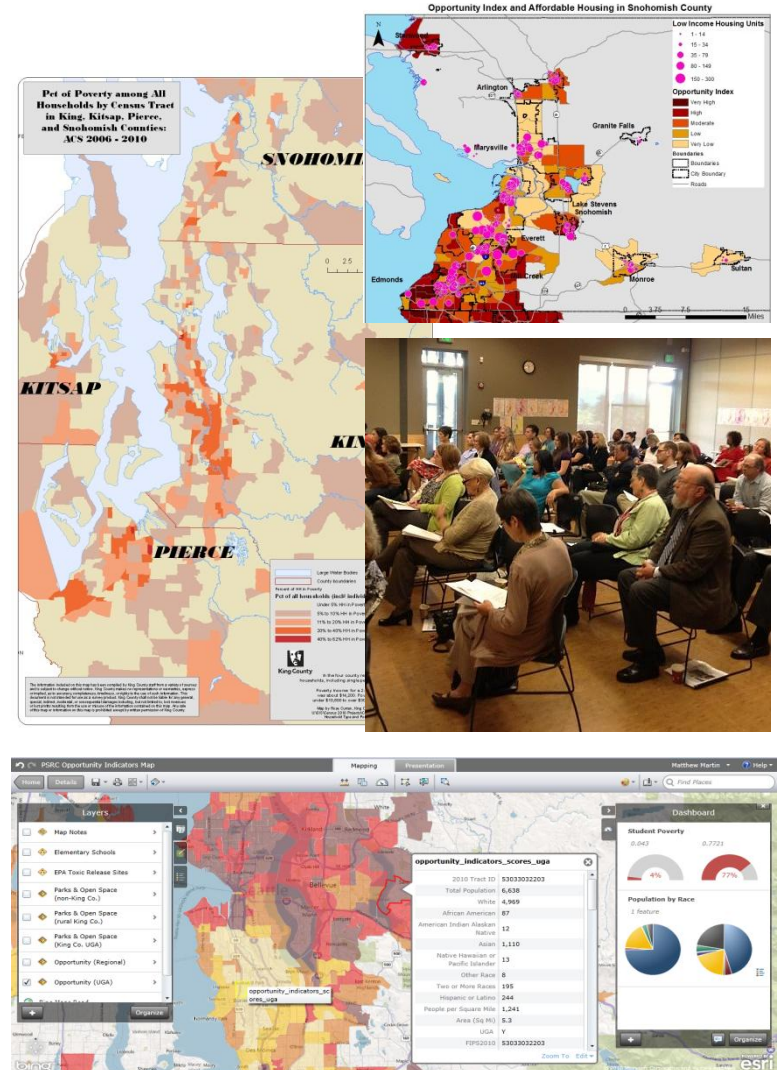
# Fair Housing Equity Assessment

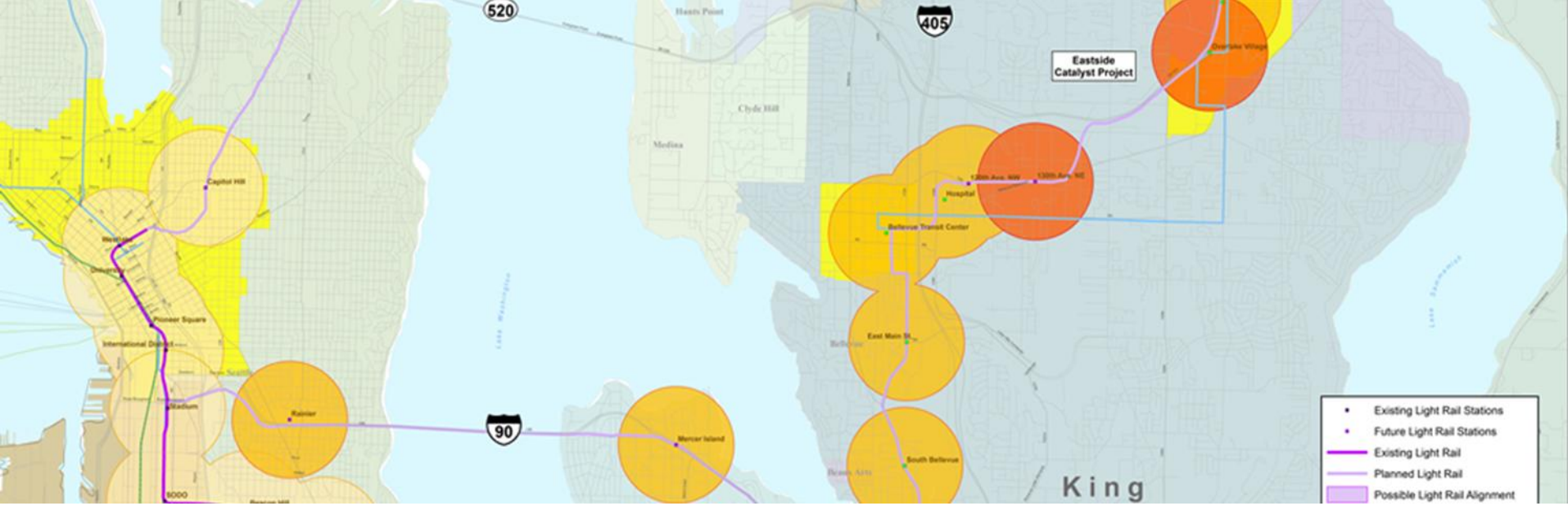
## Fair Housing Summit

- 13 entitlement jurisdictions
- Fair Housing Center of WA

## Issues

- No regional mandate, resources
- Coordination of fair housing actions and strategies

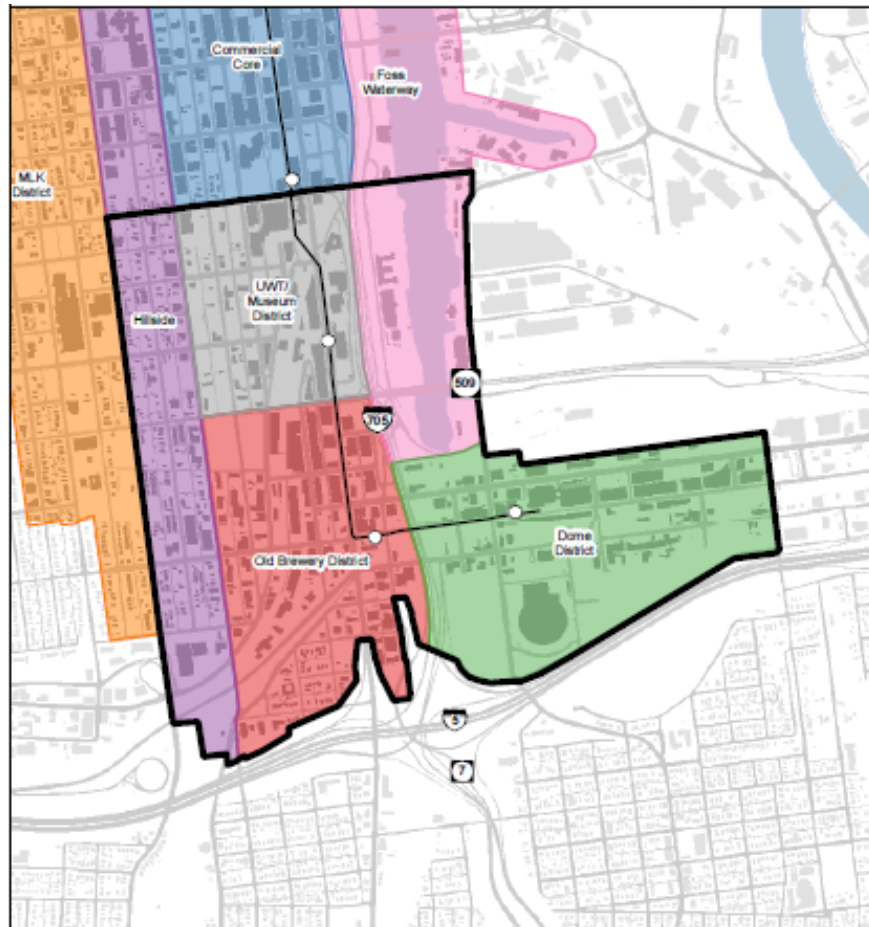




# Innovative Tools



# Demonstration Projects



## Up Front Review

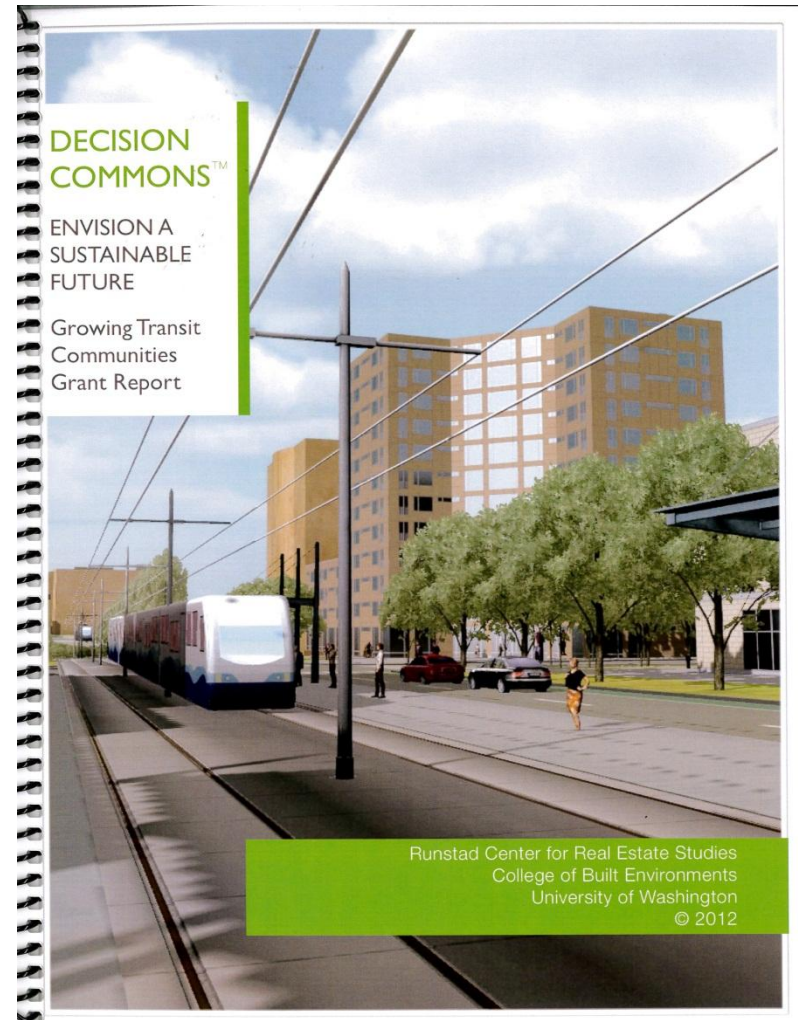
- Tacoma Subarea Plan & Environmental Review
- \$650,000 will save \$5.8M
- Permit review time: years to weeks

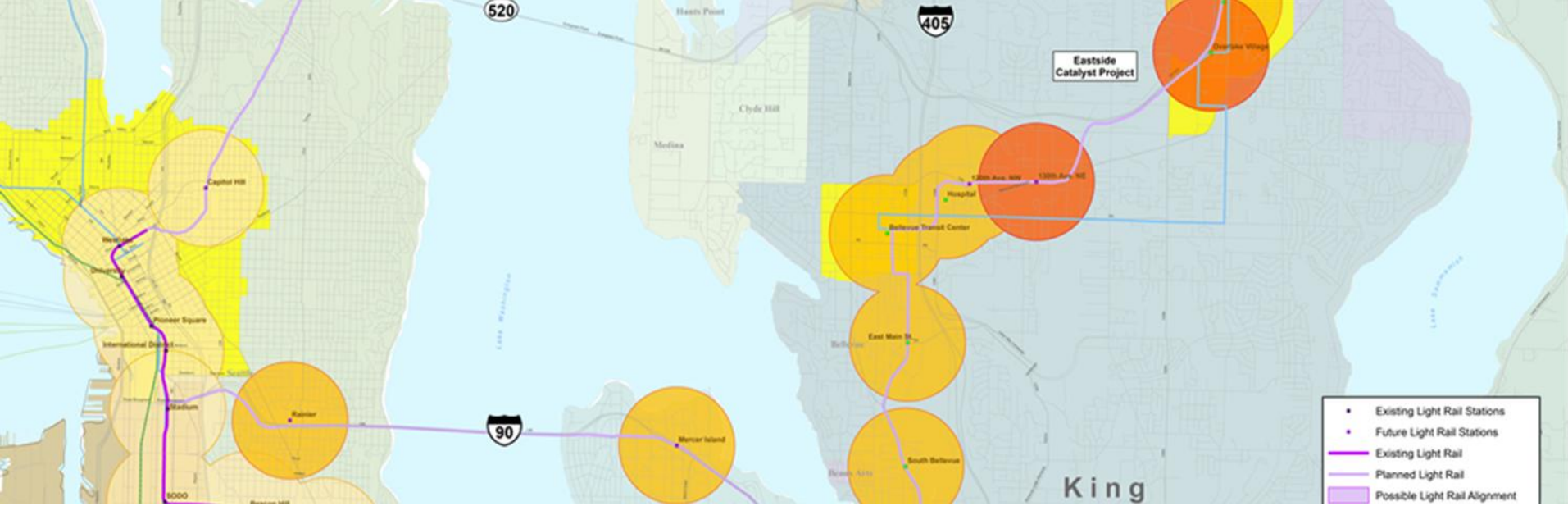
# Decision Commons

## Visualization & Analysis

## “Proof of Concept”

## Funds for Prototype



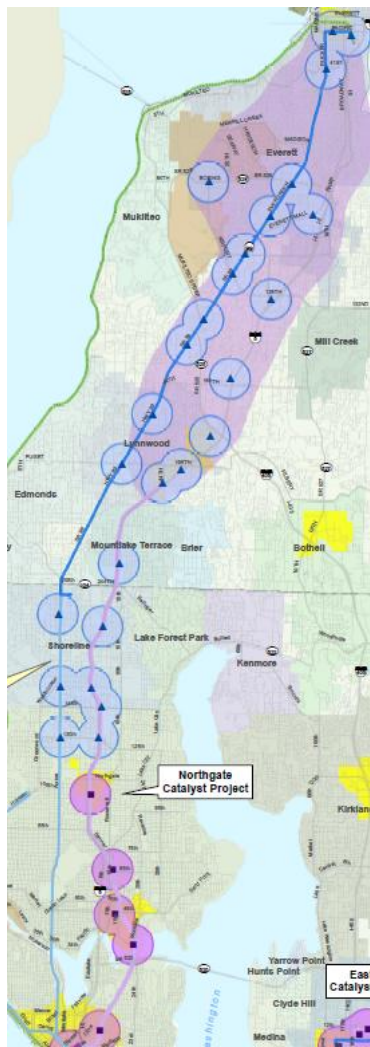


# Corridor Action Strategies

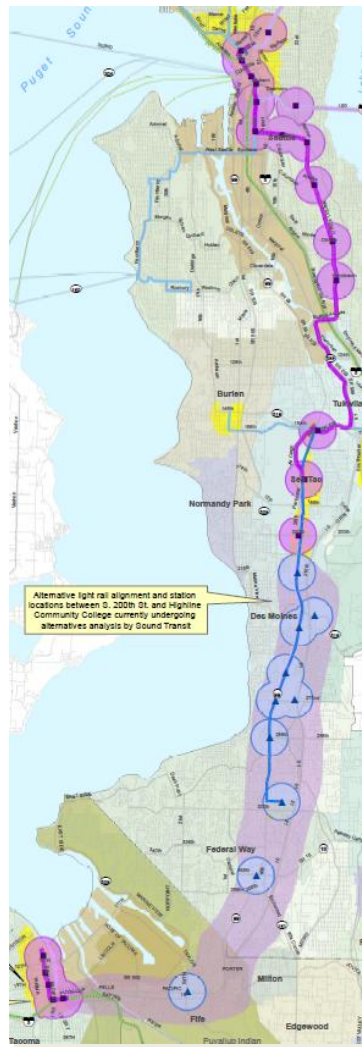


# Very Different Corridors

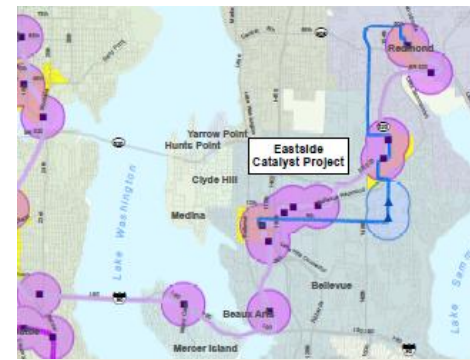
## NORTH



## SOUTH



## EAST



### Legend

- Existing Light Rail
- Planned Light Rail
- Possible Light Rail Alignment
- Light Rail Stations
- Light Rail Station Areas
- ▲ Other Transit Nodes
- Transit Node Study Areas \*
- Existing Bus Rapid Transit
- Planned Bus Rapid Transit
- Commuter Rail
- Regional Growth Centers
- Manufacturing/Industrial Centers
- Urban Growth Area
- Unincorporated Urban Areas

# Corridors Task Forces

## Community

- Affordable Housing
- Community – Regional
- Neighborhood – Local
- Social Equity

## Public

- Cities
- Counties
- Public Health
- Public Transit
- Washington State DOT

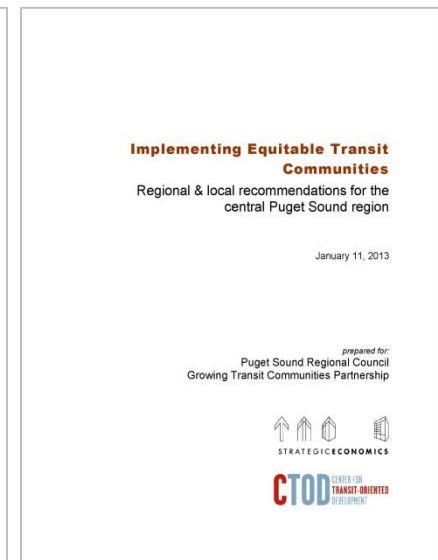
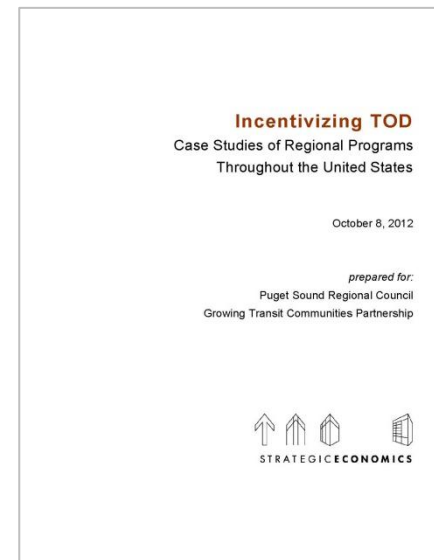
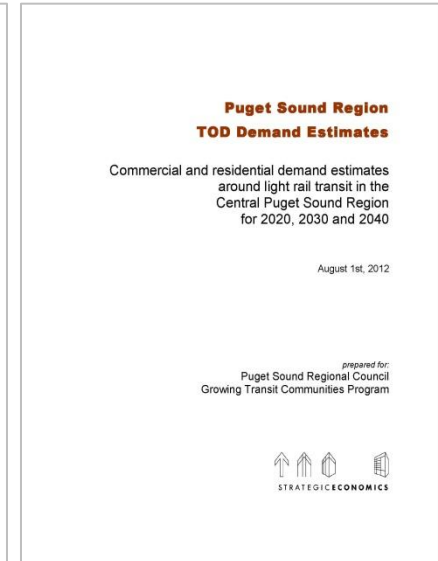
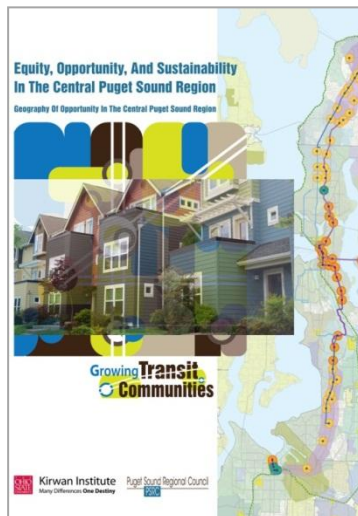
## Business, Education, Environment, Philanthropy

- Economic Development
- Educational Institution
- Environment
- Financial Institution
- Local Business/Employer
- Non-Profit Organization
- Philanthropic Institution
- Property Owners
- Real Estate Development



# Data-Driven, New Approaches

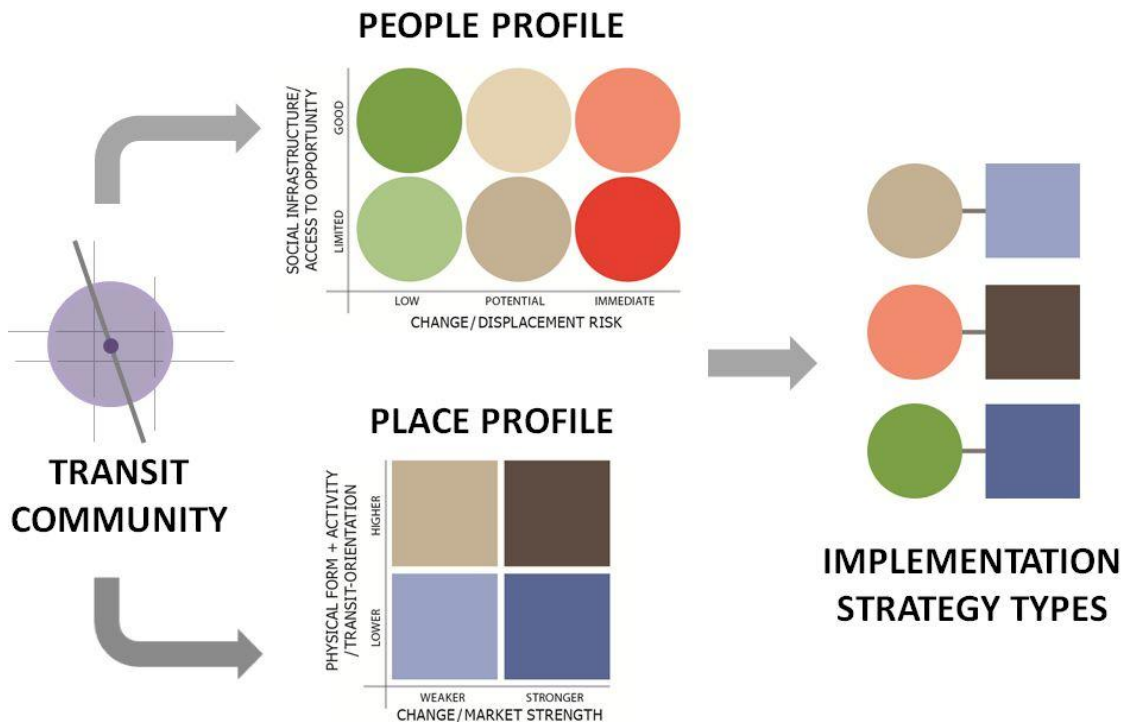
- Market conditions
- Regional programs
- Station types and roles
- What influences development decisions?
- Who is affected?





# Transit Community Typology

## Framework



## Implementation Approaches

1. Enhance Community
2. Build Urban Places
3. Expand Housing Choices
4. Protect and Grow
5. Transform and Diversify
6. Stimulate Demand
7. Improve Access
8. Preserve and Connect

# Corridor Action Strategies



1. Continuing regional program
2. Partnerships and collaboration
3. Community and stakeholder engagement
4. Build community capacity
5. Evaluation and monitoring



6. Station area plans
7. Efficient use of land
8. Transit system design
9. Regulatory barriers
10. Infrastructure and public realm investments



11. Housing needs assessment
12. Preservation and replacement
13. Housing investments in transit communities
14. TOD property acquisition fund
15. Value capture financing
16. Surplus public lands
17. Incentives
18. Fair housing



19. Community needs assessment
20. Environment and public health
21. Economic vitality and opportunity
22. Mobility
23. Education
24. Neighborhood safety

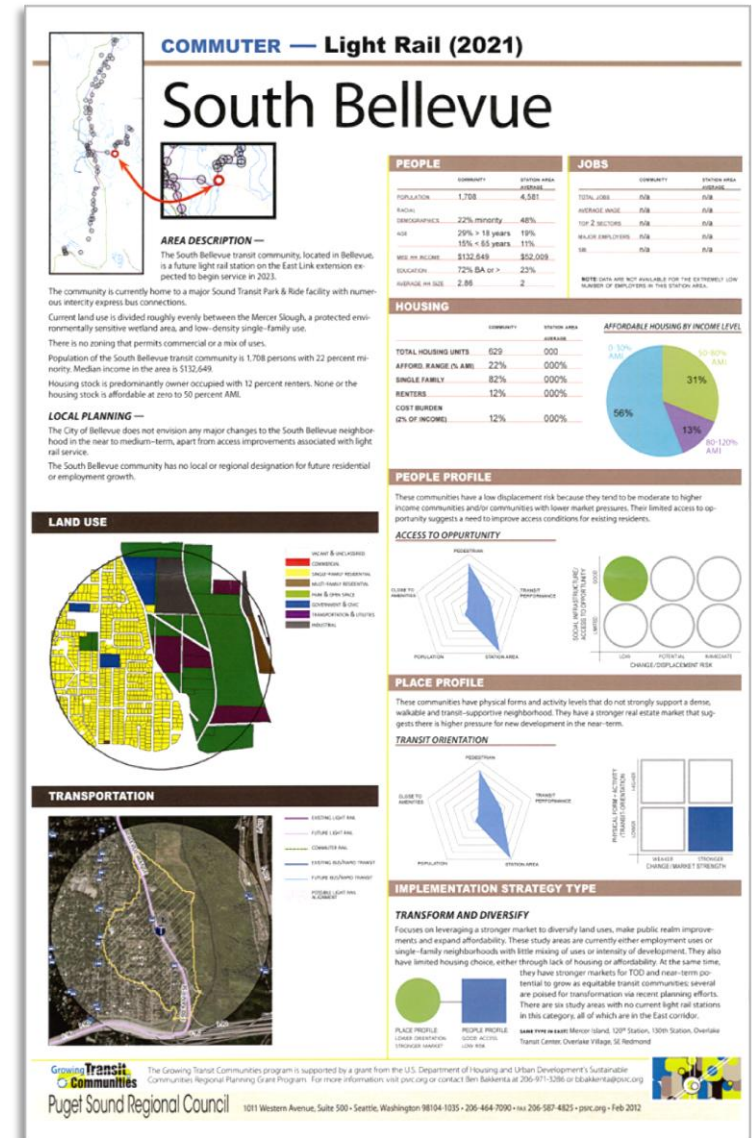
## 8 Implementation Approaches

- ## 24 Strategies with Actions

- PSRC
- Transit agencies
- Local governments
- Private and community-based partners

# 74 Transit Community Profiles

- Data to aid implementation





# 3 Steps to Implementation

## THE PLEDGE:

*Regional Compact*

- Vision and goals
- Non-binding
- Commitment to implementation

## THE PLAYBOOK:

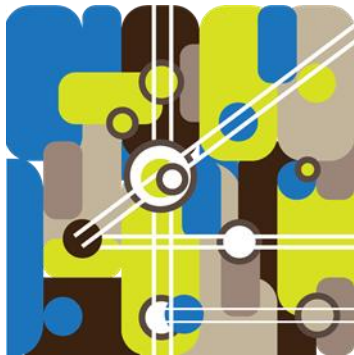
*Corridor Action Strategies*

- 24 recommended strategies
- Transit community typology
- Transit community profiles

## THE PLANS:

*Local Implementation  
Agreements*

- Individual work plans



# What's Next?

# Challenges and Lessons Learned

- Relevance
- Coherence: many moving parts
- Capacity for long-term engagement
- Wide regional conversation
  - Long range
  - Other regional priorities
- Sustainability of partnerships
  - Funding
  - Interest
  - Institutionalizing methods and relationships





# Continued Work

## Resources

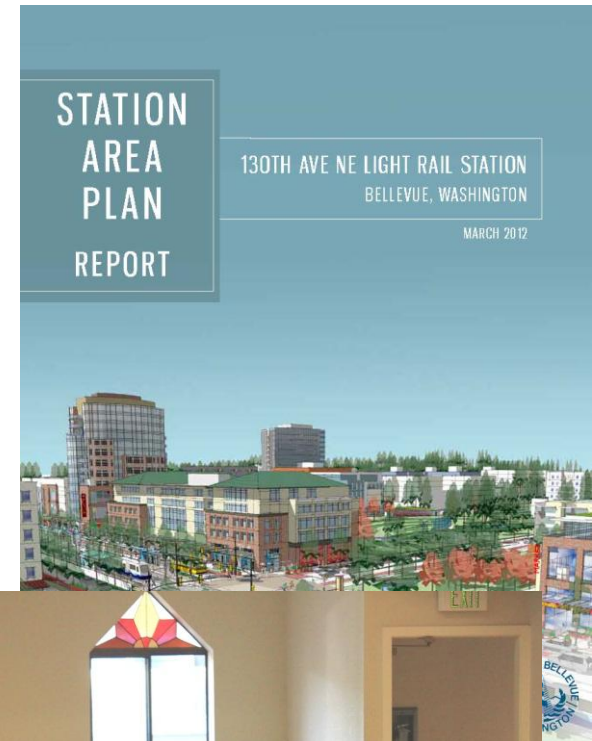
- Develop Regional TOD program
- Funding criteria aligned with sustainable development

## Regional Coordination

- Equity Network
- Regional Housing

## Local Capacity

- Leadership development
- Convening and peer learning
- Organizational capacity building





# Questions?

**Ben Bakkenta, Program Manager**

[bbakkenta@psrc.org](mailto:bbakkenta@psrc.org) (206) 971-3286



**Project Website**

<http://www.psrc.org/growth/growing-transit-communities>