

## Regional Equity Network 2.0

### Executive Summary

As a result of [transition discussions](#) occurring in April and May of 2014 with over 50 community, advocacy, government and philanthropic representatives, and building on the input and feedback of over 400 community, government and philanthropic participants at the first ever [Regional Equity Summit](#) in November 2013, the Puget Sound Regional Equity Network defined a bold end game and role for its future:

- to change the face of prosperity in the Puget Sound region through racial equity in leadership, power and decision making;
- to continue pursuing that vision regionally from multiple sectors, acting as a hub and convener of partners around a cross-regional/-issue effort with a common agenda;
- to build on the progress made around the original focus on transit oriented communities;
- to broaden the focus to include other issues raised during the 2013 Equity Summit like education, healthcare, and jobs;
- to model its commitment of bringing the voice of those impacted to define and shape decisions and system change through its own structure and way of operating, as well as its work;
- and to capitalize on the assets of communities and help connect and build relationships within and between Network members, communities and systems/institutions in mutual learning in order to create an equitable landscape.

### **Network Next Steps** (see Attachment I – Workplan)

As a result of the work session discussions in April and May, our interim consultant Wendy Watanabe identified the following next steps for the Network:

- Establish Transition Executive Committee’s operating process (decision making mechanism)
- Define Network’s relationship to PSRC’s Regional Transit–Oriented Development Advisory Committee and regional compact work
  - Go/no go for signing PSRC’s regional compact and Network representatives on the Advisory Committee
  - Pursue Network’s PSRC Advisory Committee member workplan development
- Continue Network infrastructure development by finalizing the Network’s Vision, Mission and Goals
- Develop and implement a new Network structure that reflects the core principle of leadership by community/those impacted
- Pursue short term “bridge” funding for further Network infrastructure development and development of a strategic plan and sustainability plan

## ATTACHMENT I – Network Transition Workplan

Action Steps	Due	Lead/ Responsible	Final Report Appendices	Comments
<b>1. Define Transition Executive Committee operating process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define method of operating</li> <li>Follow up on ideas/offers of help from May session</li> </ul>	May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transition Executive Committee (TEC)</li> </ul>	Final Report Appendices	E.g., tasks, assignments, processes, protocols for decisions/communication/accountability, support logistics, workplan next steps, etc.
<b>2. Define Network’s relationship to PSRC/regional compact and TOD Advisory Committee</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop recommendation about immigrant/refugee representation on Transition Executive Committee</li> <li>Consider recommendation and make go/no go decision about Network’s signing regional compact</li> <li>If yes, determine Network representative to Advisory Committee and convey to PSRC</li> </ul>	May 15  May 15–30  ASAP, no later than 5/30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amy Bates/Ubax Ghardheere</li> <li>Transition Executive Committee</li> <li>Transition Executive Committee</li> </ul>	Appendix Attachment V.A	Info on the PSRC Regional TOD Advisory Committee at <a href="http://www.psrc.org/about/advisory/rtod">www.psrc.org/about/advisory/rtod</a>
<b>3. Guide Network around work with PSRC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further develop workgroup, role, approach for overseeing Network’s PSRC Advisory Committee member workplan</li> </ul>	TBD relative to Advisory Committee timeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volunteer workgroup: Alaric Bien, Kristin Pula, Kelly Rider, Caren Adams, Andrew Austin, Barbara Phillips, Amy Shuman</li> </ul>	Appendix Attachment V.A	6/5 Decision made for REN to sign on, with Tony To as the primary representative for first year.
<b>4. Document Network Vision/Mission/Goals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revise and refine</li> <li>Disseminate for Network comments</li> <li>Ensure final document approved by Network</li> </ul>	TBD after Action Step #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TEC and/or other Network volunteers</li> </ul>	Appendix Attachment V.A , V.B1&2	Version 2.1 attached
<b>5. Develop new Network Structure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Further develop concept</li> </ul>	TBD after Action Step #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TEC and/or other Network volunteers</li> </ul>	Appendix Attachment V.A, V.B3	Define next steps and timeline, possible host/”home” in Tacoma?
<b>6. Pursue bridge funding for further transition planning</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define plan and timing</li> </ul>	TBD after Action Step #1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TEC and/or other Network volunteers, Connie Brown</li> </ul>	Appendix Attachment V.A	Suggested sources – both local Sustainable funders and local government, e.g., City of Tacoma
<b>7. Develop structure, strategic plan and sustainability plan</b>	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TEC?</li> </ul>	Final Report Appendices	

Transition Executive Committee: Amy Bates, McCaela Daffern, Heidi Hall, Hilary Franz, Ubax Gardheere, Jill Mangaliman, Kristin Pula, Rebecca Saldaña, Sili Savusa, Skye Schell, Tony To, Victoria Woodard, Maiko-Winkler Chin, Matias Valenzuela Addition of representative from immigrant/refugee community to be determined.

*\*Results from Regional Equity Network April & May 2014 Work Sessions*

# PUGET SOUND REGIONAL EQUITY NETWORK

## **DRAFT 2.1\***

**VISION:** Social equity exists throughout Puget Sound and every community is a healthy connected community of opportunity for all.

**MISSION:** The Regional Equity Network acts collectively to transform decision-making power & outcomes to achieve racial equity throughout Puget Sound.

- Furthers a common regional racial equity agenda defined by communities most impacted.
- Acts as a hub to leverage discrete efforts into a powerful inside and outside strategies so communities of color benefit.
- Helps communities learn together, share their assets, connect to each other and impact policies/systems/institutions for systemic change.

### **GOALS:**

- Ensure impacted communities share in the benefits of regional planning for transportation, economy, and the environment.
- Connect the dots between local equity initiatives, regional planning and the PSRC implementation of the GTC strategy.
- Provide a platform for communities to set strategies and engage in solutions for a regional agenda for environmental, economic and social justice.

### **STRATEGIES:**

#### **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP**

A community agenda/priority setting system is created; value-based leadership is developed and playing a strategic role in shaping decision - *Ideas of possible actions:*

- Follow up with summit participants and hold quarterly sub regional meetings
- Community hosts a dialogue with decision makers at next summit

#### **COMMON AGENDA**

Impacted communities identify strategies; equity efforts across region are known and integrated; a policy agenda is defined and pursued - *Ideas of possible actions:*

- Map existing equity efforts and conduct power analysis

#### **RACIAL EQUITY ACCOUNTABILITY**

Racial equity is incorporated in all regional agendas; inclusive local governance is occurring; policies are evaluated & racial equity report card measures success/ failure –*Ideas of possible actions:*

- Participate on PSRC advisory committee and influence regional compacts
- Meet with local governments
- Create equity report card and accountability process
- Promote racial equity as a central strategy to both slowing climate change and creating community resilience.

#### **CO-LEARNING**

Knowledge & relationships are built among EN members & with systems/institutions; existing tools are disseminated and used to build equity capacity - *Ideas of possible actions:*

- Hold REN member trainings and promote use of racial equity tools with institutions
- Convene broader leadership training cohort from environmental, labor, faith and transportation advocates committed to pursuing system change.