



Draft Environmental Impact Statement for VISION 2020 Update: Available for Public Review

Proposed Action

The Puget Sound Regional Council is updating VISION 2020, the regional long-range growth management, economic, and transportation strategy for the central Puget Sound region. VISION 2020 was last revised in 1995, and is being updated to provide a comprehensive regional approach to manage growth through the year 2040. The strategy covers King, Kitsap, Pierce, and Snohomish counties and their respective cities and towns.

The VISION 2020 Update Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) is being prepared in accordance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C and the adopted rules for EIS preparation under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-400 to 460. The update is a non-project action. The DEIS presents and discusses the potential significant environmental impacts that may occur upon implementation of four growth management alternatives: Growth Targets Extended (No Action), Metropolitan Cities, Larger Cities, and Smaller Cities. None of these is defined as a preferred alternative.

Proponent and SEPA Lead Agency

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Licenses and Approvals

No licenses or approvals are required before PSRC updates VISION 2020.

Principal Contributors

Please see List of Preparers in *Appendix G*, on the attached compact disk.

Date of Issue of Draft Environmental Impact Statement

May 2006

Comment Period

The public comment period on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will last 60 days, and will end on Monday, July 31, 2006.

This comment period length exceeds the public comment requirements of the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-455 (6), which requires at least 30 days. As authorized by WAC 197-11-455 (7), and as stated in the Puget Sound Regional Council's Public Involvement Plan for the VISION 2020 Update, and at the request of PSRC's boards, the Puget Sound Regional Council is extending the required period by 30 days in order to encourage additional comments.

Commenting on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement

The public is encouraged to provide thoughts, ideas, and concerns on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to help PSRC identify a preferred growth alternative. The public can comment in one of the following ways:

- By writing to Norman Abbott, State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Responsible Official, at the PSRC address listed on the previous page.
- By visiting the Regional Council's Web site www.psrc.org. To submit a comment, go to Comment section of the VISION update Web page and follow the instructions.
- By sending an email to vision2020update@psrc.org.
- By attending any of PSRC's board or committee meetings. A public comment period is offered at the beginning of each meeting.
- By returning the comment card that is included at the end of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

For all parties who are commenting, PSRC requests a name and return address. All comments are due by close of business on July 31, 2006.

Participants in the review process are asked to identify their preference for the growth alternative that appears to best meet the needs of the region. Please feel free to mix and match portions of the alternatives that have been included in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to form a hybrid that represents the alternative you prefer.

Regional VIEW, the Regional Council's monthly newsletter, is one good way to stay informed and involved. To receive a print copy of *Regional VIEW*, visit <http://www.psrc.org/datapubs/pubs/view/viewform.htm>, or call 206-464-7090.

Next Steps

- **Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement with Preferred Alternative and Draft VISION Document.** Following the Draft Environmental Impact Statement public review period of 60 days, the Growth Management Policy Board will work with staff and consultants to incorporate changes, select a preferred alternative, and publish a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS). The preferred growth alternative will be selected from the range of alternatives examined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (including



the potential for a hybrid of the alternatives) and will be analyzed alongside the other alternatives. A draft VISION document containing revised multicounty planning policies will accompany the SDEIS. The preferred alternative will then be published in a supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for additional public comment in mid 2007.

- **Final Environmental Impact Statement and Final VISION Document.** After the second public review period, PSRC's boards will work with staff and consultants to incorporate changes and publish a Final EIS and Final VISION document. The tentative schedule is to release the Final EIS and revised VISION in 2008.
- **Final Review and Action.** PSRC policy boards and committees will review and take final action to recommend approval to the Executive Board. The Executive Board will, in turn, make its recommendation to the Puget Sound Regional Council's General Assembly. The General Assembly will take action on the updated VISION in 2008.

Related Documents

A complete list of references for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement is provided in *Appendix A*, on the attached compact disk.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement is available in a number of formats — on a compact disk and in electronic format on PSRC's Web site at no cost.

Paper copies are available for review at the offices of PSRC, 1011 Western Ave., Suite 500, Seattle, WA 98104-1035. Paper copies are also available for review at the libraries listed in *Appendix H*, on the attached compact disk.

Compact disks can be requested by contacting the PSRC Information Center at 206-464-7532, or by email at infoctr@psrc.org.



