

**MEETING MINUTES  
OF THE  
PIERCE COUNTY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
JANUARY 17, 2008 – 6:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

**Mike Lonergan, Chair  
James Rackley  
Sandra Ramsey  
Tom Smallwood Bobbi Allison  
Scott Malkuch  
Kathy McVay  
Pad Finnigan  
Bob Whalen  
Joe Pestinger  
Matthew Richardson  
Marilyn Strickland**

**City of Tacoma  
City of Bonney Lake  
City of Buckley  
Town of Eatonville  
City of Edgewood  
City of Fircrest  
City of Lakewood  
City of Milton  
City of Orting  
City of Sumner  
City of Tacoma**

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Gene Cerino  
Richie Morgan  
Vacant  
Richard Godwin  
Derek Young  
Helen McGovern  
Gary Van Hee  
Roger Bush  
Barbara Gelman  
John Ladenburg  
Tim Farrell  
Clare Petrich  
Marc Brouillet  
Ken Martin  
Ray Bourne  
Vacant  
Peggy Levesque  
Ron Lucas  
Bill Baarsma  
Jean Brooks  
Linda Bird  
Becky Gilbert

City of Auburn  
Town of Carbonado  
City of DuPont  
City of Fife  
City of Gig Harbor  
City of Lakewood  
City of Pacific  
Pierce County Council  
Pierce County Council  
Pierce County Executive  
Pierce County Council  
Port of Tacoma  
City of Puyallup  
City of Puyallup  
City of Roy  
Town of Ruston  
Town of South Prairie  
Town of Steilacoom  
City of Tacoma  
City of University Place  
City of University Place  
Town of Wilkeson

**Non-members present:**

David Swindale, GMCC  
Chip Vincent, PALS  
Ryan Windish, GMCC

Ike Nwankwo, CTED  
Leonard Sanderson, City of Milton

Mike Lonergan, Chair of the PCRC, called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

### **Approval of Minutes**

**Motion: (Bobbi Allison / Matthew Richardson, second) - To approve the meeting minutes from 11/15/07. The motion passed unanimously.**

### **GMCC Report**

Ryan Windish, GMCC Chair, reported on the November GMCC meeting. They discussed solid waste, illegal dumping, and re-elected the Chair and Vice Chair. The upcoming meeting with Arthur Sullivan, King County ARCH Program, will give a presentation on the ARCH Program. The subcommittee will provide the draft affordable housing policies at the February GMCC meeting.

### **Centers Update/Review**

Ryan Windish presented the GMCC's recommended changes to the Centers section of the Countywide Planning Policies. The GMCC focused on consistency and establishing new centers. The main purpose of the proposed changes is to assist jurisdictions with eligibility for future funding.

James Rackley questioned why Cascadia wasn't listed as a manufacturing/industrial center. He would like language added to include pre-Centers to allow for the planning process by the cities/towns.

Chip Vincent stated the purpose of the policies was to provide a planning tool and guidelines which would result in eventually qualifying as a center.

Mike Lonergan added the PSRC Boards are planning for the future. He added the City of Tacoma does not believe in self-contained communities in the future.

Matthew Richardson remarked that Washington has the most liberal vesting laws and cautioned jurisdictions to be aware of this before pre-approval is done on future projects as a means of encouraging developers to come to their jurisdiction for a project.

Mike Lonergan questioned the language changed on #24, on page 11. He preferred the old language. Regarding Metropolitan Centers, page 12, #26, he questioned why the language "plan to" was added? The language was already passed by cities and towns in the past so why change the language now?

Matthew Richardson felt this gives cities hope for future weight in the County. This allows cities to plan for the future.

Chip Vincent stated the language being proposed is consistent with the PSRC language. These numbers have also been adopted by King County.

Joe Pestinger felt they should enjoy the same freedoms as the other counties. If we make our policies stricter than other counties, they may lose out on some future funding.

Mike Lonergan felt the numbers are low and achievable and may result in too many centers.

Matthew Richardson stated the buildable lands report suggests they will need to have more centers in the future to achieve the thresholds of the report. He supported the low numbers to achieve more centers.

Mike Lonergan stated that PSRC's future goal is not to have multiple new centers.

Matthew Richardson stated #34 could potentially be a problem if they plan for public transit and Pierce Transit refuses to provide it in the future. He was confused by the regional transit hubs. He could see in the future that a jurisdiction could meet all the criteria to become a regional center with the exception of the transit service. What happens then? Will the jurisdiction meet the criteria for future funding?

James Rackley stated Pierce Transit service will be provided once the growth occurs.

David Swindale attempted to clarify the intent of the proposed language. He referred the group to page five where centers are defined. On page 12, it describes the levels they need to be at in order to be a designated center. Potential funding would most likely go to regional centers first. Countywide centers would likely be at the local funding level. It is not waiting for growth to happen; it is planning for growth. King County already has these policies in place, and they are currently designating new centers. The longer they wait to amend these policies; King County is eligible for more funding.

Scott Malcuch questioned the truck routes and the lack of parking for trucks as a transportation problem. Ryan Windish suggested language be added to policy #40. It may need to be discussed at a later date, possibly under the transportation policies and not under the centers policies.

Matt Richardson questioned #40. He felt "should" is too soft of language because trucks cause an impact to the cities/towns. Truck routes do not prohibit local deliveries. He pointed out they removed all but one of the truck routes in Sumner. He suggested revisiting the language in the future and would like to see #40 removed all together. Ryan Windish felt the intent was to allow a city to designate truck routes.

**Motion: (Joe Pesitnger, James Rackley, second) To strikeout item 40 from the language. The motion passed unanimously.**

Pad Finnigan questioned 17.2 of the policies regarding front and back building requirements, sidewalk requirements, etc. He recommended removal of policy 17.2 due to the costs it impacts on the developer.

**Motion: (James Rackley, Scott Malkuch, second) To change the language of 17.2 to: "Adopt development standards to encourage pedestrian scaled development." Motion failed 6-5.**

**Motion: (Pad Finnigan, Matthew Richardson, second) To remove 17.1 and 17.2.1. Motion passed 7-4.**

**Motion: (Mike Lonergan, Joe Pestinger, second) To approve changing the language from VISION “2020” to “2040”. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Motion: (Kathy McVay, Bob Whalen, second) - To approve the proposed amendments with the changes made by the PCRC to the centers section of the Countywide Planning Policies.**

Further discussion was warranted.

**Motion: (Kathy McVay, Joe Pestinger, second) - To table the motion to the next meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

### **Zoo / Trek Authority Board**

Nominations are closed. One nomination has been received from Eatonville. Ballots will be distributed next week for the appointment.

### **General Assembly Committee Report**

Bobbie Allison reported the meeting will be held at Bates Technical College, South Campus. The date of the event is February 21, 2008 (6:00 p.m. – Social, 6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner, 7:00 p.m. – Call to Order).

### **Committee Reports/Announcements**

#### **PSRC Committee Selection**

**Motion: (Bobbi Allison/Matt Richardson, second) - To appoint Pad Finnigan or James Rackley (whichever best meets their schedules) as the Economic Development District Alternate. The motion passed unanimously.**

Executive Board and Operations Committee (Linda Bird, Rep. / Joe Pestinger, Alt.)

No report.

Transportation Policy Board (Katrina Asay, Rep. / Gene Cerino, Alt.)

No report.

Growth Management Policy Board (Tom Smallwood, Rep. / Matthew Richardson, Alt.)

Tom Smallwood reported they had a large portion of input in the VISION 2040 document resulting in numerous revisions. He felt the participation was outstanding. The document goes to the Annual PSRC General Assembly next month for final approval.

Economic Development District Board (Katrina Asay )

No report.

**The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.**