Greater Portland-Vancouver Indicators - talking points
A growing partnership anchored by PSU’s Institute of Portland Metropolitan Studies and Metro

Greater Portland-Vancouver Indicators (GPVI) reveal how our region is doing. In nine categories that reflect quality of life in the greater Portland area, the measures show where the region is successful and where it's lagging behind; where there's progress and where there's work to be done. The indicators often reflect who's being left behind and how communities – and the region – are impacted as a result.

Benefits to the region
Beyond measurement, indicators provide a road map for action. GPVI provides a way to track progress toward a vision of desired outcomes shared by many partners and stakeholders.

- GPVI creates a common understanding and intention to improve economic, social and environmental well-being over time.
- GPVI engages people around choosing, measuring and using indicators and indicator data.
- The GPVI database offers accurate, reliable and neutral data that is open to all parties, reducing the expense and inefficiencies of existing data efforts across the region.
- Using GPVI is about action to improve results, using the data to help focus and align partners, getting into coordinated action and tracking the results of those actions over time.

Impact of Greater Portland Pulse
Short term, GPVI offers an immediate ability to improve decision-making and stakeholder/partner alignment. Long term, through improved decision-making and alignment, GPVI can keep the region on track to achieving desired outcomes for equitable, prosperous and sustainable communities.

A tool for many users

- For elected leaders, data and decision tools to act more strategically and collaboratively
- For foundations, a ready-made set of data for analysis, priority-setting and program evaluation
- For public agencies, the work will help governments understand their relationship to community goals and re-align their work accordingly
- For business leaders, interconnected regional data to evaluate strategic business decisions
- For grant writers and planners, access to a one-stop shop of regional and local data on an array of outcomes
- For the public, access to a user-friendly data system about the quality of life in the region for teachers, students and other interested citizens

Timeline

- Start-up phase began early in 2010 and ends with the release of the beta GPVI report in September 2011. The report will be based on the work of expert volunteers on nine Results Teams, one for each category of indicators (see box), an Equity Panel and a high-level Advisory Team.
- Ongoing phase anticipates an annual budget of $521,000 for data and engagement functions, including staffing and governance structure. View the draft GPVI business plan.

 Indicator categories

1. Economic opportunity
2. Education
3. Arts and culture
4. Civic engagement
5. Healthy people
6. Safe people
7. Access and mobility
8. Quality housing and communities
9. Healthy, natural environment

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