



**PUGET SOUND**  
PARTNERSHIP

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# Local Integrating Organization (LIO) Program Strategic Visioning

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# Overview

How can we **optimize** the role of LIOs in the current system to achieve our shared recovery goals?

## Presentation Outline

- Original vision and purpose of LIOs
- Evolution of LIOs and changes in the recovery framework
- Purpose, goals, and results of 2022 LIO Coordinator Visioning
- Purpose, goals, and process for 2024 LIO Program Strategic Visioning
- Next steps and discussion

# Original Vision for LIO Purpose & Role

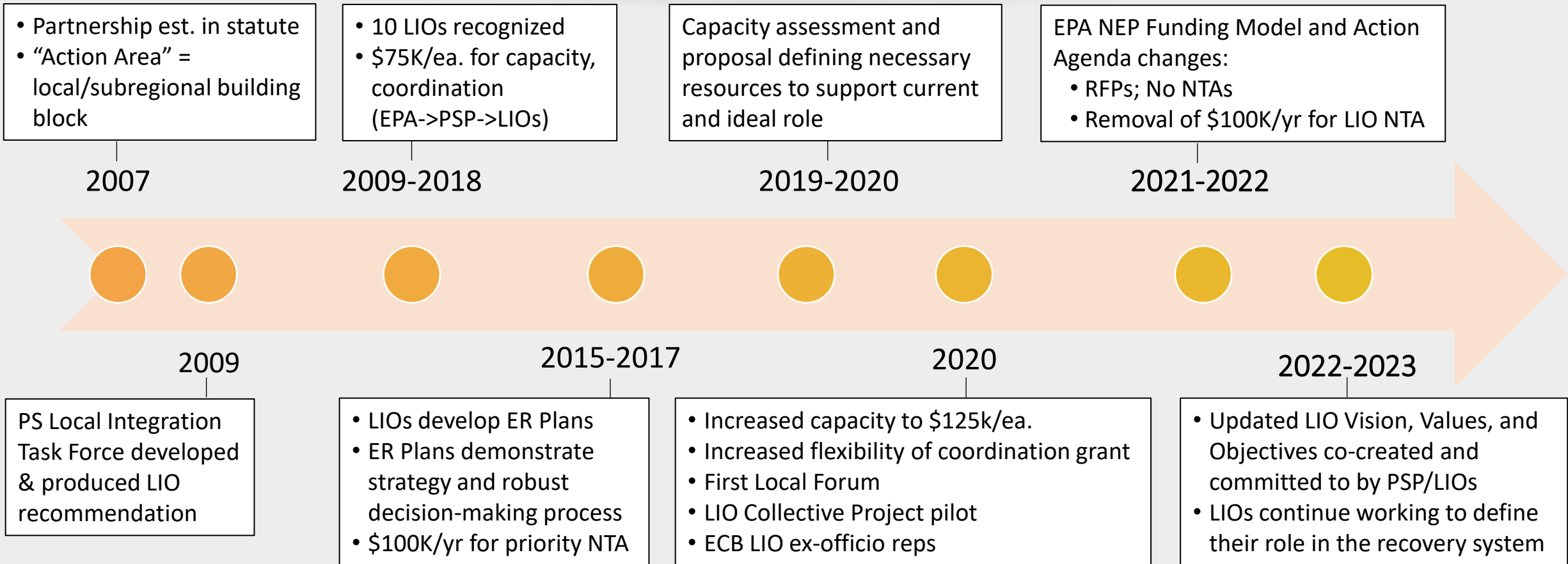
## **Partnership Statute (2007)**

- Puget Sound broken out into sub-regional “Action Areas”
- Local plans and priorities for each Action Area shall, in part, make up the Action Agenda

## **Puget Sound Local Integration Task Force recommendations (2009)**

- Local organizations are the cornerstone of Puget Sound protection and restoration efforts
- Clarify the roles of the Partnership and local coordinating groups
- Strike a balance between the need for leadership and accountability with the essential value of partnership, broad participation, and local engagement
- LIOs to represent “Action Areas”

# LIOs have Evolved and Changed



# The Recovery System has Changed

The pathways for incorporating local priorities and engagement in the regional planning framework have changed

## Implications for LIOs

Previously, LIOs:

- Evaluated and ranked projects
- Provided local context to Action Agenda to convey and align priorities
- Selected one project per year for funding (\$100k)

LIO leaders and PSP are working to develop **a more defined, significant role** for local partners to **guide Action Agenda implementation** and **convey local priorities** to the regional system

# 2022 LIO Coordinator Visioning

## Purpose and Goals

1. Articulate a unified, consensus-driven vision of the LIO program by LIO coordinators
2. Outline values and overarching objectives that will achieve the vision
3. Review and assess LIO program elements for value and benefit
4. Build a path forward for all LIOs to know, understand, and communicate a clear and concise role within the recovery system

# 2022 LIO Coordinator Visioning

Inclusive

Local Knowledge

Effective

Transparent

Thriving ecosystems through the  
power of local communities & regional  
collaboration

Collaboration &  
Coordination

Efficient

Action-Oriented

Accountable

# 2022 LIO Coordinator Visioning

## LIO Objectives

1. There are **clear and concise mechanisms** whereby local priorities are connected and supported at the regional and state levels
2. There are both **local and regional well-defined lines of work** developed through dynamic, collaborative processes across scales
3. Local priorities address **root cause(s) of barriers**, and **projects are synergistic and have a clear pathway to funding**
4. LIO decision making is **transparent and equitable**



# 2022 LIO Coordinator Visioning

## Pillars of the LIO Program



Ranked list of projects, programs and initiatives, 'lines of work,' and a funding strategy



Individual and collective legislative priorities, with an engagement plan



Barrier identification, reduction, and elimination, individually and collectively



Ecosystem recovery and protection is diverse, equitable, and strives for environmental justice

# 2024 LIO Program Strategic Visioning

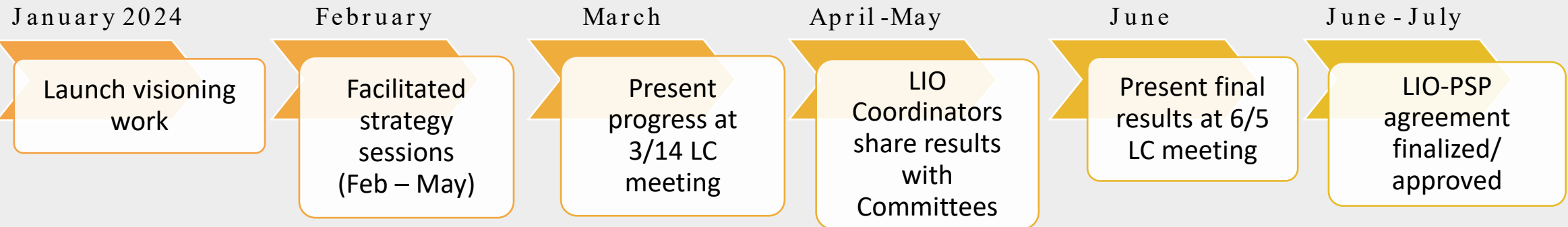
## Purpose and Goal

Operationalize the LIO Vision, Values, and Objectives:

- **Clarify and optimize** the role of LIOs in the recovery system
- **Clearly define** how LIOs, PSP, and other regional recovery partners work together to achieve shared goals
- Inform a written agreement on these clarified roles and expectations that will **maintain accountability** going forward

# 2024 LIO Program Strategic Visioning

## Anticipated Timeline



# 2024 LIO Program Strategic Visioning

## Guiding questions

1. What is the purpose, functions, and expectations of LIOs in the recovery system?
  - What is the role that PSP plays in supporting/empowering LIOs and what role do LIOs play in supporting regional recovery actions?
  - What is the role that LIOs play outside the NEP funding model?
2. How can we optimize the LIO role to achieve recovery goals?
3. What are actionable strategies and next steps to implement LIO objectives and improve connections between local and regional recovery efforts?

# Next Steps & Discussion

## Next Steps

- Continued engagement with the Leadership Council throughout this process
- Future discussion: what is the Leadership Council's vision to optimize LIO impact?

## Discussion Questions

- Are the purpose and goals of this visioning process clear?
- General questions or feedback about the process and/or outcomes?