

**REDMOND CITY COUNCIL
PARKS AND HUMAN SERVICES (PKHS) COMMITTEE/
SPECIAL MEETING SUMMARY**

Council Conference Room
15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, Washington

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

Council:

David Carson
Tom Flynn, Chair
John Stilin
Hank Myers (*Attending Councilmember*)

Staff:

Carolyn Hope, Parks Planning/Cultural Arts Mgr
Katie Anderson, Deputy Parks Director
Jean Rice, Senior Parks Management Analyst
Craig Larson, Parks Director
Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator
Michelle M. McGehee, MMC, City Clerk

Convened: 4:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 5:04 p.m.

Committee Chair Tom Flynn, opened the meeting, announced the Council members in attendance, and overviewed the agenda.

King County Levy Briefing

Ms. Katie Anderson, Deputy Parks Director, provided an update on the King County Council's proposed \$360 million parks levy ballot measure for the August 6, 2013, primary election. It will replace two property tax levies for parks that expire at the end of 2013. The new levy will increase the amount paid by approximately five cents to 18.91 cents per \$1,000 of assessed valuation. A homeowner will pay about \$75 a year for a home valued at \$400,000. The taxes raised will go towards parks, facilities, and trails. The City of Redmond will receive an estimated \$847,000 over six years for local projects. The levy provides about 70% of the Parks Division operating revenue.

Redmond Central Connector Update and Phase II Contract

Ms. Carolyn Hope, Parks Planning and Cultural Arts Manager, stated that on March 19, 2013, a Council agenda memo will be brought forward seeking the approval of a contract for design work on Phase II of the Redmond Central Connector. The contract will be in the amount of approximately \$550,000. The part of the trail covered in Phase II has a lot more critical areas than Phase I. There are three grant applications outstanding to help pay for the trail, but they are all tied to the state budget.

General discussion ensued regarding clarification about the different phases of the project.

Redmond Central Connector Phase I Art Contract Amendment

Mr. Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator, reminded the committee that Mr. John Fleming is designing three pieces of artwork for Phase I of the Redmond Central Connector. Because of a delay in the construction start date, Mr. Fleming's contract has expired. The original contract will be extended.

Arts Program Partnerships

Mr. Josh Heim, Recreation Program Administrator, provided an update for 2013's arts programs. The kick-off for the arts season will be at the Vedic Cultural Center's Festival of Color on Saturday, March 23, 2013. Brown Street will be closed Friday and Saturday night, March 22-23, 2013, to provide space for the vendors and music. The City of Redmond has a big partnership with Second Story Reparatory, who will co-host the Acts Out event. The format for the music series is changing, as Redmond will be partnering with businesses, property owners, and restaurants to provide music and art in vacant storefronts.

Farrell McWhirter Master Plan Update

Ms. Jean Rice, Senior Parks Management Analyst, stated that there was an open house on February 23, 2013, at Farrell McWhirter Park. Many people attended and were asked to fill out a survey about the park. The results of the survey are:

- Top three rated activities
 - walking,
 - visiting the farm animals, and
 - new bathroom.
- Top three elements are
 - trail experience,
 - natural areas, and
 - farm animals.
- Top future improvements
 - educational activities,
 - learning about the history of the park,
 - hands on education with animals, and
 - better playground.
- Vision of the park in 20 years
 - stay the same, and
 - no development.

The master plan is being developed in-house based on the public's response to the survey. Staff will create two or three conceptual ideas to present at the open house in May 2013.