TECHNICAL COMMITTEE REPORT

To: Planning Commission

From: Technical Committee

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Date: August 25, 2010

File Number: L100259

Title: 2010-2011 Periodic Update of the Comprehensive Plan: Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element

Recommended Action: Adopt Recommended Amendments to the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element

Reasons the Proposal should be Adopted: The proposed amendments should be adopted because:

- The amendments reflect current conditions and the shift of planning horizon from 2022 to 2030;
- The amendments emphasize Redmond's planning goal of being a sustainability community
- The amendments provide better guidance where appropriate and reduce duplication in policy text.

I. APPLICANT PROPOSAL

A. APPLICANT

City of Redmond

B. BACKGROUND AND REASON FOR PROPOSAL

The City of Redmond amends its Comprehensive Plan on an annual basis as permitted by state law. In addition to these regular amendments, the Washington State Growth Management Act (GMA) requires counties and cities to periodically conduct a thorough review of their plans and regulations to bring them in line with any relevant changes in the GMA, and to accommodate updated growth targets. Redmond last completed a "periodic update" in 2004.

Given the extent of the 2004 major update, the scope of this update will be to extend the planning horizon from 2022 to 2030, to comply with regional and state requirements that have changed since 2004, to identify opportunities to strengthen sustainability concepts as part of the Comprehensive Plan, and to implement Council direction and recommendations from current and previous studies. In coordination with this effort, the City will also be updating the Transportation Master Plan. This Comprehensive Plan update is expected to be complete by December 2011.

In February and March 2010 the Planning Commission provided input on the scope for this periodic review and update; the City Council finalized the scope in April 2010 by adopting a resolution.

Staff will bring recommended amendments to elements of the Comprehensive Plan to the Planning Commission according to the approved schedule. This set of recommended amendments pertains to the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element.

II. RECOMMENDATION

The Technical Committee recommends amending the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element of the Comprehensive Plan as shown in Exhibit A.

III. PRIMARY ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

The adopted scope for the 2010 - 2011 Comprehensive Plan review anticipates:

1. *Amendments required because of changes to the Growth Management Act.*

   The Washington State Legislature amended the time interval for periodic updates to comprehensive plans. This change is reflected in the proposed Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element.

2. *Amendments required because of changes to regional planning documents.*

   No changes to the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element are necessary to comply with changes in conditions or with regional planning documents. Planning staff verified the conformance of the Element with requirements of Washington State Department of Commerce and Puget Sound Regional Council.

3. *Amendments required to extend the planning horizon to the year 2030.*

   Minor text amendments are recommended to the Element to extend the horizon to the year 2030. In addition, the recommended changes emphasize sustainability, consistent with Redmond's vision for the future.

4. *Amendments to reflect City actions since the last update and Council direction from recent or current studies.*

   A portion of staff's review of the Comprehensive Plan is to identify opportunities to emphasize sustainability. The definition of sustainability adopted for the Comprehensive Plan Update is:

   > "Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs." (United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development)

   Minor amendments to text and policies help to address sustainability. For example, policy PI-16 regarding considerations for review of proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments includes a recommended amendment stating "Potential general impacts to the ability of the City to provide fair and equitable access to services."

5. *Other amendments*

   Other changes to the Element include streamlining current policies. For example, in Section E. Implementation and Monitoring there are several policies that describe developing and monitoring a management plan. Five of this section's six policies are recommended for amendment to reduce duplication, wordiness, and to emphasize the primary goals of implementation and monitoring. In addition, these amendments are intended to better align Comprehensive Plan policy and current practice.

IV. SUPPORTING ANALYSIS: FACTS AND CONCLUSIONS

A. EXISTING CONDITIONS

The Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element addresses how Redmond involves its citizenry in assessing, establishing, updating, and carrying out the City's vision. The Element describes a predictable process for ensuring consistency between the

Comprehensive Plan and other planning documents. The City's plan amendment and development review processes, a third component of the Element, emphasize predictability and timeliness as staff works with citizens to consider and implement development activities. Finally, the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element describes the City's evaluation and reporting processes. These processes offer citizens and other interested parties several methods to track and gauge the overall progress of Redmond towards carrying out the Comprehensive Plan's citywide direction.

The Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element holds up well to scrutiny for the 2010 - 2011 periodic update, and requires only minor updates and edits. The proposed edits ensure consistency among all Elements of the Comprehensive Plan and help to streamline policies that discuss similar aspects. Other edits assist with fostering predictability by defining and providing examples for specific policy concepts.

B. COMPLIANCE WITH CRITERIA FOR AMENDMENTS

Redmond Comprehensive Plan Policies PI-16, LU-24 and LU-9 direct the City to take several considerations, as applicable, into account as part of decisions on proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan.

Items 1 through 5 apply to all proposed amendments. Other criteria apply only when proposed amendments concern allowed land uses or densities, such as proposed amendments to the Land Use Plan Map, land use designations, allowed land uses, or zoning map. This Element does not concern those topics and so those criteria are not included.

The following is an analysis of how this proposal complies with the requirements for amendments.

1. **Consistency with Growth Management Act (GMA), VISION 2020 or its successor, and the King County Countywide Planning Policies.**

   The recommended amendments are one portion of the periodic review of Redmond's Comprehensive Plan as called for by the GMA. The recommended changes to text and policies are neutral with respect to VISION 2040 and the King County Countywide Planning Policies.

2. **Consistency with Redmond's Comprehensive Plan, including the following sections as applicable:**

   The recommended amendments are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

a. **Consistency with the goals contained in the Goals, Vision and Framework Policy Element.**

   The recommended changes to the Goals, Vision and Framework Policy Element will be presented later in the schedule for the review and update of the Comprehensive Plan. However, staff does not anticipate proposed changes to the goals in the Element will result in inconsistency between the Elements. The recommended amendments are, therefore, considered consistent with a high degree of confidence.

b. **Consistency with the preferred land use pattern as described in the Land Use Element.**

   No changes are recommended that are directly relevant to the preferred land use pattern as described in the Land Use Element.

c. **Consistency with Redmond's community character objectives as described in the Community Character/Historic Preservation Element or elsewhere in the Comprehensive Plan.**

   Yes, the recommended amendments are consistent.

3. **Potential general impacts to the natural environment, such as impacts to critical areas and other natural resources.**

   There are no changes to policies of the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element that have an impact on critical areas and other natural resources.

4. **Potential general impacts to the capacity of public facilities and services. For land use related amendments, whether public facilities and services can be provided cost-effectively and adequately at the proposed density/intensity.**

   The recommended amendments present no potential impacts to the capacity of public facilities and services.

5. **For issues that have been considered within the last four annual updates or comprehensive land use plan amendments, whether there has been a change in circumstances that makes the proposed plan designation or policy change appropriate or whether the amendment is needed to remedy a mistake.**

   It has been more than four years since the City's last update of this Element.

V. AUTHORITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL, PUBLIC AND AGENCY REVIEW

A. Amendment Process

RCDG Sections 20F.30.15 and 20F.30.55 require that amendments to the Comprehensive Plan be reviewed under the Type VI process. Under this process, the Planning Commission conducts a study session(s), an open record hearing(s) on the proposed amendment, and makes a recommendation to the City Council. The City Council is the decision-making body for this process.

B. Subject Matter Jurisdiction

The Redmond Planning Commission and the Redmond City Council have subject matter jurisdiction to hear and decide whether to adopt the proposed Development Guide Amendment.

C. Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

Staff will complete a SEPA Checklist for the 2010-2011 Periodic Update of the Comprehensive Plan as a whole. Staff anticipates adoption of previous environmental documents and will prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement to address the potential impacts on Climate Change before City Council action on the Update in late 2011. The recommended amendments to the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element make up only one portion of the Update. In addition, no adverse environmental impacts are expected with the proposed amendments.

D. 60-Day State Agency Review

State agencies were sent 60-day notice of this proposed amendment on August 10, 2010.

E. Public Involvement

The public will have opportunities to comment on the proposed amendments during the Planning Commission review process and public hearing. Public notice of the hearing on September 15, 2010 will be provided by posting in public locations and by newspaper listing on August 25, 2010. The recommended amendments to the Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element are accessible through the City's web site and copies are available at City Hall.

F. Appeals

RCDG 20F.30.55 identifies Development Guide Amendments as a Type VI permit. Final action is held by the City Council. The action of the City Council on a Type VI

proposal may be appealed by filing a petition with the Growth Management Hearing Board pursuant to the requirements

VI. LIST OF EXHIBITS

Exhibit A: Recommended Amendments to Participation, Implementation, and Evaluation Element

Robert G. Odle, Director of Planning and Community Development — Date

William J. Campbell, Director of Public Works — Date

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