

HUMAN SERVICES

Future Vision for Redmond: Human Services

The City works ~~as a partner in partnership~~ with schools, businesses, service providers, and other organizations and jurisdictions to ~~help strengthen maintain and strengthen~~ a human services network that provides ~~vulnerable persons~~ the food, shelter, job training, child care, and other services ~~they need residents need to to become more independent be thriving members of our community.~~

Introduction

The Human Services Element describes how the City's efforts in planning, funding, coordinating, and improving human services' delivery contribute to ~~reach community goals and enrich the quality of life in Redmond achieving a more socially sustainable community.~~ It defines the City's roles and describes many tools used to understand and address Redmond residents' needs for human services. ~~A few related tools are part of other Comprehensive Plan elements, such as Housing.~~

When people think about the kinds of services their city offers, they often think of roads, water, and police and fire protection but they are probably less likely to think about human services – those services provided directly to persons ~~having trouble meeting struggling to meet~~ their basic needs ~~for for survival, food, clothing and shelter, as well as assistance related to~~ employment, ~~health, safety, and~~ social support, ~~such as counseling, health, safety, and access to services.~~ ~~But building maintaining and supporting improving~~ an infrastructure for addressing the continuum of human needs is as important as ~~maintaining and improving~~ the physical infrastructure of roads and bridges. A city's vitality depends on the degree to which ~~individuals' potential is developed its residents and families are able to thrive.~~ An effective human services delivery system is a crucial component of any healthy, ~~sustainable~~ community.

The City of Redmond's ~~primary role is many roles--~~ as ~~a catalyst to convenor, investor, collaborator and educator--~~ help ~~to~~ build and sustain a comprehensive and ~~affordable accessible~~ safety net of human services for residents, ~~whose income does not permit them to buy services in the marketplace.~~ ~~In partnership with other jurisdictions and organizations,~~ the City ~~also~~ identifies needs, ~~plans long range actions,~~ designs effective and efficient systems to deliver services, cultivates resources, ~~educates about local needs and available services,~~ and funds programs. ~~Equally critical, the City develops and implements long-term strategies that will ensure resilient and thriving citizens. Redmond sees its role as being one player on a team working cooperatively to maximize resources to address local needs. Finally, the City's Human Services~~

EXHIBIT A

Commission plays a significant role in reaching out to the broader community to both learn and educate about issues related to human service needs in Redmond.

~~Implementing Redmond's role is becoming increasingly challenging. Multiple forces continue to put pressure on human services in Redmond. Each year for 10 years, increasing numbers of residents have accessed services supported by the City. Economic downturns have pushed more people into the system and have lessened the financial resources available to support the system. Responding to demographic changes related to the age and ethnic and cultural diversity of residents in Redmond has added an additional layer of responsibility to a system that was already fragile. The importance of the City's actively and aggressively carrying out the policies outlined in this plan has never been more vital.~~

The specific policies listed below provide the direction needed to help the City achieve the policies of the Human Services Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Policies

HS-1 **Support the provision of a continuum of human services, from preventive to remedial, ~~to focused on ensuring that help clients residents achieve the greatest possible level of independence and to prevent further or more serious problems in the future, are able to be self-sufficient, contributing members of the community.~~**

HS-2 **Encourage agencies serving Redmond residents to make their services as accessible as possible.**

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HS-3 **Work with others throughout King County to determine potential areas for cooperative planning, funding, and administrative oversight of human services systems and programs wherever there is promise of ~~a reasonable return on the investment of resources.~~ increased efficiency or improved delivery of service.**

HS-4 **Work with the Human Services Commission to Promote increased awareness of local need for human services through community education and outreach. ~~s~~Support a stronger and more coordinated local response from the faith, business, school, and service communities.**

HS-5 **Monitor changes in local human services needs and priorities in an ongoing way and ~~alter~~ adjust the City's response as appropriate.**

EXHIBIT A

- HS-6 Work to increase the base of both public and private resources to support programs providing human services with a focus on strategic investments.
- HS-7 ~~Provide assistance through federal~~Use available -Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds ~~to rehabilitate housing for low- and moderate-income property owners to protect their health and safety and prevent deterioration of neighborhoods.~~in support of affordable housing and other needed community projects.

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