MEMO TO: Planning Commission

FROM: Carolyn Hope, Senior Park Planner and Project Manager, 556-2313

DATE: January 21, 2011

SUBJECT: Redmond Central Connector Master Plan Study Session for January 26, 2011

Purpose
At the January 26, 2011 meeting, the Redmond Central Connector project team will report on the draft design, the preliminary results of the Trolley Feasibility Study, and draft design guideline recommendations related to the Redmond Central Connector Downtown Study Area.

Background
The master plan will fulfill the goals of Redmond's Comprehensive Plan by improving connections within Downtown, creating a destination, enhancing economic vitality, gathering community members, integrating iconic and interactive art, developing a regional trail and linear park, encouraging light rail transit, and accommodating local and regional utilities. Redevelopment of this corridor will both redefine the heart of Redmond and respect Redmond's history.

Since Council approved the Infrastructure Alignment Plan in October 2010, the project team has held two public meetings, two joint commission meetings, numerous stakeholder meetings, and has developed a draft design for the Redmond Central Connector Master Plan. At the end of January and through February, the team will present the draft design and results of the Trolley Feasibility Study to the public and various commissions prior to finalizing the design and the master plan. The following exhibit provides a detailed schedule of the next steps for public and commission involvement.

Schedule

Task	Timeline
Council Study Session on Draft Master Plan	*January 11, 2011* ✔
TECH Committee briefing on Draft Master Plan	*January 19, 2011* ✔
Planning Commission Study Session on Draft Master Plan	January 26, 2011
Public Meeting on Draft Design	January 27, 2011
Parks and Trails Commission Meeting on Draft Design	February 3, 2011
Arts Commission Meeting on Draft Design	February 10, 2011
Pedestrian and Bicycle Advisory Committee Briefing on Draft Design	February 14, 2011
Design Review Boarding Briefing on Draft Design	February 17, 2011
Lodging Tax Advisory Committee Briefing on Draft Design	February 24, 2011
Parks and Trails Commission Recommendation on Final Master Plan	~April 2011
Council Study Session on Final Master Plan	~April 2011
Final Master Plan SEPA Review	~April 2011
Seek Council Adoption of Final Master Plan	~May 2011

Role of the Planning Commission

Commissioners are encouraged to provide feedback and comments on the design, trolley feasibility study and design guideline recommendations. The Planning Commission is not being asked to make a decision on the master plan documents, since the plan is not proposing any new policies or code changes.

In the next phase of design for the Downtown Study Area, beginning in spring 2011, more work will be done on design guidelines to develop a Design Guideline Manual for the Redmond Central Connector, which could be incorporated in the Community Development Guide. The project team will continue to work with the Planning Commission on these issues as they develop further.