

**REDMOND CITY COUNCIL  
JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH THE PARKS AND TRAILS COMMISSION  
AND ADDITIONAL STUDY SESSION SUMMARY**

November 29, 2011

**Mayor**

John Marchione

**Members of the Council**

Richard Cole, Council President  
Pat Vache, Council Vice-president  
Kim Allen  
David Carson  
Hank Margeson  
Hank Myers  
John Stilin

**Staff**

Rob Odle, Planning and Community Development  
Director  
Craig Larsen, Parks and Recreation Director  
Don Cairns, Transportation Engineering Manager  
Lei Wu, Senior Transportation Engineer  
Colleen Kelly, Human Services Manager  
Michelle, M. McGehee, MMC, City Clerk

**Members of the Parks and Trails**

**Commission**

Mary Bourguignon  
Cindy Jayne (*Not in attendance*)  
Sheri Sanders  
Peter McDonald (*Not in attendance*)  
Tom Sanko  
Tina Sarin  
Ray Smalling  
Colin Worsley

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Convened: 7:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 9:21 p.m.

**JOINT STUDY SESSION SUMMARY**

Council President Richard Cole opened the joint meeting. Council and Commission members introduced themselves.

Discussion ensued regarding the needs and deficits of the City with regards to park and recreation facilities; these needs are identified in the Park Plan. The conversation consisted of the following:

- research to identify funding strategies;
- community outreach from the Parks and Trails Commission;
- general sentiment in the community regarding support for parks' improvements;
- public education regarding parks and trails need in the City;
- conducting a statistically valid survey to identify projects of community interest and areas of support; (*survey results in this regard will be available in approximately February 2012*);

- location of facilities and needs in various neighborhood areas;
- maintenance of existing facilities;
- volunteer effort in neighborhood park areas;
- the balance in acquiring new property for the future vs. developing land currently in the City's holding;
- public perception with regards to a potential bond package;
- lack of facility space, including for organized sports, and resulting competition for space;
- regional partnering with respect to parks and recreation facilities;
- possible partnership with a private entity specifically with respect to construction of an indoor aquatics center that includes a hockey rink;
- neighborhood needs for community meeting space;
- the age of some of Redmond's current facilities, like the Senior Center;
- the need for implementing a ladder system for park and recreation improvements into the future;
- including in the public message stories related to what the 2007 Parks Levy brought to the community;
- perhaps revisiting with the City of Kirkland regarding the siting of an indoor aquatics center; and
- thinking of the parks system in different layers, like 'recreational deserts;'

Chair Mary Bourguignon thanked Members of the Council for their support of parks and recreation in the City.

*(The study session recessed at 8:14 p.m. and reconvened at 8:20 p.m.)*

## **COUNCIL STUDY SESSION SUMMARY**

Councilmember Cole reconvened the meeting.

Councilmember Myers reminded the members of the 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday in the month and their agreement to wear Hawaiian shirts; another 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday meeting will occur in January 2012.

### **Draft Transportation Facilities Plan (TFP) Build-out Plan**

Councilmember Cole hosted the discussion.

Mr. Don Cairns, Transportation Engineering Manager, reported regarding:

- key milestones schedule; the draft TFP will be back before the Council for consideration in February 2012, with formal adoption to be scheduled thereafter;
- highlights and findings of the November 17, 2011, community event;
- filling in the gaps and making improvements for all different modes of travel;
- the build-out plan by principle – approved last year by the Council;
- consistency in the build-out plan with the Transportation Master Plan (TMP) principles;
- outcomes for the TMP update process;
- development of the build-out plan;
- the TFP development process; and

- candidate project and programs.

Discussion ensued regarding freight mobility and how it fits into the plan.

Members of the Council confirmed that staff is headed in the right direction with the plan.

Mr. Cairns concluded and reiterated that the TFP and associated revenues would be brought back to the Council in late February for continued discussion.

### **Section 8 Housing Vouchers**

Ms. Colleen Kelly, Human Services Manager, and Mr. Arthur Sullivan of ARCH (A Regional Coalition for Housing), provided a report to the Mayor and Members of the Council with regards to Section 8 Housing Vouchers in the City of Redmond. The voucher program is a program of the federal government which assists very low-income families, the elderly, and the disabled to afford decent, safe, and sanitary housing in the private market. Earlier in the year, it came to the attention of staff that one company had notified all tenants utilizing Section 8 vouchers as part of their payment that those leases would not be extended under the same terms. This meant that tenants unable to pay market rate rent of their own would be forced to move when their leases expired. Over the past few years, there have been approximately 250 households in Redmond using Section 8 vouchers at any given time.

Ms. Kelly noted the study session on this item was to hear from Council if an ordinance to require the consideration of Section 8 housing vouchers in the private rental market is something that the City should pursue, and if the draft ordinance addresses their issues and concerns. Staff recommends if the Council does agree to pursue the issue, that a public hearing be held to hear any concerns of tenants and landlords alike.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- what it entails for a landlord to work with the voucher program; Mr. Sullivan overviewed the process, noting that it can take anywhere from one to six weeks to get approval into the program;
- discrimination in the selection of renters; and
- statistical data regarding the longevity of Section 8 Housing Voucher renters.

Ms. Kelly noted that staff would forward statistical data requested to the Council for their further information, and could hold a public hearing as early as the first part of next year on the matter.

### **Council Talk Time**

Members of the Council discussed their committee schedules for the month of December.

Councilmembers Vache and Myers attended the 2011 NLC Conference. They provided a report of their conference trip, specific to sustainable cities. A written report was submitted for the record.

Members discussed the chili cook-off competition for the Redmond Lights Festival.