City of Redmond
PARKS & TRAILS COMMISSION

Redmond City Hall – Council Chambers
15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond Washington

Thursday, March 1, 2012
7:00 p.m.

Meeting Convened: at 7:08 p.m. Meeting Adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Commissioners:
Mary Bourguignon, Chair
Tina Sarin, Co-Chair
Peter McDonald
Cindy Jayne
Tom Sanko
Colin Worsley
Sheri Sanders

Staff:
Carolyn Hope, Sr. Parks Planner
Betty Sanders, Sr. Park Planner
Joel Pfundt, Principal Planner, Transporation
Peter Dane, Planner I

Youth Advocate
Paul DeWater

Absent and Excused: Ray Smalling

Audience – 0

I. Call to order/Welcome to Citizen Guests

Mary Bourguignon called her last official Commission meeting, as Chair, to order at 6:33 p.m. and welcomed Commissioners, new youth advocate, and staff members.

Introduction of Paul DeWater, new Youth Advocate

Chair Bouguignon introduced Paul DeWater, new youth advocate, to his first Commission meeting.

Paul is a senior at Redmond High School and is actively participating in the school's leadership program and is Senior Class President. Paul wishes to continue participating in student government while in college, loves the outdoors and recreational activities, and is looking forward to serving on the Commission.

Paul's term will run from March through August 2012.

II. Approval of January Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Jayne to approve the January 5, 2012 minutes as presented.
Second by Co-Chair Sarin
Motion passed: 7-0

III. Items from the Audience

None

IV. New Business

A. Active Transportation Projects – Peter Dane and Joel Pfundt

Mr. Dane and Mr. Pfundt presented a PowerPoint presentation and gave the Commission and staff members a brief update on the City's Public Works Transportation Plan process. Mr. Dane stated that they are in the process and final stages of updating the City's Transportation Plan and would be going before the Planning Commission and Council in the near future.

Mr. Dane noted that he would be, 1) updating the Commission on the changes in planning that had happened between the existing TMP and the current updates, 2) looking though specific projects and schedule, 3) asking for comments from Commissioners about policy direction and specific projects, and, 4) discuss changes in bicycle and pedestrian planning.

Overview and Intent

- The process began at the end of 2010
- Three meeting have been held to get community input
- Key transportation design need – support safety for all modes

Active Transportation - national term (Biking, walking)

- Tied to public health through new types of planning concepts
- Similar Needs and Benefits
- Vulnerbility of both/need comfortable experience
- Benefits include economic, environmental and public health elements

Bicycle Planning Renaissance

- New bike facility
  - Blvd/Greenway – retrofit existing streets
  - Cycle tracks – physical separation between cars and bicycles
  - Intersection treatment
  - Lighting
- Continued direction – focus on….
  - Pathway/Trail connections
  - Neighborhood connections
- Pedestrians
  - Long term vision
  - Walking to facilities to locations (light rail, transit, store, work)
- Woonerf
  - Define - Understand design
  - Shared space between cars, bikes, pedestrians

        - Slows down cars
    - Cycle Tracks
        - Add comfort by physically separating cyclists and vehicles
            - Between street, user, curb, sidewalk
            - Increased safety, more rider safety
    - Intersection Treatments
        - Bike boxes
        - Colored line indictors provides site awareness
        - Provides a safer environment for bicyclists
        - Safety at intersections for cars and bikes
        - All levels of bike riders – broader scope of riders
    - Bike Boulevard
        - Goal is to provide high comfort bike corridor
        - Grid system - Reduce vehicle traffic on one street
            - Trail-like
            - Several design elements (traffic diverters, speed bumps, etc.)
            - Inexpensive
    - Lighting
        - Bicycle transportation safety for bike/work commuters
- Commissioner McDonald – instructions or signs at busy intersections – what to do to cross or turn safely.
    - Key points – highlighting potential conflict zones in some manner (awareness), addressed with intersection treatments
    - Project is focused on physical capital projects – education (engage community) and enforcement
    - Once TMP is adopted, going forward with identifying critical traffic areas (design)

PROJECTS

- 171st Bicycle Boulevard
    - DT – 80th – 172nd – 171st – through Hartman Park – along trail west of RHS – PSE – North 172nd
    - Mix bike blvd, traffic reducing treaments with paved trails
    - Focus on safety
    - Connections to neighborhoods and downtown
- Lighting of Sammamish River Trail from Marymoor north to Leary Way
    - Enhanced facility lighting – just add lighting no physical changes made to trail
    - Provide pedestrian safety and access
    - Support trail use
    - Along W. Lake to Leary, Leary to 90th, 520 Trail
- Sammamish River Trail Widening
    - Pave part of soft surface on west side of Samm River - Leary to 83rd/85th
    - Enhancement restrictions
    - Enhance pedestrian alternative to Samm. River Trail

    - Objective – reduce conflicts between walkers, cyclists, pets
    - Dedicated paths to change behavior of users and reduce conflicts
- Commissioners Sanders – likes the pedestrian/bicyclist separation. Different uses.
- Commissioner Jayne – suggested pedestrians on west/bicyclists on east sides
- Commissioner McDonald – do not pave west side of trail – off leash area for dogs and walkers – paved would invete cyclists. Some way to light the east side of the trail to create a safer walking/riding environment.
- Carolyn Hope – improving the soft surface trail, more fluid, less breaks
- Separated physical barriers between walkers and cyclists
- Who is responsible for trail improvements – City or King County
- Regional Trail Bridge – Leary Way
    - Expanding bridge (north)
    - Reduce conflict, does not meet volume
    - Increase site distance, needs to be redone
    - Interesecton of three regional trails
- Bridal Crest Trail
    - A lot of public interest in trail
    - Work better for commuter traffic
    - Gravel enhancement
    - Encourage pedestrian travel
    - Add park enhancements - spots to stop and rest
    - Possible connection using blvd ideas - wind through neighborhoods to connect to Kirkland, less of a steep grade (trail section just east of 132nd Avenue is very steep so using neighborhood streets may be best)
- Schedule
    - Start PC, CC – end of February
    - Possible TMP adopted by City Council in August 2012.

V. Old Business

A. Vice Chair Elections

Chair Bourguignon announced that Commissioners had unanimously nominated Commissioner Sanko as Vice Chair and that he had accepted his nomination.

Therefore, appointed by acclaimation, Commissioners unanimously voted (7-0) to elected Commissioner Sanko as the new Vice Chair.

B. Redmond Central Connector – Carolyn Hope

Ms. Hope reported that the RCC project was at 60% design phase. She presented the design review on a PowerPoint presentation. Since the last review (30%) last year, Ms. Hope reported that the plans had progressed significantly. The Commissioners reviewed plans of the 60% review of the station.

Ms. Hope stated that City staff and the landscape architect (Berger and Associates) are working with John Fleming, local artist, on the integration of art and landscape design for the trail.

- Integrated design will interwine with trail
- Materials from shoulder will move into the intersection – visual and decorative factor
- Land form - LED features – Bridge - Small Arts in the Parks venue area
- Parking lot at station site – consolidate with landscaping to allow for other uses
- 161st/Bear Creek Parkway Intersection – punch through to BR Creek Parkway – mini round-about and small island – rain garden - bridge
- 164th - RCC will cross island – cross north and south (slow traffic)
- 170th – fully signalized – Bank of America/Bartells area – replace wooden trestle (re-use concrete panels from KC), widen sidewalk – end of Bear Creek Trail – pervious asphalt – concrete to gravel – North Redmond Connector sign – wayfinding on north side
- 161st/Samm River – paving, lighting, railings, ramp
- Abutment/Redmond Way to Trestle – stairway for shopping center access – fencing on abutment – some lighting – gentle grade – light landscaping – replace some trees removed by ramp

Ms. Hope reported that John Fleming will integrate history with railroad and re-create an irractic uniquely Redmond. Mr. Fleming will be creating art pieces implementing portions of the old railroad ties in additon to supplementing design with plan materials. He will create 2-3 pieces at 161st/Cleveland.

<u>Commission comments:</u>

- Commissioner Jayne remarked that lighting, for safety purposes, was a major concern and that it should be noted as a high priority. Commissioners agreed.
- Commissioner Sanders suggested that sponsorships could potentially pay for the fencing along the abutment. She inquired about pedestrian crossing lights at the Leary or 166th. Ms. Hope responded that there would be a rapid flash beacon and 170th fully signaled – 164th and 166th will not be signaled. However, 166th will become a 4-way stop.
- Commissioner Sanko added that signage was also very important and suggested (distance signs, intersections, directional)
- Commissioner McDonald applauded the reuse of materials from the rail project and added that a call box might be something to consider.

C. <u>Funding Strategies</u>

Ms. Hope gave an update on the Council meeting (two weeks prior) and next steps in the funding strategies process.

Ms. Hope stated the mayor and Council leads are in favor of staff going forward with the Capital Investment Strategy (CIS) Group and to begin thinking about how to proceed. The Parks Dept. is concerned about going forward with maintenance without the necessary funds for the next six years (sports fields, restrooms). Staff has met with the CIS Group to brainstorm:

- What do we do to maintain what we have now? Financially, revenues, after maintenance bottom line
- Where are we 10-12 years from now if our current LOS is maintained?
- What does it look like if we try to achieve all goals from financial plans?

Additional Discussion:

- Where are revenues coming from?
- How will the funds be distributed to each department?
- Where can we find more money? Educate to improve areas, polling areas of interest.

D. <u>One Redmond</u>

Ms. Hope reported that the city has three civic organizations in town – Redmond Economic Development Alliance (recruit new businesses), Chamber of Commerce (focus on current business groups), and Realize Redmond (raise money for civic projects and events – Parks and Arts related activities). A merger of the three agencies will take place sometime in April however no specifics are available at this time. The goal is to have one organization that will combine missions, have one goal and organized in one specific way.

Ms. Hope noted that consultants had been hired to perform a survey, interview citizens and look at funding strategies.

Chair Bourguignon added that there is a short video on the city's website which is a panel discussion of representatives from each group.

E. <u>Downtown Park</u>

Ms. Sanders reported that she had sent out a survey on Zoomerang to members of the Parks Commission and Arts Commission. She asked if everyone was able to fill it out. Consensus was that everyone had.

Ms. Sanders gave an update on the progress of the park. Schedule:

- All buildings have been purchased
- Tenants should be out by October 2012
- Demolition schedule has not been decided
- What types of events/activities during the interium period while final park is being constructed
    - Staff survey – Farmers Market, monthly art walk, art installation (in park), public creating art, movie night

- Co-Chair Sarin suggested an art show – high school, middle school art shows, gateway into other art activities
- Commissioner Sanders – Each year school sponsored "Reflections" - program elementary to high school (nationwide theme) students compete for awards. Several different art venues included – painting, photographs, films, story writing, and music. "Reflections" starts in October; January show at Resource Center; winners go to the state competition.
- Commissioner Jayne – Food trucks
- Commissioner Sanko – urban park – chess tables, big outdoor chess set, bocci ball – critical mass
- Commissioner McDonald – temporary stage , band, wine tasting, plays, Arts in the Parks
- Chair Bourguignon – bands/teens, place where everyone would like to go

Ms. Sanders stated that a sign and parking map would be posted at the DT park site. Chair Bourguignon suggested a sign letting citizens know what the future plans for the park site would be (fund availability pending).

VI. Project/Commission Updates

Commissioner Jayne announced that at the end of June she would be resigning her position on the Commission. Her last meeting would be June 7, 2012.

Commission Vacancy Update
Ms. Hope reported that there are four candidate applications for the two openings on the Commission. Interviews will be scheduled in the near future.

Walk and Talk
Ms. Hope asked Commissioners to mark their calendars for May 24th – Walk and Talk – RCC and the DT Park. John Fleming, RCC Artist, will be installing some of his art work throughout downtown. Meet at the Baloca (across from the Transit Center). Feet First will be hosting the event. Start at 5 p.m. participants will walk to see Mr. Fleming's art pieces and potential sites for other pieces. Reception following.

THANK YOU!
Vice Chair Sarin thanked Chair Bourgiugnon for her service the past years as Commissioner and Chair. Char Bourguignon has served on the Commission since December 2006.

VII. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Sanders

Second: Commissioner Sarin
Motion carried: 7-0

Next Commission Meeting
April 5, 2012
6:30 p.m.
Council Conference Room