

Agenda for the Parks & Trails Commission

June 4, 2020

Meeting 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Commissioners and Staff Participating Remotely via MS Teams

Public can listen to meeting by dialing 510-335-7371 at 6:30pm



Name	Time	Lead
Call to Order		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Roll Call: Approve June Agenda, May meeting minutes 	1 min	Chair
Items from the Audience <i>Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker and limited to this portion of the agenda. Public is able submit comments in advance to jaken@redmond.gov</i>	10 min	
New Business:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 		
Old Business:		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Redmond Pool Update Green Redmond- 2019 Work Report Draft ADA Facilities Transition Plan Review RCC III Grants Update 	15 mins 15 mins 15 mins 5 mins	Dave Tuchek Meg Angevine Jeff Aken Jeff Aken
Commission Updates/Discussion	20 mins	All
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Parks and Trails Commission Field Trip (July) Joint City Council/Parks and Trails Commission Meeting Format Smith Woods Follow-up Lake Hills Trunk Line Update (Dudley Carter Staging) 		
Department Communications: Discussion time if needed		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Tree Code Update (Written Item in Packet) 	5 min	
Staff Updates	5 min	Jeff Aken
Adjourn	1 min	Chair

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Date, Time	Topic	Location
July 2, 2020	Parks and Trails Commission July Meeting	Council Conference Room

Parks and Recreation Department Vision

We build community through people, parks and programs.

Parks and Recreation Mission Statement

We are leaders in providing sustainable parks, innovative recreation services, unique art and cultural experiences that continue to build a high quality of life in Redmond.

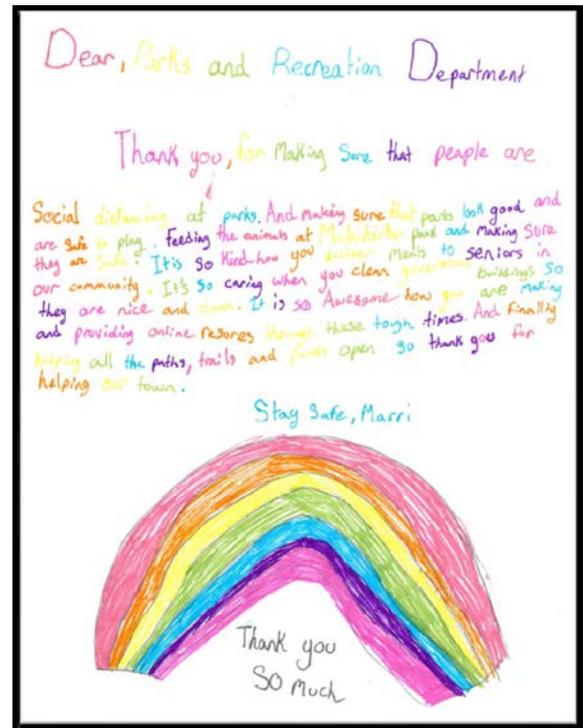
Audiotapes of regular meetings are available at the Parks & Recreation Office. If you are hearing or visually impaired, please notify the Parks & Recreation office at 556-2311 as early as possible. Sign language and communication material in alternate formats can be arranged given sufficient notice. Washington Relay Service: 1-800-833-6384

Redmond Parks & Recreation Staff Reports

Projects and Programs

Some Good News:

Three students from Rockwell Elementary took the time to write handwritten notes to our Parks and Recreation team this week to extend their appreciation and thanks for keeping our parks and trails clean, safe and open, feeding the animals at the farm, providing online resources/classes and taking care of seniors in the community.

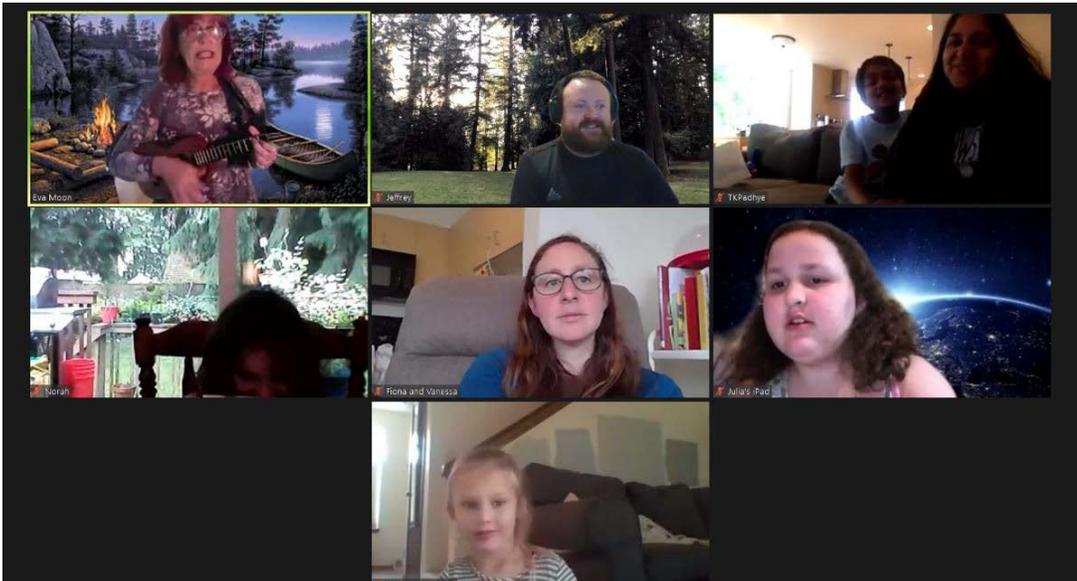


The daily disinfect – Every day since mid-March Park Operations staff have loaded up, geared up, and disinfected the Downtown Park and Watershed Restrooms before they are open for business.



Family Campfire Sing Along – Virtual Recreation

Guest Services is excited to offer an additional section of the ever-popular Sing Along on Fridays, now at 2 p.m., geared specifically for elementary aged kids and families; all ages are welcome. [Join us](#) for great standards like “On Top of Spaghetti,” “The Ants Go Marching,” “She’ll Be Comin’ Round the Mountain,” and “Down by the Bay,” as well as popular new songs like “Baby Shark” and “Let It Go.”



City of Redmond
Parks and Trails Commission Meeting

Draft Meeting Minutes

Redmond City Hall
Remote Meeting via MS Teams.
May 7, 2020
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. -Meeting

Parks & Trails Commissioners in Attendance:

Gary Smith, Chair
Gregg Gottgetreu, Vice Chair
Shelly Bowman
Joel Cherkis
James Terwilliger
Stuart Hargreaves

Vacancies

(3)

Absent and Excused:

Luke Rusak, Youth Advocate
Katie Simmons, Youth Advocate

Staff in Attendance:

Jeff Aken, Senior Parks Planner
Jeff Hagen, Recreation Manager
Julie Holmes, Department Administrative Coordinator

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I. Call to order/Welcome

Meeting was called to order by Chair Smith at 6:36 p.m. with five commissioners in attendance and the Chair.

Approval of May 7, 2020 Meeting Agenda

A motion was made to approve the May 7, 2020 Agenda
Motion by: Commissioner Terwilliger
Second by: Commissioner Hargreaves
Motion Carried: 5-0

Approval of April 2, 2020 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the April 2, 2020 meeting.
Motion Made by: Commissioner Terwilliger
Second by: Councilmember Hargreaves
Motion Carried 5-0

II. Items from the Audience
None

III. New Business

1. Redmond Central Connector Updates (Linkages/RCC III), Jeff Aken, Senior Planner

Redmond Central Connector III:

RCC III is a 1.6-mile segment to NE 124th. It will be the final phase of the 3.9 miles Redmond Central Connector. Puget Sound Energy, as part of their Sammamish-Juanita project, has submitted permit documents for this section and will include the construction of a maintenance access road that will form the base of the RCC. Pending budget outcomes, design work for RCC III could start in 2022 and construction in 2023.

The City has obtained a \$700K Commerce Grant, our current CIP has 2.3M for the project. We are also applying for an RCO Grant for \$1M and will continue to look for funding on the transportation side. Discussion was held regarding the type materials PSE will use to build the maintenance road, the budget/ funding sources, and the design. Mr. Aken will email the Master Plan as requested by Commissioner Gottgetreu.

Redmond Central Connector Linkages:

Design and construction of three linkage projects that will improve safe access to the Redmond Central Connector (RCC). The RCC is a shared pedestrian and bicycle trail that extends from the 9900 Block of Willows Road to Bear Creek near Redmond Way. The Linkages projects will be constructed by City of Redmond (3) and Sound Transit (1). Bike improvements at west-bound 90th and the crossing at 87th and Willows will have pedestrian improvements including crosswalk, sidewalk and rapid flash beacon.

Commissioner Hargreaves commented that the biking community would advocate for a straighter path rather than meandering. If commuting is to be accommodated, then 116th & 124th would be the place to make it straighter and safer. Discussion was held about bike lanes, commuting routes, design and providing ADA access.

IV. Old Business

1. Cost of Service Update-Jeff Hagen, Recreation Manager

1.1 Summer Events Updates

Summer 2020 events are canceled. Derby Days, So Bazaar, Big Truck Day, and Rockin` on the River have all been canceled out of an abundance of caution and to promote continued social distancing.

1.2 COVID-19 created recreation activity challenges thru June 21, 2020. Ball fields, classes, organized sports are all canceled. Re-deployment plans are being formed. Idylwood beach lifeguarding may be canceled. We are working on setting up online classes, socialization for seniors, health and wellness, fitness classes, nature, and arts-at no charge. Work is currently happening on a redeployment plan.

1.3 The Cost of Service Report

In the 2019 report we show a concern with the equestrian program, adaptive recreation, and the rental program. There are changes to our business model and we are researching options to these programs. For example, we are proposing to add a premium on the more popular picnic shelters and raise the rates on the rentals of our rooms. Mr. Hagen asked for comments. Discussion was held.

2. **Smith Woods (Discussion), Commissioner Gottgetreu**

2.1 **Smith Woods Access Alternatives**

Commissioner Gottgetreu spoke about the issues with the neighbors on the North side of the Smith Woods park. The North-East Corner of Smith Woods as shown on the exhibit is where the access is an issue. Barriers to providing access include reluctance due to property owner privacy, property damage, liability if something happens while on their property, and the neighbor's properties reside in unincorporated King County. Commissioner Gottgetreu suggested that the City of Redmond have a graphic artist draw up some plans with nice landscaping and then present it to the reluctant neighbors, so they have a visual. Mr. Aken has been in contact with the neighbors on a regular basis.

Chair Smith feels that this project will not come to reasonable solution in the short-term. Commissioners Terwilliger, Hargreaves, Cherkis and Bouwman agreed. The Commissioners feel that the area people are using for access should be fenced off and posted with a sign noting that there is no access from that point.

2.2 **National Trails Day Alternative**

There is interest from Park Operations staff in creating the loop path in the E. 5Acre parcel. Staff is looking at having a work party in the Fall as the National Trail's Day is virtual this year. Chris Tolonen has been in contact with Mr. Aken. The thought is that this project could be an Eagle Scout project.

V. **Commission Updates/Discussion**

Joint City Council/Parks and Trails Commission Meeting Format, Retreat and new members. Senior Planner, Jeff Aken

Currently we are on hold on moving these items forward as the focus has been on the pandemic. Staff hopes to begin moving the process forward on these topics in June.

Commission Updates

Commissioner Cherkis gave an update on what he is seeing at Watershed Park. He noted that every day he is seeing great use and people are following the rules. Gravel is holding up well. Commissioner Bowman noticed signage that Verizon is posting something on the pole at Grass Lawn Park. Mr. Aken will follow-up with Mr. Tucheck.

Commissioner Bowman followed up on a comment she heard at the City Council meeting, wherein Councilmember Kritzer asked if there could be a liaison with each commission. The Mayor noted that she has purview over commissions. Commissioner Bowman would like a better understanding of that comment. Mr. Aken will check with Director Hite on the matter.

Discussion was held on having two people outside of the City on the Commission. We must change the Redmond Municipal Code to do so. This has been on hold under the current pandemic.

Planning Commission is going to have a meeting on May 27th 2020 and will present the draft scope of the tree code regulations review. Chair Smith, Commissioner Terwilliger, and Commissioner Bowman will be in the audience. Mr. Aken noted that he was trying to have Cathy Beam attend the June meeting.

VI. Department Communications (Memos)

NONE

VII. Staff Updates- Senior Planner, Jeff Aken

NONE

VII. Adjourn

Motion to Adjourn: Commissioner Terwilliger

Second by: Commissioner Cherkis

Motion 5-0

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting

Thursday June 4, 2020

6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting through Teams and Zoom



MEMO TO: Parks and Trails Commission
FROM: Dave Tucheck, Interim Deputy Director
DATE: June 4, 2020
SUBJECT: Redmond Pool Improvement Project Update

I. PURPOSE For Info Only Future Motion Item Motion Requested

II. RECOMMENDATION

Brief the Parks and Trails Commission on the Redmond Pool improvement project progress, schedule, and budget.

III. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Carrie Hite, Director Parks and Recreation	425-556-2326
Dave Tucheck, Interim Deputy Director	425-556-2318
John Mork, Project Manager	425-556-2713
Bethany Kennedy, Customer Experience Manager	425-556-2366

IV. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

The Redmond Pool is currently receiving a major renovation with an original budget of \$8M. The purpose of the renovation is to improve essential and high priority systems and make structural improvements to allow the pool to operate an additional 25-30 years.

The Redmond Pool improvement project was identified in the Facilities Strategic Management Plan that was adopted by Council in January 2019. Through extensive stakeholder involvement to gather input on the Future of Redmond's Community Centers, aquatics facilities were ranked as the highest priority by the community.

The City Council adopted the 2019 – 2025 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) as part of the 2019-2020 overall budget. The CIP allocated \$8M for the pool improvements in 2019-2020 timeframe.

Phase I – Essential System Improvements

McKinstry is under contract to complete system repair and replacement that will improve overall pool facility energy efficiency and operation. This work will result in lower utility use and costs along with improved building system performance and occupant experience.

The following improvements have been completed:

- Boiler system
- Pool circulation system
- Pool heat exchanger
- Lighting
- Electrical service and panels
- Domestic hot water tanks
- Glazing
- Roofing
- Skylights
- Air handler units
- Asbestos abatement
- Acoustical tile removal
- Repairs to pool concrete substructure

The following improvements will be completed in the upcoming months (May – June):

- Installation of corrosion mitigation system.
- Installation of the pool lining.

The completion of Phase 1 has been delayed as a result of the discovery of damaged concrete and structural rebar in the walls of the pool. Since the discovery of the damaged concrete in October 2019, the contractor has been working to make repairs to the pool substructure. During this repair process, it was determined by both a structural and corrosion engineer the failure of the concrete and rebar was due to high levels of chloride in the concrete. Based on the strong recommendations from both engineers, the City will be installing a corrosion mitigation system to the concrete pool substructure. With this system in place, the pool will remain structurally sound for many years to come.

The total cost for the Phase 1 improvements will be approximately \$6.6M. Originally, this work was estimated to cost approximately \$5.45M. The increased cost is largely due to work that was not anticipated in McKinstry's original design/build scope. A summary of the cost increases/decreases are as follows:

○ Pool Filtration System Improvements	\$290,000
○ Pool Lane Tiles, Steps and Drains	\$110,000
○ Domestic Water, Electrical and Gas Upgrades	\$190,000
○ Relocating Air Handling Unit	\$90,000
○ Pool Concrete Repairs	\$275,000
○ Corrosion Mitigation System	\$275,000
○ Pool Cover	(\$225,000)
○ Misc.	\$125,000

Phase 2 – Project Description and Timeline

Phase 2 will focus on making additional improvements to the building that were not eligible to be covered under the phase 1 energy improvement design/build contract with McKinstry. The planned improvements for the second phase of the project are listed below.

- Fire protection upgrades
- ADA improvements
- Plumbing upgrades
- Pool decking
- Lobby and locker room upgrades
- Asbestos abatement

On April 9, 2020, the City received four bids to complete this work. Klinge and Associates, Inc. was the low bidder with a total bid amount of \$1,699,125.45. The Engineer’s Estimate for the project was \$1,553,712.60.

ARC Architects will be providing construction support for the project.

The total cost for Phase 2 improvements will be approximately \$2.64M. The original estimated project costs presented in the June 18, 2019 approval of consultant agreement council memo was approximately \$2.55M. The cost increase is largely due to the bid amount being higher than anticipated.

Fiscal:

The initial amount set aside for the pool renovation was \$8M. Phase 1, including the pool concrete structural repairs, installation of corrosion mitigation system, and UV filtration system totals \$6,577,577. The corrosion mitigation system has not been installed yet, so the cost is an estimate.

Currently, Phase 2 is estimated to cost \$2,640,532 (including the percent for art for the full project and a \$294,168 contingency). This leaves a funding gap of \$1,218,109.

Capital funds have been identified from other Parks projects that have come in under budget, and we are working with our community partners to offset the remainder of the shortfall. Currently, we have secured \$100,000 from Wave, our operational partner. Additionally, we have completed Hartman Park fields turf replacement under budget by \$200,000. We have identified the Parks CIP to cover the remaining balance including the delay of two projects, (Adair House repairs and construction of the 100th St. to Willows Road Trail), ADA funding, and Parks CIP ending fund balance.

<u>Current Project Budget:</u>		
Parks CIP		\$7,020,000
Department of Commerce Grant		\$980,000
		\$8,000,000

<u>Estimated Project Cost:</u>		
Redmond Pool Phase 1		\$6,577,577
Redmond Pool Phase 2		<u>\$2,640,532</u>
		\$9,218,109
*Budget Difference		\$1,218,109
*Wave, Inc Contribution		\$100,000
Savings from Hartman Park Turf Project		\$200,000
Transfer from Parks CIP		<u>\$918,109</u>
		\$1,218,109

V. TIME CONSTRAINTS

Phase 1

Complete Construction

July 2020

Phase 2

Award of Bid

May 19, 2020

Begin Construction

July 2020

Substantial Completion Target

Fall 2020

VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Pool Update PTC 06042020



MEMO TO: Parks and Trails Commission

FROM: Meg Angevine, Park Operations Supervisor

DATE: June 4, 2020

SUBJECT: Green Redmond Partnership – 2019 Accomplishments

I. PURPOSE For Info Only Future Motion Item Motion Requested

RECOMMENDATION

None. This is an informational update only.

II. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Carrie Hite, Director Parks and Recreation	425-556-2326
Eric O’Neal, Interim Park Operations Manager	425-556-2325
Meg Angevine, Park Operations Supervisor	425-556-2385

III. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

The goal of the Green Redmond Partnership is to build a sustainable network of healthy urban greenspace for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations. The partnership was adopted by City Council in December of 2007, with work outlined in the 20-Year Forest Management Plan to actively manage 1,035 acres of Redmond’s forested parkland by 2029. The partnership launched in 2009 with restoration projects carried out by City of Redmond, Forterra and volunteers.

The annual accounting of accomplishments is completed each year to gauge progress, participation, and aid in directing future work.

A. Analysis

Program Success:

This has been a very successful program completing environmental restoration work in forested parkland, with trained volunteer Forest Stewards leading other volunteers to remove non-native, invasive plants and plant native trees, shrubs and groundcovers.

IV. TIME CONSTRAINTS

None. This program is on-going.

V. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: 2020 Green Redmond PTC Presentation

Attachment B: 2019 Green Redmond Annual Report



740 Trees
planted as the future forest
of Redmond's parks

1,145 Shrubs,
wetland emergents, and
other small plants were
also planted to create a,
biodiverse, healthy forest



408 Acres
currently enrolled into active
restoration

10 Year Celebration
held to commemorate
reaching the half-way point in
Green Redmond's 20 Year-
Plan Forest Restoration Plan



1,175 People,
including 476 youth,
volunteered their time
removing invasive plants, and
planting native species

3,438 Hours
of volunteer work, valued at
\$109,053 spent helping to
care for Redmond's forested
parks

GREEN REDMOND
PARTNERSHIP

2019

looking back



The Green Redmond Partnership was launched
in 2009 to restore 1,035 acres of forested parks
and natural areas by 2029.

WWW.GREENREDMOND.ORG



78 Volunteer
work parties



22 Forest Stewards
at 17 parks



7th Annual Green
Redmond Day



MEMO TO: Parks and Trails Commission
FROM: Jeff Aken, Senior Park Planner
DATE: June 4, 2020
SUBJECT: Draft ADA Facilities Transition Plan

I. PURPOSE For Info Only Future Motion Item Motion Requested

II. RECOMMENDATION

Gather feedback from the Parks and Trails Commission on the draft phases and priorities of the ADA Transition Plan for City owned and operated facilities. These facilities include Community Center, Teen Center, Municipal Campus, Public Safety Building, MOC and other facilities.

III. DEPARTMENT CONTACTS

Carrie Hite, Parks and Recreation Director	425-556-2326
Lee Ann Skipton, Facilities Manager	425-556-2398
Jeff Aken, Senior Park Planner	425-556-2328

IV. DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND

Redmond is continuing its work to become more accessible for all members of the community to live, work, play and invest. Following the development of a Transition Plan for Parks and Trails, the City Council budgeted a \$150,000 in the 2019-20 biennium to audit City owned and managed facilities and create a transition plan prioritizing the identified barriers and solutions.

Redmond has a diverse facility portfolio housing the City's administration, recreation, maintenance and operations, public safety, and emergency services. Redmond operates approximately 500,000 gross square feet of facilities in 26 buildings at 13 sites

The consultant, Bureau Veritas, has performed the following work.

Analysis

- Auditing all 26 buildings at 13 sites have been audited and draft site reports.
- Integrating GIS data from the Parks and Trails ADA Transition Plan.
- Development of the draft ADA Facilities Transition Plan

Draft Transition Plan Summary

The draft Transition Plan focuses on physical access to City owned and operated buildings along with program access. Recurring amenities may have the option of shifting programs to accessible locations, whereas unique amenities will need to be made accessible. Examples of a unique amenity would be the Old Firehouse Teen Center or City Hall Council Chambers.

Five Priorities:

- The top priority is parking, accessible approaches and entries.
- Second, elements used for programs, services and activities. These would include equipment, permit counters, access to public meeting rooms etc.
- Third priority is accessible restroom facilities.
- Fourth priority includes auxiliary features and amenities such as water fountains, benches etc.
- Fifth and final priority is employee only areas. (Restrooms, kitchens and break rooms are required to fully comply with accessibility requirements.

Five Phases:

The priority rating was based on public use of facility. The number of amenities, services, and programs available at a facility are primary factors affecting facility usage levels.

- Phase One- City Hall, Hartman Park - Redmond Pool, Redmond Community Center, Trinity Building
- Phase Two- Old Fire Station Teen Center, Public Safety Building
- Phase Three- Building 11- Decant Facility, Building 1 - Public Works MOC, Building 3 – Facilities Workgroup, Modular, Building 5 - Central Stores Warehouse, Building 8 - Parks MOC, King County Commuter Parking, Municipal Campus Parking Garage
- Phase Four- Fire Station 11 and Old Medic One Building, Fire Station 16 and Shop, Police Garage North, Police, Garage South, Medic 23 Quarters at Evergreen Hospital
- Phase Five- Fire Station 12, Fire Station 13, Fire Station 14, Fire Station 17, Fire Station 18

In addition, the draft Transition Plan makes recommendations around funding levels, compliance and policy and program reviews. Staff is interested in initial feedback on the above priorities and phases and then in July the Commission can discuss site specific issues/feedback the Commission may have. Staff will also seek feedback from the public in the summer of 2020.

V. TIME CONSTRAINTS

Staff would like to bring the Transition plan forward to City Council to consider adoption in 2020.

VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Date: May 27, 2020

To: Redmond Planning Commission

From: Cathy Beam, AICP, Principal Planner
Sarah Pyle, Planning Manager

Subject: Tree Regulations Update Briefing

Purpose

The purpose of this briefing is to share information staff has compiled regarding tree removal permits, tree protection during review of development proposal, tree regulations from other jurisdictions, and outline the next steps moving towards updating the City's tree regulations.

Background

The City of Redmond adopted its first tree protection regulations (Ordinance 1998) in 1998. In general, the regulations contain tree retention standards for new developments as well as tree removal permits on developed lots. These regulations have not had a comprehensive review since they were adopted over twenty years ago. It is time to check back with the community to determine if these regulations need modifications and are achieving their goals in the context of urban growth.

In 1998, Redmond had a population of 44,383. According to King County's 1998 Growth Report, there were 18,705 housing units (8,635 single family homes and 10,068 multifamily units) and 52,812 jobs. That is a stark difference to current statistics. In 2019, Redmond's population grew to 65,860 people. There were 13,316 single family residences, 19,343 multi-family units, and 97,863 jobs.

A key element of updating the regulations is to first understand the framework we work within. Under the Growth Management Act, Redmond is designated within an Urban Growth Boundary, which essentially means we will continue to absorb population growth as it occurs. The Urban Growth Boundary is a mechanism to curtail urban sprawl. In Redmond, our eastern border is generally the urban growth boundary, curtailing urban development out towards the Snoqualmie Valley.

Redmond's Comprehensive Plan identifies growth in its two urban centers (Downtown and Overlake) in support of light rail. There will undoubtedly be some infill development in established neighborhoods as well, and it is acknowledged that maintaining neighborhood character is important.

There has been tremendous growth in Redmond over the past decade as can be seen in Figure 1 below.

Figure 1. Redmond Growth Over the Past Decade

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Population	54,144	55,105	55,360	57,657	59,482	59,180	60,560	62,110	64,050	65,860
Number of SF Residences	11,952	12,121	12,192	12,301	12,544	12,729	12,888	12,993	13,177	13,316
Number of MF Residences	11,597	11,610	11,912	12,294	13,086	13,486	15,377	17,400	17,765	19,343
Number of Jobs	78,876	78,893	77,615	81,867	84,547	84,064	86,083	94,059	93,766	97,863
Square Footage of Non-Residential	27,669,494	27,755,493	28,026,282	28,250,773	29,010,668	29,263,336	29,510,271	29,739,174	30,379,506	30,541,499

From 2010 to 2019, the City’s population has increased by 18% (14,716 new residences). Single family residential construction has increased 10% adding 1,364 new homes. Multi-family construction has increased by 40% adding 7,746 new units. The number of jobs has increase by 19% with 18,987 new employees. Lastly, non-residential construction has increased by 9% adding 2,872,005 new square feet of commercial space.

Tree Definitions

Redmond regulates removal of significant trees and landmark trees. *A significant tree is defined as any healthy tree six inches in diameter at breast height (d.b.h.), or any tree four inches in diameter at breast height (d.b.h.) that, after considering its age, height, value, or function, the tree or tree stand is determined to be significant.* Important factors to note are that significant trees can be any species of tree meeting the size requirement, and they must be healthy. Landmark trees hold special status. *A landmark tree is any healthy tree over thirty inches in diameter.*

Tree Data Analysis

Tree data was pulled from 2015 through 2019 to help provide a picture of what is occurring with tree removal over the past five years in the City of Redmond. Staff reviewed both tree removal permits and tree data related to proposed developments.

Figure 2 below show the number of individual tree removal permits sought over the past five years and in the first quarter of 2020. These are permits that are for existing developed sites, such as single-family homes, apartment complexes, and commercial properties. Tree removal permits are most commonly applied for by individual homeowner for a number of reasons , most commonly related to safety or health.

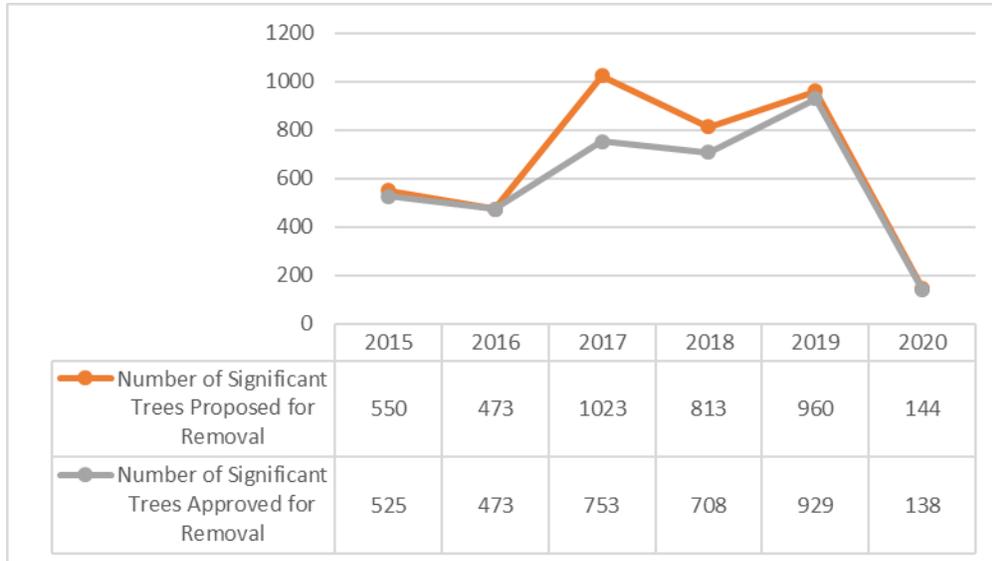
Figure 2. Tree Removal Permits

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Numer of Tree Removal Permit Requests	326	315	432	424	438	62
Number of Tree Removal Permits Issued	324	314	424	412	432	60
Number of Tree Removal Permits Denied	2	1	1	4	1	0
Percent of Tree Removal Permits Issued	99%	100%	98%	97%	99%	97%
Number of Significant Trees Proposed for Removal	550	473	1023	813	960	144
Number of Significant Trees Approved for Removal	525	473	753	708	929	138
Number of Replacement Trees Required	561	539	636	588	458	89

It appears from the data above that the number of replacement trees is not keeping pace with the number of significant trees removed. The tree protection regulations require each significant tree removed be replaced by one new tree. This is clearly an area of improvement needed when issuing tree removal permits.

Figure 3 below represents a comparison of the number of significant trees proposed for removal versus the number of significant trees approved for removal through tree removal permits.

Figure 3. Significant Trees Proposed for Removal vs. Approved for Removal (Tree Removal Permits)



This graphic illustrates that the City issues most individual tree removal permits, but not all.

City staff observed take-aways from researching tree removal permits on a large scale. Some translate to lessons learned and provide opportunities for improvement for issuing more effective tree removal permits. These observations include:

- The ratio of trees being retained vs removed may not fully reflect the effectiveness of policy over time. The intake planners have been increasingly thorough with applications as they come in the door, therefore significantly reducing the amount of denied applications in recent years by simply educating customers about code, processes, and requirements and eliminating the need for applying in certain scenarios.
- Many residents will include dead, diseased or dying trees in their removal permits. While these trees are documented, they do not require replacements. More detailed and broken out tracking of when unhealthy trees are included as part of tree removal permit applications is also an area of opportunity identified by staff.
- Data entry methods have varied significantly over time due to vague definitions of significant vs. hazardous tree counts, inadequate training, and lack of detailed descriptions.
- A clear understanding of how tree data information can be used will ease the transition into effective data entry methods and unilateral consensus on the proper use of the internal permit tracking modules with the City's permitting system.

Once an effective method for data entry is implemented, quarterly metrics and rigid reporting requirements will ease and facilitate the accurate compiling of meaningful data moving forward.

Development proposals are subject to the tree protection standards as well. All new developments, including additions to existing non-single-family buildings and parking areas requires the retention of 35% of all significant trees. The regulations do allow exceptions to this standard provided specific criteria are met and approved.

Figure 4 shows the number of development proposal from 2015 through 2019 subject to tree protection regulations. This is inclusive of developments proposed in Redmond’s two urban centers. On average over the past five years, 73% of land development applications submitted have met the 35% tree retention requirement.

Figure 4. Number of Development Proposals Meeting 35% Tree Retention

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of development proposals requiring 35% tree retention	47	47	22	40	51
Number of development proposals meeting 35% tree retention	34	35	19	29	31
Percent of development proposals meeting 35% tree retention	72	75	86	73	61

All significant trees removed as part of development proposals are required to be replaced at a 1:1 ratio. All landmark trees removed are required to be replaced at a 3:1 ratio. Figure 5 contains data related to tree removal numbers and tree replacement requirements.

Figure 5. Number of Significant and Landmark Trees Removed and Replaced for New Developments

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number of significant trees approved for removal	658	1,774	496	2,737	7,925
Number of trees planted due to significant tree removal	703	2,150	681	2,906	7,970
Number of landmark trees approved for removal	46	91	41	104	117
Number of trees planted due to landmark tree removal	111	288	133	282	351

There were some big numbers of trees proposed for removal over the past two years which are attributed to Sound Transit, Microsoft Refresh, Lake Hills, Project X, and several subdivisions in the Rose Hill Neighborhood. The required 1:1 replacement for significant trees have always been met, if not exceeded in some years. However, it appears the numbers for landmark tree replacements (2015 & 2018) haven’t always been met.

As noted above, the tree protection regulations allow exceptions to meeting the 35% tree retention standard as well as permitting landmark tree removal, when specific criteria are met. Figure 6 provides the statistics on exception requests over the past five years.

Figure 6. Tree Exception Requests

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number tree exception requests	14	25	5	16	15
Number of tree exception requests approved	14	25	5	13	8
Percent of tree exception requests approved	100	100	100	TBD	TBD

Exception requests have run from a high of 25 in 2016 to a low of 5 in 2017. The City has granted all exceptions requests, but it is important to note staff are more vigilant about not allowing submittal of those that wouldn't be supported to apply. The data set for years 2018 and 2019 are not yet complete as some of the projects requesting tree exceptions are still under review.

Tree Regulations of Surrounding Jurisdictions

Staff researched tree codes from other King County jurisdictions, including Kirkland, Sammamish, Bellevue, Issaquah, Renton, and Woodinville. This enabled staff to determine where Redmond falls in the spectrum of tree protection and regulation in the region.

All jurisdictions have similar definitions of significant trees. Sammamish and Bellevue's size of significant trees is eight inches in diameter at breast height (DBH), as opposed to six. Issaquah and Renton use six inches DBH but require cottonwoods and alders be eight inches DBH to be considered significant trees. Issaquah, Sammamish, and Renton regulate landmark trees. Issaquah's and Renton's landmark tree definitions are similar to Redmond's, trees greater than 30" DBH. Sammamish's defines a landmark tree as 32" DBH. However, they do have a heritage tree definition which is a tree greater than 22" (but less than 32") DBH. Issaquah and Woodinville have a heritage tree definition which does not include a minimum size. Similarly, Kirkland has a specimen tree definition that does not include a minimum size.

Five of the six jurisdictions require tree removal permits. Most have a sliding scale of the number of trees that may be removed within one year (365 days) that vary with the lot size, similar to Redmond. All jurisdictions have some level of tree preservation required with land development activity. The range is requirement ranges from 10% to 50% depending on the jurisdiction and the underlying zoning of the development proposal property. Several jurisdictions have a minimum tree density requirement which is a formula-based calculation. Most jurisdictions require tree replacement plantings. The majority of cities that require tree replacement plantings are consistent with Redmond's 1:1 requirement. Additionally, most of those cities require a minimum size at installation of replacement trees at two-inch caliper. Redmond regulations requires size of replacement trees at two- and one-half-inch caliper for deciduous trees and six feet in height for evergreen trees. For those jurisdictions that have a fee-in-lieu program, Redmond has the lowest fee at \$250 per tree, with Woodinville at \$500 per tree credit. Others' fees are based on the current market value of the replacement tree and the labor to install them.

Next Steps

The City will define a scope and address updating the tree regulations in the Zoning Code over the next several months. Staff will develop a public engagement plan and establish an internal stakeholders' team.