STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (SEPA)
DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

For more information about this project visit www.redmond.gov/landuseapps

PROJECT INFORMATION

PROJECT NAME: Amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and PARCC Plan

SEPA FILE NUMBER: SEPA-2020-00148

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
Proposed amendments to the Trails Map in the PARCC Plan and new policies related to the recently adopted Parks and Trails Strategic Management Plan, American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA) Parks and Trails Transition Plan, Tree Canopy Strategic Plan, and Facilities Strategic Management Plan.

PROJECT LOCATION: citywide

SITE ADDRESS: 15670 NE 85TH ST
REDMOND, WA 98052

APPLICANT: Jeff Aken

LEAD AGENCY: City of Redmond

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that the requirements of environmental analysis, protection, and mitigation measures have been adequately addressed through the City’s regulations and Comprehensive Plan together with applicable State and Federal laws.

Additionally, the lead agency has determined that the proposal does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment as described under SEPA.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

IMPRESSIBLE OFFICIAL: Carol V. Helland
Planning Director

SIGNATURE:  

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Dave Juarez
Public Works Director

SIGNATURE:  

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

PROJECT PLANNER NAME: Cathy Beam
PHONE NUMBER: 425-556-2429
EMAIL: cbeam@redmond.gov

ADDRESS: 15670 NE 85th Street Redmond, WA 98052

DATE OF DNS ISSUANCE: March 19, 2020

For more information about the project or SEPA procedures, please contact the project planner.

IMPORTANT DATES

COMMENT PERIOD
Depending upon the proposal, a comment period may not be required. An “X” is placed next to the applicable comment period provision.

There is no comment period for this DNS. Please see below for appeal provisions.

‘X’ This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2), and the lead agency will not make a decision on this proposal for 14 days from the date below. Comments can be submitted to the Project Planner, via phone, fax (425)556-2400, email or in person at the Development Services Center located at 15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, WA 98052. Comments must be submitted by 04/02/2020.

APPEAL PERIOD
You may appeal this determination to the City of Redmond Office of the City Clerk, Redmond City Hall, 15670 NE 85th Street, P.O. Box 97010, Redmond, WA 98073-9710, no later than 5:00 p.m. on 04/17/2020, by submitting a completed City of Redmond Appeal Application Form available on the City’s website at www.redmond.gov or at City Hall. You should be prepared to make specific factual objections.

DATE OF DNS ISSUANCE: March 19, 2020

For more information about the project or SEPA procedures, please contact the project planner.

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Carol V. Helland
Planning Director

SIGNATURE:  

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: Dave Juarez
Public Works Director

SIGNATURE:  

ADDRESS: 15670 NE 85th Street Redmond, WA 98052
CITY OF REDMOND

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST
NON-PROJECT ACTION
(Revised May 2018)

Purpose of the Checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the City of Redmond identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for Applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write “do not know” or “does not apply” and indicate the reason why the question “does not apply”. It is not adequate to submit responses such as “N/A” or “does not apply”; without providing a reason why the specific section does not relate or cause an impact. Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later. If you need more space to write answers attach them and reference the question number.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the City can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. When you submit this checklist the City may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Review Planner Name: CBeam

Date of Review: 2/26/2020
# To Be Completed By Applicant

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A. BACKGROUND</th>
<th>Evaluation for Agency Use Only</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amendments to the Redmond Comprehensive Plan and PARCC Plan to reflect recently adopted planning documents.</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Name of applicant:</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Jeff Aken, Sr. Park Planner
for City of Redmond, Parks and Recreation Dept. | CB |
| 3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: | CB |
| P.O. Box 97010
Redmond, WA 98073 | phone 425-556-2328 |
<p>| 4. Date checklist prepared: | CB |
| Feb. 4, 2020 | CB |
| 5. Agency requesting checklist: | CB |
| City of Redmond | CB |
| 6. Give an accurate, brief description of the proposal’s scope and nature: | CB |
| i. Acreage of the site: | N/A |
| ii. Number of dwelling units/ buildings to be constructed: | N/A |
| iii. Square footage of dwelling units/ buildings being added: | N/A |
| iv. Square footage of pavement being added: | N/A |
| v. Use or principal activity: | N/A |
| vi. Other information: | N/A |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.</strong> Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March: Tech Committee, SEPA Determination</td>
<td>This is a 2020 schedule.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April - May: Planning Commission</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June - July: PHS, Council</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8.</strong> Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal?</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, explain.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In 2020-21 Staff will undertake an evaluation of the RZC's related codes to tree preservation which may result in code revisions.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff is creating an ADA transition plan for city-owned and managed facilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9.</strong> List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared or will be prepared directly related to this proposal.</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADA - WT Consultants conducted an access audit of all 47 parks and 39 miles of trails to develop a transition plan for Redmond;'s parks and trails per Title II of the 1990 American's with Disabilities Act (ADA)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tree Canopy Strategic Plan conducted an analysis of existing and potential tree canopy using LIDAR and GIS.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10.</strong> Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal?</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Yes [ ] No If yes, explain.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A This is a non-project action.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>11. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.</td>
<td>City Council ordinance adoption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.</td>
<td>This package consists of proposed policy amendments to the Comprehensive Plan except for a Trails Map update in the PARCC Plan. The proposed amendments are the outcome of recently adopted planning documents including the American’s with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan: Parks and Recreation, Tree Canopy Strategic Plan, and Facilities Strategic Management Plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.</td>
<td>Proposals have citywide impacts, however, 2 policies are No. Redmond specific: N-NR-4 Conserve and strive to enhance existing significant natural features, incl. steep slopes, wetlands, streams, creeks, trees, and fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas. N-NR-13 Require retention and promote the health of landmark trees. Require sidewalk designs that meander around the tree(s) and respective drip-lines, or include them within curb bulbs in locations along arterials where sufficient existing ROW unless said location would prove a danger to public safety.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
### B. SUPPLEMENTAL

Because these questions are very general, it may be helpful to read them in conjunction with the list of the elements of the environment.

When answering these questions, be aware of the extent the proposal or the types of activities likely to result from the proposal, would affect the item at a greater intensity or at a faster rate than if the proposal were not implemented. Respond briefly and in general terms.

1. **How would the proposal be likely to increase discharge to water; emissions to air; production, storage, or release of toxic or hazardous substances; or production of noise?**

   - **N/A** - the proposal is a non-project action. Proposed alterations of parks and trails, or ADA access projects would be designed and built in a manner that avoids or reduces discharge to water and air, and avoids creating noise or hazardous substances.

   Proposed measures to avoid or reduce such increases are:

   - **N/A** - the proposal is a non-project action. Proposed alterations of parks and trails, or ADA access projects would be designed and constructed consistent with Redmond's zoning code, and local, state and federal environmental standards.

2. **How would the proposal be likely to affect plants, animals, fish, or marine life?**

   - **N/A** - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and built in a manner that avoids or reduces negative impacts to plants, animals, fish, and marine life.

   Proposed measures to protect or conserve plants, animals, fish or marine life are:

   - **N/A** - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and constructed consistent with Redmond's zoning code, and local, state and federal environmental standards.
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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3. <strong>How would the proposal be likely to deplete energy or natural resources?</strong></td>
<td>CB - Proposal not likely to deplete energy and natural resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and built in a manner that avoids or reduces depletion of energy and natural resources.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed measures to protect or conserve energy and natural resources are:</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and constructed consistent with Redmond’s zoning code, and local, state and federal environmental standards.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. <strong>How would the proposal be likely to use or affect environmentally sensitive areas or areas designated (or eligible or under study) for governmental protection; such as parks, wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, threatened or endangered species habitat, historic or cultural sites, wetlands, floodplains, or prime farmlands?</strong></td>
<td>CB - Proposal not likely to affect these areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and built in a manner that avoids or reduces impact to environmentally sensitive areas.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed measures to protect such resources or to avoid or reduce impacts are:</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and constructed consistent with Redmond’s zoning code, and local, state and federal environmental standards.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5. How would the proposal be likely to affect land and shoreline use, including whether it would allow or encourage land or shoreline uses incompatible with existing plans?</strong></td>
<td>CB - Proposal not likely to affect land and shoreline uses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and built in a manner that avoids land or shoreline uses that are incompatible with existing plans.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed measures to avoid or reduce shoreline and land use impacts are:</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Any proposed alterations to parks, trails or ADA access projects would be designed and constructed consistent with Redmond's zoning code, and local, state and federal environmental standards.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. How would the proposal be likely to increase demands on transportation or public services and utilities?</strong></td>
<td>CB - Proposal not likely to increase demands on these services.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is a non-project action. Proposed policies that address ADA access to parks and trails will likely encourage more visitors to these facilities.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed measures to reduce or respond to such demand(s) are:</td>
<td>CB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A - the proposal is non-project action. Amending the Comprehensive Plan by the proposed policies would allow the City to promote the development of energy management technologies as part of efficiently meeting the City’s energy needs through techniques, such as benchmarking buildings for energy performance, optimizing input energy requirements, and initiating incentive programs for net-zero energy structures (proposed UT-77).</td>
<td></td>
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To Be Completed By Applicant

7. Identify, if possible, whether the proposal may conflict with local, state, or federal laws or requirements for the protection of the environment.

No conflicts with local, state, or federal laws for the protection of the environment are anticipated.

C. SIGNATURE

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Applicant Signature: Jeff Aken

Name of Signee: Jeff Aken

Position and Agency/Organization: Senior Park Planner

Relationship of Signer to Project: Project Manager

Date Submitted: 2/4/20
EXHIBIT A

Proposed Trail Map Amendments

The following changes are proposed to the Proposed Trail Project Map from the 2017 PARCC Plan.

1 100th Street Connector: Change from proposed connector trail to proposed local trail due to feasibility issues of steep grades. A narrower soft surface trail may be feasible in this location.

17 148th Ave NE: Remove the proposed trail section on 148th between Old Redmond Road to Redmond Way, as the trail would not connect to another park, trail, or bicycle facility beyond that point.

33 NE 116th Trail 1: Change the proposed trail between the Sammamish River and Redwood Road from a connector trail to a local trail due to challenges with steep slopes up to 154th, presence of critical areas, insufficient right-of-way within King County, and the potential need to take King County park land for right-of-way (6F issue).

40 PSE Trail West (N/S) – North: Change proposed trail from a regional trail to a soft surface local trail, which is 1 to 5 feet wide, due to feasibility with steep grades. This trail was recently evaluated including site visits by staff and the topography is too challenging to implement regional trail standards.

49/20 Woodbridge Neighborhood Connector Trail: Remove proposed trail as the road is not being constructed through this private property. There are bicycle lanes that cross the neighborhood east-west along NE 76th Street and the proposed Bear-Evans Creek regional trail just north of that. There are also bike lanes running north-south along 185th Ave NE. Lastly, there is a regional trail running north-south along the eastern boundary of the neighborhood.

67/68th Trail: Remove proposed trail number 20, 185th Ave NE because there will no longer be a connection across neighborhood without proposed trail 49.

63EW Willows Creek Neighborhood Park to PSE Trail: Remove the proposed east-west route in the trail network labeled 63. The street adjacent NE 94th Street has a bike boulevard proposed in the Transportation Master Plan (TMP), which is more feasible to improve than to add the parallel un-numbered trail to the north, labeled as regional.

66 PSE Trail West (N/S) North Terminus: Remove this proposed trail because Kirkland has a Funded CIP project for a similar connection.
NE 95th St Trail: Reclassify this proposed regional trail to a local trail, which could be paved or soft surface. The width of a regional trail would impact the width of the bridge. Pedestrian traffic flow on NE 95th Street is very low. Beyond the bridge, there are additional right-of-way needs to create a trail and a narrower trail will reduce the amount of property needed.

87th Street to 88th Street Trail: This proposed connector trail is requested to be removed from the PARCC Plan as the adjacent property owner is seeking to ask the City to abandon that right-of-way and use it for a stormwater improvement project to address flooding on their property. This cannot move forward while the city shows a proposed project in the Comprehensive Plan within that right-of-way. The trail was a small connection between neighborhoods. Due to the steep grade, the proposed trail would not be ADA accessible. There are sidewalks on the local streets for alternative safe pedestrian access through the neighborhood.

Redmond Way Trail 2 (180th to Bear & Evans Creek Trail): Remove this proposed trail, as it is redundant to the East Lake Sammamish Trail one block away and there is not enough right of way, it has a constrained width with structural walls that would make construction extremely expense. An alternative would be to take the East Lake Sammamish Trail to trail 22 on the map to connect to Route 202.

Proposed ADA Policies

PR-20 Prepare a plan to meet the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements for outdoor recreation facilities. Design and renovate identified parks and recreational facilities in a manner that will, where feasible, provide safe and accessible use by all persons. (SMP)

- CF NEW#: The City shall maintain an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Transition Plan for all regulated facilities and programs and update it at least every six years with accomplishments, new findings, updated best practices, and revised priorities for removing barriers to access.

- PR NEW#: At least one-third of recurring park elements, such as playgrounds, picnic tables, or sport courts; and all unique park elements, such as the beach at Idylwood Park, shall be accessible to the community.

- PR NEW#: The City shall use best management practices to produce and host events that are accessible to all.

Proposed Tree Canopy Policies

Delete the following policies:

- NE-121 Provide information to community residents and property owners to encourage them to plant trees on their properties.
- NE-113 Maintain no net loss of significant trees within the city over the long term.
- PR-11 Preserve and enhance natural areas within parks to help increase citywide tree canopy.
· PR-57 Develop a cross-departmental strategic plan to increase tree canopy across the city and provide a canopy coverage goal, proposed timeline, and methods for achieving the goal.

NR NEW# - Follow the recommendations in the 2019 Tree Canopy Strategic Plan, including:
- Increase the tree canopy to 40 percent by 2049 with a focus on enhancements on public and private land within city limits;
- Encourage tree canopy preservation and growth on private land by providing educational programs and discouraging the removal of trees beyond retention standards, utilizing code incentives to plant new trees and preserve existing trees, and working with community partners and developers to plant new trees and retain existing trees;
- Evaluate tree regulations and determine if they are accomplishing the intended goals of the Tree Canopy Strategic Plan.
- Continually invest in urban forest management programs to protect and expand the existing tree canopy; and
- Prioritize acquisition of property for current tree canopy benefits or the opportunity to plant trees to enhance the canopy.

Revise FW-11 as follows to address the importance of all greenspace including shrubbery and grass, as opposed to incorporating more hard surfaces.

FW-11 Emphasize Redmond’s role as an environmental steward by conducting City business in a manner that:
• Increases community understanding of the natural environment through education and involvement programs to promote active participation in addressing environmental challenges and solutions;
• Promotes sustainable land use patterns and low-impact development practices; and
• Leads by example in the conservation of natural resources, such as energy, water, trees and greenspace, and avoidance of adverse environmental impacts.

Proposed Capital Facilities Policies
Create a new sub-section in the Capital Facilities Element and include the following policies in that section:

Capital Facilities Development and Maintenance

In 2019, the City Council approved a Facilities Strategic Management Plan that provides guidance on how to best operate, maintain, and upgrade City facilities in the short- and long-term (30 years). It includes a business model that establishes desired facility management services and service levels. In addition, it recommends optimized maintenance staffing, use of resources, and capital project priorities and phasing. The guiding principles for the plan include, developing and maintaining city facilities that are:
- Sustainable and efficient
- Welcoming, safe, and healthy
- Flexible and designed for the future
- Achievable.

**Revise CC 19 and PR-64 and move to the Capital Facilities Element:**
- Revision of CC 19 to CF NEW# - Design and build Redmond’s public buildings for a 50-year lifespan that include building automation technology and high-quality, durable finishes and materials to serve as innovative and sustainable models to the community.

- Update PR 64 to CF XX - Manage assets such as buildings, infrastructure and amenities to provide durability and functionality. Practice proactive management that results in replacement or renovation in advance of need plans for quarter-life capital investments that may include functional modernization, major maintenance, and building systems replacement. Engage stakeholders in planning and analysis for end of life reinvestment for replacement of facilities.

**Revise UT 77** - Promote the development utilization of current energy management and building automation technologies as part of efficiently meeting the City’s energy and facility management goals. The following techniques should be leveraged to support energy efficiency strategies, such as: benchmarking buildings for energy performance, optimizing input energy requirements, and initiating incentive programs for net-zero energy structures.

**CF NEW#** - The City will develop sustainable buildings by:
- Using long-lasting materials, energy and water efficient systems, building automation systems;
- Designing flexible spaces for planned future growth; and
- Using land and building space to its maximum potential.

**Move NE 36 and NE 50 to the Capital Facilities Element:**
- **NE-36 to CF NEW#** - Require site-specific seismic hazard preparedness studies for essential public facilities.
- **NE-50 to CF NEW#** - Locate public facilities outside of the 100-year floodplain unless needed to serve development within areas characterized by urban development or because efficiencies from locating near existing public facilities already within the 100-year floodplain would clearly outweigh the risk of damage to the facility.

**Revise:**
Capital Planning References
Functional plans are major components of the City’s overall Capital Facilities Program. The
following functional plans have been adopted by the City and may be consulted for more detailed information regarding existing and planned facilities, service standards and facility development:

- City of Redmond, ADA Transition Plan Amendment for Parks and Trails, Approved October 2019.
- King County, Final 2009 Comprehensive Solid Waste Management Plan.