

# Redmond Central Connector



The Redmond Central Connector Trail brings people together, showcases the beauty of our community, improves active transportation choices, and supports jobs.

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## Summary

The Redmond Central Connector is a regional trail, linear park and a future connection to Sound Transit's East Link light rail. It supports a City vision of being inspired by nature while connecting neighborhoods and vibrant urban centers. The Connector is a regional, hard-surface trail that will connect with more than 60 miles of King County regional trails. It provides transportation choices, recreation opportunities, and contributes to the character of the community. The trail will be a key regional link from Redmond to Sammamish and Kirkland—revitalizing 30 acres in Redmond to improve tourism for retail establishments and encourage more recreational, commercial, retail, and office activity.

## Strategies:

Redmond invested \$11.35 million in 2010 to secure four miles of the rail-banked former Burlington Northern Santa Fe rail corridor and buy adjacent properties to accommodate the intended uses. The Connector is part of a regional partnership of the Eastside Rail Corridor (ERC) Regional Advisory Committee to redevelop the rail corridor into an expanded regional trail and transit system, and accommodate regional utilities. The ERC is a partnership between Redmond, Kirkland, King County, Sound Transit, and Puget Sound Energy, each of which has property rights within the 42-mile corridor between Snohomish County and Renton. RCC will be built in four segments.



More details at [redmond.gov/RCC](http://redmond.gov/RCC)

## Project Timeline:

2019-2020 Phase V:  
Kirkland Design & Construction

2019-2022 Phase III: Design & Construction

2019-2024 Phase IV: Sound Transit Design & Construction

2019 2020 2022 2024

## Major Segments Completed and Underway

### Phase I

- The first mile was completed in 2013.
- Connected Bear Creek Trail on the east side of Downtown to the busy Sammamish River Trail on the west end, providing a safe east-west pedestrian route through Downtown.
- Revitalized nearly 13 acres of Downtown, and includes three significant public artworks – John Fleming’s commissioned works *Signals*, Redmond’s *Erratic*, and *Skypainting* – as well as a regional stormwater trunk line.
- \$5 million cost – 74% was matched by the combination of a King County levy, Washington Department of Commerce grant, and Federal Transportation grant.
- By 2024, Sound Transit will extend East Link from Bellevue and Overlake to Downtown Redmond, adjacent to this segment of the Connector.

### Phase II

- 1.3-mile segment was under construction, including integrated artwork, completed in 2017.
- Connects Downtown and Sammamish River trails with the Redmond Puget Power Trail, Willows business district, and Sammamish Valley neighborhoods including Overlake Christian Church and DigiPen Institute of Technology.
- Downtown and the Willows business district expect a combined increase of 10,000 residents and 20,000 jobs by 2020, and the Connector provides an alternative route to move between these areas.
- \$6.4 million cost – 81% matched funding through a combination of a King County levy and grants from Washington Department of Commerce, Washington Recreation and Conservation Office, Washington Department of Transportation, and Puget Sound Regional Council.
- Users of the trail will experience *Mixed Messages*, an integrated artwork that tells stories about Redmond and reveals more of the story when it rains. The artist team was the Seattle-based Sidecar Collective, who collaborated with Redmond’s Poet Laureate, Shin Yu Pai, on the messages.

### Phase III

- 1.6-mile segment is in the planning phase.
- Will connect the Phase II trail near Overlake Christian Church to NE 124th Street at the Kirkland border.
- This phase is partially funded with an appropriation from the state and city capital funds. The City is currently seeking additional funds for the project.
- In the future, Sound Transit and regional utilities may construct facilities adjacent to the trail.
- Downtown and the Willows business district expect a combined increase of 10,000 residents and 20,000 jobs by 2020, and the Connector provides an alternative route to move between these areas.

### Phase IV

- 0.2-mile connection from the Redmond Central Connector to East Lake Sammamish Trail including a separated grade crossing of Bear Creek and SR-520.
- This project is a partnership between Redmond, King County, Sound Transit, and Washington Department of Transportation.
- Efforts are moving forward to include this segment as part of the Sound Transit project.

### Phase V

- The City of Kirkland, City of Redmond and King County collaborated over the years to design a connection between the Redmond Central Connector and the Cross Kirkland Corridor at Willows Road. Kirkland will begin work on this connection in 2019. King County has not yet confirmed funding for the Willows Road to 132nd Ave. NE segment, which would complete the trail connection to the Cross Kirkland Corridor.

### Get Involved:

To learn more visit [redmond.gov/RCC](http://redmond.gov/RCC) and [kingcounty.gov/Council/Issues/ERC](http://kingcounty.gov/Council/Issues/ERC)



### Related News:

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