

REDMOND »»» 2050

SEPA Scoping Document

**Redmond Comprehensive Plan Update
for the 2024 Periodic Review Cycle**

Supporting the update to the Redmond Comprehensive Plan
as we plan for the growth of the City for the next 30 years.
[See Scoping Notice SEPA-2020-00934]

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What is Redmond 2050?

The City of Redmond is preparing an update to its Comprehensive Plan [PR-2020-00134]. The plan will refine and implement the community vision, values, and objectives, and update each element of the Comprehensive Plan considering key themes of economic resiliency/recovery, equity and inclusion, technology forward ("smart city"), and sustainability. The Redmond 2050 Plan will address future growth and development consistent with the State's Growth Management Act (GMA) and regional planning requirements for updates.

The City proposes to update its Comprehensive Plan in conjunction other implementing plans our development regulations. This includes (but is not limited to) the:

- Transportation Master Plan
- Stormwater Comprehensive Plan
- General Sewer Plan & General Water Plan
- PARCC Plan
- Utilities Strategic Plan
- Redmond Zoning Code & Redmond Municipal Code

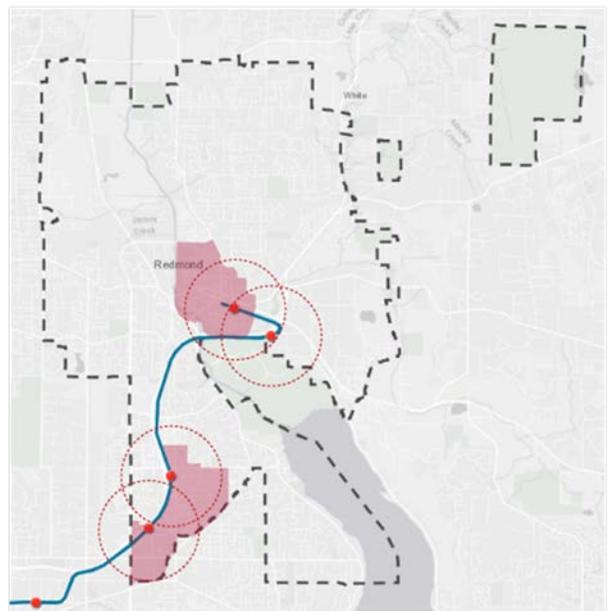
What is the Study Area?

The Redmond 2050 project will address the Redmond city limits and Potential Annexation Areas.

Areas of focus will be around the Sound Transit station areas and major arterial corridors. Redmond is required to plan for growth and to target the majority of that in the Urban Centers and near light rail-transit stations. This will include Overlake, Downtown, and Marymoor. Some growth will be assigned to areas outside of the Urban Centers and light-rail transit station areas.

What is an Environmental Impact Statement?

Under the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is an informational document that provides the City, public, and other agencies with environmental information to be considered in the decision-making process. It



REDMOND VICINITY, URBAN CENTERS, AND LIGHT RAIL STATION AREAS

also allows the public and government agencies to comment on proposals and alternatives. The EIS process will be integrated with the planning process and inform the development of Redmond 2050 plan goals and policies.

An EIS describes:

- proposed actions and alternatives; existing conditions of the study area;
- adverse environmental impacts that may occur if certain proposals are implemented;
- mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate adverse impacts; and potential significant, unavoidable, and adverse impacts.

The EIS focus is on adverse impacts and avoiding them, but the EIS can also identify potential beneficial outcomes, where alternatives may improve environmental characteristics (e.g. stormwater quality) and emphasize improved walkability/bikability.

What Alternatives will be studied in the EIS?

An alternative describes a different means of achieving a proposal. Alternatives will identify different ways to meet the City's vision, such as where to focus growth in Urban Centers and TOD areas.

Alternatives will be developed with public input and the public will help decide what the EIS should focus on through a public 'scoping' process. The Draft EIS will test the No Action (current plan; SEPA required) and two Action Alternatives. Within the range of alternatives, the City can develop a Preferred Alternative, which will be evaluated in the Final EIS. The City is developing those alternatives and will seek community input on those alternatives and their impacts in late 2020 and early 2021.

What topics will be evaluated in the EIS?

The scoping process seeks input from the community on what topics will be included in the EIS. The City anticipates addressing:

- Natural Environment (earth, water, plants, and animals)
- Air Quality/Greenhouse Gas (GHG)
- Land Use and Socioeconomics
- Aesthetics
- Transportation
- Public Services (police protection, fire and emergency medical services, parks, and schools)
- Utilities (stormwater, water, and sewer)
- Redmond 2050 Themes, where applicable

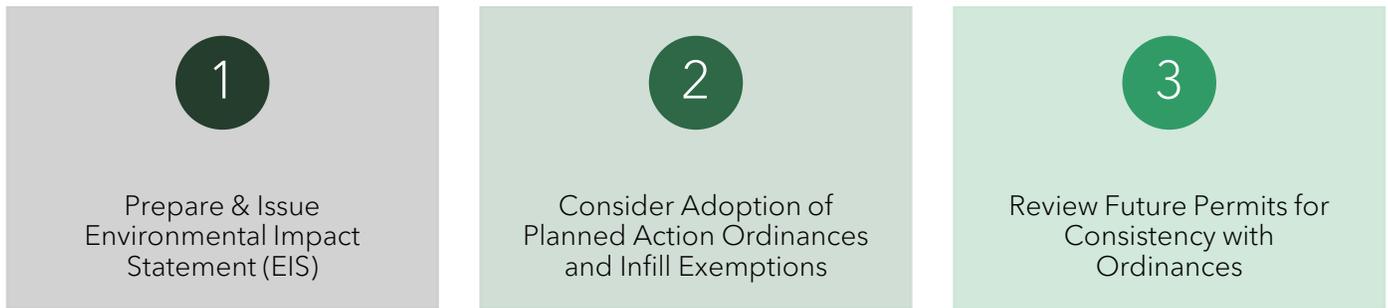
What is a Planned Action? What is an Infill Exemption?

The EIS will be developed for a programmatic or "non-project" proposals; planning will cover the entire study area (area-wide) described above.

In addition to an areawide analysis, the EIS will provide more detailed environmental review for areas of focus. The City anticipates a Planned Action Update for Overlake under RCW 43.21c.440. The City

may also explore the use of planned actions or infill exemptions (RCW 43.21C.229) for other areas of focus in Redmond’s Urban Centers or TOD areas.

- A planned action provides more detailed environmental analysis during an areawide planning stage rather than at the project permit review stage. Designating a planned action area streamlines environmental review for future development proposals. Planned actions would be allowed if they fall within the scope of the environmental analysis undertaken in support of a planned action ordinance. Planned actions can cover a range of land uses and service or infrastructure investments. The City adopted a Planned Action for Overlake about 20 years ago and will update that Planned Action with Redmond 2020, and will also consider the option of developing Planned Actions for Downtown and Marymoor Village.
- To help facilitate housing development in urban areas not meeting the density goals of a Comprehensive Plan, the City can establish an infill exemption where residential or mixed-use development, that is consistent with City regulations, will not undergo new environmental review; instead, it will focus on providing housing that fits with the City’s policies and codes.



What is Scoping? How do I comment on the scope of the EIS?

Scoping is a process intended to focus the scope of every EIS on the probable significant adverse impacts and reasonable alternatives, including mitigation measures. You may comment on EIS alternatives, issues the EIS should evaluate, potential impacts and mitigation, and approvals required.

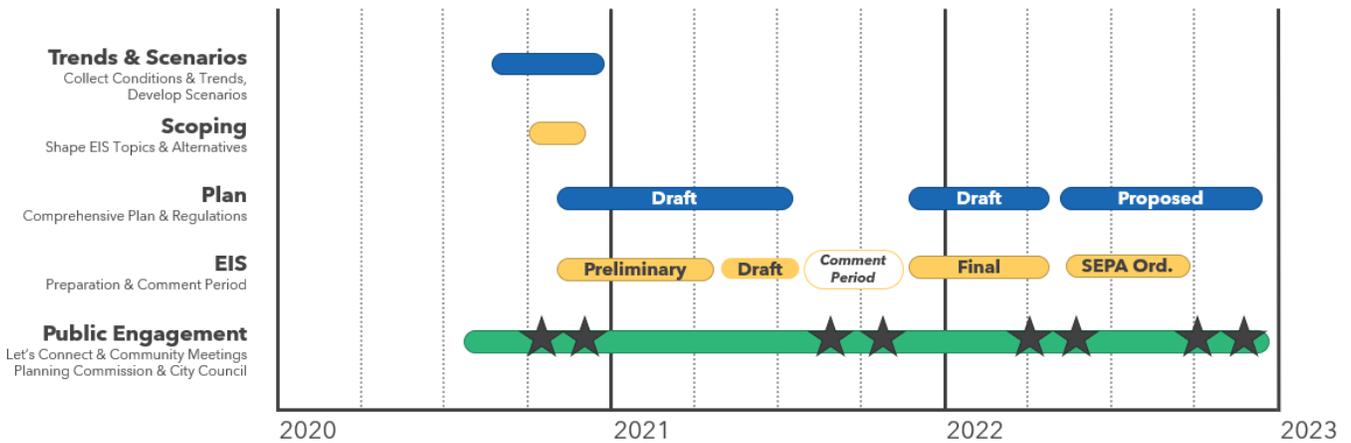
Submit written comments from Monday, October 12, through **5:00 PM** Wednesday, November 25, 2020 to: Redmond2050@Redmond.gov. See the City’s Scoping Notice for more information at the project website: Redmond.gov/Redmond2050.

How can I participate in Redmond 2050?

Visit the project website to sign up to receive updates by email or text. There you can review information, respond to surveys, and participate in interactive public events:

redmond.gov/Redmond2050.

Integrated Plan and EIS Schedule



Redmond is conducting its GMA planning process in an integrated way with SEPA requirements.

- The City is initiating the Comprehensive Plan Update in fall 2020 collecting information on conditions and trends that will inform both the Plan and EIS.
- Early visioning in fall 2020 will shape the development of Plan growth management strategies and scenarios as well as EIS alternatives.
- In mid-2021, a Draft EIS will be prepared to evaluate that emerged from the Visioning process. Several draft Plan elements will also be prepared in tandem.
- A comment period will follow the issuance of the Draft EIS by fall 2021. Public and agency feedback will help the City formulate a Preferred Alternative.
- The City will craft additional and revised Plan elements and regulations responding to feedback in fall 2021 and winter 2022.
- The Final EIS will respond to public comments on the Draft EIS and evaluate a Preferred Alternative. It is anticipated to be issued by the middle of 2022.
- Proposed final Comprehensive Plan elements, functional plans, and development regulations including SEPA Ordinances will be prepared and then vetted by the Planning Commission and City Council in summer and fall 2022.

For more information about Redmond 2050 events and how to participate
See the project website at: Redmond.gov/Redmond2050.

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