



Climate Emergency Declaration *

Climate Emergency Declaration statement by the City of Redmond, Washington to Commit to Carbon Neutrality by 2030

The City of Redmond declares a Climate Emergency and joins the rapidly growing global community that has recognized this Climate Emergency as a threat to human survival and frames necessary actions that match the scale of this threat as climate-change consequences escalate.

As stated within the City's Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP), climate-change threatens our city, region, state, nation, civilization, humanity, future generations, and the natural world and we commit to the initiatives established therein, as a city-wide mobilization effort to reverse climate change and its effects. **We** as a Council commit to taking action in collaboration with our Mayor and staff to find effective strategies to fight climate change.

In response to the Climate Emergency Declaration, the Council **requests** the Mayor to use all necessary powers to develop and implement, on or before July 2021, a high-level "Climate Mobilization Action Plan" (CMAP) to guide the climate emergency response with precise targets, deliverables, and schedules for the next ten years.

Drawing from the ESAP, Council establishes, for the development of the CMAP, the following guidance, targets, commitments to policy action, and expedited schedules:

- Reach carbon neutrality from municipal operations by 2030, striving for an annual reduction target of at least 10% of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Increase water conservation practices, reduce water intensity, and implement strategies to minimize use of potable water in municipal operations to achieve a net positive water footprint by 2030.
- Reduce waste generation across municipal operations to meet a zero-waste goal by 2030.
- Divest from fossil fuels in COR investment portfolio by 2030, seek supplemental assistance, and develop strategic partnerships to include green financing options when feasible.
- Adopt a minimum standard for private vertical construction to meet a minimum of LEED Silver, Built Green 4 Star, or equivalent prior to receiving any public incentives from the City by 2022.
- Adopt a minimum standard for new public vertical construction to LEED NC Gold or better and a minimum standard for existing buildings operations and maintenance for LEED EBOM Silver or better.
- Maintain participation in Puget Sound Energy's Green Direct Energy Partnership for clean energy in municipal operations.

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- Recognize that our employees will be our biggest asset in advancing innovation, and we will create new opportunities to enable them to contribute to our efforts. Establish a minimum 10% of City staff receive Climate Change education/training annually with a minimum of 50% of employees trained on or before the end of 2025.
- Invest in transportation mode-shift by prioritizing pedestrian, bicycle, and transit-oriented projects.
- Prepare a Vulnerability Risk Assessment Strategy by July 2021, analyzing local risks, losses, and other impacts due to wildfires, sea level rise, heatwaves and drought, extreme weather, extreme precipitation and flooding, and more than one **extreme event** in succession.
- Provide informational statements on greenhouse gas impacts, greenhouse gas reduction, and fiscal impacts with respect to policy and budget decisions to provide wholistic environmental decision making.
- Adopt a tool to monitor and report on the full carbon and energy footprint for the city for all departments and all capital projects within two years.
- Transition to a fully integrated pest and vegetation management system that is free of harmful chemicals and eliminates noxious weeds.

Council commits to providing adequate funding to support the Administration in achievement of the CMAP goals through semiannual review.

The Council requests a minimum of one staff report semiannually at regular business meetings to discuss developing trends, new findings based on climate science, math and economic impacts, and receive status updates of ESAP and CMAP goals to ensure effective accountability and transparency (topics to include, but not limited to: budget, city operations, partnerships, **community outreach, etc.**).

The City Council recognizes reducing carbon by 2030 is what the world must do and that Redmond will become an important part of the global leadership committed to achieving this goal. With the above commitments and other actions identified through a robust public engagement process and research paired with strategies outlined in the ESAP, we believe carbon neutrality can be achieved by 2030 and is the right goal for the safety, sustainability, and **health of humanity and future generations.**

* The Climate Emergency Declaration was adopted by Redmond City Council on October 6, 2020. The declaration language will be integrated into the 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan. An updated version of the Plan will be posted to the City's website shortly.

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