

Introduced: 11/17/20
Adopted: 11/17/20

NON-CODE

**CITY OF REDMOND
ORDINANCE NO. 3012**

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE REDMOND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO AMEND THE GOALS, VISION AND FRAMEWORK; COMMUNITY CHARACTER; ECONOMIC VITALITY; NEIGHBORHOODS; CAPITAL FACILITIES; LAND USE; PARKS, ART, RECREATION, CULTURE, AND CONSERVATION (PARCC); NATURAL ENVIRONMENT; AND UTILITIES ELEMENTS, AND THE 2017 PARCC PLAN TRAILS MAP PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City desires to amend its Comprehensive Plan and 2017 PARCC Plan to reflect outcomes from adopted strategic plans relating to Tree Canopy, Facilities and Parks and Trails American's with Disabilities Act Transition Plan and additional feasibility work around future trails; and

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act requires that comprehensive plans and development regulations shall be subject to continuing evaluation and review; and

WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act provides that comprehensive plan amendments shall be considered as a comprehensive whole and shall not be amended more than once a year, with certain exceptions; and

WHEREAS, through Ordinance No. 2953 effective March 30, 2019, the City Council set the content of Redmond's 2018-19 annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Package, which includes the amendment proposed by the City; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission held public hearings on July 8 and July 22, 2020 for interested persons to gain additional information on the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, a State Environmental Policy Act Checklist was prepared, and a Determination of Non-Significance was issued on March 19, 2020, for the proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, state agencies received 60-day notice of Redmond's proposed amendment on March 25, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the public participation plan involved mailing letters to inform underlying property owners and adjacent owners of potentially impacted parcels, as well as affected Indian Tribes, of the purpose of the proposed amendment and how to access additional information; and

WHEREAS, the public participation plan for the strategic plans included presentations, on-line polls, drop-in sessions, and reviews of peer cities best practices; additionally, staff considered recommendations for policy amendments from interdepartmental input, Parks and Trails Commission review, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS, after the Planning Commission's recommendation to Council, Council discussed the proposed deletion of PR-11 (Preserve and enhance natural areas within parks to help increase citywide tree canopy), and after further examination by staff and Council discussion, this policy was retained; and

WHEREAS, the Planning Commission was informed of and did not object to the revised proposal to retain PR-11 for the reason stated above; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to amend the Comprehensive Plan and 2017 PARCC Plan to reflect outcomes from strategic plans relating to Tree Canopy, Facilities and Parks and Trails American's with Disabilities Act Transition Plan and additional feasibility work around future trails.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, DOES ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings, Conclusion, and Analysis. In support of the recommended amendment to update the Redmond Comprehensive Plan Goals, Vision and Framework; Community Character; Economic Vitality; Neighborhoods; Capital Facilities; Land Use; Parks Art Recreation Culture and Conservation (PARCC) Plan; Natural Environment; and Utilities Elements and the 2017 PARCC Plan Providing for Severability and establishing an effective date.

The City Council hereby adopts the findings, conclusions, and analysis contained in the Technical Committee Report dated April 3, 2020, including all related attachments and exhibits to that report and the Planning Commission Report (City file No. LAND-2020-00147) dated July 29, 2020, including the related attachments and exhibits to that report, and excluding the deletion of PR-11 (Preserve and enhance natural areas within parks to help increase citywide tree canopy).

Section 2. Comprehensive Plan Amended. The Comprehensive Plan of the City of Redmond and 2017 PARCC Plan to reflect outcomes from strategic plans relating to Tree Canopy, Facilities and Parks and Trails American's with Disabilities Act Transition Plan and additional feasibility work around future trails; as show in Exhibit 1, incorporated herein by this reference as if set forth in full to this ordinance.

Section 3. Severability. If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity of any other section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 4. Effective date. This ordinance shall become effective five days after its publication, or publication


of a summary thereof, in the city's official newspaper, or as otherwise provided by law.

ADOPTED by the Redmond City Council this 17th day of November, 2020.

CITY OF REDMOND



ANGELA BIRNEY, MAYOR

ATTEST:


CHERYL XANTHOS, MMC, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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JAMES HANEY, CITY ATTORNEY

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: November 3, 2020
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: November 17, 2020
SIGNED BY THE MAYOR: November 20, 2020
PUBLISHED: November 23, 2020
EFFECTIVE DATE: November 28, 2020
ORDINANCE NO.: 3012

YES: ANDERSON, CARSON, FIELDS, FORSYTHE, KHAN, KRITZER, PADHYE

Reasons the recommendation should be adopted:

This amendment package should be adopted for the following reasons:

- The amendments would provide policy guidance for outcomes reflected in the three recently adopted plans listed above.
- The adoption of the policies and the trails map update would ensure that Redmond's Comprehensive Plan is not only consistent with recently adopted planning documents but will also continue to support the vision for how and where Redmond grows, recreates, invests, and protects its natural environment.
- An updated Trails Map would guide decisions regarding future infrastructure investments.

Recommended Findings of Fact

1. Public Hearing and Notice

a. Public Hearing Date

The Planning Commission opened the public hearing on July 8, 2020 and closed it on July 22, 2020.

b. Notice

The public hearing notice was published in the Eastside edition of the *Seattle Times* on June 17, 2020. Public notices were posted in City Hall. All members of the Parks and Trails Commission received notice. Notice was also provided by announcing the hearing in the Planning Commission agendas and extended agendas, as well as postings on the City's web site.

2. Public Comment

The meeting minutes for the July 8, 2020, and July 22, 2020 public hearing dates, are shown in Attachment B. Testimony was provided only at the July 3, 2020 hearing. Three written comments were submitted into the public record and are shown in Attachment C. A summary of the testimony and written comments are described below under the Key Issues section.

Recommended Conclusions

1. Key Issues Discussed by the Planning Commission

The Planning Commission began discussion of this topic on April 8, 2020 and considered several issues regarding the proposed amendments. Key issues presented at the public hearings and discussed by the Planning Commission are summarized below. Attachment D includes the Planning Commission's issues matrix.

Commission Discussion

In reviewing the proposed amendments related to the *Facilities Strategic Management Plan*, the Commissioners discussed several issues such as:

- The approach used in the Plan to prevent circumstances that could, for example, force the closure of a city facility;
- The “benchmarks” that trigger maintenance activity, and the use of life-cycle analysis for city facilities;
- The meaning and application of one of the Plan's guiding principles to create “sustainable and efficient” buildings; and

In reviewing the proposed amendments related to the *Tree Canopy Strategic Plan*, the Commissioners inquired about whether defensible placement of trees is addressed in the Plan. Staff shared that although specific location considerations are not part of the Plan, the Plan does reference the “right tree in the right place” that requests private landowners and developers research the location and tree characteristics to ensure that utilities, structures, sight triangles and safety are addressed when choosing the right tree.

The Planning Commission discussed the Technical Committee's recommendation to delete policy NE-113, *Maintain no net loss of significant trees within the city over the long term*, and decided that this policy forms the basis of the tree regulation code and should be retained.

Several discussion topics introduced by Commissioners were more relevant to the Tree Code Update which is currently underway. These items are listed on the attached Issues Matrix and have been referred for consideration to the Tree Code Update Project, led by Project Manager Cathy Beam, Principle Planner.

Public Testimony and Written Comments:

Although testimony is fully captured in the July 8th Meeting Minutes, both testimony and written comments are briefly summarized below:

- Shelly Bowman, Redmond resident. Ms. Bowman stated that she supports the proposed amendments that relate to the *Tree Canopy Strategic Plan*. Ms. Bowman requested that the Planning Commission revise the Redmond Zoning Code tree permit provisions to

ensure the City meets the 40% tree canopy goal, as stated in the Strategic Plan, in 2050. Ms. Bowman submitted written testimony as well, that includes fourteen measures to attain this goal. (Attachment C)

- Tom Hinman, Redmond resident. Mr. Hinman provided two written comments and public testimony to inform decision makers involved in implementing the 40% tree canopy retention strategy. Mr. Hinman acknowledged some of the positive steps taken by City staff but stressed that more emphasis, evaluation, research, and ultimately tree code updates are needed in the areas of: tree definitions; regulatory exceptions generally; and the criteria used for exceptions; mitigation enforcement; replacement tree fees; and survival monitoring. In addition, Mr. Hinman recommends a stakeholder team that includes members of the public be established and perhaps modeled after the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Board. Mr. Hinman supported retaining NE-113, "maintain no net loss of significant trees over the long term" and suggested a period of 10 years.
- Rosemarie Ives, Redmond resident. Ms. Ives testified and provided written comment on the *Tree Canopy Strategic Plan*. Ms. Ives applauded the goals of the plan but believes a much stronger emphasis should be placed on retention vs. planting. In addition, Ms. Ives stresses the plan should focus on the urban centers and contiguous city limits and not include canopy from outside those limits. In conclusion Ms. Ives stated that the plan should prioritize preserving and protecting existing trees in urban centers.
- Gary Smith, Redmond resident. Mr. Smith applauded the City's effort to establish a sustainable urban forest. Mr. Smith stated that Strategy D in the *Tree Canopy Strategic Plan* needs to be emphasized and this preserves existing canopy. Mr. Smith provided an example of the Greystone development and its impacts on tree canopy over time and urged the Commission to look at other city's efforts including Kirkland.
- James Terwilliger, Redmond resident. Mr. Terwilliger stated that ways to address Tree Canopy are both simple and urgent. Mr. Terwilliger stated that the current canopy is lower than the City's goal and decreasing. Mr. Terwilliger stated the City should consider removing the fee-in-lieu and require new trees to be planted, before existing trees can be removed. Mr. Terwilliger stated leadership was needed and he believed Redmond could be that leader.

2. Recommended Conclusions of the Technical Committee

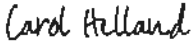
The recommended conclusions contained in the Technical Committee Report (Attachment E) regarding the proposed amendments and trails map revisions are adopted in support of the Planning Commission's recommendation with one exception which is to retain policy NE-113 *Maintain no net loss of significant trees within the city over the long term.*

3. Planning Commission Recommendation

The Planning Commission voted 7-0 at its July 22, 2020 meeting to recommend adoption of the Technical Committee recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan, and the PARCC Plan trails map with the sole exception to retain policy NE-113.

List of Attachments

- Attachment A: Recommended Amendments
- Attachment B: Planning Commission Meeting Summary April 8, 2020
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, July 8, 2020
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes, July 22, 2020
- Attachment C: Written Comments from:
Shelly Bowman, Redmond resident
Tom Hinman, Redmond resident (2 comments)
Rosemarie Ives
- Attachment D: Final Issues Matrix
- Attachment E: Technical Committee Report, including exhibits

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8/1/2020

Carol Helland, Planning Director

Date

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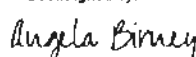
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8/5/2020

Roy Captain, Planning Commission Chairperson

Date

Approved for Council Agenda

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8/5/2020

Angela Birney, Mayor

Date