



MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission

From: Jeff Churchill, Planning Manager
Becky Frey, Principal Planner

Date: February 17, 2021

Subject: Redmond 2050 - Monthly Briefing

PURPOSE

Staff will provide a briefing on recent public engagement and work that staff is completing.

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH INTERVIEWS SUMMARY

As part of the visioning work the city is doing, interviews were conducted with the Alliance for People with disAbilities, Lake Washington Technical College Basic Education Services, Centro Cultural Mexicano, Redmond Health Center (HealthPoint), and Indian-American Community Services. Interview questions were around concerns about the future of growth, preferences for where growth goes, and tradeoffs between growth alternatives.

Themes around aspirations and concerns for the future centered on diversity and inclusion, housing opportunities, sustaining small businesses and jobs, accessible transportation, community gathering spaces, and affordable childcare.

There was no consensus around how and where the city should grow, however there was broad concern around: focusing on supporting large corporations at the expense of economic diversity; the need for affordable housing, services, and commercial spaces; and mobility solutions for all in whatever growth scenario is decided upon.

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SEPA SCOPING SUMMARY

On October 12, 2020, the City issued the Determination of Significance and scoping notice for the Redmond 2050 project. This notice explained the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) environmental review process, what the project will include, proposed topics for review in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and the SEPA Planned Action for Overlake, and invited the public to comment on the scope of the EIS as well as the alternatives proposed, mitigation measures, probable significant adverse impacts, and other related topics. Legal notice was published in the newspaper, online, through social media, through the SEPA notification list, and to other interested parties. Scoping comments were requested to be submitted via email or mail no later than November 25, 2020.

- **No scoping comments were received from agencies, tribes, or the public.**

To supplement the notice and encourage more public comments, the City held a community workshop on November 18, 2020 and published a questionnaire (advertised extensively). Staff have previously provided a summary of the workshop, so staff will focus on the questionnaire results at this meeting. The questionnaire was live through the entire scoping period, and resulted in **88 comments submitted** (90 total; two were blank). The survey was short, intending to help identify community priorities at a high level, to be explored further in other venues.

The responses are reviewed in the attached summary with some additional discussion below. The detailed responses are also attached for reference. The viewpoints and priorities of the respondents are not necessarily representative of the viewpoints and priorities of the entire Redmond population.

Key Takeaways

- Respondents were similar in age distribution to city population, but more female, and slightly less ethnically or racially diverse.
- Overlake was underrepresented.
- Top Topics for Inclusion in the EIS: Natural Environment, Air Quality, Transportation. Topics of interest varied by race, age, sex and neighborhood. Filtering out the non-Redmond responses did not change the outcome.
- Ranking of the three pillars of sustainability showed a balance between environmental and social impacts, with less of a concern about the economy.
- The top 5 alternatives and mitigation measures are:
 - Clustering to protect environmentally sensitive areas
 - Green infrastructure
 - Multi-modal connections
 - Housing affordable to workers
 - Reducing greenhouse gas emissions

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The City is currently accepting applications for the Technical Advisory Committee. Available online at <https://www.redmond.gov/1426/Advisory-Committees>

A Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) will be made up of industry professionals and technical experts that frequently work in Redmond to provide support for the development of the implementing regulations. The TAC will be established in the first quarter of 2021 and will meet bi-weekly or monthly (determined by need) during the development of the draft regulations. The TAC will focus on reviewing options and alternatives to implement the identified vision, drafting

of design standards, analysis of impacts of the proposed regulations, and reviewing and providing input on draft regulatory language.

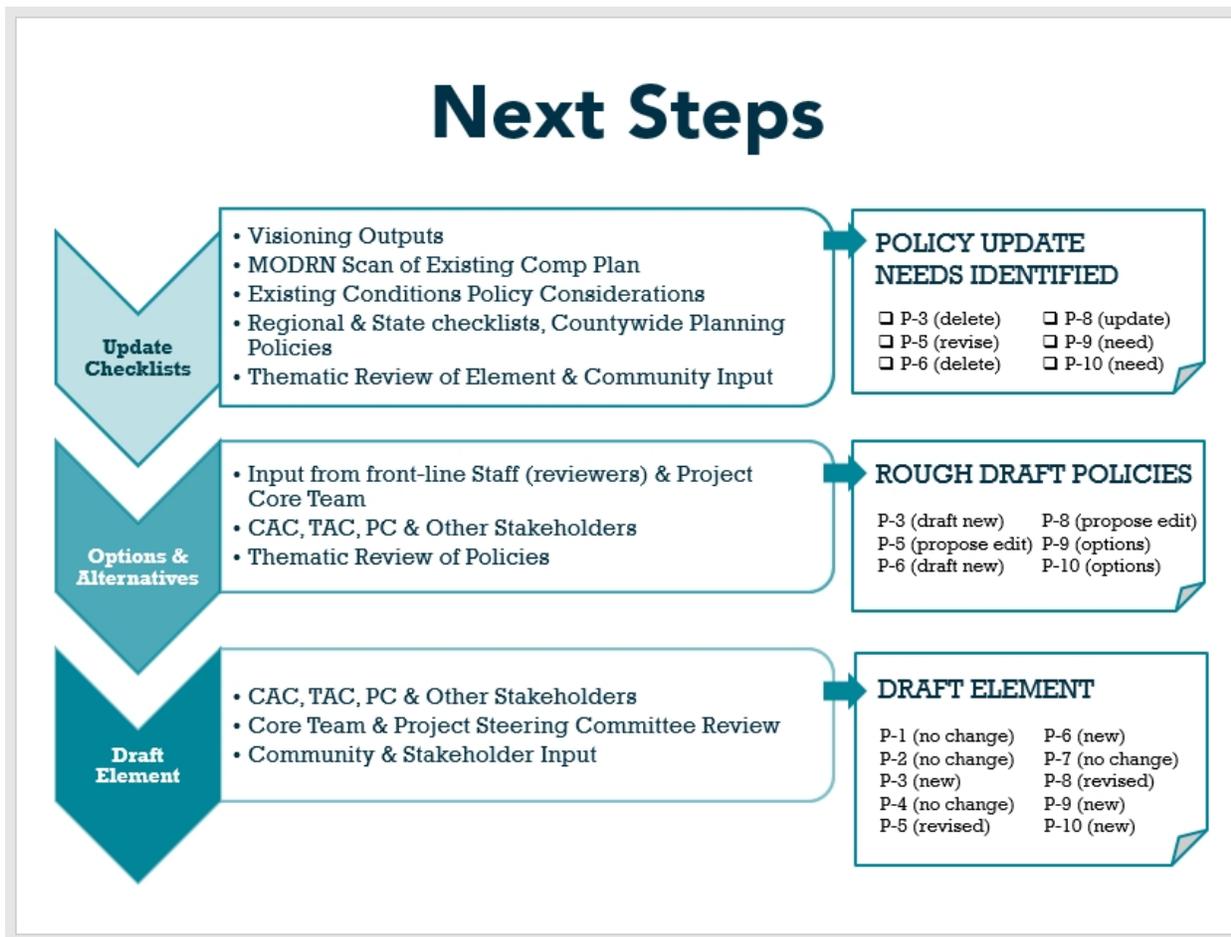
Community engagement through February:

- **What Should Growth Look Like? Design Principles Questionnaire**
We are asking for your feedback on 12 design principles for how new developments should look. Your feedback will help us create policy and design guidelines for new developments.
- **Look & Feel Elements - Questionnaire**
Provide feedback on your preferences between the two styles presented. Do you prefer one or the other, or both?
- **Redmond 2050 Themes**
Share what the themes (equity & inclusion, sustainability, resiliency, and technology forward) mean to you and what the City should consider as we incorporate these into our policies.

CURRENT WORK

- The consultant team is analyzing community input that has been received on where growth should be located, and is working with staff to develop the growth alternatives. Once the alternatives have been built, we will create a “report card” for each alternative so that the community can compare options and impacts.
- Council is reviewing the Existing Conditions Report draft 1.0 and stakeholder input on the draft report. Staff is creating comment matrices for each topic. Staff will respond to comments in a matrix format to identify how the comment has been incorporated, or if not, a reasoning for that decision.

NEXT STEPS



We have started to build what will become the preliminary update checklist for each element in Phase 1 (Housing, Economic Vitality, Urban Centers, Transportation, Parks, and a few policies elsewhere). The first step is to identify policies that need to be updated and/or added as a part of Redmond 2050. We began that work by reviewing each element in what we refer to as our MODRN scan, looking for:

- **Misplaced text**
- **Outdated language and references**
- **Duplicative language**
- **Regulatory language**
- **Nonsensical language**

Where possible we are looking to simplify/consolidate, update, and remove items that shouldn't be in the Plan but perhaps in a functional plan or in regulations instead. The goal is to have a much shorter, much easier to use Plan.

The MODRN created our first input for our update checklist needed for that element. The second input is the policy considerations coming out of the Existing Conditions Report. We will also conduct a review of the state and regional requirements, visioning outputs, a thematic review of each element, and community input. Other work being result in items for the update checklist include the SEPA consulting team's Best Available Science update, Housing Action

Plan implementation items that can be addressed through Redmond 2050, legislative updates being considered, and the Temporary Construction Dewatering project.

Once we've identified what needs to be update/added, we will begin to research, draft, and vet policy ideas and options. As we are reviewing options and alternatives with the community, we will begin the drafting of the new Element itself. We will be updating the format and outline for each Element, so will be replacing the entire Element rather than drafting redlines. A Change Matrix will be created that will map what changes are being made and why (regulatory requirement, regional planning alignment, etc.). As policy options are selected, they will be added to the draft 1.0 document.