DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY
REDMOND 2050 COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday February 11, 2021

1. Roll Call

Vice Chair Joffre called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

CAC members present: Armstrong, Bhagwat, Blumenfeld, Brakke, Chandorkar, CK, A. Coleman, M. Coleman, Cruz, Joffre, Koehn, Stoner, Thompson, Varadharajan, Wang, Wu

CAC members absent: Castro, Duval, Jacob,

Staff present: Caroline Chapman, Senior Planner; Jeff Churchill, Planning Manager; Beckye Frey, Senior Planner; Ian Lefcourte, Planner

2. Approval of Meeting Summary for January 14, 2021

The meeting summary was approved without objection.

3. Introduction to Growth Targets
Ms. Chapman provided an overview of the regional growth allocation process, including how Redmond receives 20-year targets for population and employment growth. The City is currently collaborating and negotiating with King County and other "core cities" within King County to finalize Redmond's next set of 20-year growth targets.

CAC Discussion Questions and Staff Responses
- What is the downstream effect of growth targets on other aspects of the community? What levers does Redmond have to achieve the targets?
  Growth allocations may impact things like height limits and densities and cause the city to evaluate where growth should be located. High targets in jobs and housing may impact zoning.
- How does Microsoft factor into the targets? What would happen if Microsoft left?
  As a major employer in the city, Microsoft has had an impact on growth targets, including housing. Microsoft continues to grow in Redmond and the City will continue to plan towards the target that include Microsoft.

- **The presentation showed a draft growth model output. What does it mean?**
  In evaluating growth, the community will be assessing impacts on access to transit, vehicle miles traveled, the balance of rental vs. ownership housing opportunities, and other metrics. Future meetings can cover this analysis.
- **Does Redmond work with Bellevue or other neighbors when developing growth targets?**
  The growth targets process is regional in scale and is designed to meet regional objectives related to the economy, environment, mobility, equity, and others. Within the four-county region, growth allocations are made to each county. Then each county allocates growth to different "classes" of cities. Bellevue and Seattle are "metropolitan" cities and are working with a different set of targets than Redmond, which is one of 11 "core cities" in King County.
- **What "trumps" – growth targets or community desires related to growth?**
  Washington is a growth management state. Communities planning under the Growth Management Act cannot say, "no growth" but do get to decide where growth goes in their communities and what it looks like. Counties and the cities within each county work together to finalize the growth targets, with considerable latitude to account for local preferences, but the county has the ultimate authority on the distribution of the countywide target.
- **What if a community cannot meet its target?**
  There is significant flexibility in meeting the targets, but if the city over- or underperforms substantially, the county may require a city to implement "reasonable measures" to align a city's comprehensive plan and regulations with its growth targets.
- **What are the physical or other factors that limit growth?**
  Capacity constraints for growth include sewer and water capacity. For instance pipes must be a certain size for firefighting needs. Parking may be another constraint. There are about 500 parcels in Redmond that are using septic systems.

4. Form of Growth

Ms. Chapman led a two-part discussion about urban design: first on design principles, then on look and feel. CAC members had completed two questionnaires on these topics that were available for the community as part of the Redmond 2050 project.

Design Principles Discussion
- Redmond strengths
  o Trails feel safe and connect areas. Occasionally they are congested, perhaps suggesting opportunities for expansion.
  o Permeable built environment when you can walk between the buildings
  o Support for activated shopping areas, including closing streets for more pedestrian environment (Examples: Crossroads, Redmond Town Center)
  o Downtown Park is a nice addition and provides a variety of types of community spaces in Redmond. May not be great for young kids since close to roadways.
- Needs
  o Neighborhood-based public spaces and services. For example, the area around Avondale Road has great communities but limited access to public

spaces like parks and other gathering spaces, and public services like convenience stores that would support those living in nearby apartments or condominiums.
- o Improved pedestrian environment along corridors & main roads. For example, Avondale has fast speeds making it unpleasant for residents to walk. The issue might be mitigated with lower speeds, more homes, or sidewalks and trails further from the road.
- o Covered areas to be able to be outside during inclement weather. For example, Paris has glass covered patios and parks.
- o Connections to existing amenities. For example, Esterra Park in Overlake Village is not connected to the Overlake Village Park & Ride.
- o A "centerpiece" architectural building or style, as a way of building cultural identity. For example, the city of Bath in the UK has a clear and immediately identifiable architectural style.

Look & Feel Discussion
- Distinct Styles by Neighborhood
  - o Support for façade style to be different by neighborhood. Downtown has more historical style, while Overlake is more amenable to modern architecture.
  - o Potentially have design be distinct by neighborhoods but still complementary. Examples include Washington, D.C. neighborhoods that blend historic and new, Kirkland Marina & new Park Place development, and Bellevue with high rises vs. old town Bellevue.
  - o Harmony between buildings and neighborhood is important. For example, The Triangle has neon lights that don't seem to fit with historic core)
- Lighting
  - o Important for lighting along trail in Downtown: there are areas of no/low lighting. More lighting feels safer.
- Building materials should be considered and necessary for sustainable design. Plan for a way to promote sustainable building materials.
- Redmond Examples
  - o Positive: Vision 5: Apartment buildings have articulation, planting space and decks, and gathering spaces.
  - o Positive: Townhomes by 165th and 80th downtown fit the neighborhood, interesting architecture, and higher density.
  - o Negative: Soviet style, almost brutalist architecture of some of the older (10 year) townhomes and apartment buildings.

5. Election of Chair

Vice Chair Joffre was nominated and unanimously elected as CAC chair. A. Coleman was nominated and unanimously elected as Vice Chair.

Adjourn – 7:25 p.m.