



## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Planning Commission

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Planning and Community Development

**Date:** September 8, 2021

**Subject:** Redmond 2050 Other Element Updates

### Purpose

The purpose of this study session is to describe the scope and process for updates to Comprehensive Plan policies related to Phase 1 topics (housing, economic vitality, transportation, parks, and Overlake) that are found in Phase 2 elements (the “Other Elements”).

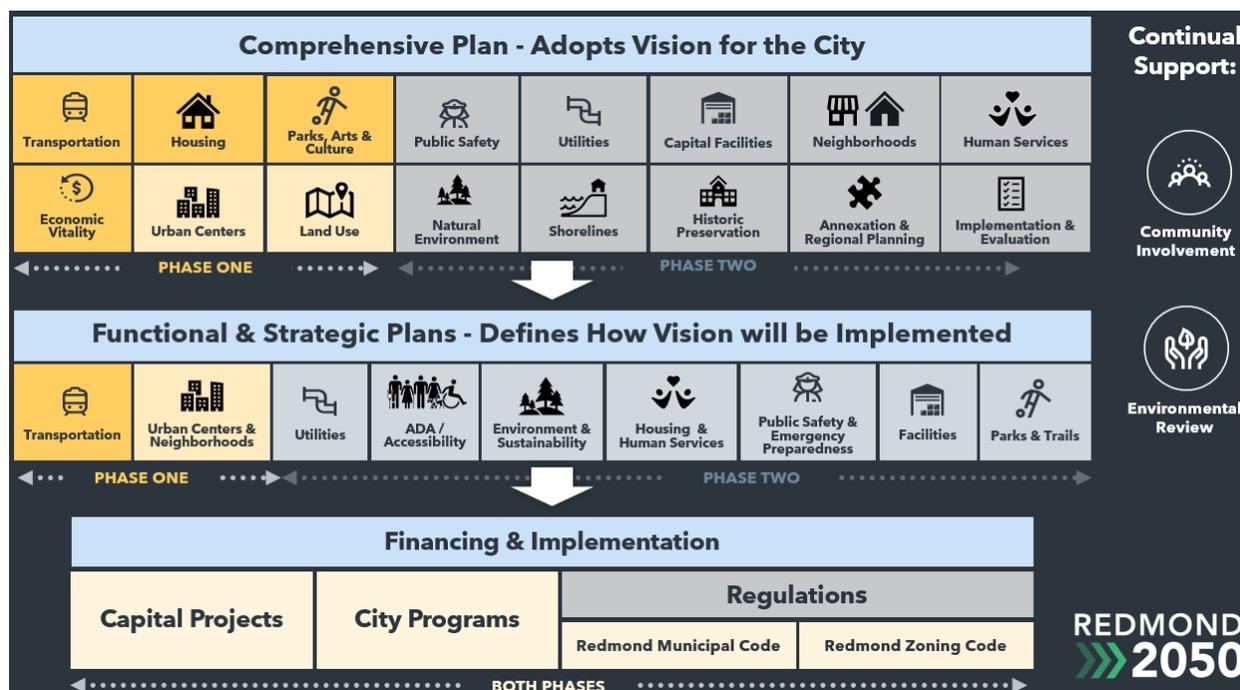
### Background

Redmond 2050 is being completed in two phases, as shown in the graphic on the next page (reproduced in a larger size in Attachment E).

### **City Hall**

15670 NE 85th Street  
PO Box 97010  
Redmond, WA  
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Redmond 2050 Other Element Updates



One of the early products for each element is a change matrix that documents and includes preliminary analysis of all existing policies. The change matrices will be updated throughout the plan update process to document draft policy updates, feedback on drafts, and ultimately final policy updates. Thus far staff have published change matrices for the Housing, Economic Vitality, and Transportation Elements. Work on the Urban Centers (Overlake) and Parks, Arts, Recreation, Conservation, and Culture (PARCC) Elements matrices is underway.

However, not all policies related to Phase 1 topics are found in Phase 1 elements. There are policies related to Phase 1 topics scattered throughout the Comprehensive Plan. It is important to document them now so that:

1. Staff and community members can review and consider all the policy statements related to Phase 1 topics together, including those found in other Comprehensive Plan elements, and
2. The City does not inadvertently create conflicts between, for example, housing policies in the Housing Element (part of Phase 1), and housing policies in the Neighborhoods Element (part of Phase 2).

To that end, staff has reviewed the entire Comprehensive Plan for policies related to housing, economic vitality, and transportation; a review of the Plan for parks and Overlake policies is ongoing. Staff has added housing, economic vitality, and transportation “Other Element” policies to existing change matrices and has performed a MODRN scan on each policy to determine where conflicts are likely to emerge. A MODRN scan identifies misplaced, outdated, duplicative, regulatory, and non-sensical language (see Attachment A). The MODRN scan is the only analysis staff has conducted on the Other Element policies since the goal is only to identify potential conflicts. A complete analysis will be conducted in Phase 2.

## **Redmond 2050 Other Element Updates**

### **Summary of Other Element Policies**

#### Housing

Staff identified 95 housing-related policies in Phase 2 elements. Most (66) of these policies are from the Neighborhoods element. Other housing-related policies were found in several other elements, with 18 from the Urban Centers element.

The most common policy topics were about the design, location, and types of residential uses. Height restrictions were common in the Urban Centers element while restrictions on forms of housing like duplexes were common in the Neighborhoods element. Design restrictions are especially prevalent in the Neighborhoods Element. Additionally, several policies discussed specific outreach and engagement plans.

Most of the policies identified in this review created specific mandates or restrictions at a level of specificity that is inappropriate for a policy document like a comprehensive plan. The level of specificity may result in conflict with updated Housing Element policies and necessitate changes to these policies identified in other elements.

#### Economic Vitality

Staff identified 21 economic vitality related policies in Phase 2 elements. These policies are mainly found in the Neighborhoods and Land Use Elements, with a few in the Goals, Vision and Framework; Natural Environment; and Utilities Elements. The policies tend to focus on topics around manufacturing, mixed-use developments, and ways to support existing businesses. Potential necessary updates are noted in the change matrix, with over half being either misplaced (i.e. belong in a supporting functional plan) or outdated.

#### Transportation

Staff identified 135 transportation-related policies in Phase 2 elements. The majority of these are in the Neighborhoods element, with others in the Community Character and Historic Preservation; Urban Centers (non-Overlake); Goals, Vision, and Framework; Natural Environment; and Shoreline Master Program Elements.

Policies addressing transportation facility design and specific project priorities were the most common. The latter are especially prevalent in the Neighborhoods Element.

Specific project priorities called-out in the Other Element policies could conflict with the updated Transportation Element or updated Transportation Master Plan. The potential conflicts are noted in the change matrix. Some policies reference completed projects; those policies can be deleted.

### **Next Steps**

Staff will bring the Overlake and PARCC change matrices to the Planning Commission in September and October, respectively. Staff will begin drafting policy updates for Phase 1 topics this fall, with first drafts expected in early 2022. The first drafts will include proposals for amending policies in Phase 2 (“Other”) elements to avoid creating conflicts.

**Redmond 2050 Other Element Updates**

**Attachments:**

- A. MODRN Scan Description
- B. Change Matrix: Housing Policies from Other Elements
- C. Change Matrix: Economic Vitality Policies from Other Elements
- D. Change Matrix: Transportation Policies from Other Elements
- E. Presentation Slides