

January 2022 Our Stories, Redmond Connections

Redmond Mayor Angela Birney

Happy New Year. I'm Redmond Mayor Angela Birney and welcome to another video in my monthly "Our Stories, Redmond Connections" series.

While 2021 continued to challenge us all, the Redmond community and City once again persevered as a new normal was upon us. From vaccinations, to new business protocols, hybrid meetings, and reuniting with friends and family members, 2021 was yet another year to remember.

I'd like to take a couple of minutes to share with you some of the accomplishments of the City over the past year.

In 2021:

- The Fire Department facilitated numerous vaccination clinics, providing just over 3,000 doses of vaccine. We are proud that the Redmond community has achieved a vaccination rate of 98%.
- We completed renovations on two of the City's Parks facilities - the Redmond Pool and Westside Park. In addition, the new Redmond Senior & Community Center is well on its way thanks to extensive community input. The City Council approved the schematic design and funding for the new 51,000 square foot facility scheduled to open in late 2023 on the municipal campus.
- The City took advantage of the low interest rate environment and refinanced two current bond issues resulting in a savings to taxpayers of \$3.2 million dollars.
- The Redmond Police Department created a Police Lexipol policy and procedures manual, a best practice, industry-standard policy manual to guide police agencies in operations that generate and maintain community trust.
- Over the past year, we've implemented hybrid Council meetings so that community members can participate in City Council meetings in person or attend online, and in July we reopened city facilities previously closed due to COVID-19.
- After input from the community, Council adopted the City's first Housing Action Plan, to improve housing diversity, quantity, and affordability, and meet the needs of all economic segments of our community.
- The community has been participating in the Redmond 2050 project which helps us plan the next 30 years of our city.
- And city staff have reviewed and issued numerous permits related to construction of the link light rail segment in Redmond, as well as advancing many construction projects that will create access to our future light rail stations.

These are just a few of our recent accomplishments. As we close the door on the past year and look ahead to 2022, the City of Redmond team remains committed to delivering the level of service our community expects and deserves. With your input and participation, I'm inspired and enthusiastic about the opportunities and successes that lie before us.

I wish you good health and a safe and Happy New Year! See you next time.