



MEMORANDUM

To: Planning Commission

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Date: January 25, 2023

Subject: Redmond 2050 Monthly Briefing

PURPOSE

This month’s Redmond 2050 briefing recaps Q4 2022 community engagement and summarizes Council input on draft housing, transportation, and Overlake-related regulations.

Q4 2022 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

During the last quarter of 2022, community engagement focused on Phase 2 elements, especially Land Use and Community Character & Historic Preservation.

High-Level Summary of Input

Redmond community members provided valuable feedback regarding the current phase of the Redmond 2050 project. Staff identified several themes as described below. See **Attachment A** for details.

Redmond community members want walkable communities where they feel safe. Community members are looking for growth that maintains a human scale and provides greater access for residents to walk to their destinations. Similarly, Redmond community members would like to see an increase in safe bike infrastructure.

Redmond 2050 Monthly Briefing

Redmond community members support 10-minute communities, that is, communities where most needs can be met within a comfortable 10-minute walk. They felt comfortable endorsing mixed-use development in a variety of Redmond's neighborhoods and support transit-oriented development.

Redmond community members love the natural environment and want to see it protected as Redmond grows. From trees in dense areas for shade to connecting new growth to existing trail systems, community members want to ensure that all Redmond residents have access to green spaces.

The Redmond community wants to be involved in the planning and decision-making processes. Staff heard from many community members that visual examples of planning concepts help non-planners provide feedback, and local community groups want to get involved to support efforts to increase equity in community engagement.

Developers are concerned about the potential for a recession in 2023 and do not want to increase requirements or standards that could/would impact the financial feasibility of development projects.

COUNCIL INPUT ON DRAFT REGULATIONS

On January 17 and January 24, 2023, the City Council received [a staff report](#) (beginning on p. 259) and held a study session, respectively, on draft regulations for housing, transportation, and Overlake. The Planning Commission reviewed these drafts in the second half of 2022. Staff will provide a verbal summary of the Council's input at the Commission's meeting.

OTHER UPDATES & WORK UNDERWAY

- Staff hosted a developer and business forum in partnership with Redmond Zoning Code ReWrite project staff on January 11. Staff received comments about business displacement, proposed Overlake development standards, parking requirements, creating walkable communities, timing for code implementation, rent control, affordable housing incentives, and more. The comments will inform code updates that come forward through both processes.
- Staff is developing Phase 2 options and alternatives for land use topics. These will be ready for Planning Commission and community input beginning in February.
- Grant-funded evaluations of middle housing opportunities and barriers and the City's inclusionary zoning and multifamily tax exemption (MFTE) programs are underway. The City is working with its middle housing consultant and A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH) to identify and begin engagement work with community-based organizations. For inclusionary and MFTE work, City staff recently reviewed a draft consultant work product that models how changes to either program would affect the production of affordable housing in Redmond.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Q4 2022 Community Involvement Summary