

Memorandum

To: Planning Commission

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Subject: Briefing on Proposed Amendments to Redmond Zoning Code and Redmond Municipal Code: Integrating Public Art into Private Development

PURPOSE

The purpose of this study session is to provide Planning Commissioners with context and background information for the Planning Commission's upcoming study sessions and public hearing in the second and third quarters of 2019 regarding recommended amendments to the Redmond Zoning Code (RZC) and Redmond Municipal Code (RMC) for implementation procedures regarding integrating public art into private developments. Staff seeks any initial questions or discussion items on the topic.

BACKGROUND

Public Art Ordinance, Policies and Plans

The City of Redmond adopted a Public Art Ordinance (Ordinance 1640, *Attachment A*) in 1991, which has provisions for the City to use public funds to commission artwork for public facilities for the Redmond community. This ordinance authorizes the Arts and Culture Commission to prioritize the public art projects for funding.

Over the last several years, the City has encouraged the private sector to play a more significant role in place-making and creating pedestrian amenities. City Council and the Redmond Arts and Culture Commission have approved several arts and culture related planning documents that support private contributions to public art, including:

- 2013 Cultural Corridor Master Plan
- 2015 Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study
- 2017 Public Art Plan
- 2017 Arts and Culture Comprehensive Plan Policies (*Attachment B*)

In line with these plans and policies, the Zoning Code has provisions that encourage private developments to commission public art as part of their projects (*Attachment C*). However, a 2017 effort by a developer to include public art into their project revealed critical gaps in both our policies and implementation procedures.

Proposal Description

The purpose of this amendment is to close those gaps by defining public art, providing a process for the City to review public art for private developments, and developing provisions for how the City will administer the in-lieu fund for public art.

The primary role of the Planning Commission will be to consider the Arts and Culture Commission's recommendation on these issues and provide recommendations to the City Council about amendments to the Redmond Zoning Code related to these topics. There will also likely be associated updates to the Redmond Municipal Code Chapter 4.15, regarding the Arts and Culture Commission roles and internal processes.

Current Status

The need for these procedures is time critical as there are active developments in Downtown, Overlake Village and Marymoor Village that are proposing public art via these mechanisms (*Attachment C*):

- Blank Wall Treatments (RZC 21.60.040.B.6. Blank Walls.)
- Administrative Design Flexibility & Development Agreements (RZC 21.76.070. C and L)
- Marymoor Village Design District Incentive for Public Art (RZC 21.13.220)

Currently, staff and the Arts and Culture Commission are evaluating public art for one development and another is on the horizon. For these projects, the City and developers are following a draft set of procedures (*Attachment D*). These interim procedures were developed by staff members from the Parks and Recreation Department and Planning Department and approved by the Arts and Culture Commission.

Next Steps

In order to formalize procedures for reviewing privately developed public art, provide a legal definition for public art and prescribe how to administer the in-lieu fund for public art; the City must undergo a formal code amendment process and possible municipal code amendment process. The general approach is outlined here, showing how the Planning Commission may be involved at certain times in the process.

Milestone	Target Date for Completion	Planning Commission
Introduce project to commissions and stakeholders	1 st Quarter 2019	Briefing
Additional research and refinement of public engagement approach. Draft initial amendment package	1 st Quarter 2019	Briefing and feedback on approach
Public Engagement/ Stakeholder Outreach	2 nd Quarter 2019	
Draft Amendment Package, Review with Stakeholders, Seek Arts & Culture Commission Recommendation	2 nd Quarter 2019	Briefing on outreach and feedback on draft approach
Tech Committee Report	3 rd Quarter 2019	
Planning Commission Report	3 rd Quarter 2019	Study session, public hearing, final recommendation
City Council Approval	4 th Quarter 2019	
Implementation	2020	

Public Engagement and Outreach

A key element of a code amendment is public engagement. The key stakeholders for this project include the Art and Culture Commission, Planning Commission, Design Review Board, developers, and artists and arts organizations. The role of each stakeholder group is described below:

Arts and Culture Commission

- Provide feedback on the proposed zoning code amendments, municipal code amendment, and commission procedures as they relate to this project.
- Provide a recommendation to the Planning Commission

Planning Commission

- Provide input on the proposed Zoning Code amendments
- Hold a public hearing
- Provide a recommendation to City Council

Design Review Board

- Seek their input based on their knowledge of the development process.

Developers

- Seek their input on the proposed public art review process and options for using an in-lieu fund.

Artists and arts organizations

- Seek input on the definitions and submittal requirements.

The introductory presentation on February 27th will provide an overview of:

- Highlight policies and plans that encourage private development's contribution toward public art.
- Provide an overview of the current Zoning Code sections and other means in which private developments are providing public art
- Describe initial ideas about what types of public art will require City review and approval
- Explain the overarching proposal for the review and approval process for privately developed public art
- Discuss next steps including:
 - Continued research into alternatives for the definition of public art, review process, and use of the in-lieu fund
 - Stakeholder engagement efforts
 - Amendment approval process
- Respond to questions, interests, or concerns from Commissioners

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Percent for Art Ordinance 1640
- B. 2017 Arts and Culture Comprehensive Plan Policies
- C. Applicable Redmond Zoning Code Sections
- D. Interim Procedure for Evaluating Privately Developed Public Art
- E. Presentation