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## **Cleveland Street in Redmond, Washington Named One of 13 Great Places by the American Planning Association (APA)**

*In the program's 12th year, APA Recognizes 13 Great Neighborhoods, Streets and Public Spaces*

**Washington, D.C.**— The [American Planning Association](http://www.planning.org) (APA) has named Cleveland Street in Redmond, Washington, one of three Great Streets on APA's annual [Great Places in America](http://www.greatplacesinamerica.org) list, which starts the countdown to National Community Planning Month in October.

“As part of Redmond’s 20-year vision, the Cleveland Street project was a catalyst for creating a vibrant 18-hour urban environment in Downtown Redmond,” stated Redmond Mayor John Marchione. “This project helped further facilitate private investment in Downtown; creates progressive accommodations for the City’s share of regional growth; encourages biking, walking and soon light rail in 2024; and the curbless festival street design supports opportunities for events, arts and culture.”

APA’s Great Places in America program recognizes the streets, neighborhoods and public spaces in the United States demonstrating exceptional character, quality and planning—attributes that enrich communities, facilitate economic growth, and inspire others around the country. The Great Neighborhoods, Great Streets and Great Public Spaces of 2019 are places that are unique and exemplary in their success stories of revitalization, cultural identity, and strong community connection.

“The streets recognized this year demonstrate the importance of planning in creating vibrant and sustainable communities,” said Kurt Christiansen, FAICP, APA president. “Cleveland Street is a national example of how planning for a people-oriented, multi-modal environment can revitalize a community.”

Once an uninviting one-way couplet, Cleveland Street was often seen by residents and visitors of Redmond as a place to travel through, rather than a place to go. Despite the recession of the national economy, Redmond continued its long-term plan for a walkable, bikeable and transit-supportive downtown area that would bolster local and commercial business. The Cleveland Street redevelopment project was completed in 2018 and has already proven itself a highly desirable place for small businesses to locate. The space features a pedestrian-oriented streetscape populated with street furniture, unique design and artistic features, and an adjacent new downtown park and urban trail. Cleveland Street has

supported further development that has transformed the city of Redmond into a vibrant, dynamic downtown destination.

The community will come together to celebrate Cleveland Street's designation as a Great Street in America on **Thursday, October 10 at 6 p.m. on Cleveland Street adjacent to the Downtown Park.**

In addition to Cleveland Street, APA has also recognized the following Great Streets in 2019:

- Artery Hopkins – Hopkins, Minnesota
- Water Street – Henderson, Nevada

Since launching the Great Places in America program in 2007, APA has recognized 303 neighborhoods, streets and public spaces around the country. Designees are selected annually and represent the gold standard for a true sense of place, cultural and historical interest, community involvement, and a vision for the future.

For the sixth year, members of the public can suggest their favorite public space, neighborhood, or street to earn a "People's Choice" designation. Throughout October, individuals can offer suggestions via APA's social media channels using the hashtag #APAGreatplaces. APA will select five finalists that the public can vote on via APA's website. The "People's Choice" winner will be announced **October 30, 2019.**

For more information about APA's Great Neighborhoods, Great Streets and Great Public Spaces for 2019 and previous years, visit [www.planning.org/greatplaces](http://www.planning.org/greatplaces).

Learn more about APA's National Community Planning Month by visiting [www.planning.org/ncpm](http://www.planning.org/ncpm).

*The American Planning Association is an independent, not-for-profit educational organization that provides vital leadership in creating great communities for all. APA and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are dedicated to advancing the profession of planning – physical, economic and social – to foster quality of life for all residents. The 45,000 members work in concert with community members, civic leaders and business interests to create communities that enrich people's lives. Through its philanthropic work, the APA Foundation helps to reduce economic and social barriers to planning. APA has offices in Washington, D.C., and Chicago. Learn more at [www.planning.org](http://www.planning.org).*

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