



Memorandum

Date: 10/21/2025
Meeting of: City Council

File No. AM No. 25-155
Type: Consent Item

TO: Members of the City Council
FROM: Mayor Angela Birney
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Executive	Malisa Files	425-556-2166
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Executive	Amy Tsai	Chief Policy Advisor
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TITLE:

Approval of the City of Redmond 2026 State Legislative Agenda

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

The state legislative agenda identifies the City's top priority issues and other policy issues the City supports, and it guides City work during the state legislative session.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☐ **Receive Information** ☐ **Provide Direction** ☒ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
RMC 2.80 Representation of City to Legislative Bodies
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**
The 2026 Legislative Session will begin January 12, 2026. It is the second year of the biennium and the session is scheduled to last 60 days.

The state legislative agenda serves three main purposes: (1) it communicates the City's top priorities and funding requests to the legislature, (2) it provides policy guidance for City positions on bills and informs allocation of staff resources during session, and (3) it tells a story to the state legislature about Redmond and why City issues deserve support.

The front page of the agenda gives a short paragraph about Redmond and highlights specific requests for state support derived from department feedback. The second page identifies regional issues where Redmond has interests in common with other jurisdictions. The third page contains support (or oppose) statements of specific interest to the City.

A draft was shared at the October 14 study session that reflected Councilmember feedback. In response to feedback received at the last study session, the following changes to the state legislative agenda have been made:

- Regional language added to Hartman Park
- Artificial Intelligence added to the regional innovative technology title
- ARCH added to the list of regional agendas supported

The state budget continues to experience significant revenue challenges. The state will also be weighing federal budget impacts. This will make the 2026 session a tough environment for city asks.

OUTCOMES:

The City's legislative session advocacy potentially results in state funding for projects identified in the State Legislative Agenda. The State Legislative Agenda helps the City advance top priority requests, and it focuses attention on policy areas that may be considered by the state legislature and that could have a positive or negative impact on the City of Redmond and the Redmond community.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
N/A
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:
N/A

Approved in current biennial budget: ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

Budget Offer Number:
N/A

Budget Priority:
N/A

Other budget impacts or additional costs: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

If yes, explain:

Funding may be provided by the State for Redmond projects on the City's State Legislative Agenda. The proposed 2026 State Legislative agenda includes a funding request of \$500,000 for Hartman Park Playground. The City could well receive a reduced amount.

Funding source(s):

N/A

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ **Additional budget details attached**

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
09/09/2025	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Provide Direction
10/14/2025	Study Session	Provide Direction

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:

The 2026 Legislative Session begins on January 12, 2026. To effectively advocate for the City's Legislative agenda, the agenda should be approved by Council preferably in the fall to support state lobbying efforts.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

The City will not be effective in lobbying for the items on the City's Legislative Agenda if the agenda is not approved in a timely manner.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: 2026 State Legislative Agenda