

 <p>Redmond WASHINGTON</p>	<p>REDMOND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING SUMMARY</p> <p>April 14, 2026, 7 p.m.</p>
	<p>Current and past meeting agendas and materials: https://redmond.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx</p>

Council President Melissa Stuart called the meeting to order, reviewed attendance, and overviewed the agenda. The meeting was held in City Hall Council Chambers.

Councilmembers present and establishing a quorum:

- Jessica Forsythe
- Vanessa Kritzer
- Angie Nuevacamina
- Sayna Parsi
- Vivek Prakriya
- Menka Soni
- Melissa Stuart

1. 2027-2028 Budget Process: Departmental Budget Overviews - Executive, Finance, Human Resources, and Technology & Information Services

Department: Finance

Action: Informational

Kelley Cochran, Finance Director, Malisa Files, Chief Operating Officer, and Lisa Maher, Assistant Chief Operating Officer, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Executive Department overview;
- New divisions;
- Baseline budget;
- Additional staffing;
- Healthy and Sustainable 2025-2026 enhancements;
- Strategic and Responsive 2025-2026 enhancements;
- Performance measures;
- Department highlights; and
- Budget challenges.

Discussion ensued regarding: staffing; color coding; reduction in greenhouse gas emissions; increase in public records requests; legal services; domestic violence advocate; World Cup investments; REDI staffing; federal lobbyist; purpose of document; federal grants; and services for domestic violence victims.

Kelley Cochran, Finance Director, and Haritha Narra, Deputy Finance Director, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Finance Department overview;
- Baseline budget;
- Strategic and Responsive 2025-2026 enhancements;
- Performance Measures;

- Department highlights;
- Budget challenges

Discussion ensued regarding: increasing reserves; insurance policies; credit card transaction fee; and autopay option.

Kelley Cochran, Finance Director, and Cathryn Laird, Human Resources Director, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Mission statement;
- Human Resources Department overview;
- Baseline budget;
- Strategic and Responsive 2025-2026 enhancements;
- Performance Measures;
- Department highlights; and
- Budget challenges.

Discussion ensued regarding: staffing and performance measures.

Kelley Cochran, Finance Director, Michael Marchand, Chief Operating Officer, and Chad Marsh, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Mission statement;
- Technology and Information Services Department overview;
- Strategic and Responsive 2025-2026 enhancements;
- Performance Measures; and
- Budget challenges.

Discussion ensued regarding: translation technology usage; Human Resources system; and data governance.

Kelley Cochran, Finance Director, provided next steps.

(recess 8:36 p.m., reconvene 8:45 p.m.)

2. Budget Process: Long-Range Financial Strategy & Fiscal Policies

Department: Finance

Action: Informational

Kelley Cochran, Finance Director, and Haritha Narra, Deputy Finance Director, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Long-range financial strategy;
- Community informed plans and budget;
- Development of budget priorities;
- Enhancements;
- Guiding principles recommendations;
- Philosophy recommendations;
- Financial strategies recommendations;

- Community investment rate;
- Community services;
- Forecast planning;
- One-time funding;
- Appendices recommendations;
- Fiscal Policies Update;
- Best practices;
- Compliance, consistency and clarification;
- Proposed policy recommendations.

Discussion ensued regarding: format of updates; preparing for instability; maintaining prior investments; investment policies; community expectations; partnerships with community based organizations; tangible examples; allocations; outcome based financial planning; community investment plan; review process; reserves; spending budgeted funds; budgeting towards outcomes; and providing feedback.

3. Council Talk Time

- Community feedback on the budget;
- Focus newsletter story;
- Town hall meetings;
- Workshops;
- Community strategic plan;
- Incorporating budget into the May Council Conversations meeting;
- Booth at the Downtown Redmond Arts Walk;
- Micromobility devices on sidewalks;
- Cost of service model for Parks and Recreation; and
- Budget matrix.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.