



Memorandum

Date: 7/7/2026

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Planning and Public Works

File No. CM 26-388

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Planning and Public Works

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Planning and Community Development	Carol Helland	425-556-2107
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Planning and Community Development	Seraphie Allen	Deputy Director
Planning and Community Development	Jason Lynch	Deputy Director
Planning and Community Development	Jeff Churchill	Long Range Planning Manager

**TITLE:**

Amendments to RMC 6.36 Noise Standards

**OVERVIEW STATEMENT:**

City staff recommend that the Council adopt an ordinance amending Redmond Municipal Code (RMC) 6.36 Noise Standards. These standards regulate noise for the purpose of public health, safety, and general welfare. The standards establish maximum noise levels by noise zone, prohibitions, exemptions, and measurement techniques.

The updates address several issues related to noise regulations, including:

- Addressing property maintenance activities.
- Removing duplicative items.
- Addressing proper location in the RMC to ensure enforcement.
- Addressing noise from gun ranges.
- Addressing the assembly and dismantling of tower cranes.
- Updating obsolete zoning district names.
- Re-organizing the exemptions section.
- Establishing requirements to post construction noise hours at construction sites.
- Other organizational updates for clarity.

Companion amendments are proposed to RMC 1.14 Enforcement and Penalties, and RMC 6.34.070 Loading Operations.

Since the May 26 study session on this topic, staff have made the following revisions to the recommended amendments:

- Changed “noise mitigation operating agreement” to “development agreement” - this was requested by the Interlake Sporting Association and City staff agree it is appropriate (see RMC 6.36.050.D).
- Disconnected agreement timeline from business license renewal timeline. The two processes are independent and should run independently (see RMC 6.36.050.D).
- Distinguished between property maintenance by owners and property maintenance by contractors (see RMC 6.36.050.B).

See Attachment A.

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

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Receive Information                       Provide Direction                       Approve

**REQUEST RATIONALE:**

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**  
Comprehensive Plan policies LU-9 concerning adverse impacts, and NE-92 through NE-94 concerning noise regulations and mitigation.
- **Required:**  
N/A
- **Council Request:**  
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**  
Chapter 70A.20 RCW authorizes local governments to adopt noise standards.

**OUTCOMES:**

The outcome of these amendments will be noise standards that address significant growth in Redmond since the standards were last updated, clarity, enforcement, and alignment with state law.

**COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:**

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**  
Q4 2025 - Q2 2026.
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**  
Online questionnaire, e-newsletter, stakeholder engagement.
- **Feedback Summary:**  
Most of the feedback received was about noise from gun ranges. Two themes emerged: (1) opposition from Interlake Sporting Association (ISA) members to proposed restrictions on shooting range hours, emphasizing collaboration and sound mitigation instead of time limits; and (2) support from nearby residents for limiting or eliminating weekend/evening shooting hours, citing impacts on family life, sleep, and outdoor use. Additional comments addressed citywide noise issues (traffic, landscaping equipment, park events) and enforcement concerns. See Attachment A for details.

**BUDGET IMPACT:**

**Total Cost:**

The total value of the Community and Economic Development offer is \$5,350,743. Staff time to support these amendments is drawn from that budget.

Approved in current biennial budget:  Yes  No  N/A

Budget Offer Number:  
0000304 - Community and Economic Development

Budget Priority:  
Vibrant and Connected

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

If yes, explain:  
N/A

Funding source(s):  
General Fund

Budget/Funding Constraints:  
N/A

Additional budget details attached

**COUNCIL REVIEW:**

**Previous Contact(s)**

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
5/5/2026	Committee of the Whole - Planning and Public Works	Provide Direction
5/26/2026	Study Session	Provide Direction

**Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)**

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
8/3/2026	Business Meeting	Approve

**Time Constraints:**

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, the ISA appealed the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) threshold determination issued in conjunction with the Noise Code amendment. The City Council has delegated the responsibility for holding the open record hearing under the City's SEPA procedures to the Hearing Examiner. Following the hearing, the Examiner will provide a recommendation to the City Council for final decision. The decision of the City Council is quasi-judicial and governed by the appearance of fairness doctrine. The code amendment process can continue while the appeal is pending, but City Council cannot adopt the final code amendment ordinance until the appeal process is complete or the appeal is withdrawn.

**ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:**

If not approved the code will not be updated and existing issues will not be resolved.

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

Attachment A: Recommended Amendments to RMC 6.36

Attachment B: Council Issues Matrix