

2026 Applicants (arranged in alphabetical order)

Recommended for Funding:

Ananda Mela: Joyful festival of India including traditional aspects of Indian culture. Location: Municipal Campus; *Non-profit*

Bigfoot Kids Book Festival - Brick and Mortar Books: a free event in Redmond Town Center. Readers can meet authors, have books signed, watch author talks, and listen to author panels. Location: Brick and Mortar Books in Redmond Town Center; *For-profit*

Cinco de Mayo - Centro Cultural Mexicano: Bilingual festival celebrating Mexican culture and inclusive of food trucks, cultural music, arts and craft vendors, a beer garden, and more. Location: Downtown Park; *Non-profit*

Criterium Bike Race - Washington State Bicycle Association (NEW): External producer looking to bring back the bicycle race for Redmond Derby Days. They hope to make this race part of a larger regional event to attract more racers and spectators. Location: Derby Days Parade Route; *Non-profit*

Crossfire Select Cup: Large three-day youth soccer tournament, an affiliate of Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association (separate event from Crossfire Challenge tournament). Location: 60-Acres; *Non-profit*

ECNL Girls Youth Soccer Playoffs: Large, week-long soccer tournament to proceed to the ECNL National

Festival of Color – Northwest Share: An event to celebrate the traditional Indian arrival of Spring - festival of Holi. Location: Marymoor Park; *Non-profit*

FIFA Watch Party – Africans on the Eastside (NEW/WC): A cultural World Cup watch party featuring African food and activities, with potential for additional activations depending on space. Location: TBD but would like Together Center or local park; *Non-profit*

Intercultural Festival & World Market - Friends of the Village Collective – FVC (NEW): A large-scale community event featuring cultural performances, multi-ethnic foods, arts, and small businesses all representing the rich diversity of Redmond. Taking place as part of National Welcoming Week. Location: Marymoor Light Rail Station; *Non-profit*

Multicultural Celebration Soccer Expo – BizDiversity (NEW/WC): A small multicultural event focused initially on supporting visitors during the world cup. Location: TBD but would like Downtown Park; *For-profit; Non-profit*

Pup Crawl – OneRedmond Foundation: The event would include different activations at each participating Redmond Hotel such as: Pet Psychologist, Pet Nutritionist, Pet Massage, Sketch Artist for Dog/Puppy Portraits, Dog Costume Contest etc. Location: Redmond hotels; *Non-profit*

Redmond Arts Festival – VALA: Multiday event connecting the community to local artists. Location: Redmond Town Center; *Non-profit*

Redmond Town Center – World Cup Activation Events (NEW/WC): Throughout the thirty-nine days of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, Redmond Town Center will activate a variety of family friendly interactive and

viewing experiences specifically designed to promote tourism for the City of Redmond. Location: Redmond Town Center; *For-profit*

Redmond Wine Walk – OneRedmond Foundation: Wine Walk weekend in August to coincide with the Washington State Wine Commission's August month-long wine activities. Location: Redmond Town Center; *Non-profit*

Rumble in Redmond Robot Combat – OneRedmond Foundation: A one-day robot competition a part of the "Robot Combat League." This event will be a part of the scoring point system which will be a point qualifier for the National Championships. Location: Redmond school; *Non-profit*

Surf Cup (formerly Crossfire Challenge): One of the state's largest reoccurring youth soccer tournaments hosted by Crossfire Premier Soccer Club, an affiliate of Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association. Location: 60-Acres; *Non-profit*

USA Gymnastics - Emerald City Gymnastics (ECGA): A gymnastics training event for athletes and an education event for 70 Washington State Gymnastics club parents and coaches. Location: Emerald City Gymnastics Academy 17695 NE 65th St.; *Non-profit*

Vegan Festival (VegFest) – Northwest Share: Community event that includes talks by eminent speakers on diet and health, food vendors, and multicultural entertainment. Location: Downtown Park; *Non-profit*

Velodrome - Junior Take Over: Started in 2022, junior track cycling clinics and racing event. Location: Marymoor Park; *Non-profit*

Velodrome - Junior Track Nationals: The organization finalized a multi-year contract for this event beginning in 2024. This is a national championship event and may include future Olympians. Location: Marymoor Park; *Non-profit*

Velodrome - Vision Grand Prix: National track calendar cycling championships comprised of the largest weekend track bike cycling racing event in North America drawing racers from across North America, New Zealand, Australia, Great Britain, and beyond. Location: Marymoor; *Non-profit*

Young Professionals Program – Theatre for Young Audiences (NEW): Theatre for young audiences as well as musicals for all ages. Some performances incorporate dinner theatre aspects with food provided by partnerships with local restaurants in Redmond, Washington. Location: Redmond Academy of Theatre Arts; *Non-profit*

WC = World Cup related

Not Recommended for funding:

Cultural World Cup Mini Night Market - Big Hug (NEW/WC): A vibrant pre-celebration festival for the 2026 FIFA World Cup combining K-pop concerts, multicultural food from participating nations, and cultural experiences. Location: TBD but would like Downtown Park or Redmond Central Connector; *Non-profit*

Reasoning:

- The application lacked clarity regarding event dates and scope, presenting more of a concept than a developed plan.
- Big Hug also confirmed participation in the Friends of the Village Collective application and prioritized funding for that proposal.
- Staff will continue working with the applicant to identify potential funding opportunities as the event plan becomes more defined.

Explore Redmond LIVE – Muslim CNA (NEW): Explore Redmond LIVE is a proposal for an immersive, web-based and mobile-friendly virtual tour platform showcasing Redmond’s BIPOC-owned businesses, restaurants, and attractions alongside city-owned parks and trails.

Reasoning:

- The application lacked clarity and showed limited alignment with the tourism grant criteria.
- Economic Development staff will engage with the applicant to better understand the proposed software solution and explore alternative funding opportunities if appropriate.