

## Background

This document provides a high-level update of monthly implementation activities for the [Environmental Sustainability Action Plan \(ESAP\)](#). The ESAP is the City's strategic roadmap to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance Redmond's natural resources for future generations.

Key priorities for 2023-2024 include:

- **High Impact Initiatives:** Implement high impact programs and policies that advance progress towards ESAP goals.
- **Lead by Example:** Continue to drive rapid progress towards the Climate Emergency Declaration goals.
- **Sustainability Programming:** Run a transparent and inclusive sustainability program.

## Updates

### High Impact Initiatives

- Routes to Rails Campaign: Planning's Transportation Planning and Engineering team launched the Routes to Rails campaign survey closed on March 15 after 20 days. 178 comments were posted to the interactive platform. The team will use this information to identify routes that maximize access to light rail and inform the Transportation Master Plan update. This effort is funded through the Climate Grant program from the Department of Commerce. Learn more on the City's [Let's Connect page](#).
- Recycling Video Library Update: The Recycling Video Library is now updated with nine new videos, bringing the total to 27 videos. Four of the new videos, those in the *Waste Reduction and Recycling at Work* section, are the result of our video shoot last December at Redmond business Uncle Harry's Natural Products. The Recycling Video Library was created as a resource to share Waste Reduction and Recycling information in short video form, accessible on the City's website, and to be posted on City social media channels. We now have four sections in the [Recycling Video Library](#) including:
  - What Goes Where
  - Waste Reduction and Recycling at Work
  - Food Waste Prevention
  - Where Does Redmond's Recycling Go?

The Recycling Video Library can be found at [Redmond.gov/recyclingvideos](https://redmond.gov/recyclingvideos)

- Energy Smart Eastside
  - The All-Electric Home Webinar: The Energy Smart Eastside program, in partnership with the non-profit organization, [Rewiring America](#), hosted a webinar on March 8 to highlight new offerings through the Inflation Reduction Act and additional incentives through the Energy Smart Eastside program. 400 people registered for the event, with 212 in attendance.
  - Launch of Energy Smart Eastside (ESE) Incentives: The 2023 ESE workshops and new incentives are officially live. The first workshop will be hosted on March 27 and

highlight the [Energy Boost program](#), which provides full cost coverage installations for community members earning 80% of the area median income and below. This program component is being done in partnership with Hopelink. More information can be found on the [ESE website](#).

- Department of Commerce Solar + Storage Grant: The City submitted a \$100,000 grant request to the Department of Commerce Solar Plus Storage grant program to fund a site assessment for Redmond's critical facilities. If awarded, the work will position the city for future solar and battery storage grant opportunities. In addition to climate action benefits, solar and storage provide added resilience to city facilities during power outages and emergency events.

### Leading by Example

- Puget Sound Energy Green Direct: The Lund Hill solar farm in Klickitat County is now fully operational. The solar farm is the state's largest photovoltaic plant and supplies Puget Sound Energy's Green Direct program, which allows large commercial and governmental participants the ability to purchase their energy from dedicated, local renewable energy resources. The Lund Hill resource is a key asset for Redmond's Green Direct participation.

### Sustainability Programming

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Synthesis Report: A [new report](#) by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the leading body of scientific experts convened by the United Nations, said that [earth is likely to cross a critical threshold for global warming](#) within the next decade, and nations will need to make an immediate and drastic shift away from fossil fuels to prevent the planet from overheating dangerously beyond that level.
- Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC): The ESAC held its second meeting of the year on March 23 from 5:30-7 pm. The ESAC discussed priorities for the year, energy programming for businesses, and a draft leaf blower community questionnaire. Meeting minutes will be posted [here](#).
- Sustainability Data Dashboard: Two new metrics have been added to the [Sustainability Data Dashboard](#). The new metrics monitor the overall health of Redmond's streams, including fish barrier removals and stream length complexity. Metrics for the Transportation and Water focus areas will be added in the future in alignment with the Transportation Master Plan update and the development of a water conservation strategy. An error was also fixed, which incorrectly stated the City's GHG reduction target.