

Cover Page

2025 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan

DRAFT
October 31, 2025

NOTE: A fully designed 2025 ESAP will be available for download at
<https://www.letsconnectredmond.com/esap-2025>.



Prepared by Kim Lundgren Associates, Inc.

Inside Cover (1 page)

The City has pledged support to the Snoqualmie Tribe's Ancestral Lands Movement, through which we acknowledge that we are on the Indigenous Land of Coast Salish people who have reserved treaty rights to this land, and have intimate knowledge and expertise in stewardship of the land. We urge residents and neighbors to practice respect for the Coast Salish people's ancestral lands by helping protect and restore these lands for generations to come.

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Letter from Mayor (1 page)

Dear Redmond Community,

Five years ago, we took an important step in our commitment to a sustainable Redmond by adopting our first comprehensive **Environmental Sustainability Action Plan**. Since then, we have made real progress – opening **four light rail stations**; partnering in the launch of **Energy Smart Eastside**, the residential home electrification program; opening the **Redmond Senior & Community Center**, our greenest building to date; and rewriting our zoning code to advance **sustainable and walkable neighborhoods**. These accomplishments are proof of what's possible when the City and our residents, businesses, and partners work together with a shared commitment to one another and to our environment.

This updated plan continues with that momentum. We're charting a path together to create a Redmond that is powered by clean renewable energy with connected neighborhoods where people can easily walk, bike, and gather, flourishing parks and trails that support both people and wildlife, transportation options that are safe, affordable, and sustainable, and a community that is resilient to the impacts of climate change. This is our community-powered plan where everyone, and the environment, can thrive.

This work is ambitious, but it's achievable, and it will take all of us to be successful. Now I invite you to be part of shaping Redmond's next chapter of climate action. Together, we can build a city that is resilient, welcoming, and thriving – for us, and for generations to come.

Letter from ESAC (1 page)

Acknowledgements (1-2 pages)

The City of Redmond expresses sincere gratitude to the following staff, community members, and organizations for their contributions in developing the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan.

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Centro Cultural Mexicano
Indian American Community Services
Sustainability Ambassadors
United Hub

Tribal Partners

Duwamish Tribe
Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
Snohomish Tribe of Indians
Snoqualmie Tribe
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
Tulalip Tribes

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[include KLA logo]

Community Powered. Sustainable Solutions.

In Redmond, empowered community members, innovative businesses, and civic leaders work together to support vibrant urban centers, excellent schools, and beautiful parks and trails. Our community thrives because of this collaboration and a shared commitment to one another and to our environment.

The 2025 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) is about continuing that momentum. We are seeing the impacts of climate change, including hotter summers, wildfire smoke, and extreme rain events. Addressing these realities requires inclusive, community-driven solutions to ensure Redmond remains a resilient, welcoming place where everyone can thrive for years to come.

We are leading the way. From expanding transit choices and affordable housing, to deploying Washington's first electric fire truck, the City is working hand-in-hand with community members to pursue real, ambitious climate action. These sustainable solutions reduce pollution while creating valuable co-benefits: cleaner air, local jobs, and more connected, vibrant neighborhoods.

Redmond's resourcefulness and sense of community drives progress and we invite all community members to help shape our next chapter of climate action through our updated plan. Let's create sustainable solutions together.

Working Together for an Equitable Future

The 2025 ESAP approaches equity not as a single action, but as the foundation for how each sustainability and climate initiative is designed and implemented. Policy CR-2 in the Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan update states that Redmond will "prioritize equitable city investments, policies, programs, and projects so vulnerable and underserved communities lead the clean energy transition and are resilient to climate change." The 2025 ESAP reinforces this policy by embedding equity into implementation of each action and uplifting those who are most vulnerable to climate impacts.

2025 ESAP Goals

The Environmental Sustainability Action Plan is an ambitious five-year plan to accelerate climate action and scale up Redmond's impact. This plan provides an update to the 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) and builds upon the Redmond City Council's 2020 Climate Emergency Declaration for city operations. The greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction goals stated in this plan also align with the Climate Resilience and Sustainability Element in the Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan update.

Redmond will reduce GHG emissions
50% by 2030
95% by 2050
to help avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

This plan is intended to be implemented in the short-term, focusing on high-impact strategies and actions – those that will substantially reduce GHG emissions in pursuit of Redmond’s 2030 and 2050 targets and meaningfully enhance community resilience to climate change. These high-impact strategies and actions are represented by and organized within five Big Moves and 10 strategies.

Redmond’s Five Big Moves

1. Make Existing Buildings Better
2. Build Efficient and Resilient Buildings
3. Provide Safe and Sustainable Transportation
4. Achieve Zero Waste of Resources
5. Foster a Resilient Community and Natural Environment

A Strong Foundation for Climate Action

Since the adoption of Redmond's 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, the City and community members accomplished a lot together – from the launch of the Energy Smart Eastside heat pump program and historic investments in clean transportation solutions, to the opening of the all-electric Redmond Senior & Community Center. These collaborative efforts and successes are the result of more than 10 years of prioritizing action on environmental sustainability and climate change.

- 2011: The **Redmond Comprehensive Plan** update provides a 20-year vision for how the City will grow and develop through 2030.
- 2011: Redmond is a founding member of the **King County-Cities Climate Collaborative (K4C)**, a voluntary but formal partnership between cities and King County on climate change outreach.
- 2014: The **Redmond Climate Action Implementation Plan** presents a framework for confronting climate change and engaging the community.
- 2019: The **Community Strategic Plan** is adopted, identifying environmental sustainability as one of the top five strategic priorities.
- 2020: Redmond adopts the **Environmental Sustainability Action Plan** and a **Climate Emergency Declaration**, establishing a roadmap for realizing the City's long-term sustainability vision.
- 2020, 2021, 2022, and 2023: Western Washington is inundated by wildfires and smoke in late summer and early fall.
- 2021: Redmond and the Pacific Northwest experience a "Heat Dome," setting 128 all-time high temperature records in the state.¹
- 2022: Redmond completes a **Climate Vulnerability Assessment** to identify how the community is and will be impacted by climate change.
- 2022: Redmond and Eastside city partners Bellevue, Issaquah, Kirkland, and Mercer Island, launch **Energy Smart Eastside**, a regional heat pump program.
- 2023: Mayor Birney joins the Climate Mayors leadership team, a national network of mayors committed to climate action.
- 2023: The Climate Resilience and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan was adopted, positioning Redmond as a leader on climate action in park and vegetation management.
- 2023-2025: Washington experiences a statewide drought.
- 2024: All-electric Redmond Senior & Community Center opens.
- 2024: City adopts **Redmond 2050**, the City's comprehensive plan update that centers equity, sustainability, and resilience and advances the transition from a suburb to a city.
- 2025: New green building, embodied carbon, solar and EV-ready requirements, and construction and demolition recycling go into effect.
- 2025: Redmond sees five days reaching 90°F or higher as of late August, more than the region's historical average.²
- 2025: Four Redmond light rail stations are operational, and the Downtown Station becomes the busiest station on the 2 Line.

¹ University of Washington, [In the Hot Seat: Saving Lives from Extreme Heat in Washington State](#) (2023).

² AccuWeather, [Redmond, WA Monthly Weather | AccuWeather](#) (2025).

Redmond is seeing more intense and frequent climate hazards impacting our community, from extreme heat to more frequent wildfires and drought. The need for climate action has never been greater, and The ESAP seeks to address that need through practical, high-impact solutions.

Engaging and Empowering the Community

The 2025 ESAP is grounded in extensive stakeholder engagement. Input from community members, businesses, regional partners, and City staff informed the strategies and actions, ensuring the plan reflects a broad range of perspectives and priorities.

At the beginning of the plan update process, Redmond's Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) and city staff developed a community outreach strategy to:

- **Welcoming more voices** of community members to learn and engage in climate-related initiatives and listen, engage, and understand the needs of those who are most impacted by climate change.
- **Engage and inspire** the community throughout the update process to foster a sense of collective ownership and excitement about achieving a healthy, thriving, and climate resilient Redmond.

Goals for Equitable Community Engagement



Engagement by the Numbers

Between April and August 2025, the City engaged with community members to inform the development of the strategies and actions for the 2025 ESAP.

- **191** people engaged through nine tabling events
- **4** paid partnerships with community nonprofit organizations
- **49** attendees at three workshops
- **184** community questionnaire responses
- **509** new subscribers to Redmond's sustainability e-newsletter
- **295** engaged visitors on the ESAP Let's Connect webpage
- **10** focus groups and three community events hosted by community partners

Community Questionnaire

A questionnaire collected information about the barriers community members face to taking climate action and their priorities, concerns, and ideas for the plan update.

- **75%** of respondents are very or extremely concerned about climate change, especially impacts like **extreme heat, air quality, and power outages**.

- **Cost** is the greatest barrier for respondents to switch to electric systems for their homes, and **financial support** is what respondents said would most help them make the switch.
- Community members would like to see more **protected bike lanes** and **connected trails** in the community.

Engagement Highlights

Throughout the development of the ESAP, the project team sought to host and partner with innovative and fun activities to engage community members of all ages and backgrounds.

Park Restoration Picnic

The City partnered with United Hub to host a "Plant Swap + Picnic" park restoration party. A team of all ages came together to remove invasive plants from Idylwood Park and swap plants and share plant care tips with one another. The event wrapped up with a restorative tai-chi session, led by a grandmother who stumbled across the event on a day out with her grandson.

Climate Trivia Night

The Sustainability Team hosted its first-ever Climate Trivia Night at Flatstick Pub. Community members learned about Redmond's environmental efforts, the impacts of climate change, and how we all can take action.

Community and Staff Workshops

Workshops were an important forum to hear from stakeholders about how Redmond can meet its climate goals through the plan update. These events introduced the Five Big Moves to reduce GHG emissions and enhance community resilience. Community workshop participants 'chose their own adventure' and cycled through each Big Move to provide insights and feedback to inform the plan update.

Community Partnerships

The City established paid agreements with **United Hub**, **El Centro Cultural Mexicano**, and **Indian American Community Services**. These organizations raised awareness about the ESAP, collected meaningful and culturally relevant input from community members, and supported efforts to make climate action more accessible. Each organization's scope of work included hosting focus groups, translating and distributing communications materials, and hosting climate-related events to activate their communities. The City also partnered with the **Sustainability Ambassadors Youth Leadership Program** to support activation and education efforts in Redmond public schools.

Community Voices

- "Personally, I am most concerned about smoke from wildfires because I have asthma."
- "Redmond is extremely bike-friendly, and I wish we had better signage on some streets to encourage cars to share the road and protect bikers."
- "I think composting is super important! I am working to spread the word because Redmond has such an amazing program. I just wish more people used the organics composting services."

- "I would like to see more reforestation efforts and better protections for the green spaces we have. It would be wonderful to see more community engagement with the planting. I love the idea of free or low-cost trees and planting guides."

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Why We're Acting on Climate

Redmond is experiencing escalating effects of climate change through more frequent heat events, increased precipitation, and flooding. The City's 2022 Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment and Strategy evaluated the impact of climate change throughout the Redmond community to inform resilience planning that can protect and prepare Redmond's residents, assets, and environment.

In addition to extreme heat and increased precipitation, climate hazards including wildfires and smoke, decreasing snowpack, sea level rise, coastal and riverine flooding, and extreme storm events are projected to worsen across King County over the next 50 years. All of these hazards present challenges and risks to human health and safety, infrastructure, and our natural environment.

Not everyone in Redmond will be impacted by climate change equally. Building equity into climate action planning efforts requires considering factors that may increase the vulnerability of certain populations, such as older adults, residents living alone, and people with disabilities, lower incomes, or limited English proficiency. For example, residents living in neighborhoods with more pavement, fewer trees, and proximity to landslide hazard areas or floodplains may be more vulnerable to extreme heat and precipitation and will need solutions tailored to their experiences and needs.

"**Climate resilience** is about successfully coping with and managing the impacts of climate change while preventing those impacts from growing worse. A climate resilient community is low-carbon and equipped to deal with the realities of a warmer world."³

Extreme Heat

By the 2050s, the percentage of days per year with extreme heat will more than double in Redmond.⁴

Data for visual:

	Days over 88F ⁵	Days over 92F ⁶
2030s	+17	+12.1
2050s	+32	+24.4
2080s	+56	+46.9

As the frequency and intensity of extreme heat increases across Redmond, cooling demand will also increase. **Cooling Degree Days** describe how much energy is needed to cool a building over the threshold of 65°F. Cooling Degree Days can help estimate energy consumption and energy burden, or the percentage of a household's income spent on energy costs.

Data for visual:

³ Union of Concerned Scientists, "[What is Climate Resilience?](#)" (2022).

⁴ City of Redmond, [Executive Summary – Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment and Strategy](#) (2022).

⁵ City of Redmond, [Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment and Strategy](#) (2022).

⁶ City of Redmond, [Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment and Strategy](#) (2022).

	Percent Increase of Annual Cooling Demand ⁷
2030s	72%
2050s	148%

Increased Precipitation

By the 2080s in Redmond, wet season precipitation (October through March) and the frequency of hundred-year storms is expected to increase. At the same time, reduced soil moisture in the summer season will increase the potential for dry conditions and drought.⁸

Data for Visual:

	Wet Season Precipitation
2020s	+2%
2050s	+6%
2080s	+11%

⁷ City of Redmond, [Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment and Strategy](#) (2022).

⁸ City of Redmond, [Executive Summary – Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment and Strategy](#) (2022).

Reducing Our Climate Contribution

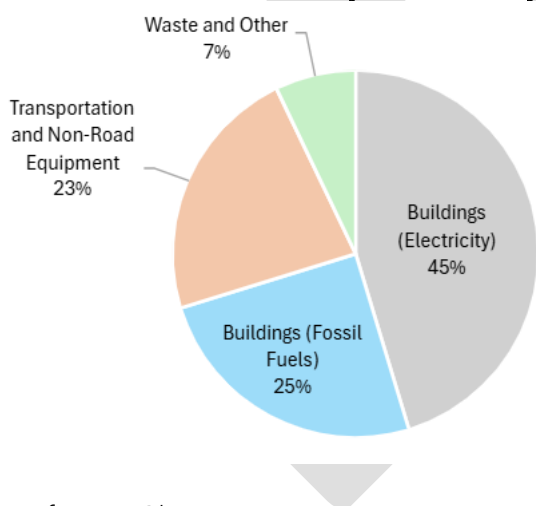
Greenhouse Gas Emissions Explained

Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, such as carbon dioxide and methane, trap heat in Earth's atmosphere, creating a "greenhouse effect" that warms the planet and results in climate change. These gases are primarily generated from burning fossil fuels like gas and oil to power our buildings, vehicles, and industries. As emissions heat up the planet, long-term effects on weather, ecosystems, natural resources, and human health intensify and exacerbate inequalities already existing in our communities. Redmond's Big Moves are designed to reduce GHG emissions quickly and aggressively.

Community Emissions

To understand opportunities for meeting the 2030 and 2050 GHG reduction targets, Redmond conducts periodic GHG inventories to assess where emissions are being generated across the community. In 2023, Redmond generated approximately 814,854 metric tons of GHG emissions, measured in metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MTCO₂e).⁹ Residential and commercial buildings generated 70% of communitywide GHG emissions, with a split of 45% emissions coming from buildings powered by electricity (because PSE's electricity grid is not fully renewable) and 25% from buildings powered by fossil fuels. Transportation and non-road equipment contributes 23% of emissions and the remaining 7% of community GHGs can be attributed to landfilled waste and wastewater.

Redmond's 2023 Community Emissions by Sector



Data for Pie Chart:

Buildings (Fossil Fuels): 25%

Buildings (Electricity): 45%

Transportation and Non-Road Equipment: 23%

Waste and Other: 7%

Transitioning to an Emissions-Free Electricity Grid

Almost half (45%) of Redmond's communitywide emissions are produced by the electricity consumed by residential and commercial buildings. These emissions are a product of the fossil

⁹ City of Redmond, 2023 Redmond GHG Inventory (2025).

fuel energy sources that power the grid in addition to renewable energy. If the grid is not 100% emissions-free, Redmond's use of electricity for buildings and transportation will generate emissions. Therefore, **the ability for Redmond to meet its 2030 reduction target is highly dependent on the electricity grid getting cleaner**, especially as Redmond looks to scale up the electrification of buildings and transportation over the next five years. The State's Clean Energy Transformation Act (CETA) commits Washington to an electricity supply free of GHG emissions by 2045, with earlier milestones for utilities.

Emissions from City Operations

As part of the 2020 ESAP, Council adopted the Climate Emergency Declaration, which establishes ambitious climate and sustainability goals, including carbon neutrality for City operations by 2030. In 2023, **city operations generated approximately 3,568 MTCO₂e, which is 0.4% of the footprint of the entire Redmond community.**¹⁰ While the city operations strategies in this plan will make meaningful progress, they will not, on their own, achieve full carbon neutrality by 2030 due to the expense and staff capacity needed to proactively retrofit gas building systems and vehicles to all electric alternatives. This plan reflects a balance between ambition, available resources, and organizational capacity, while committing to lead by example and to pursue every opportunity to accelerate progress. Actions to reduce the impact of city operations and lead by example are included within each Big Move under "City Actions".

¹⁰ City of Redmond, 2023 Redmond GHG Inventory (2025).

Our Five Big Moves

Redmond's five Big Moves represent the greatest opportunities to reduce GHG emissions and enhance community resilience to climate hazards. They were identified through data analysis, community feedback, implementation trends, best practices, and to support implementation of Redmond 2050.

- **Big Move 1: Make Existing Buildings Better**
 - Vision: Redmond's existing homes and commercial buildings are high performing, energy efficient, and climate-ready.
- **Big Move 2: Build Resilient and Efficient Buildings**
 - Vision: Redmond constructs new homes and commercial buildings that are resilient to climate hazards and produce zero emissions.
- **Big Move 3: Provide Accessible and Sustainable Transportation**
 - Vision: Redmond accelerates the transition to connected, low-carbon mobility options and electric vehicles.
- **Big Move 4: Achieve Zero Waste of Resources**
 - Vision: Redmond reduces consumption and diverts as much waste as possible from the landfill while promoting a circular economy.
- **Big Move 5: Foster a Resilient Community and Natural Environment**
 - Vision: Redmond cultivates thriving natural environments and neighborhoods that are resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Achieving the Big Moves

5 Big Moves

10 Strategies to Achieve Them

Ten Strategies guide how Redmond will accomplish the five Big Moves.

Strategy: Reduce the direct use of fossil fuels across the community.

In Redmond, 48% of our GHG emissions come from the direct use of fossil fuels, such as natural gas, gasoline, and fuel oil. Eliminating fossil fuel use in buildings and transportation and transitioning to electricity generated from renewable sources represents our biggest opportunity to mitigate Redmond's contribution to climate change.

Strategy: Increase energy efficiency and performance in existing buildings.

We need to reduce our overall energy usage through efficiency and performance measures. Reducing our need for energy will reduce our utility bills, demand placed on the electrical grid, and enable us to reach 100% clean electricity more quickly.

Strategy: Manage growing electricity demand and support grid resilience.

The need to “electrify everything” goes hand-in-hand with the need to ensure our electrical grid can handle the increase in demand. While state- and utility-level policies are putting our region on a path to achieve 100% clean electricity, this transition will be difficult and slow-moving. Our buildings must be smart and adaptive to ensure we can stay on track for our GHG targets while providing services to an integrated electric grid that can match power demand with clean energy resources.

Strategy: Support high performance building standards and climate policies.

Redmond is set to add over 39 million square feet of new buildings by 2050, a 75% increase from what exists today. New buildings are projected to increase electricity usage 40%, even with state buildings codes, placing additional strain on the grid and resources. Redmond must ensure that new development is built to be energy efficient and with low-carbon materials from the start while supporting policies and standards that reinforce this approach.

Strategy: Level the playing field for non-vehicle transportation modes.

To develop a sustainable transportation system with diverse options, we must make it easy, safe, and convenient to get around without a car. Redmond can encourage this by completing connections across transit, pedestrian, and bicycle networks, ensuring access to goods and services within walking or biking distances of urban centers, while also de-emphasizing accommodations for single occupancy vehicles. All of these strategies become more effective as smarter land use decisions cut down the time and distance that it takes for community members to get around.

Strategy: Encourage community members to choose low-carbon transportation options.

Ensuring that community members use diverse modes of transportation means making sure they can access and afford them. Accessible ride services, incentives, secure storage for e-bikes, and confidence in available EV charging infrastructure will all help Redmond community members make the shift.

Strategy: Reduce consumption.

The waste we send to landfill produces methane, a potent GHG. Expanding composting and recycling opportunities is one piece of the puzzle to reduce these emissions. However, the emissions associated with producing what we consume can be hundreds of times higher than disposing of them, especially for things made from plastic or metal that don't break down in a landfill. Replacing the consumption of materials with reusable and durable goods can reduce emissions from both angles, while working to conserve resources and ecosystems globally.

Strategy: Create a circular economy.

Instead of the traditional "take-make-waste" linear model, circular systems focus on designing out waste, reusing products, and regenerating natural systems. We're taking steps to understand the resource potential in today's waste stream, while nurturing the businesses and community members that will drive value creation from materials that are increasingly costly to throw away.

Strategy: Provide resources to support community members before, during, and after climate hazards.

Climate hazards like extreme heat, smoke, cold, and flooding are increasing in frequency and intensity across the region. All community members should have equitable access to the tools and information to be resilient to climate events.

Strategy: Maintain infrastructure and healthy ecosystems to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Ensuring that our infrastructure and ecosystems are resilient to climate hazards will help ensure that all living beings in our community can enjoy the benefits they provide. This involves protecting and restoring natural features like tree canopy, biodiversity, and streams, as well as upgrading essential systems like stormwater infrastructure to manage flooding and extreme weather events.

Actions to Implement

Specific actions to be implemented over the next five years have been identified for each Big Move, for both community and city operations. These actions support the 10 strategies and are included in the following Big Move chapters alongside metrics and targets that can be tracked to monitor progress. Long term actions to be evaluated with the 2030 plan update are included in Appendix 2.

What's Possible by 2030 and 2050

Over the next two decades Redmond is poised to experience transformational growth as we transition from a suburban community to a thriving urban area. This level of change is an opportunity for Redmond to dramatically reduce GHG emissions and create a community where daily needs, jobs, and recreation are all close to home. The 2025 ESAP is informed by a robust climate analysis, summarized as pathways that will keep Redmond on track towards our climate goals. Key assumptions are summarized below.

By working together, increasing capacity, leading by example, and focusing on actions that will equitably move us towards zero emissions, we can make the transformative changes needed for a sustainable future.

The actions within each Big Move use mechanisms, such as incentives, policies, guidelines, and outreach to help catalyze this shift in pursuit of the 2030 and 2050 reduction targets. But the City cannot initiate such transformative change on its own. Individual homeowners and property owners will need to lead the charge to reduce their energy use, electrify their own buildings and vehicles, and minimize waste and resource use. Achieving the reduction targets is also dependent on a number of state and federal programs and policies and how quickly the electricity grid transitions to emissions-free sources of energy. This is why Redmond is committed to updating this plan at regular intervals to respond to a complex and difficult to predict environment.

WEDGE GRAPHIC TO BE ADDED DURING DESIGN

Key Callouts Within Wedge Graphic

- Big Move 1: By 2030, 80% of HVAC replacements are high-efficient heat pumps and 20% of those projects include full building electrification with weatherization.
- Big Move 2: New additions of fossil fuels in development projects decline rapidly between 2025 and 2030.
- Big Move 3: Smart land use decisions concentrate growth near transit and reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by community members. Investments in transit and active modes drive a 5% reduction in vehicle use by 2040.
- Big Move 4: Initially, waste-related emissions remain steady as diversion is balanced with new growth. Emissions decline rapidly in the future as all community members strive for zero waste.
- Big Move 2: Electricity-related GHGs continue to decline by mid-century and additional GHGs from new buildings reach zero by 2045.
- Big Move 3: Vehicle electrification reduces transportation GHGs to near zero by 2050, while some heavy equipment may remain.
- By 2050, Redmond achieves carbon neutrality (95% reduction in GHG emissions.)
- By 2030, Redmond will reduce climate risk and become better prepared for extreme weather events as actions in this plan are implemented. Moving towards 2050, maturing investments in green infrastructure will help keep Redmond resilient in a climate that is different from today.
- Redmond's neighborhoods, infrastructure, and ecosystems are more resilient to climate hazards.

Big Move 1: Make Existing Buildings Better

Where We're Headed

Redmond's existing homes and commercial buildings are high performing, energy efficient, and climate-ready.

Where We're At

- 474 rooftop solar systems around the City.¹¹
- 84.5% of electricity supporting Redmond's city operations comes from renewable energy.¹²
- 525 residential heat pumps installed in 2024.¹³

What It Will Take

Generating 70% of Redmond's total emissions, buildings are the greatest opportunity for Redmond to significantly reduce communitywide emissions. Forty-five percent of those emissions come from electricity use while 25% is generated from the direct use of fossil fuels, such as natural gas, for heating, cooling, and cooking.

In addition, the electricity grid will need to transition to use 100% renewable energy for Redmond to see the full benefits of electrifying buildings and transportation. While sourcing electricity from a fully renewable supply remains a challenge, Redmond will continue to advocate for clean energy with the local utility, Puget Sound Energy, and at the State level. In the meantime, the City will continue to prioritize strategies that reduce overall energy use and demand.

To make existing buildings better, Redmond will need to retrofit existing buildings to run on electricity instead of fossil fuels, implement energy efficiency and weatherization measures to decrease overall energy use, and install renewable energy systems where feasible.

Encouraging a Different Choice

Each choice made during a home or commercial building retrofit can have long-lasting impacts on the efficiency and emissions of the space. For example, replacing an aging fossil fuel heating system with a highly efficient electric heat pump can avoid locking in GHG emissions for 20 more years and save property owners money in the long run. Consider this: Over its lifetime, an air source heat pump will produce 22 MTCO₂e while a gas furnace will produce 92 MTCO₂e.¹⁴ For Redmond to meet its climate goals, our community will need to install 625 heat pumps every year by 2030 (up from 525 in 2024).

¹¹ City of Redmond, [Environmental Sustainability | Redmond, WA.](#)

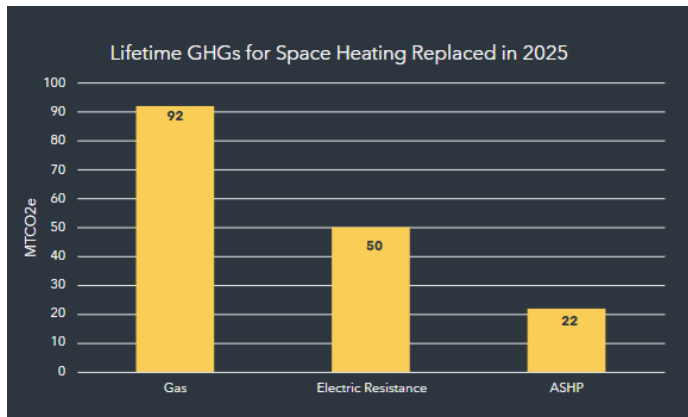
¹² City of Redmond, [Environmental Sustainability | Redmond, WA.](#)

¹³ EnergySmart Eastside Program Tracking

¹⁴ Calculated using average energy intensity for air source heat pumps and natural gas furnaces from NREL. 2024.

ResStock General Reference Documentation. Golden, CO. National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

<https://nrel.github.io/ResStock.github.io/>. Emissions associated with heat pump electricity reflect a assumed linear annual reduction in emissions from PSE 2023 rates to carbon free in 2045, in line with the Washington State Clean Energy Transition Act.



We're already on our way. Redmond and the Eastside cities expanded the Energy Smart Eastside program in 2023 to accelerate the adoption of all-electric heat pumps and increase access to federal and state incentives. To date, the program has completed 61 retrofits for Redmond's low-income community members and supported a total of 101 retrofits in Redmond, accelerating the clean energy transition.

Leading by Example

The City has committed to implementing energy efficiency and resiliency measures to reduce energy consumption by 30%. In 2021, the City began purchasing renewable electricity through Puget Sound Energy's Green Direct program for municipal facilities. In addition, the Redmond Senior & Community Center, a mass timber, all-electric building, is Redmond's most sustainable building to date and was recognized as a PSRC Vision 2050 awardee in 2025. At City Hall and the Redmond Senior & Community Center, solar photovoltaic systems were installed to use rooftop space to generate clean, renewable electricity¹⁵. The City has also completed energy efficiency upgrades at city facilities to reduce operating costs and energy consumption, including retrofits in 2025 at City Hall.

Community Action Table + Metrics and Targets

Community Actions	Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost	Proposed Start Year
			\$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	
1.1 Expand Energy Smart Eastside with a focus on weatherization, resident education, technical assistance, and financing.	Executive	1, 2, 3	\$\$\$	Ongoing
1.2 Implement technical support programs to assist compliance with Building Performance Standards	Executive	2	\$\$\$	2026

¹⁵ City of Redmond, [Sustainable City Operations | Redmond, WA.](#)

Community Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
	with targeted support for multifamily and nonprofit buildings.				
1.3	Support expansion of Washington State’s benchmarking requirement and advocate for future program growth to include emissions reporting requirements.	Executive	2	\$	Ongoing
1.4	Partner with PSE and the community to advance grid modernization and resilience opportunities in Redmond, including demand response and solar plus storage.	Executive	2	\$	2026
1.5	Develop HOA and multifamily building management guidance for solar and other energy infrastructure.	Executive	2	\$	2027
1.6	Explore partnerships and opportunities to integrate home energy disclosure information into home listings.	Executive	2	\$	2028

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
Building energy GHG emissions (MTCO ₂ e)	451,188 (2023)	246,900	14,000
Heat pump retrofits in existing homes (cumulative)	765 (2024)	4,051	9,306
Per capita electricity consumption (kWh/resident)	9,379 (2024)	Monitor	Monitor
Per capita natural gas consumption (therms/resident)	247 (2024)	200	0
Electricity fuel mix (% from renewable sources)	52% (2023)	80%	100%

City Operations Action Table + Metrics and Targets

City Operations Action Table + Metrics and Targets

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
1.7	Establish a policy to guide decarbonization and sustainability in City maintenance and retrofit projects.	Parks	1	\$	2026
1.8	Develop preventative and proactive maintenance, staffing, and funding strategy for critical building systems and infrastructure.	Parks	2	\$\$	2027
1.9	Develop decarbonization plans for at least five City facilities, including solar assessments and evaluation of electrical capacity.	Parks	1	\$\$	2026
1.10	Advance findings from solar and energy storage feasibility study.	Parks	1	\$\$	2026
1.11	Advance energy efficiency, decarbonization, and water conservation projects in City facilities.	Parks	1	\$\$\$	2026

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
Renewable energy produced by City facilities (kWh/year)	18,631 (2024)	100,000	600,000
Natural gas consumed for City operations (therms/year)	113,778 (2024)	95,000	5,700

Your Move

Now, it's your move. Reduce your climate impact while making your home more energy efficient and climate-ready.

- **Good:** Implement basic, low-cost weatherization strategies at home, such as weatherstripping doors and windows, adding attic insulation, and installing window treatments. Take advantage of [Puget Sound Energy](#) rebates, and income qualified community members can explore the [King County Housing Authority Weatherization Program](#).

- **Better:** Install smart meters in your home to optimize energy usage and save on utility costs. Start by reaching out to [Puget Sound Energy](#) (PSE) or your local utility.
- **Best:** Eliminate fossil fuel systems in your home by installing electric or renewable systems such as solar, heat pumps, or geothermal. You may even be eligible to receive rebates and incentives through [Energy Smart Eastside](#).

Community Member Spotlight:

"With our new heat pump, we breeze through every season safely and comfortably! We also included an air filter in our installation so we can filter out pollution in our home year-round. This upgrade is a win-win for our health, budget, and the planet!" - *Devon Kellog, Redmond Resident*

Big Move 2: Build Resilient and Efficient Buildings

Where We're Headed

Redmond constructs new homes and commercial buildings that are resilient to climate hazards and produce zero emissions.

Where We're At

- Redmond is projected to build **24,800 housing units** through 2050 to support the growing population.¹⁶
- Redmond is set to add over **39 million square feet** of new buildings by 2050 (a 75% increase).¹⁷

What It Will Take

As Redmond transforms from a suburb to a city, **new construction presents a critical opportunity to set the foundation for the next several decades** of achieving Redmond's climate goals. Resilient and highly efficient building design can help our community avoid future emissions, lower utility costs, reduce water consumption, and increase infrastructure security in the face of extreme weather.

New buildings in Redmond will provide essential multifamily housing and new commercial space for our growing population. This also means a 75% increase (39 million sq ft) in building square feet by 2050 and a 40% increase (320,000 MWh) in electricity usage by 2050, even with state building codes increasing energy efficiency requirements. However, by increasing the number of new builds utilizing Green Building Incentives to 50% by 2035 and 100% by 2050, Redmond could avoid over 200,000 MWhs of new energy demand, while also reducing water consumption and integrating more low carbon materials into new construction.

To achieve the vision for this Big Move, Redmond will develop technical support to advance green building and resilience requirements for new community and municipal development, address grid capacity gaps to support accelerated decarbonization, and support state embodied carbon standards.

Leading by Example

The Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan update provides a framework for urban design that will allow the City to accommodate growth while supporting benefits to community development. For example, housing and employment growth will be prioritized in growth centers served by high-capacity transit stations. Residents and commuters can experience the benefits of centralized, transit-oriented growth including easier commutes, reduced urban sprawl, lower traffic on surface streets and associated air pollution, and proximity to mixed-use resources, such as grocery stores or public gyms. Additionally, Redmond 2050 outlines that new buildings should incorporate principles from Universal Design to enhance placemaking with inclusive, equitable, and accommodating planning that encourages community gathering and accessibility.¹⁸

¹⁶ City of Redmond, [Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan](#) (2024).

¹⁷ Estimated from new Jobs projections from City of Redmond, [Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan](#) (2024).

¹⁸ City of Redmond, [Community Development and Design | Redmond, WA](#).

Community Action Table + Metrics and Targets

Community Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
2.1	Develop a handbook, training, and case studies for the City's green building and resilience codes and standards to reduce adoption barriers among developers.	Executive	4	\$	2026
2.2	Explore expanded incentives for grid flexibility technologies, resilience hubs, and leading green building certifications in the Redmond Zoning Code.	Executive/ Planning	3	\$	2026
2.3	Identify opportunities for thermal networks or micro-grids in retail redevelopment and other neighborhood plans.	Executive/ Planning	1, 3	\$\$	2027
2.4	Explore additional incentives and/or technical support for affordable housing to advance green building techniques.	Executive/ Planning	4	\$\$	2027
2.5	Explore additional incentives and/or technical support for middle housing to advance green building techniques.	Executive/ Planning	4	\$\$	2027
2.6	Identify grid capacity gaps and implement solutions that enable timely upgrades and support communitywide decarbonization, density, and natural systems goals.	Executive/ Planning	3	\$\$	2026
2.7	Support state and regional policies that preserve and advance clean energy and climate goals, including incentives for renewable energy production and	Executive	4	\$	Ongoing

Community Actions	Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost		Proposed Start Year
			\$ - staff time only	Proposed Start Year	
			\$ - up to \$250,000		
			\$\$\$ - \$250,000+		
					</

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
All-electric buildings constructed (%)	NEW	25%	100%
Cumulative avoided embodied carbon from new construction (MTCO ₂ e)	NEW	2,500	61,000

City Operations Action Table + Metrics and Targets

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
2.10	Pilot tools to integrate life-cycle cost information into capital expense budgeting processes for new facilities.	Public Works	4	\$\$	2028
2.11	Establish a policy for identifying sustainable best practices for municipal facilities and infrastructure to reduce operational and embodied carbon, waste, and water.	Executive/ Parks/ Public Works	4	\$	2027

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
2.12	Adopt a standard specification to procure low embodied carbon concrete.	Executive/ Parks/ Public Works	4, 8	\$\$	2028
2.13	Evaluate and advance resilient material standards and practices to ensure City facilities and infrastructure withstand changing climate conditions.	Parks/ Public Works	5	\$	2027

Your Move

Now, it's your move. If you are a developer or property manager, here's how you can build and maintain resilient, climate-ready buildings from the ground up.

- **Good:** If you own a commercial or multifamily property, comply with the State's [Clean Building Performance Standard](#).
 - **Better:** Take advantage of Redmond's [Green Building Incentive Program](#) and ensure new buildings are constructed to be electric-ready.
 - **Best:** Develop community-oriented properties with community resources and destinations per Redmond's [Universal Design Incentives Standards](#), incorporating the lowest carbon materials in building construction.

Community Member Spotlight:

In July 2025, the Sustainability Team hosted a roundtable with local property owners to learn more about their challenges with and opportunities for constructing and managing greener buildings. Attendees shared their experiences with the State's Clean Building Performance Standard, the upfront costs associated with energy retrofits, and potential resources and incentives that would support them.

Big Move 3: Provide Accessible and Sustainable Transportation

Where We're Headed

Redmond accelerates the transition to connected, low-carbon mobility options and electric vehicles.

Where We're At

- **26%** reduction in community vehicle miles traveled (VMT) since 2011.¹⁹
- Transit ridership is anticipated to increase by roughly **2.5** times the 2019 baseline by 2050.²⁰
- 9% of vehicles registered in Redmond are battery electric vehicles (BEVs), and 1% are plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) as of 2024.²¹

What It Will Take

Transportation generates 23% of Redmond's GHG emissions, making the shift to clean mobility and transit-oriented development essential for meeting the City's climate goals. Safe, convenient transportation options also support community resilience by providing multiple modes of accessing essential services, reducing air pollution, and improving community-wide connectivity.

Redmond's integration of public transit, jobs, housing opportunities, and active transportation modes into the Redmond 2050 growth center model gives the City an edge to make real impact in transportation emissions by reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and electrifying the remainder. Without reducing VMT, electricity demand from transportation would increase by 36%.

By supporting increased density, ensuring goods and services are convenient and accessible, and supporting active transportation modes, the City can avoid 358 million VMT per year by 2044 and 99,000 MWh of electricity demand from electric vehicles. Coupling these two strategies will support the City's acceleration towards emissions reductions while maintaining sustainable grid demand.

To achieve the vision for this Big Move, Redmond will expand EV infrastructure, improve non-vehicle transportation access and connectivity, and mitigate first/last mile barriers, in alignment with the City's updated Transportation Master Plan.

Encouraging a Different Choice

More than a decade in the making, four light rail stations have opened in Redmond, increasing low-carbon transportation choices. The Downtown Redmond Station has already become one

¹⁹ City of Redmond, [Environmental Sustainability | Redmond, WA](#)

²⁰ City of Redmond, [Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan](#) (2024).

²¹ WA Department of Licensing, Vehicle Registration data (2025).

of the busiest stations on the entire 2 Line, with more than 42,000 boardings in June 2025 alone.²²

Leading by Example

Redmond's Public Works Fleet Division is making moves to replace the existing fleet with cleaner alternatives as vehicles retire. As of 2025, the City's fleet includes 10 fully electric vehicles and five fully electric small maintenance vehicles, seven plug-in hybrid vehicles, 38 hybrid vehicles, three propane assets (forklift, parks sweeper, mower), 39 bi-fuel vehicles, and the **first electric fire engine in the state**.²³ The EV fire engine is capable of the same speeds and pumping capacity as diesel engines and suited for 80-miles per battery charge in all-electric model. Redmond is proactively growing its EV charging infrastructure and adding a second EV fire engine arriving in early 2027²⁴ to support ongoing fleet electrification,

Community Action Table + Metrics and Targets

Community Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
3.1	Design and construct complete bicycle spine network within a mile of light rail stations.	Planning/ Public Works	5	\$\$\$	Ongoing
3.2	Seek increased transit service and frequency by advocating to King County Metro, the Washington State Legislature, and exploring the potential for Redmond to directly fund more frequent Metro bus service using local revenue sources.	Planning	5	\$\$\$	2027
3.3	Actively manage existing parking and minimize new parking through a combination of regulations and incentives.	Planning	5	\$\$\$	Ongoing
3.4	Provide subsidies and incentives for e-bikes, scooter shares, and other	Planning	3, 6	\$\$\$	2026

22 The Urbanist, "[Downtown Redmond Drives 2 Line Growth, Becoming Eastside's Busiest Rail Station](#)" (2025).

²³ City of Redmond, [Green Fleet Operations | Redmond, WA](#)

²⁴ City of Redmond, [FAQs • EV Fire Engine](#)

Community Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
	shuttle options to mitigate first/last mile barriers for commuters who utilize public transit.				
3.5	Expand Commute Trip Reduction Program and other Transportation Demand Management efforts to include all employers.	Planning	6	\$\$	2028
3.6	Advocate for and connect existing multifamily housing properties and HOAs with resources, grants, and technical assistance to install EV charging.	Executive	6	\$\$	2026
3.7	Launch an EV car share pilot.	Executive	1, 6	\$\$	2026

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
Transportation GHG emissions (MTCO ₂ e)	176,196 (2023)	144,600	28,200
Reduction in vehicle miles traveled (%)	Pending*	Pending*	50% reduction
Bicycle network completion (%)	67% (2024)	Pending*	Pending*
Non-vehicle mode share (%)	Pending*	20%	28%
Electric vehicle ownership rate (%)	9% (2023)	30%	100%
Jobs to housing ratio	3.1 (2020)	2.8	2.12

City Operations Action Table + Metrics and Targets

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
3.8	Expand the Commute Trip Reduction Program for City staff.	Planning	6	\$\$	2028
3.9	Review the City's Green Fleet Policy and develop a fleet transition and	Public Works	1	\$\$\$	2026

City Operations Actions	Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost	Proposed Start Year
			\$ - staff time only	
			\$\$ - up to \$250,000	
			\$\$\$ - \$250,000+	
funding approach that prioritizes right-sizing and electrification to meet the 2030 emissions reduction goal, while establishing decision criteria for when fuel-efficient internal combustion vehicles are still required.				

**Pending the completion of Redmond's Transportation Master Plan (TMP).*

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
City fleet emissions (MTCO ₂ e)	996 (2023)	Pending update	Pending update
Commute trip reduction drive alone rate to City Hall Campus (%)	57% (2024)	Pending update	Pending update

Your Move

Now, it's your move. And it can involve how you physically move around our community! Cutting down travel in gas-powered vehicles is one of the most impactful ways to reduce GHG emissions.

- **Good:** Replace one trip per week with a non-car mode of transportation, such as taking public transit, walking, or biking. Get tips and tricks for your bike commute at GoRedmond.com. You can also explore [Buy Local](#) opportunities to get the goods and services you need right in your neighborhood!
 - **Better:** Organize a car-sharing or carpooling network with neighbors, coworkers, and peers to reduce single occupancy trips. Check out [Go Redmond Rideshare Online and Ridematching](#) to be matched with fellow carpoolers near you.
 - **Best:** Achieve a car-free daily routine by taking advantage of Redmond's transportation and trail network. Find your route on the [Move Redmond](#) station access map.

Community Member Spotlight

"With the recent and upcoming 2 Line projects, I'm really excited to see Redmond's trail network expand even further....These [connections] allow easy and safe access to southeast Redmond and Kirkland from downtown Redmond and help make a car-free or car-lite lifestyle accessible to more people." - TJ Horner, Redmond Resident

Big Move 4: Achieve Zero Waste of Resources

Where We're Headed

Redmond reduces consumption and diverts as much waste as possible from the landfill while promoting a circular economy.

Where We're At

- **12,000 lbs.** of Styrofoam was recycled by Redmond community members last year thanks to the City's front porch recycling program.²⁵
- **59%** (75 out of 128) of all multifamily properties in Redmond participate in the organics recycling program, which increases materials diverted from the landfill.²⁶
- **42%** of community waste is diverted from the landfill.²⁷

What It Will Take

Landfill, compost, wastewater processing, and refrigerants account for 7% of communitywide GHG emissions in Redmond. Reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill will require expanded systems for composting, reusing, and recycling, as well as communitywide behavior change to reduce consumption. The State has passed legislation in recent years to support these efforts, including new standards for commercial organic material management, food waste reduction, recycling, and extended producer responsibility.

To achieve a 70% diversion rate by 2030, Redmond will need to eliminate 3,600 tons of waste to landfill from single-family homes, 6,900 tons from multifamily properties, 11,900 tons from commercial properties.

To accomplish the vision for this Big Move, Redmond will launch public education on circular economy and zero-waste guidance, develop pilot programs for reusable dishware, and implement a sustainable purchasing program for the City.

Leading By Example

Redmond offers organics composting to businesses, apartment complexes, and schools. In 2022, participants composted 522 tons of food scraps—equivalent to the weight of 35 Metro buses!²⁸

In addition, the City Council adopted a Construction and Demolition Debris (C&D) Recycling and Reuse policy which went into effect in May 2025. This policy requires reporting of C&D debris tonnage to the City, one of the few policies of its kind in the state. The new policy also requires projects to identify materials that could be salvaged to incentivize material reuse.

Defining Zero Waste

Zero Waste of Resources means that materials of economic value, whether for reuse, resale, or recycling, won't be put in the garbage or end up in the landfill, as defined by King County.

²⁵ City of Redmond, [Focus - Summer 2025 | Redmond, WA](#) (2025).

²⁶ City of Redmond, [Focus - Summer 2025 | Redmond, WA](#) (2025).

²⁷ City of Redmond, [Environmental Sustainability | Redmond, WA](#)

²⁸ City of Redmond, [Organics Composting Flyer](#)

Community Action Table + Metrics and Targets

Community Actions	Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost	Proposed Start Year
			\$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	
4.1 Launch a public education campaign in partnership with Recology focused on waste reduction and resources for recycling and composting.	Public Works	7	\$	Ongoing
4.2 Develop a pilot program to incentivize local food service establishments to use durable and reusable dishware.	Public Works	7	\$\$	2027
4.3 Amend the Construction and Demolition Ordinance to establish a required diversion rate and evaluate a deconstruction requirement.	Public Works	8	\$	2027
4.4 Develop and implement a solid waste strategic plan informed by stakeholder outreach and a waste characterization study.	Public Works	7, 8	\$\$	2026
4.5 Support state implementation of Extended Producer Responsibility program.	Public Works	8	\$	2026

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
Waste and other sources GHG emissions (MTCO ₂ e)	15,184 (2023)	8,700	0
Community waste diversion (%)	43% (2024)	60%	70%
Reduction in total residential waste generation (lbs/week/household)	48.7 (2024)	Monitor	Monitor
Reduction in total business waste generation (lbs/employee/year)	493.5 (2024)	Below 420	Monitor

City Operations Action Table + Metrics and Targets

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
4.6	Achieve TRUE Zero Waste certification for large City facilities.	Public Works	7, 8	\$\$	2026
4.7	Develop zero waste guidelines for all City-sponsored events.	Public Works	7, 8	\$\$	2027
4.8	Implement a sustainable purchasing and procurement program.	Finance	7, 8	\$\$	2026
4.9	Create public-facing resources and case studies to highlight how the City has reused materials and promote circular economy principles.	Public Works	8	\$\$	2028

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
Municipal diversion (%)	NEW	NEW	90%

Your Move

Now, it's your move. Reducing your consumption is critical to reducing emissions and conserving resources for future generations.

- **Good:** Know what [materials can be recycled](#) through curbside pickup.
 - **Better:** Visit Redmond's [Recology Store](#) to swap single-use items for reusable goods and drop off hard-to-recycle materials.
 - **Best:** Strive for zero waste by implementing composting, repair, and reuse strategies using the City of Redmond's [compost guide](#), the [Feeding America](#) food donation locator, and by attending local repair events.

Community Spotlight

"We compost all our food scraps. Thank you, City of Redmond, for providing a free composting service! There are also pink sticky notes all over our house. One on the back door reminds me to bring our own to-go containers, and another on the trash can reminds me to put plastic bags in a box so we can take them to stores like Fred Meyer and QFC that have free plastic bag recycling." - Esha Mehta, Redmond High School Class of 2025

Big Move 5: Foster a Resilient Community and Natural Environment

Where We're Headed

Redmond cultivates thriving natural environments and neighborhoods that are resilient to the impacts of climate change.

Where We're At

- 7,962 street trees maintained by the City.²⁹
- 37.4% of Redmond is covered by tree canopy
- 35% (24 out of 69) of city-owned fish barriers removed since 2010 to support fish migration and regional salmon recovery.³⁰

What It Will Take

As climate impacts shape a new landscape in Redmond, investing in resilience will continue to be a primary strategy for protecting and conserving a healthy community and built and natural environment. When our climate planning reflects the direct relationship between climate resilience and social resilience, we prepare our communities to recover better with adaptive infrastructure, strong social networks, and natural resource protection. For example, investing in tree canopy, cool roofs, and reflective pavement, can prepare Redmond for extreme heat while lowering energy bills for cooling, reducing risk of heat-related illness, mitigating the urban heat island effect, and providing wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration benefits.

Planning for resilience also requires attention to locations, populations, and ecosystems that may experience greater climate stressors. One of the best tools Redmond has to encourage adoption of climate solutions and increase neighborhood resilience is in its community networks. Strengthening capacity in community-based organizations, communication with residents, and peer influenced behavior change will be critical in making this big move successful.

To achieve the vision for this Big Move, Redmond will support the growth of resilience hubs, create a more robust communications network to support community members through climate hazard events, and use a variety of mechanisms to protect and restore habitat corridors, water supply, and tree canopy.

(graphic helping to show connection between green infrastructure/community resilience/natural resources)

Leading By Example

²⁹ City of Redmond, [Environmental Sustainability Data Dashboard | Redmond, WA](#)

³⁰ City of Redmond, [Environmental Sustainability Data Dashboard | Redmond, WA](#)

In spring 2024, Redmond adopted the Climate Resiliency and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan and positioned parks to support climate action through environmental stewardship. The Parks and Recreation Department moved into action quickly and tested new strategies at 19 park sites that summer, including low-mow zones, increased tree canopy, and replacing traditional turf with pollinator gardens and wildflower meadows. By trying these techniques and learning from their implementation, **the City is modeling how green spaces can become essential community and environmental infrastructure for increasing shade, creating habitat, encouraging biodiversity, and absorbing carbon dioxide.**³¹

Community Action Table + Metrics and Targets

Community Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
5.1	Create a robust communications network that leverages trusted messengers and diverse tactics to reach a wide audience, including those with limited English proficiency.	Executive/ Fire	9	\$	Ongoing
5.2	Implement a City-managed emergency alert system.	Executive/ Fire	9	\$\$	2026
5.3	Establish partnerships with nonprofits, schools, universities, and other organizations to reach broader audiences and build capacity across the community for climate initiatives and programming.	Executive	9	\$\$	2026
5.4	Develop comprehensive educational materials and programming to increase understanding, engagement, and awareness about sustainability and resilience opportunities.	Executive/ Fire	9	\$	2027
5.5	Support the growth of resilience hubs in Redmond, exploring opportunities at	Executive/ Fire	9	\$\$	2026

³¹ City of Redmond, [Focus - Fall/Winter 2024 | Redmond, WA](#) (2024).

Community Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
	City facilities, neighborhood hubs, multifamily properties, schools, and nonprofits.				
5.6	Develop and implement a community wildfire protection plan.	Fire	10	\$\$	2027
5.7	Establish a rapid response program to distribute fans, air purifiers, and other resources to vulnerable community members during extreme heat and smoke events.	Executive/ Fire	9	\$\$	2026
5.8	Update local floodplain maps to inform future development and potential policies.	Public Works	10	\$\$	2028
5.9	Develop a community water resilience and reduction strategy that guides programs and planning to protect both water quantity and quality.	Public Works	10	\$\$	2027
5.10	Implement advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) for Redmond's water system, to improve data and management practices.	Public Works	10	\$\$\$	2026
5.11	Continue to partner with Cascade Water Alliance to raise awareness of water conservation techniques and incentive programs.	Public Works	10	\$	Ongoing
5.12	Form partnerships and increase tree canopy plantings and habitat restoration on public and private land.	Parks	10	\$\$	Ongoing
5.13	Create and disseminate outreach materials to educate the community about proper tree care and sustainable landscaping practices.	Planning	10	\$	2027

Performance Metrics	Current Status	2030 Target	2050 Target
Residents receiving warning communication (%)	NEW	NEW	NEW
Tree canopy cover (%)	38% (2023)	-	40%
Fish barriers removed on Class 2 streams	35 (2021)	36	57
Stream length complexity classified as Good or Better (ft)	56,993 (2023)	65,000	106,000
Per capita potable water consumed (gallons)	NEW	NEW	NEW

City Operations Action Table + Metrics and Targets

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
5.14	Leverage best available climate impacts data to inform sizing of new City stormwater infrastructure projects and advocate regionally for updated standards.	Public Works	10	\$\$	2027
5.15	Update regional facilities plans and basin plans to inform and advance regional stormwater management policies.	Public Works	10	\$\$\$	2027
5.16	Implement stormwater and surface water system upgrades to reduce runoff and fortify against climate impacts.	Public Works	10	\$\$\$	Ongoing
5.17	Hire an urban forestry position that unifies and manages tree canopy programs, policies, and community engagement.	Parks	10	\$\$\$	2027

City Operations Actions		Lead Dept.	Associated Strategies	Relative Cost \$ - staff time only \$\$ - up to \$250,000 \$\$\$ - \$250,000+	Proposed Start Year
5.18	Restore and enhance urban forests, wetlands, and riparian corridors to improve habitat, carbon storage, and climate resilience.	Public Works/Parks	10	\$\$\$	Ongoing
5.19	Provide ongoing training and skill development to support operational decarbonization and electrification.	Parks/Executive	10	\$\$	2027
5.20	Evaluate reflective pavement and cool roofs to reduce urban heat island effect.	Public Works/Parks	10	\$\$	2028

Your Move

Now, it's your move. Working towards a more resilient community will take everyone. Be sure that your home and neighborhood are prepared for future climate hazards.

- **Good:** Stay connected with the City by signing up for our enews, follow us on Facebook, X, and Instagram, and visiting redmond.gov/Weather. Prepare yourself in the case of an emergency by [building an emergency kit](#) or take a [CERT course](#).
 - **Better:** Help preserve and increase Redmond's tree canopy by getting up to speed on proper [tree care tips](#) and attending a [tree planting event](#).
 - **Best:** 11 billion gallons of rain falls on Redmond. Remove your turf with Cascade Water Alliance's [Turf Out Program](#), or HYPERLINK "https://wa.adopt-a-drain.org/"["adopt"](#) your local drain to help protect your home and neighborhood from flooding and keep our streams healthy.^{32, 33}

Strengthening Resilience Through Healthy Natural Systems

Healthy natural systems are a cornerstone of Redmond's identity and climate resilience. Wetlands, forests, and streams capture and store carbon, filter stormwater, reduce flooding, and buffer neighborhoods from extreme heat. These systems also provide critical habitat for wildlife and hold deep cultural significance for the Indigenous peoples of this region. Redmond is committed to ongoing restoration and preservation efforts, strengthening both ecological and community resilience while preserving the land and its history.

³³ City of Redmond, [Focus - Fall/Winter 2024 | Redmond, WA](#) (2024).

Community Spotlight

"Our batteries and panels require no maintenance, are silent when in use, and the 'free' electricity means I have less need to remind the kids to turn off the lights," Tim Kurtzman

DRAFT

Supporting Strategic and Functional Plans

In addition to the strategies and actions included in this plan, the City has also committed to taking environmental and climate action through other many related initiatives. These efforts create an interconnected network of projects to make Redmond more sustainable, equitable, and resilient.

- [City of Redmond Operations Zero Carbon Strategy](#) (Big Move 1)
 - Details the path to achieving net-zero carbon emissions for municipal operations by 2030. This strategy focuses on decarbonizing city buildings through energy efficiency and renewable sources, transitioning the municipal vehicle fleet to electric, and purchasing clean energy. Key priorities from this 2021 Strategy are integrated into the 2025 actions.
- [Housing Action Plan](#) (Big Move 1 and 2)
 - This plan provides direction for future housing policy, planning, and regulatory amendments to improve housing diversity, quantity, and affordability to meet the needs of all economic segments of the community.
- [Transportation Master Plan and Associated Sub-Plans](#) (Big Move 3)
 - A functional plan of Redmond 2050, the Transportation Master Plan guides Redmond's transportation investments and programs. Chapters and sub-plans include a Street System Plan, Pedestrian Plan, Bicycle Plan, Transit Plan, Freight Plan, and Curbspace and Parking Management.
- [Climate Vulnerability Assessment](#) (Big Move 5)
 - Provides a high-level summary of climate change and its potential effect on Redmond's population, neighborhoods and business centers, infrastructure, and services. It identifies vulnerabilities, as well as planning, programming, and partnership strategies to enhance Redmond's resilience.
- [Water Systems Plan](#) (Big Move 5)
 - Ensures that the City continues to protect its underground drinking water resources and provide sufficient water storage and distribution to meet the drinking water, irrigation, and fire flow needs of residents and businesses over the next 20 years. Identifies areas in Redmond's Water Utility System where reservoirs, pipes, pumps, and other water infrastructure need to be extended or replaced.
- [Human Services Strategic Plan](#) (Big Move 5)
 - A five-year strategy that outlines actions and commitments to ensure community members have access to basic needs like food and shelter, as well as opportunities to reach their full potential. Key principles include community engagement, equity, inclusion, and sustainability with a focus on prioritizing marginalized communities.
- [Economic Development Strategic Plan](#) (Big Move 3, 4, 5)

- Guides the City's economic development programs, policies, and allocation of resources for the next five years, including efforts to advance buy local and green industries in Redmond.
- [Climate Resilience and Sustainability in Vegetation Management](#) (Big Move 5)
 - Aims to make Redmond a leader in best practices for managing vegetation across public property, including right-of-way, parks and trails, city facilities, street trees, waterways, tree canopy, and more.
- [Redmond Tree Canopy Strategic Plan](#) (Big Move 5)
 - The City adopted the Tree Canopy Strategic Plan in 2019 to identify strategies to achieve the 40% tree canopy coverage goal over a thirty-year time horizon.
- [20-Year Forest Management Plan](#) (Big Move 5)
 - Created in 2009 to build a sustainable network of healthy urban greenspace for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations.
- [Stormwater and Surface Water System Plan \(SSWSP\)](#) - *Pending Adoption* (Big Move 5)
 - The SSWSP ties all other stormwater-related plans together, including the Watershed Management Plan.
- Municipal Asset Management Plan - *Pending Adoption* (Big Move 1, 2, 3, 5)
 - Establishes framework for managing City infrastructure portfolio through a consistent, transparent, and data-driven approach.
- [Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan](#) (Big Move 5)
 - This plan provides a framework for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies. It provides guidance for how city departments can maintain essential functions and coordinate with other departments and with local, regional, state, and federal governments during a disaster.
- [Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan](#) (Big Move 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)
 - Provides a 25-year vision for how the city will grow and develop through the year 2050. Redmond 2050 is the foundation for *The ESAP* and all of the City's supporting strategic and functional plans.

Implementing the Plan

In addition to implementing all of the existing plans that support environmental and climate action, Redmond will implement the actions in the 2025 ESAP between now and 2030 in response to the urgency of the climate crisis. Several tools and programs will be leveraged to support implementation.

- **Tracking Progress**

Redmond will track and share progress toward achieving the ESAP goals through annual progress reports. GHG inventories will be updated every two years as the City strives to provide access to the best available data, and the ESAP will be updated every five years to course correct and adjust as technology and conditions change.

- **Ongoing Community Engagement**

The City conducted an inclusive community engagement campaign to engage community members in the development of the ESAP. The City aims to continue engagement throughout implementation.

- **Continuous Improvement**

Implementation is not a static or linear process. Redmond will follow a process of continuous improvement and use data to inform plan updates and action implementation.



To address climate change, we're making five **Big Moves** in energy, buildings, transportation, waste, and resilience – and we need your help. Be a part of *Redmond Climate Action* and make a move in your life to ensure Redmond remains a place where everyone can thrive for years to come.