



Council Policy Proposal

Return this form to Diedra Maher at dmaher@redmond.gov by Wednesday at 5 p.m. the week prior to the Council Study Session. Council Leadership will be alerted there is an item to schedule for consideration at a future Council Talk Time. Attached documentation will be provided to the Clerk for addition to the agenda for all Council Members and the public to review.

Tracking Number 0002 Date of Request 7/17/2024 Requester City Council President Vanessa Kritzer

Problem Statement

A clear and concise description of the issue(s) that need(s) to be addressed.

Washington State has placed a ballot measure before the voters, and the official ballot measure title is “Initiative Measure No. 2117 concerns carbon tax credit trading”. Initiative 2117 is scheduled to go to the voters at the Washington General Election on November 5, 2024. Initiative 2117 reads as follows: This measure would prohibit state agencies from imposing any type of carbon tax credit trading, including “cap and trade” or “cap and tax” programs, regardless of whether the resulting increased costs are imposed on fuel recipients or fuel suppliers. It would repeal sections of the 2021 Washington Climate Commitment Act as amended, including repealing the creation and modification of a “cap and invest” program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by specific entities.

In 2024, the City of Redmond was allocated \$1 million in the State Supplemental budget for city electrification and transportation infrastructure projects from funds generated by the Climate Commitment Act. The state supplemental budget specifies that our city will not receive these funds if the Climate Commitment Act is repealed. Our City Council also has received requests from the public to discuss this initiative and that can only be done should be hold a public hearing on it with approximately equal opportunity to express a supporting or opposing view.

Proposal

What is being proposed to assist in addressing the issue described in the problem statement?

The City Council holds a hearing at the Sept 3, 2024 business meeting (or a business meeting sooner if timing permits) and votes on the attached draft resolution for the council to declare its official position in opposition to I-2117.

RCW 42.17A.555(1) authorizes the Council to take action to express a collective decision, or to actually vote upon a motion, proposal, or ordinance, or to support or oppose a ballot measure so long as (a) the agenda includes the title and number of the ballot proposition, and (b) members of the public and councilmembers are afforded an approximately equal opportunity to express a supporting or opposing view.

Relationship to City Business or Proposed City Business/Services

Describe how this will enhance what is already offered and/or what it will provide that is not currently available. Why is this the City’s issue to address? How will this create a more adaptive and resilient organization?

As noted in the resolution, in 2020, the Redmond City Council declared a Climate Emergency and adopted a 30-year Environmental Sustainability Action Plan that collectively commit our city to achieve municipal carbon neutrality by 2030 and community-wide carbon neutrality by 2050, as well as take other actions to make our community more resilient and sustainable in the face of climate change. Redmond recognizes the need to foster a healthy environment, with clean air to breathe, healthy drinking water, and a stable climate for our children and

future generations.

The Climate Commitment Act is a key policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan. Since its passage in 2021, the Climate Commitment Act has already advanced efforts to protect our air and water and has generated \$3.25 billion for forest protection, transportation projects, electrification efforts, wildfire prevention and response, salmon recovery, Tribal investments, and more.

The City of Redmond has already received more than \$2.2M in funding from the Climate Commitment Act to advance critical climate mitigation and resilience efforts. Furthermore, in the 2024 State Supplemental Budget Redmond was allocated \$1M in the funding for electric charging and transportation infrastructure, but with the contingency that these funds will only be received if the Climate Commitment Act is maintained. Additionally, the City is a founding member and active participant in the King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C), and has adopted by resolution a Joint Letter of Commitment for Climate Change Actions, which includes advocating for comprehensive federate, regional, and state science-based limits and a market-based price on carbon pollution.

Connection to Strategic Plan and/or Budget Priorities

Choose all that apply or enter plan name

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Environmental Sustainability
- Housing Choices
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety
- Healthy and Sustainable
- Safe and Resilient
- Vibrant and Connected
- Strategic and Responsive
- Capital Investment Program

Timing

Is this issue time sensitive, are there other timing factors to consider?

To share the position of the City Council with voters in advance of the election and encourage other cities to do the same, it is requested that we consider adoption of this resolution at our Sept 3, 2024 business meeting, or a business meeting sooner if timing permits.

Supporting Documentation

Are there documents that support your request or that should be considered?

See attached draft resolution and list of city projects funded by the Climate Commitment Act.

See press release and resolution from the [City of Kenmore here](#).

Councilmember Sponsors (not required)

Cannot be a quorum unless discussed at an open public meeting.

When you submit/email this form to Staff also CC listed co-sponsors for affirmation of their support.

Council President Vanessa Kritzer
Sponsoring Councilmember

1. Councilmember Melissa Stuart
Councilmember

2. Council Vice President Jessica Forsythe
Councilmember

Post Action (to be completed by Council Leadership)

Referral To Study Session

Committee of the Whole

Staff Review

Add to Priorities List / Ranking _____

No Action

Legal Review