

 Redmond <small>WASHINGTON</small>	REDMOND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING SUMMARY April 22, 2025, 7 p.m.
	Current and past meeting agendas and materials: https://redmond.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx

Council President Vanessa Kritzer called the meeting to order, reviewed attendance, and overviewed the agenda. The meeting was held in City Hall Council Chambers.

Councilmembers present and establishing a quorum:

- ☒ Jeralee Anderson
- ☒ Steve Fields
- ☒ Jessica Forsythe
- ☒ Vanessa Kritzer
- ☒ Angie Nuevacamina
- ☒ Osman Salahuddin
- ☒ Melissa Stuart

1. Old Firehouse Teen Center Facility Discussion

Department: Parks and Recreation

Action: Informational

Loreen Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Director, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- First Council discussion;
- No decision has been made;
- Teen programs and usage;
- Youth services moved due to facility condition and safety;
- Transit and transportation options;
- ADA accessibility;
- Working with teens on space planning;
- Facility condition assessment;
- Major facility deficiencies;
- Lack of access to critical areas of the building;
- Brining in a structural engineer for an assessment;
- A report will be provided to the Council and the community; and
- Community engagement.

Discussion ensued regarding: environmental hazards; reason for the closure; code issues; facility assessment; cost for rebuilding or repairing; structural engineer subcontractor; hazardous materials; community identity; next steps and timeline; listening session; importance of the facility; safe spaces; no other uses for the property have been identified; Council's role in the process; daily visitors; recording facility; expanding programming for other groups; additional listening sessions; and reviewing options.

2. Capital Investment Program (CIP) Project Updates - Q1 2025

Department: Public Works

Action: Informational

Aaron Bert, Public Works Director, Steve Gibbs, Capital Program Manager, and Tess Wilkinson, Capital Program Planner, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Completed projects;
- Soon to be completed projects;
- Scope, schedule and budget;
- Facilities program report;
- ADA facilities improvements;
- Parks program report;
- Redmond Central Connector/Eastrail;
- Traffic Operations program report;
- West Lake Sammamish Parkway Paving;
- Transportation Planning program report;
- Northeast 40th shared use path;
- Utilities program report;
- Evans Creek relocation project;
- Issues getting permits from King County;
- Pedestrian and bicycle safety projects; and
- Project milestones.

Discussion ensued regarding: paving window; communicating the paving timeline with the neighborhood; fixing potholes; shared use path extension to West Lake Sammamish Parkway; main goals of the Evans Creek relocation project; issues with permit process; potentially losing grant funding; pedestrian all walk intersections; ADA changes timeline; and MOC progressive design build next steps.

(Recess: 8:51 p.m., reconvene, 8:59 p.m.)

3. Climate Resiliency and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan Update

Department: Parks and Recreation

Action: Informational

Loreen Hamilton, Parks and Recreation Director, Dave Tucheck, Parks and Recreation Deputy Director, and Joe Nelson, Civic Sparks Fellow, reported to the Members of the Council regarding:

- Plan has been developed and completed;
- Working on implementing the plan;
- Communication and outreach;
- Best practices;
- Naturalized meadows;
- Controlling noxious weeds and invasive species;
- Wildflower cultivation;
- Pollinator and community gardens;
- Tree canopy and understory expansion;

- Tree giveaway;
- Applications open in July 2025;
- Tree care education;
- Promotion of event;
- Goal is to give away 500 trees;
- Leaf management;
- Turf and rights of way renovations; and
- Equipment electrification.

Discussion ensued regarding: medians; customized wildflower mix; messaging to the public; importance of pollinators; tree planting events; appropriate locations for trees; selection of trees for resiliency; tree canopy strategic plan discussion; evening out of the great lawn; projects not pursued; influencing the community to follow suit; volunteer coordinator; partnerships; and the Parks and Recreation Department's hard work on this project.

4. Council Talk Time

- The next Council Conversations will be held on May 29;
- Teen services listening sessions will be held on April 28th and May 28th;
- Follow up from the Council retreat;
- Gun buyback program was held last week;
- Ombuds issue for funding for an organization;
- Concerns for the immigrant community; and
- There is no meeting next week.

Meeting adjourned at 10:04 p.m.