

City of Redmond



Agenda

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

4:30 PM

City Hall: 15670 NE 85th St; Remote: Comcast Ch. 21/321, Ziplify Ch. 34,
Facebook (@CityofRedmond), Redmond.gov/rctvlive, or 510-335-7371

Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

Committee Members

David Carson, Presiding Officer

Jeralee Anderson

Steve Fields

Jessica Forsythe

Varisha Khan

Vanessa Kritzer

Melissa Stuart

AGENDA

ROLL CALL

1. Events Recap 2023 [CM 23-579](#)
[Attachment A: Events Recap 2023](#)
Department: Parks and Recreation, 10 minutes
Requested Action: Informational
2. Redmond Lights 2023 Program Plan [CM 23-580](#)
Department: Parks and Recreation, 5 minutes
Requested Action: Informational
3. Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation (PARCC) Plan Project Update [CM 23-577](#)
[Attachment A: PARCC Plan Summary Handout-Draft](#)
[Attachment B: Redmond PARCC Plan Final Draft](#)
Department: Parks and Recreation, 5 minutes
Requested Action: Consent, November 6th
4. City of Redmond 2024 State Legislative Agenda [CM 23-582](#)
[Attachment A: Draft 2024 State Legislative Agenda](#)
Department: Executive, 15 minutes
Requested Action: Consent, November 6th
Legislative History
10/10/23 City Council presented
5. Monthly Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Update - October 2023 [CM 23-585](#)
[Attachment A: ESAP Update](#)
Department: Executive, 20 minutes
Requested Action: Informational

ADJOURNMENT



Memorandum

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-579

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Parks	Loreen Hamilton	425-556-2336
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Parks	Nicole McDonald	Marketing and Events Supervisor
Parks	Zach Houvener	Deputy Director

TITLE:

Events Recap 2023

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Staff will share highlights, data, and recap Derby Days in addition to providing an overview of the 2023 special event permitting season.

☐ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☒ **Receive Information**

☐ **Provide Direction**

☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
PARCC Plan, Cost of Service Methodology
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**
N/A

OUTCOMES:

N/A

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-579

Type: Committee Memo

N/A

- Outreach Methods and Results:

N/A

- Feedback Summary:

N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

N/A

Approved in current biennial budget:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

Budget Offer Number:

0000138

Budget Priority:

Vibrant & Connected

Other budget impacts or additional costs:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

N/A

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	Item has not been presented to Council	N/A

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:

N/A

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

N/A

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-579

Type: Committee Memo

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Events Recap 2023

Special Events Recap

October 24, 2023

Nicole McDonald, Marketing and Events Supervisor

Zach Houvener, Deputy Director

Derby Days by the Numbers

Volunteers	234
Food, Community & Craft Booths	137
Grand Parade Entries	35
Kids Bike Parade Entries	350+
Velodrome Attendees	700+
Live Music Performances	13
Website Visits	55K+
Sponsorships	\$92K+
Carnival Revenue	\$24K
Booth & Vendor Revenue	\$19K
Total Revenue	\$193K
On-site Drone Show Attendees	9K+
Total Event Attendees	35K+



Event Permitting Stats

Permit Types	2023	2022	2021
Miscellaneous Use	27	44	0
Film/Photography	6	6	0
Special Event	46	34	10
Total Number of Permits	76	84	10
Total Estimated Attendance	126,680	114,000	20

Sustainability Points of Interest

- RCups: *staff sourced a new vendor that eliminates single-use cups for the beer and wine garden*
- Food vendor guidelines: *vendors were required to use compostable packaging*
- Grand parade guidelines: *only electric vehicles were allowed in the parade*
- 57% of waste was recyclable: *incredibly high percentage of our total event waste generated was recyclable*



Looking forward

Next year's dates are July 12 and 13, 2024.



Memorandum

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-580

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Parks	Loreen Hamilton	425-556-2336
-------	-----------------	--------------

DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Parks	Nicole McDonald	Marketing and Events Manager
Parks	Zach Houvener	Deputy Director

TITLE:

Redmond Lights 2023 Program Plan

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Redmond Lights is a winter celebration of light and art. This year's event features temporary public art and light displays installed in Downtown Park from December 1 to January 3 and a kick-off celebration that includes live entertainment, a luminary trail, family light promenade, and other activities.

Event Elements:

- Temporary public art throughout Downtown Park
- Light installations throughout Downtown Park
- Live entertainment on the Buoyant Pavilion, the Moving Arts Center, and along the Redmond Central Connector
- Family Light Promenade
- Luminary Trail
- Craft and recreation activities
- Community/cultural booths and performances
- Activity booths
- Food trucks
- Kids Coloring Contest
- Business Window Decorating Contest

Sponsors & Partners:

- Key partnerships include: Redmond Town Center
- Sponsors include: Microsoft, Amazon, and Redmond Town Center as of Oct. 9, 2023

Businesses & Community Group Involvement Opportunities:

- Window Decorating Contest
- Host activity during kick-off event
- Food Trucks and Booths

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-580

Type: Committee Memo

- Sponsorships
- Performances

☐ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☒ **Receive Information**

☐ **Provide Direction**

☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
PARCC Plan, Cost of Service Methodology
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**
N/A

OUTCOMES:

N/A

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
 - Outreach to local businesses and community - Aug. 2023 to Nov. 2023
 - Outreach for attendees - begins late Oct. 2023
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
 - In-person visits to all businesses, organizations, and apartment complexes adjacent to Downtown Park
 - Email outreach to all businesses, organizations, and apartment complexes adjacent to Downtown Park
 - Email outreach to Redmond faith and culture groups
 - Dedicated website
 - Social media campaigns
 - Email newsletters
 - Posters and banners
 - News release
 - Kickoff Video
 - Utility Bill Inserts
 - Mailed postcards to affected area organizations and apartment complexes
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-580

Type: Committee Memo

Total Cost:

\$110,205

Approved in current biennial budget:

☒ Yes

☐ No

☐ N/A

Budget Offer Number:

0000036 - Arts & Community Events

Budget Priority:

Vibrant & Connected

Other budget impacts or additional costs:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

- Community Events Fund (013) - staffing costs
 - Sponsorships - \$45,000 as of 10/9/2023
 - LTAC Grant - \$50,000
- Event fees - \$5,000
- Arts Activity Fund (011)
 - LTAC Grant - \$20,000
 - 4Culture Grant - \$5,000

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	Item has not been presented to Council	N/A

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:

N/A

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-580

Type: Committee Memo

N/A



Memorandum

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-577

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Parks	Loreen Hamilton	425-556-2336
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Parks	Caroline Chapman	Parks Planning Manager
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TITLE:

Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation (PARCC) Plan Project Update

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Staff will bring the 2023 PARCC Plan forward for adoption at Council on November 6, 2023. The Redmond Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission and the Planning Commission have recommended this plan for approval by Council.

Development of the PARCC Plan included three main pillars: the community needs assessment; analysis of current system performance; and the development of future project lists. Council has received information about the community outreach results that support our community needs assessment, an evaluation of the current level of service that is being provided our community, and an overview of how this analysis has led to recommended future Parks Department projects at previous study sessions.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☒ **Receive Information**

☐ **Provide Direction**

☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
PARCC Plan; Redmond 2050; Washington State Growth Management Act; Facilities Strategic Plan; Community Strategic Plan; Comprehensive Plan.
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
N/A

- **Other Key Facts:**

The PARCC Plan is updated every six years to remain in compliance with the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO). The PARCC Plan update will be brought forward for adoption on November 6, 2023.

OUTCOMES:

The PARCC Plan sets the direction and work plan for the Parks and Recreation Department for the next six years. The Capital Improvements Plan will be updated based on the PARCC Plan and is used to guide budget decisions. Specific proposals will be further developed for individual, planned park projects that are identified in the plan.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**

March 25, 2022 - May 16, 2022 survey & online questionnaire

May 2 - July 9 2022 Intercept events at parks, local businesses, and events

May -August 2022 Stakeholder Group Interviews

June 1, 2022 Community Meeting

October 5, 2022 Community Meeting

June 14, 2023 Public Hearing at Redmond Planning Commission

- **Outreach Methods and Results:**

Feedback from the more than 2,000 community touch points will be incorporated into the PARCC Plan. Continuous engagement with the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission for the development and refinement of the plan.

- **Feedback Summary:**

Feedback has been incorporated throughout the PARCC Plan draft and is a focus of Chapter 2 of the plan.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

\$126,000 is budgeted for a consultant to help with the PARCC Plan update.

Approved in current biennial budget:

☒ **Yes**

☐ **No**

☐ **N/A**

Budget Offer Number:

0000009 - Parks, Trails and Open Space

Budget Priority:

Healthy and Sustainable

Other budget impacts or additional costs:

☒ **Yes**

☐ **No**

☐ **N/A**

If yes, explain:

If not approved, the City of Redmond would be ineligible for grant funding from the State of Washington.

Funding source(s):

General Fund

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-577

Type: Committee Memo

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ **Additional budget details attached**

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
7/6/2021	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Human Services	Receive Information
11/1/2021	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Human Services	Provide Direction
12/7/2021	Business Meeting	Approve
3/22/2022	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Human Services	Receive Information
6/14/2022	Study Session	Receive Information
8/9/2022	Study Session	Receive Information
3/7/2023	Study Session	Receive Information
9/5/2023	Business Meeting	Provide Direction
9/26/2023	Study Session	Receive Information

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
11/6/2023	Business Meeting	Approve

Time Constraints:

Adoption of the PARCC Plan before 2024 is needed to keep the City in compliance with the Recreation Conservation Office (RCO) and potential future grant funding from the State of Washington.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

Opportunities for grant funding through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office will not be available to the City.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. PARCC Plan Summary Handout Draft
- B. PARCC Plan Final Draft

Parks and Recreation Department Priorities

1

EXPAND ACCESS FOR ALL

- Prioritize investments in underserved areas
- Design spaces for all ages and abilities
- Encourage multifunctional design and flexible use in renovations and new facilities

2

INNOVATE FOR THE FUTURE

- Partner to expand Parks and Recreation offerings
- Create interim uses of undeveloped parks to increase capacity of the system
- Add and enhance amenities in parks facing high demand

3

BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES


- Develop vibrant spaces with public art, events, and green spaces
- Encourage multimodal connections between parks and community centers
- Expand recreational programming to reflect community interests

4

PROTECT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT


- Expand tree canopy, support for pollinators, and native landscaping
- Prepare for climate change with resilient site design and conservation
- Continue to lead on maintenance best practices






88%

Survey respondents visit parks and open space at least a few times per month




54%

Households within half to one mile of developed city park



70%

Households within half a mile of trail access



90%

Survey respondents are satisfied with the City's parks and trails



redmond.gov/PARCCplan



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无歧视声明可在本市的网址redmond.gov/TitleVI上查阅
El aviso contra la discriminación está disponible en redmond.gov/TitleVI.



2023 Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation Plan



What is a PARCC Plan?

The Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation (PARCC) Plan is the strategic plan for managing and enhancing park and recreation services in Redmond for the next six years.

Based on outreach, we know the community values maintaining the high quality of Redmond's parks and trails, using parks to help mitigate climate change, enhancing community center spaces, and adding more new and different amenities.

Redmond Parks and Recreation in the Future

Redmond's expected growth will increase the need for recreational spaces and put more demand on existing facilities and programs. To prepare for this growth, the City plans to:

- Align recreation services to meet the changing needs of a more urban and diverse community
- Renovate existing amenities to support additional functionality and use
- Activate underutilized or undeveloped parks with arts, events, and interim or pilot uses
- Acquire new parks and facilities in areas of high growth and demand
- Partner to expand community recreation opportunities
- Enhance communication around events, programs, and offerings
- Adopt sustainable standards for operations and maintenance that increase climate resiliency

Redmond Parks and Recreation at a Glance

47

PARKS

39

MILES OF TRAILS

2000+

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER HOURS

3

COMMUNITY CENTERS

1,350+

ACRES OF PUBLIC PARK LAND

38%

TREE CANOPY COVERAGE

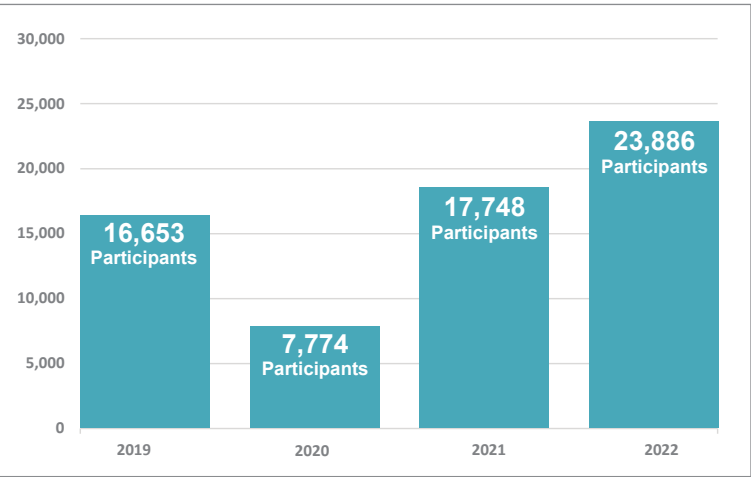
50K

ATTENDEES TO EVENTS ANNUALLY

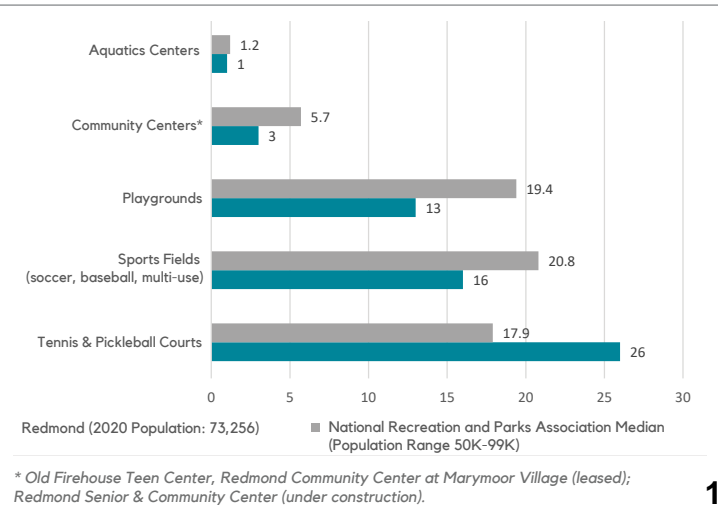
500+

SUMMER CAMPS OFFERED

Annual Recreation Program Registrations



Redmond Parks Compared to National Medians



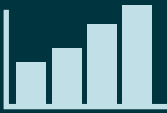
Proposed Parks, Trails, and Community Center Projects

2023-2030

Overview of Proposed Projects



Maintain What Exists
16 renovations



- Expand Capacity**
- 7 new amenities
 - 2 park developments
 - 3 trail developments
 - Pursue acquisitions for trail connections, community center space, and Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS)

How Partnerships Can Help Address Impacts From Growth

Incentivizing developers to provide Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS) helps grow the recreation space available to the community.

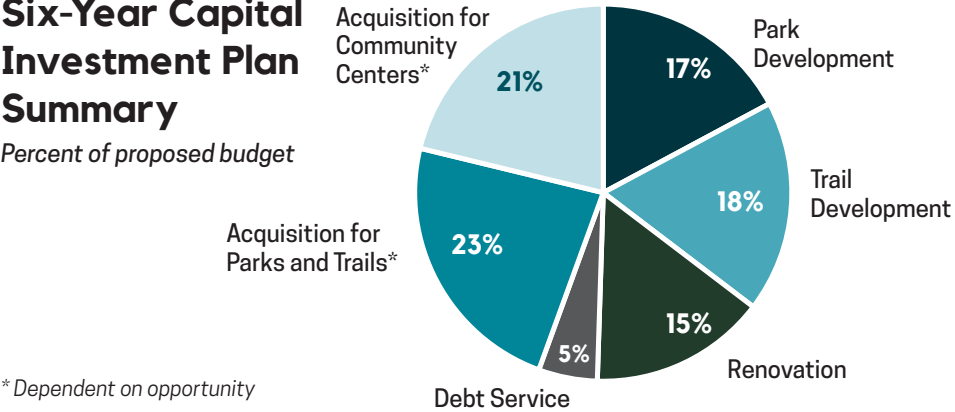
Working with local groups to produce community events in Redmond's parks helps build strong communities.

Engaging the community and local businesses in volunteer projects and sponsorships expands the capacity of staff and funding.

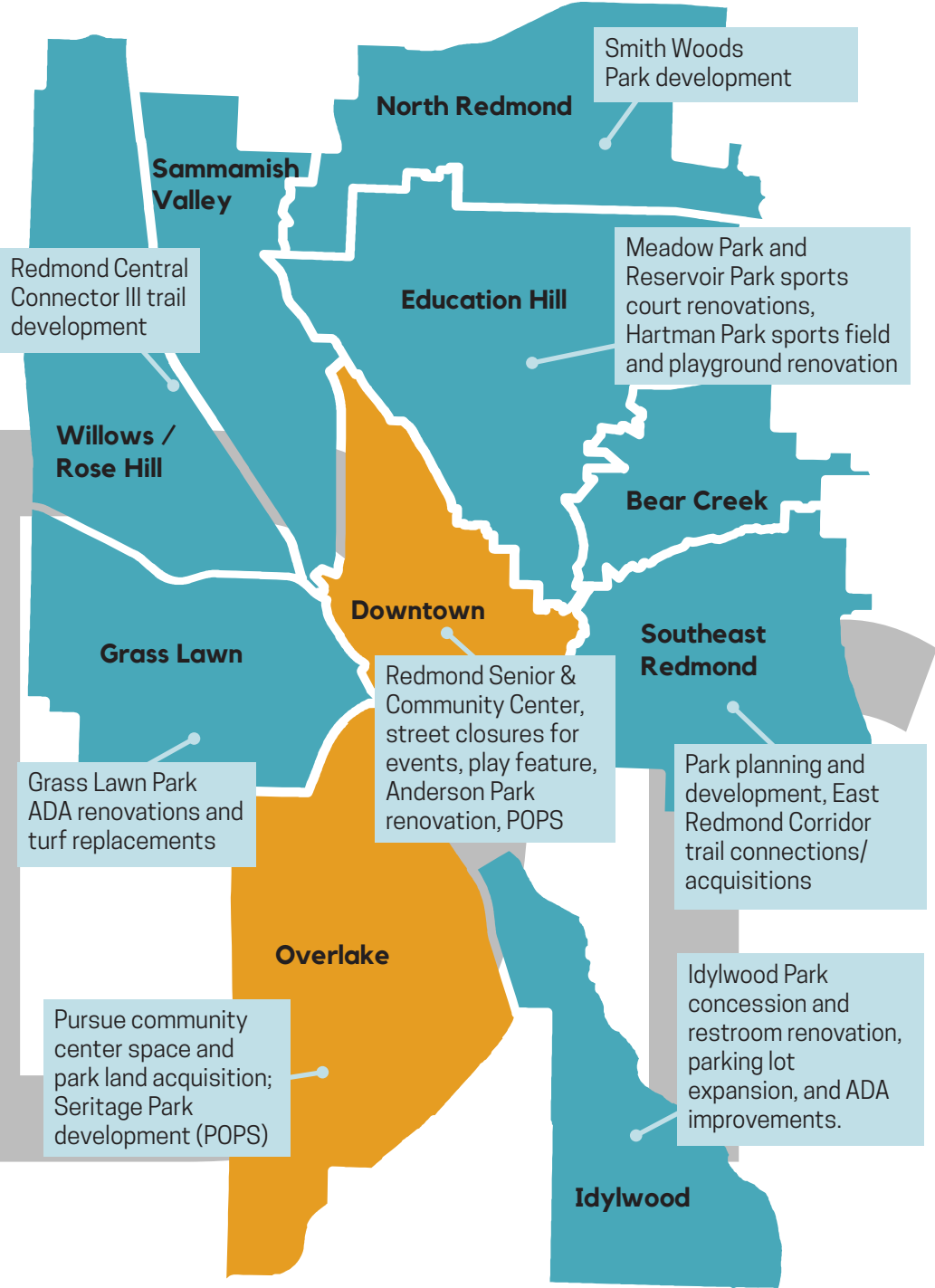
Contracting with partner agencies can enhance the diversity and availability of recreation classes.

Six-Year Capital Investment Plan Summary

Percent of proposed budget



*Dependent on opportunity



2023-2024

- Construct Pop-Up Dog Park:** Construct and operate an off-leash dog park with the intention to create a permanent off-leash facility.
- Expand Community Gardens:** Expand the number of garden plots and sites, with a focus on urban neighborhoods.
- Develop Redmond Central Connector Trail Phase 3:** Complete the final 1.6 miles of the Redmond Central Connector between the 9900 block of Willows Road to NE 124th Street, providing commuter and recreational connections.
- Downtown Park Street Closures for Events:** Construct permanent infrastructure to close streets for events in and around Downtown Park to reduce staff time, event costs for the City and partners, and to improve safety.
- Renovate Sports Courts:** Repair, resurface, and re-stripe courts at Meadow Park (2023) and Reservoir Park (2024). Municipal Campus, Nike Park, and Viewpoint Park planned for 2025-2030.
- ADA Improvements:** Implement recommendations in the ADA Parks Transition Plan, beginning with enhancements at the City's most popular parks restrooms, parking lots, and pathways.

2025-2030

- Implement East Redmond Corridor:** Develop portions of the East Redmond Corridor based on the Master Plan. Pursue acquisition for segments of the corridor that are missing connections.
- Renovations to Anderson Park:** Renovate the Adair House, retaining wall, and make ADA improvements to the City's oldest park.
- Renovations to Idylwood Park:** Build a new restroom and concession building to better serve the community. Improve and expand parking lot and ADA accessibility.
- Renovations to Hartman Park:** Replace turf field and playground and make ADA improvements at this popular community park.
- Renovations to Grass Lawn Park:** Improve parking lots, pathways, and accessible restrooms at Grass Lawn. Replace turf at two sports fields.
- Acquire Community Center Space:** Acquire property for the future development of a community center in Marymoor Village and the Overlake neighborhood. *(Dependent on opportunity)*
- Acquire Park Land:** Pursue park, trail, and plaza acquisitions to fill gaps in service distribution. Acquire or partner for urban park or plazas near light rail stations. *(Dependent on opportunity)*
- Develop a Play Feature in Downtown:** Evaluate urban neighborhood sites for the addition of children's play features. Pursue partnerships and creative play features.
- Redmond Senior & Community Center Debt Service:** Debt service for the construction of the Redmond Senior & Community Center.
- Renovations to Nike Park Trail:** Develop and improve the network of local trails that would connect Education Hill neighborhoods and Avondale Road.
- Develop Smith Woods Neighborhood Park:** Develop Smith Woods in North Redmond to serve surrounding neighborhood based on concept plan. Consideration for bridge, access improvements, and native plantings.
- Develop Southeast Redmond Neighborhood Park:** Design and construct the Southeast Redmond Park based on Master Plan being developed in 2023.





CITY OF REDMOND

Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture & Conservation Plan

JULY 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Redmond Mayor

Angela Birney

Redmond City Council

Jeralee Anderson

David Carson

Steve Fields

Jessica Forsythe

Varisha Khan

Vanessa Kritzer

Melissa Stuart

Redmond Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission

Kristina Wayland

Jim Kleppe

Ella Elman

Gary Smith

Gregg Gottgetreu

Shelly Bowman

Stuart Hargreaves

Tammy Vupham

Jennifer Brun

Garrett Michaud

Jamie A. Judah Bram

Joshua Feldon

Planning Commission

Susan L Weston

Aparna Varadharajan

Tara Van Niman

Denni Shefrin

Sherri Nichols

Art & Culture Commission

Latha Sambamurti

Helen Teixeira

Menka Soni

Cari Scotkin

Amani M Rashid

Anna Zanella

Dr. Neelam Chahlia

Shama H Farag

Carlos E Jimenez

Ishita Suri

PARCC Plan Core Team & Staff

Loreen Hamilton, Director

Dave Tucheck, Deputy Director

Zach Houvener, Deputy Director

Caroline Chapman

Amanda Deml

Vangie Garcia

Chris Weber

Glenn Coil

Tom Hardy

Jenny Lybeck

Valerie Asaro

Jeff Aken

Cameron Zapata

Community Members

The City of Redmond would like to acknowledge and thank the more than 2,000 community members who participated in the PARCC Plan surveys, questionnaires, focus groups, community meetings, and events. Your feedback was instrumental in the development of this plan.

Consultants

Conservation Technix, Inc.

PRR, Inc.

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Executive Summary

This comprehensive Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation (PARCC) Plan is a six-year guide and strategic plan for managing and enhancing park and recreation services in Redmond. It establishes a path forward for continuing to provide high quality, community-driven parks, trails, cultural experiences, and recreational opportunities across the city.

Developed with significant input and direction of Redmond residents, it addresses departmental goals, objectives, and other management considerations toward the continuation of quality recreation opportunities to benefit the Redmond community. The Plan inventories and evaluates existing park and recreation areas, assesses the needs for acquisition, site development and operations, and offers specific actions and recommendations to achieve the community's goals.

Community Vision

The Redmond Parks and Recreation Department holds its mission to be leaders in providing sustainable parks, innovative recreation services, and unique arts and cultural experiences that will continue to build a high quality of life for the residents of Redmond. The Department's vision and mission statement serve as guides for prioritizing goals and competing objectives.

VISION

We build community through people, parks, arts, recreation, and conservation.

MISSION

We are leaders in providing sustainable parks, innovative recreation services, unique art and cultural experiences that continue to build a high quality of life in Redmond.

This vision provides the foundation for the goals, objectives, recommendations, and guidance found throughout the Plan.

Redmond's Park & Recreation System

The Department is responsible for the care, maintenance, and programming of 47 city parks, including four community centers, a historic farm park, and the Redmond Pool. The completion of the new Redmond Senior & Community Center in 2024 will expand the City's capacity to provide programs and events. The park and recreation system is comprised of over 1,350 acres of land and 39 miles of public trails.

The City serves all ages, abilities, and interests through innovative classes and integrates unique art and cultural experiences into the activities offered. Staff coordinate hundreds of programs annually, as well as two signature community events: Derby Days - a summer festival, and Redmond Lights - a celebration of art and light each winter.

Redmond is a rapidly growing and urbanizing community, with a culturally diverse population. As the City grows, continued investments in Parks and Recreation will be necessary to meet the needs of the community, support youth development and healthy aging, and provide options for residents to lead healthy active lives and foster greater social and community connections.

Focused Direction

The City of Redmond has witnessed tremendous growth in recent years, and the City's population has risen over 62% between 2000 and 2020 to more than 73,000 residents. By 2050, the Redmond is projected to be home to almost 30,000 additional jobs and up to 61,000 more residents. More residents and new development will increase the usage of existing parks and facilities, intensify community needs for safe and accessible walking and biking routes, and increase the need for recreational spaces and experiences across the City. The City's transformation from a suburban to an urban community, especially in the centers, but also through in-fill development, triggers a corresponding

re-alignment of recreation services to best utilize Redmond's existing park and facility infrastructure.

The demand for new amenities must be balanced against preserving and maintaining existing parks and natural areas. The development of new amenities may require the use or re-use of existing parkland or more parkland may be required to support the community's evolving, future needs. Fortunately, the City has several undeveloped parks that provide capacity to expand the system, while accommodating the needs for enhanced recreational variety and improved access, equity, and inclusion.

Based on community feedback and analysis, the main thrusts of this PARCC Plan update are as follows:

- Expand access for all to the Parks and Recreation system by developing undeveloped parks, planning for inclusion, and increasing trail connectivity;
- Implement recreation programming to optimize use at community centers and determine the best path to provide additional community center space that helps build strong communities;
- Innovate for the future and find ways to address growth and provide high quality public services through partnerships, acquisition of land, and new service delivery approaches; and
- Protect the natural environment through stewardship and incorporating climate mitigation strategies in the planning, maintenance, and operations of Redmond's parks.

Strategic Framework Goals & Core Objectives

This Plan includes goals and objectives intended to guide City decision-making to ensure the parks, arts, trails and recreation system meets the needs of the Redmond community for years to come. These goals and objectives were based on community input and technical analysis. They include the following.

Framework Goal 1: Expand Access for All

Objective: Redmond provides a diversity of recreational opportunities that are equitably distributed, accessible to all users, and guided by an engaged public.

- **Equitable Access:** Prioritize Park and Recreation investments in underserved communities to improve equitable access to public amenities.

- **Diverse Opportunities:** Develop distinctive parks and community centers that respond to the unique needs of the community they serve.
- **Level of Service:** Provide recreational opportunities for all residents through sufficient and equitably distributed parks, trails, and recreational facilities.
- **Accessibility:** Design and renovate identified Parks and Recreational facilities in a manner that will, where feasible, provide safe and accessible use by all persons.
- **Partnerships & Coordination:** Enhance Parks and Recreation opportunities through partnerships, joint ventures, and coordination with public, private, and non-profit organizations.
- **Communication:** Ensure community members have access to information about Redmond's park and recreational opportunities.
- **Culturally Relevant Services:** Provide programming and services, as well as accompanying communications and marketing materials that reflect city goals around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.
- **Community Involvement:** Encourage and support active and ongoing participation by diverse community members in the planning and decision-making for Parks and Recreation.

Framework Goal 2: Build Strong Communities

Objective: Redmond provides an interconnected system of recreation facilities and programs that offers a wide variety of year-round opportunities and experiences which support and enhance the City's cultural identity.

- **Arts, Cultural & Historic Resources:** Expand and promote opportunities to experience and enjoy local art, culture, and history to help connect community members to their neighbors, community, and place.
- **Trails & Connections:** Promote an interconnected community through the development of a safe, accessible, and convenient multimodal trail system that connects community members to neighborhoods, parks, and destinations throughout Redmond.
- **Recreational Programs:** Foster a healthy community by providing comprehensive and quality recreation, arts, social enrichment, sports, and fitness programs that are enriching, affordable, suitable for all age groups, inclusive, community-focused, and offered at a variety of locations throughout the year.

Framework Goal 3: Innovate for the Future

Objective: Redmond is prepared for growth by proactively funding, building, and maintaining an accessible and resilient Parks and Recreation system that provides an essential public service and contributes to the City's vitality.

- **Strategic System Investments:** Expand the City's park and recreation system through targeted investments to meet the needs of current and future residents.
- **Asset Management:** Proactively manage and maintain system park assets in a way that results in replacement or renovation in advance of need.
- **Funding:** Adequately fund the cost-effective maintenance and planned enhancement of Redmond's Park and Recreation system through traditional and innovative funding sources.
- **Urban Centers:** Develop distinctive parks in Redmond's urban centers that serve local needs for neighborhood gathering places, recreation, public art, and to provide cultural programming and events to support the broader community's needs and support the city's economic vitality.
- **Flexible Use:** As parks are developed or renovated, facilities should be designed that allow for multiple uses.

Framework Goal 4: Protect the Natural Environment

Objective: Redmond protects and enhances the natural beauty of the City by maintaining and promoting a vibrant system of parks, natural areas, and trails that are sustainably designed, preserving various types of habitat, and engaging the community as partners in stewardship.

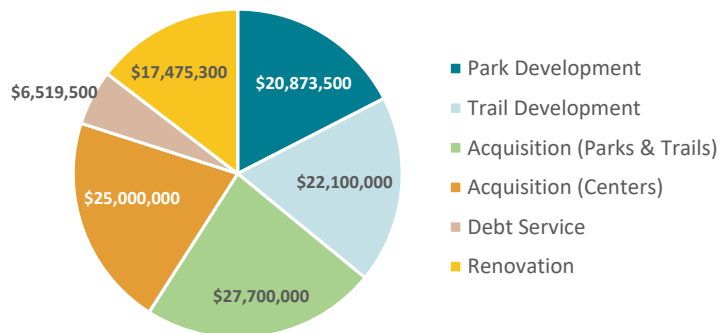
- **Habitat Preservation & Restoration:** Conserve, enhance and provide access to natural resource lands for habitat conservation, recreation, and environmental education.
- **Shoreline & Water Access:** Preserve and pursue opportunities to expand public access and enjoyment of Redmond's shorelines.
- **Urban Tree Canopy:** Maintain a comprehensive urban forestry program focused on restoration and stewardship that enriches natural areas and the environmental health of the City and enhances the built environment.
- **Community Stewardship:** Promote community education about, and stewardship of, Redmond's parks, natural areas, and environmental resources.

- **Climate Resiliency & Adaptation:** Manage and enhance Redmond's parks and natural habitat in ways that will minimize and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate.

Future Improvements

The Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan shows that Redmond is expected to focus much of the growth in Overlake, Downtown, and Marymoor Village neighborhoods. Serving existing and future residents will require improvements to existing parks and expansion of the park, trail and recreation system. The six-year Capital Improvements Plan proposes approximately \$93 million of investment in acquisition, development and renovation of the parks and community center system and identifies additional \$26 million investment in trails.

Figure ES1: Six-Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary by



To ensure existing parks provide desired recreational amenities and opportunities, the PARCC Plan includes investments in the development and renovation of neighborhood and community parks. Finding opportunities to enhance Parks and Recreation services in urban centers, particularly the development of community centers, will be a priority focus in the next six years. The Plan also proposes smaller improvements throughout the park system to enhance accessibility, safety, and usability of park features.

The PARCC Plan makes several recommendations on how to best meet the demands growth will put on the Parks and Recreation system. This includes a focused land acquisition program to ensure sufficient land for outdoor recreation and community center space. It identifies target acquisition areas to secure parkland, gain access rights along key trail corridors, build new centers, and fill gaps in neighborhood park access. Finding and creating partnerships to enhance recreational opportunities will also support meeting the increased demand from Redmond's growth.



Letter from Mayor Angela Birney and Director Loreen Hamilton

Welcome to the 2023 City of Redmond Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation Plan, or PARCC Plan, which serves as the six-year strategic plan for parks and recreation facilities and services. Thank you to everyone who shared their voice and actively participated to help shape this plan.

Redmond's identity is deeply rooted in our parks, community centers, forested lands, and recreational system that our residents so passionately support. These treasured amenities and the programming within these spaces create great places, engage our community to be active and healthy, and compel stewardship as a central value.

This PARCC Plan is aligned with the City's budget priorities and Community Strategic Plan, and represents a collaborative effort of our residents, community stakeholders, city leadership, and staff who together contributed to achieve our shared goals.

The proposed projects in the PARCC Plan span throughout the city, showcasing exciting developments like the Southeast Redmond neighborhood park, new recreational opportunities in Overlake, increased sustainability and climate resiliency efforts, and enhancing some of our most utilized parks like Hartman, Idylwood, and Grass Lawn.

The next few years will be an exciting time as the new Redmond Senior & Community Center and the last phase of the Redmond Central Connector trail open, and we look forward to celebrating these milestones, and many others with you.

A central aspect of our commitment is to build a vibrant community where people of all ages and abilities can connect with nature and engage in safe recreational activities. The PARCC Plan is grounded in sustainability, inclusivity, and resiliency to prepare for the impacts of growth and to support our community both today and beyond.

Together, we will continue to build a thriving and connected community, providing opportunities for all to enjoy the beauty of nature and recreation that we are fortunate to have in Redmond. As we implement this plan, we look forward to seeing each of the projects become a reality, knowing that our collaborative work today will create a stronger Redmond for future generations.

In partnership,



Angela Birney, Mayor
City of Redmond

Loreen Hamilton
Parks and Recreation Director

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What is the PARCC Plan?

This 2023 PARCC Plan reflects the community's current interests and needs for parks, open space, trails, and programming and represents the culmination of a year-long planning effort. The planning process, which included a variety of outreach activities, encouraged public engagement to inform the development of the priorities and future direction of Redmond's park and recreation system.

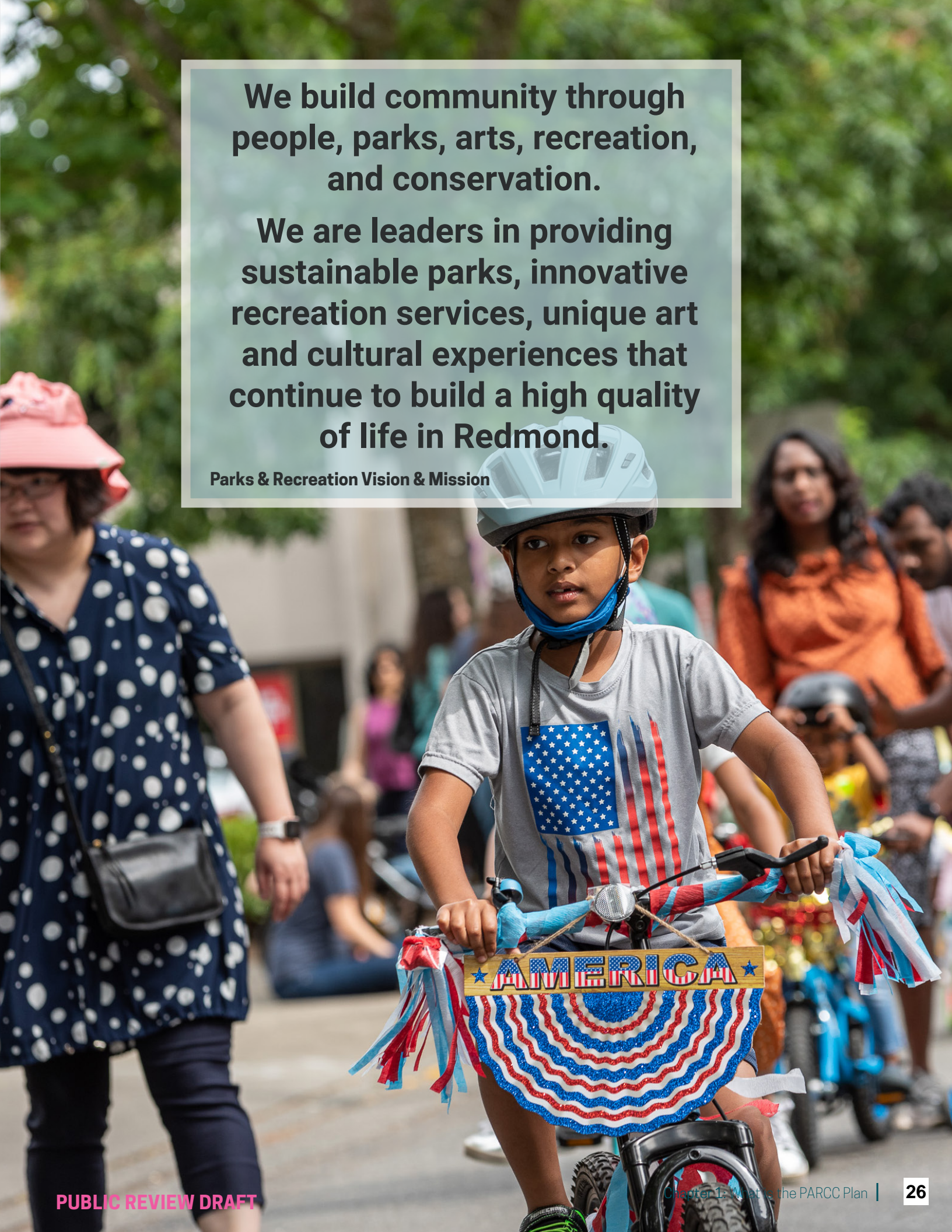
In addition to community engagement, the actions identified in this Plan are based on assessment of the City's existing park and recreation facilities to establish the system's current performance and service level assessments to quantify the system's ability to serve current and future residents. The Plan's capital facilities section, and accompanying implementation and funding strategies, are intended to sustain, enhance, and steward the City's critical parks and recreation infrastructure.

Planning Ahead

The Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture and Conservation (PARCC) Plan is the functional plan for Redmond's Parks and Recreation Department and serves as the strategic plan for the department for the planning period of 2023 to 2035.

This plan is a revision of the 2017 PARCC Plan, and it covers the key functions of the Department:

- **Parks and Trails:** Protecting Redmond's natural beauty through a vibrant system of parks and trails that promote a healthy community.
- **Arts and Culture:** Recognizing the City's history and heritage, and celebrating the culture, customs, and creativity of our community members through public art, arts facilities, arts and music performances, events, programs, and classes.
- **Recreation:** Providing residents of all ages with wholesome and diverse recreational and cultural opportunities in clean, safe, and accessible facilities.



**We build community through
people, parks, arts, recreation,
and conservation.**

**We are leaders in providing
sustainable parks, innovative
recreation services, unique art
and cultural experiences that
continue to build a high quality
of life in Redmond.**

Parks & Recreation Vision & Mission

- **Conservation:** Protecting and enhancing sensitive environmental areas and wildlife habitat, preserving significant historical and cultural places, and developing parks using smart growth principles.

This 2023 PARCC Plan reflects the current community priorities and will guide the Department's decision making and investments over the next six years. The result will be a park and recreation system that expands access for all, builds strong communities, innovates for the future, and protects the natural environment in Redmond.

Guiding Documents

This PARCC Plan is one of several documents that comprise Redmond's long-range planning and policy framework. Past community plans and other relevant documents were reviewed for policy direction and goals as they relate to park, cultural, trail, and recreation opportunities across Redmond. The development of each plan or study involved public input and adoption by their respective responsible legislative body. The following list of plans was reviewed, and brief summaries for each appear in Appendix G.

- 2017 PARCC Plan
- Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan
- Community Strategic Plan
- ADA Facilities Transition Plan
- Facilities Strategic Management Plan
- Public Arts Master Plan
- Master Plan for the Downtown Cultural Corridor
- Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study
- Tree Canopy Strategic Plan
- Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)
- Climate Vulnerability Assessment

Redmond Parks & Recreation

The Redmond Parks and Recreation Department provides a comprehensive system of facilities and programs to meet the parks and recreation needs of the community. The Department acquires, plans, develops, operates, and maintains parks and facilities and provides a wide variety of affordable recreation activities and programs for all age groups.

The Department is responsible for the care, maintenance and programming of 47 city parks, including four community centers, a historic farm park, and the Redmond Pool. The park and recreation system

is comprised of over 1,350 acres of land and 39 miles of public trails.

The City serves all ages, abilities, and interests through innovative classes and integrates unique art and cultural experiences into the activities offered. Staff coordinate hundreds of programs annually, as well as two signature community events: Derby Days summer festival and Redmond Lights - a celebration of art and light each winter.

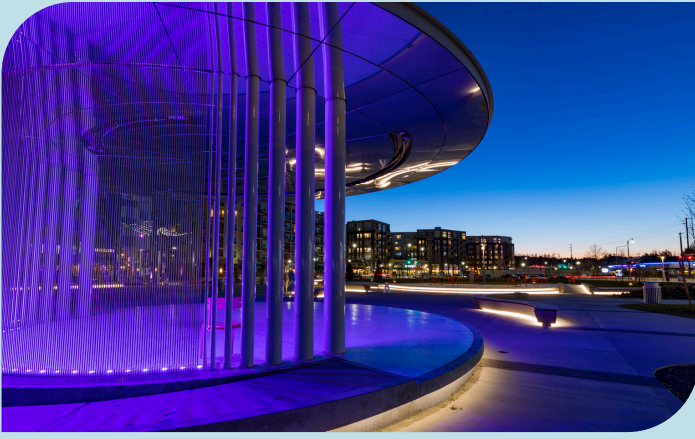
The Department is organized into five divisions:

- **Recreation** provides comprehensive programs that include year-round recreation opportunities, enrichment programs, and specialized recreation.
- **Customer Engagement** oversees marketing and communications, coordinates city events and special event permits, manages the public arts collection, oversees arts and cultural programs, and supports local artists and cultural arts organizations.
- **Maintenance & Operations** maintains parks and landscape, developed rights-of-way and medians, and 1,100 acres of forest land.
- **Facilities** maintains 26 city buildings, including the municipal campus, community centers, and fire stations.
- **Planning** is responsible for park master planning, land acquisition, capital projects, grant preparation, and long-range strategic policy planning.

The Department is funded through several sources, including user fees, general fund property tax revenue, impact fees, levy funds, grants, and sponsorships. In total, the Department has a general fund biennium budget of \$37.3 million (FY23/24). The Department has a total of 78 labor positions of which 62.7 are full-time positions and approximately 15 supplemental, temporary staff positions. The Department relies heavily on supplemental, temporary employees to carry out its mission; the range and scope of activities and programs is so extensive that, without part-time employees, the City would not be able to serve the community as it does.

The Department provides staff support to four City commissions or committees:

- Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission
- Redmond Arts and Culture Commission
- Redmond Youth Partnership Advisory Committee
- Senior Advisory Committee



Accomplishments since the 2017 PARCC Plan

The 2017 PARCC Plan guided City officials, management and staff in making decisions about planning, operating, and implementing various parks, conservation, recreation, and cultural services. The following represents a partial list of the major accomplishments realized following the adoption of the previous PARCC Plan:



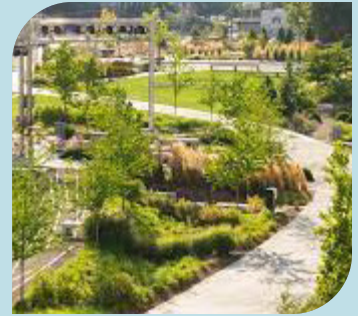
Opened Downtown Park



Completed stream restoration at Smith Woods Park



Renovated Westside Park



Completed Redmond Central Connector Phase II



Opened Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village



Initiated design of new Redmond Senior & Community Center



Planted nearly 3,400 trees and maintained Tree City USA status for 23 years



Prepared ADA Transition Plan to guide accessibility improvements



Renovated Redmond Pool



Offered Redmond Lights month-long celebration



Initiated Busker permit program



Navigated COVID-19 through online services and senior curbside lunch

Challenges & Future Considerations

As with any citywide strategic planning effort, current community challenges provide a context for developing and assessing strategies for the future. The following macro trends are anticipated to be important priorities over the next decade.

GROWTH, DEVELOPMENT & URBAN DENSITY

The City of Redmond has witnessed tremendous growth in recent years, and the City's population has risen over 62% between 2000 and 2020. By 2050, the Redmond is projected to be home to almost 30,000 additional jobs and up to 61,000 more residents. Redmond's urban centers – Downtown, Marymoor Village, and especially Overlake – will accommodate much of this growth near the City's four new light rail stations. More residents and new development will increase the use of existing parks and facilities and increase the need for recreational spaces and experiences across the City. Rapid growth will also intensify existing community needs for safe and accessible walking and biking routes, as well as the preservation of open space and natural resources. In response, this PARCC Plan outlines several policies and projects to improve recreation facilities and

parks to adapt to emerging needs, complete important connections in the City's extensive trail network, and acquire or preserve open space in strategic areas. **(To be addressed by policies and actions in the “Innovate for the Future” goal starting on page 153.)**

EQUITY, INCLUSIVITY & ACCESSIBILITY

Maintaining and enhancing social equity across recreational opportunities and facilities should be a core function of municipal park and recreation systems. Through this PARCC Plan, the City of Redmond made a concerted effort to reach out to, connect with, and engage the diversity of local communities. The City also invested in and committed to outreach in its four major languages: Chinese, English, Russian and Spanish. Through direct engagement during various community and cultural events, a four-language community survey, and live interpretation during open house meetings, the City endeavored to make all voices welcome during the PARCC Plan process. Its focus on diversity, equity and inclusion also carries into adaptive recreation programs and ongoing accessibility upgrades of parks and amenities guided by a recent ADA Transition Plan. The City must continue to find ways to provide safe and equitable access to parks, trails, facilities, recreation programs, and other services. **(To be addressed by the policies and actions in the “Expand Access for All” goal starting on page 127.)**



CLIMATE VULNERABILITY, ADAPTATION & RESILIENCE

The City of Redmond has made significant strides in planning for and establishing policy around the impacts of climate change through the Climate Action Implementation Plan, Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, and Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan, in addition to adopting a Climate Emergency Declaration. Regional climate change models project that the Puget Sound area will see warmer temperatures, shifts in seasonal precipitation patterns with a decrease in summer precipitation, increases in extreme storm events, and increases in exposure to droughts and wildfires. According to the 2022 Redmond Climate Vulnerability Risk Assessment, growing vulnerabilities to climate change will affect Redmond's population, neighborhoods and business centers, infrastructure, and services.

The Parks and Recreation Department's continued focus on enhancing native vegetation, planting more trees, reducing energy and water use, and finding more sustainable materials to use in construction of park amenities will play a role in the City's overall efforts. Also, coordinated efforts to link multimodal transportation options to an expanding trail network and linking parks to transit and other community destinations will improve livability and reduce vehicular trips. Adapting to the impacts of climate change also

could include a review of tree species mix for increased diversity and resilience, carbon sequestration, and community health services in the form of providing heating/cooling stations during extreme weather events. **(To be addressed by the policies and actions in the "Protect the Natural Environment" goal starting on page 136.)**

CONTINUED INVESTMENTS IN PARK AND RECREATION SYSTEM

From accessible playgrounds to splash pads to connected trails to natural areas, the range of play experiences offered by the City will need to change and diversify over time. Growth in Redmond's high-tech job sector has resulted in a more culturally diverse employee and resident population. The population is young, wealthy, and well educated and continues to grow more diverse. This demographic shift will influence the needs for different or expanded recreational experiences, such as cricket, pickleball, fitness, cultural arts programs, and social activities, among others. The demand for new amenities also must be balanced against preserving and maintaining existing parks and natural areas. The development of new amenities may require the use or re-use of existing parkland or more parkland may be required to support the community's evolving, future needs.





The construction of the new Redmond Senior & Community Center, in addition to the existing pool, community centers and teen center, provide a significant boon for indoor recreation and activities in Redmond and offer a variety of gathering places for the community. Recent conversations with community members suggest a continued interest in expanding, or having access to additional, indoor recreation facilities, as well as additional spaces for cultural events, performances, and exhibits.

Research on recreation also provides information on how park distribution, park proximity, park facilities, and conditions have an impact on people's desire to engage in physical activity. It will be valuable to re-evaluate current park designs and maintenance policies to ensure barrier-free, engaging park environments and operational efficiencies. The City will continue to play a major role in enabling healthy lifestyles for Redmond citizens and should continue to adapt the park and trail system and recreation offerings. **(To be addressed by policies in the "Build Strong Communities" goal starting on page 130.)**

STEWARDSHIP, MAINTENANCE & ASSET MANAGEMENT

The City of Redmond, local volunteers and residents have worked to preserve and restore the City's natural areas and resource parks over many decades. These areas serve a critical environmental purpose, including sustaining a robust tree canopy, supporting wildlife, cleaning air, and reducing pollutants in stormwater runoff. Many natural areas include passive uses such as trails and provide much-needed natural respite from urban densities. This Plan promotes the continued investment in conservation and restoration efforts and reinforces the need to identify additional lands for tree planting and tree management to meet the City's 40% canopy goal, in addition to other volunteer and partnership projects to improve the quality and function of Redmond's natural landscapes.

Established park and recreation systems require ongoing maintenance to serve the community safely and effectively. Public recreation providers across the country consider maintaining existing park facilities to be a key management issue. Poorly maintained assets – from benches to playgrounds to pools – can fail, either structurally or operationally, posing safety risks and reducing their recreational value. Aging infrastructure



also may fail to meet community expectations or need capital upgrades to adapt to changing community interests. However, recreation providers often struggle to establish adequate funding mechanisms for routine and preventative maintenance and repair of facilities, as well as the major rehabilitation and replacement of existing recreation facilities at the end of their useful life. This Plan provides a baseline of current conditions to inform facility, maintenance, and operations policies and improvements. Proper maintenance of park and recreation assets will prevent them from deteriorating, thereby reducing long-term capital and operating costs, maintaining safety, improving public perception, and increasing community use. **(To be addressed by policies and actions in the “Innovate for the Future” goal starting on page 133.)**

Plan Contents

The remainder of PARCC Plan is organized as follows:

- **Chapter 2: Our Community** – Provides an overview of the City of Redmond, its demographics, and highlights the methods used to engage the Redmond community in the development of the Plan.
- **Chapters 3: Where We Are Now** – Describes the park system inventory, current trends, local needs and levels of service by major program area.
- **Chapter 4: Where We Are Going** – Provides a policy framework to include the vision, goals, and major actions to enhance Redmond’s park and recreation system.
- **Chapter 5: How We Will Get There** – Describes a range of strategies to consider in the implementation of the Plan and details a 6-year program for addressing park and facility enhancement or expansion projects.
- **Appendices** – Provides technical or supporting information to the planning effort and includes survey summaries, focus group notes, recreation trends, and funding options, among others.

BENEFITS OF PARKS, RECREATION, ARTS & OPEN SPACE

A number of organizations and non-profits have documented the overall health and wellness benefits provided by parks, open space and trails. The Trust for Public Land published a report called *The Benefits of Parks: Why America Needs More City Parks and Open Space*. This report makes the following observations about the health, economic, environmental and social benefits of parks and open space:

- Physical activity makes people healthier.
- Physical activity increases with access to parks.
- Contact with the natural world improves physical and psychological health.
- Value is added to community and economic development sustainability.
- Benefits of tourism are enhanced.
- Trees are effective in improving air quality and assisting with stormwater control.
- Recreational opportunities for all ages are provided.



Physical Activity Benefits

Residents in communities with increased access to parks, recreation, natural areas and trails have more opportunities for physical activity, both through recreation and active transportation. By participating in physical activity, residents can reduce their risk of being or becoming overweight or obese, decrease their likelihood of suffering from chronic diseases, such as heart disease and type-2 diabetes, and improve their levels of stress and anxiety. Nearby access to parks has been shown to increase levels of physical activity. According to studies cited in a report by the National Park and Recreation Association, the majority of people of all ages who visit parks are physically active during their visit. Also, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that greater access to parks leads to 25% more people exercising three or more days per week.



Community Benefits

Park and recreation facilities provide opportunities to engage with family, friends, and neighbors, thereby increasing social capital and community cohesion, which can improve residents' mental health and overall well-being. People who feel that they are connected to their community and those who participate in recreational, community and other activities are more likely to have better mental and physical health and to live longer lives. Access to parks and recreational facilities has also been linked to reductions in crime, particularly juvenile delinquency.



Economic Benefits

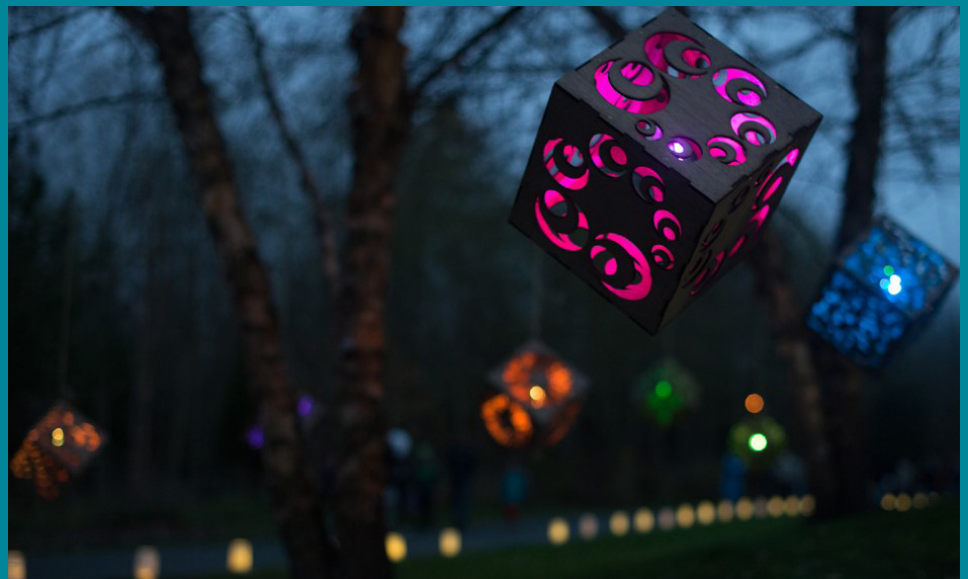
Parks and recreation facilities can bring positive economic impacts through increased property values, increased attractiveness for businesses and workers (quality of life), and through direct increases in employment opportunities.

In Washington, outdoor recreation generates \$26.2 billion in consumer spending annually, \$7.6 billion in wages and salaries and \$2.3 billion in state and local tax revenue. Preserving access to outdoor recreation protects the economy, the businesses, the communities and the people who depend on the ability to play outside. According to the Outdoor Recreation Economy Report published by the Outdoor Industry Association, outdoor recreation can grow jobs and drive the economy through management and investment in parks, waters and trails as an interconnected system designed to sustain economic dividends for citizens.



According to a 2018 survey by Americans for the Arts, 72% of Americans believe “the arts unify our communities regardless of age, race, and ethnicity” and 73% agree that the arts “helps me understand other cultures better” — a perspective observed across all demographic and economic categories.

The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis reports that arts and cultural production accounts for \$62.4 billion and 10.3% of the Washington economy, contributing over 180,000 jobs.



According to the National Recreation and Park Association’s Americans Engagement with Parks Survey, 77% of survey respondents indicate that having a high-quality park, playground, or recreation center nearby is an important factor in deciding where they want to live.





“MY PRIME REASON TO CHOOSE REDMOND SUBURB WAS ITS PARKS AND TRAILS. MY FAMILY VISITS THEM MORE THAN TWICE PER DAY. ALTHOUGH THEY ARE IN GREAT CONDITION, MY BIGGEST DISAPPOINTMENT IS LACK OF PLAYGROUND IN MOST OF THEM. I WOULD REQUEST FOR MORE PLAY AREAS - IF NOT BIG AT LEAST INSTALL FEW SLIDES, SWINGS, ACTIVITY TOWERS, SAND PLAY IN MORE PARKS. ALSO, MORE PICKLEBALL COURTS WILL BE A GOOD ADD-ON. ITS POPULARITY IS INCREASING AND MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN IT BUT THE COURTS ARE IN VERY FEW PARKS.”

Survey respondent



Our Community

Overview

The City of Redmond is located approximately 15 miles east of Seattle, Washington, on the northern tip of Lake Sammamish. Residents enjoy the vibrant downtown, many employment opportunities, its wealth of local parks and open spaces including Downtown Park and Lake Sammamish, its proximity to major destinations in the Seattle region, as well as its more suburban location near farms, forests, and natural areas.

Incorporated in 1912, Redmond borders the cities of Kirkland to the west, Bellevue to the south, and Sammamish to the southeast. The City abuts unincorporated King County to the north and northeast, including the communities of Cottage Lake and Union Hill. The City of Redmond also includes three non-contiguous properties to the northwest – the Redmond Watershed Preserve, Juel Park and Farrel-McWhirter Farm Park – all of which are owned by the City.

Redmond's town center, a mixed-use area of residential, commercial, and public uses, is located along Redmond Way in the central portion of the city and just north of State Route 520. Multi-family residential neighborhoods, general commercial and manufacturing, and business parks stretch to the northwest and southeast of the town center, along Redmond Way. The northwest corner of the City is dominated by the Willows Run Golf Complex and Sixty Acres Park and is home to many business complexes and DigiPen. The northeast portion of the City is mostly comprised of single family residential neighborhoods, including large lot estates, interspersed with forested green spaces. The southwestern portion of the City includes the Overlake Village and Overlake Business and Advanced Technology Districts, home to the Microsoft corporate headquarters, as well as single family residential neighborhoods that border King County's Marymoor Park and Lake Sammamish.

Demographic Profile

Redmond is a city of over 73,000 residents. It has more than doubled in population over the past thirty years – growing twice as fast as King County as a whole. The City is home to many families with children and a large percentage of working age adults. Residents are generally very well-educated and have higher incomes than the average King County and Washington State resident but are less likely to own their own home. The community is diverse, with nearly half of residents identifying as a person

of color and one-in-five speaking a language other than English at home. Many residents are employed in professional, scientific, and management industries, located locally or throughout the Seattle metropolitan area.

Population Change & Growth

The City of Redmond was incorporated 1912 after reaching a population of 300 residents. The original city limits centered on the area just north of what is now King County's Marymoor Park. The community's population fluctuated in the early 20th century, but then grew rapidly during and immediately after World War II. The war effort brought shipyard and related work to the area attracting residents to well-paying employment, increasing the city's population to 1,426 by 1960. Then, the City embarked on a series of major expansions through annexations in the 1950s and 60s. Residential and business growth was supported by the completion of the Evergreen Point Floating Bridge (SR 520) in 1963, which created a direct connection from Redmond and other east lake communities to Seattle across Lake Washington. The siting of a new Microsoft corporate headquarters in 1986 brought a significant number of jobs to Redmond. By 1990, the City had grown to 35,800 residents.

In the 1990s, revitalization of downtown Redmond, including the development of Redmond Town Center

in 1997, and other major commercial development encouraged further population growth. Since 2000, Redmond has seen continued, steady growth and is now one of the ten fastest growing cities in Washington State. Between 2000 and 2020, Redmond's population grew by over 60%, reaching 73,256 residents.^{1,2,3}

In 2020, Redmond was home to 31,738 households of which 35% were households with children under 18, and 25% were individuals living alone. The average household size in Redmond is 2.5 people, on par with that of the county (2.43) and state (2.53).

The Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan projects that the city will grow to about 115,170 people by 2050, equivalent to about 2% annual growth over that period.

The size of a community and its anticipated growth over time are key indicators of whether existing park and recreation facilities will be sufficient to meet future needs. Population growth can also result in increased residential density and/or the development of currently vacant land within a city, potentially increasing the need for away-from-home recreation opportunities, while simultaneously reducing potential locations for park and open space acquisition. Advance planning for parks and recreation facilities can help ensure residents can enjoy sufficient, conveniently located parks, open space, and recreation facilities, while the community grows and evolves.



62%

Population Growth:

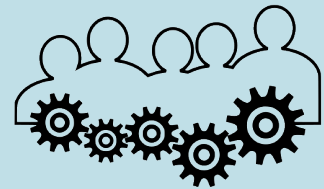
Between 2000 and 2020, Redmond's population grew by over 60% and is one of the ten fastest growing cities in Washington State.



72%

Educational Attainment:

72% of adults over 25 years have a Bachelor's degree or higher, compared to 53% in King County and 37% in Washington.

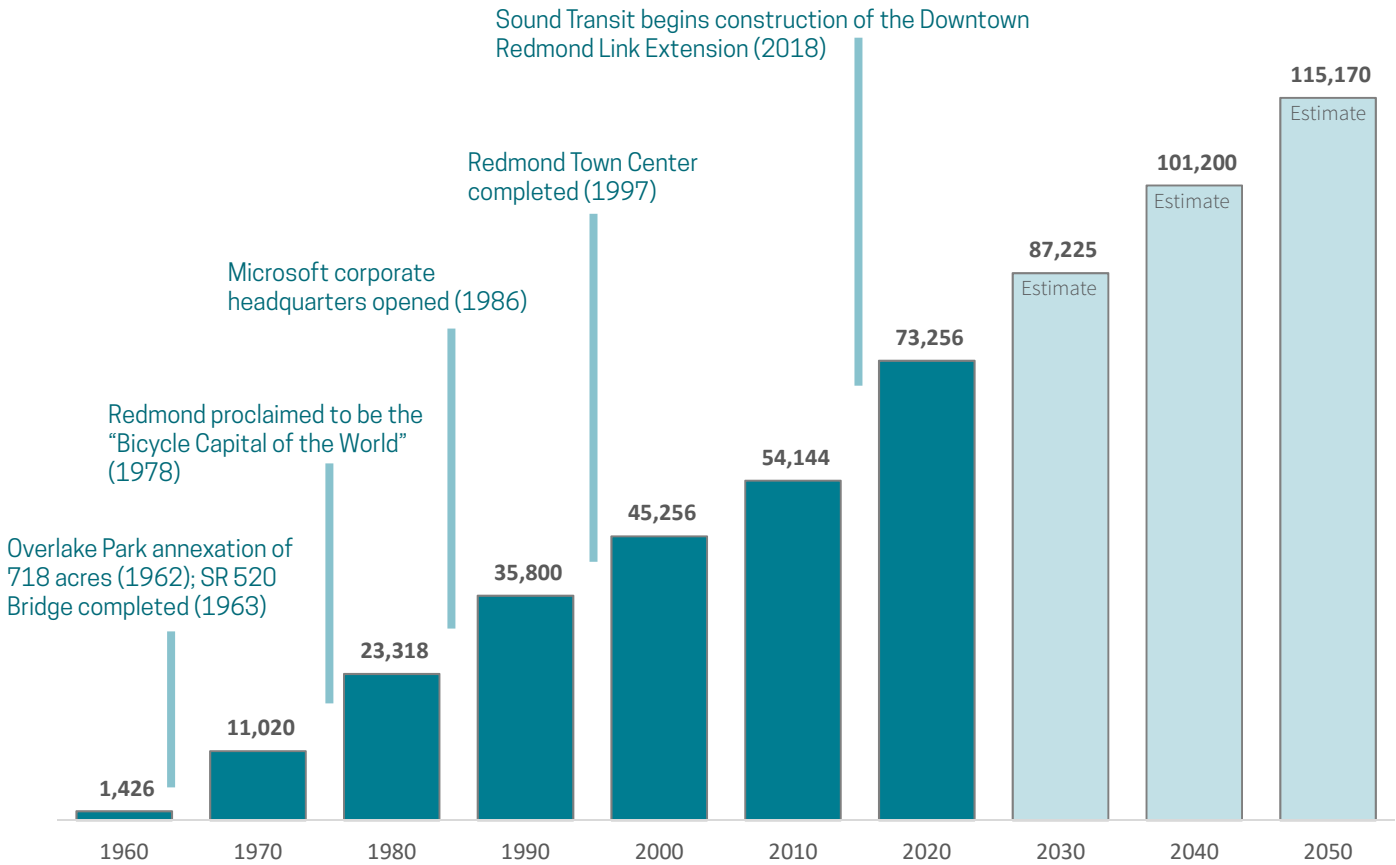


~100K

Employment:

The City of Redmond is home to approximately 100,000 jobs, and the daytime population grows by over 50%.

Figure 1. Redmond Population – Actual and Projected: 1960-2050



Age Group Distribution

Redmond has a median age of 34.5, lower than that of the county (37) and state (37.8). The City also has a relatively high population of families with children (35%).⁴ These demographics have important implications for park and recreation needs.

Adults between the ages of 25 and 44 years make up Redmond's largest 20-year population group, comprising 40% of the overall population in 2020 (Figure 2).

- Youth under 5 years of age make up 7.3% of Redmond's population (Figure 2). This group represents users of preschool and tot programs and facilities, and, as trails and open space users, are often in strollers. These individuals are the future participants in youth activities.
- Children ages 5 to 14 years are often users of

youth programs, playgrounds, sports fields and courts, and other park facilities, and may attend whole-family programs and community events with adults. Approximately 12.6% of the City's population falls into this age range.

- Teens and young adults, age 15 to 24 years, are in transition from youth programs to adult programs and participate in teen/young adult programs. Members of this age group are often seasonal employment seekers. About 9.3% of City residents are teens and young adults.

While approximately 29% of residents are youth and young adults up to 24 years of age, 52% are 25 to 54 years old, and 19% are 55 and older.

- Adults ages 25 to 34 years are users of adult programs and may use a wide variety of park

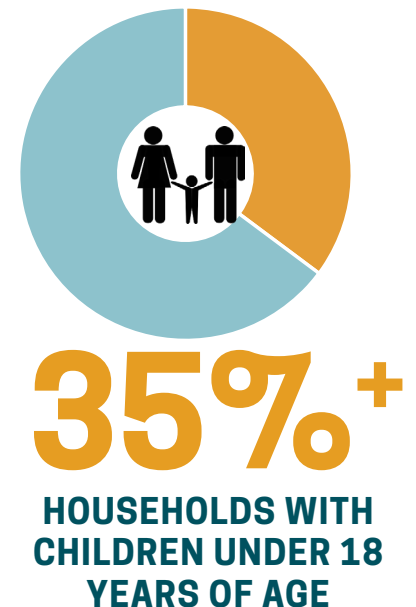
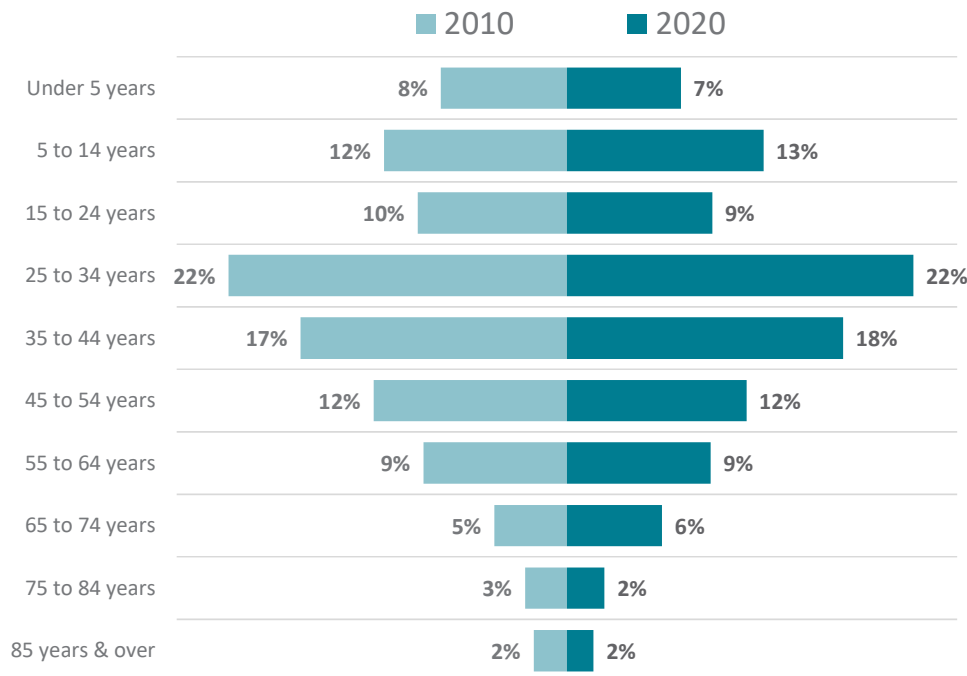
facilities. Approximately 22% of residents are in this age category. These residents may be entering long-term relationships and establishing families.

- Adults between 35 and 54 years of age represent users of a wide range of adult programs and park facilities. Their characteristics extend from having children using preschool and youth programs to becoming empty nesters. This age group makes up 18% of the City's population.
- Older adults, ages 55 years plus, make up approximately 19% of Redmond's population. This group represents users of adult and senior programs. These residents may be approaching retirement or already retired and may be spending time with grandchildren. This group also ranges from very healthy, active seniors to more physically inactive seniors.

Redmond is home to a younger population than King County as a whole, with high numbers of young and middle-aged adults. The community's age demographics today are nearly identical to those of a decade ago (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Age Group Distributions: 2010² & 2020⁴



Sources

- 1 U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 Decennial Census.
- 2 U.S. Census Bureau, 2010 Decennial Census.
- 3 U.S. Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census.
- 4 U.S. Census Bureau, 2020 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates.
- 5 U.S. Census Bureau, 2019 American Community Survey 1-Year Estimates.
- 6 U.S. Census Bureau, Census on the Map, 2019. Accessed May 2022.

- 7 King County Public Health. 2021 City Health Profile Dashboard. Available at <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/health/data/city-health-profiles.aspx>. Accessed May 2022.
- 8 University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute. "Washington Rankings Data". County Health Rankings. Available at <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/washington/2021/rankings/king/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>. Accessed May 2022.

Race and Ethnicity

Redmond is significantly more racially diverse than King County or Washington State. According to the 2020 American Community Survey, just over half of Redmond's residents identify as White alone (54%), while over one-third identify as Asian (37%). Smaller percentages of residents identify as two or more races (5.4%), Black or African American (1.7%), American Indian or Alaskan Native (0.7%), Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander (0.2%), or some other race (1.5%). About one-in-twelve residents identify as either Hispanic or Latino, lower than rates across the county and state.⁴

In 2020, approximately 46% of Redmond's residents spoke a language other than English at home – predominantly Indo-European (such as Russian and Ukrainian) and Asian languages (such as Vietnamese, Chinese, and Korean). A smaller percentage of residents (12%) speak English 'less than very well'. Redmond has a larger percentage of people who speak a language other than English at home than King County as a whole (28%).⁴

Persons with Disabilities

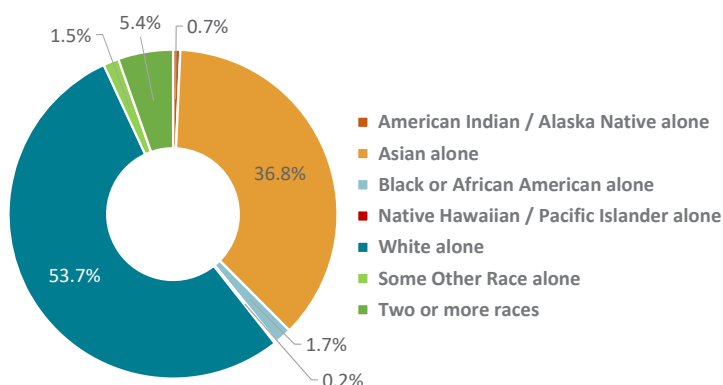
The 2020 American Community Survey reported 7% of Redmond's population age 5 years and older has a disability that interferes with life activities (4,744 persons). This is lower than the county (9.8%) and state average (12.7%). Approximately 3% of residents under 18 years of age and 6% of residents between 18 and 64 have a disability. Among residents 65 and older, the percentage rises to 27%, which is lower than the percentage found in the general senior population of Washington State (35%).⁴

Planning, designing, and operating a park system that facilitates participation by residents of all abilities will help ensure compliance with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). In addition to ADA, there are other accommodations that people with disabilities may need to access parks and participate in recreation programs. Redmond should consider community needs for inclusive and accessible parks, recreational facilities, programs, marketing, and communications.

Employment & Education

In 2019, Redmond's labor force population was 57,563.⁶ Of this population, 68% was in the labor force, 3% was unemployed, and 29% was not in the labor force.⁴ Employed residents work overwhelmingly in management, business, and science occupations

Figure 3. Race & Ethnicity



46%

RESIDENTS WHO SPEAK A LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH AT HOME





(72%).[‡] Education and healthcare industries, as well as retail industries, each employ approximately 12% of workers.

In 2019, the City of Redmond was home to 99,687 jobs.⁷ Nearly half of the City's jobs are in the information services field – predominately at the Microsoft Corporation's headquarters. Redmond is also home to nearly 11,000 jobs in the professional, scientific, and technical services sector. Many employed residents also commute to jobs in the greater Seattle region.

Approximately 72% of Redmond residents over age 25 have a bachelor's degree or higher, and 89% have at least some college education. This level of education attainment is significantly higher than that of King County and the state (in which 77% and 70% of residents have some college education, respectively). Additionally, about 97% of city residents have a high school degree or higher, approximately five percentage points higher than the statewide average.

Higher levels of employment and educational attainment positively correlate with both the income and health status of a community – both of which have further impacts on the

use and need for park and recreation facilities, as described in the next two sections.

Income & Poverty

A community's level of household income can impact the types of recreational services prioritized by community members, as well as their willingness and ability to pay for recreational services. Perhaps more importantly, household income is closely linked with levels of physical activity. Low-income households are three times more likely to live a sedentary lifestyle than middle and upper-income households, according to an analysis of national data by the Active Living by Design organization.

Redmond's residents tend to have high incomes. In 2019, the median household income in Redmond was \$142,920, significantly higher than that of King County (\$102,594) and of all Washington households (\$78,687).⁵ Higher income households have an increased ability to pay for recreation and leisure services, and they often face fewer barriers to participation. Nearly two-thirds of city households (65%) have incomes in the higher income brackets (\$100,000 and greater), which is much higher

than across the state (38%).⁴ Family households, or households where two or more people are living together and related through birth, marriage, or adoption, have a slightly higher median income of \$170,476, while non-family households in Redmond, including people living alone and those living with non-relatives, have a median household income of \$105,903.⁵

At the lower end of the household income scale, approximately 4% percent of Redmond households earn less than \$25,000 annually, fewer than households in King County (6%) and the State of Washington (8%). Less than three percent of the city's families lived below the poverty level at some point in the previous year, equivalent to an income of \$26,200 for a family of four. This percentage is lower than the countywide (5.8%) and statewide (7%) levels. Poverty affects 3% of youth under 18 and 9% of those 65 and older.⁴

Lower-income residents face many barriers to physical activity, including reduced access to parks and recreational facilities, a lack of

[‡] Industry is the type of activity at a person's place of work; occupation is the kind of work a person does to earn a living.



transportation options, a lack of time, and poor health. Low-income residents may also be less financially able to afford recreational service fees or to pay for services, such as childcare, that can make physical activity possible.

Health Status

The overall health of a community's residents can impact their ability to participate in recreation and other physical activity and may also reflect, in part, the locality's level of access to appropriate and convenient green spaces, recreation opportunities, and active transportation facilities.

Residents of Redmond tend to be in better health than residents of King County and Washington state, according to the King County City Health Profile, developed by Seattle/King County Public Health in 2021. City residents have high life expectancies (85.2 years), and fewer residents experience poor mental or physical health as compared to the county and state. Residents also have lower prevalence of many health risk factors, including obesity, lack of exercise, diabetes, asthma, and hypertension, as compared to King County residents, who themselves have fewer risk factors than residents of Washington as a whole.⁷

In addition, King County residents rank as some of the healthiest residents in Washington (top quartile), according to the County Health Rankings.⁸ Approximately 20% of Redmond and 21% of King County adults are considered obese, compared to 28% of Washington adults.⁷

Approximately 13% of Redmond and 15% of King County adults ages 20 and older report getting no leisure-time physical activity – lower than the statewide average of 18%.⁸ This may be due, in part, to the large number of places to participate in physical activity, including parks and public or private community centers, gyms, or other recreational facilities. Over 95% of residents in King County have access to adequate physical activity opportunities, which is much higher than the 88% average for all Washington residents.⁸

According to the County Health Rankings, King County also ranks in the top tier of Washington counties for health outcomes, including length and quality of life, and health factors, such as health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors, and the physical environment.⁸

Community Engagement

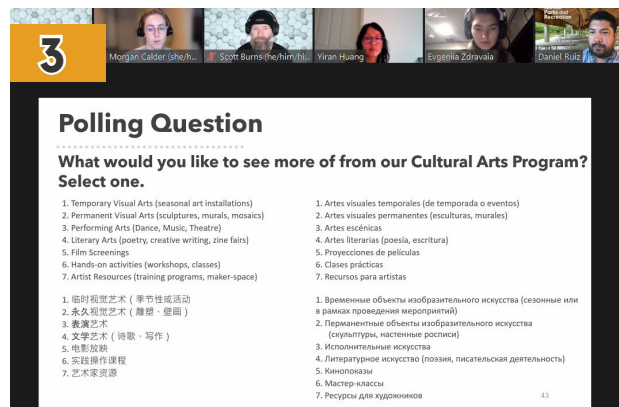
Community engagement and input played an important role in identifying current community priorities. Several outreach methods were used to connect with the community, seek their input and provide information about the Plan in COVID-sensitive formats. The City of Redmond received a significant amount of community feedback throughout this planning process, and the City made a significant investment in outreach to non-English speaking communities in an effort to respect and express the diversity of Redmond.

Community Survey

A community-wide, mail survey and online questionnaire were conducted to assess the recreational needs and priorities of Redmond residents in early 2022. The survey was mailed to a random sample of 2,500 households within the city limits of Redmond on March 24, 2022. Reminder postcards were mailed to the 2,500 households on April 5th. An identical online version of the survey was posted to the city's website on March 25th. Residents who did not receive a mail survey were able to complete the online questionnaire. The survey was closed on May 16, 2022. The survey was available in Chinese, English, Russian, and Spanish, and the cover letter accompanying the printed mail survey was written in all four languages and included unique QR codes to access each in-language survey online.

Overall, 330 surveys from the random sample mailing have been completed and returned (13.2% response rate, 5% margin of error). An additional 881 surveys were completed from the general, community-wide online questionnaires. In all, 1,211 surveys were collected, which includes 29 Chinese, three Russian, and 10 Spanish surveys. Survey respondents were asked about:

- Performance and quality of programs and parks,
- Usage of City parks and recreation facilities,
- Opinions about the need for various park, recreation and trail improvements, and
- Priorities for future park and recreation services and facilities.





公园和娱乐社区会议

5

请参加我们的网络社区会议，分享您对Redmond公园和娱乐的未来的想法

Wednesday, June 1 2022
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting
<https://bit.ly/RedmondPARCC1>

2000+
**COMMUNITY MEMBERS
PARTICIPATED IN PARCC PLAN**



1. CINCO DE MAYO TABLING

In-person engagement at community events offered the opportunity to meet people with language services.

2. YARD SIGNS AT PARKS & TRAILS

Signs in parks, community centers, local businesses, and along trails announced opportunities to provide feedback to the PARCC Plan.

3. VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

COVID-sensitive engagement included a virtual public meeting and a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting.

4. FESTIVAL OF COLORS TABLING

Additional direct outreach via tabling and displays occurred at several events during summer 2022.

5. SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

Social media posts in four languages encouraged participation at meetings and throughout the process.

Major survey findings are noted below, and the complete survey summary is provided in Appendix D.

Major Findings from Survey

- Residents visit parks frequently, with more than 88% of respondents visiting parks and open space at least a few times per month. More than two in three visit at least once a week (70%).
- A large majority respondents indicated that they are very or somewhat satisfied with the City's parks (90%) and its trails and pathways (90.5%).
- Respondents gave high marks to the condition of Redmond's community parks (86%).
- The most popular amenities used during visits are trails for walking, running, hiking, biking or riding horses (95%), followed by relaxation, visiting nature and meditation (85%).
- Respondents ranked as their top three priorities: Maintaining existing parks and amenities to extend their useful life (1st), Expanding trail opportunities (2nd), and adding new amenities or features within existing parks (3rd).

Open House Meetings

The City hosted two public meetings. The first was a virtual open house held on June 1, 2022. The second was a hybrid virtual and in-person open house on October 5, 2022. Each meeting included a presentation overview of the PARCC Plan process, survey highlights, and topic-specific content for parks, trails, and recreation needs. Polling questions and Q&A sessions punctuated the presentation to gather feedback and engage with attendees. Meeting summaries are provided in Appendix E and F.

Focus Group Discussions

Online focus group discussions with external stakeholder were conducted to assess local needs and opportunities for enhancements and coordination. Stakeholders were selected based on their past or future interest and involvement in the recreation, park, sport or trail facilities. The group-based discussion sessions were conducted via Zoom and occurred between May and July 2022. Summary meeting notes from each focus group session are provided in Appendix G. The stakeholder focus groups sessions were organized by topic areas: trails, recreation programs, and arts and culture interests.



ADDING WALKING & BIKING TRAILS

90% support adding more trails

PROVIDE POOL OR BEACH ACCESS

59% indicate more swimming pool or beach access is needed



PROVIDE MORE & INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUNDS

76% support installing inclusive play equipment

ADD PICNIC SHELTERS

73% support installing additional picnic shelters



PROVIDE MORE COMMUNITY GARDENS

56% indicate more garden space is needed

PROVIDE RIVER OR LAKE ACCESS

80% indicate more water access is needed



Event Tabling

A series of City staff led tabling events at community events, parks, local markets, and gathering areas . occurred between May and August to build awareness of the PARCC Plan and share information about the project. Tabling was held at the following venues:

- Cinco de Mayo
- Festival of Colors
- Derby Days
- European Deli & Produce
- Sammamish Trail
- Grass Lawn Park
- Idylwood Park
- Downtown Park and Signals Art Installation
- Redmond Central Connector by Overlake Christian Church



“ Maybe it will be useful to add some kind of canopy/gazebo/shelter to open space sites. It will protect from rain in winter and from too bright sun in summer. Maybe it is worth adding restrooms and drinking water fountain.”

Survey respondent

“ En caso de haber algún evento hacerle mas publicidad ya que generalmente nos enteramos solo si pasamos y vemos algo (Need more publicity for events. We generally only find out about events if we are passing by and notice something is going on.)”

Survey respondent

Commission & Council Meetings

The Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission provided feedback on the development of the PARCC Plan during eight regularly scheduled sessions. The first session occurred on February 3rd, shortly after the planning project was initiated. The Commission discussed the overall planning process and provided their perspectives on a vision for the system, specific challenges, opportunities and ideas about parks, trails and programs. Subsequent sessions occurred throughout 2022 to solicit direction from the Commission on priorities and recommendations for the new PARCC Plan. Additionally, City Council was kept abreast of the PARCC Plan through multiple

study sessions and committee reports, which led to the review and discussion of the final draft PARCC Plan in early 2023.

Other Outreach

In addition to the direct outreach opportunities described above, the Redmond community was informed about the planning process through a variety of media platforms. These methods included the city website, Let's Connect Redmond online platform, social media postings, utility bill insert, and emails, among others.

The PARCC Plan provides recommendations on how to best accommodate future changes in Redmond and implement the priorities expressed by the community.

“ More connections, more interim trails until final development funds available. More protected bike lanes and sidewalk. More diversity of amenities for adults and young adults. Clustered pickleball courts with lights. Shakespeare in the park and other free performances at parks.”

Public meeting attendee

3

Where We Are Now

Redmond has a rich and robust system of parks, trails, and community centers serving a growing and changing community. Understanding recreational trends and the interests of the public is key to assessing how the Redmond community is served by today's recreation infrastructure and the future demands placed on the park system.

This chapter provides a snapshot of levels of service and begins to frame some of the common interests from the public for future improvements. Detailed discussions for each of the Park and Recreation Department's major focus areas follow as separate sections:

- 3A – Parks & Centers
- 3B – Recreation Programming
- 3C – Arts, Culture & Events
- 3D – Trails
- 3E – Conservation
- 3F – Operations & Maintenance





1,350+
ACRES OF PUBLIC
PARKLAND



38%
TREE CANOPY COVERAGE



500/280
SUMMER CAMPS / ADULT
SPORT TEAMS



50,000
ANNUAL ATTENDEES TO
REDMOND EVENTS



20,000
ANNUAL HOURS OF
PROGRAM USAGE



COMMON THEMES FROM COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Each section will review the community insights that were relevant to that topic. In addition to these topic specific insights, the community feedback from the survey, public meetings, and stakeholder focus group discussions, some overarching core themes and interests emerged.

Continue to Build System & Expand Recreational Opportunities

- Build new parks on undeveloped, city-owned parkland to add capacity for additional recreation amenities and accommodate population growth.
- Maintaining existing parks and open spaces remains a key priority.
- Improve recreation program access through the operation of the new Redmond Senior & Community Center, and continue to plan for renovated or new indoor facility space.
- Provide intergenerational activities and cultural events to bring the community together and display its diversity.
- Expand water access opportunities through shore launches for hand-carried watercraft, programming, and concessions.
- Continue investments in the expansion and maintenance of the City's trail system – both paved and soft-surface trails. This includes investments in pedestrian and bicyclist access and safety improvements (e.g., sidewalks, crossings, bike lanes, etc.), as well as mapping, wayfinding signage, and etiquette communications.
- Provide more recreational options in the park system that include multi-use facilities for pickleball, community gardens, off-leash dog areas, and sport-specific facilities, such as fields for cricket and rugby.
- Improve the diversity and number of playground experiences and install all-inclusive play options.
- Continue to provide and expand public art, performances, and community events.

Convenience & Support Amenities

- Upgrade and expand access to plaza seating, picnic areas, restrooms, flexible space, and parking.
- Improve the user experience and familiarity with the park and trail system through wayfinding, maps, and communication (e.g., social media, website, signage, etc.).



OPERATIONAL & SERVICE CHALLENGES DUE TO COVID-19

While each of the subsequent chapters addressing the Department's major focus areas include information about current trends in recreation, the COVID-19 pandemic created and highlighted unique challenges for municipal park and recreation agencies.

A statewide survey of 227 Washington park and recreation agencies was conducted in the second half of 2020, with a focus on service demand and operational challenges, both preceding and as a result of COVID-19. The project was a collaboration between the Washington Recreation & Park Association, the Washington State Association of Counties, the Association of Washington Cities, and Metro Parks Tacoma.

In a question that asked the agency about how stable its outlook is for 2020 pre- and during COVID-19, the percentage of agencies that stated their outlook as very strong and stable decreased by 25 points, with 27.8% indicating as very stable at the beginning of the year to 2.8% indicating as very stable by August 1, 2020. Similarly, agencies that felt moderately or significantly underfunded and unstable rose from 5.5% to 50% by August 1, 2020. Also, significant majorities of agencies indicated service delivery impacts due to the COVID-19 pandemic in the following ways:

- Reduced ability to manage, maintain, operate, and secure passive parks to safety standards and control access (87%).
- Cancellation of special events and tourism campaigns that support local employment and drives the local economy (87%).

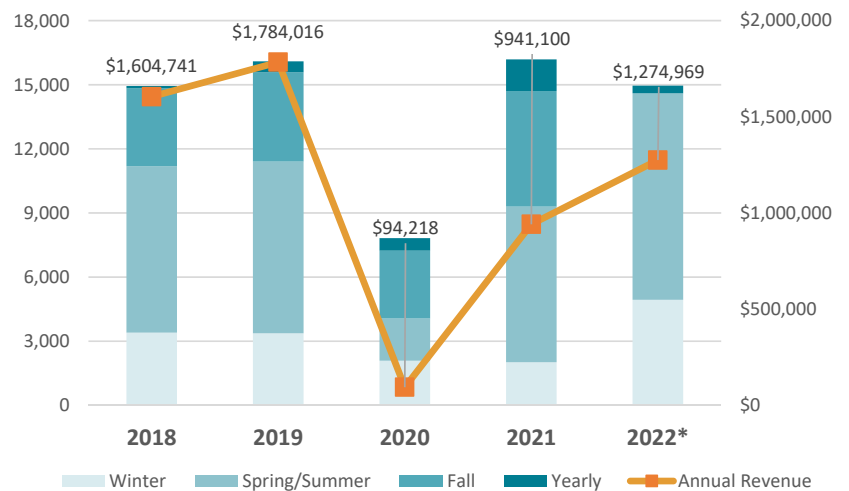
- Inability to operate critical community programs, pools, attractions, and facilities, including services for vulnerable populations (81%).
- Lack of ability to hire or maintain seasonal employees & offer programs or services allowable under Safe Start (74%).
- Addressing public use and behaviors that put the community at risk, such as tearing down caution tape, and using amenities (85%).

While many of the restrictions of the pandemic have been removed or lessened, the impacts of the pandemic are still being felt by park and recreation agencies in the form of staff shortages, reduced program revenues, and the need to balance and accommodate in-person and virtual program experiences.

Returning to Normal: Nearly 11,000 hours of sport fields were rented in 2022 (through July), which exceeds 2019 pre-pandemic data.



Figure 4. Annual Program Registrations by Season



Even with partial year data for 2022, the City has returned to pre-pandemic participation in recreation programs, with an improving program revenue outlook.

LEVELS OF SERVICE SNAPSHOT

Many jurisdictions are developing guidelines that are customized to their community and its unique and often changing park and recreation demands, rather than solely applying the historic National Recreation and Park Association's (NRPA) published park guidelines that primarily focused on parkland acreage per capita. The use and application of standards continues to evolve and develop diverse approaches. This Plan evaluates the City's current parkland level of service through a variety of characteristics, including acreage per capita (Figure 5), as a snapshot in time and as a means to describe the performance of the park system. These current measures and future projections also help plan for accommodating Redmond's growing population.

The NRPA conducts annual surveys to generate a Park Metrics database that reflects the current levels of service of park agencies across the country based on a variety of factors, such as population size, population density, number of full-time equivalent employees, number of park facilities, acres of parkland, and more. The Park Metrics survey data are used to compare different park and recreation providers in widely different communities across the country; however, the Park Metrics database relies on self-reporting by municipalities. Some agencies only include developed, active-use parks, while others include natural lands with

limited or no improvements, amenities, or access. The comparative standards in the table below should be viewed with this variability in mind.

A few highlights from the NRPA agency comparison provide perspectives on Redmond's park system. Figure 6 compares jurisdictional populations served by park and recreation agencies against certain performance metrics. The number of residents per park and acres of parkland per 1,000 residents implicate the potential

wear and tear on park facilities. Compared with similar population sizes, Redmond provides considerably more parkland acreage (18.4 acres, including open space) per 1,000 residents. Comparing just developed park properties, the City has 15.9 acres per 1,000 residents. Looking at the numbers of residents per playground, Redmond has fewer playgrounds (at 5,685 residents per playground) than similar-sized jurisdictions (at 3,807 residents per playground).

Figure 5. Existing & Projected Levels of Service by Park Classification

Type	Current Inventory	Existing Level of Service (2022)	Projected Level of Service (2050)
Community Parks	256.1 acres	3.5 ac./1000	2.2 ac./1000
Neighborhood Parks	103.1 acres	1.4 ac./1000	0.9 ac./1000
Urban Parks	12.4 acres	0.2 ac./1000	0.1 ac./1000
Plazas & Pocket Parks	0.6 acres	0.0 ac./1000	0.0 ac./1000
Natural Resource Parks	913.6 acres	12.4 ac./1000	7.9 ac./1000
	1,285.8 acres	17.4 ac./1000	11.2 ac./1000

Figure 6. Service Levels Comparing Park Metric (NRPA) Data

Metric	All Agencies	Median Value	
		Pop. Range 50,000- 99,999	Redmond (pop = 73,910)
Residents per Park	2,323	2,516	1,607
Acres of Parkland per 1,000 population	10.4	9.2	18.4
Miles of Trails*	14	14	39
Number of Residents per Playground	3,750	3,807	5,685
Number of Residents per Recreation Center**	31,239	40,817	49,273

* Includes King County managed trails in Redmond

** Assumes 1.5 recreation centers, including RCC at Marymoor Village and half credit for Old Redmond Schoolhouse

Figure 7. Service Levels Comparing Park Metric (NRPA) Data to Redmond for Various Amenities

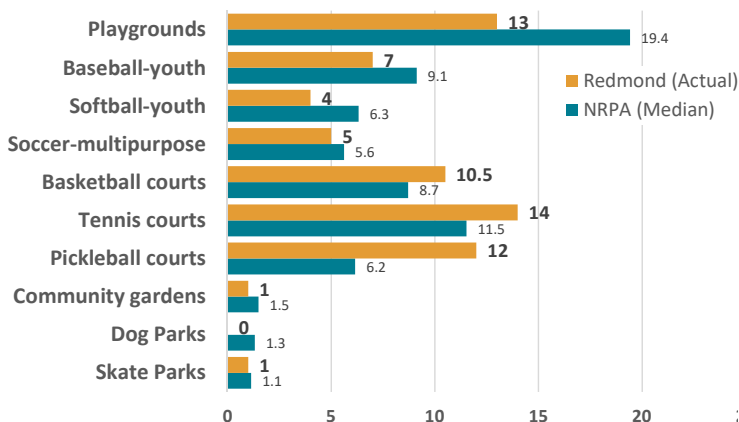


Figure 7 to the left compares Redmond against national averages. In all, Redmond is tracking pretty well, but it is below the average for playgrounds, off-leash dog parks, and baseball/softball fields.

The use of numeric standards is a blunt and limited tool to assess how well the City is delivering park and recreation services, since the numeric values alone neglect any recognition for the quality of the facilities or their distribution (i.e., the ease to which residents have reasonable, proximate access to park sites). While public ownership of a broad range of recreation lands is crucial to the well-being of the City, the simple use of an overall acreage standard does not match with the citizen input received during this planning process. Residents were particularly interested in the availability of trails, parks, natural areas, and community centers within a reasonable distance from their homes. The Redmond City Council is similarly interested in creating '10-minute communities' where daily needs and services, including parks, are within a 10 minute walk (or ½ mile) of most residents.

The City’s park system also was assessed using Washington Recreation and Conservation Office’s (RCO) level of service metrics provided in their planning manual. In reviewing the park system as a whole, Figure 8 illustrates the current levels of service across different performance measurements. From the community survey results, public satisfaction of the facilities and amenities that Redmond provides ranked as the strongest indicator for the park system. Future development of several City parks (currently undeveloped) will further improve the distribution rating noted in the figure.

Four methods of assessing the park system are: assessing physical conditions within each park facility; mapping distribution of existing parks; measurements of park acreage; and comparing park amenities. To refine the access and equity of a park system even further, a look at the types and quantities of outdoor recreation offerings generates additional considerations. Comparing size and amenities in each park helps weigh the need for enhancing existing park sites, in addition to adding new parks. Each existing park offers a variety of recreational amenities and does not offer equal values in outdoor recreation. Parks with less land and fewer amenities should be considered as targets for expansion through adjacent land acquisition or, at least, enhancement with additional amenities.

Figure 8. Levels of Service (LOS) with RCO Metrics (System-wide)

Quality Criteria		
Public Satisfaction		
Satisfaction of City Parks (rated as Very or Somewhat Satisfied)		90.1%
LOS Grade		A
Satisfaction of City Trails (rated as Very or Somewhat Satisfied)		90.5%
LOS Grade		A
Public Sentiment on Condition		
Condition of City Parks (rated as Excellent or Good)		72.4%
LOS Grade		B
Condition of Natural Resource Parks (rated as Excellent or Good)		63.2%
LOS Grade		C
Condition of Trails in Parks (rated as Excellent or Good)		76.5%
LOS Grade		B
Agency-based Assessment		
Condition Assessment Rating of Existing Parks (3-point scale)		1.20
LOS Grade		B
Distribution Criteria		
Parkland Access (within 1/2-mile travelshed)		
Percent Service Area with Access to Developed Park		54.0%
LOS Grade		C
Parkland Access (within 1/2-mile travelshed)		
Percent Service Area with Access to Developed & Future Park		64.0%
LOS Grade		B
Trail System Access (within 1/2-mile travelshed)		
Percent Service Area with Access to Recreational Trails		70.0%
LOS Grade		B
Usage / Visitation Criteria		
Frequency of Park or Trail Usage		
Percent Visiting Parks at Least Multiple Times per Month		88.1%
LOS Grade		A
SCALE: Excellent Good Fair Limited Poor		

* Note: The percentage of land area covered by service area walksheds is a proxy for the population within the residential portion of the City.

The City also should consider other factors for serving the current and future population of Redmond, such as park pressure, or the potential user demand on a park, acknowledging that residents are most likely to use the park closest to their home. The concept of park pressure uses GIS analysis to assess the population density of City neighborhoods compared to existing parkland. Areas with lower levels of service are more likely to be underserved by parkland and to see higher degrees of use and wear and tear on park amenities.

Utilizing the transportation analysis zone (TAZ) data compiled for Redmond 2050, the existing and projected population density by Redmond neighborhood was

calculated, then divided by the existing parkland acreage per neighborhood. Figure 9 shows that Downtown and Overlake will experience significant increases in population density by 2050, which will also increase the pressure on existing parks in those neighborhoods. Also, North Redmond currently has a high level of population density per park acre, which is borne out in the geographic distribution analysis noted in Chapter 3A. These three neighborhoods, in particular, will require special attention for acquisitions and partnerships into the future.

“As we live in Southeast of Redmond, it would be nice to have a park/playground here as well or at least kid and stroller friendly paths connecting the existing parks and trails (connection with Perrigo park, stroller friendly street crossing to Lk Sammamish trail).”

-Survey respondent

Figure 9. Park Pressure by Neighborhood (2018 & 2050)

Neighborhood	Area (sq.mi.)	Parkland (ac.)	Population Density (Households)		Population Density per Park Acre	
			2018	2050	2018	2050
Bear Creek / SE Redmond	3	89	1,352	2,895	15	32
Downtown	1	91	5,306	8,992	58	98
Education Hill	2	67	2,052	2,625	31	39
Grass Lawn	1	33	2,682	3,058	81	92
Idylwood	1	34	2,128	2,128	63	63
North Redmond	2	10	1,205	1,219	121	123
Overlake	2	32	1,672	4,442	52	137
Sammamish Valley / Willows / Rose Hill	3	68	786	1,727	12	25
Citywide	16	425	1,811	3,039	4	7

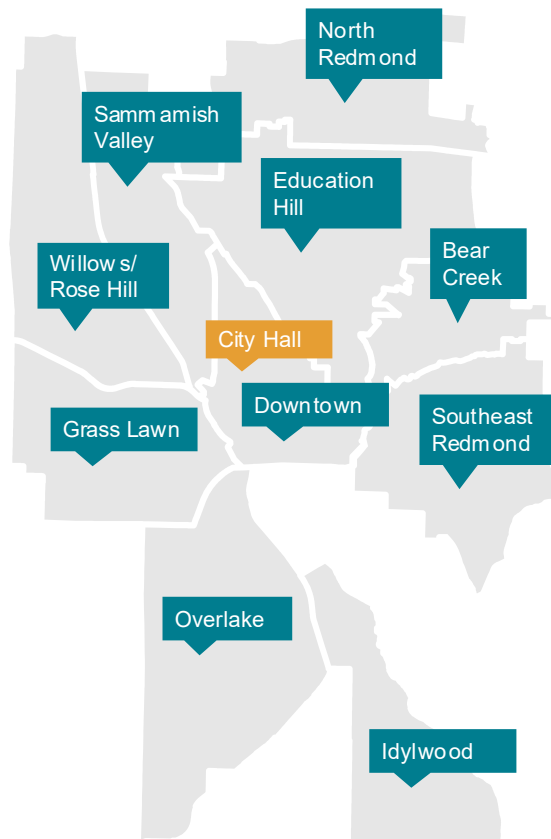


Figure 10. Travelshed Analysis for City Parks

54%
HOUSEHOLDS
WITHIN ½-MILE OF
DEVELOPED CITY PARK

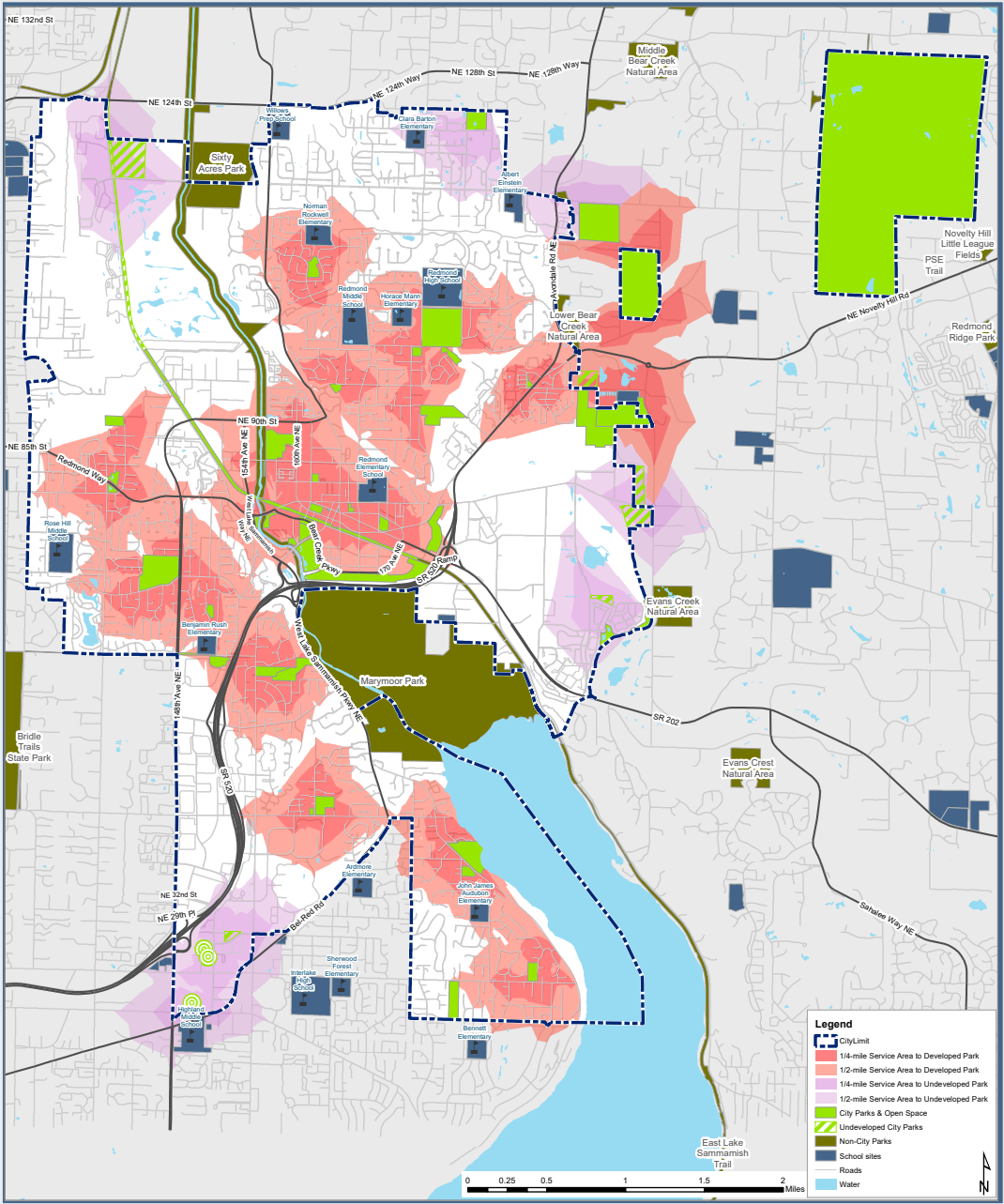
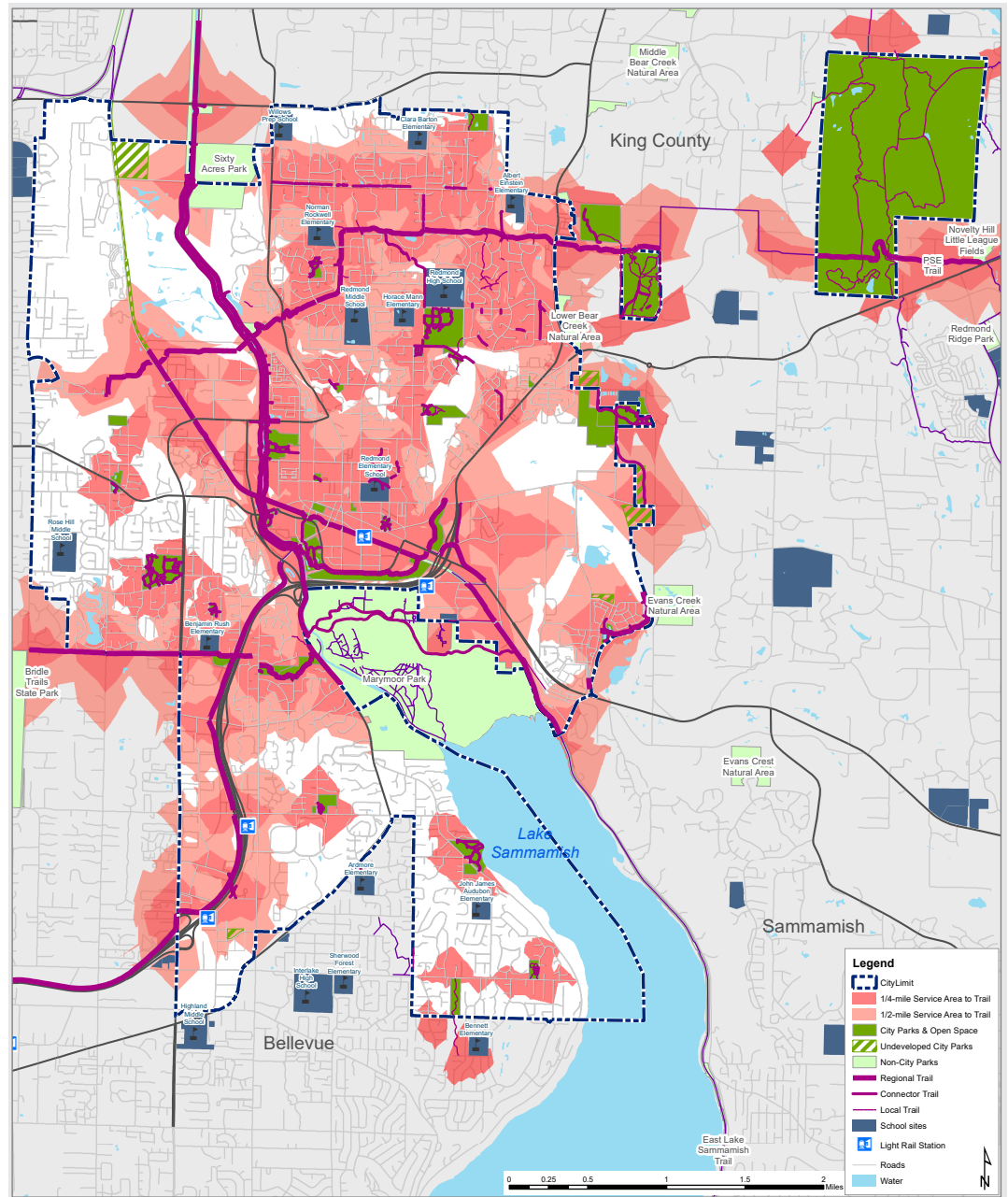


Figure 11. Travelshed Analysis for City Trails

70%
HOUSEHOLDS
WITHIN ½-MILE OF
TRAIL ACCESS

As with roadway system and transportation planning, planning for recreational trails should be geared toward connectivity, rather than mileage. Applying a mileage standard for trails within the Redmond park system would provide only an isolated and inadequate assessment of need for the community and its plans for better connectivity. As such, this Plan recommends a connectivity goal that restates and reinforces the desire to improve overall connections across the City and enhance off-street linkages between parks and major destinations, as feasible.



A photograph of a child in a blue jacket jumping over a log obstacle on a playground. In the background, there is a wooden climbing structure and a swing set. The title '3A Parks & Community Centers' is overlaid on the right side of the image.

3A

Parks & Community Centers

The PARCC Plan process assesses recreational needs and priorities for park facilities, active use areas, and trails in Redmond. The assessment includes a discussion of specific local needs and public input and information on park inventory conditions were heavily relied upon in the planning process. By considering the location, size, and the number of park facilities by type and use, along with community interests and priorities, the PARCC Plan evaluates the existing and future demand for park and recreation amenities and provides recommendations for future initiatives. The six-year Capital Improvements Plan detailed in Chapter 5, which identifies and prioritizes crucial upgrades, improvements, and expansions, is based on the needs assessment and the recreational interests expressed by residents.

The recreational interests of the Redmond community were captured in the survey and compared to regional, state and national trend data. Local support for and interest in trails for walking and biking, recreation programs and facilities, water access opportunities, and cultural arts align with recreation participation data from multiple sources.

Parks & Recreation Trends

Various resources have been reviewed and summarized to provide an overview of current trends, market demands, and agency comparisons in the provision of parks and recreation services. This information is helpful when balanced with local insights and feedback from the community in guiding future initiatives.

The following national and state data highlights some of the current park use trends and may frame future considerations for Redmond's park system. Additional trend data and summaries are provided in Appendix I.

- 90% of U.S. adults believe that parks and recreation is an important service provided by their local governments. ⁽¹⁾
- 84% of U.S. adults seek high-quality parks and recreation when choosing a place to live. ⁽¹⁾
- Running, jogging, and trail running are the most popular outdoor activities across the nation, based on levels of participation, followed by hiking, fishing, biking, and camping. ⁽²⁾
- Walking ranked as the top activity by participation rate (94%) in Washington State. ⁽³⁾
- In 2021, there were more things to do as outdoor activities thrived, fitness at home became more popular, and team sports started back up after the COVID-19 hiatus. Recreation activities that made great strides in the last several years include pickleball, indoor climbing, kayaking, trail running, and day hiking. ⁽⁴⁾

Sources:

- (1) 2022 American Engagement with Parks Survey
- (2) 2022 Outdoor Participation Report
- (3) 2018-2022 Recreation and Conservation Plan for Washington State
- (4) 2022 Sports, Fitness, and Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report

Community Insights

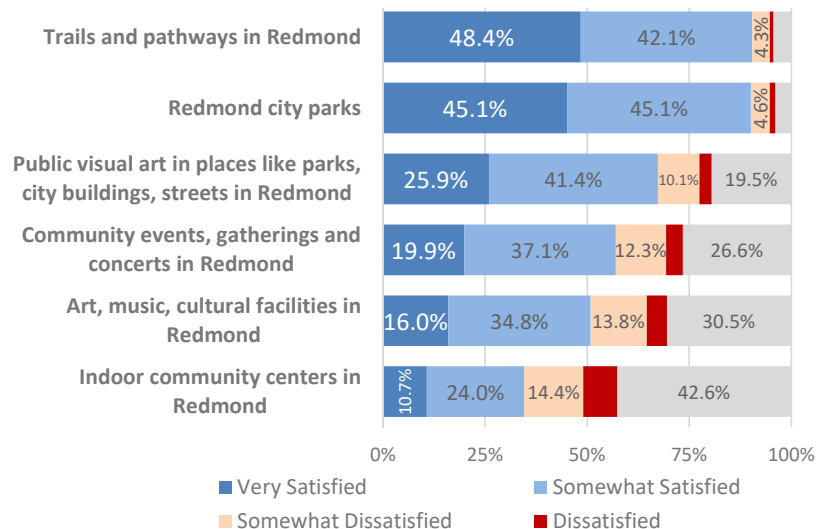
Local recreation demands and needs were explored through various community engagements (Chapter 2) to gather feedback on the strengths and limitations of existing parks and community centers available to Redmond residents. The community survey confirmed that local parks, recreation options, and open space opportunities are important or essential to the quality of life in Redmond. Respondents tend to visit frequently, with more than 88% of respondents visiting parks and open space at least a few times per month and more than two in three visit at least once a week (70%).

Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with a variety of park and recreation facility types on a scale from very satisfied to dissatisfied. A large majority of respondents indicated that they are very or somewhat satisfied with the City's parks (90%) and its trails and pathways (90.5%). Indoor community centers received the lowest ratings, with 23% of respondents rating satisfaction as either somewhat dissatisfied or dissatisfied. Approximately 43% of respondents did not rate satisfaction toward indoor community centers.



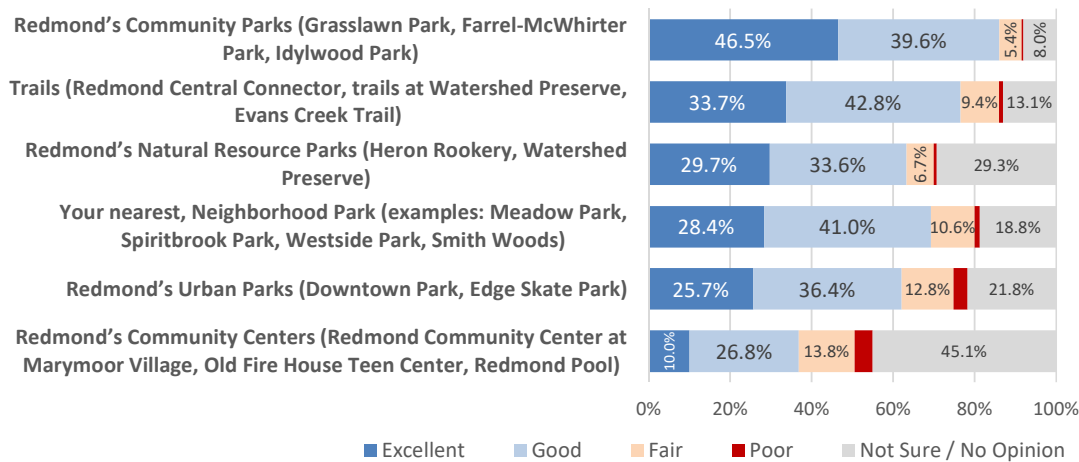
**VISIT PARKS AND
OPEN SPACE AT
LEAST A FEW TIMES
PER MONTH**

Figure 12. Satisfaction with City Park and Recreation Facilities



Respondents also were asked to rate the condition of a variety of park and recreation facilities. Respondents gave overwhelming high marks to the condition of Redmond's community parks (86%). Strong majorities of respondents also rated the condition of many other facility types as either excellent or good: trails (77%), their nearest neighborhood park (69%), natural resource parks (63%), and urban parks (62%).

Figure 13. Sentiment of Condition of Park & Recreation Facilities

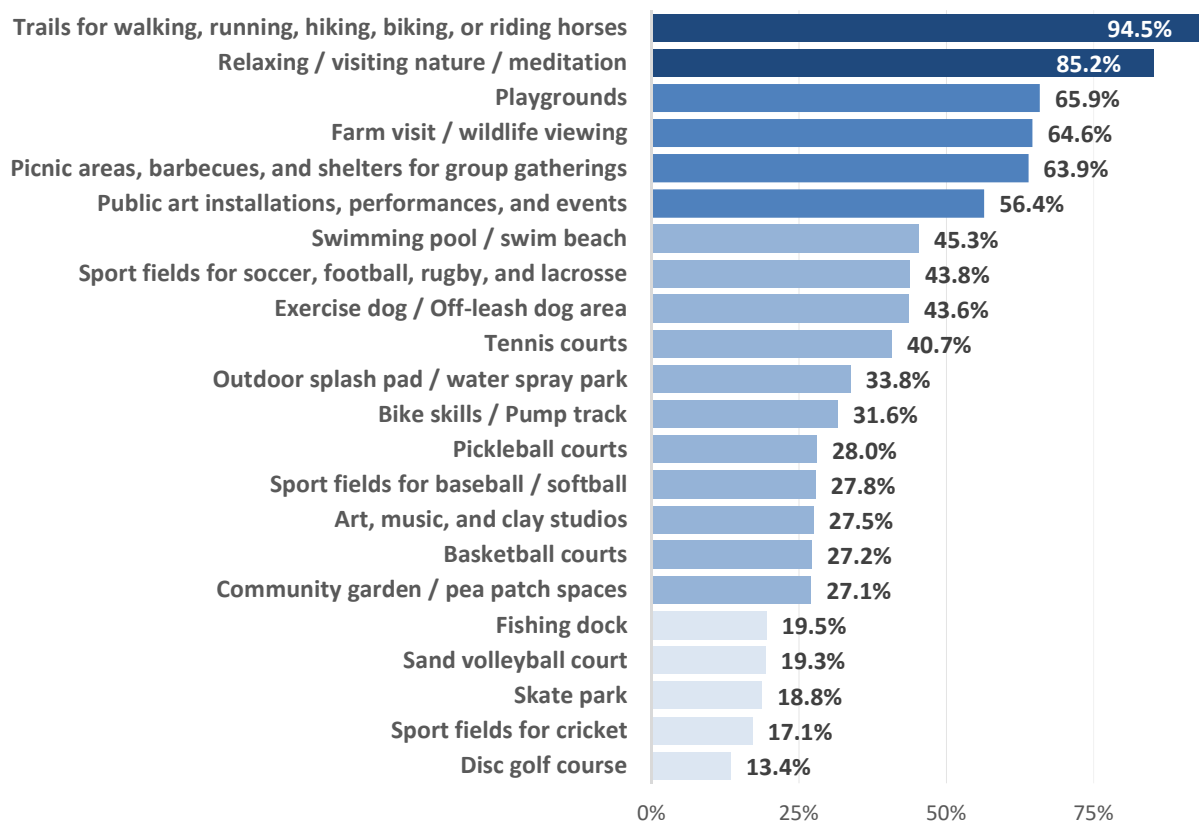


As with the question on overall satisfaction about recreation facilities, respondents also rated the condition of the City's community centers more poorly than other facility types, with 37% rating community centers as excellent or good. Approximately 45% of respondents did not rate community centers and indicated a response of 'not sure' or 'no opinion'.

Respondents visit local parks and recreation facilities for a variety of reasons. The most popular amenities used during visits are trails for walking, running, hiking, biking, or riding horses (95%), followed by relaxation,

visiting nature and meditation (85%). Majorities of respondents visit park and open space for playgrounds (66%), the farm or wildlife viewing (65%), picnic areas (64%) and public art installations, performances or events (56%). Approximately one in three respondents visited for swimming (45%), sport fields (44%), exercising a dog (44%), tennis courts (34%), and splash pad (32%). Relating to statewide and national trend statistics, the popularity of walking and running have consistently ranked as top outdoor activities – in alignment with Redmond's survey responses.

Figure 14. Main Reasons For Visiting Local Parks and Recreation Facilities



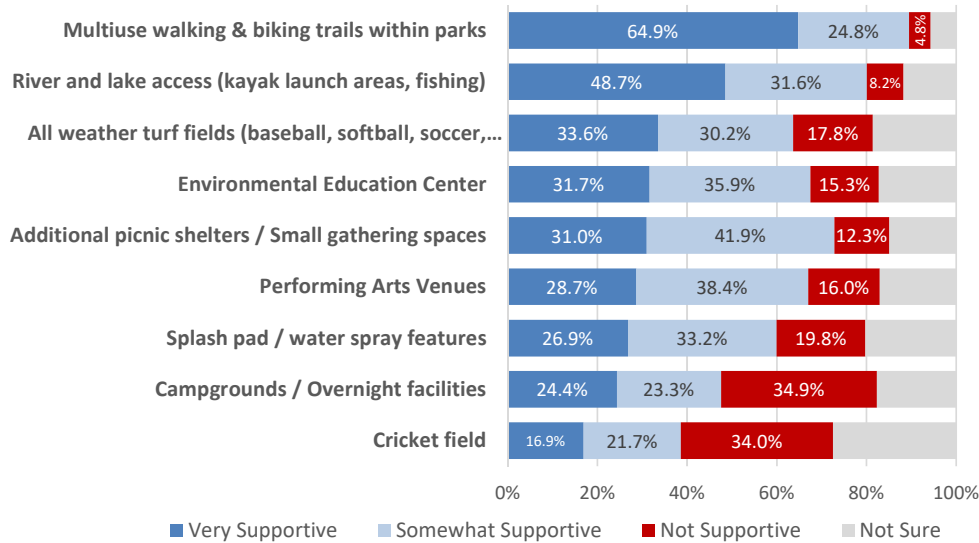
The survey asked residents a pair of questions regarding their level of support for a variety of amenities and facilities that could be added to the park system, with listed options segmented between those that represent higher cost improvements and those that represent lower cost improvements.

When presented higher-cost potential improvements, respondents were most supportive of adding multi-use walking and biking trails and river and lake access

opportunities. Respondents were less supportive of adding campgrounds or cricket fields.

When given a list of potential low cost park amenities the City could consider adding to the park system, majorities of respondents were supportive of all options listed. They were most supportive of rewilding natural areas, tables and chairs in plazas, and all-inclusive playgrounds.

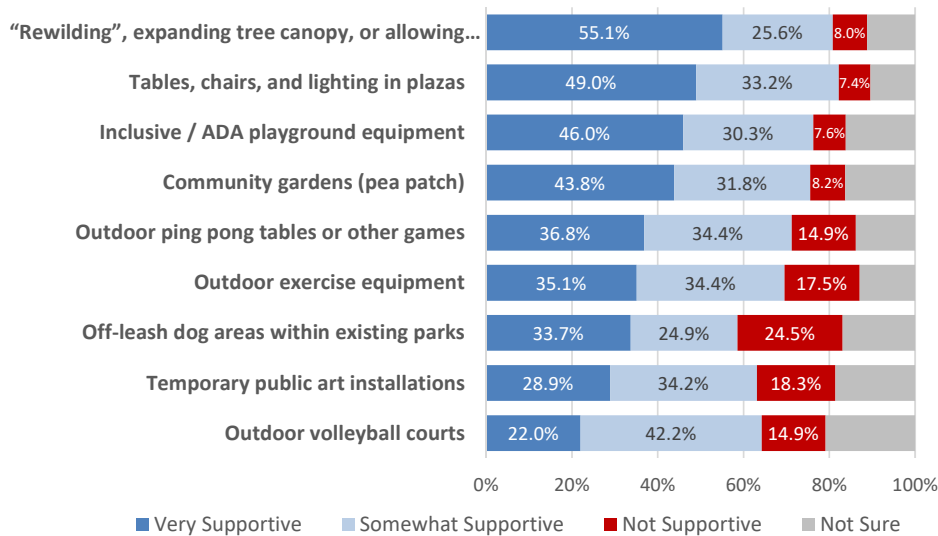
Figure 15. Priority Parks and Recreation Facilities (Higher Cost Amenities)



“летом очень жарко гулять с детьми в Downtown Park (необходимы какие-либо навесы или где можно укрыться от солнца) (In the summer, it is very hot to walk with children in Downtown Park (there should be some sort of canopy or a place to shelter from the sun))”

-Survey respondent

Figure 16. Priority Parks and Recreation Facilities (Lower Cost Amenities)

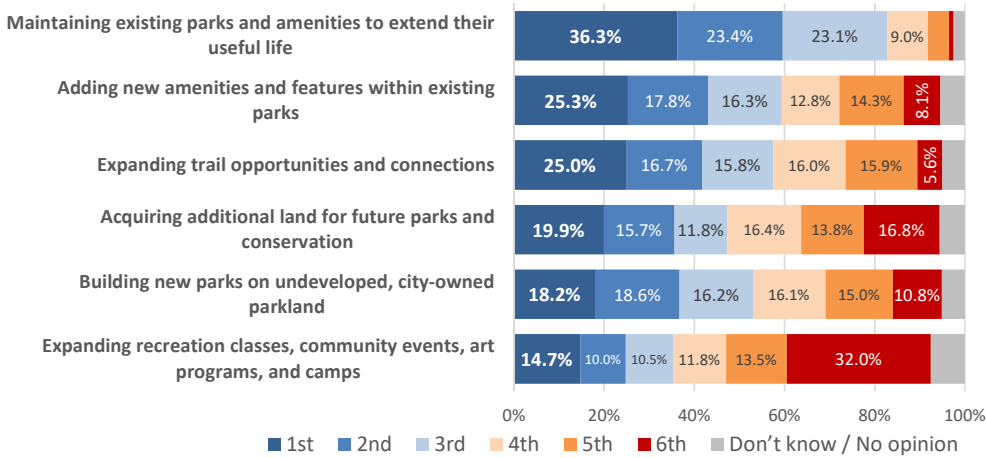


Respondents were asked to rank a list of potential recreation, park, and open space investments. Respondents to both the mail survey and online questionnaire ranked maintaining existing parks and amenities to extend their useful life as the top priority. Also, respondents to both the mail survey and online questionnaire ranked the same items as their top three priorities: maintaining existing parks, expanding trail opportunities, adding new amenities at existing parks. Mail survey respondents were more strongly supportive of maintaining existing parks, by approximately eight percentage points.

“Would like to see some covered facilities (temporary coverings) - so some activities can be enjoyed year round.”

-Survey respondent

Figure 17. Priority Ranking of Selection of Potential Investments



Park Classifications & Inventory **ZONING CODE OPEN SPACE TYPES**

Parkland is classified to assist in planning for the community's recreational needs. The classifications reflect standards that inform development decisions during site planning, additionally it informs operations and maintenance expectations for the level of developed facilities or natural lands. The Redmond park system is composed of a hierarchy of various park types, each offering recreational opportunities and natural environmental functions. Collectively, the park system is intended to serve the full range of community needs.

Each park classification defines the site's function and expected amenities and recreational uses. The classification characteristics serve as general guidelines addressing the size and use of each park type. The following eight classifications are used in Redmond's park system:

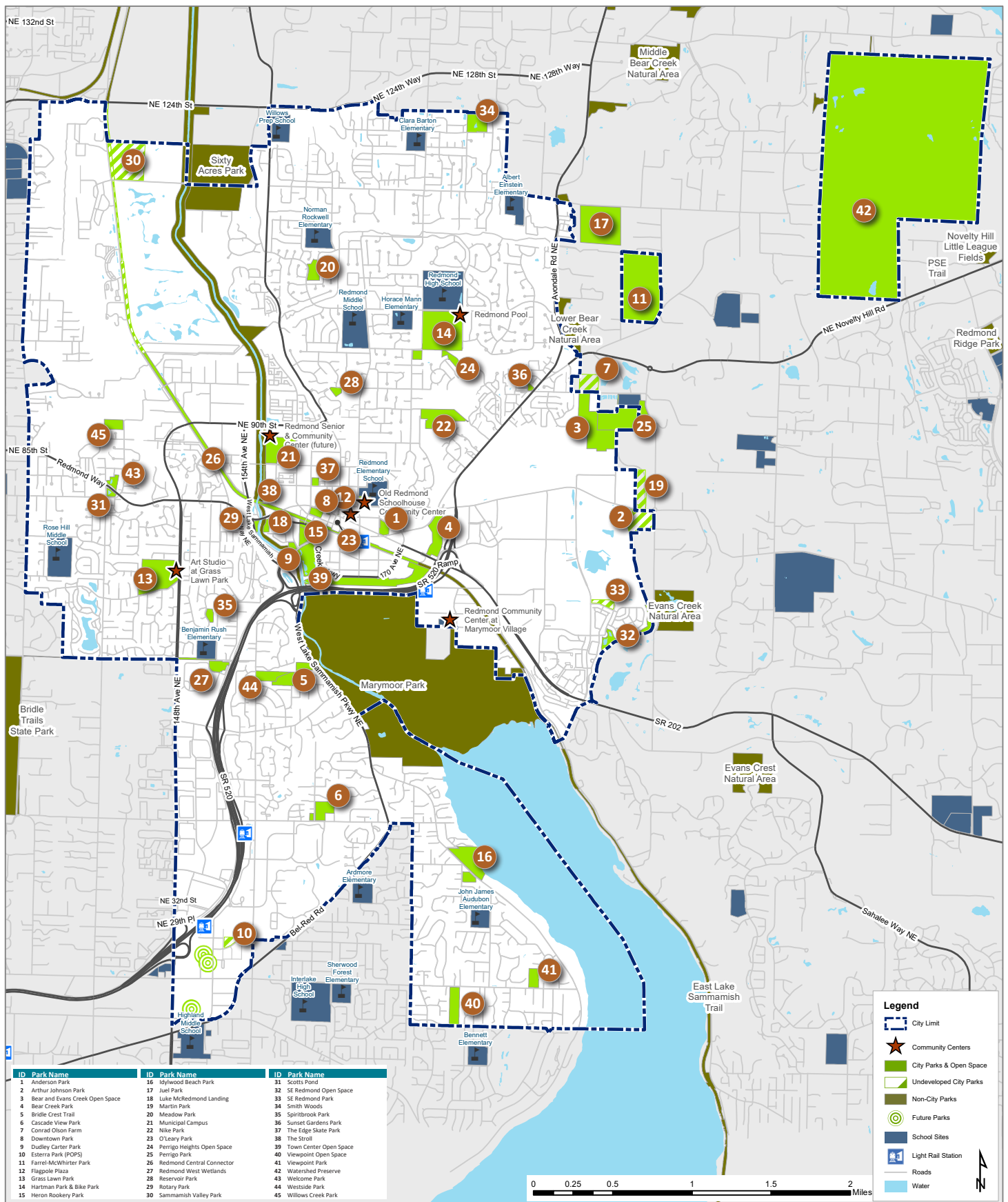
- Community Parks
- Neighborhood Parks
- Natural Resource Parks
- Urban Parks
- Plazas & Pocket Parks
- Trail Corridors
- Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS)
- Community Centers

For each park classification, the following pages include a general description of the classification, typical size range, and a list of appropriate amenities for that type of park or recreation facility. The list of amenities is not meant to be prescriptive or exhaustive. The appropriate amenities for any individual park should be determined through a regular master planning process that involves the community it is meant to serve.

The term "open space" is used in a variety of ways in the Redmond Zoning Code (21.36 Types of Open Space) and provides a hierarchy and definitions for different types of open space recognized by the City, which are:

- **Conservation Open Space:**
 - Undeveloped land and natural features worthy of preservation primarily for their scenic or aesthetic value and landscape areas.
 - Such open space may consist of, but is not limited to, wooded areas, agricultural land, open valley floors, pastures and fields.
 - Resource areas where plants, animals, water, air and soil have been left in an undisturbed state or areas of historical value.
 - Such open space may consist of, but is not limited to, Natural Resource Parks, wetlands, watercourses, rivers, lakes, ponds, flood zones, ravines, steep slopes, wooded areas, wildlife areas and nature trails.
- **Recreation Open Space:**
 - Recreation areas and facilities that meet recreation needs of City residents.
 - Such open space may provide for active or passive open space uses and may consist of, but shall not be limited to, landscaped right-of-way, buffer areas, landscape areas, parks, walkways, bikeways, para-courses, golf courses, tot-lots, recreation buildings, and outdoor activity areas, such as tennis, basketball and sport courts, and swimming pools.
- **Urban Open Space:**
 - Areas and facilities in an urban setting that provide users access to areas to relax and/or recreate.
 - These spaces may be indoors or outdoors and privately or publicly accessed.
 - Such open space may consist of, but is not limited to sitting areas, plazas, patios, balconies, roof top patios and gardens, tot-lots, dog runs, community gardens, mid-block pedestrian paths and court yards and are built of high quality materials that can withstand frequent and intense use.

While the majority of the City park lands and facilities discussed in this plan fall under the Recreation Open Space type, City parks can contain one or all three of these three types of open space as defined by the zoning code. In this plan, the term "open space" may be used interchangeably with the term park or natural area. For the most part, parklands will be referred to by their classification and status as outlined in this section.



Map 1: Existing Parks & Open Spaces

COMMUNITY PARKS



Community parks provide diverse active recreation opportunities with some passive recreation uses. Community parks generally range in size from 20 acres to 40 acres and support a more regional draw than neighborhood parks. Community parks typically include a variety of active amenities that use more than half of the park for amenities such as sport fields, sport courts, playgrounds, picnic shelters, beach facilities, equestrian facilities, educational programs, and community gardens. The remainder of the park also may contain natural habitat and trails. Support facilities typically include parking, restrooms, and lighting. Effort should be made to connect community parks with public transportation and non-motorized connections.

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☒ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☒ Beach / Water Access
- ☒ Unique Landscape Features
- ☒ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☒ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☒ Playgrounds
- ☒ Rectangular Fields
- ☒ Diamond Fields
- ☒ Basketball Courts
- ☒ Tennis / Pickleball Courts
- ☒ Volleyball Courts
- ☒ Water Play

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☒ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☒ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☒ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☒ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☒ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☒ Off-leash Areas
- ☒ Restrooms
- ☒ Parking

SIZE

20 to 40 acres

DEVELOPED PARKS

- Farrel-McWhirter Park
- Grass Lawn Park
- Hartman Park
- Idylwood Beach Park
- Perrigo Park

FUTURE PARKS

- Juel Park (Interim Use)
- Sammamish Valley Park

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS



Neighborhood parks provide space for active and/or passive recreation. These parks are accessible to nearby residents and employees primarily by walking and bicycling. Neighborhood parks vary in size up to parks that are 20 acres. They typically have fewer park amenities and organized activities than community parks. The unique character of each site helps determine appropriate features, which may include playgrounds, small-scale active recreation amenities, open fields, trails, environmental preservation areas, picnic areas, urban plazas, passive areas for reflection and gathering, and other small structures. Neighborhood parks should be easily accessible to nearby residents via non-motorized connections.

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☒ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☒ Beach / Water Access
- ☐ Unique Landscape Features
- ☒ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☐ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☒ Playgrounds
- ☐ Rectangular Fields
- ☐ Diamond Fields
- ☒ Basketball Courts
- ☒ Tennis/Pickleball Courts
- ☒ Volleyball Courts
- ☒ Water Play

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☐ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☒ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☒ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☒ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☐ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☒ Off-leash Areas
- ☐ Restrooms
- ☐ Parking

SIZE

Up to 20 acres

DEVELOPED PARKS

- Anderson Park
- Bike Park
- Cascade View Park
- Dudley Carter Park
- Luke McRedmond Landing
- Meadow Park
- Nike Park
- Reservoir Park
- Spiritbrook Park
- Sunset Gardens Park
- The Edge Skate Park
- Viewpoint Park
- Westside Park
- Willows Creek Park

FUTURE PARKS

- Arthur Johnson Park
- Conrad Olson Farm
- Martin Park
- SE Redmond Park
- Smith Woods

NATURAL RESOURCE PARKS



Natural resource parks include natural areas in City ownership that will not be developed for active recreation use. Development is typically limited to trails and interpretive and educational opportunities. Resource parks include natural attributes that may support wildlife habitat and/or environmentally critical areas that the City intends to preserve and sometimes enhance. Resource Parks can be used for temporary art installations or other low impact activations to provide connections with residents and visitors with the natural space.

SIZE

Acreage varies

EXISTING PARKS

- Bear and Evans Creek Open Space
- Bear Creek Park
- Heron Rookery Park
- Perrigo Heights Open Space
- Redmond West Wetlands
- Rotary Park
- Scotts Pond
- Town Center Open Space
- Viewpoint Open Space
- Watershed Preserve
- Welcome Park

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☒ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☒ Beach / Water Access
- ☒ Unique Landscape Features
- ☒ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☐ Biking Trails
- ☐ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☐ Creative Play Attractions
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Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
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- ☐ Park Shelters
- ☐ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☐ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☐ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☐ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☐ Off-leash Areas
- ☐ Restrooms
- ☐ Parking

URBAN PARKS



Urban parks are designed to both host community events and provide day-to-day recreation opportunities for nearby residents and businesses. Urban parks are closer in size to neighborhood parks, two acres or more in size, have significant infrastructure, and are generally built of high-quality materials that respond to more intense and frequent uses. A significant amount of consideration is taken for the design and construction of these parks compared to others due to their multi-faceted nature. Urban parks are planned and constructed in Redmond’s urban centers (Downtown, Overlake, and Marymoor Village) where the population is most concentrated. They have the capacity to host events of up to 10,000 people. Events can be accommodated on a single site or a combination of several smaller sites within close proximity to one another.

SIZE

2 to 10 acres

DEVELOPED PARKS

- Downtown Park
- Esterra Park (Privately Owned Public Space)
- Municipal Campus

FUTURE PARKS

- Seritage Parks (Privately Owned Public Space)

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☐ Community Gardens
- ☐ Internal Walking Trails
- ☐ Beach / Water Access
- ☐ Unique Landscape Features
- ☐ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☐ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☒ Playgrounds
- ☐ Rectangular Fields
- ☐ Diamond Fields
- ☐ Basketball Courts
- ☐ Tennis/Pickleball Courts
- ☐ Volleyball Courts
- ☒ Water Play

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☐ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☐ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☒ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☐ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☒ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☐ Off-leash Areas
- ☒ Restrooms
- ☐ Parking

PLAZAS & POCKET PARKS



Plazas and pocket parks are smaller spaces that provide outdoor recreation opportunities and respite within higher density areas. They are typically one acre or smaller in size. Plazas are centers of activity throughout the year and should be designed for four season programming and use. Plazas may have a lot of pedestrian traffic and should include places to sit or relax and may be primarily paved, but feature plantings and landscaping appropriate to the urban environment. They should also be well lit in order to extend their use and provide safe comfortable spaces at night. Plazas and pocket parks can be developed by the private sector, ownership may vary between public and private, and nonetheless, they are open to the public per an agreement between the City and owner.

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☒ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☐ Beach / Water Access
- ☐ Unique Landscape Features
- ☐ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☐ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☒ Playgrounds
- ☐ Rectangular Fields
- ☐ Diamond Fields
- ☐ Basketball Courts
- ☐ Tennis / Pickleball Courts
- ☐ Volleyball Courts
- ☒ Water Play

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☐ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☐ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☒ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☐ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☒ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☐ Off-leash Areas
- ☐ Restrooms
- ☐ Parking

SIZE

< 1 acre

DEVELOPED PARKS

- Flag Pole Plaza
- O'Leary Park
- The Stroll

FUTURE PARKS

- RCC Station Areas

TRAIL CORRIDORS



Trail corridors are city-owned properties in which the primary feature is a developed, public trail. These properties typically are linear in shape and relatively narrow when compared to other park properties. Trail Corridors can contain other park-like features that support the trail, such as waysides for seating, public art, and interpretive signage. In the case of the Redmond Central Connector, a portion of the Trail Corridor, referred to as “The Station,” was purposefully developed as a community gathering space and includes a plaza, public art, seating options, and extensive landscaping.

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☐ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☒ Beach / Water Access
- ☐ Unique Landscape Features
- ☒ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☒ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☐ Playgrounds
- ☐ Rectangular Fields
- ☐ Diamond Fields
- ☐ Basketball Courts
- ☐ Tennis/Pickleball Courts
- ☐ Volleyball Courts
- ☐ Water Play

SIZE

Acreage varies

DEVELOPED CORRIDORS

- Bear and Evans Creek Trail
- Bridle Crest Trail
- Redmond Central Connector
- SE Redmond Open Space

FUTURE CORRIDORS

- East Redmond Corridor
- Redmond Central Connector, Phase 3 (under construction)

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☒ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☐ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☐ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☐ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☐ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☐ Off-leash Areas
- ☒ Restrooms
- ☐ Parking

COMMUNITY CENTERS



Community Center Properties are those that support public community centers and other recreation buildings. Typically these include little to no outdoor recreation opportunities. For this plan, the acreage for these properties has been counted separately from other parks.

SIZE

Acreage varies

DEVELOPED CENTERS

- Old Firehouse Teen Center
- Old Redmond Schoolhouse
- Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village
- Redmond Pool

FUTURE CENTERS

- Redmond Senior & Community Center

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☒ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☐ Beach / Water Access
- ☐ Unique Landscape Features
- ☐ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☐ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☒ Playgrounds
- ☐ Rectangular Fields
- ☐ Diamond Fields
- ☒ Basketball Courts
- ☒ Tennis / Pickleball Courts
- ☒ Volleyball Courts
- ☒ Water Play

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☒ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☐ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☐ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☐ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☒ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☐ Off-leash Areas
- ☒ Restrooms
- ☒ Parking

PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC SPACES (POPS)



Some parks may be owned and developed by the private sector, but once completed are open to the public per an agreement between the City and owner. POPS allow for more public spaces and park amenities to be added for the enjoyment and activation of the city, usually in exchange for development incentives or as an alternative to Park Impact Fees. These spaces operate like a City of Redmond park, despite not being owned or operated by the City. Site master plans and design would be developed with input from the City and community. The City may require standards for the site, such as signage requirements, operational agreements, use agreements; permanent easement agreements, and maintenance standards.

TYPICAL AMENITIES

Passive Recreation

- ☒ Seating
- ☒ Casual Use Spaces
- ☒ Community Gardens
- ☒ Internal Walking Trails
- ☐ Beach / Water Access
- ☒ Unique Landscape Features
- ☒ Natural Spaces

Active Recreation

- ☒ Biking Trails
- ☒ Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities
- ☒ Creative Play Attractions
- ☒ Playgrounds
- ☐ Rectangular Fields
- ☐ Diamond Fields
- ☐ Basketball Courts
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- ☐ Volleyball Courts
- ☒ Water Play

Facilities

- ☒ Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas
- ☒ Group Picnic Areas
- ☒ Park Shelters
- ☒ Skateparks / Bike Skills
- ☒ Splash Pads / Spray Parks
- ☐ Watercraft Launch / Docks
- ☐ Outdoor Event Spaces
- ☐ Off-leash Areas
- ☒ Restrooms
- ☒ Parking

SIZE

Acreage varies

DEVELOPED PARKS

- Esterra Park

FUTURE PARKS

- Seritage Parks (DaVinci Park, Gateway Park)
- LMC Marymoor
- LMC South Park/Quartera

Figure 18. Summary of Typical Amenities of City-Owned Parks by Classification

AMENITIES	COMMUNITY PARKS	NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS	RESOURCE PARKS	URBAN PARKS	PLAZA & POCKET PARKS	TRAIL CORRIDORS
Passive Recreation						
Seating	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Casual Use Spaces	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Community Gardens	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Internal Walking Trails	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Beach / Water Access	✓	✓	✓			✓
Unique Landscape Features	✓		✓			
Natural Spaces	✓	✓	✓			✓
Active Recreation						
Biking Trails	✓					✓
Outdoor Fitness / Exercise Facilities	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Creative Play Attractions	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Playgrounds	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Rectangular Fields	✓					
Diamond Fields	✓					
Basketball Courts	✓	✓				
Tennis / Pickleball Courts	✓	✓				
Volleyball Courts	✓	✓				
Water Play	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Facilities						
Individual Picnic / Sitting Areas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Group Picnic Areas	✓					✓
Park Shelters	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Skateparks / Bike Skills	✓	✓				
Splash Pads / Spray Parks	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Watercraft Launch / Docks	✓	✓				
Outdoor Event Spaces	✓			✓	✓	
Off-leash Areas	✓	✓				
Restrooms	✓			✓		✓
Parking	✓					

The following inventory identifies the recreational assets within Redmond. The City provides over 1,350 acres of public parkland distributed among 52 parks, centers and natural area properties.

Figure 19. City-owned Parks & Natural Areas by Classification

Name	Classification	Status	Neighborhood	Acreage
Farrel-McWhirter Park	Community	Developed	N/A - King County	67.7
Grass Lawn Park	Community	Developed	Grass Lawn	28.4
Hartman Park	Community	Developed	Education Hill	39.6
Idylwood Beach Park	Community	Developed	Idylwood	19.2
Juel Park	Community	Interim Use	N/A - King County	38.3
Perrigo Park	Community	Developed	Bear Creek	29.8
Sammamish Valley Park	Community	Undeveloped	Sammamish Valley	31.0
Subtotal				254.0
Anderson Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Downtown	3.0
Arthur Johnson Park	Neighborhood	Undeveloped	Southeast Redmond	15.4
Bike Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Education Hill	2.5
Cascade View Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Overlake	8.0
Conrad Olson Farm	Neighborhood	Undeveloped	N/A - King County	8.4
Dudley Carter Park	Neighborhood	Interim Use	Downtown	1.2
The Edge Skate Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Downtown	1.5
Luke McRedmond Landing	Neighborhood	Developed	Downtown	2.1
Martin Park	Neighborhood	Developed	N/A - King County	10.0
Meadow Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Education Hill	5.0
Nike Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Education Hill	14.9
Reservoir Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Education Hill	1.9
SE Redmond Park	Neighborhood	Undeveloped	Southeast Redmond	3.2
Smith Woods	Neighborhood	Interim Use	North Redmond	9.9
Spiritbrook Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Grass Lawn	2.0
Sunset Gardens Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Bear Creek	1.0
Viewpoint Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Idylwood	4.8
Westside Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Overlake	6.4
Willows Creek Park	Neighborhood	Developed	Willows/Rose Hill	4.7
Subtotal				105.6
Downtown Park	Urban	Developed	Downtown	2.1
Esterra Park (POPS)	Urban	Developed	Overlake	2.7
Municipal Campus	Urban	Developed	Downtown	7.6
Subtotal				12.4
Bear and Evans Creek Open Space	Resource	Developed	Bear Creek	29.2
Bear Creek Park	Resource	Developed	Downtown	11.1
Heron Rookery Park	Resource	Developed	Downtown	4.6
Perrigo Heights Open Space	Resource	Developed	Education Hill	3.3
Redmond West Wetlands	Resource	Developed	Overlake	4.4
Rotary Park	Resource	Undeveloped	Downtown	1.0
Scotts Pond	Resource	Developed	Grass Lawn	1.4
Town Center Open Space	Resource	Developed	Downtown	40.9
Viewpoint Open Space	Resource	Developed	Idylwood	9.6
Watershed Preserve	Resource	Developed	N/A - King County	805.5
Welcome Park	Resource	Developed	Willows/Rose Hill	2.6
Subtotal				913.6
Flagpole Plaza	Plaza & Pocket Park	Developed	Downtown	0.1
O'Leary Park	Plaza & Pocket Park	Developed	Downtown	0.1
The Stroll	Plaza & Pocket Park	Developed	Downtown	0.4
Subtotal				0.6
Old Firehouse Teen Center	Community Center	Developed	Downtown	0.9
Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center	Community Center	Developed	Downtown	2.8
Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village	Community Center	Developed	Marymoor	3.3
Redmond Pool	Community Center	Developed	Education Hill	-
Redmond Senior and Community Center	Community Center	Under Construction	Downtown	-
Subtotal				6.9
Bridle Crest Trail	Trail Corridor	Developed	Grass Lawn	1.3
Bridle Crest Trail	Trail Corridor	Developed	Overlake	10.9
Redmond Central Connector	Trail Corridor	Developed	Downtown	12.5
Redmond Central Connector	Trail Corridor	Undeveloped	Sammamish Valley	29.9
SE Redmond Open Space	Trail Corridor	Developed	Southeast Redmond	10.9
Subtotal				65.4

TOTAL PARKS & GREENSPACE 1,358.5

Park System Conditions Assessment

The overall condition of park infrastructure and amenities is one measure of park adequacy and assurance of public safety. Proper stewardship of park infrastructure requires developing a long-term maintenance and capital plan to ensure the safety of park users that aligns with community needs and allocates limited funding resources properly.

The current conditions of the Redmond park system were assessed to identify existing site maintenance issues and opportunities for future capital improvements. The assessment included walkways, parking lots, park furniture, drainage and irrigation, lighting systems, vegetation, and other amenities. The following conditions assessment matrix (Figure 20) summarizes the results of these assessments. These inform developing project prioritization strategy for park improvements, identifying funding strategies, and updating the six-year Capital Improvements Plan.

Park infrastructure and amenities were rated based on the following scale:

1 – Good Condition: Generally, amenities in good condition offer full functionality and do not need repairs. Good facilities have playable sports surfaces and equipment, working fixtures, and fully intact safety features (railings, fences, etc.). Good facilities may have minor cosmetic defects and encourage area residents to use the park.

2 – Fair: In general, amenities in fair condition are mainly functional, but need minor or moderate repairs. Play surfaces, equipment, fixtures, and safety features that are operational and allow play, but have deficiencies or periods where they are unusable. Fair facilities remain essential amenities for the community but may slightly discourage the use of the park by residents given the current condition.

3 – Poor: In general, amenities in poor condition are largely or completely unusable. They need significant repairs to be functional. Some examples include athletic fields that are too uneven for ball games, irreparably broken features, buildings that need structural retrofitting, etc. Poor facilities discourage residents from using the park and may present safety issues if left open or operational.

Good conditions should be the goal for the management and stewardship of park facilities. Where infrastructure or amenities are rated as “fair,” strategies should be developed for repair or restoration. Park features, structures, amenities, or landscapes rated as “poor” should receive immediate attention and be prioritized for near-term maintenance, capital repairs, or a new capital project. Facilities in “poor” condition should also be evaluated and taken out of operation if they are deemed unsafe. Based on this assessment, the City’s sport courts and ADA compliance are in the greatest need of attention.

Detailed information for each park site and enhancement recommendations are noted in Appendix A for the parks visited.

“**Get things that are more cultural diverse and include everyone. Also, swings and play structures should be in each park for kids.**”

-Survey respondent

“**More and improved indoor bathrooms on trails and in parks.**”

-Survey respondent

“**Provide a kayak or canoe launch at the north end of the lake without having to carry or cart over 200 hundred yards. Idylwood park is a long walk & Sammamish added a fence to the small park across the lake so its no longer accessible.**”

-Survey respondent

“**Open more cricket fields given the overwhelming interest in the sport!**”

-Survey respondent

Figure 20. Conditions Assessment Matrix (Detailed)

Park/Site Name*	Sports Amenities					Other Recreation Amenities					Site Amenities				Park Structures					Vegetation			ADA				
	Basketball	Tennis	Pickleball	Volleyball	Soccer Fields	Ball Fields	Playgrounds	Pathways/Trails	Skate Park	Spray Pad	Waterfront/Beach/Docks	Other Rec Element	Site Furnishings	Lighting (Y/N)	Signage	Parking Areas	Public Art	Restrooms	Picnic Shelters	Amphitheater/Stage	Boat Dock/Ramp	Concession Building		Turf	Park Trees	Landscaped Beds	Natural Areas*
Park Site Average	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	1
	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anderson Park	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Arthur Johnson Park (undeveloped)	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Bear and Evans Creek Open Space	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Bear Creek Park	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2
Bridle Crest Trail	1.3	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	2
Cascade View Park	1.3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	1	2
Conrad Olson Farm (undeveloped)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Downtown Park	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	Y	1	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1
Dudley Carter Park (undeveloped)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Edge Skate Park	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	Y	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Esterra Park (undeveloped)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Farrel-McWhirter Park	1.1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	Y	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2
Flagpole Plaza	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2
Grass Lawn Park	1.1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	Y	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2
Hartman Park	1.1	1	1	-	-	1	1	2	1	-	-	1	1	Y	1	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	1
Heron Rookery Park	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Idylwood Beach Park	1.1	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	N	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	1
Juel Park (undeveloped)	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	N	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	2	2	-	1	3
Luke McRedmond Landing	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	N	1	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	1
Martin Park	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meadow Park	1.3	2	-	3	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Municipal Campus	1.1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	Y	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Nike Park	1.2	2	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
O'Leary Park	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	N	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
Perrigo Heights Open Space	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Perrigo Park	1.1	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	Y	1	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	1	1	2
Redmond Central Connector	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-
Redmond West Wetlands	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Reservoir Park	1.4	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2
Rotary Park	2.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Sammamish Valley Park (undeveloped)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scotts Pond	1.5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2
SE Redmond Open Space (undeveloped)	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
SE Redmond Park (undeveloped)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smith Woods (undeveloped)	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-
Spiritbrook Park	1.0	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
Sunset Gardens Park	1.0	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
The Stroll	1.3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Town Center Open Space	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Viewpoint Open Space	1.7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Viewpoint Park	1.3	2	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	2
Watershed Preserve	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	1
Welcome Pond (undeveloped)	1.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	N	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Westside Park	1.1	1	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	1	1
Willows Creek Park	1.3	2	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	1	N	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	2
Average	1.21	1.36	1.50	1.83	1.00	1.00	1.25	1.15	1.07	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00		1.03	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.08	1.12	1.00	1.00	1.63

*Park list does not include Community Centers

Figure 21. Conditions Assessment Matrix by Classification (Summarized)

Park Name	Neighborhood	Park Site Average	Sports Amenities	Other Recreation Amenities	Site Amenities	Park Structures	Vegetation	ADA
Community Park								
Farrel-McWhirter Park	N/A - King County	1.1	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
Grass Lawn Park	Grass Lawn	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
Hartman Park	Education Hill	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Idylwood Beach Park	Idylwood	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.0
Juel Park (undeveloped)	N/A - King County	1.6	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.7	3.0
Perrigo Park	Bear Creek	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	2.0
Sammamish Valley Park (undeveloped)	Sammamish Valley	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Neighborhood Park								
Anderson Park	Downtown	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Arthur Johnson Park (undeveloped)	Southeast Redmond	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cascade View Park	Overlake	1.3	1.5	1.0	1.0	-	1.3	2.0
Conrad Olson Farm (undeveloped)	N/A - King County	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dudley Carter Park (undeveloped)	Downtown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Edge Skate Park	Downtown	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
Luke McRedmond Landing	Downtown	1.0	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Martin Park (undeveloped)	N/A - King County	1.0	-	-	1.0	-	-	-
Meadow Park	Education Hill	1.3	2.5	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
Nike Park	Education Hill	1.2	2.0	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
Reservoir Park	Education Hill	1.4	3.0	-	1.0	-	1.0	2.0
SE Redmond Park (undeveloped)	Southeast Redmond	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Smith Woods (undeveloped)	North Redmond	1.0	-	-	-	-	1.0	-
Spiritbrook Park	Grass Lawn	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Sunset Gardens Park	Bear Creek	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Viewpoint Park	Idylwood	1.3	2.0	1.0	1.3	-	1.0	2.0
Westside Park	Overlake	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3	1.0
Willows Creek Park	Willows/Rose Hill	1.3	2.0	1.5	1.0	-	1.0	2.0
Resource Park								
Bear and Evans Creek Open Space	Bear Creek	1.0	-	-	-	-	1.0	-
Bear Creek Park	Downtown	1.0	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
Heron Rookery Park	Downtown	1.5	-	-	-	-	1.0	2.0
Perrigo Heights Open Space	Education Hill	2.0	-	-	-	-	1.0	3.0
Redmond West Wetlands	Overlake	1.7	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	3.0
Rotary Park	Downtown	2.0	-	-	1.0	-	-	3.0
Scotts Pond	Grass Lawn	1.5	-	-	-	-	1.0	2.0
Town Center Open Space	Downtown	1.0	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
Viewpoint Open Space	Idylwood	1.7	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	3.0
Watershed Preserve	N/A - King County	1.0	-	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Welcome Pond (undeveloped)	Willows/Rose Hill	1.0	-	-	-	-	1.0	-
Trail Corridor								
Bridle Crest Trail	Grass Lawn - Overlake	1.3	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	2.0
Redmond Central Connector	Downtown - Sammamish Valley	1.0	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
SE Redmond Open Space (undeveloped)	Southeast Redmond	1.0	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.0
Plazas & Pocket Parks								
Flagpole Plaza	Downtown	1.2	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	2.0
O'Leary Park	Downtown	1.2	-	2.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0
The Stroll	Downtown	1.3	-	-	1.0	-	1.0	2.0
Urban Park								
Downtown Park	Downtown	1.0	-	-	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Esterra Park (undeveloped, POPS)	Overlake	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Municipal Campus	Downtown	1.1	2.0	1.0	1.0	-	1.0	1.0

AMENITIES

Recommendations for improvement or change based on this conditions assessment are located in Chapter 5.

Play Equipment

Play equipment in parks was installed over many years, and some equipment parts are showing signs of wear, while other structures are brand new. Replacements should be based on existing conditions, as well as predicted by charting out past installation dates and planning for complete replacements when the assets have reached their expected lifespan. Play equipment was visually noted if there was a transfer platform allowing ADA access, however, this assessment was not equivalent to an equipment inspection. Play structures are scheduled for regular inspection to track safety and capture any repair needs.

Access to playground areas was not always barrier-free. Several play areas contained curbing or edging (to contain the safety surfacing) that created ADA barriers from the pathway pavement to the lower safety surfacing of the playground. These drop-off edges varied and exceeded the maximum half-inch tolerance. Additional information on the ADA accessibility of park amenities is detailed in the City's ADA Transition Plan.

Play Area Safety Surfacing

Many playground areas were surfaced in hog fuel. Periodically, an evaluation should be conducted to assess the depth of the play area safety surfacing to ensure adequate depths for the wood fiber or hog fuel. Transitioning to more accessible play surfacing will create more universal opportunities for park users (see recommendations in Chapter 5).

Sport Fields & Courts

Several pickleball and basketball courts have perimeter concrete pavement that has cracked apart from the asphalt court pavement. At Nike Park and Viewpoint Park, the cracks are widening and should be repaired to avoid tripping hazards or ADA access barriers.

The Reservoir Park tennis courts and Meadow Park pickleball courts are scheduled to be repaired, resurfaced, or replaced to extend playable conditions in the 2023/24 Biennium (see Chapter 5). The new pickleball court at Westside Park is in excellent conditions and was being well-used.

Site Furnishings

Benches, picnic tables, drinking fountains, bike racks, and trash and recycling receptacles are common site furnishings provided in public parks. There is a variation in these site furnishings that is visually diverse, not always ADA compliant, and can create a challenge for maintenance when the need occurs to repair these amenities.

Public Art Installations

Redmond's parks and trails have a number of diverse and interesting art installations that add character and uniqueness to public spaces. See Chapter 3C for more information on Redmond's Public Art and recommendations in Chapter 5.

Specialty Amenities

Redmond's park system includes several unique or specialty amenities that expand the offerings of traditional parks. The Edge Skate Park includes ramps and rails for skateboarding, biking, and scooters and hosts a graffiti wall that is open to local artist. The Redmond Bike Park has three dirt-jump trails and pump tracks for BMX and mountain bike riders of all skill levels. Juel Park has a popular 18-hole disc golf course for beginner and intermediate players. Additional, unique amenities should be considered in development or renovation of other parks to provide a diversity of amenities to meet community interests.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Pathways, Trails & Pavement

Redmond's parks have a variety of walking opportunities on different types of trail and pathways.

In situations where pavement types changes around the perimeter of sports courts, some uneven settling has create a tripping hazard. These gaps can create barriers to smooth wheelchair access. Additional information on trail system needs is provided in Chapter 3D and recommendations for improvements based on this analysis in Chapter 5.

Footbridges

Footbridges and boardwalks appear in good condition. Regular inspection of these park infrastructure elements should be scheduled. Attention also is recommended where pavement types change between wood decking and pathways pavement.

Park Structures

Community buildings, former residences, storage sheds, historic houses and cabins, concession buildings, picnic shelters, and restrooms comprise the array of the park structures situated in Redmond's parks. A thorough review of the conditions of these structures is not part of this PARCC Plan effort.

At Juel Park, currently in an interim use, the two houses are both vacant. Conrad Olson Farm has a house, barn, and numerous outbuildings. Martin Park, currently undeveloped, has an existing barn and numerous outbuildings. If no future adaptive re-use is instituted for these structures, demolition may need to be considered in the future, in conjunction with or immediately following a master plan for the development of these parks. Generally, any acquisition of property should look to demolish existing structures shortly after ownership, unless the buildings are intended to be re-used.

Restrooms & Portable Toilets

Existing restrooms at community parks appeared in good condition. Some parks have temporary restrooms that are brought on site seasonally. The restrooms at Anderson Park are only open for part of the year.

Parking

Vehicle parking areas were generally in good condition. Some parks' parking areas have handicapped stalls, but lacked painted travel aisles or the designated spaces are not the closest ones to the park's entrances as recommended in ADA guidelines. Bicycle and scooter parking is inconsistent across Redmond parks.

Signage & Wayfinding

The Redmond park system contains a wide variety of signs, markers, and monuments to identify sites and amenities, mark specific locations and directions, and honor memorials and dedications. Most sites have park identification signs at their main entries, but signs are not always present at side access points or trail entries. See recommendations in Chapter 5.



LANDSCAPE/ENVIRONMENT

Stream Corridors

Redmond has demonstrated clear efforts in protecting and restoring its woodlands and riparian corridors through the partnership with Forterra. The Green Redmond Partnership had a number of active restoration planting projects in parks and resource lands. Sections of Bear Creek have natural streambanks, where feasible, and naturalized plantings cover much of the creek edges. Signage conveys the areas where restoration planting is occurring and helps inform the community about the intention of the riparian plantings. Additional information on stream corridors is provided in Chapter 3F and in the recommendations in Chapter 5.

Forest Canopy & Park Trees

In general, the ornamental and native trees in the park system appeared in very good condition. In a few park locations, additional attention may be warranted for shade or ornamental trees located in mown grass areas. Ensuring that park trees do not have grass growing at the base of their trunks can help to protect tree trunks and roots from unintentional mower or string trimmer damage. Trees in the open grass areas of Idylwood Park were exhibiting damage on their lower trunks from string trimmers and mowers. This type of damage can girdle the tree and lead to tree death. As any tree ages, dies, and is removed, the predominant use of Pacific Northwest native tree species is recommended as a replacement to support local wildlife habitat and promote long-term tree canopy environmental benefits. Additional information on tree canopy located is provided in Chapter 3F.

Natural Turf grass

Natural turf grass management appears adequately managed to maintain sport fields and open mown grass areas within parks.

Maintenance standards can be established that specifically identify the tolerance for weed growth within natural grass sport fields and the approved methods for weed control in the public arena. Timing and notification methods should also be incorporated into adopted park standards to ensure safe application and public use.

Mown grass areas in parks are often valued for supporting open, non-programmed play. However, mown grass requires considerable maintenance and management costs to sustain effective ground

cover for active use. Mown grass is not considered an environmentally sustainable landscape condition, and, as such, its use should be more intentional than a traditionally expansive groundcover in parks. See recommendations for more sustainable management of grass areas in Chapter 5.

Water Access

Park users can access public shorelines for water-based recreation at Idylwood Park through its Lake Sammamish beachfront areas and to the Sammamish River via the shore launch at Luke McRedmond Park. Both sites provide opportunities to hand-carry watercraft to the shoreline. Luke McRedmond provides a concrete ramp and riverfront landing for ingress and egress from the river. Idylwood Park's beach allows for gradual entry into the lake. In both parks, the distance from parking to shore launch is considerable for hand carrying a canoe, kayak, or paddleboard and may limit the feasibility for many paddlers to use those launch sites. Bear Creek Park is along the creek, but amenities could be enhanced to increase access to the water. Even combined with King County's Marymoor Park's riverfront access, Redmond could benefit from additional opportunities for water access.

Community Gardens

Community gardens provide common space for residents to grow fruits, vegetables, and flowers, and they were strongly favored by respondents to the community survey. Community gardens have become popular park amenities in urban environments where residents may have limited outdoor space. Gardens are also popular with a diverse range of residents, and they have been shown to increase healthy food consumption, while providing opportunities for active living, social interactions, and lifelong learning.

Redmond offers community gardens or pea-patch space at Juel Park and Old Firehouse Teen Center and are planned at the Redmond Senior & Community Center. At Juel Park, there are 40 plots, fruit trees, and a tool shed available for the residents who rent these plots. The plots at the Old Fire House were placed in 2020 with the closure of the Redmond Senior Center. They are now a part of a multigenerational project between the teens and seniors. All garden plots the City manages have seen high demand, and additional plots should be added at Juel Park and other locations across the city. A privately owned public space (POPS) in Marymoor Village will add 42 additional plots that are available to the public but not maintained by the City of

Redmond. Consideration should be given to expanding plots in urban centers, at the community centers, and in underutilized park areas that have good solar access and water for irrigation.

ADA COMPLIANCE

As with many older parks, some architectural barriers were present in the park system. Updating and providing ADA accessibility and compliance with federal guidelines are part of Redmond's regular capital repair schedule to ensure the reasonable access on older pavements, parking, playgrounds, picnic amenities, restrooms, and recreational elements. The Redmond park system has a few ADA compliance issues with park access at parking areas, insufficient travel aisles from handicapped parking spaces, missing tactile warning strips, and barriers to access into playground areas, as well as non-complaint benches and picnic tables that lack accessible routes.

SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS

Many of the park layouts and landscapes appeared to meet the basic crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) principles of good visibility and overall positive perceptions of public safety. CPTED principles are based on the theory that the built environment influences the behavior of people. Public park design

and management should consider how these principles: natural access control, natural surveillance, territoriality, activity support, and maintenance affect perceptions of public safety and potential crime prevention. For example, park landscapes in active and heavily-used areas should avoid use of hedges and dense shrubby vegetation that obscures views or creates blind corners along trails. In general, fenced enclosures should have multiple gates. Night lighting should be adequate for supporting evening programming. Playgrounds have their own set of safety considerations and require specific safety surfacing, inspections, and lifecycle planning for any aging equipment. Maintenance is crucial to manage public perception that parks are safe and well-cared for. In Redmond, park safety conditions were generally good throughout the park system.

MASTER PLANNING, SITE DEVELOPMENT & ENHANCEMENTS

The Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 36.70A has specific requirements for land planning in accordance with the Growth Management Act. The City of Redmond ensures its adherence to this requirement through master planning park and land parcels within its inventory. This process includes community engagement, public hearings, and possible design features. It is not meant to serve as a design document. When a park is taken through the design process, community engagement may be included to ensure it is meeting the needs of the community it is serving.



A list of all master planned parks are in Appendix B and should be referenced as the City continues to enhance its system. As the City has grown, new initiatives and priorities have emerged. One example of this is the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP). When designing master planned parks and enhancing current amenities, these plans and priorities for the future should be incorporated.

Conceptual master planning for Conrad Olson Farm, Arthur Johnson Park, Juel Park, Martin Park, and Farrel-McWhirter Park was conducted in 2009 as part of the East Redmond Corridor Master Plan. The parks were assigned roles along the corridor relative to historic context, trail connectivity, and environmental engagement. Since 2009, the City's 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) has recognized the importance for more proactive implementation of its tree canopy preservation. The five parks cited within the East Redmond Corridor Master Plan would benefit from more design to revise their roles in providing climate resilience and expanding outdoor recreation opportunities.

A master plan for Sammamish Valley Park also was adopted in 2009 prior to the ESAP and the identification of the need for more tree canopy. Some modification or update to this master plan should be conducted to increase the potential for this park to contribute more toward the overall tree canopy coverage target. The northern area of Redmond also has been identified as lacking in playground amenities. An update to

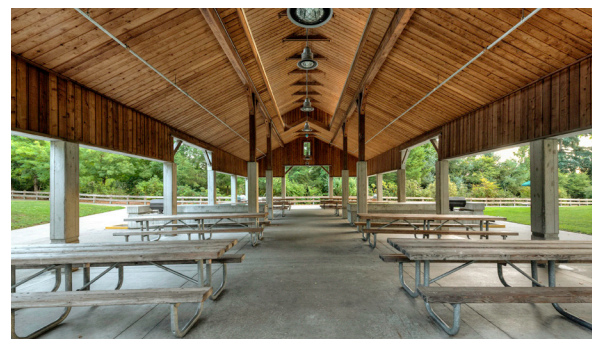
Sammamish Valley Park master plan should increase the outdoor play opportunities provided at the park.

Other conceptual plans for Smith Woods, Cascade View Park (including the western portion), and Dudley Carter Park have been prepared. Updating these concepts is warranted to align with current recreational needs and environmental targets. Rotary Park, with its challenging access issues, should be assessed for passive tree canopy expansion along the Sammamish River.

SE Redmond Park has received funding for a Master Plan in the 2023/24 biennium. This process will help determine the best role for providing greater recreation value to the park system.

Hartman Park is one of the city's most popular and visited parks that is operating without a recent master plan. A plan should be developed to guide enhancements and renovations to the park's playgrounds, fields, concessions, community pool, and natural areas.

A complete list of existing park master plans by year is provided in Appendix B and should be referenced as the City continues to enhance the system.



Gap Analysis

Understanding the known gaps in the park system and evaluating the City's existing levels of service for parks (i.e., snapshot in time of how well the City is meeting its adopted standards) will provide a foundation for strategic planning as a basis for a balanced distribution of parks, trails, and recreation amenities in the future.

To better understand the distribution of existing recreation amenities and where acquisition efforts should be considered, a gap analysis of the park system was conducted to examine and assess the community's current access to various recreation opportunities across the City. The analysis reviewed the locations and types of existing facilities, land use classifications, transportation/access barriers, and other factors. The analysis also used transportation analysis zone (TAZ) data, which is the unit of geography used in transportation planning models, and includes current and projected population forecasts by household and employee counts.

Given the mix of park classifications in Redmond, the analysis used travelsheds for each active-use park classification and calculated travel distances along the road network starting from known and accessible access points at each park:

- For neighborhood parks, travelsheds were set to capture the City's 10-minute walk goal, which is roughly equivalent to a ½-mile distance. The travelsheds were derived using a ¼-mile primary and ½-mile secondary service area with travel distances calculated along the road network starting from known and accessible access points at each park.
- For urban parks, travelsheds were derived using ¼-mile, ½-mile, and 1-mile travel distances.
- For community parks, travelsheds were derived using ¼-mile, ½-mile, 1-mile and 2-mile travel distances to acknowledge that these park types (including athletic fields) serve a wider array of users and driving to such sites is typical.
- Composite maps of all three park classifications illustrate the entirety of active-use parks to the 10-minute (½-mile) travelshed.

Maps 2 through 5 illustrate the application of the distribution criteria from existing parks. Areas in white do not have a public park within reasonable distance of their home (½-mile). The illustrated 'travelshed' for each existing Redmond park highlights that certain areas

within the city do not have the desired proximity to a local park. Gaps between these service areas constitute "unserved" neighborhoods.

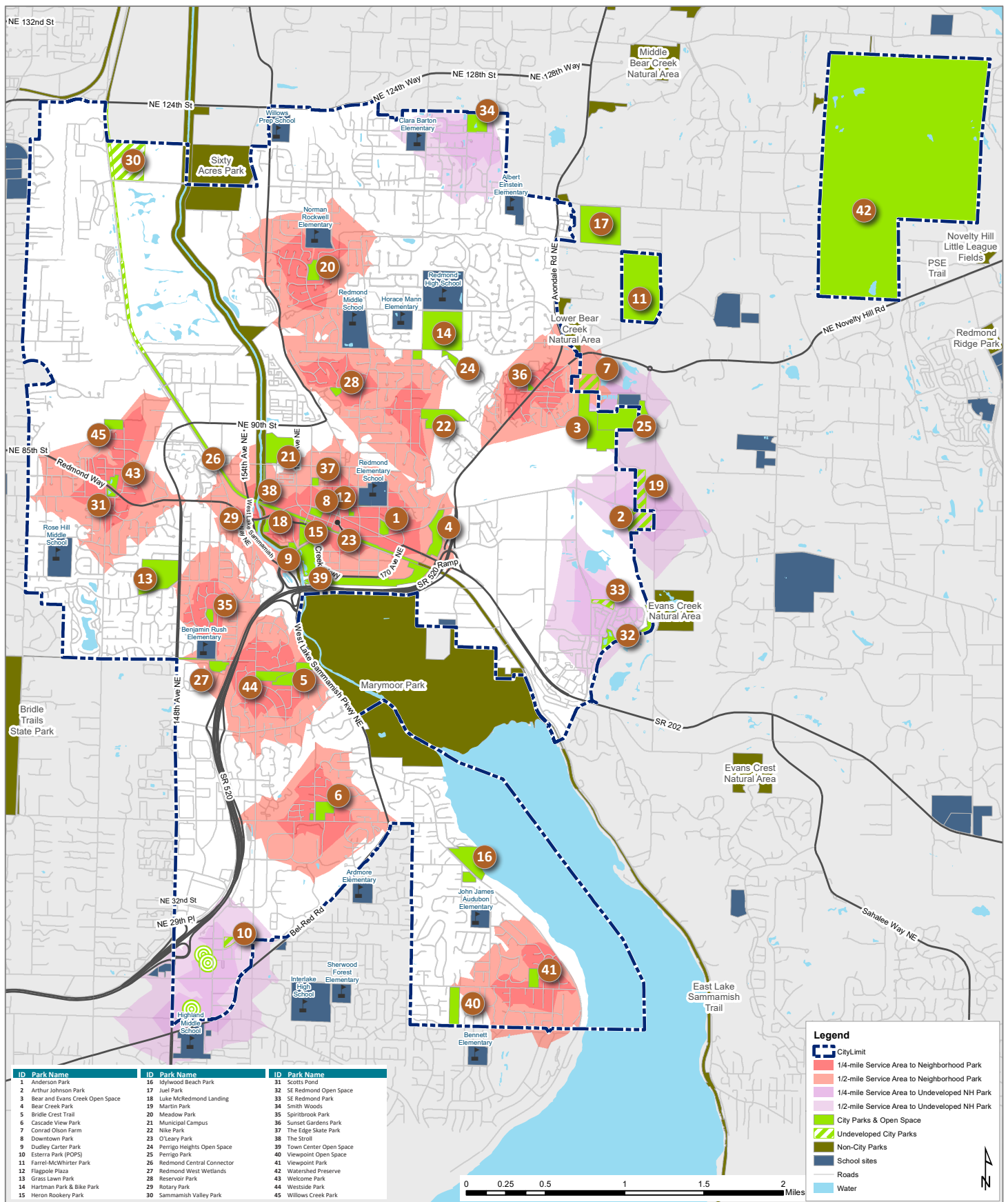
Gap analysis modeling also assessed the distribution of various recreation amenities, including playgrounds, sport fields, sport courts, and trails. Maps 6 through 14 illustrate the geographic distribution of these amenities, and this information is helpful in future park planning to improve access to the variety of recreation options desired by the community.

Striving to provide a neighborhood park within a reasonable distance (e.g., ½-mile) may require acquiring new park properties in currently under-served locations or improving multi-modal transportation connections to allow local residents to safely and conveniently reach their local park.

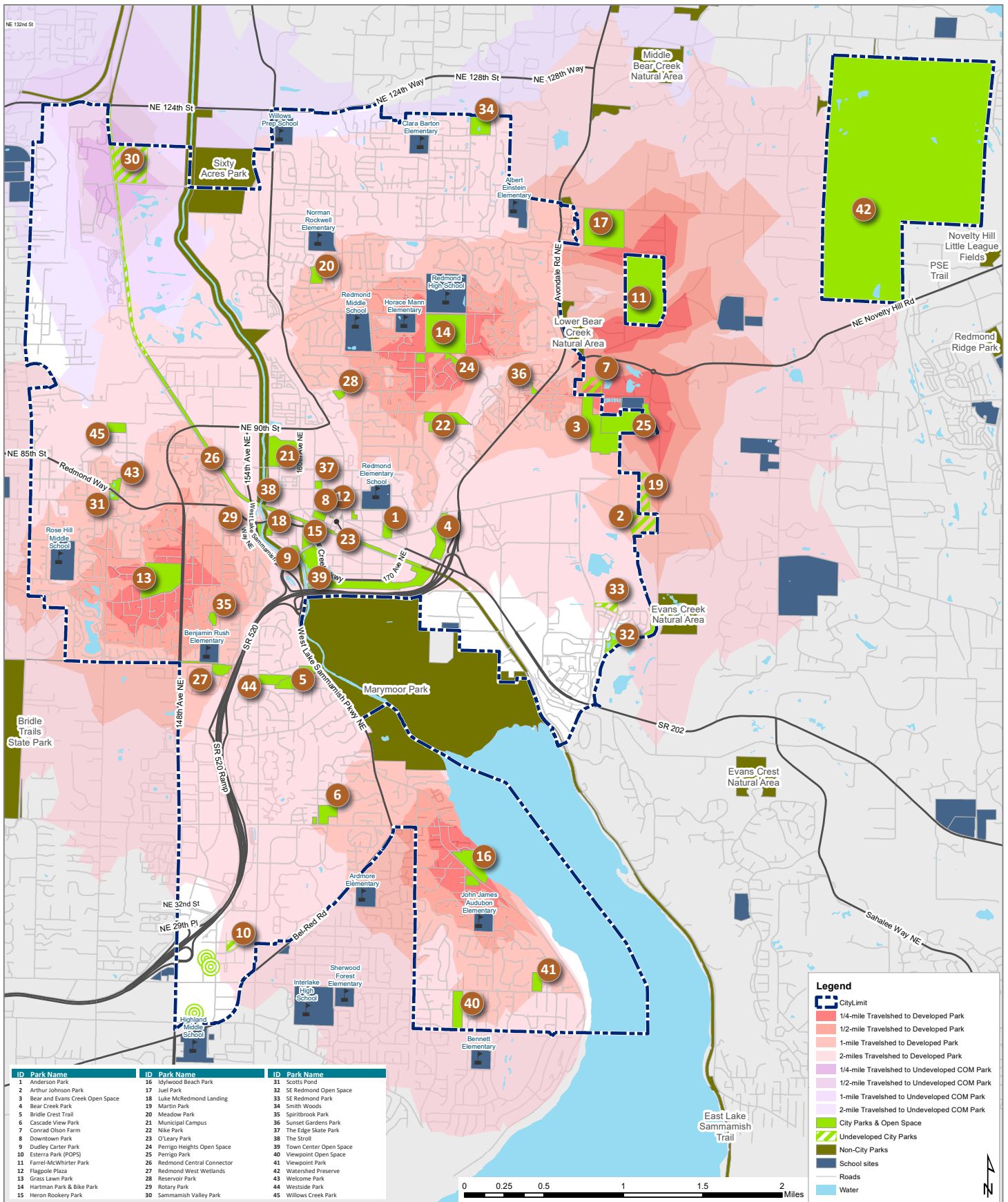
The mapping of park distribution and 'travelsheds' helps to illustrate the underserved parts of Redmond. Areas of northwest, north, southeast Redmond have limited access to public parks or open space as indicated by white areas on Map 6. These areas of the City should be targeted for future acquisitions to help create more equitable access for all residents and are noted in the Capital Planning chapter of this Plan.

While the targeted acquisition areas do not identify a specific parcel(s) for consideration, the area encompasses a broader region in which an acquisition would be ideally suited. These acquisition targets represent a long-term vision for improving parkland distribution in Redmond.

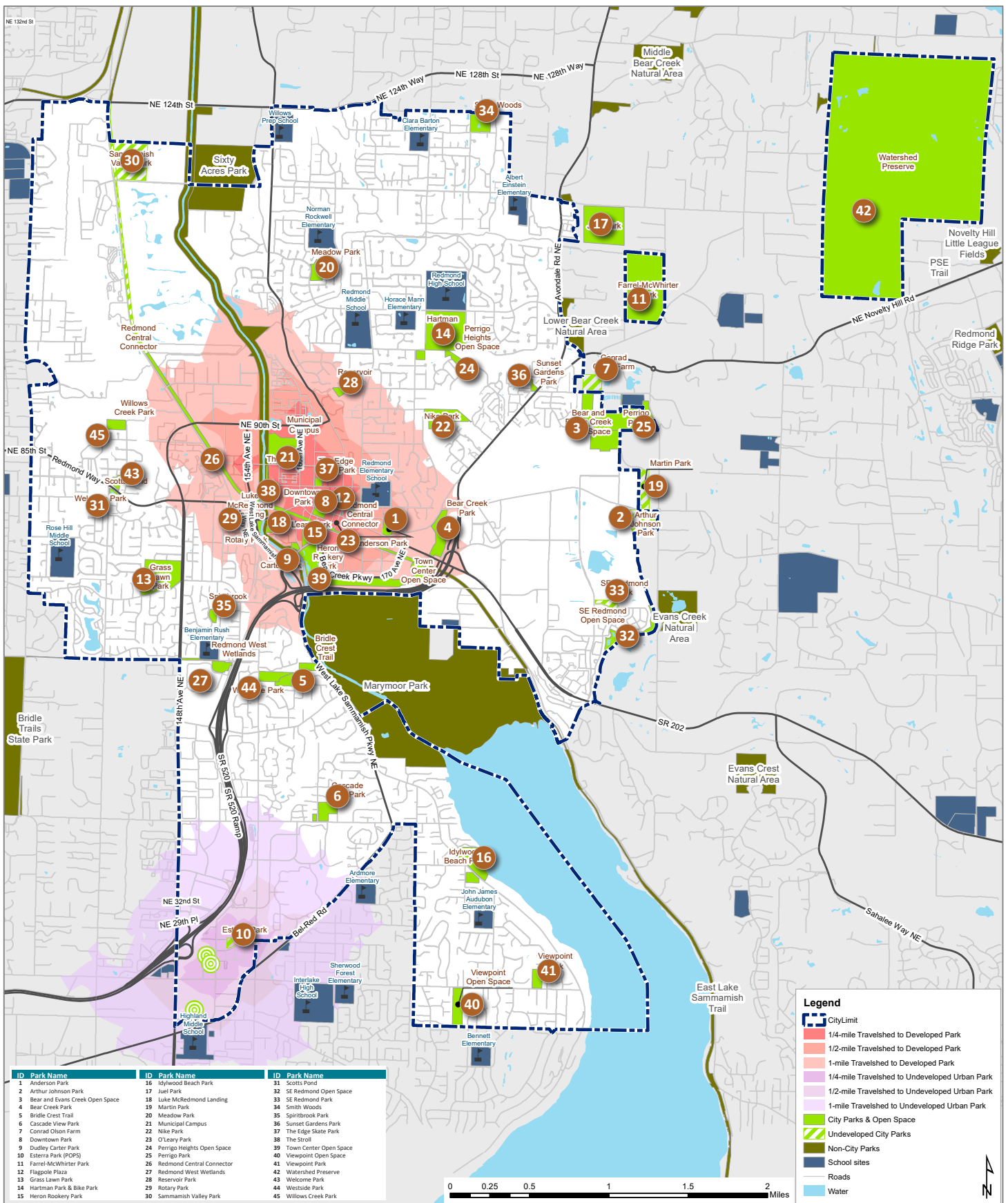
It should also be noted that the City owns several properties that are intended to serve as parks but are undeveloped. The future planning and development of these eight sites will further improve the overall distribution of parks for the Redmond community, and these sites have been accounted for in the gap analysis.



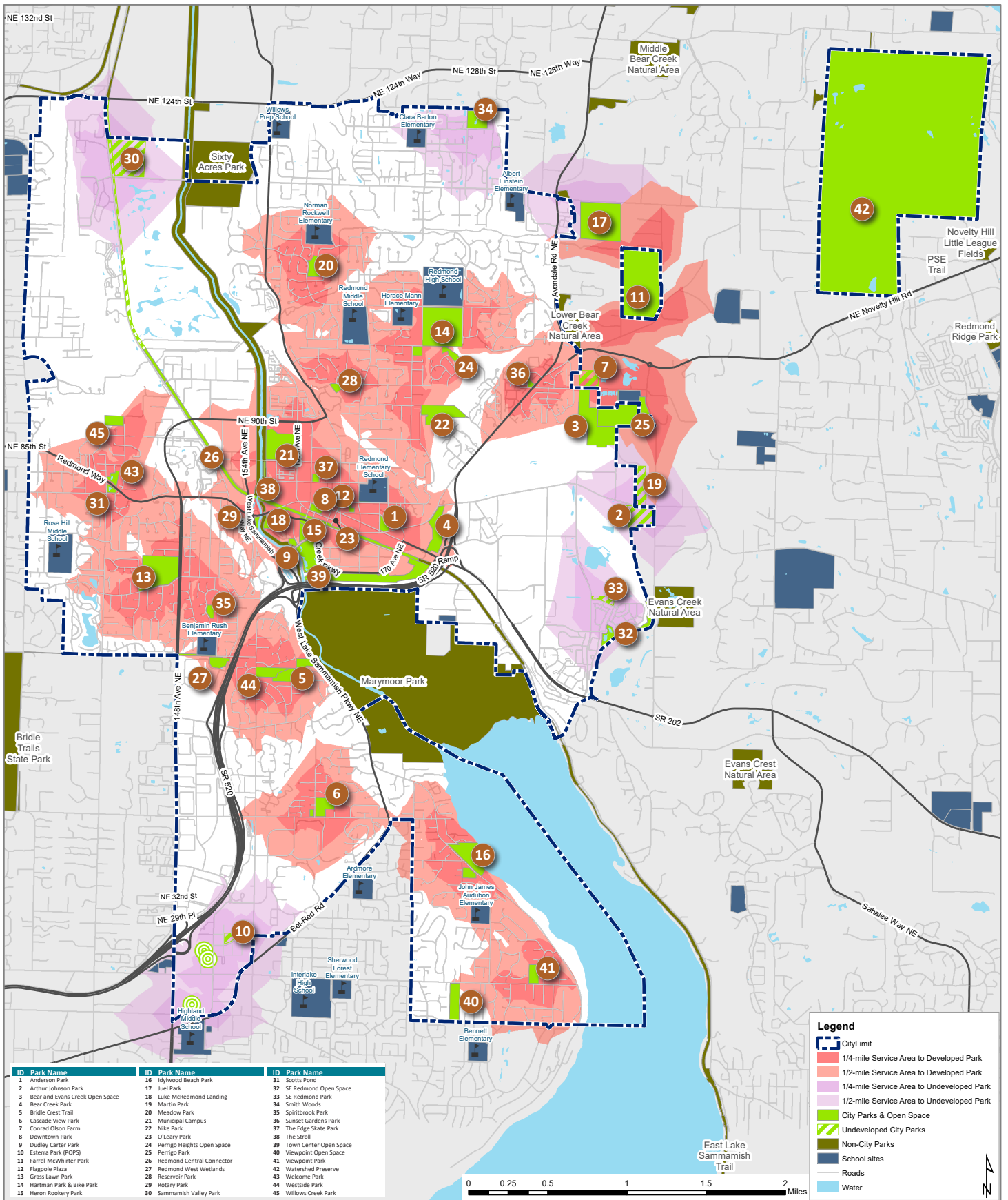
Map 2: Travelsheds for All Neighborhood Parks (to 1/2-mile)



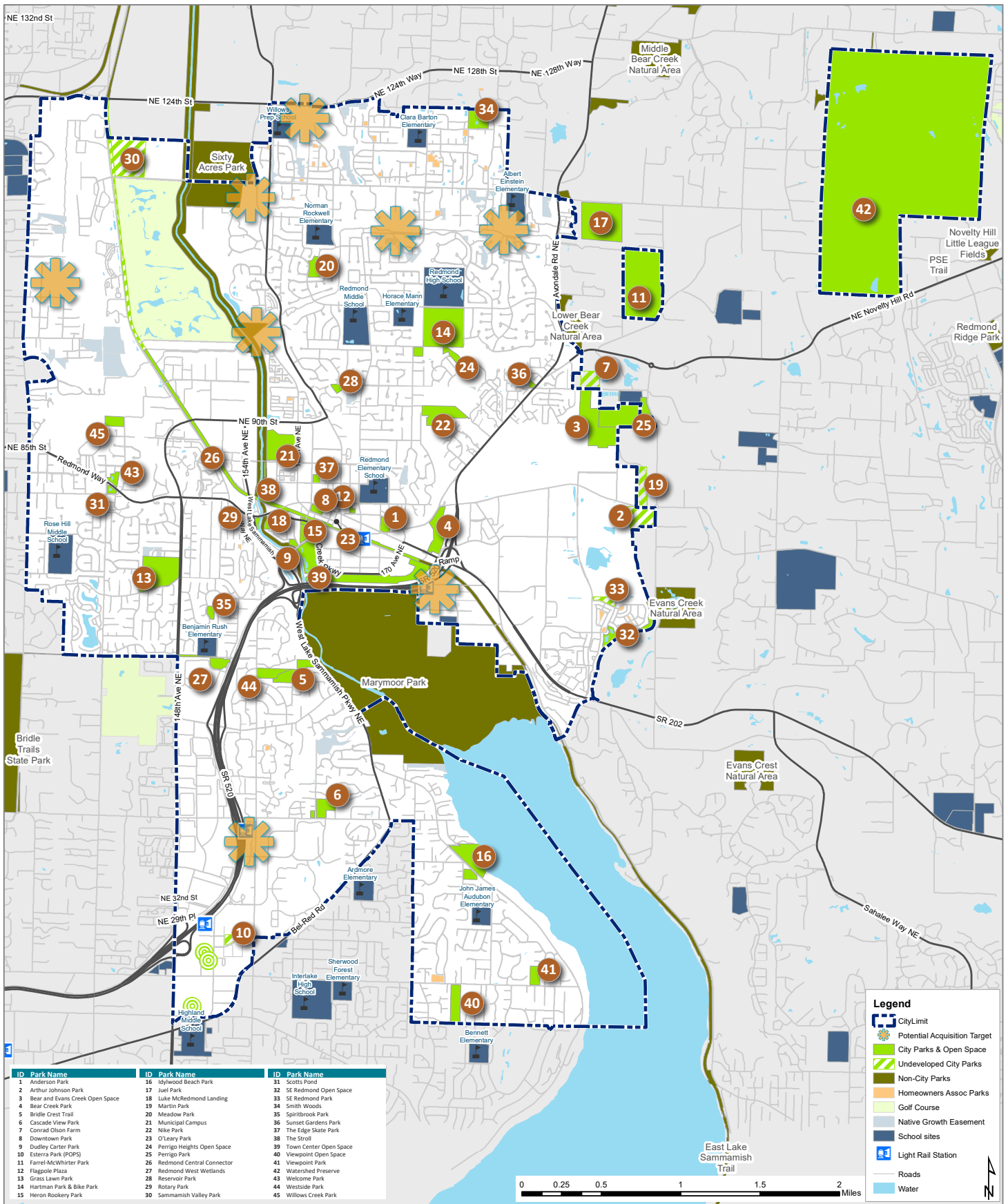
Map 3: Travelsheds for All Community Parks (to 2-miles)



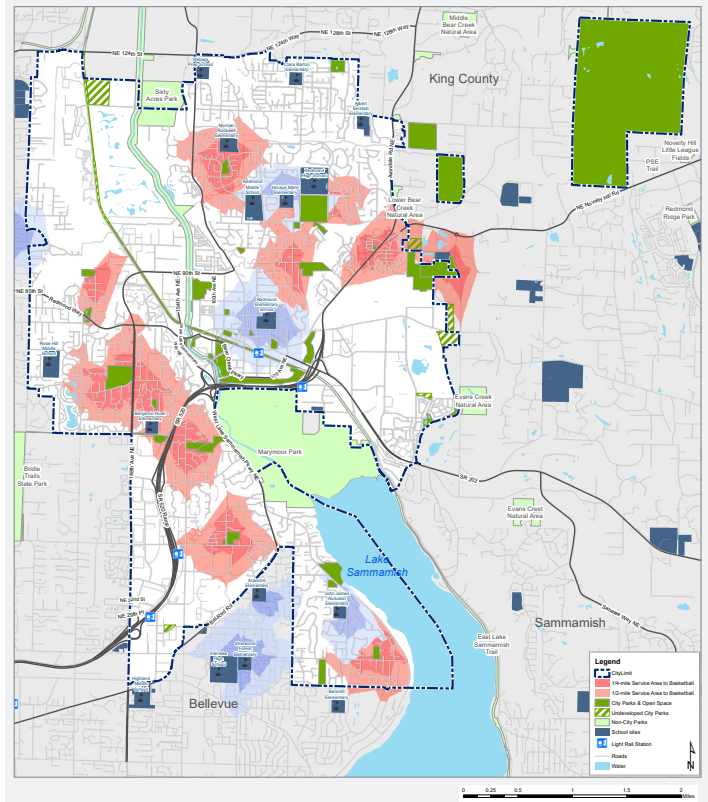
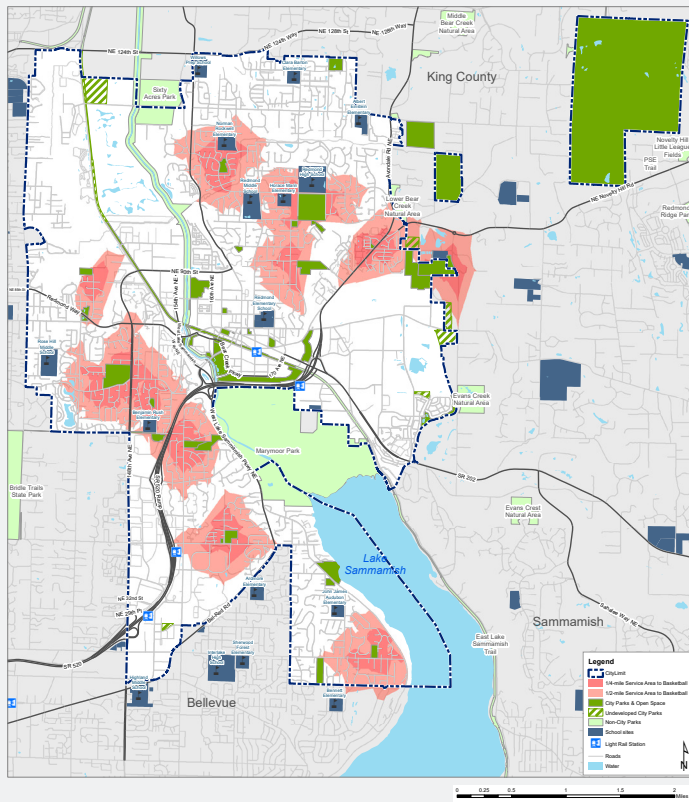
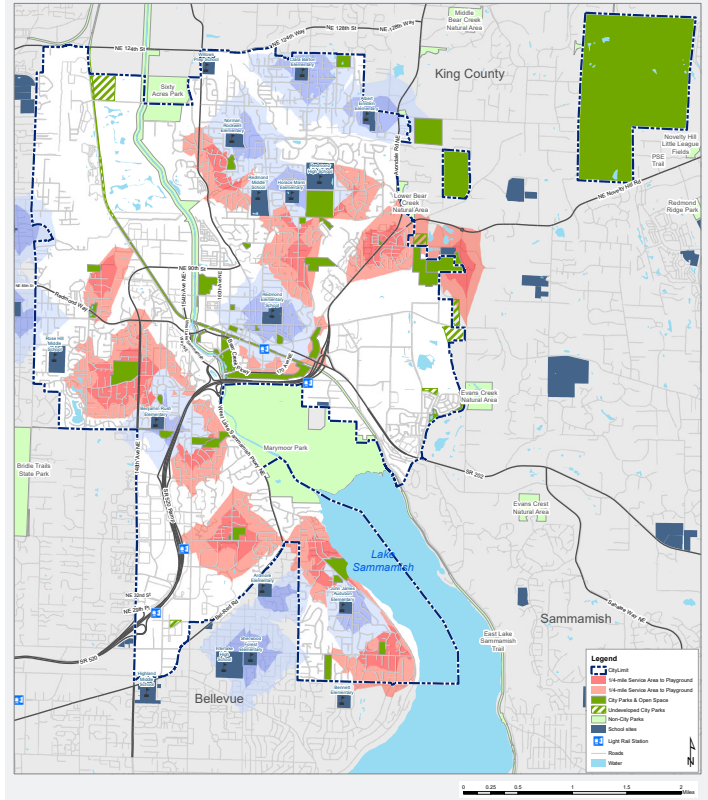
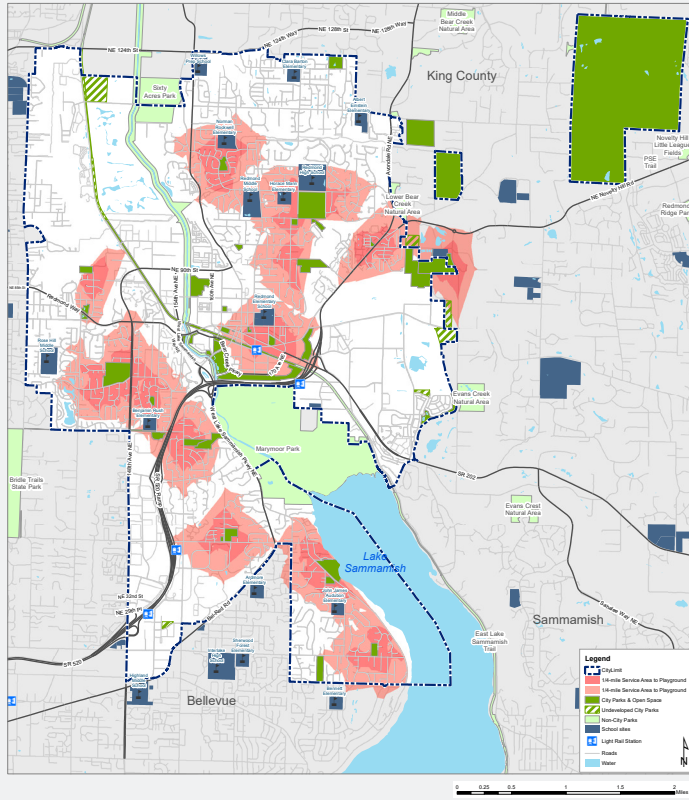
Map 4: Travelsheds for All Urban Parks (to 1-mile)



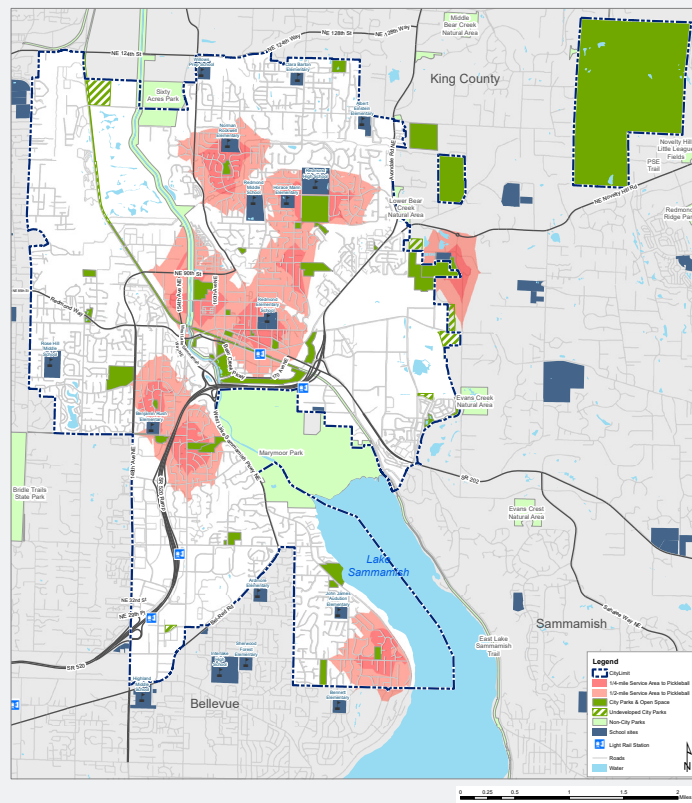
Map 5: Travelshed Composite - Developed & Undeveloped Parks (to 1/2-mile)



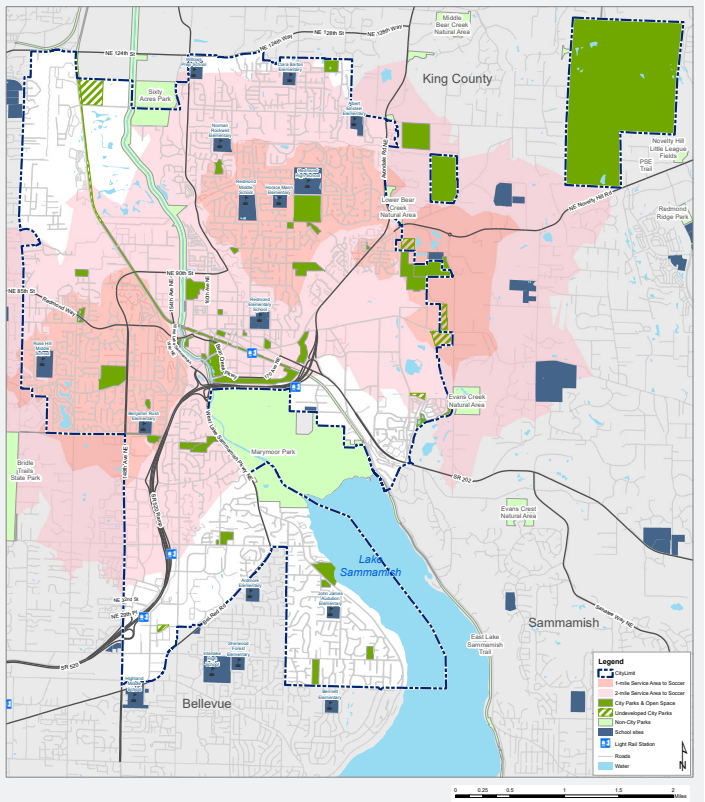
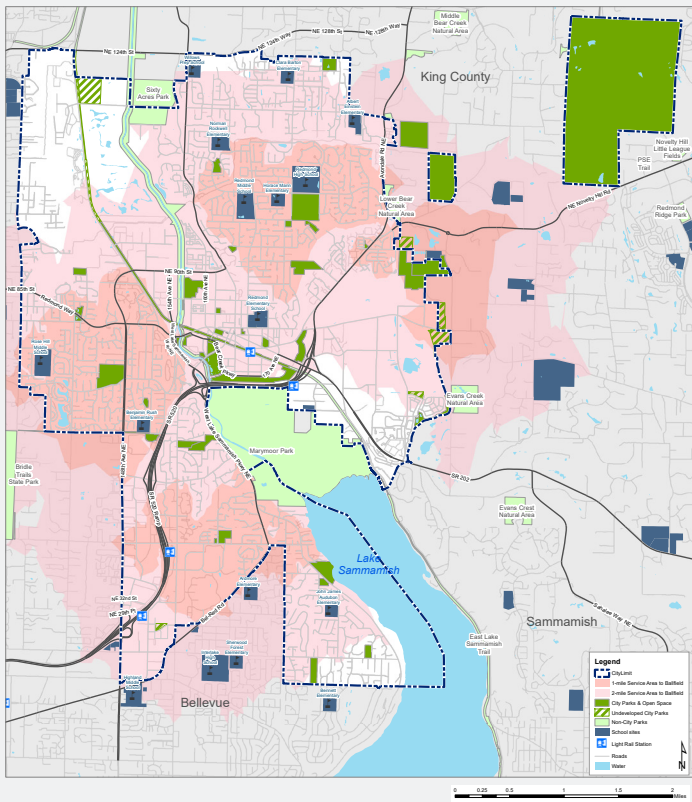
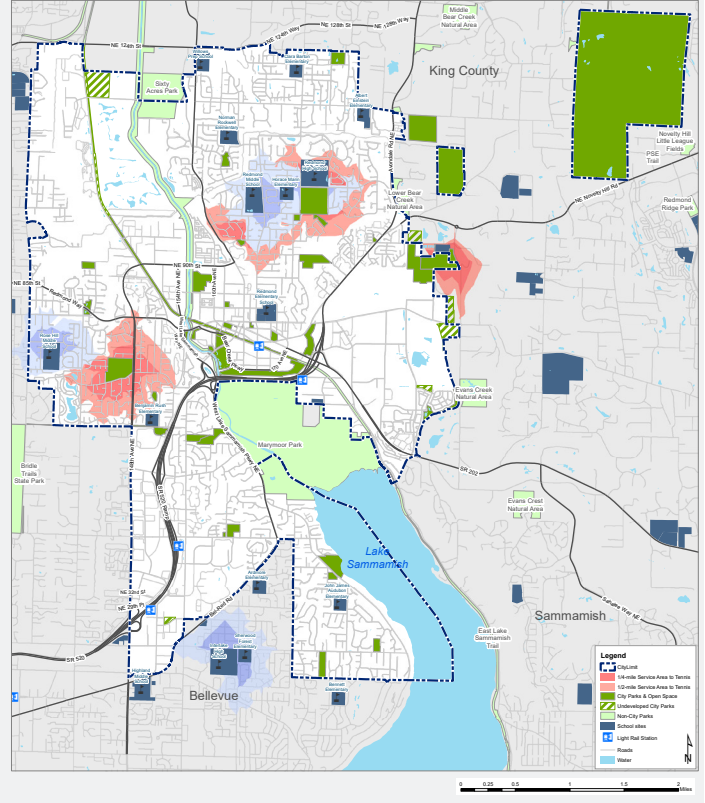
Map 6: Potential Acquisition Target Areas



Travelsheds: Pickleball



Travelsheds: Tennis with Schools



Community Centers

Recreation Facilities

The City currently owns or leases and operates four recreation facilities. A fifth facility, the Redmond Senior & Community Center, is currently under construction. Additional information on the programming and operation of these facilities follows in the next chapter.

Old Redmond Schoolhouse

In 2021, the Old Redmond School House was converted from a community center to a Lake Washington School District preschool. The City continues to lease 9,785 square feet of the facility from the LWSD. This includes the gymnasium, clay studio, and two flexible spaces. One flexible space is sub-leased by the City to the Redmond Historical Society. The spaces operated by the City are accessible to the public through the Northwest entrance of the building.

Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFH)

The Old Firehouse Teen Center (OFH), an 8,600 square foot building, was constructed in 1952, purportedly by volunteer labor for the volunteer fire department. It later served as City Hall and a police department. The building was converted to a teen center with an arts and music focus in 1994. A limited renovation and seismic upgrade was completed in 2004. Although the Teen Center is well-liked by users, it is not purpose-built. Its configuration does not adequately support its program and creates challenges for supervision.

Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village

Opened in January 2018, the City leases this 20,000-square-foot building from the Lake Washington Institute of Technology. The facility includes a 1,700 square-foot drop-in fitness studio with cardio and strength equipment, six multi-purpose rooms, and a tiered lecture classroom. Many recreation activities and services are hosted from this facility, although the building lacks a gymnasium.



Redmond Pool

The Redmond Pool was built in 1972 by King County and transferred to the City in 2010. The Pool was recently closed for a two-phase renovation and reopened in April 2021. The City of Redmond currently contracts with WAVE Aquatics to offer swim lessons, swim teams, classes and open swim - hosting 95,000 visitors per year, including local high school swim teams, cultural groups, seniors, and community organizations.

The Redmond Pool improvement project was identified in the 2019 Facilities Strategic Management Plan. The renovation improved essential pool and building mechanical systems, building performance, and customer service conveniences. Recent renovations completed between summer 2020 and spring 2021 have extended the operating life span for the pool by 25 to 30 years and include:

- New mechanical systems
- New air handling units
- New boiler systems
- Improved circulation
- New electrical, roof and windows
- Improved ADA access
- Locker room and lobby enhancements
- New pool decking
- Plumbing upgrades

Redmond Senior & Community Center

The Redmond Senior & Community Center, is currently under construction and replaces and expands upon the older Senior Center which was demolished in December 2020 due to structural integrity issues. The new community center is slated to open in 2024. The new center will include senior-dedicated spaces including a lounge and library, a large multi-purpose community room and commercial kitchen, active recreation areas including flexible gym space, group exercise studio, an elevated indoor walk/jog track, classroom spaces for art, music, games, and meeting rooms for community use.

Community Center Gap Analysis

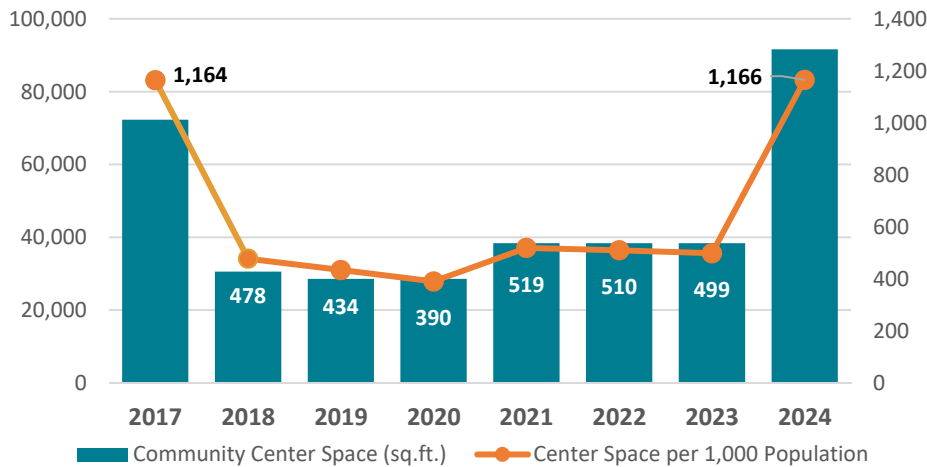
The City of Redmond has prepared, or been part of, several plans since 2016 that illustrate the existing conditions of its community centers and document the need for indoor recreation space. These include Citywide Strategic Facilities Plan, Facilities Strategic Management Plan, Regional Aquatics Report, and the Community Centers Report. The construction of the

new Redmond Senior & Community Center will provide a significant boost in programmable indoor recreation space for the City, but aging facilities and a growing population suggest that the demand for additional space will remain strong.

Through the findings of past studies and the outreach conducted as part of this PARCC Plan update, a need exists for more community center space in Redmond, especially acknowledging the anticipated growth over the coming decades. The Future of Redmond’s Community Centers Report, completed in 2017, identified a need for additional community space in Redmond. Between 2000-2017, the City of Redmond operated 72,300 square feet of community center space through the Old Redmond Schoolhouse, Old Firehouse Teen Center, and Redmond Senior Center. By 2021, this has decreased to about 38,300 square feet, due to the closure of the Redmond Senior Center and a reduction in leased space at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse. The construction of the new Redmond Senior & Community Center will add 53,248 square feet and provide needed indoor programming space – bringing the overall community center square feet per 1,000 people back to 2017 levels.

Figure 22. Changes in Community Center Space & Amenities (2017-2024)

Centers included	2000-2017	2018-2019	2020	2021-2023	2024	
	ORSCC, OFHTC, RSC	RCCMV, RSC, OFHTC	RCCMV, OFHTC	RCCMV, OFHTC, ORSCC	RCCMV, OFHTC, ORSCC, RSCC	
Total Square Feet	72,300	50,600	28,600	38,300	91,600	
Small Meeting / Program Space (1-15 people)	9	5	1	1	2	
Medium Meeting / Program Space (16-34 people)	9	8	4	4	6	
Large Meeting / Program Space (35-70 people)	6	4	2	2	3	
Commercial Kitchen	2	2	-	1	2	
Dance Studio	1	-	-	1	1	
Gymnasium	1	-	-	1	2	
Notes	ORSCC closed Dec. 2017	RSC closed Sept. 2019	ORSCC reopens with smaller space Dec. 2020		RSCC opens 2024 (anticipated)	ORSCC - Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center OFHTC - Old Firehouse Teen Center RSC - Redmond Senior Center RCCMV -Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village RSCC - Redmond Senior & Community Center

Figure 23. Community Center Square Feet per 1,000 People**Figure 24. Comparing Redmond Community Center Space to National Medians**

Facility Type	NRPA Median as Ratio to Redmond Population	Redmond Centers (#)	Notes
Pop. Range 50,000- 99,999			
Recreation Centes (incl. gymnsaiums)	1.8	0.25	Discounted ORSCC for limited access
Community Centers	1.7	1.0	
Senior Centers	1.0	0.5	Discounted for temporary accommodations until RSCC completed
Aquatics centers	1.2	1.0	
Teen Centers	1.3	1.0	

Also, the only City-controlled gymnasium is located at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse (ORSCC). The gymnasium is 6,588 square feet. It has one full-sized court, two half-courts, and two volleyball nets. The gymnasium has a curtain divider, which allows for two activities to occur simultaneously. This gymnasium is used nearly 100% of the time during peak hours. The gymnasium is used for athletics such as basketball, volleyball, gymnastics, yoga, aerobics, and martial arts classes. The gymnasium is also available for rent to community groups. Due to the gym's heavy use, there is little time for drop-in activities, other than limited hours set aside for volleyball and basketball.

The City has a contract with the Lake Washington School District to use many of the Redmond school gymnasiums for programming. The City uses these school gymnasiums to the maximum extent possible; however, the hours available for City programming at the school gymnasiums are less than half of the hours available in the ORSCC gym, due to school operations and after-school activities. The new Redmond Senior & Community Center will add an additional, flexible gymnasium, but based on the demand for programs, the City needs more gymnasium space.



3B

Recreation Programs

The recreation facilities and services available within Redmond are a major community asset and support the physical, mental, and social health of community members. The City currently offers or promotes programming, including fitness, education and general interest classes, outdoor recreation, day camps, and special events to reflect the wide ranging diversity of the Redmond community.

The City of Redmond owns or operates four major community facilities. The Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center, Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village, Old Firehouse Teen Center, and the Redmond Pool are all heavily used for drop-in and programs. A fifth facility, the Redmond Senior & Community Center, is currently under construction and is anticipated to open in 2024.

Recreational programming is also done within Redmond parks. For example, Farrel McWhirter Park is host to numerous seasonal recreational programs, classes, and events. Conversations with community members that took place in 2022 during this Plan update suggest a strong interest in expanding or having access to additional recreation facilities and program offerings, especially for youth, teens, and active adults.

Programming Trends

The following national and state data highlights some of the current trends in recreation and may frame future considerations in Redmond's recreation programs. Additional trend data are provided in Appendix I.

- Eighty-four percent of U.S. adults seek high-quality parks and recreation when choosing a place to live. ⁽¹⁾
- Nine out of ten people agree that parks and recreation is an important service provided by their local government. ⁽²⁾
- More than eight in ten agencies provide themed special events (90% of agencies), team sports (87%), social recreation events (88%), youth summer camps (83%), fitness enhancement classes (82%), and health and wellness education (80%). ⁽²⁾
- America's children are spending more time outdoors over the past decade, and the COVID pandemic accelerated that trend. Overall, the percentage of America's kids participating in outdoor recreation was high in 2021, at just over 70%. ⁽³⁾

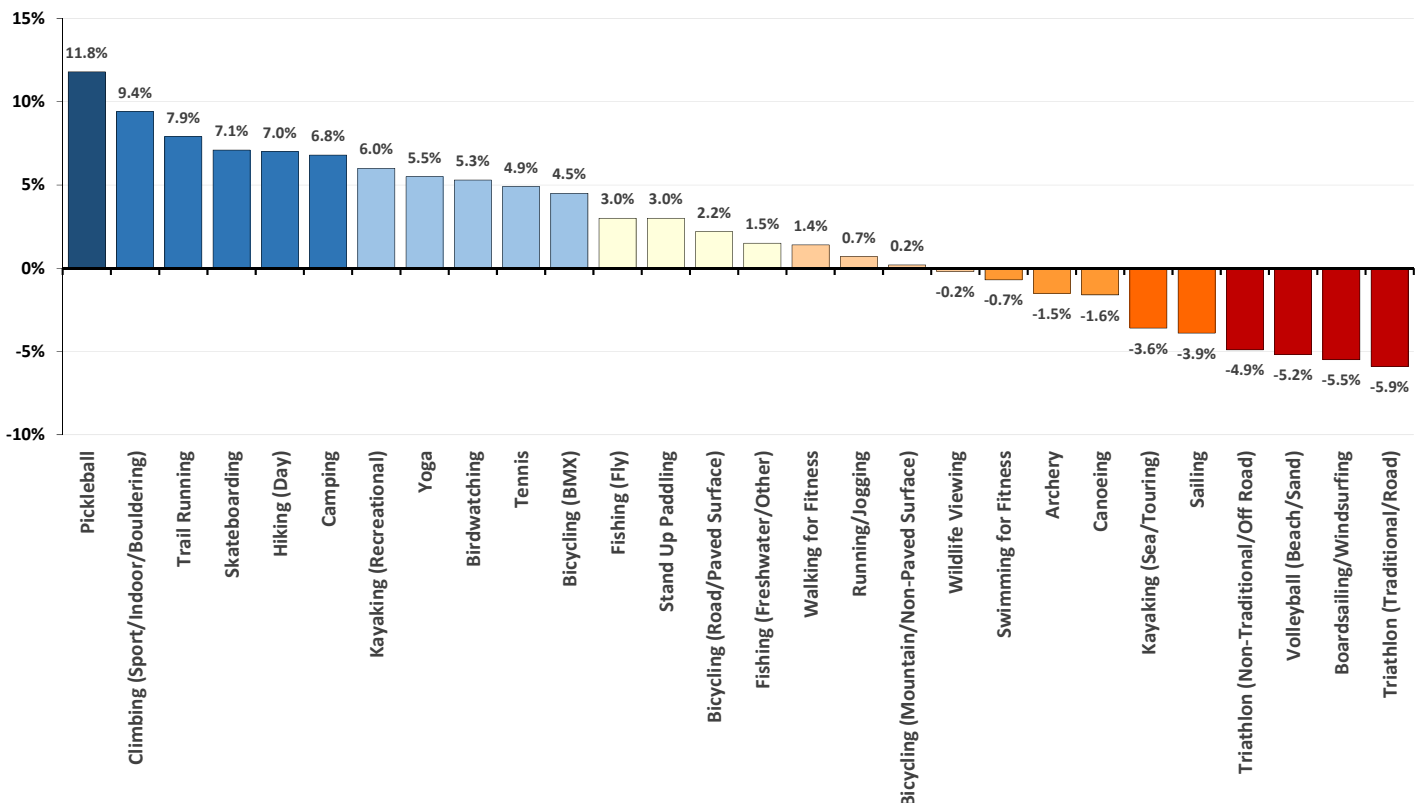
- Over the past two years, participation rates are up across the board for America's youth, with strong growth in participation by girls (4.9% higher for girls ages 6 to 12, and 5.3% higher for girls 13 to 17). ⁽³⁾
- Yoga continued to have one of the largest gains in fitness activities. ⁽⁴⁾
- Activities with the highest 5-year increase in participation include indoor climbing (9%) and pickleball (12%). ⁽⁴⁾

Sources:

- (1) American Engagement with Parks Survey
- (2) 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review
- (3) 2022 Outdoor Participation Report
- (4) 2022 Sport & Fitness Industry Association Sports, Fitness, And Leisure Activities Topline Participation Report

According to the 2022 Outdoor Participation Report, published by the Outdoor Foundation, just over half (54%) of Americans ages 6 and older participated in outdoor recreation at least once in 2021. The outdoor participant base has increased 6.9% since the COVID pandemic began in early 2020.

Figure 25. 5-Year Change in Outdoor Recreation Participation by Major Activity (2022 Outdoor Participation Report)



Recreation Management magazine’s 2022 Report on the State of the Managed Recreation Industry summarizes information provided by a wide range of professionals working in the recreation, sports, and fitness industry. Regarding program options, respondents from community centers, park departments, and health clubs reported that they plan to add programs over the next few years. The ten most commonly planned program additions were:

1. Mind-body balance programs
2. Fitness programs
3. Group exercise programs
4. Educational programs
5. Arts and crafts programs
6. Teen programs
7. Functional fitness programs
8. Performing arts programs
9. Environmental education
10. Holidays and other special events

Addressing the COVID-19 pandemic required many respondents to either put programs or services on hold (82%) or cut programs or services entirely (34%). Additionally, many respondents have had to rethink their programming portfolios. Two-thirds of respondents (67%) had added online fitness and wellness programming as of May 2020, 39% were involved in programs to address food insecurity, and one in four was involved in programs to provide educational support to out-of-school children.

Community Insights

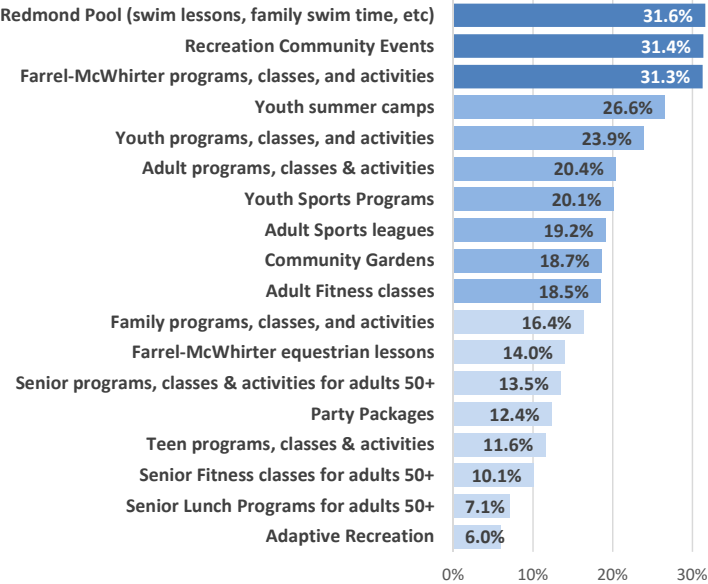
Local recreation demands and needs were explored through a variety of public engagement to gather feedback on strengths and limitations of existing recreation programs and resources available to Redmond residents. Public outreach included a community survey and two public meetings to explore priorities and opportunities to enhance recreation programming.

The survey asked a pair of questions regarding their participation in, and sense of adequacy about, a variety of available recreation program options. Overall, less than one in five respondents (18.5%) have participated in the City’s recreation programs. Of the listed activities, the greatest number of respondents had participated in classes and programs at Redmond Pool (31%), community events (31%), and Farrel-McWhirter programs (31%).

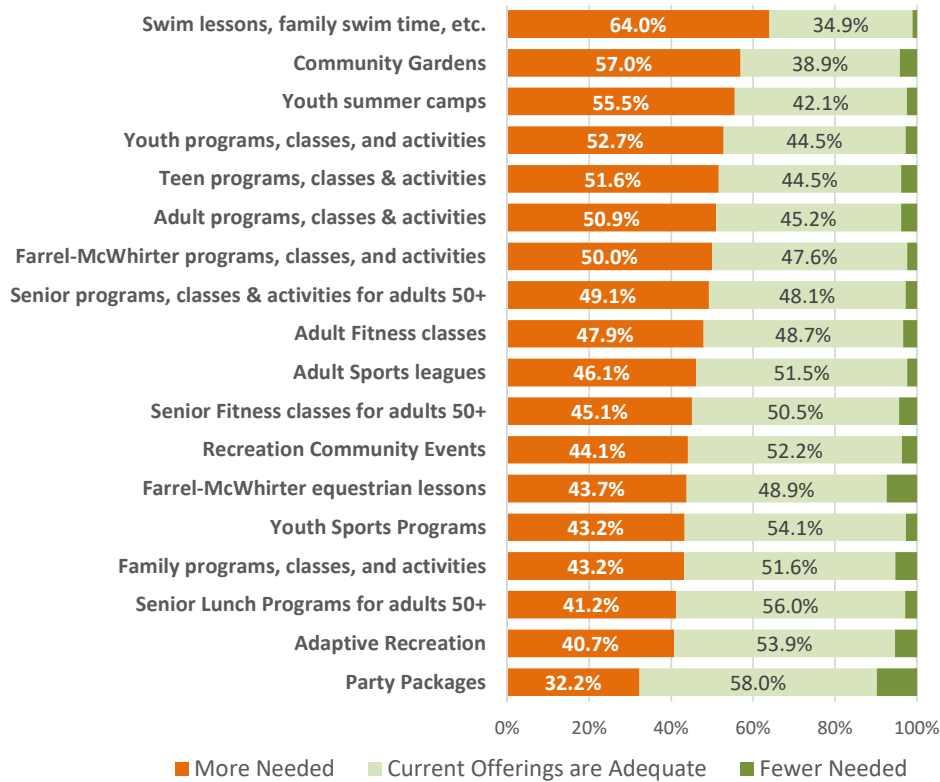
The survey asked respondents which types of recreation programs, classes, and activities they would like to see more of. Notably, approximately more than half of respondents (59%) responded that they were not sure or had no opinion whether current offerings are adequate or not. Of those respondents who expressed an opinion, more than half felt the City needed more of the following recreation program types:

- Redmond Pool (swim lessons, family swim time, etc.)
- Community Gardens
- Youth summer camps (Farm & Pony, Nature Vision, sports, Cartoonaversity)
- Youth programs, classes, and activities (arts, crafts, music, etc.)
- Teen programs, classes & activities (life skills classes, art, music, etc.)
- Adult programs, classes & activities (arts, crafts, music, etc.)
- Farrel-McWhirter programs, classes, and activities (farm, nature, outdoor)

Figure 26. Participation in Recreation Programs by Type



Respondents were also asked why they do not participate in recreation or



opportunity for the City to improve information and outreach. Others cited programs held at inconvenient times (18%), not having programs or activities of interest (21%), classes being full (21%), or having health and safety concerns (24%) as the reasons they do not participate.

As part of the first virtual public meeting in June 2022, attendees were asked a series of polling questions to capture current sentiment and interests. Regarding programming at community centers, the top three program types of interest were the following:

- Hobby, music, and art space
- Community events and entertainment performances
- Drop-in times for games or sports

Consistent with the community survey, the strongest response (43%) for types of events to be pursued was adding more small, neighborhood-focused events such as concerts in local/neighborhood parks.



Recreation programs: add softball classes for adults (not leagues); add affordable (\$10/class) ballroom/social dance classes for adults (swing, rock 'n roll; Latin dances, etc.)”

-Survey respondent





Recreation Facilities

CENTERS & INDOOR FACILITIES

As highlighted in the previous chapter, the City of Redmond hosts recreation and arts and culture programs in several municipal buildings. The day-to-day management, ongoing maintenance, and long-term reinvestment in City facilities are crucial to the success of Redmond's recreation programs. Additionally, efficient scheduling and use of the facilities ensures that cost recovery, diversity, equity and inclusion, program vitality, and other goals are met.

- Old Redmond Schoolhouse - This facility includes a gymnasium, clay studio, and two flexible spaces. One flexible space is sub-leased by the City to the Redmond Historical Society.
- Old Firehouse Teen Center - The Teen Center is a community hub for Redmond youth and teens with indoor and outdoor space for activities, socializing, and music.
- Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village - This 20,000 square foot building provides space for most of the City's recreation activities, programs, and rental events.
- Redmond Pool - The City contracts with WAVE Aquatics to operate the pool and offer swim lessons, classes, and open swim times, as well as support local swim clubs and LWSD schools.
- Redmond Senior & Community Center - The new building will be completed in 2024 and will substantially expand the City's facility space and capacity to offer recreation programs, services, and programs. A much needed community room will be available for rentals and events.
- Art Studio at Grass Lawn Park - The Studio provides year-round and seasonal activities, classes, and workshops.
- Farrel-McWhirter Park - This 67-acre community park includes the Barnyard pens for farm animals as a central feature for camps, classes, and activities. The park accommodates a variety of farm, nature, and outdoor activities including environmental education, ponies/horses, trail rides, and more.

Also, the City has an interlocal agreement with the Lake Washington School District which allows the city to have priority in school gymnasiums for programming. The new Redmond Senior & Community Center will add an additional multi-use gymnasium, but based on the demand for programs, the City will need to plan for more gymnasium space.

ATHLETIC FIELDS

The City has all-weather turf fields that are designed for multi-use sports, including soccer, softball, cricket, lacrosse and baseball. Athletic fields are located at several parks (Grass Lawn Park, Hartman Park, Perrigo Park) and Lake Washington School District facilities in Redmond through an interlocal agreement with the District.

“Estaría bien que haya más actividades gratis (o a precio accesibles) indoor, sobre todo para otoño e invierno que hay lluvia. (It would be great if there were more free indoor activities (or at affordable prices), especially in the fall and winter when it rains.)”

-Survey respondent

Recreation Programs

PROGRAM AREA CATEGORIES

The categories below represent the major areas of focus for current Redmond recreation programs. Program lists are based on a review of program offerings for 2018-2022, that were provided by the Department.

Figure 28. Existing City Programs by Classification

Area	Focus	Programs
Sports	Youth Sports	Sports Camps, Soccer, Basketball, Golf, Rowing, Hockey
	Adult Sports	Tennis Lessons, Softball, Baseball, Basketball, Volleyball, Soccer, Golf
Fitness	Youth	Martial Arts, Zumba, Gymnastics,
	Adult	Fitness Classes, Yoga, Tai Chi, Free Weights, Cylcing, Zumba, Outdoor fitness
Cultural Arts	Youth	Family Time Music Class, Preschool Music Class, Kindermusik, Clayful Kids, Adventures in Art, Art & Science STEAM Spring Break Camp
	Adult	Ballroom Dance, Tap Dance, Belly Dance, Driftwood Sculpture, Clay, Painting, Woodturning, Gardening & Flowers, Printmaking, Sketching, Community Sing-A-Long
Aquatics	Youth	Swim Lessons, Swim Team, Family Swim
	Adult	Swim Lessons, Swim Team, Family Swim, Water Fitness
Education	Youth	Snapology PreSchool, Nature Vision PreSchool, Farm & Nature PreSchool, Spring Break Science Camp, DaVinci Academy Before/After School Enrichment
	Adult	Dog Training
Specialty / General Interest	Youth	Birthday Parties at FMP, Healthy Hands Cooking, Summer & School Break Camps
	Adult	Dog Training, Movie & Brews Date Night
Adaptive		Adaptive Recreation Trips, Bridge Academy, Game Nights, Movie Nights, Farm Classes, Martial Arts, Dances
Special Events		Derby Days, Redmond Lights, Rockin' on the River, Beat the Bunny 5K, Earth Day, Family Movie Nights, Daddy Daughter Dance
Outdoor Recreation	Youth	Scavenger Hunts, Family Farm Tour, Creative Play, All About programs, Pony & Equestrian Rides, Farm & Forest Bio Tour
	Adult	Blue Sky Outdoor Fitness, Soccer, Baseball, Softball
Seniors		SAIL Balance & Strengh, Senior Cardio, Senior Strength Basic, Line Dance Skills Practice, Yoga, Senior Interest Groups, Driftwood Sculpture, Living Well Workshops
Teens		Teen Center Drop-in, Internships, Martial Arts, RYPAC, Swim Lessons, Dance, Fitness, Music, Arts, Gaming Tournaments
Self-Directed	Youth	Family Swim, Teen Center Drop-In
	Adult	Family Swim, Lap Swim, Facility Rentals, Cardio Equipment
Social Services		Senior Lunch, Parents Night Out

Programs Available by Age Groups

Below is listed the basic program categories that are available for different age groups.

Figure 29. Segmentation of City Programs by Age Group

Program Category	Mixed Age	Preschool	Youth	Teen	Adult	Senior
Sports		●	●	●	●	●
Fitness	●		●	●	●	●
Cultural Arts	●	●	●	●	●	●
Aquatics	●	●	●	●	●	●
Education		●	●	●	●	●
Specialty / General Interest			●	●	●	●
Adaptive	●		●	●	●	
Special Events	●	●	●	●	●	●
Outdoor Recreation	●	●	●	●	●	●
Self-Directed	●			●	●	●
Human Services						●

I hope there can be more recreation or sports programs for youth, like skate boarding, rock climbing, natural classes, youth basketball etc.”

-Survey respondent

Preschool/Toddler: 0 - 4 years old

Youth: 5 - 12 years old

Teen: 13 - 17 years old

Adult: 18 years or older

Seniors: 50 years or older

Program Area Definitions (generalized):

- Sports – Team and individual sports including camps, clinics, and tournaments. Also includes adventure/non-traditional sports.
- Fitness – Group fitness classes, personal training, education, and nutrition.
- Cultural Arts – Performing arts classes, visual arts classes, literary arts, music/video production and arts events.
- Aquatics – Swim lessons, aqua exercise classes, swim team, and other programs and special events (synchro, water polo, etc.).
- Education – Language programs, tutoring, science (STEM) classes, computer, and financial planning. Also included is CPR/AED/First Aid.
- Specialty / General Interest – Personal development classes and dog training classes.
- Adaptive – Inclusive and adaptive programs for individuals with physical and mental disabilities.
- Signature Events – City wide special events that are conducted throughout the year.
- Outdoor Education – Environmental education, hiking, camping, kayaking, farm activities, and other activities.
- Self-Directed – This includes the opportunities for individuals to recreate on their own. This can include activities such as drop-ins, open gym, use of weight/cardio space, and lap/recreational swimming. Although not an organized program, time and space must be allocated for this purpose.
- Human Services – This can include nutrition and meal programs, job training, life skills training, childcare, and other activities such as health screenings.



PROGRAM CLASSIFICATIONS

The following are the projected programming classifications for the City. It is important to realize that while certain program areas may be a focus for growth in programs and services, the Department's role in providing the actual service may be different as indicated below.

Classification Definitions

- Core Programs are those programs that are a primary responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department to provide as City-based activities.
- Secondary Programs are those programs that are a lower priority to be provided directly by the Department, but may be offered by other organizations through contract with the City.
- Support Programs are programs that are not a priority for the Department to be providing directly to the community, but where the City may provide support through facilities, program coordination, and promotion of activities for other organizations.

The following chart identifies and summarizes recommended future core programs, secondary programs and support program areas for the Department.

Figure 30. Recommended Future Program Types by Focus

Core Programs	Secondary Programs	Support Programs
Aquatics	Adaptive	Education
Cultural Arts	Adult Sports	General Interest
Fitness/Wellness	Outdoor Recreation	Social Services
Outdoor Recreation	Self-Directed	
Seniors	Special Events	
Teens	Youth Sports	
Youth		

Program Affordability

The City strives to make recreational opportunities available to all Redmond residents regardless of income. A Fee Assistance Program is available to eligible city residents who provide proof of residency and income. Applicants who meet eligibility requirements are awarded up to a maximum of \$350 per person per year, not to exceed \$1,500 per household. Funds are valid for activities fees, and applications are available annually online in Spanish and English.





RECREATION PROGRAM GAP ANALYSIS

The City's recreation programs serve all of the major age groups. As noted in the community survey, the Redmond community considers pool programs, youth camps, youth and teen recreation programs, and Farrel-McWhirter programs as of the highest interest for City recreation services.

The future availability in, and programming of, the Redmond Senior & Community Center will help accommodate some of the community's interest for drop-in options for fitness and gymnasium space, especially for basketball and indoor pickleball; however and as stated in the previous chapter, the demand for indoor recreation space is projected to remain strong. The planning and development for an Overlake community center is a crucial next step to address facility space needs.

Acknowledging the reduction in services due to the COVID pandemic, the City has consistently maintained approximately 15,000 to 16,000 program registrations annually. Figure 31 illustrates the seasonal variation in program registration and annual program revenues. Note that 2022 represents only the first 60% of the calendar year. Even with partial year data for 2022, the City has returned to pre-pandemic participation in recreation programs and with an improving program revenue outlook. Figure 32 illustrates program revenue by major program types for 2019, which was the most recent "typical" year due to the pandemic with clay studios open.

Figure 31. Annual Program Registrations by Season

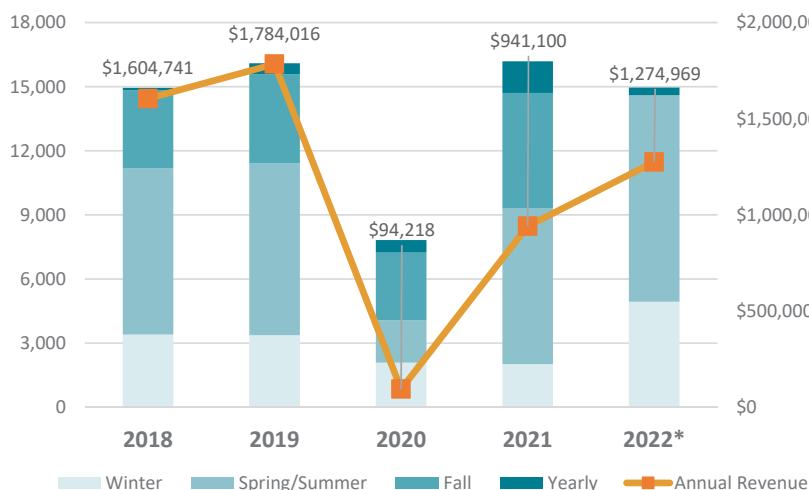
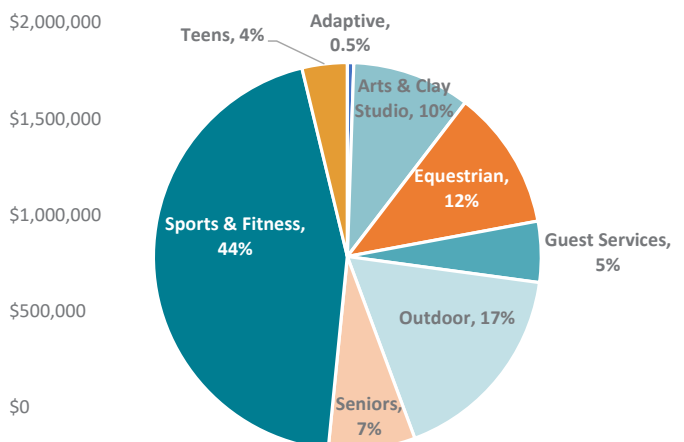


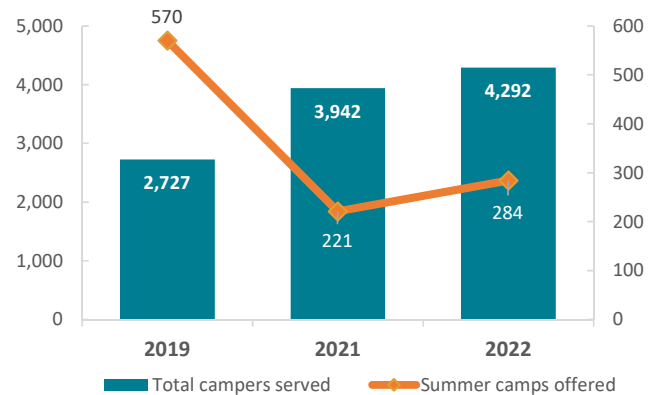
Figure 32. Percent of Revenue by Program Type (2019)



Classes & Camps

Summer camps are a major source of revenue for the Department. As the City continues to emerge from the pandemic, indoor and outdoor summer camps were both offered in 2022 – serving more campers, whereas summer 2021 accommodated only outdoor camps. In 2022, the City hosted a total of 284 camps facilitated by 21 providers and two internally-run camps. Figure 33 illustrates the number of camp participants and camp programs offered between 2019 and 2022. As staff capacity and facility space allow, the City should seek ways to expand summer and youth camps, since public comments collected during this planning process highlighted strong demand and capacity limitations for these camps.

Figure 33. Annual Count of Summer Camps & Campers



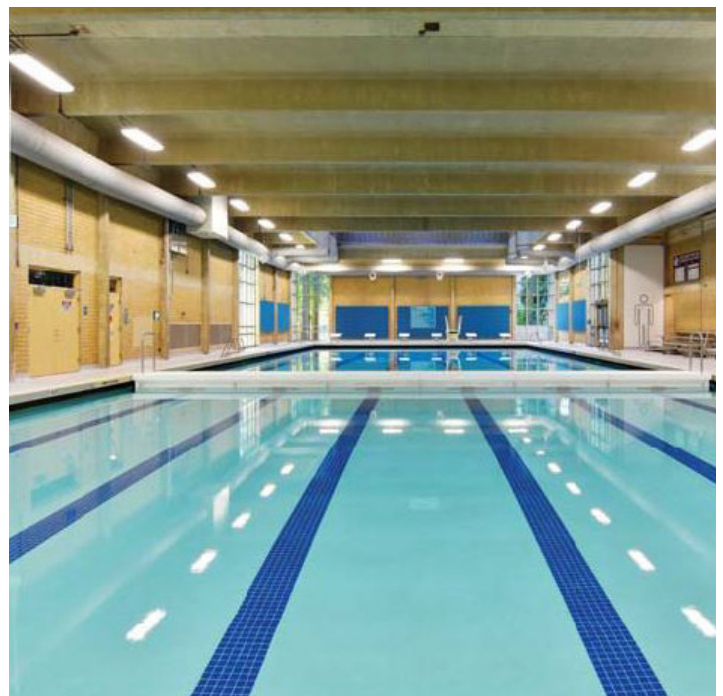
Aquatics

The City is not a direct provider of swim lessons or aquatics and has a contract in place for the operation and programming of Redmond Pool to be managed by WAVE Aquatics. The pool has a conventional design with a competitive orientation; as a result, the past focus has been toward lessons and swim team use. The pool is used for training (WAVE Aquatics, Redmond and East Lake High Schools), water exercise classes, swim instruction, lap swimming, and as a venue for occasional films; however, the pool is open for lap swims and family swims. There has been strong community interest in additional swim classes and swim times, and the City should continue to coordinate with WAVE Aquatics to adjust the program schedule to accommodate family and casual (non-competitive) usage. As of June 2023, WAVE Aquatics added sessions to address this demand which has allowed for hundreds of additional participants to use the Redmond Pool.

Idylwood Beach Park also offers the opportunity for swimming at the beach during summer months. The swimming area has a long pier and a large dock with good shallow areas for children. Prior to the pandemic, the beach was lifeguarded, but that service has been eliminated.

Redmond Pool - needs more kids swim lessons and family open swim times! It is a great resource and the limited swim lessons have been booked for months with not even a waitlist, family swim times are very limited and fill up quickly.”

-Survey respondent



Athletic Fields

As noted above, the City owns and manages several multi-use sport fields and utilizes school district fields through an interlocal agreement. Sport field reservations remain very strong and have returned to pre-pandemic levels. Figure 34 shows the annual hours reserved for sport fields by park between 2019 and 2022, segmented between hours reserved by internal (City) programs and external (non-city run) sports.

One area of particularly strong demand is for cricket. Figure 35 illustrates the number of hours and reservations for cricket for the full year of 2021. The annual hours reserved for cricket in 2021 represent 10% of the City's total sport fields reservations. Analysis on the City of Redmond's rental data shows that approximately half of all field rentals at Perrigo Park, a third of Grass Lawn Park field rentals, and a little more than 10% of Hartman Park field rentals in 2021 were for cricket teams. This equates to nearly 2,000 hours reserved for cricket play, with peak demand July through October.

In 2022, the City initiated dialogue with other regional field providers to explore the potential of a jointly developed cricket pitch to meet the regional demand for dedicated field space. With the rapid pace of urbanization in Redmond, limitations on existing undeveloped sites related to environmental or siting constraints, and the diminishing potential to secure new land adequately sized for cricket, the City should continue to pursue a regional partnership and joint development approach to address cricket field needs.

Senior & Social Services

Aside from the Senior Lunch programs, the provision of social services is not a core service of the Department; however, the City does provide funding support to local non-profit organizations to help ensure that Redmond residents can access assistance from various programs. The Parks and Recreation Department also provides support for human service efforts through the distribution of items, such free meals, healthy snacks, and hygiene kits, and by offering counseling services at the Old Firehouse Teen Center.

Figure 34. Sport Field Reservation by Park

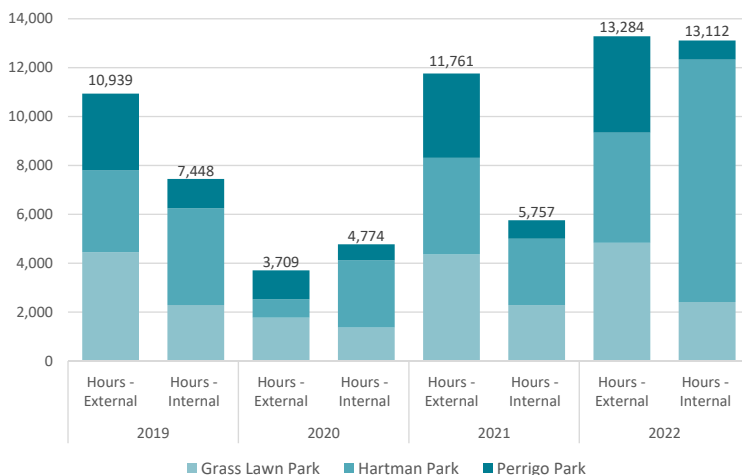
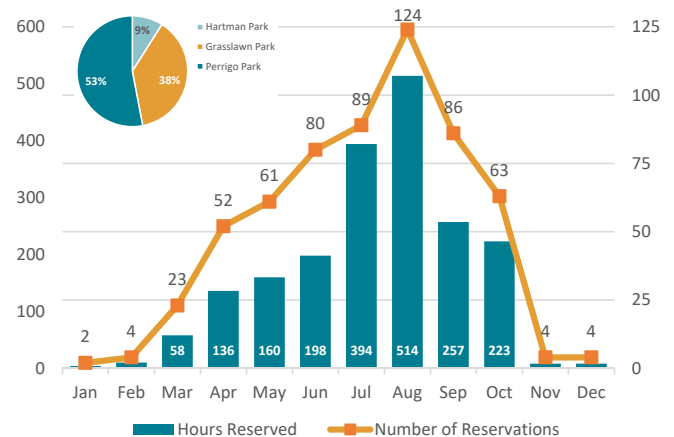


Figure 35. Cricket Field Reservations by Month (2021)





3C

Arts, Culture & Events

Known as a national center for technological invention, Redmond recognizes that innovation in the arts and creative expressions will nurture and sustain community.

The Redmond Arts and Culture Program provides public art, educational opportunities, arts programming, and events and supports local artists and cultural arts organizations to continue building a community that is inspired by and connected through arts and culture. The vibrant, local arts culture brings the residents together through events, festivals, exhibits and programs, while enriching lives and adding economic value to the community.

The discussion and recommendations noted in this chapter provide a high-level view of the arts and cultural activities within and influencing the Redmond community. It offers a summary of existing plans that guide the City's arts and cultural planning and highlights future needs to expand the availability of arts and cultural offerings for Redmond.



Arts, Culture & Events in Redmond

The Parks and Recreation Department provides arts and cultural programming through the Engagement division, with support from the Redmond Arts and Culture Commission. Arts programming is interwoven into the City's special events, as well as through partnerships with local arts, culture, and historical organizations. A variety of art classes are offered annually through recreation registrations and include visual arts, music lessons, dance classes, and summer camps. Arts work spaces and performance stages are provided at several locations across Redmond, including the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center, Old Firehouse Teen Center, and Art Studio at Grass Lawn Park. The new Redmond Senior & Community Center that will be completed in 2024 will provide a large multipurpose Community Room featuring flexible layouts to accommodate events, banquets, lectures, cultural events, rotating art gallery, performances, and other cultural activities.

The Parks and Recreation Department also produces two major, annual community events that are intended to connect and inspire people, activate the City's urban centers, and catalyze local businesses. Derby Days is a free summer event, that since 1939 has celebrated the Redmond community, originally as a bike race, but through the years evolved into showcasing live performances, a carnival, a parade, craft markets, and a drone show. Redmond Lights is a winter celebration of light and art, featuring music, performance, and visual art. From 2014-2019, the City produced the arts-focused So Bazaar summer festival and night market. Although this specific event is no longer produced, the City continues to present arts-focused programming like the new in 2023 Downtown Redmond Art Walk and Poet Laureate public programs. The engagement division also oversees the permitting of external community events that supports the expansion of cultural activities across the City's parks, including special events like Ananda Mela, Cinco de Mayo, and the OneRedmond International Winter Market. Other programming and events vary annually based on unique opportunities, partnerships, special event requests, or themes proposed by the Arts and Culture Commission.

ARTS & CULTURAL EVENTS PLANNING

From live concerts in the 1990s at the Old Firehouse Teen Center where 'young people go to experience and create music on their own terms', to the more recent Lucia Neare So Bazaar Night Market that transformed Redmond's 'urban spaces into free, participatory dreamscapes', Redmond has long been a leader in cultural arts and events. Building on this history, innovative programs continue being offered and are being expanded through investments in community centers and events programming. New indoor arts spaces are currently under construction at the Redmond Senior & Community Center. The community center will include classroom space for art and music and events space for performances that will support emerging artists and help write the next chapter of Redmond's cultural arts history.

Planning for arts and culture programs, events, and installations is led by staff and guided by the Redmond Arts and Culture Commission (RACC). The RACC advises the City on arts policies and programming and supports

Visual Art includes:

- Sculpture
- Drawings and paintings
- Mosaics and murals
- Fine art crafts
- Mixed media
- Multimedia and digital works
- Photography
- Earthworks & environmental artworks
- Monuments
- Decorative, ornamental, or functional elements designed by an artist

Art Platforms includes:

- Signature commissioned art
- Art in the pedestrian experience
- Artist-in-Residence
- Temporary/Ephemeral
- Process/Performance-based
- Interactive Technology

Culture can include:

- Heritage
- Ethnic diversity
- Values shared by society
- Intellectual and artistic activity
- And more...





programs in tandem with the Redmond Parks and Recreation Department and community organizations.

Through Redmond's steady growth, the City has welcomed a diversifying global workforce attracted by robust technology businesses and has garnered a reputation for innovation in digital arts, large-scale outdoor cultural festivals, and a high quality of life. Over the past ten years, the City has produced several plans to guide the planning, coordination, and growth of the Arts and Culture Program.

- The 2013 Downtown Cultural Corridor Master Plan guided the development of the Cleveland Streetscape and Couplet Conversion to include art experiences as key elements. Cleveland Street was designed as the "main street" for Downtown Redmond, and the City developed a concept of "great streets" as an important strategy to achieve this vision. This strategy includes Downtown streets that contribute to and reinforce the Couplet Corridor as a destination and the heart of Downtown by creating economically vibrant and pedestrian supportive streets. The larger purpose of this plan was to advance the notion of a "cultural corridor" to strengthen Redmond's reputation as an inventive and diverse community through ongoing opportunities in the cultural arts.
- The Cultural Facilities Feasibility Study prepared in 2015 explored the conditions to support the development of a cultural center in Redmond. The study included a needs assessment, market analysis and outlined building program, site analysis considerations, and funding needs. The report proposed a flexible space of about 25,000 square feet for cultural arts performances, programs, classes, and exhibits that could be located in Downtown, Marymoor Subarea, or Overlake Village. When opened, the Redmond Senior & Community Center will provide performing arts and cultural space.
- The Redmond Public Art Plan, adopted in 2017, articulated a vision and plan for public art centered around four overarching themes for artistic exploration that focus on the built and natural environment, cultural diversity of the Redmond community, technology, and the power of placemaking.
- A report called, Community Priorities for the Future of Redmond's Community Centers, was prepared in 2017 to summarize an engagement process to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing Redmond's community centers. In addition to the needs for indoor facility space for recreational programs and classes, the report reiterated prior community conversations and needs for a cultural center. Arts enthusiasts in the community conversations expressed a desire for a separation between cultural arts events and classroom space from fitness and aquatics facilities to separate such different uses with competing needs related to sound, storage, and use.
- In an effort to prioritize major capital facility investments across multiple City departments, the Facilities Strategic Management Plan was prepared in 2019 to identify strategies, programs, procedures, and projects to guide future facility needs. The plan

included and carried forward the idea for a cultural center, which had been identified in past plan and community feedback over the past decade.

Additionally, the City has elevated the arts and incorporated temporary or permanent public art into park, trail or other municipal capital projects. Examples include permanent signature artworks, such as The Erratic along the Redmond Connector Corridor, and other permanent and temporary installations at Downtown Park, the Municipal Campus, and the pending Redmond Senior & Community Center, among others. A listing of permanent art work by location is provided in Appendix C.

Arts, Culture & Events Trends

NATIONAL STATISTICS

The following national data highlights some of the current trends and benefits of arts programs and may frame future considerations in program and activity development.

- Research from the US Bureau of Economic Analysis shows that arts and culture drive 4.2% of the US gross domestic product (GDP), generating \$ 876.7 billion in 2020. In Washington State, this sector beats the national GDP, providing 9.4% of the State's GDP. Both in Washington and nationally, arts and culture surpass construction and education services in contribution to GDP. ⁽²⁾
- Nonprofit arts organizations and their audiences today generate \$135 billion of economic activity that supports 4.1 million arts and non-arts jobs throughout their communities. ⁽¹⁾
- The pandemic disproportionately impacted the cultural sector. ⁽⁴⁾
- 53% of Local Arts Agencies (LAAs) said the general public's perceived value of the arts has increased since the onset of the pandemic. ⁽³⁾
- After eight consecutive years of increases, the average size of the LAAs budget (income/revenue) declined 10.0% in 2020 and is anticipated to decline another 10.6% in 2021. ⁽⁵⁾
- People who say their neighborhood has easy access to quality arts and cultural activities tend to be more satisfied, identify more with local lifestyle and culture, and invest more time and resources in their communities. ⁽⁶⁾

- Arts activities increase residents' interest in getting involved in local issues and projects. 86% of civic engagement participants want to be involved in future projects. After their involvement, people living where projects occurred were more than twice as likely to be civically engaged as those whose blocks did not have projects. ⁽⁷⁾

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Numerous case studies, economic assessments and government estimates have demonstrated that arts and culture related industries positively contribute to the economy. The U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis and the National Endowment for the Arts partnered to create a program called the Arts and Cultural Production Satellite Account (ACPSA) to quantify the impact of and provide in-depth analysis of the arts and cultural sector's contributions to current-dollar gross domestic product. According to the most recent ACPSA estimates released in May 2022, \$876 billion (4.2%) of current-dollar GDP in 2020 was attributable to arts and culture. In 2020, the value added in arts and cultural industries decreased in every state except Washington, where the percent change in value added in arts and cultural industries increased by 9.4%. Additionally, the Arts and Economic Prosperity (AEP) national study compiled by Americans for the Arts found the following:

- The arts drive commerce to local businesses. The arts, unlike most industries, leverage significant amounts of event-related spending by their audiences. In 2017, arts attendees spent \$31.47 per person, per event, beyond the cost of admission on items such as meals, parking, and lodging—vital income for local businesses. ⁽¹⁾

Sources:

- (1) <https://www.americansforthearts.org/by-program/reports-and-data/research-studies-publications/arts-economic-prosperity-6>
- (2) US Bureau of Economic Analysis, 2022
- (3) AFTA 2020 LAA Profile http://surveys.americansforthearts.org/r/391676_60549cd4741a42.54488835
- (4) ArtsWA <https://www.arts.wa.gov/wa-covid-recovery-survey/>
- (5) AFTA LAA COVID-19 Impacts https://www.americansforthearts.org/sites/default/files/2Pager_ImpactOfCOVIDPandemicOnLAAs_WithBudgetHistory.pdf
- (6) Knight Foundation Community Ties survey Community-Ties-Final-pg.pdf (knightfoundation.org). Builds off Soul of Community Longitudinal Study (2008-2010) conducted by the Knight Foundation found key drivers of community attachment to be social offerings, openness, and aesthetics. <https://knightfoundation.org/sotc/overall-findings/>
- (7) Nicodemus, A., Engh, R., & Mascaro, C. (2016). Adding it Up: 52 Projects by 30+ Artists in 4 Neighborhoods. Metris Arts

- Small investments. Big returns. In 2017, the combined \$5 billion in direct arts funding by local, state, and federal governments yielded \$27.5 billion in government revenue. ⁽¹⁾

Community Insights

SURVEY & OUTREACH FEEDBACK

The PARCC Plan survey provided additional insights from the community regarding the range of public art and cultural opportunities in Redmond. Respondents were asked to rate their satisfaction with a variety of facilities types on a scale from very satisfied to dissatisfied. Majorities of respondents indicated satisfaction with the City's public visual art (67%), community events (57%), and art, music and culture events (51%) in Redmond.

The survey asked residents a pair of questions regarding their use of, and sense of adequacy about, common park and recreation facilities. Specific to arts and cultural opportunities, pluralities of respondents believe that there are not enough of public art installations, performances, and events (45%) or art, music, and clay studios (42%). Additionally, respondents felt the City needed more of the following recreation program types related to arts and culture:

- Youth summer camps (Farm & Pony, Nature Vision, sports, Cartoonaversity)
- Youth programs, classes, and activities (arts, crafts, music, etc.)
- Teen programs, classes & activities (life skills classes, art, music, etc.)
- Adult programs, classes & activities (arts, crafts, music, etc.)

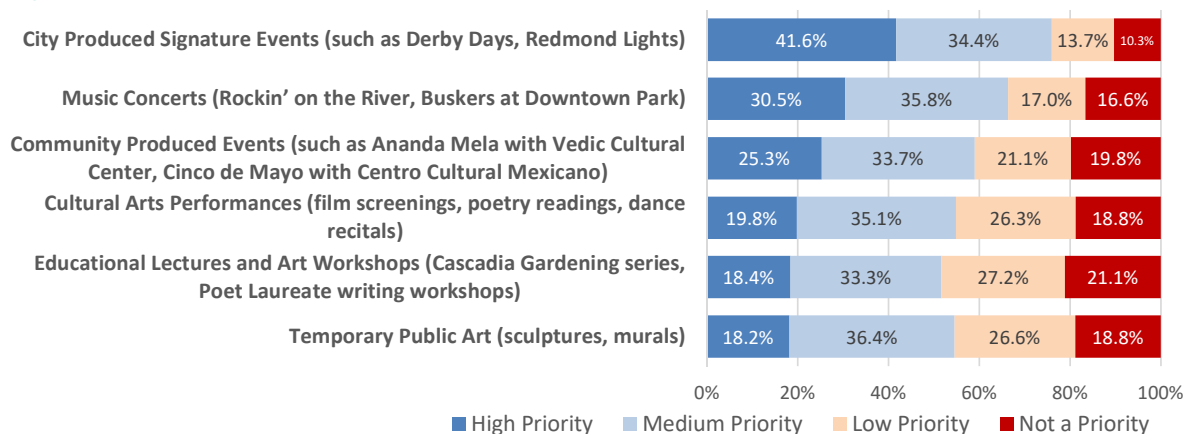
As with recreation programs and park amenities, the survey asked a pair of questions regarding attendance to, and priority for, a range of community event types (Figure 36). A plurality of respondents (42%) felt that City-produced signature events were the highest priority of the options provided and the highest overall attendance (72%). Music concerts and community-produced events were also strong priorities. Temporary public art and educational lectures were noted as the lowest priorities for community events, even though respondents noted strong attendance to temporary public art (46%).

The survey asked residents a pair of questions regarding their level of support for a variety of amenities and facilities that could be added to the park and recreation system, with listed options segmented between those that represent higher cost improvements and those that represent lower cost improvements. Related to arts and cultural opportunities, a majority were supportive of having a performing arts venues (29% very supportive and 38% somewhat supportive) and more temporary public art installations (29% very supportive and 34% somewhat supportive).

Other feedback from open house meetings, focus group discussions and pop-up tabling events included interest in the following:

- Additional events that provide a regional draw (vs. primarily residential audience)
- Additional public art and public art displays
- More multi-cultural representation in art pieces, displays, and exhibits
- Mobile stages in parks
- On-going, sustainable city grants to arts organizations
- Cultural Event Series over a season
- Support emerging, local artists

Figure 36: Priority for Community Event Types from Survey



EXISTING INVENTORY & ASSETS

The inventory of the arts program includes the public art collection, performing arts spaces, gallery and visual art display spaces, and areas specifically designated for art making.

Public Art Collection

Redmond's public art includes permanent art owned by the City including two-dimensional portable art and integrated permanent sculpture. The collection contributes to Redmond's cultural identity, character, and aesthetics, while providing points of community gathering and dialogue. The collection includes a wide variety of media and is located within City parks and along trail corridors, as well as inside and outside of municipal buildings. Much of the collection has been purchased and commissioned through the Percent for Arts Program. The City also maintains a public art mobile app, called STQRY, for Redmond's permanently-installed outdoor art collection.



Temporary Art

In addition to the permanent collection, the City has distinguished artworks on temporary loan for varying lengths of time. Temporary works have been commissioned through various City programs and events, from the artist-in-residence program, Redmond Lights, to one-off civic engagement projects. These artworks have enabled the City to create engaging social practice projects in addition to placing ephemeral works throughout the City and its natural landscape. Temporary art commissions also help local emerging artists break into the public art field.



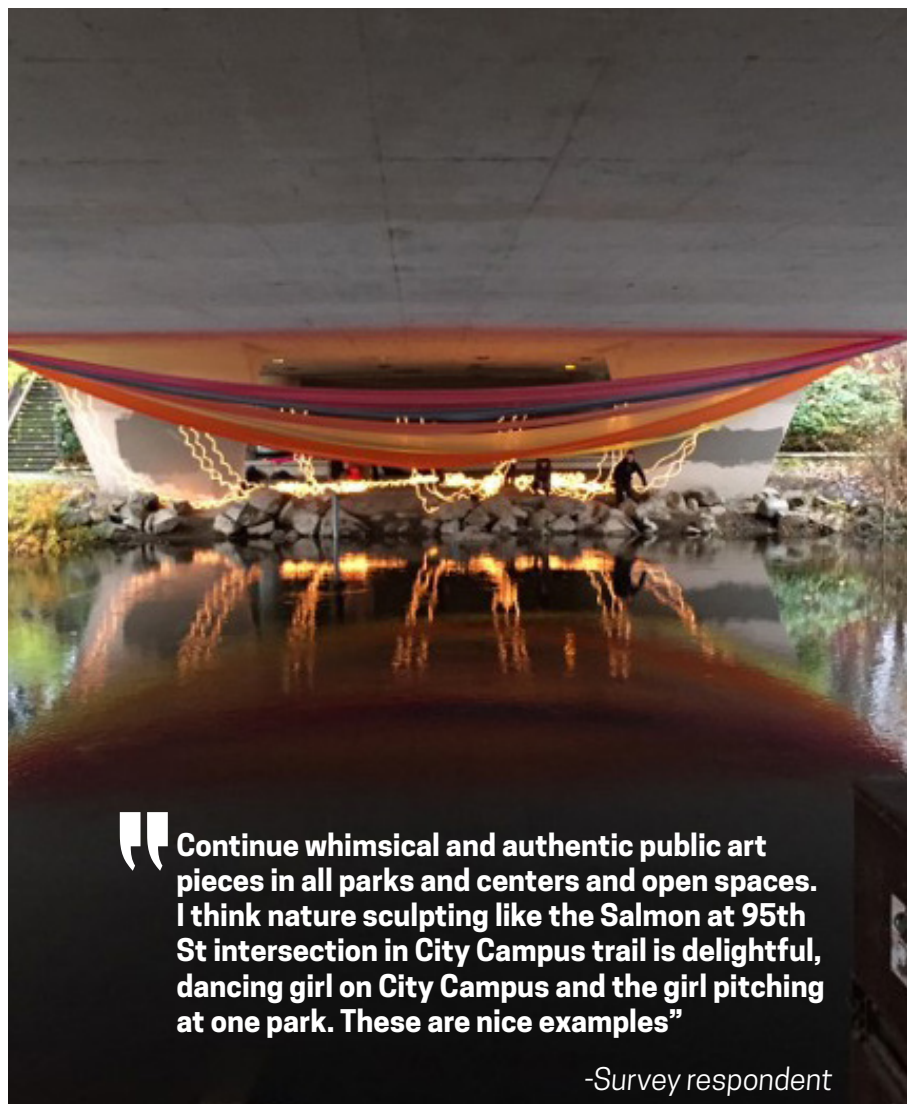
Visual Art Display Spaces

There are several City facilities that house or host visual art exhibitions. These exhibition spaces are located in the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center, Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village, City Hall, and the Public Safety Building. Future art display spaces will be at the Redmond Senior & Community Center when it opens, scheduled for 2024. Exhibitions rotate at each location and are presented each year depending on interest and capacity. Additionally, outdoor art can be displayed on Municipal Campus, City parks, trails, rights-of-way, and sometimes in other public areas owned by King County or private owners with permission.





THE GRAFFITI WALL AT THE SKATE PARK IS WELL KNOWN AND ARTISTS FREQUENTLY PAINT MURALS THERE.



“Continue whimsical and authentic public art pieces in all parks and centers and open spaces. I think nature sculpting like the Salmon at 95th St intersection in City Campus trail is delightful, dancing girl on City Campus and the girl pitching at one park. These are nice examples”

-Survey respondent

Workshop & Classroom Spaces

Workshop areas for arts education classes are located in the Old Redmond Schoolhouse Community Center, Art Studio at Grass Lawn Park, the Old Fire House Teen Center, and Redmond Community Center at Marymoor Village. Classes are offered throughout the year to explore photography, music, dance, and ceramics, among others. Other classroom space at community centers is used for art classes, primarily for seniors and adults. In the future Redmond Senior & Community Center, additional classroom and event space to accommodate arts programming is planned.

Performing Art Spaces

A number of performance venues currently are used for cultural arts programming including indoor stages and auditoriums and informal areas of parks and

trails. The Old Fire House Teen Center provides space for music and performances, and the new Redmond Senior & Community Center under construction will accommodate space for outdoor events and performances. In addition, the future center will include an indoor performance space with a raised stage and for seating close to 400. This flexible space will allow for layout options that can accommodate lectures, performances, concerts, and more. The City also owns and operates the “Moving Arts Center” which can be used for parks and events activations. Several private performance venues also operate within Redmond and provide space for arts, theater, and performances. Figure 37 identifies the City’s performing art spaces.

In addition to the physical spaces and media for community public art, the City also supports and sponsors artists and arts programming.

Figure 37: Redmond's Performing Art Spaces

Location	Description
Old Fire House Teen Center Stage	Indoor stage includes lighting and sound for music or theatrical performances. Additional, smaller outdoor stage is used in the summer for live music performances.
Redmond Senior and Community Center (Future)	The indoor multipurpose room will include a raised stage that can be used for events, banquets, lectures, cultural events, and performances. Special acoustics and technology accommodation and seating for up to 400.
Esterra Park Amphitheater	Outdoor amphitheater in the Overlake Urban Center provides built in bench seating that overlooks the plaza for performance space. Park has electricity to support sound and lights.
Buoyant Pavilion at Downtown Park	Outdoor covered stage that can host commissioned light shows, performances, and videos. Electricity for performances is provided, flexible seating in the plaza.
Moving Arts Center	The Moving Arts Center provides a unique performance stage that can be brought to different locations across the city. This trailer moves to different sites around Redmond and is used for curated public performances.



Residencies

The City of Redmond Residencies include the Poet Laureate program and the Artist-in-Residence Program.* Established in 2008, the Poet Laureate program produces a variety of programming, projects, and community engagement opportunities for Redmond residents and visitors. The Redmond Poet Laureate Program builds a more literate and understanding community through poetry and the literary arts by broadening awareness of poetry and expressing the spirit of Redmond culture through poetry. The Artist-in-Residence program was used to stimulate cultural vibrancy and promote placemaking in Downtown parks. Residency programs can spur civic engagement, advocacy, and build community. Their integration into City agencies can help highlight everyday infrastructure and provide innovative alternatives and additions to projects through art. Resulting projects span artistic disciplines and can look like performances in a City park for a certain duration to utilization of a vacant storefront. The goal is for there to be a sense of unbounded creative infusions into the character and experience of the City.

Individual Artist Support

The City has provided support to individual artists over the years. One of the most successful models has been through the Public Art Intensive Eastside, a workshop sponsored by the City of Redmond is open to visual artists who have an interest in exploring the presentation of their work in public settings, community-building or enhancing the built

environment. Building on the interest and momentum of the program, the Arts and Culture Program will provide additional professional development classes for artists throughout the year.

Arts Integration

Cross-departmental arts integration can lead to collaborations that provide solutions that go beyond beautification. In 2020, three local artists were chosen to provide artwork for utility box wraps requested by Public Works as a means to mitigate vandalism of public property. While delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these utility box wraps are now installed in the Downtown Core. Future projects with Public Works include art crosswalks, which have been shown to increase pedestrian safety and reduce accidents at the intersections they occupy. Continued collaboration and future artist-in-residences will help to highlight additional arts integration opportunities.

Activations

Arts programming is a vital component of the activation of public space. The Poet Laureate program, Moving Art Center, and temporary public art installations, all play a role in bringing art into the community and creating vibrant spaces. They can be used to activate undeveloped park spaces or provide interim uses before permanent facilities are developed.

* The Artist-In-Resident Program was eliminated from the City of Redmond's 2023/24 budget.



Park Permitting

Park permitting is essential to the community's access to the diverse arts and culture found in Redmond. Through special events and miscellaneous-use permitting, the City provides access to the use of public space for various culturally-rich community programs such as Ananda Mela, Cinco de Mayo, Festival of Color, etc. Included in permitting is the Busker Program, established in 2021 to provide local and regional street performers an opportunity to perform at Redmond's Downtown Park. This program is intended to provide a low-barrier opportunity for local and regional artists of all experience levels to share their work with the community. Buskers participating in the program are permitted to promote and sell their work or solicit donations from the public during their performance timeslots.

Signature Events

The City produces two annual community events that are intended to connect and inspire people, activate the City's urban centers, and catalyze local businesses. Derby Days is a traditional summer event founded in 1939 as a community bicycle race that raised funds for charity. Today, it includes two days of local performances, an arts and crafts market, dozens of local organizations and businesses' participation, and a parade, in addition to bicycle races. Redmond Lights celebrates winter through multiple nights of music and performances, as well as a month-long installation of light and art in Downtown Park.

Arts & Cultural Recreation Classes

The Redmond Recreation Program offers access to arts and cultural programming, ranging from painting, music, dance, ceramics, and more.

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC)

While not managed by the Parks and Recreation Department, the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee is responsible for supporting tourism activities in Redmond which includes grants for special events. These special events help further arts and cultural events that are available in the community.

Public Arts Funding

The City of Redmond recognizes the importance and benefit of providing opportunities for art experiences throughout the city. It is the City's intention to create a variety of cultural opportunities for its citizens and to enhance the cultural environment in the community by encouraging and promoting the creation and placement of public art. To accomplish these goals, Ordinance 1640 was established to pool 1% for the arts from qualifying capital improvement projects to be used for works of art at certain public places that expand community access to public visual art. Current ongoing efforts strive to provide additional transparency in the budget for identifying and funding public art projects, while also increasing the amount of money earned from this project in order to achieve the goals of the Comprehensive Plan and Public Art Plan.

Grants

Since 1990, the City of Redmond has supported artists and arts organizations with an annual grant program. Currently, funding is offered through the Operating Support Grant Program which offers unrestricted support to eligible non-profits in Redmond whose missions serve the community through access to arts, arts education, and cultural heritage experiences. This program is intended to assist with the attraction and retention of arts and culture organizations and programming and support the creative economy.

“Estaría muy bien que haya más eventos musicales en el Downtown o en los parques de Redmond (It would be great if there were more music events in Downtown or at the Redmond parks)”

-Survey respondent






“More concerts, better publicized. Better publicity for events downtown. More food/arts/street events. Music! Music! more music!”

-Survey respondent



3D

Trails



Trails and paths provide people with valuable links between neighborhoods, parks, schools, transit, business centers, and other destinations. This chapter provides an overview of the trails system in Redmond, including an assessment on current initiatives.

Completing and expanding trail system connections was identified as one of the highest capital project priorities during the community engagement process, and walking was the top activity for Redmond residents. Continuing to manage and invest in the trail system, while also improving trail access to transportation options is essential to maintaining a healthy and livable community and promoting alternatives to vehicle use.

Trail Trends

Walking and hiking continue to be the most popular recreational activities nationally and regionally. Furthermore, national recreation studies have consistently ranked walking and hiking as the most popular forms of outdoor recreation over the last ten years, and summaries of recreation trends are provided in Appendix I.

The 2018-2022 Recreation and Conservation Plan for Washington State confirmed that outdoor recreation is an integral part of life for most Washington residents, with strong participation in the most popular category of activities, which includes walking (94%) and hiking (61%). Considerable increases in participation rates in outdoor recreation activities since 2006 indicate the importance of the State and local communities continuing to invest in parks, trails, and open space infrastructure.

The COVID-19 pandemic significantly impacted outdoor recreation activities, including trail use. Local and regional park and recreation agencies that managed trail systems were pressed to adapt to heavy usage and crowded trailhead parking, as many people shifted their daily exercise routines to outdoor activities, such as walking and bicycling.

An August 2020 report from the Outdoor Industries Association revealed that Americans took up new activities in significant numbers with the biggest gains in running, cycling, and hiking. Walking, running, and hiking were widely considered the safest activities during pandemic shutdowns. Participation rates for day hiking rose more than any other activity.

The 2022 Outdoor Participation Report confirms the increase in outdoor recreation participants



into 2021. Participation retained its momentum indicating that once someone begins to participate, they are likely to continue to participate. Hiking and running were the top two outdoor activities, a trend that has continued to build in recent years.

Notably, this 2022 report shares that the number of seniors, ages 65 and older, participating in outdoor activities grew by 16.8% (an astounding 2.5 million) since 2019. Trails and pathways are essential infrastructure to support outdoor recreation.

With the rapid increase in electric-assist mobility and the potential for user conflicts due to increased speeds, Redmond will want to determine the best approach for ensuring safety for all trail users and how best to promote trail etiquette on shared-use pathways.

Community Insights

As noted in previous chapters, feedback from the community surveys and two public meetings provided a wealth of local insights on current usage and interests in various recreation amenities, including trails. The most popular amenities used during visits are trails for walking, running, hiking, biking, or riding horses (95%). While respondents generally feel that the City already provides many amenities in its park system, a plurality of respondents indicated the greatest need for trails (42%), representing the strongest demand from a list of over 20 amenities.

Respondents were asked to rank a list of potential recreation, park, and open space investments, with listed options segmented between those that represent higher cost improvements and those that represent lower cost improvements. When presented higher-cost potential improvements, nine in ten respondents were supportive of adding multi-use walking and biking trails (65% very supportive and 25% somewhat supportive). Overall, expanding trail opportunities was among the top three priorities for improvements within the City's park and recreation system.

Survey respondents also voiced interest for continued investment in the expansion and maintenance of the city's trail system – both paved and soft-surface trails. Several respondents also asked for investments in pedestrian and bicyclist access and safety improvements (sidewalks, crossings, bike lanes, etc.), as well as mapping, wayfinding signage, and etiquette communications.

Wayfinding, mapping, and trail signs were mentioned

by the community as potential areas for improvement. Additionally, increasing awareness of the existing trails and routes that are available to the community was identified by the community as a need.

Considering all of the community feedback from the survey, online open house, stakeholder interviews, and stakeholder focus group discussions, a number of core themes and interests emerged.

- Trail connectivity is important. Complete loops and circuits, and focus on trail connectivity (connecting trail gaps).
- Enhanced linkages between residential neighborhoods and downtown via pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly routes are an important focus area.
- COVID has accelerated the trends toward higher trail usage, which include more users on trails and a wider age distribution of off-road bike riders.
- There is broad interest for the potential of expanded trail connections such as Redmond Central Corridor, Phase 3.

95%

OF SURVEY RESPONDENTS SAY TRAILS FOR WALKING, RUNNING, HIKING, BIKING OR RIDING HORSES IS THE MOST POPULAR AMENITY

These community needs are already informing future investments. The City's Budget for 2023-2024 (and related 2023-2028 Capital Improvement Program) proposes to invest in a transportation system that supports multimodal movement of people and goods. The top objective is to use the City's Transportation Master Plan, PARCC Plan, Utilities Strategic Plan, and Facilities Master Plan to guide investments for ongoing development and maintenance of the City's infrastructure and public facilities. Another objective seeks to promote the use of alternative modes of transportation and invest in transportation infrastructure and programming that supports a variety of modes and choices. For example, the Redmond Central Connector (Phase 3) is included for the design and construction of a 1.6-mile regional trail along the former railroad corridor parallel to Willows Road from the 9900 block to NE 124th Street. This third and final phase of the RCC would have design completed in 2024 with construction completed by 2025. Once completed, it would connect to the larger Eastrail regional trail which connects 42 miles of trails between numerous eastside cities.

Trail Planning

Implementing Redmond's network of trails will expand access for all community members and support sustainability goals around reducing vehicle dependence. The trail network serves as foundational infrastructure for an interconnected system of outdoor recreation facilities. The arrival of light rail to Overlake and Downtown would be enhanced by providing multimodal access in the form of trail connections. Connecting trails into and through urban centers will allow for alternative modes of accessing goods and services, as well as link to public transit. The City is on track to complete the Redmond Central Connector Phase 3 by 2025, which will provide an important link between transit, businesses, and residents along the Willows Road corridor and improve level of service metrics.

The **City of Redmond Community Strategic Plan** that was adopted in 2021 has a strategy of creating healthy, walkable, and equitable transit-oriented communities. Council is directing staff to develop strategies, programs, and projects that promote livability and cultivate "10-minute neighborhoods." These neighborhoods are where shopping, services, amenities, schools, recreation, and transit are within a 10-minute walk of where people live. Trails and connections support this strategy.

Walkable communities allow for individuals to engage in physical activity independently as well as provide social experiences. Know that each person and/or organization may define "walkability" differently, but an overarching concept is that the space is accessible and can be pleasantly and independently used.

Community members, including older adults, individuals with and without disability, families, youth, and more, utilize the town's physical environment to get from point A to point B. Within the community, are you walking somewhere? Biking? Pushing? Using an assistive device? A walkable community is designed to support public activity, and it provides an affordable form of travel.

<https://www.nchpad.org/1712/6831/What-is-Walkability~>



The previous **Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture & Conservation Plan** emphasized that “trails in Redmond provide recreation, transportation, and support healthy, active lifestyles in urban, suburban, and rural settings.” An important component of Redmond’s character is its pedestrian and bicycle system that facilitates healthy lifestyles. Colloquially, Redmond is known as the “Bicycle Capital of the Northwest”, and a robust trail network supports this identity.

Redmond’s **Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP)** proposes significant reductions in passenger vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to reduce transportation emissions and enhance community mobility. Providing safe, convenient bike and walking alternatives can contribute to reaching that VMT goal. A key strategy in the ESAP for transportation and land use is to “increase the equitable use of non-SOV (single occupancy vehicles) modes of transportation, such as biking, walking, and public transit through programmatic and infrastructure interventions.”

The City’s **Transportation Master Plan (TMP)** proposed a suite of travel choices to provide an efficient, effective transportation system that accommodates planned growth and supports light rail ridership. Pedestrian and bicycle facilities are interwoven into the network of multimodal environments. Within the urban centers (Downtown, Overlake, and Marymoor Village), walking will become the most significant mode of travel as a percentage of daily travel. A walkable Redmond will act as the catalyst to improve all travel choices and overall mobility, as well as enhance equity in our transportation network. Based on the TMP, walking will be an attractive mode of travel by providing a pedestrian system with a dense network of sidewalks and trails that connect directly to destinations. The walking environment will be useful, safe, comfortable, and interesting, and it also will enhance community character by activating the urban centers and tying neighborhoods together to create a walkable Redmond. Redmond’s extensive network of trails will be improved for pedestrian connectivity, changing over time from having very few access points to having a high number of access points. This effort will dramatically increase the transportation value of the trail network by supporting short trip lengths and creating loops and variety. Bicycle ridership will also be supported by access improvements, including bicycle parking, bicycle-sharing programs, and bicycle education and encouragement. The Bicycle System Plan Map in the TMP locates the existing and proposed alignments for bicycle facilities.

Trail Classifications

The Parks and Recreation Department has designated four types of trails that inform the way trails are planned, developed, and maintained:

- Regional Trails
- Connector Trails
- Local Trails
- Blue Trails

Regional Trails

Regional trails are typically planned and designed with active transportation and high volume recreation use as their primary purpose. Regional trails are paved and follow the design standards for Shared Use Paths as specified in the City of Redmond’s Bicycle Facilities Design Manual Guidelines (2016 or latest version). In general, regional trails are completely separated from roads by distance or barriers, and at-grade crossings of roadways are minimized to avoid conflicts. Regional trails should be a minimum of 12 feet wide under most conditions, with a minimum two-foot wide graded area on both sides that should be flush with the trail. These trails are intended to be long-distance routes that connect to other trails and extend to other cities. Coordination with adjacent jurisdictions, community development programs, and transportation planning is central to developing a complete system of regional trails.

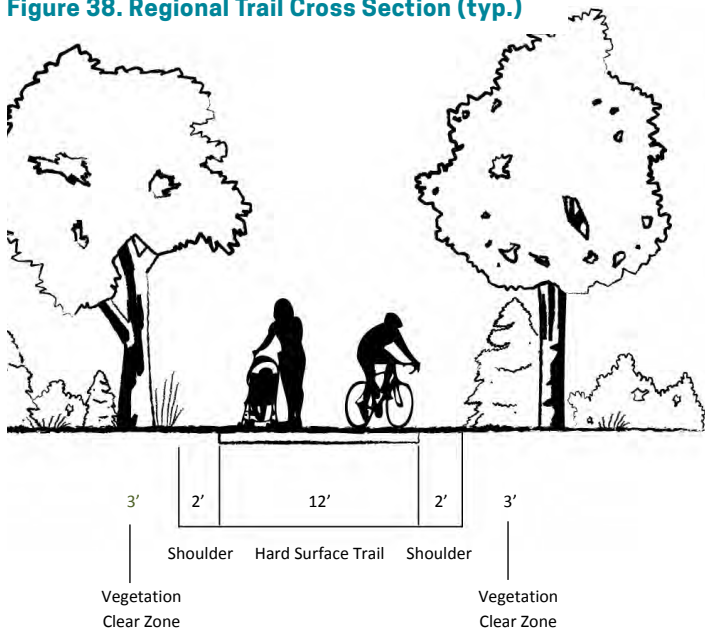
Connector Trails

Connector trails are the key linkages between regional trails and other major areas. These trails can be paved or soft surface trails, but these are typically narrower than regional trails, due to more limited use and possible land access issues. These trails are designed for recreation and transportation uses. Connector trails should meet the City’s sidewalk standards as a minimum and have a width of six feet to eight feet. Connector trails are in high demand by the community as key infrastructure to make walking and bicycling more convenient modes of travel within Redmond.

Local Trails

Local trails are typically soft surface trails that can range from one foot to five feet wide. These trails are typically designed for recreational uses such as neighborhood links, park trails, and hiking, off-road bicycling, and equestrian trails. These trails can also meet special interest activities, such as BMX and

Figure 38. Regional Trail Cross Section (typ.)

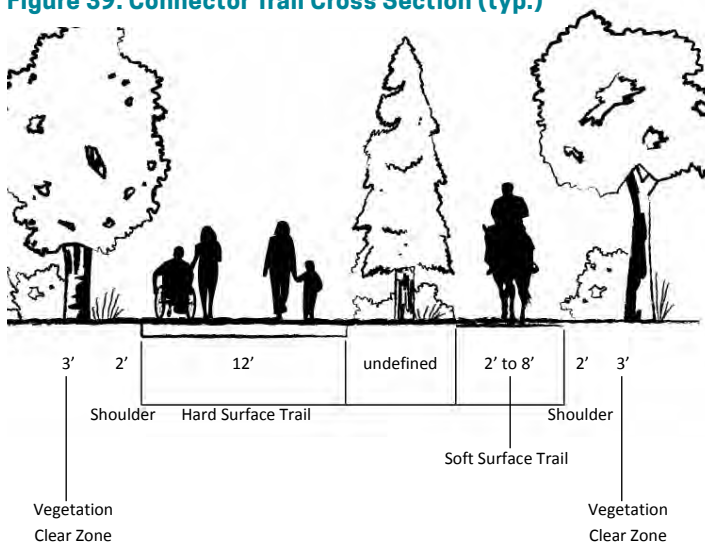


mountain biking. Local trails are typically constructed with native soil from the site or with a surface of gravel or wood chip material if additional reinforcement is required. Trail surfaces are graded slightly to reduce the potential for erosion.

Blue Trails

Blue trails are water trails along navigable waters within the city, such as the Sammamish River and Lake Sammamish. The primary design criteria for blue trails includes providing frequent access points to the water where personal watercraft can be safely and easily transported from parking areas and providing adequate signage and route finding materials. Redmond is part of the Lakes to Locks Trail, a system of blue trails that connects the Sammamish River in Redmond to Lake Washington and beyond.

Figure 39. Connector Trail Cross Section (typ.)

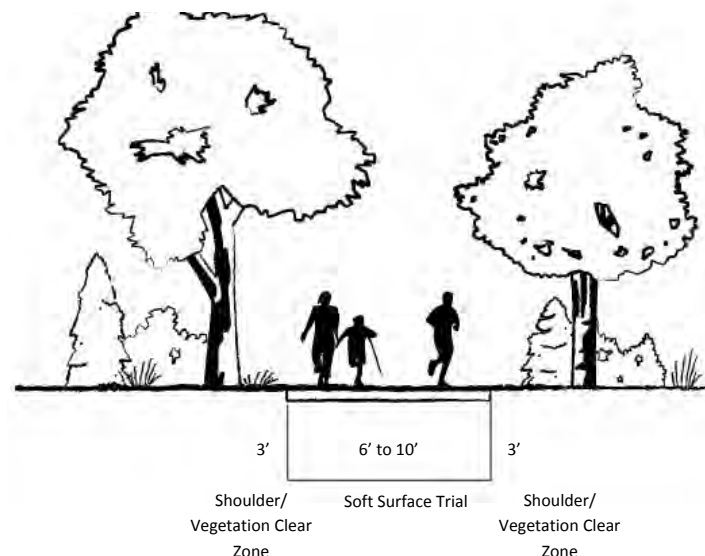


Trail System Inventory

In addition to paved pathways and natural surfaced trails within individual parks and open spaces, Redmond has 13 stand-alone trails providing outdoor recreation opportunities and connections across the City. These trails, which include a combination of regional, connector, and local trail types offer a variety of surface types and accommodate pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians. These City-owned trails provide 15.26 miles of off-road travel.

In addition to its own trail network, Redmond has several county-owned connector trails and one regional trail that links the community to other locations. Over 12 miles of trails are owned and managed by King County within the Redmond city limits, including the Sammamish River Trail.

Figure 40. Local Trail Cross Section (typ.)



“Having more trails that are separated from the road - the river trail ends up being extremely crowded on nicer days showing how much demand there is for green spaces that are separated from cars.”

-Survey respondent

Figure 41. City-Owned Stand-alone Trails

Trail Name	Trail Classification	Surface Type	Use Type			Miles
			Pedestrian	Bicycle	Horse	
172nd Street Trail	Connector	Soft	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.81
Ashford Trail	Connector	Soft	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.61
Bear & Evans Creek Trail	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	1.70
Bridle Crest Trail	Regional	Soft	Yes	Yes	Yes	1.96
Hidden Ridge Trail	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.61
PSE Powerline Trail	Regional	Soft	Yes	No	No	5.98
Redmond Central Connector	Regional	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	2.35
Trail at Ardmore	Local	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.14
65th Street Trail	Local	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.28
Cobblestone Trail (PSE spur)	Connector	Soft	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.16
Microsoft Connector Trail 36th to 31st Street	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.43
NE 100th Trail	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.04
Trail at Old School	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.19
Total Miles (City)						15.26

70%

Percentage of the City with access to regional and recreational trails within a half mile.

Figure 42. County-owned Regional Trails

Trail Name	Trail Classification	Surface Type	Use Type			Miles
			Ped	Bicycle	Horse	
Sammamish River Trail	Regional	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	5.78
West of Sammamish River	Connector	Soft	Yes	Yes	Yes	2.82
East Lake Sammamish Trail	Regional	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	1.13
Marymoor Connector Trail	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	1.50
Par Course	Connector	Paved	Yes	Yes	Yes	0.88
Total Miles (County)						12.11

Trail System Gap Analysis

A gap analysis was conducted to examine and assess the accessibility of existing recreational trails. As with the parkland analysis, travel distances were calculated along the road network starting from each existing trail segment's known access points. Local trails within parks were also depicted. "Travelsheds" were calculated with ¼-mile, ½-mile and 1-mile distances for major trails (e.g., Redmond Central Connector, Bear & Evans Creek Trail, Sammamish River Trail) and ¼-mile and ½-mile "travelsheds" for the remainder. Map 15 illustrates the citywide distribution of recreational trails and the relative access to these corridors within reasonable travel walksheds. Approximately 70% of the City has access to regional and recreational trails, including park trails and the Sammamish River Trail within a half mile of their home or work.

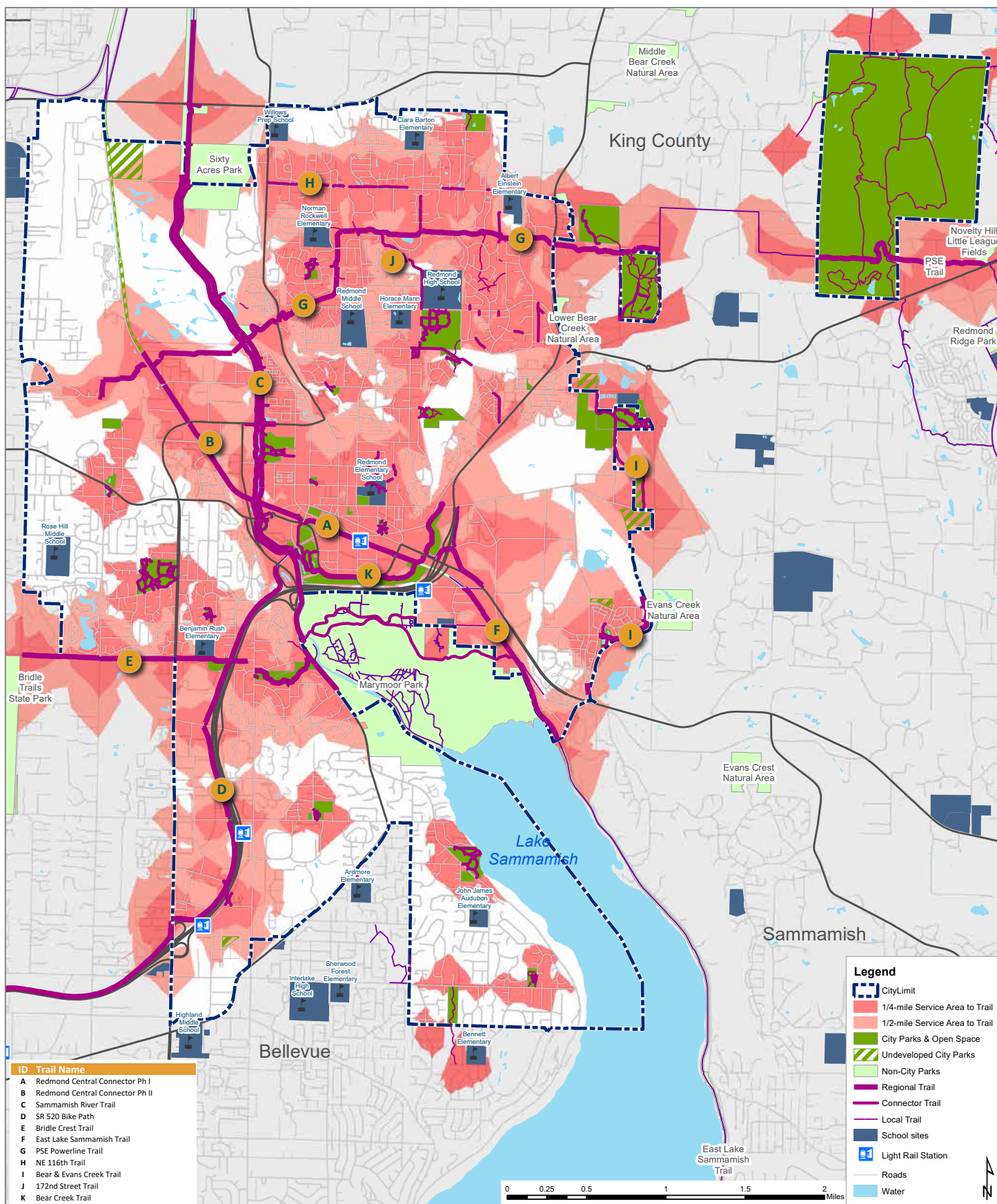
Similar to transportation planning, recreational trail planning should be geared toward connectivity as a system performance metric, rather than mileage. Only considering a mileage standard for paths within the

Redmond park system will result in an isolated and inadequate assessment of community needs with little consideration for better trail connectivity. This Plan recommends a connectivity goal that re-states and reinforces the desire to improve overall connections across the City in support of "10-minute neighborhood" goals and enhance off-street linkages between parks, schools and major destinations, as feasible.



Need trails to make more connections. Make trails go from Marymoor and Idylwood Park finish to 124th street and connect down to Redmond Way and businesses along there. Mid-block trails need some street crossings downtown and on 85th, plus a connection between the two main trails going East and West and North and South."

-Open House Participant



Map 15: Travelsheds - All Existing Recreational Trails Routes (1/4- & 1/2-mile)

Trail Amenities

ALIGNMENTS & CONNECTIONS

Growing the trail network should continue to prioritize trail alignments and locations that are optimal from multiple perspectives: trail user, trail experience, and trail connectivity. Cost, regulatory, and site suitability factors are typically incorporated into implementation timing. New trail alignments should strive to accommodate different trail use types (i.e., commuter vs. recreational/destination oriented) and utilize interim solutions, such as widening sidewalks and utilizing existing or planned utility corridors as opportunities for trail improvements. Integration of trail projects with other pedestrian infrastructure projects and other transportation projects implemented by the City is essential for expanding the reach of trail opportunities. Trail alignments for local, neighborhood, and park trails should serve as connections to regional, shared-used trails to provide access and reduce the sole reliance on trailheads for providing access to the trail network. New developments should provide for connections to nearby trails and pathways whenever feasible.

AREAS OF RESPITE

Beyond trailheads that can provide access to the trail with parking, restrooms, drinking water, benches, etc., rest areas along trail segments can enhance the trail user's experience to enjoy the natural settings and/or urban dynamics of the trail's environment. Areas of respite are usually available within developed parks connected to the trail system, but longer sections of trails between trailheads and parks could offer places to rest, stop and chat, enjoy wildlife viewing, reconnoiter, meet-up with fellow trail users, etc. Differentiated from trailheads, these 'rest stops' can simply offer pull-offs with benches or picnic tables, observation or viewing platforms, or interpretive signs. These sites should also be included in the emergency response system with an identifying code to provide locator information.

ACCESS & TRAILHEADS

Safe, convenient entryways to the trail network expands access for users and are a necessary component of a robust and successful system. A trailhead typically includes parking, kiosks, and signage and may consist of site furnishings, such as trash receptacles, benches, restrooms, drinking fountains,

bike repair stations, and bike racks. More recent trailhead installations are adding electric bike charging stations to continue to expand alternative modes of transportation. Trailheads may be within public parks and open space or provided via interagency agreements with partner organizations (e.g., King County, Lake Washington School District, WSDOT, etc.) to increase use and reduce unnecessary duplication of support facilities. Specific trailhead designs and layouts should be created as part of planning and design development for individual projects and consider the intended user groups and unique site conditions.

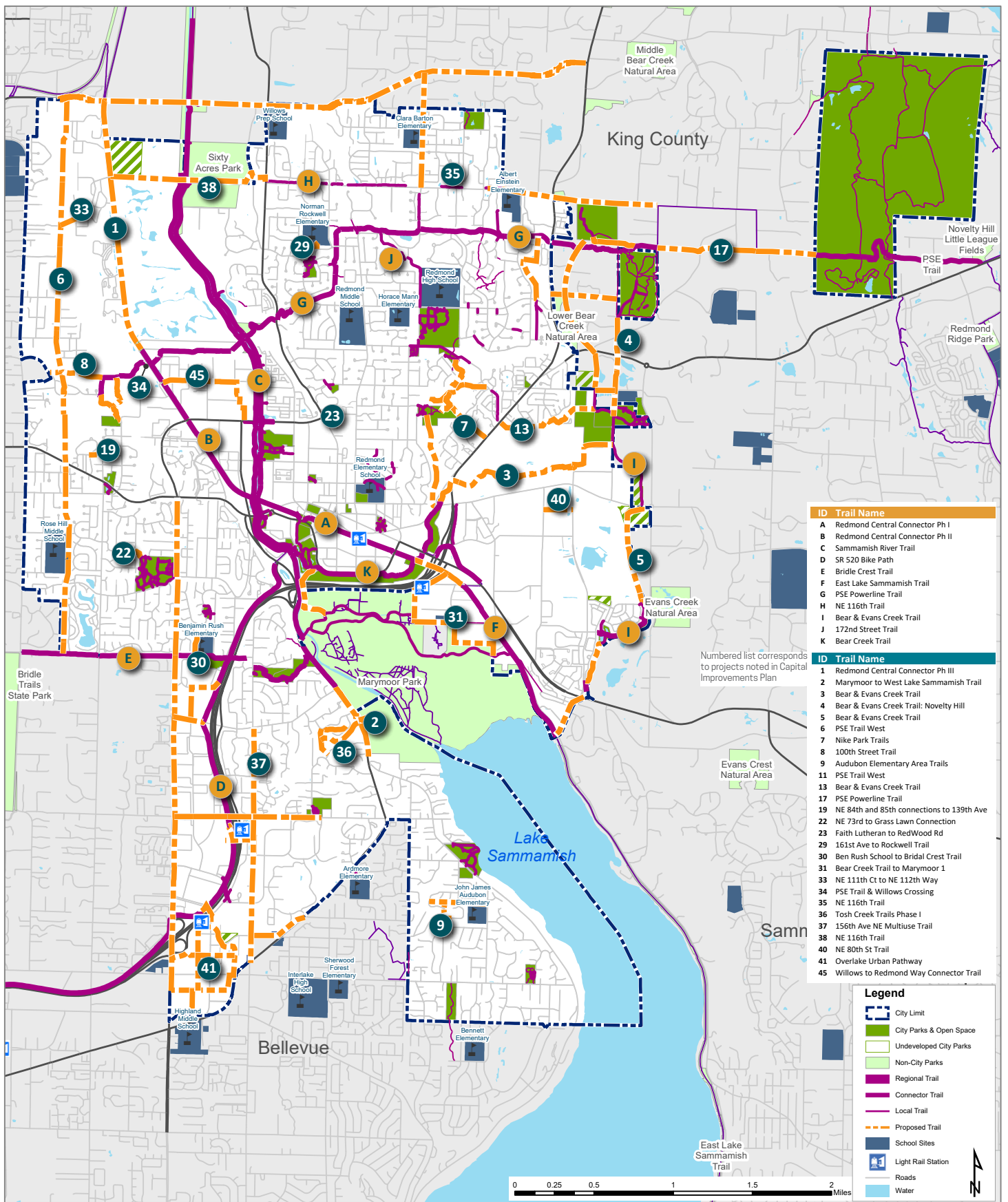
TRAIL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities to develop additional trails and connections may be limited in areas with existing dense urban development. One underlying tenet of the recreational trail system is to enable the placement of trails within or close to natural features to provide access to the City's unique landscapes and accommodate outdoor recreational access to creeks, hillsides, and waterfront. Bear and Evans Creek Trail and the Sammamish River Trail exemplify the value of trail alignments along waterways.

The future planning and design of trail routes through natural areas should be based on sensitive and low-impact design solutions that offer controlled access to protect the resource, while providing for a positive experience for all modes of trail user. The determination of future trail alignments should prioritize natural resource and natural hazards planning and protections, in part to meet local land use policies and Washington State requirements.

TRAIL SIGNS & WAYFINDING

Coordinated signage plays an important role in facilitating a successful trail system. A comprehensive and consistent signage system, implemented according to the type, scale, and site of the trail setting, is a critical component of the trail network. It also is necessary to inform, orient, and educate users about the trail system itself, as well as appropriate trail etiquette. Such a signage system should include trail identification information, orientation markers, safety and regulatory messages, and a unifying design identity for branding.



Map 16: Existing & Proposed Recreational Trails





3E

Conservation

The Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture and Conservation Plan continues to advance Redmond's vision for the future by seeking to protect and enhance sensitive environmental areas and wildlife habitat, preserve significant historical and cultural places, and develop parks using smart growth principles. Protecting and enhancing these natural areas and cultural features are values that are strongly held by the Redmond community and are a key component of the City's future plans.

Redmond has a wealth of natural resources, historic properties, and structures that contribute to the City's unique identity, and conservation in Redmond encompasses the care and management of these resources that characterize the landscape of the city and the Sammamish Valley. A future vision for Redmond's natural environment, community character and historic preservation was described in the prior Comprehensive Plan:

"Redmond in 2030 has maintained a very green character. The city is framed within a beautiful natural setting, with open spaces and an abundance of trees continuing to define Redmond's physical appearance, including forested hillsides that flank the Sammamish Valley, Lake Sammamish and Bear Creek. An interconnected system of open spaces provides habitat for a variety of wildlife. Public access to shorelines has been enhanced while protecting the natural environment and property owners' rights."

The City of Redmond recognizes that increased urbanization paired with climate change will continue to threaten Redmond's natural systems by impacting their ability to provide water, stormwater treatment, recreation, wildlife habitat and carbon sequestration. Sustainability priorities within Redmond's natural systems include protection and enhancement of native habitats and tree canopy and improvements to water quality, natural drainage systems, habitat quality, and greenspaces.

The 2021 Community Strategic Plan and 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) set forth a cohesive vision for environmental sustainability in Redmond. This plan defines a pathway for realizing that vision, which states: A Redmond that creates a healthy, sustainable environment for all generations and conserves our natural resources, affords a high quality of life, and draws from scientific evidence-based data.

The management of different conservation techniques for the City's natural resources falls within the jurisdiction of several departments. The Public Works Department oversees water resources. The Planning Department regulates natural, historic and cultural resources. The Parks and Recreation Department manages City properties that contain significant natural resources.

Conservation & Stewardship Planning

The City of Redmond is responsible for managing city-owned public land, as well as guiding development on private properties. There are multiple conservation efforts occurring across Redmond that protect a significant percentage of land within the city's boundaries. This happens through a variety of mechanisms including the overarching framework policy guidance of the Comprehensive Plan, natural resources related policies in several elements within the Comprehensive Plan, functional plans prepared by different departments within the city, tactical plans such as the Tree Canopy Strategic Plan and Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP), protective easements, and critical area policies and legislation. Each of these also influences the way that parkland is managed for conservation.

Conservation efforts also require a multi-faceted approach for effective environmental stewardship and historic preservation through collaboration between City departments, programming through partnerships, and the application of smart growth planning principles. Conservation objectives continued to be implemented through the goals adopted in the Comprehensive Plan and the more specific conservation-related planning documents. In light of this shared stewardship framework, consideration of other planning documents is helpful. Those most relevant to conservation include:

- Climate Vulnerability Assessment (2022)
- Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (2020)
- Tree Canopy Strategic Plan (2019)
- Community Strategic Plan (2019, 2021)

- Water Resources Strategic Plan (2015-2020) and 3-Year Action Plan (2015-2017)
- Watershed Management Plan (2013)
- 20-Year Forest Management Plan (2009)
- Stormwater Comprehensive Plan (2006)
- Redmond's Historic Core Plan
- Cultural Resources Management Plan (2019)

The on-going update to the Comprehensive Plan (Redmond 2050) will incorporate refinements to environmental conditions, concerns and objectives and new knowledge about environmental planning (climate change, resilience, etc.). These updates are required to consider Washington State, Puget Sound Regional Council, and King County environmental planning policies. The Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan will incorporate the 2023 PARCC Plan to provide the content and direction for the natural resource related policies in the other Elements of the Plan.

Additionally, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) focuses on creating a more resilient Redmond in the face of climate change and includes adopted goals for Natural Systems to "enhance green space, tree canopy, habitat quality and natural drainage systems." These goals are directly tied to conservation of existing parkland and open space. Other proposed strategies and actions in the ESAP within the Water and Climate Change section include actions that are directly or associated with parkland planning and management. Figure 43 extracts those specific strategies and actions that should be incorporated into park and facility planning, management and operations.



Figure 43. Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Goals

Strategy N1: Protect and enhance native habitats and open space and support local agriculture	
Action	Description
N1.2 Watershed approach for restoration	Use watershed approach to restoration planning
N1.3 Urban agriculture expansion	Use Partners to expand urban agriculture activities
N1.5 Community education and outreach	Program information-sharing on importance of native habitats
N1.6 Urban forestry staff	Hire additional staff to implement tree canopy plan
Strategy N2: Enhance resilience of natural areas and systems to climate change	
Action	Description
N2.1 Implement Forest Management Plan	Continue progress and update 20-yr plan
N2.2 Drought & Heat-tolerant plantings	Use native & adaptable plant species
N2.4 Green space access	Implement PARCC plan in areas with poor access
Strategy N3: Expand green infrastructure and associated services	
Action	Description
N3.1 Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan for City-owned properties	Use integrated pest management practices
N3.10 Drainage System resilience	Prepare natural drainage systems for changes in rainfall
N3.13 City Right of Way tree health assessments	Assess health for parks' natural systems & city street trees
Strategy N4: Increase citywide tree canopy	
Action	Description
N4.1 Planting in open space parkland	Increase tree canopy cover on City property
N4.3 Tree canopy LIDAR update	Acquire updated LiDAR dataset to measure canopy
N4.4 Tree matching grants	Encourage Neighborhood Matching Grants for tree plantings
N4.6 Targeted forest parcel acquisitions	Evaluate potential forest parcels for urban canopy cover
N4.7 Tree canopy dashboard	Develop public dashboard for tree canopy performance
N4.8 Neighborhood tree canopy plans	Work with neighborhoods to increase canopy & forest health
Strategy W2: Conserve community water resources	
Action	Description
W2.2 Water-efficient landscaping	Continue to practice water efficiency in park landscapes
Strategy W3: Protect quality and quantity of drinking water resources	
Action	Description
W3.7 Irrigation water efficiency	Pursue greater water efficiency with equipment upgrades
W3.9 Landscaping & irrigation standards	Use drought-tolerant planting & efficient irrigation on new projects
Strategy C1: Ensure all City services & infrastructure are resilient to climate change impacts	
Action	Description
C1.2 Reevaluate Best Management Practices (BMP) & design standards	For all City projects, design for climate resilience
C1.5 Wildfire mitigation planning	Find permanent funding to reduce wildfire risk

Conservation Trends

Parks and natural areas significantly contribute to Redmond's green infrastructure and provide value to flood mitigation, wildlife habitat, climate resilience, and more. As the NRPA states, "Parks and public lands serve an essential role in preserving natural resources and wildlife habitats, protecting clean water and clean air, and providing open space for current and future generations." As key contributors to ensuring the health of our environment, park providers should consider how the following trends can be integrated proactively into their management and practices.

- **Green Infrastructure** – Parks will continue to serve important roles in addressing stormwater management and serving as natural water-quality treatment for runoff. Sustainable landscapes can cleanse air and water, replenish aquifers, and reduce surplus runoff, while providing wildlife habitat.
- **Community Forestry** – Trees provide the major structure to park landscapes and help "green" urban areas as extensions of public park and greenspaces. As essential contributors to water quality, heat island reduction, and habitat value, the management of the community's tree canopy continues to build value into the future. As more park systems take a proactive approach to urban or community forestry programs, the value of canopy trees as capital assets will continue to grow.
- **Microclimate Modification** – Urban heat islands created by buildings and pavement can be mitigated through extending shade with tree canopy. The use of trees and native plantings can help cool surfaces and the associated rainwater runoff. Tree canopies have long been valued for helping save energy use in buildings and moderate summer temperatures for outdoor activities. Parks and greenspaces are proving to be among the most effective tools to combat the effects of urban heat islands.
- **Native Wildlife** – Recent studies in conservation news have been revealing an ongoing global biodiversity crisis. This news occurs in tandem with the climate change emergency that also threatens biodiversity and increased rates of species extinctions. Parks play an important role in preserving and restoring native plant species and native wildlife communities by intentionally focusing on planting and replanting green landscapes with native plant species that provide critical roles in the rest of the local ecosystem and its biodiversity.
- **"Rewilding"** – An ecological strategy that helps rebuild wildlife populations by restoring wildlife habitats goes beyond planting native plant species in park landscapes. Rewilding, with its tactics like pollinator gardens, urges a new kind of urban ethic to conserve and protect nature, while reducing the urban ecological footprint. Parks and natural areas can accommodate rewilding areas within their footprints by converting the more traditional landscapes of mown lawn and trees into more natural plant communities without losing outdoor recreational values and function.
- **Climate Resiliency** – Canopy trees, native landscapes, green infrastructure, and other applications of ecological landscape tactics may contribute to mitigating some of the negative impacts of climate change. Parks can play a role in promoting climate resiliency if planned to accommodate for the future with limited disruption to the park system's functions.
- **Conservation Staffing** – Conservation organizations, along with national, state, and local park agencies, are struggling to fill their staffing needs for stewardship and restoration. This trend is particularly evident with the recruitment and retention of a seasonal work force. Market forces are pushing up wages, and many park and recreation agencies are struggling to fill staffing needs.
- **Technology** – Drones are being used for tasks beyond surveillance, including horticultural and arboricultural practices such as pesticides applications, invasive weed monitoring, seeding operations, and even building inspections. Drones can economically reach areas in parks or natural areas that are inaccessible to other vehicles. Mowing operations may be shifting to newer technologies that include fully automated mowers, fully electric mowers, and zero emission mowers that are projected to require less maintenance and lower operating costs.

Community Insights

The community survey indicated strong support for conservation-related aspects of Redmond's park system. More than 80% of respondents indicated support for "Rewilding", expanding tree canopy, or allowing select areas to be naturalized. When presented a list of potential low cost amenities the City could consider adding to the park system, respondents were most supportive of rewilding natural areas (55% very supportive; 81% very or somewhat supportive).

Also, survey respondents visit local parks for a variety of reasons, and the second most popular reason is for relaxation, visiting nature and meditation (85%). A majority of survey respondents (63%) rated the condition of natural resource parks as either excellent or good.

Additionally, survey respondents offered several write-in comments related to conservation, and the following represents a short selection of those comments:

- "Add more natural parks"
- "More wooded space"
- "Watershed needs to be left natural so animals can survive and people can see natural landscapes."
- "More efforts to protect healthy forests from invasive species and development. Support expanding tree canopy. "
- "Where possible always add greenery like trees, shrubs, bulb flowers, and other things that bring bees and other strained insects and animals back."
- "Add more native trees and native plants to all the parks for people, climate, and for birds!"



Inventory & Status

Redmond continuously has been certified by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA for the past 23 years. The City has some parks sites certified as wildlife-friendly spaces (Wildlife Habitat Certification). Local stream restoration efforts to prevent flooding, enhance stream and riparian corridor habitat are ongoing. Collaborative restoration projects in parklands continue with both the Green Redmond Partnership and the Environmental & Utility Services division (EUSD).

LAND WITH CONSERVATION VALUE

Three categories of properties contain the majority of the highest quality natural areas in the city. They are notable for the different types of protective mechanisms that enable them to maintain their conservation value. The three categories of land with conservation value include city-owned properties, public properties, and properties with permanent protection (Figure 44).

Figure 44 . Conservation Land categories

Property Category	Description
City-Owned	
Resource Parks	Resource Parks are natural areas that may be lightly developed with features like trails and interpretive activities or signs. Typically they are not developed for active recreation uses. Neighborhood and Community Parks may also have areas with conservation value.
Trail Corridors	Trail Corridors are select linear corridors that contain a developed trail usually adjacent to a stream, river, utility or other linear feature. The space surrounding the trail may have canopy and habitat value.
Stormwater Tracts	Stormwater Tracts are created and designated as part of a land division specifically for management of stormwater. These may be public or private properties; an example of a public property is Scott's Pond, which is co-located with a park.
Building Sites	Building Sites include City-owned properties with buildings and associated land with conservation value. Fire Station #17 is an example of such a site.
Other Public Lands	
King County Parks	King County Parks owns several parks and trails in or near Redmond that are not developed for active recreation, or that exhibit habitat or conservation value, such as the Sammamish River Trail.
Lake Washington School District	Lake Washington School District has several properties with conservation value in Redmond, including Einstein Elementary that has an extensive area of wetland.
Properties w/ Permanent Protection	
Critical Areas	Critical Areas are protected through regulations that safeguard their intrinsic environmental value and/or provide for the public health and safety. The City of Redmond recognizes five broad types of critical areas: Geologically Hazardous Areas, Wetlands, Frequently Flooded Areas, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas, and Critical Aquifer Recharge Areas.
Native Growth Protection Areas	Native Growth Protection Areas (NGPAs) are in separate tracts typically owned in common by a Home Owners Association (HOA). These are used to protect critical areas during development and are required by the Critical Areas Ordinance.
TDR Sites	TDR Sites (Transfer of Development Rights)—A TDR program seeks to preserve landowners' asset value by moving the right to build from a location where development is prohibited (e.g., for environmental reasons) to a location where development is encouraged.
Private Parks	Private Parks are created in a residential development and are usually small neighborhood parks or native growth protection areas. The land is private property and is often managed by a homeowners' association. These parks serve a portion of the population or protect sensitive habitat, similar to the role of a public park.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Redmond's landscape is largely determined by the unique Northwest climate, which influences the creation of the region's hills, valleys, water bodies, and lush vegetation. The City experiences relatively mild, maritime weather conditions with most precipitation occurring in the cool, winter months. The high volume of rainfall received during the winter months is the primary water source for recharging groundwater supplies, which in turn replenish stream flows with cool, clean water during the warmer summer months. These stream flows are vital to the region's ecology, and most notably the salmon that are found in almost all streams in Redmond. Kokanee are a native, landlocked sockeye salmon that live in Lake Sammamish and spawn in tributaries, such as Idylwood Creek. They are an important traditional food source, and the forests that shelter these streams are equally vital to the health of the entire ecosystem.

Waterways

The most significant water bodies in Redmond include Lake Sammamish, the Sammamish River, Bear Creek, Evans Creek, and sixteen smaller creeks and tributaries. Only a small portion of Lake Sammamish is within the Redmond city limits, but the rivers and streams which supply it have a major impact on shaping the layout of the city, as well as its parks and trails system.

Redmond's public access to waterways offer a diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities and settings from the edge of Lake Sammamish at Idylwood Park to the Sammamish River shore launch at Luke McRedmond Landing to the many streams that flow along trails and through parks and open spaces. The Bear Creek Park and Bear Creek Trail have access to the creek, but limited amenities for park users.

Any opportunities to expand public access to these various waterfronts should be explored, while continuing to work on restoration and stewardship of the riparian corridors and shorelines.

Redmond's ongoing coordination with Forterra in the Green Redmond program is clear evidence of the community's commitment to conserve and protect its water resources. Clean air, clear lakes, and streams are critical to preserving Redmond's natural resources and maintaining a high quality of life. Redmond remains active in regional efforts to improve habitat for Lake Sammamish kokanee salmon and to address shared resources around the lake. On-going stream



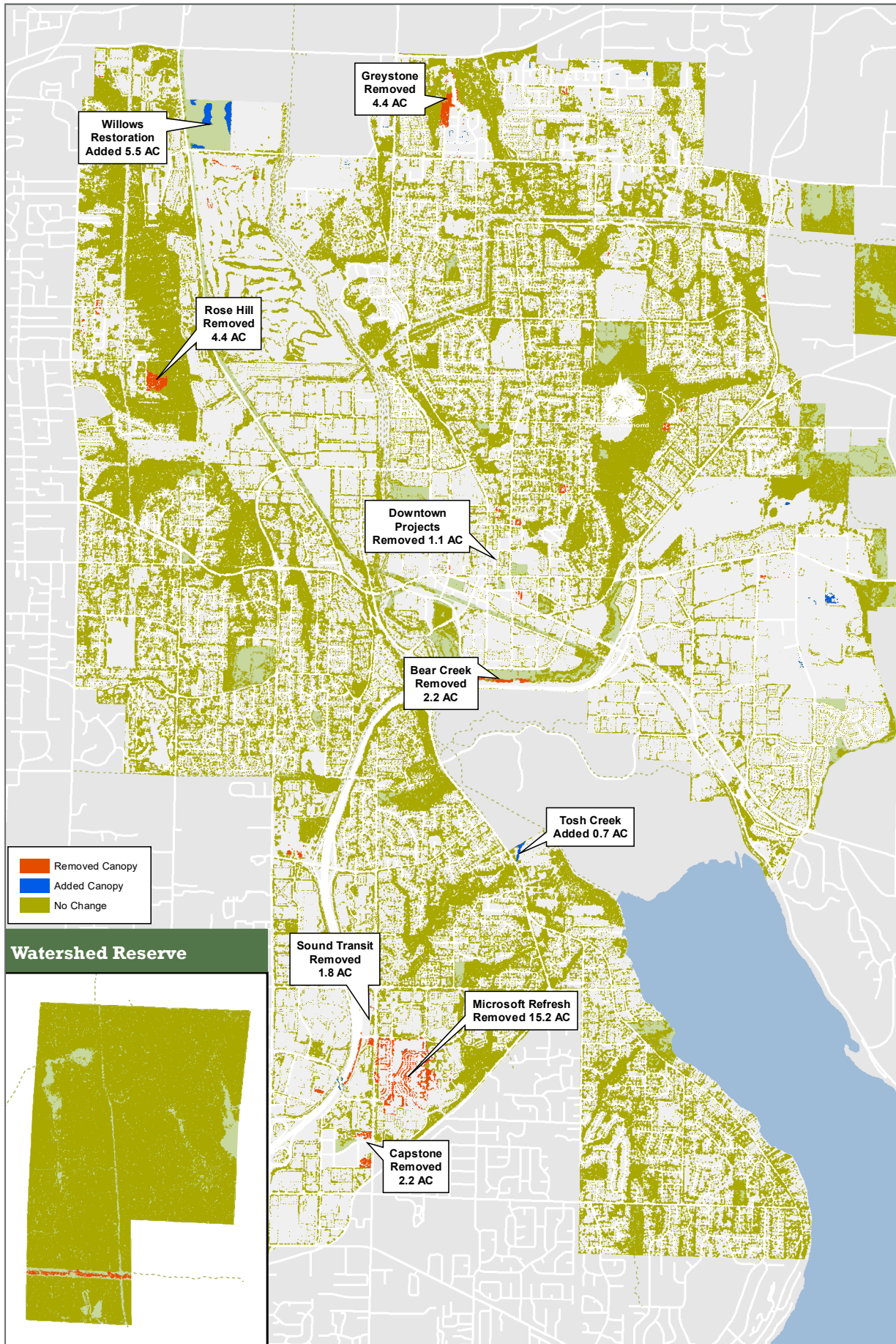
improvement projects are crucial to improve conditions for fish, wildlife habitat, and water quality.

Urban Forest & Tree Canopy

As Redmond continues to grow, trees and the benefits they provide will enhance the livability of all Redmond's neighborhoods. A healthy tree canopy increases carbon sequestration potential, encourages local biodiversity, and enhances overall environmental resilience by reducing heat island effects and offering cooler, shaded air. Trees help increase rainwater infiltration and cool the ground reducing stream temperature increase from heated stormwater runoff.

Redmond's forested lands add character to its parks and natural areas, but urban growth pressures have been changing the nature and health of those forests. Declining tree canopy, invasive species, and a shift from coniferous evergreen trees to more deciduous trees are signals of reduced forest health. Compared with the region's historic native forest composition, deciduous trees in Redmond make up a higher proportion than is typical in a healthy Northwest forest. Native conifer regeneration is limited, as conifers do not regenerate as quickly as deciduous trees. Additionally, the landscape-scale loss of trees due to cutting and development for residential and commercial purposes has left a reduced seed source for native trees. Healthy and resilient forest lands are crucial for the protection of Redmond's water quality and future resilience in the face of climate changes. While Redmond is fortunate to have its Watershed Preserve and the East Redmond Corridor parklands, active monitoring and management of public forest lands will continue to be an important investment in the City's future.

Figure 45. Tree Canopy Changes (2017-2019)



The Urban Forestry division focuses on land stewardship through its work restoring habitat along stream corridors and managing nearly 8,000 street trees, guided by a comprehensive street tree inventory which is regularly updated to reflect current conditions and maintenance activities.

Cost estimates to maintain an acre of city-led plantings, whether in a park, restoration area or other site average \$900 an acre per year. These costs range widely depending on site, access to water and other factors. Most of the maintenance in restoration and canopy projects is in the first five years when watering and pruning have the largest effect on the survival rate during the tree establishment phase.

More proactive approaches will be needed to protect Redmond's forests and tree canopy coverage in the future. The 2019 Tree Canopy Strategic Plan outlines a goal of 40% canopy coverage by 2049, up from 38.1% in 2019 along with the goals and actions needed to retain the existing values of Redmond's forested lands and mitigate for the ongoing tree canopy loss due to continued development and urban pressures. To ensure an adequate level of citywide tree canopy coverage, protection and restoration of forest lands on private lands would provide a more holistic solution to the continued urban growth that the City is facing.

Trees in forested natural areas or as part of restoration projects are usually managed less intensively. Current programs such as the Green Redmond Partnership help to remove invasive species and improve forest health with thousands of hours of volunteer labor and over 400 acres currently under active management. Between 2013 and 2018, the annual number of volunteer hours performed for stewardship efforts increased 37% to 3,932 hours.

Green Infrastructure

Using parks and open space areas to capture stormwater runoff has become an integral part of Redmond's stormwater management practices. Public green spaces offer permeable soils to encourage infiltration of rainwater, prevent excessive streambed erosion, and reduce sedimentation in major waterways. Green infrastructure can easily become part of a park's natural landscape, while providing water quality protection and reducing the impacts of urban growth on aquatic ecosystems.

PARK MAINTENANCE

The management of landscapes in Redmond's parklands, whether formal plantings in developed parks or diverse forest ecosystems in open space areas, requires continual attention and an investment of significant resources to properly steward and maintain the living landscape. Regardless of the use of these landscapes, the desired outcomes are the same – to sustain healthy, thriving plants and contribute to the overall ecosystem value of the park system.

Past practices and traditional horticultural methods to achieve this goal have become less reliable in recent years. Changes to the Pacific Northwest climate have increased summer heat and drought, causing more stress for mature and establishing plants. This change has been accompanied by a shift toward more sustainable landscape maintenance practices, reducing potential impacts on the surrounding environment and its inhabitants.

Despite the rainy winters, water is not an unlimited resource in the Sammamish Valley, and summers are expected to get even hotter and drier as climate change intensifies.

HISTORIC & CULTURAL PROPERTIES

The City has a strong historic preservation program, a Landmark Commission that reviews development related activities at historic properties, and a Cultural Resources Management Plan. The City's parks help foster this connection and build community awareness of Redmond's history through the rehabilitation and reuse of historic buildings and structures and associated interpretive elements and programs. The City's Landmark Commission and the Redmond Historical Society have worked together over the years to develop policies to identify and protect historic resources. The Redmond Heritage Resource Register, adopted by City Council, recognizes 16 properties designated as historic landmarks. Six landmark properties are managed by the Parks and Recreation Department, along with several older buildings and farmsteads on park properties that have intrinsic historic value (Figure 46). Additionally, the Bear Creek Archeological Site is on the National Register of Historic Places. Efforts should be made to focus on education around pre-settler history, including archeological resources.

Figure 46. Inventory of Historic Properties

Location	Description
Anderson Park	Developed in 1938 as part of the federal Works Progress Administration
Conrad Olson Farmstead	Conrad and Anna Olson's farm established in 1905
Haida House Studio	Dudley Carter studio was built elsewhere in the region and reassembled it on this site after he moved here in 1988
Hutcheson Homestead	Charles and Sally Hutcheson homestead. The McWhirters purchased the property in 1936 and Elise McWhirter donated it to the City of Redmond for a park in 1971
Bear Creek Site	Archaeological investigations found stone and bone tools and other artifacts dating to over 12,000 years ago
Old Redmond Schoolhouse	Owned by LWSD and established in 1922, used as community center



The City's park system includes a number of properties that reflect the history and culture of Redmond. These irreplaceable cultural resources – significant artifacts, buildings, structures, sites, objects, and places of significance – are assets for current and future generations of residents. These facilities help tell the story of Redmond and the unique character of the city. Historic resources, such as buildings and places, also create a tangible sense of place and provide civic pride and community spirit

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Archaeological resources provide tangible evidence of past human activity and/or cultures. In the United States, archaeological sites typically are characterized as pre-contact (before the arrival of Europeans) or historic. Redmond has a strong archaeological history, and the location and identity of sites are confidential and governed by the Washington State Archaeology and Historic Preservation Office. The City has adopted a Cultural Resources Management Plan that helps plan for, protect, and manage archaeological and historic resources.

The 2019 Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) provides the framework designed to support the City's long-term planning goals and protect and maintain its cultural resources. Combined with the Comprehensive Plan and zoning code, the CRMP provides a critical tool for preserving cultural resources. The CRMP includes procedures for cultural resource management and coordination and communications with affected tribal

entities. Through policy, code, and operational protocols, the CRMP addresses all aspects of ground disturbing activities including:

- Private development and land management;
- Capital improvement and other public projects; and
- Standard operations such as forest, park, and stream management.

Some City-owned properties include known cultural resources. Parks Maintenance and Operations staff consider cultural resources as part of their daily work in the field with park and facility management. Based on the location, staff operate in a similar manner to a functional lead and project manager for capital improvements. Staff also maintain a high degree of training that helps them respond to inadvertent discoveries. The Natural Resources Division staff plans and implements management plans specific to each location or resource and maintains communication with agencies and affected Indian tribes as part of that management.

The City works very closely with the Snoqualmie Tribe, Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Tulalip Tribes, and the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians. These federally-recognized tribes have documented habitation and a long history of use in the area. Redmond also coordinates with the Yakama Indian Nation and the Suquamish Tribe and will consult at their request. Additionally, the City maintains contact with the non-federally-recognized Duwamish tribal organization regarding cultural and historical resources.

Conservation Gap Analysis

TREE CANOPY

Redmond's street trees are inventoried on a 5-year cycle (Figure 45). Regular maintenance practices on trees include leaf removal, removing damaged or dead trees and pruning for both health and visibility for signs, signals and safety.

Between 2009 and 2017, Redmond experienced a net loss of approximately 135 acres of canopy. The pace of decline occurred at a consistent rate of roughly 17 acres per year, but with replanting, the net loss is approximately 12-13 acres per year. Reaching the City's goal of 40% tree canopy coverage by 2048 will require multiple strategies of education, tree planting programs, tree preservation, funding, volunteer partnerships, and regulatory techniques across the city. The acquisition of forested parcels to conserve existing canopy and the acquisition of non-forested parcels to be re-planted or serve as tree mitigation banks for private development must be considered.

Redmond's forested lands face the pressures and problems as other urban forests, including fragmentation of greenspaces, an invasive-dominated understory that inhibits native species from

regenerating, a declining tree canopy, and inadequate resources for natural area management and restoration. These pressures diminish the benefits provided by the urban forest, such as reduced stormwater runoff, improved water and air quality, attractive communities, increased property values, greenhouse gas reduction, habitat for native wildlife, and improved quality of life. Passive management often is inadequate to maintain a high quality of environmental health. The Tree Canopy Strategic Plan and the 2009 20-year Forest Management Plan advocate for more proactive restoration and replanting to mitigate for canopy loss and sustain a forest for future generations.

Upon review of the many factors affecting environmental conditions, visual quality and quality of life and health in Redmond, it is evident that loss of native forested lands contributes to almost every critical concern identified—from increased stormwater runoff to climate change. Reversing the trend of declining tree canopy is vital to achieving many of the City's objectives for a livable, sustainable environment.

The estimated cost to achieve the 40% tree canopy goal is approximately \$80,000 per acre. Over 30 years, the total costs are estimated to be between \$16,000,000 to \$42,000,000 or approximately \$600,000 to \$1,400,000 per year (in 2018 dollars).



According to the Redmond Climate Vulnerability Index, in the 2030s, Redmond is projected to experience an average of +17 more days above 88°F on the humidex scale compared to historical data.

Funding for tree planting programs can be sought from the General Fund, Tree Fund, Stormwater Utility Fund, grants, partnerships, and capital projects involving new or replacement tree plantings. Using a General Fund surplus, the current proposed budget (2023-2024 biennial) provides \$425,000 in Street Tree Management to conduct a comprehensive tree health and risk assessment on city-owned properties and rights-of-way to identify (and remove) hazardous trees and identify replanting and design to reduce long-term risk from hazard trees.

The City's preliminary 2023-2024 Budget supported the Green Redmond Partnership program for improving tree canopy through \$50,000 support. In 2021, the goal of acres enrolled in active management for restoration was 425 acres. The target restoration acreage for 2022 was 436 acres. The current preliminary budget funds active management of forested parkland and volunteer recruitment as well as progress toward citywide tree canopy goals. In addition, the preliminary budget provides \$66,000 in funding for three EarthCorps volunteer plantings events per year to support leveraging volunteer contributions and the Tree Canopy Plan goal.

The return on investment from protecting open space for public benefit for ecosystem services of water filtration, climate change protection, and other conservation is estimated to be 100 to 1, according to a study by the Gund Institute for Ecological Economies at the University of Vermont.

The control of invasive species is a critical element of the restoration process and essential in maintaining a healthy natural landscape. Many invasive and non-native species exhibit strong adaptability to Pacific Northwest environments and displace native species, especially within the disturbed landscapes proximate to urban development. While removal efforts may be ongoing, those sites cleared of invasive plants will require continual monitoring and intervention to reduce or limit the re-establishment of the invasive plants. Through proper management of public open spaces and natural areas, the City and its partners can maintain and enhance its open space areas and the critical ecosystem and community benefits they provide.

Partnership Spotlight:

GREEN REDMOND PARTNERSHIP

Green Redmond Partnership formed for engaging the community in the restoration of urban green spaces and urban forests within the City of Redmond. Since 2009, over 12,730 Green Redmond Partnership volunteers have dedicated over 34,580 hours to plant 13,195 trees and 24,800 shrubs and small plants throughout 20 different Redmond parks. The Green Redmond Partnership seeks to build a sustainable network of healthy urban green space by bringing 1,035 acres of Redmond's forested parkland into active management over the next 20 years.

The City also organizes Green Redmond Day in October as the biggest single planting day of the year. Since its inception, over 11,000 volunteers have cumulatively contributed over 33,000 hours of service. This event has resulted in almost 12,000 trees and 23,550 shrubs and small plants planted across 15 parks. On Saturday, October 30, 2022, Green Redmond Day had planting events at Smith Woods and Farrel-McWhirter Park.

Green Redmond Partnership: Restoration & Tree Canopy Projects

Year	Trees Planted	Active Acres - Restoration	Volunteer Hours
2017	729	386	3,526
2018	1,182	407	4,235
2019	740	408	3,648
2020	509	578	1,446
2021	212	579	2,164
5-Year Total	3,372	2,358	15,019

LAND ACQUISITION

Conservation may also take the form of acquiring important lands that contribute to the ecological health of Redmond's forests, wetlands, and watercourses. The distribution of existing parklands across the city leaves some areas without access to parks, open spaces or trails within walking distance of homes. While new parklands are needed to fill the gaps in providing public outdoor recreation, land acquisition can also provide opportunities to conserve existing natural resources and particularly existing tree canopy coverage. Examples of acquisitions include preservation of existing forested areas, wildlife corridors, and properties providing trail connections and critical area restoration opportunities.

Future land acquisition is dependent on parcel availability and purchase price. With increasing development pressures, Redmond will need to continue to pursue acquisition and easements to complete future park and trail projects. Acquisitions are currently pursued through the CIP project list, and additional "opportunity" funds should be identified to complete key trail corridors and parcel acquisition.

PARK DEVELOPMENT

Currently, Redmond possesses a number of undeveloped parklands. Some of these sites are being enjoyed with interim uses; others lie in wait of resources to support design and development. Undeveloped lands or sections of existing properties are often restricted in their potential development by steep slopes, wetlands, or critical areas. These features are often highly valued for habitat conservation. The more developable areas within unused parklands can help fill any deficits for outdoor recreation amenity needs and address more consistent park and trail equity and access for the community. As master planning and design development are engaged for these un- or under-developed parks, integrating the need for more extensive native tree canopy coverage should remain a major target.

These parklands also extend existing natural areas or serve as essential habitat corridors between other open space lands. Conservation easements and public access easements are tools that could be applied to increase habitat benefits and connect access across the parks and open space system.

PARK MAINTENANCE

Water conservation measures, whether voluntary or mandatory, are recommended to preserve water supplies for the most critical uses, such as domestic consumption. Supplemental irrigation for park landscapes is changing as the need to control costs and conserve water use will drive the amount of water and frequency of irrigation applied to selected park areas.

As this need to shift irrigation coverage and overall use continues, the practice of plant selection towards more drought-tolerant native species and the reduction of intentional grass lawn areas should be implemented.

Plant selection for tree replacements or renovations that consider the anticipated climate in 10-50 years will be more likely to create resilient, mature landscapes that can better transition to warmer, drier conditions. The City will be studying the appropriate vegetation for Redmond in the face of climate change during the 2023/24 biennium in order to update its planting lists. In addition to considering the climate in the selection of plants for developed parks, other factors must also be considered, including the mature size of the tree or shrub, any known pests or diseases that may affect the species, and how a fully developed root system will interact with nearby paved surfaces.



3F

Operations & Maintenance

The Parks and Recreation Department has a Park Operations division and a Facilities division. The Park Operations division is responsible for maintaining and operating the City's parks, trails, urban forests, and open spaces. The Operations division also provides support for recreation programming, events, arts, volunteers, and emergency/disaster response. In 2019, the maintenance and operations responsibilities of the 26 major City buildings including City Hall, Public Safety Building, community centers, fire stations, and Redmond Pool were moved to the Parks and Recreation Department from the Public Works Department (Facilities division). The Facilities division roles, responsibilities, priorities, and projects are described in a separate functional plan (Facilities Strategic Management Plan – 2019).





Overview

The Park Operations division employs full-time staff trained and educated in natural resources, recreation, land management, construction methods, sustainability, cultural resources, and ecology who complete maintenance activities to support park use, along with seasonal staff members and contractors with technical expertise. Maintenance and operations practices fulfill goals related to resource protection through tree and landscape planting and maintenance and invasive weed removal. Park maintenance encompasses diverse topic areas including landscape, buildings, small repairs, water management, urban forestry, and sports fields. The work of the maintenance and operations team contributes to overall resiliency of our system by ensuring the longevity of facilities, the ability of plant materials to successfully mature, and consistent user experiences. As new parks and facilities are added to the park system and the demands on parks grow with population increases, these operational programs are assigned increased responsibilities. Based on existing roles and workloads, these new assignments may be somewhat flexible and shift across operational groups as staffing and infrastructure change from year to year.



The park operations and maintenance activities within different staff program areas are influenced by the resources needed at each individual park and facility. Busier parks require more resources to meet routine maintenance needs to address ongoing tasks and emerging issues (such as graffiti, broken facilities, or downed trees) and to ensure longevity of park assets. Different levels of services may be defined as comprehensive, proactive, managed, or reactive based on the degree of maintenance resources needed to accomplish the tasks.

Figure 47. Maintenance Level of Service Approach

Comprehensive	Proactive	Managed	Reactive	None
Integrated approach across multiple business lines to achieve broader City objectives (e.g., asset management plan)	Strategic approach with focus on infrastructure protection and prevention of deterioration, safety, liability & customer service (e.g., hard surface repairs)	Use of a planned approach to meeting defined service levels (e.g., mowing intervals)	Service issues are addressed only as they arise (e.g., graffiti removal)	Service is not provided

STAFFING & OPERATIONS

Each operational program area has an assigned lead staff person, several maintenance technicians, and seasonal staff to cover the growing season and busier park use seasons. Temporary staff are typically engaged from April into September.

Park operations and maintenance provides in-house small capital repairs that are assigned annually and typically completed in the winter months. Most projects are categorized into hardscape or infrastructure projects within the capital improvement plan. Projects are prioritized by giving consideration to the following criteria:

- Safety and liability
- Asset preservation
- Increased efficiencies
- Customer service





Maintenance & Operations Program Areas

Park Operations staffing is versatile and experienced in many realms of park maintenance practices and facility care and also coordinates with Public Works projects and programs where warranted. The Park Operations division supports a range of park and recreation programs, art and community events, and other citywide events. Park Operations staffing also manage contract administration for on-going contracts (such as rights-of-way maintenance, security, and pest control) and for small park improvements or large-scale maintenance or renovation projects. These park improvement projects could include synthetic turf replacement, lighting upgrades, installation of site furnishings and playground equipment, trail construction, or building renovation.

At a high level, park operations and maintenance work are grouped by the following program areas:

- **Turf Maintenance:** Responsibilities for this programmatic group include mowing, edging, trim maintenance, turf repairs, fertilizing, dethatching, over-seeding, aeration, sodding and topdressing.
- **Community Park Management:** Community parks require additional attention due to the extent of special programmed facilities including athletic fields, synthetic turf, picnic shelter rentals, in addition to heavier public activity. Staff members work closely with Recreation programming staff and user groups to facilitate a positive experience for park users.
- **Trail Maintenance:** Park Operations manage at least 39 of the 59 miles of trails in the City for access, safety, and enjoyment. Tasks include trail construction, bridge and culvert maintenance, brush control, signage repairs, and hazard tree mitigation.
- **Horticulture:** The horticultural staff manage the specialized landscape maintenance for parks, streetscapes, and other municipal properties. Maintenance activities include designing, installing, pruning, mulching, fertilizing, watering, and adding soil amendments. This work group also performs landscape construction and renovation.
- **Water Management:** This working group specializes in maintaining and managing the irrigation systems in parks, rights-of-ways landscapes, and other municipal properties. Maintenance activities include irrigation systems activations in the spring, programming and troubleshooting, repairing, and winterizing systems.
- **Urban Forestry:** Staff in this program area are responsible for maintaining and managing designated street trees, park trees, and forested parklands. Maintenance activities include installing, pruning, watering, and mitigating hazardous trees. Staff also coordinate with the Planning and Development Services Department to review street tree plans for public and private developments.
- **Preventative Maintenance:** Staff in this program perform a wide range of maintenance and small repair tasks including cleaning roofs and gutters, maintaining drinking fountains and water features, parking areas painting and stenciling, playground maintenance and monthly safety inspections, and small repairs or park improvement projects.

- **Facilities Support:** Routine maintenance includes restrooms, shelters, sport courts, and park furnishings. Regular activities involve trash removal, pressure-washing, graffiti removal, pavement/hard surface cleaning, and maintaining sport court markings and nets.
- **Facilities Repair:** This staffing group works on system-wide repairs and replacements, new projects and construction in addition to their focused role on Farrel-McWhirter maintenance projects. Small-scale improvements may also be completed involving play equipment upgrades, site furnishing replacements, fencing installations, hard surface repairs, and lighting upgrades.

Tracking program tasks and staff hours across parks operations indicates where labor is more intensive or time-consuming and offers a comparison for the various activities involved with park facility maintenance (Figure 48). Seasonal mowing consumes the most time among the horticultural tasks requiring over 9.8% of total annual labor hours. Facilities support (16.2%) and facilities repairs (8.6%) together consume almost one-quarter of the total labor hours expended by the Parks Operations and Facilities division. In general, the built infrastructure elements in the park system require more time than the green infrastructure.

Grass fields for organized sports require a higher level of maintenance and expected quality to ensure safe and continual team play during the baseball, softball, soccer, and lacrosse seasons. Typically, athletic fields with natural grass must be fertilized and mown more often than typical open grass areas in public parks. Field areas with sand-based turf grass (like the softball fields at Hartman Park) may require even more nitrogen-based fertilization frequencies since sand does not retain nitrogen particles for root uptake.

Community Insights

Park maintenance and operations are critical to keeping parks safe, in good condition and user-friendly. The community survey found that Redmond residents were very satisfied with parks and trails. Survey respondents gave overwhelmingly high marks to the condition of Redmond's community parks (86%). Strong majorities of respondents also rated the condition of many other facility types as either excellent or good: trails (77%), their nearest neighborhood park (69%), natural resource parks (63%), and urban parks (62%). These key findings indicate the current effectiveness of Park Operations and Facilities staff. While residents prioritize maintaining existing parks and facilities, they are generally supportive of improving the City's park and recreation system as well. Based on the survey, future priorities should focus on maintaining existing park facilities to extend their useful life, while also expanding trail opportunities and adding new amenities within existing parks.

Figure 48. Distribution of Program Hours: 5-year Averages

Green/Horticultural Infrastructure		Built Infrastructure	
Mowing / Trim Maintenance	9.2%	Facilities Support	15.9%
Shrub Bed Maintenance	6.9%	Facilities Repair / Replacement	8.5%
Tree Maintenance	5.0%	Equipment Maintenance	2.5%
Irrigation Maint. / Water Mgmt.	4.9%	Facilities Construction	2.5%
Athletic Field Maintenance	3.1%	Hard Surface Maintenance	2.5%
Turf Maintenance	3.0%	Trail Maintenance - Routine	2.2%
Flower Maintenance	0.3%	Playground Maintenance	1.0%
Subtotal	32.4%	Splash Pad	0.3%
		Subtotal	35.5%
Volunteer/Partnerships			
Green Redmond	1.2%		
Volunteer Coordination/Support	0.1%		
Subtotal	1.3%		

800+
ANNUAL STAFF
HOURS RELATED
TO VOLUNTEER
COORDINATION AND
GREEN REDMOND
PARTNERSHIP



In the 2021-2022 Adopted Budget, the City approved Parks maintenance reductions that included reduced irrigation to lawns in parks, decreased right-of-way landscape maintenance, and decreased funding for seasonal maintenance staff. Feedback from the community at that time was not supportive of the outcomes of this reduced maintenance. The funding for these programs was restored in the third quarter of 2021 utilizing one-time funding. The 2023-2024 Adopted Budget includes restoration funding for the items described above utilizing one-time funding.

Status of Parks Maintenance & Operations

AGENCY PERFORMANCE

The 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review and NRPA Park Metrics comprise the most comprehensive park and recreation-related data, benchmarks and insights that inform park and recreation agency professionals, stakeholders and the public about the state of the park and recreation industry. The 2022 NRPA Agency Performance Review presents data from more than 1,000 park and recreation agencies across the United States as reported between 2019 and 2021.

The NRPA Agency Performance Review also provides comparatives on park and recreation staffing responsibilities across the nation. The NRPA data reports that, while operations and maintenance are the primary work responsibility of park and recreation professionals, staff also devote their energies to other areas. On average, an agency's full-time staff dedicate their time to the following general activities:

- Operations/Maintenance (45%)
- Programming (31%)
- Administration (17%)
- Capital development (3%)
- Other (4%)

The typical park and recreation agency dedicates 45% of its annual operating budget to managing and maintaining parks and open spaces. Redmond's park operations (without facilities assignments) represents 23% of the Department's biennial operating budget.

Looking across the metrics for all agencies surveyed by NRPA and those with comparable population sizes offers general comparisons for Redmond's park system.

Figure 49. NRPA Agency Performance Metrics Comparisons

Metric	All Agencies	Pop. Size 50K-99K	Redmond	Redmond (w/o Watershed Preserve)
Number of Parks	-	-	47	46
Park Acres	-	-	1,355	549
Residents per Park	2,323	2,516	1,487	1,520
Acres Parkland/1,000 Residents	10.4	9.2	19.4	7.9
Miles of Trails	14	14	39	32

Redmond currently provides 19.4 acres per 1,000 residents, which is higher than the median of all communities reporting to NRPA and more than the median of jurisdictions of a similar population size.

Another notably different metric involves operating expenditures per parkland acre. Other agencies within similar population ranges spend approximately \$9,642 per parkland acre, while Redmond currently spends \$6,488 per acre. This lower value may be, in part, due to the undeveloped and natural area parklands in Redmond's park system. When the 806-acre Watershed Preserve is removed from the inventory, the City of Redmond spends \$16,009 per acre. This difference also may be influenced by the budgetary decisions to reduce the Park Operations budget in 2020 – 2021 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As stated earlier, maintenance funding was restored in late 2021 to pre-pandemic levels.

Figure 50. Budget Performance Measures

Metric	All Agencies	Pop. Size 50K-99K	Redmond
Park & Rec FTEs	49.4	64.1	62.72
P&R FTEs/10,000 Residents	8.9	9.6	8.2
Annual Operating Expenditures	\$5,079,256	\$7,330,336	\$4,926,631
Operating Expenditures/Capita	\$93.01	\$104.38	\$64.52
Operating Expenditures/Parkland Acre	\$7,823	\$9,642	\$3,637
Operating Expenditures/FTE	\$102,530	\$103,272	\$78,550
5-Yr Capital Budget Spending	\$8,000,000	\$13,574,027	\$12,336,583

To explore this comparison further, an examination of other similar-sized park systems in western Washington was conducted.



More efforts to protect healthy forests from invasive species and development. Support expanding tree canopy. Reduce greenhouse gas emission from facilities/park vehicles to help prevent climate change.”

-Survey respondent

WASHINGTON CITIES COMPARISONS

Park and recreation operations can be highly variable, particularly at different population sizes and residential densities. A more refined comparison of park metrics was prepared using several cities in western Washington with population sizes within range of the population size of Redmond (50-99,000 residents) using the NRPA agency performance metrics. This comparison used budgetary and staffing numbers from 2021 to 2022.

The metric that compares expenditures per parkland acre likely is skewed by the size of Redmond's Watershed Preserve. Few cities have a similar extent of open space acreage within their parkland system that, for Redmond, comprises about 60% of the acreage without an equivalent additional requirement of high levels of maintenance time. Without the Watershed Preserve in the parkland calculation, the performance metric for expenditures per acre would still fall above the level of comparable Washington cities, but within range of NRPA averages.

Figure 51. Comparable Washington Cities' Park & Recreation Performance Measures

Metric	NRPA Median (All Agencies)	NRPA Median (50K-99K pop.)	Redmond	Redmond (w/o Watershed Preserve)	Samamish	Kirkland	Federal Way	Bellingham	Olympia
Population - 2021	-	-	76,354	76,354	66,630	92,107	99,037	92,289	55,605
Land Area in square miles (2020)	-	-	16.6	16.6	20.4	17.8	22.3	28.1	18.2
Population per Sq. Mi. (2020)	-	-	4,421.8	4,421.8	3,302.9	5,176.6	4,531.5	3,250.8	3,051.7
Parkland Acreage	-	-	1,354.7	549.2	611	698	1,094	3,186	1,340
Park Facilities	-	-	47.0	47.0	14	72	32	83	45
Park & Rec FTEs (2022)	49.4	64.1	62.72	62.72	25.17	33.5	45.96	47.17	61.3
P&R FTEs/10,000 Residents	8.9	9.6	8.2	8.2	3.8	3.6	4.6	5.1	11.0
Annual Operating Expenditures	\$5,079,256	\$7,330,336	\$4,926,631	\$4,926,631	\$5,487,000	\$16,217,032	\$11,253,926	\$8,991,874	\$11,683,737
Operating Expenditures/Capita	\$93.01	\$104.38	\$64.52	\$64.52	\$82.35	\$176.07	\$113.63	\$97.43	\$210.12
Operating Expenditures/Parkland Acre	\$7,823	\$9,642	\$3,637	\$8,971	\$8,980	\$10,437	\$10,287	\$2,822	\$8,719
Operating Expenditures/FTE	\$102,530	\$103,272	\$78,550	\$78,550	\$217,998	\$484,091	\$244,863	\$190,627	\$190,599
5-Yr Capital Budget Spending	\$8,000,000	\$13,574,027	\$12,336,583	\$12,336,583	\$43,005,000	\$12,612,000	\$1,400,000	\$32,695,701	\$24,328,309

Note: The above table is illustrative only and may not represent like-for-like comparisons across each line item, since each municipality utilizes unique metrics and accounting of staff and budget resources.

Operational Gap Analysis

FUTURE STAFFING NEEDS

Redmond needs to develop its currently undeveloped parks and to acquire additional parkland and community center space to distribute facility access more equitably for its residents. In anticipation of these soon-to-be developed parks and new parkland acquisitions (requiring future master planning and development), the City should expect that additional park operations and maintenance staffing will be warranted and necessary to ensure that both existing and new facilities meet the maintenance expectations of the community.

Measurements from composite park staffing references may inform approximate future staffing needs. Compiled from a series of other park providers, the table below offers estimated labor needs for various park classifications.

Figure 52. Park Performance from Park & Recreation Providers

Annual Labor Expenditures	5-yr Average Hours per Acre	Capacity of 1 FTE
Open Space Lands	15	120 acres of OS/year
Neighborhood Parks (average 4 acres)	150	3-4 NH parks/year
Community Parks (average 20 acres)	110	0.36 COM parks/year
Special Use Parks (highly varied)	150	size dependent

Asset management tracking may be able to provide the most accurate predictions specific to labor needs for the Redmond’s park system. Redmond tracks its work hours for operations and maintenance activities and can help predict a more accurate staffing need based on proposed levels of development for each future park addition. A look at 2019 (pre-COVID data) work hours by park reveals the time spent at each park facility. These investments of time vary with site size, number of improvements, and level of public use for each park.

One full-time employee could be expected to provide adequate maintenance services for four fully developed neighborhood parks, that average 4 acres (for 16 total acres of management). Work tasks would include litter control, mowing, landscape maintenance, playground inspections and would assume time for travelling to and from each park. Similarly, a single, newly added community park will require approximately 2.5 FTE’s to perform the expected level of maintenance service for this park classification. A general summary for Redmond’s developed community parks indicates an average of 4,169 hours per community park. The more



intensively developed and used community parks including Hartman, Grass Lawn, Perrigo, and Farrel-McWhirter Parks required an average of 5,337 work hours annually.

The neighborhood parks that provide a typical range of recreational amenities averaged approximately 490 work hours of maintenance per year, and community parks average 4,500 hours of maintenance per year. With this tracking data, predictive future staffing for Redmond’s current eight undeveloped parks indicates an additional load of 12,000 work hours for the parks operations and maintenance programs.

Figure 53. Future Staffing Needs as Parks are Developed

Predicted Level of Service *	Work Hours	FTEs/Park
Juel Park	4,530	2.5
Sammamish Valley Park	4,530	2.5
Conrad Olson Farm	490	0.5
Arthur Johnson Park	490	0.5
Martin Park	490	0.5
SE Redmond Park	490	0.5
Smith Woods	490	0.5
Dudley Carter Park	490	0.5
Total future work hours	12,000	8

* Based on Redmond Ops Hrs/Park Data

4 Where We Are Going

The goals and objectives described in this chapter define the recreation and park services that Redmond aims to provide.



MAYOR'S VISION

A connected community that enhances livability and sustains the environment, and that places Redmond as a leader locally, regionally, and nationally.

Recreation opportunities will expand with the completion of the Redmond Senior & Community Center in 2024.



From youth basketball to STEM enrichment, City of Redmond Parks & Recreation offers a way to play for every child.

The goals and objectives described in this chapter define the recreation and park services that Redmond aims to provide. These goals and objectives were derived from input received throughout the planning process, from City staff, the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission, and community members. The goals also are guided by the Department's vision and mission.

We serve and connect Redmond by fostering sustainable, inclusive experiences and places that enhance well-being

The Growth Management Act (GMA) adopted by the Washington State Legislature in 1990 provided a foundation for land use planning, with the purpose to help communities manage efficiently with the challenges of growth to ensure their long-term sustainability and high quality of life. It identifies 14 planning goals to guide the development of comprehensive plans and development regulations. Four of these goals directly affect the development and implementation of this plan.

- “Encourage the retention of open space and development of recreational opportunities, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, increase access to natural resource lands and

water, and develop parks.” RCW 36.70A.020(9)

- “Protect the environment and enhance the state’s high quality of life, including air and water quality, and the availability of water.” RCW 36.70A.020(10)
- “Identify and encourage the preservation of lands, sites, and structures, that have historical or archaeological significance.” RCW 36.70A.020(13)
- “Carry-out the goals of the Shoreline Management Act with regards to shorelines and critical areas.” RCW 36.70A.020(14)

Also, the Redmond Comprehensive Plan, the previous PARCC Plan, and other City planning policies provide a framework for this PARCC Plan.

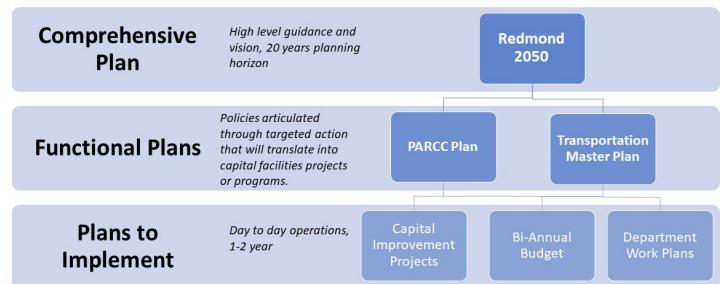
Relationship to Other City Plans

The 2023 PARCC Plan is the six-year, functional plan for the Parks and Recreation Department, serving as the blueprint for the management, enhancement and growth of the City of Redmond parks and recreation system. This plan anticipates the programming and capital investments necessary to meet the community's need for parks, recreation, natural areas, trails, and arts and culture. It assists in guiding decisions related to planning, developing and maintaining parks, open space, and recreational facilities.

The PARCC Plan is intended to cover the open space and recreation properties, programs and initiatives owned, managed, coordinated by, or may become a direct asset of the City. The purview of the Plan is specific to the functional and administrative needs for the Parks and Recreation Department, in a manner similar to the guidance provided by the Stormwater Plan or Transportation Plan for the Public Works Department.

Overarching City policy continues to be directed by City Council and through the development and implementation of the City's Comprehensive Plan and other city-wide plan and policy documents, such as the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan and Tree Canopy Strategic Plan. Community-wide goals and a policy framework for the PARCC Plan follow from those set out by City Council and the Comprehensive Plan.

The following graphic illustrates where the PARCC Plan sits in relation to other city-wide plans and more focused operational or program plans.



THE POLICIES AND ACTION STATEMENTS OF THIS PARCC PLAN ARE FRAMED AROUND THE FOLLOWING CORE OBJECTIVES.



Expand Access for All

- Diverse Opportunities
- Level of Service
- Equitable Access
- Accessibility
- Partnerships & Coordination
- Communication
- Culturally Relevant Services
- Community Involvement



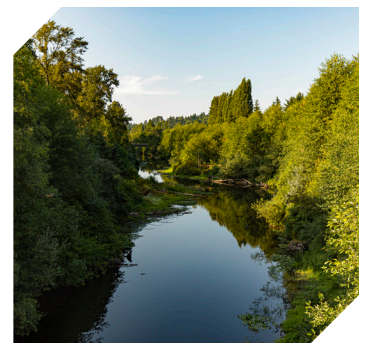
Build Strong Communities

- Arts, Cultural & Historic Resources.
- Trails & Connections
- Recreational Programs



Innovate for the Future

- Strategic System Investments
- Asset Management
- Funding
- Strategic Planning
- Urban Centers



Protect the Natural Environment

- Habitat Preservation & Restoration
- Shoreline & Water Access
- Urban Tree Canopy
- Community Stewardship
- Climate Resiliency & Adaptation

DEFINING TERMS

- Objectives state the overarching outcome that the set of policies, actions, and projects are intended to achieve.
- Policies reflect long-term principles that will guide the actions and investments of the city/department.
- Actions include near-term measures to implement or advance stated policies.
- Project highlights include major capital projects and/or programmatic investments.

Framework Goal 1

EXPAND ACCESS FOR ALL

OBJECTIVE

Redmond provides a diversity of recreational opportunities that are equitably distributed, accessible to all users, and guided by an engaged public.

POLICIES

Policy 1.1 Diverse Opportunities. Develop distinctive parks and community centers that respond to the unique needs of the community it serves.

Actions

- 1.1.A Plan for multi-use sport fields, courts, recreational facilities, and indoor facilities, with consideration of local needs, partner support/capacity, recreational trends, and availability of similar facilities within the City and region.
- 1.1.B Expand opportunities for recreation by encouraging parks with year round use by including all-weather adaptable spaces and emerging activities.
- 1.1.C Monitor recreation trends, park use patterns, and park user needs.
- 1.1.D Identify appropriate locations within parks and public spaces for the installation of public art, interpretive signs or cultural displays, consistent with the Redmond Public Art Plan and the Downtown Cultural Corridor Master Plan, and collaborate with diverse groups to ensure incorporation of any art, history, and culture in parks and public spaces is done with a diversity, equity and inclusion lens.

Policy 1.2 Level of Service. Provide recreational opportunities for all residents through sufficient and equitably distributed parks, trails, and recreational facilities.

Actions

- 1.2.A Update and maintain level of service standards to monitor equitable access to recreational opportunities that improve quality of life and address current and past inequities.
- 1.2.B Improve the connectivity of Redmond's neighborhoods such that residents and workers have convenient access to parks and trails within a ½-mile (10-minute) distance of their home or work.
- 1.2.C Account for school properties and non-city parks, trails, and recreational amenities within or proximate to city limits as part of the level of service metrics.
- 1.2.D Prepare an acquisition strategy with potential funding sources to meet level of service goals for parks and trails.
- 1.2.E Develop standards for the development of privately owned public spaces (POPS) and methodology for incorporation into the Redmond park system.

Policy 1.3 Equitable Access. Prioritize park and recreation investments in underserved communities to improve equitable access to public

amenities.

Actions

- 1.3.A Advance diversity, equity, and inclusion to the City's system of parks, natural areas and programs through continued outreach, communications, and programming.
- 1.3.B Address accessibility barriers (such as but not limited to socio-economic, language, physical, geographic, historical, transportation) to parks and programs and allocate resources to address known gaps.
- 1.3.C Plan park, trail, and recreational amenity locations in an equitable manner to address historically underserved areas.
- 1.3.D Develop diversity, equity and inclusion metrics for park and facility capital planning and development, recreation and cultural programs, and department operations.
- 1.3.E Explore and pursue opportunities for alternative outreach and education to diverse groups, such as, but not limited to, group walks and day hikes with minority communities, promotional materials through schools and faith groups, and youth mentorship or ambassador programs.

Policy 1.4 Accessibility. Design and renovate identified parks and recreational facilities in a manner that will, where feasible, provide safe and accessible use by all persons consistent with the ADA Transition Plans and Title 2 of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Actions

- 1.4.A Eliminate barriers by conducting upgrades that address the goals of the ADA Transition Plan in alignment with the PARCC Plan timeline
- 1.4.B Design, upgrade and maintain parks and facilities where feasible to offer universal design/accessibility for residents with physical, auditory, or visual disabilities, autism or neurodevelopmental and/or intellectual disabilities, or neuro-cognitive disorders that are inclusive and welcoming.
- 1.4.C Adopt accessibility standards for new and replacement site furnishings and amenities.

1.5 Partnerships & Coordination. Enhance parks and recreation opportunities through partnerships, joint ventures and coordination with public, private, and non-profit organizations.

Actions

- 1.5.A Cultivate new and existing partnerships with public, private, and non-profit recreation providers to leverage city resources.
- 1.5.B Partner with businesses and community organizations to provide programming and community events that expand recreation opportunities.
- 1.5.C Promote and support volunteerism from a variety of individuals, service clubs, steward groups, faith organizations, and businesses to enhance stewardship of parks, trails, and natural areas.
- 1.5.D Develop an interlocal agreement with King County to allow the City to provide permits for the development of City parks within unincorporated King County.
- 1.5.E Coordinate near-term and long-term plans between City departments, adjoining cities, King County, and the Lake Washington School District to align planned investments, maximize resources, develop joint facilities when appropriate, and avoid duplication of facilities and services.

- 1.5.F Explore innovative funding approaches and partnerships to expand Redmond's Parks and Recreation system.
- 1.5.G Coordinate with the Planning Department to review preliminary development proposals that could accommodate privately owned public spaces (POPS) and negotiate with developers for publicly accessible improvements.
- 1.5.H Conduct periodic joint sessions between the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission, Redmond Arts & Culture Commission, Redmond Youth Partnership Advisory Committee, other standing City boards & commissions, and the City Council to improve coordination and discuss policy matters of mutual interest.
- 1.5.I Encourage property developers, sport organizations, and non-profits to develop and manage private park facilities to serve the larger community.

Policy 1.6 Communication. Ensure community members have access to information about Redmond's park and recreational opportunities.

Actions

- 1.6.A Maintain a consistent brand identity through marketing campaigns, social media presence, and other communication mediums.
- 1.6.B Continue to promote and distribute information about parks, facilities, recreational activities, education programs, community services, events, and volunteer activities provided by the City, partner agencies, and organizations through print, digital, and in-person communications.
- 1.6.C Regularly update the City website and mobile interface to provide easy access to information about parks, trail routes, programs, events, maps, and registration along with ensuring the website follows best practices for accessibility and inclusion.
- 1.6.D Communicate the value of the City's investment in parks, natural areas, and recreational opportunities by highlighting benefits such as better human health, increased community interaction, favorable environmental conditions, and improved quality of life.
- 1.6.E Adapt community outreach efforts to ensure a broad reach.

Policy 1.7 Culturally Relevant Services. Provide programming and services, as well as accompanying communications and marketing materials that reflect city goals around Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Actions

- 1.7.A Develop a greater understanding of the cultural and linguistic diversity in the Redmond community.
- 1.7.B Work toward translating communication materials into the most frequently spoken languages and provide additional language translation upon request.
- 1.7.C Train communications, marketing, and customer service staff in the availability and use of resources for translation, interpretation, and accessible formats.
- 1.7.D Work toward implementing signage and information in multiple languages

at parks and trails, and include information about amenities, etiquette, trail length, difficulty, and material/accessibility.

Policy 1.8 Community Involvement. Encourage and support active and on-going participation by diverse community members in the planning and decision-making for parks and recreation.

Actions

- 1.8.A Actively engage community members in park and recreation facility planning, design, and recreation program development to solicit input, facilitate project understanding, and build public support. Conduct outreach to a wide variety of people through multiple avenues, languages, and identify facilities desired by those who live, work, and play in Redmond.
- 1.8.B Survey, review, and publish local park and recreation preferences, needs, and trends at least once every six years.
- 1.8.C Promote and support the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Commission as the forum for public discussion of parks and recreation issues.
- 1.8.D Provide training and resources to build parks and recreation knowledge base within Commission members.
- 1.8.E Conduct outreach to a wide variety of people through multiple avenues, languages, and identify the recreational priorities of those who live, work, and play in Redmond.

Framework Goal 2

BUILD STRONG COMMUNITIES

OBJECTIVE

Redmond provides an interconnected system of recreation facilities and programs that offers a wide variety of year-round opportunities and experiences which support and enhance the City's cultural identity.

POLICIES

Policy 2.1 Arts, Cultural & Historic Resources. Expand and promote opportunities to experience and enjoy local art, culture, and history to help connect community members to their neighbors, community, and place.

Actions

- 2.1.A Support and utilize the Redmond Arts & Culture Commission as the forum for public discussion of arts and culture issues and implementation of Public Art Master Plan and Downtown Cultural Corridor Master Plan.
- 2.1.B Support diverse special events, festivals, concerts, and cultural programming that contribute to community identity, tourism, and to foster civic pride.
- 2.1.C Integrate public art and park design from the onset of facility planning to create dynamic and interesting public places that are informed by the themes

- and platforms identified in the Public Art Master Plan.
- 2.1.D Develop a program to work with public and private developers to integrate art and cultural spaces into new development using the process proposed in the Public Art Master Plan – Leading with Arts and Cultural Engagement (LACE).
 - 2.1.E Foster partnerships and collaborations to incubate new cultural programs, activities and offerings.
 - 2.1.F Encourage City and community investments in artists, non-profit organizations, creative businesses, and professional presenting arts institutions to strengthen Redmond’s cultural and creative sectors.
 - 2.1.G Support and partner for the development of cultural infrastructure and venues such as cultural centers, urban parks, festival streets, and plazas that accommodate diverse cultural activities and anticipate future community growth.
 - 2.1.H Encourage accessible and inclusive learning environments for artists at all levels and ages throughout the City and actively fill gaps in public art education through programs and classes.
 - 2.1.I Provide educational and hands-on recreational opportunities that explore the history of Redmond through historic parks, farms, structures, artifacts, natural environment, and cultural life.
 - 2.1.J Support and enhance the historic resources within the park and recreation system, including Historic Landmarks, educational signage, and tribal acknowledgments.

Policy 2.2 Trails & Connections. Promote an interconnected community through the development of a safe, accessible, and convenient multimodal trail system that connects community members to neighborhoods, parks, and destinations throughout Redmond.

Actions

- 2.2.A Maintain and utilize a hierarchy of trails and trail design standards based on function.
- 2.2.B Increase safety and minimize conflicts between various trail users by encouraging trails separated from traffic.
- 2.2.C Coordinate the planning of trails, bike lanes, safe walking routes, and public transit routes with City departments, surrounding jurisdictions, King County, state and federal agencies, and private organizations to reduce dependence on vehicles and provide missing connections.
- 2.2.D Connect trails to nearby sidewalk facilities wherever feasible to encourage the use of the off-street trail systems for non-motorized transportation and recreation.
- 2.2.E Integrate the siting of proposed trail segments into the development review process.
- 2.2.F Increase use of trails by developing trailheads adjacent to regional or connector trails that can be easily accessed by vehicles or transit. Locate trailheads at or in conjunction with parks, schools, and other community facilities to increase local area access to the trail system and reduce duplication of supporting improvements.
- 2.2.G Furnish trail systems with appropriate supporting trailhead improvements that may include interpretive and directory signage systems, rest stops, drinking fountains, restrooms, parking and loading areas, water, and other services.

- 2.2.H Develop and implement a system of wayfinding and signage (e.g., trailhead, etiquette, directional, mile markers, emergency location markers, kiosks, etc.) to mark trails and non-motorized routes that coordinates with the City's streetscape and furniture standards in accordance with best practices.
- 2.2.I Partner with local utilities, public agencies and private landowners to secure trail easements and access to open space for trail connections.
- 2.2.J Create new maps and guides with a universal graphic style for parks, trails, recreation facilities, and natural areas.
- 2.2.K Periodically evaluate trail rules with user groups to ensure they are meeting changing community needs.

Policy 2.3 Recreational Programs. Foster a healthy community by providing comprehensive and quality recreation, arts, social enrichment, sports, and fitness programs that are enriching, affordable, suitable for all age groups, inclusive, community-focused, and offered at a variety of locations throughout the year.

- 2.3.A Provide a variety of recreational programs that meet the community's demands.
- 2.3.B Expand the City's role as a key provider of recreation programs and services and increase programming, as facility space allows, to meet changing demographics and growing community needs.
- 2.3.C Provide and develop additional amenities, multi-purpose facilities, and centers.
- 2.3.D Monitor local and regional recreation trends to ensure community needs and interests are addressed by available programming.
- 2.3.E Strategically expand and enhance the diversity of recreation programs offered, considering programs that are in high demand, serve a wide range of users, and utilize the City's unique indoor and outdoor assets.
- 2.3.F Leverage City resources by forming and maintaining partnerships with other public, non-profit, and private organizations to deliver recreation services and secure access to existing facilities for community recreation.
- 2.3.G Maintain and enhance fee assistance programs and other mechanisms to support recreation access for low-income residents.
- 2.3.H Conduct periodic evaluations of program offerings and community center space needs in terms of topics like persons served, geographic distribution, access to programs and facilities, customer satisfaction, cost recovery, and availability of similar programs via other providers.

Framework Goal 3

INNOVATE FOR THE FUTURE

OBJECTIVE

Redmond is prepared for growth by proactively funding, building, and maintaining an accessible and resilient Parks & Recreation system that provides an essential public service and contributes to the City's vitality.

POLICIES

Policy 3.1 Strategic System Investments. Expand the City's park and recreation system through targeted investments to meet the needs of current and future residents.

Actions

- 3.1.A Consider local needs, recreational trends and availability of similar facilities within the City and region when planning for recreational facilities.
- 3.1.B Prioritize facility development based on demonstrated demand, population served, regional appeal, fiscal opportunity and adherence to the council adopted cost recovery model to support operations.
- 3.1.C Plan for renovated or additional community center and facility space to meet needs for recreation, educational classes, community and cultural events, and meeting space.
- 3.1.D Proactively seek and prioritize the acquisition of parkland and trail corridors in areas with known service gaps, areas of high growth, or that are adjacent to or connect existing resources.
- 3.1.E Pursue use agreements, easements, fee simple purchases, or other arrangements to secure suitable locations for new parks and trails to serve existing and future residents.
- 3.1.F Design new and renovated facilities using appropriate technology, construction materials and maintenance procedures to gain cost efficiencies and conserve resources.
- 3.1.G Encourage property developers to develop and manage Privately Owned Public Spaces.
- 3.1.H Prepare six-year, ten-year, and 20-year Capital Improvement Plans for a parks and recreation system that serves those who live and work in Redmond and planned growth, is financially feasible, and can be funded at a level which allows for a reasonable implementation schedule.
- 3.1.F Pursue park amenities and facilities that allow for flexible and multiple uses to more quickly respond to changing community interests.
- 3.1.G Maintain and periodically update a PARCC functional plan that addresses WA Growth Management Act requirements for Parks and Parks capital facilities, as well as other state and federal requirements.
- 3.1.H Consider local needs, recreational trends and availability of similar facilities within the City and region when planning for recreational facilities.
- 3.1.I Invest in professional development opportunities that strengthen the core skills and commitment from staff, Commission members and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and/or affiliation with relevant national and regional associations.

Policy 3.2 Asset Management. Proactively manage and maintain system park assets in a way that results in replacement or renovation in advance of need.

Actions

- 3.2.A Routinely assess and address needed repairs and provide timely response to emerging issues, such as damaged or inoperable facilities, safety concerns, failing utilities, or downed trees.
- 3.2.B Manage and maintain parks and trails through developed Best Management Practices which are guided by the principles of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), Low Impact Development (LID), current conservation principles for energy and water use, asset preservation, cultural resource protection, customer service, and industry safety standards.
- 3.2.C Schedule necessary resources to maintain existing City building facilities in a safe, clean, inviting, and usable condition.
- 3.2.D Continue to use part-time, seasonal, and contract employees for select functions to meet peak demands and respond to specialized or urgent needs.
- 3.2.E Assess and appropriately manage risk during the design of parks and recreation facilities.
- 3.2.F Maintain and update asset management plans for major assets to support improved stewardship, improve life-cycle planning, reduce costs, and increase maintenance and replacement efficiency.
- 3.2.G Utilize community centers in support of the City's emergency preparedness planning to serve as heating or cooling centers, distribution centers, and/or emergency gathering centers.

Policy 3.3 Funding. Adequately fund the cost-effective maintenance and planned enhancement of Redmond's park and recreation system through traditional and innovative funding sources.

Actions

- 3.3.A Develop and update long-term financial strategies that address the funding needs for future capital projects, acquisition, public art, facility improvement needs, and maintenance and operations.
- 3.3.B To finance future acquisitions, programs, facilities, and maintenance needs pursue traditional and alternative funding sources such as private donations, partnerships, sponsorships, state and federal grant sources, dedicated local taxes and voter-approved initiatives like local bonds or levies.
- 3.3.C Periodically update financial goals, cost recovery targets, and a subsidy allocation model to inform recreation program decision making.
- 3.3.D Periodically review and update the fee policy for programs, indoor facility uses and rental rates that supports operational requirements.
- 3.3.E Periodically review and update the Park Impact Fee rates and methodology and utilize impact fees to accommodate growth through the expansion of the park and recreation system.
- 3.4.D Consider local needs, recreational trends and availability of similar facilities within the City and region when planning for specialized recreational facilities.
- 3.4.E Promote professional development opportunities that strengthen the core skills and commitment from staff, Commission members and key volunteers, to include trainings, materials and/or affiliation with relevant national and regional associations.

Policy 3.4 Urban Centers. Develop distinctive parks in Redmond’s urban centers that serve local needs for neighborhood gathering places, recreation, public art, and to provide cultural programming and events to support the broader community’s needs and support the city’s economic vitality.

Actions

- 3.4.A Support the development of a vibrant and sustainable Downtown Redmond through physical and experiential public art.
- 3.4.B Encourage development of outdoor plazas and squares within public and private developments in the Downtown and Overlake urban centers for community events, visual and performance based public art opportunities, and to encourage community connections and economic vitality.
- 3.4.C Develop guidelines and standards for plazas and pocket parks and urban park amenities to guide future development and higher intensity uses.

Framework Goal 4

PROTECT THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

OBJECTIVE

Redmond protects and enhances the natural beauty of the City by maintaining and promoting a vibrant system of parks, natural areas, and trails that are sustainably designed, preserving various types of native habitat, and engaging the community as partners in stewardship.

POLICIES

Policy 4.1 Habitat Preservation & Restoration. Conserve, enhance and provide access to natural resource lands for habitat conservation, recreation, and environmental education.

Actions

- 4.1.A Allow use of natural areas, open space corridors and sensitive habitats at a level that will not compromise the environmental integrity of the area.
- 4.1.B Facilitate the creation of open space corridors along Redmond's water resources, shorelines, and local streams to provide for passive recreation and wildlife habitat.
- 4.1.C Acquire property to provide access to shorelines and local streams, focusing on areas where current and anticipated development patterns are unlikely to provide access or where there are significant access needs.
- 4.1.D Actively work to maintain and improve the condition of City-owned parks, trails, and natural areas through invasive species removal, planting of native species, and restoration of urban forests, creeks, wetlands, and other habitat areas.
- 4.1.E Utilize, as appropriate, native and lower resource requiring vegetation for landscaping in parks and City-owned properties to minimize maintenance requirements, conserve water, reduce the need for fertilizer, and provide native habitat for wildlife.
- 4.1.F Work cooperatively with property owners and developers to preserve habitat and native vegetation, especially when these provide visual or physical linkages to publicly-owned natural resource lands.

Policy 4.2 Shoreline & Water Access. Preserve and pursue opportunities to expand public access and enjoyment of Redmond's shorelines.

Actions

- 4.2.A Develop a visual system for enhancing connections to enhance visual connections to shoreline areas by incorporating a visual system of street graphics, landscaping, street furniture, or artwork to the Citywide pedestrian pathway system.
- 4.2.B Increase physical and visual access to shoreline and waterfront areas that complements the protection and restoration of native vegetation within shoreline areas.

- 4.2.C Promote the concept and use of the “Blue Trails” waterways by coordinating with jurisdictions and other organizations in the region.
- 4.2.D Improve existing publicly-owned water access sites to address safety and accessibility issues.
- 4.2.E Orient park and trail development along the Sammamish River toward the river to reinforce its identification as a community gathering place.

Policy 4.3 Urban Tree Canopy. Maintain a comprehensive urban forestry program focused on restoration and stewardship that enriches natural areas and the environmental health of the City and enhances the built environment.

Actions

- 4.3.A Improve the tree canopy coverage by implementing the Tree Canopy Strategic Plan.
- 4.3.B Implement the 20-year Forest Management Plan to restore and enhance natural areas and update the plan as needed.
- 4.3.C Develop a tree canopy plan for individual parks that accounts for tree replacement planting, identifies opportunities for native shade trees, and promote plantings in urban parks and plazas.
- 4.3.D Update guidelines and protocols to determine planting locations and species selection to foster resilient plant communities that can recover from disturbances and adapt to climate change and its impacts, such as forest fire and drought.
- 4.3.E Pursue additional street tree plantings to maximize future tree canopy coverage, considering infrastructure (i.e., utility) limitations.
- 4.3.F Develop approaches to protect larger tracts of privately held forest lands via conservation easements, acquisition, property tax reduction, or other means.

Policy 4.4 Community Stewardship. Promote community education and increase stewardship of Redmond’s parks, natural areas, and environmental resources.

Actions

- 4.4.A Build and maintain partnerships to develop facilities for environmental education and stewardship this includes, but is not limited to, classroom or exhibit space, overlooks of natural features, and a citywide interpretative program for shorelines, streams, native growth protection areas, aquifer, and other important natural systems.
- 4.4.B Provide environmental educational opportunities in natural areas with creative and interactive interpretation techniques, such as hands-on displays, art, self-guided walks, and other engaging experiences.
- 4.4.C Host events and festivals to promote the benefits of trees, such as Arbor Day and Earth Day celebrations, and recognize community forestry advocates and volunteers.
- 4.4.D Coordinate with schools and other organizations to develop and/or promote youth education and outreach materials related to the City’s unique natural resources and community stewardship.
- 4.4.E Provide education about the benefits of native plants, the negative effects of invasive species, and promote the concept of “Right Plant, Right Place” (e.g., site appropriate planting).
- 4.4.F Encourage tree planting and preservation on private property and partner with developers and property owners on project design and implementation.

Policy 4.5 Climate Resiliency & Adaptation. Manage and enhance Redmond's parks and natural habitat in ways that will minimize and adapt to the impacts of a changing climate.

Actions

- 4.5.A Implement plans such as, but not limited to, the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, Tree Canopy Strategic Plan and Watershed Management Plan through park and natural area management and operations.
- 4.5.B Support the development of sustainability metrics related to climate change in coordination with the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan.
- 4.5.C Coordinate with other City departments to share resources and collaborate on efforts supporting joint or multiple values, such stormwater projects, endangered species habitat projects, and transportation enhancements.
- 4.5.D Systematically identify and pursue opportunities to reduce the carbon footprint of the park system through strategies such as energy-efficient lighting, heating, and appliances; alternative energy generation; energy-efficient fleet and equipment; encouraging alternative transportation; sustainable procurement; and waste reduction.
- 4.5.E Identify and pursue opportunities to develop climate resiliency demonstration projects in the park system.

5

How We Will Get There

The preceding chapters provided an overview of the Redmond park and recreation system and established goals, objectives, and actions to guide future planning, development, and operations. Expanding upon the goals and objectives, this chapter summarizes recommendations on the PARCC Plan topic areas, proposed projects to meet the near-term goals and needs of the Parks system, and strategies to successfully implement the plan.





Park System Recommendations

Park system recommendations are based on the community insights, conditions assessments, and professional planning conducted for maintaining and improving Redmond's park and recreation provision for the next six years. These recommendations are based on cumulative information gathered from multiple sources to help direct the investments for the City's future growth and its recreational resources. These recommendations align with the analysis in Chapter 3 and goals and actions in Chapter 4, as well as the capital projects and programs listed in this Chapter. Based on the Park System Conditions Assessment, the City's sport courts and ADA compliance are in the greatest need of attention.

PARK PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

The City should maximize the provision and variety of outdoor recreation options within its public spaces to take full advantage of existing parklands. Several existing, undeveloped sites acquired as future parks provide substantial latent capacity to expand recreational offerings in Redmond.

Existing undeveloped parklands have been the subject of planning and conceptual designs since being acquired through donation, dedication, or purchase. Several master plans have been completed and approved dating back to 2009 and 2010, including Sammamish Valley Community Park, Smith Woods, and the East Redmond Corridor Master Plan which includes a number of undeveloped or interim use parks. Martin Park, Conrad Olson Park, and Juel Park are not yet within the city boundaries, so their development may need to await annexation. The undeveloped SE

Redmond Neighborhood Park has not yet been master planned. However, since 2010, the City of Redmond has developed new strategies for future growth and resilience that include actions to be met through its parklands.

The existing master plans for the above undeveloped parks should be updated and re-evaluated based on projected community needs for recreational amenities and to accommodate environmental sustainability goals for energy conservation, tree canopy coverage contributions, and natural resource conservation practices. Collaborating with community organizations and residents during the planning and design phases can help ensure that parks reflect the specific needs and desires of the local population and help reach the City's goals around equity and inclusion. Interim use of undeveloped parks or phased development should also be considered to make these spaces more available to the public. A complete list of existing park master plans by year is provided in Appendix B and should be referenced as the City continues to enhance the system.

PARK AMENITY PLANNING

Through a series of public outreach methods, surveys, online engagement, and staff inputs, a number of needed park amenities were identified as desired future improvements or additions to the park system. These amenities should be referenced and strongly considered as part of the proposed updates to park master plans in an effort to expand the variety and distribution of recreational options available in Redmond. When practical, new amenities should seek to serve multiple user groups or have flexible uses.

Figure 54. Amenities to Consider with Future Park Master Plans

Basketball (additional)	Electric vehicle charging at parks & trailheads	Ping Pong tables
BBQ pits (additional)	Giant games (chess, checkers, etc.)	Playgrounds (in gap areas)
Bike skills/pump track	Inclusive ADA playground	Rugby field
Community garden (additional)	Kayak launch sites (additional)	Shade structures for play areas
Covered play structures	Outdoor exercise equipment	Soccer field(s) (additional)
Cricket pitch/field	Parcour course	Splash pad
Dog park / off-leash area	Pickleball courts (additional)	Sports court(s) lighting
Electric bicycle charging in parks & trailheads		

In the longer term, existing natural grass sport fields may warrant conversion to all-weather synthetic turf as the demand for additional sports infrastructure grows in the region. Partnerships with the school district, King County, Lake Washington Youth Soccer Association, or other sport organizations may create development opportunities for more versatile field surfacing that support longer seasonal play and remains playable in inclement weather.

“There is going to be a need for more parks do to the increase in population from all the apartments being built.”

-Survey respondent

Additional Considerations

Additional policy considerations include adopting gender-neutral or unisex restrooms as the standard for future parks to ensure equity and full accessibility extends into parks infrastructure. Also, a Dark Skies Initiative policy could be integrated with sports field lighting use and practices with the local Audubon chapter.

Figure 55. Non-Capital Policies Supporting System Improvements

Policy	Description
Park Demonstration Projects	Demonstrate water efficiency, electric operations, sensory gardens, inclusive play, interim use, etc.
Energy Efficient lighting	Gradual replacement of existing/ required for new projects
Standardized Site Furnishings (for ADA)	Adopt a standard design for new/Gradually replace old
Tree Canopy Maximization	Optimize tree plantings on all public lands
Emergency Response Locations	Plan for all trailheads & parks to be marked as EMR locations
Public Art Plan & Programming	Integrate more public art in all new & renovated park projects
Climate Resilience Action Plan	Targets within park planning for resilience demonstration
Single Gender Restrooms - Equity & Inclusion	Incorporate unisex restrooms into park & trail standards
Tree Planting Program - Private Property	Grant or Volunteer Program to encourage tree plantings
Playground replacement program	Future planning for lifecycle of play equipment
Dark Skies Initiative	Partnership program with Audubon - integrate with sports field use
Performing Arts Infrastructure program	Enhancements for promoting local artists
Electric vehicle charging stations	Integrate more charging stations in park parking lots

EXPANDING RECREATION OPTIONS & VARIETY

Parks with less land and fewer amenities should be considered as targets for expansion through adjacent land acquisition or, at least, enhancement with additional amenities. Parks in neighborhoods that are expected to grow the most in the next 20 years should also be evaluated for the addition of new or more resilient amenities to accommodate new users. According to the Redmond 2050 growth projections, the Overlake neighborhood is expected to accommodate the most residential growth and should be a target for expanded recreational opportunities. With approximately 80 acres of undeveloped parkland and the need to prepare or update park master plans, the following amenities should be considered for future site planning. These amenities are supported by the community feedback captured during the planning process and noted in Chapter 2.

All-Inclusive Playgrounds

Upgrading play areas for ADA-accessibility will be necessary to ensure compliance and universal access; however, providing for ADA-accessibility should not be the City's only goal. As new parks or playground replacements are planned, Redmond should consider opportunities for fully-accessible, all-inclusive play areas to provide for users of all abilities. These could include elements built into the landform, such as hillside slides, and amenities for users of all ages, such as fitness or body-weight exercise stations. Transitioning

to more accessible play surfacing will create more universal opportunities for park users. Poured-in-place surfacing avoids the development of cracks and creates smooth surfaces for wheelchairs, strollers, and walkers. Smaller renovations could include adding inclusive elements, such as accessible swings, with a goal of having a portions of all playground features be ADA accessible. Inclusive playgrounds support the City's goal of expanding access to all.

Splash Pads & Spray Parks

Spray parks are water play features that are very popular and provide a means of integrating aquatics into parks at a relatively low cost. Redmond currently has splash pads at Grass Lawn Park and Downtown Park. The City should consider at least two additional spray parks geographically spread in the city to serve residents as an option for summertime water play that doesn't require lifeguarding. This special use amenity typically is supported by parking and restrooms, since it draws users from a wider area and would be most appropriate for community or urban parks. Any spray park facility should be designed to recycle water, if practical.

Sport Courts

Tennis courts, volleyball courts, basketball courts, and pickleball courts are provided at multiple City parks. However, the demand for and growth in pickleball warrants additional multi-use courts. Pickleball continues to rank as one of the fastest-growing sports and has seen significant jumps in participation over the



past decade, attracting a wide range of age groups. The City should plan to convert some courts to multi-sport courts through striping.

Off-Leash Dog Area

Redmond has no designated off-leashed areas (OLA) for dogs. However, King County's Marymoor Park located in the City has an extensive off-leash area with trails along the Sammamish River before it enters Lake Sammamish. Walking with a dog is a very popular recreational activity, and off-leash areas have become desired amenities for dog owners living in urban environments who may otherwise have limited opportunities to exercise their pets. Recreational trends and community input indicate an existing need for an off-leash area in Redmond. To provide off-leash space for residents in multifamily housing, the City will pilot an off leash dog area in the Downtown neighborhood in the 2023/24 Biennium. Redmond will follow the example from the cities of Bothell and Kirkland with the creation of a temporary, pop-up dog park to test the community's interest and support for this amenity, as well test different locations.

Appropriate sites should be safe, not isolated, and noise impacts on neighbors should be considered. Ideally, a dog park would be a component to a larger (future) park where infrastructure (e.g., parking, restrooms, and garbage collection) exists and supports multiple activities. The development of a dog park may require code revisions, the development of rules and policies, and community support for self-policing for behavioral

issues and waste pick-up. Communities throughout the Northwest have relied on grassroots or non-profit organizations for the ongoing operations and maintenance of such facilities

The City should consider installing an OLA in the northern portion of Redmond to provide an additional dog park option for residents. One of the undeveloped parks in the East Redmond corridor also may be an option for a suitable dog park that would expand geographic equity of this type of facility.

Bike Skills, Pump Tracks & Parkour Elements

Engaging older youth, teens, and adults in more intense physical activity within parks requires amenities that support challenging active movement. While the Redmond Bike Park has a pump track, the City could plan for a pump track and connecting flow track (distinct from single track trails) in a visible location that can accommodate parking and can enable a synergy with other park uses. These features would add new challenges for riders and add to the range of outdoor recreational opportunities across older youth and teens, and it would support Redmond's identity as the "Bicycle Capital of the Northwest." Alternatively, parkour features or adventure courses in parks can offer unique and inviting fitness spaces for all ages.



Community Gardens

Due to high demand, additional gardens could be sited in community or neighborhood parks, at community centers, or in stand-alone locations with access to water. An expansion of the Juel Park community gardens is planned for the 2023/24 biennium, and 5,000 sq. ft. will be available as part of a Publicly Owned Private Space (POPS) in Marymoor Village in 2023. The City also should explore demonstration gardens with educational signage that focus on topics such as ethnobotany/tribal history, pollinators, water conservation, native species, and sensory gardens.

Seasonal or Interim Activation

Activating undeveloped parks or other park space for seasonal or interim uses could provide expanded recreation opportunities or provide testing grounds for pilot projects. Examples could include seasonal celebrations or covered picnic or seating areas. Activating urban plazas in the City's urban centers would be especially beneficial.

USER CONVENIENCES

Picnic Areas & Shelters

Improving access to existing picnic areas and shelters for ADA compliance should be a core focus. Additionally, the City should assess and consider installation of new picnic shelters in existing parks and distributed across Redmond. Master plans should guide the future decisions about the need and location of picnic areas and shelter facilities. Picnic shelter rentals are in high demand, and additional facilities could address that demand and support cost recovery efforts. Development of additional picnic shelters and covered outdoor spaces for rainy season programming can help recreation bring programs out to the parks throughout the year.

Shade Structures

Providing shaded play structures and shaded seating areas were frequently mentioned in the public feedback. Summers in Redmond are projected to be hotter and drier in the future, and providing shade structures will allow for the continued, comfortable use of recreational facilities. Shade can also protect more sensitive members of the community, such as seniors, from heat-related stresses.

Restrooms

As structures age and plumbing systems require more frequent repairs, upgrades and potential replacements should be considered, particularly in community parks that host large team sports facilities and host heavier use.

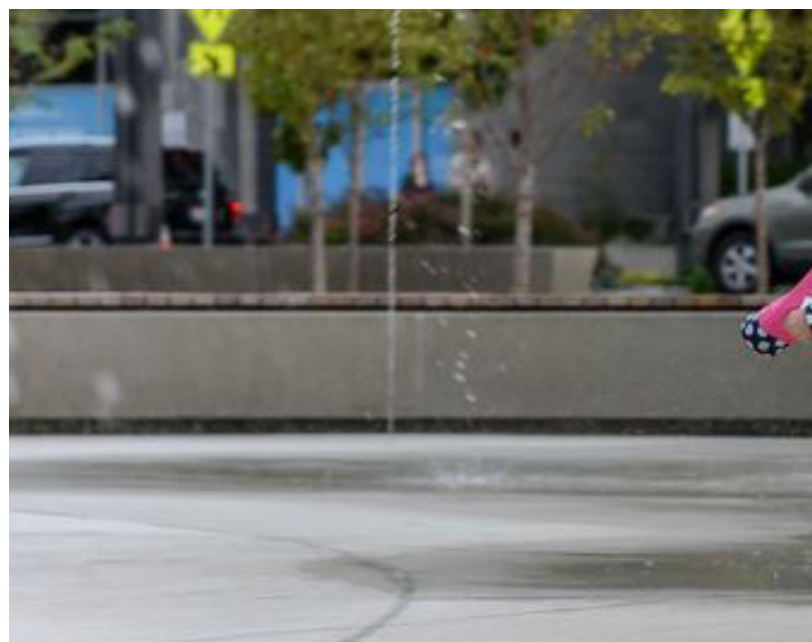
Restroom design in new community parks and at regional trailheads should consider the need for equity and inclusion by incorporating unisex restrooms, particularly for smaller facilities that don't include "family" stall options. Trailhead restrooms should be gender neutral to allow for more flexible access and use by trail users.

Bicycle & Vehicle Parking

Paint and pavement management should be ongoing to ensure optimal conditions for vehicle and pedestrian use. Parking for bicycles and scooters should be evaluated and implemented to support multimodal transportation options. Charging stations should be evaluated as the adoption of e-bikes and electric vehicles accelerates.

Provide more space for teenagers. Almost every park has a playground, but nothing for teens - skate structures or some cool hangout space. Also, please install bike racks. I often bike from home to Idylwood, but have no space to lock a bike."

-Survey respondent





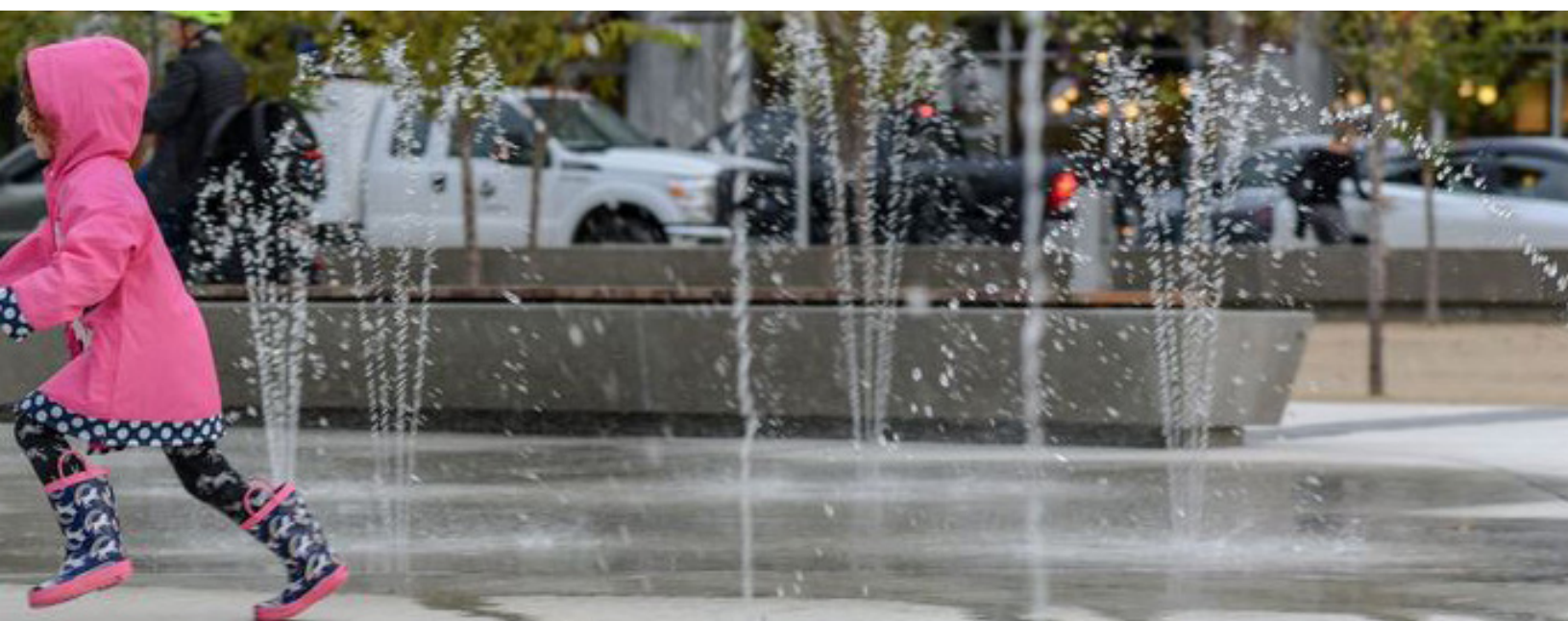
Park Structures

Some community buildings, former residences, storage sheds, historic houses and cabins, concession buildings, picnic shelters, and restrooms located in the parks are older and may warrant significant renovation (or replacement) in the near future. Park structures should be regularly inspected to evaluate the need for repairs and, eventually, to plan for future replacement. If no future adaptive re-use is instituted for these structures, demolition may need to be considered in the future, in conjunction with or immediately following a master plan for the development of these parks.

Wayfinding

The City of Redmond can benefit from enhanced wayfinding and signage supporting its overall park and trail system. Opportunities exist to help visitors navigate and inform them about the public spaces they are entering. A good wayfinding system can provide a consistent identity and display valuable and accessible information to orient the user. This guidance system ensures efficient use of the trail, park, or other public space and conveys safety to the user by translating the environment into a known geography. Signs, symbols, mapping, color, and standardized site amenities combined with good design of the physical environment (i.e., trail or park) help the user navigate the space and stay comfortably oriented.

Larger parks with multiple, secondary entrances should be improved with additional park identification signs (e.g., smaller size with coordinated signage). With a graphic style plan that creates a unified sign and wayfinding system, aging or damaged signs should be replaced with an intentional new standard that helps park and trail users know where they are and what to expect from their experience. A coordinated hierarchy of sign types that applies consistent graphics would be a benefit across the overall park system.



WATER-ORIENTED RECREATION

Redmond's location on Lake Sammamish and the Sammamish River provides substantial opportunities for water-based recreation, including both motorized and non-motorized boating, fishing, paddle sports, wildlife watching, and beach activities. The City has made investments in water-oriented infrastructure, such as the watercraft launch at Luke McRedmond Landing, and the City could explore additional sites for non-motorized ramps and other water access amenities in support of the Lakes-To-Locks Water Trail. Bear Creek Park is along the creek, but amenities could be enhanced to increase access to the water. Partnering with King County to enhance access to the Sammamish River near the Municipal Campus or future Redmond Senior & Community Center could also be pursued. In addition, the City should coordinate and partner with local businesses to run classes that provide an introduction to these outdoor sports and broaden the outreach to new participants.

ENHANCING PARK EQUITY

To make parks more equitable, it is essential to ensure equal access to parks for all communities, regardless of their socioeconomic status or geographic location. This can be achieved by strategically locating parks and acquisition efforts in underserved areas identified in the level of service maps. The in the 2016-2020 Census, the Overlake neighborhood had approximately 9% of the residents living below the poverty line—the most in Redmond. As this area grows, the need for additional park facilities will be an important equity consideration. Beyond acquisition, parks should be designed with inclusivity in mind, incorporating features and amenities that cater to a diverse range of ages, abilities, and cultural backgrounds. Parks have the power to become more than just green spaces; they can be inclusive gathering places that contribute to the overall well-being and quality of life for all members of the Redmond community.

ADA COMPLIANCE & UNIVERSALLY ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

In the continuation of the City's ADA transition process, new park standards should be adopted for basic site furnishings to gradually replace aging benches, tables, bollards, drinking fountains, and trash and recycling receptacles with fully ADA-compliant fixtures. An adopted standard could be applied to all developed parks where the mixture of site furnishings triggers

non-compliance. Standards can be instrumental in assuring consistent ADA compliance and streamlined maintenance and repairs. At least one-half of the benches and picnic tables in each park should be ADA-compliant, requiring benches with backs and armrests and along locations on accessible routes. Picnic tables should provide room for wheelchair seating and be on accessible routes, as well.

All new parks should be designed to be universally accessible. Site furnishings could vary from the adopted standard if proven to be fully ADA-compliant and have easy to maintain characteristics for long term maintenance. The Capital Improvement Plan includes line items for small upgrades and improvements to remove barriers and improve universal access.

LIFECYCLE PLANNING & REPLACEMENT

Asset management programs help to protect a park system's investment in facilities and capital assets to achieve high levels of cost-effectiveness. These assets have a finite lifespan. From shelters to signs and play equipment to site furnishings, eventual needs for replacement can be planned to avoid both gaps in service and potential safety risks. Tracking installation dates for play equipment and park structures can help predict the future need for replacement and manage expectations for capital facilities planning.

The foundation of a holistic asset management program is a comprehensive inventory and assessment of existing facilities and unmet needs. The City should continue to maintain standardized and systematic inventory documentation of park system infrastructure, including quantity, location and condition. By tracking installation and the expected useful life of assets, Redmond can plan for proactive maintenance and replacement of assets in the future. This lifecycle planning should be further supplemented by on-going condition assessments of assets – particularly those with a high consequence of failure. The City does this regularly with playground equipment inspections, and this practice can be replicated across the other site amenities and improvements. The CIP reflects some of the needs for replacements and renovations based on the information that comes from lifecycle planning.

Future planning for play equipment replacement based on predictive equipment life cycles will be useful. While playground inspections help identify and address minor repairs and replacements, most equipment loses its useful value within approximately 20 years of active use. Mapping out all play equipment installation dates

to plan for a predictive replacement cycle will assist capital facility improvement planning.

PLANNING FOR FLEXIBLE USE

The City should look towards planning for facilities and amenities that provide multiple uses which supports the goals of increasing access for all and innovating for the future. Moving away from single use facilities will allow for more efficient use of parks and facilities, a broader base of potential users, and allow the system to flexibly address new trends.

ACQUISITIONS FOR A COMPLETE PARK SYSTEM

Redmond's park system has been expanding as the city grows, and the need for more facilities triggers additions of both parkland and recreational amenities. The City is expected to continue its growth as a desirable place to live and, thus, must press forward to acquire more parkland and develop more amenities within existing parklands. Acquiring parkland requires a proactive approach and may need to look beyond undeveloped or partially developed properties, taking advantage of acquisition opportunities in strategic locations as funding allows will help fill remaining gaps.

In particular, the Overlake neighborhood is expected to face substantial residential growth in the next 20 years. Growth will put increased demand on the parks and greenspace that currently serve this neighborhood. Acquisitions should be aggressively pursued in Overlake to meet this current and future need, as well as enhancing connections between this neighborhood and other community parks.

In addition to fee-simple purchases, the City should continue to coordinate with local residential developers to include public parks in new subdivisions and multifamily developments and utilize tools, such as park impact fee credits, to facilitate the process. Coordinating with proposed residential land development projects to consider how a public park, plaza, or trail connection could be incorporated into the planning of newly developed residential areas should be pursued (see Privately Owned Public Spaces description).

Also, the City should explore use agreements with Puget Sound Energy to utilize select segments of the powerline corridor to install neighborhood-scale parks where no other alternative land options exist and to fill existing, known gaps in the ½-mile service area goal.

As land is acquired, existing structures on the property should be demolished unless adaptive re-use is being considered.

PRIVATELY OWNED PUBLIC SPACES (POPS) EXPANSION

As Redmond urbanizes, there may be opportunities to partner with developers to create privately owned, public spaces (POPS). POPS would function like City parks, but they would be developed and maintained by a private entity. The Parks and Recreation Department should work with the Planning Department to formalize this model and to provide guidance when park space is developed as an incentive. POPS would have a public easement in perpetuity, and the developer would work with the City and the Parks, Trails & Recreation Commission on site master planning and development. Signage, park rules, maintenance, and access standards should align with the City's adopted policies. Esterra Park, which will open in 2023, will provide 2+ acres of parkland in Overlake, and additional public spaces are planned.

INCORPORATE GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE OPPORTUNITIES IN PARKS PLANNING

The City could begin a process of assessing each park site for areas where mown grass is not needed to support recreational uses and could be 'rewilded' and converted to meadow or tall grass areas. This conversion to a more natural habitat would reduce carbon emissions and irrigation needs and could provide much-needed habitat for pollinators and other wildlife. Stormwater facilities can provide aesthetic value and ecosystem services and should be considered in the development of Redmond parks.

DONATION & CONTRIBUTION CONSIDERATIONS

The Parks and Recreation Department has an existing donations policy that outlines the expectations for contributions of site furnishings and trees in the park system. Picnic tables, benches, trees, and the addition of a bronze plaque are cited with a price list and application form. The City should expand this donation policy to promote larger, more significant donations that contribute to the development of park facilities and amenities. Researching the development of a Parks Foundation and creating resources on donating land could provide additional resources to the system.

Community Center Recommendations

RENOVATING EXISTING FACILITIES

Old Fire House Teen Center

The Old Fire House Teen Center is located on a 0.9-acre site near the historic core of downtown. Built in 1952, it is the oldest City facility still in service. As described in the Facilities Strategic Management Plan, the existing facility has many functional issues and is difficult to modernize due to its structural system configuration.

Previous plans have explored the options of renovating the facility or replacing the building. One scenario for rebuilding the Teen Center is as part of a co-located, higher-density civic facility. If a co-located, joint facility is not advanced and no replacement facility is identified for the Teen Center, the City should renovate and replace systems to extend the existing facility's service life and seismically retrofit the hose tower. A number of potential capital improvements have been suggested for the building including improved HVAC systems and insulation, improved office conditions, exterior stucco repair, replacement of windows, repair of leaks in the hose drying tower, additional restrooms facilities, and expansion of the kitchen and computer room along with ADA accommodations.



DEVELOPING NEW FACILITIES

The City has developed multiple facility and community center studies since 2014. These plans provide more detailed information on the community and should be updated to assist decision making around the development of new facilities. With a goal of having a community center in each the City's urban centers and space for cultural art, future facilities could include the following.

Community Center Space in Marymoor Village

Since the Marymoor Village Community Center is leased and not owned, the City is limited in the improvements that can be made to the building to meet the Department's needs. The City should pursue opportunities to purchase community center space in Marymoor Village to meet the needs of the whole community, including servicing this growing neighborhood.



Overlake Community & Recreation Center

The planning and development for an Overlake community center is a crucial next step to address facility space needs. The Overlake urban center is located in southwest Redmond and is far from Downtown, which makes use of Downtown centers unlikely for this planned pedestrian-oriented community. In an effort to address the demand for indoor recreation space and respond to the community's interest in a satellite community center in the Overlake area, the City should identify and secure property for, and initiate planning for, a new community and recreation center. The new center could be a stand-alone facility or a partnership with a developer or another jurisdiction, and it should include amenities such as a gymnasium, fitness rooms, community meeting rooms, a general social living room area.

Regional Pool

In 2019, King County partnered with cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, and Redmond to explore the development of aquatics facilities for the greater Eastside and compiled the Regional Aquatics Report. Over the past 10+ years, each of the three cities have conducted studies to evaluate the market, need, public interests, and scope of potential future aquatics facilities, but no new aquatic facilities have been built. The Regional Aquatics Report explored operating, funding, and location options, in addition to joint goals for a regional

aquatics facility. Redmond's Facilities Strategic Management Plan reiterated the potential to explore a regional aquatics facility and indicated that the City should identify regional partners to share the high costs of building and operating a new pool facility. Currently Bellevue and Kirkland are conducting feasibility analysis around aquatics for their community.

Explore Partnerships for Community Center Space

Outside of ownership of stand-alone community center facilities, the City should be flexible and creative in its approach to provide indoor recreation space that is open to the public. Development incentives for new mixed used buildings to provide indoor meeting space, black box theaters, or other recreation space that is open to the public should be pursued. This could be included as part of the development of a Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS) program for both indoor and outdoor spaces.



Recreation Programming Recommendations

Based on the information in the Chapter 3B, the following are future directions and recommendations for the City of Redmond in the delivery of recreation programs and services. These recommendations align with the goals and actions in Chapter 4, as well as the capital projects and programs listed later in Chapter 5.

PROGRAM EVALUATION

The Parks and Recreation Department has demonstrated its commitment to excellence and continuous improvement. The Recreation division has strong record keeping regarding recreation programs, registration and attendance numbers, and it has a solid track record of collecting data from program users and the general public to both evaluate existing offerings and explore the potential of new programs. Staff should periodically review data from the following sources to determine community needs for programs and services:

- Historical registration trends/success of current programs and services
- Surveys and questionnaires
- Focus groups
- Washington Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
- Suggestions provided by current instructors and current employees
- Suggestions submitted by prospective instructors/employees

Staff should continue to evaluate and assess the City's program offerings and prioritize future programs based on a mix of criteria that include:

- Current or potential importance for community-wide or broad individual benefit
- Community needs or deficiencies
- Potential for increased participation
- Revenue potential, affordability, and accessibility
- Cost of service policy

ENHANCE VISIBILITY OF RECREATION PROGRAMS

The community survey and questionnaire showed that many community members are not aware of the recreational programming available. This could be due to the COVID-19 pandemic reducing programming and the influx of new residents who are less familiar with city services. For whatever reason, the City should:

- Enhance awareness of recreation programs offered by the Department and partners by continuing to promote centers and programs.
- Improve outreach to communicate offerings through expanded social media, ads, and other outlets.
- Consider bringing more programming out to the parks and activating the City's parks with programs and outdoor classes. This will help to cross-pollinate recreation participants with the offerings of park facilities and improve overall community awareness of recreational opportunities within Redmond.

DEVELOP OPERATIONAL RECREATION PROGRAM PLAN

- Create an internal Recreation Program Plan prior to the completion of the new Redmond Senior & Community Center to organize and realign program offerings as necessary to meet the needs of the community and optimize facility usage.
- Utilize the City's aggregate collection of sport fields and courts to host tournaments and expand offerings to include adaptive program league nights and tournaments.
- Develop intergenerational programs or ethnic-based programs that are appropriate for the cultural orientation of the area.



- Continue to track actual costs and revenues generated by major program areas and special events offered by the City. Continue to determine total number of attendees when possible.
- Update the program plan periodically (e.g., major reassessments on a 5-year basis), identifying the priorities for program development and the required resources for each major program area.

IMPLEMENT & REFINE COST RECOVERY PLAN

- The City should continue to stay abreast of its program offerings and recreation trends, as well as re-evaluate programs based on participation rates and cost recovery targets.
- Monitor the cost recovery plan and update cost recovery targets by major program area linked to periodic fee adjustments.

LAUNCH NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM

- With a new registration recreation program software launch pending for the first part of 2024, staff should prepare a strong campaign to encourage and promote the new software and the full suite of programs, classes, camps and centers.

DEVELOP PROGRAMS WITH EQUITY IN MIND

- Providing free or affordable programming and activities within the recreational offerings can help encourage participation from all segments of society.
- Enhance marketing and ease of use for the low income and fare reduced recreational classes, camps, and events.
- Ensure recreation classes are physically accessible by offering classes at various



locations throughout the community, including neighborhoods with limited resources or transportation options.

- Provide a wide range of recreation classes that cater to various interests and abilities, so individuals from different backgrounds can find opportunities for participation.
- Collaborate with community organizations, cultural centers, and religious institutions to reach diverse populations and encourage their participation.
- Ensure staff are trained in cultural competence to create an inclusive and welcoming environment for all participants.
- Regularly solicit feedback from community members regarding their experiences with recreation classes. This feedback can help identify any potential disparities or areas for improvement.

EXPAND PARTNERSHIPS IN RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS & SPACES

- Partner with the Parks Planning staff and City Planning Department as community spaces come online through development incentives and Privately Owned Public Spaces to assist in programming and planning for their operation.
- Act as a “clearinghouse” for recreation programs and services provided by others and collaborate with non-profits and other recreation service providers, which may involve promotion of their activities, coordinating of some programs, and scheduling of facilities.
- The Department should continue to coordinate with the Housing, Homelessness and Human Services Division of the Planning Department to consider how social services overlap and integrate with broader recreational offerings.
- Collaborate with community groups and stakeholders to provide insights into the needs and preferences of different groups within the community.

CAMPS

As staff capacity and facility space allow, the City should seek ways to expand summer and youth camps, since public comments collected during this planning process highlighted strong demand and capacity limitations for these camps.

- Explore options to expand summer camps to address the strong demands for programs, including identifying additional spaces for hosting activities.
- Continue to coordinate with partners to offer additional classes, camps, enrichment activities, and general recreational offerings.

ENHANCE REGIONAL RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

- Continue to pursue a regional partnership and joint development approach to address cricket field needs.
- Continue to coordinate with the County and nearby cities to explore options for an additional, regional aquatic facility.

AQUATICS

There has been strong community interest in additional swim classes and swim times, and the City should continue to coordinate with WAVE Aquatics to adjust the program schedule to accommodate family and casual (non-competitive) usage and refine the mix of pool programs and classes to offer more classes that are in high demand in the community. The building lacks a party room, space for dryland training or team meetings, or other amenities to make the pool more efficient. The City should continue coordination with the County and nearby cities to explore options for an additional, regional aquatic facility. With additional facility space, aquatics program options could be expanded to include lifeguarding classes, CPR/AED/First Aid, first responder training, and paddleboard/kayak classes, among others.

Within the parks and trails system, additional locations for providing access to the water should be explored for paddleboarding, boating, and other recreational activities. Improving access to waterways was a high priority from the community. At Idylwood Beach Park, amenities such as the pier, beach, and restrooms/changing facilities, should be maintained and improved to continue to support this popular recreational activity.

Arts & Cultural Events Recommendations

Redmond has a vibrant arts and culture community that has the potential for expansion and to fulfill a demand for broader opportunities in pursuit of creative engagement. To more fully reach its potential, the arts community will need the support of leadership in Redmond, including the mayor and City Council.

ART & CULTURAL ENGAGEMENT

The LACE strategy (Leading with Art and Cultural Engagement) was developed as part of the Redmond Public Art Master Plan to integrate public art into capital projects. City parks and trails host temporary and ephemeral projects outside the downtown. Master planning and design development for underdeveloped parks and future trail projects should identify opportunities for integrating public art to enhance place-making and the creation of unique spaces within the park and trail system.

ENHANCING BUSKERS PROGRAM

- Expand the Buskers Program outside of the Downtown Park to other neighborhoods and parks. Initial expansion of the Buskers Program could be replicated at Esterra Park in the Overlake neighborhood, which is built with the intention to host events and performances at its outdoor amphitheater. Other parks and plazas located in urban centers should be evaluated and proposed based on the city development code.

STREAMLINE SPECIAL EVENTS PERMITTING

- Improve the special event permit process and communications.

ENHANCE EVENTS INFRASTRUCTURE

- The Municipal Campus park land was not intended as a site for large scale events and lacks adequate infrastructure to support the signature events it currently hosts. As renovations occur or are budgeted, take into consideration the needs of signature events, such as Derby Days, and those from the Engagement Division.

EXPLORE NEW PARTNERSHIPS

While building a richer and more visible arts and culture environment in Redmond will require private sector funding, it should be recognized that public funding support also will be crucial to advancing the goals and implementation of expanded facilities, accommodations, and events. This investment in the future should be expected to both enrich the lives of Redmond residents and also add to the economic vitality of the City.

- Look to partner with private/public, local, and regional entities to enhance, resurrect, or add cultural events and infrastructure into the future.
- Work with staff developing policies and proposals around Privately Owned Public Spaces to provide for arts spaces like those identified by community demand.
- Continue to partner and coordinate with external event hosts to expand the range and diversity of community events.

EXPAND ARTISTIC RESIDENCIES

- The Artist-in-Residence program was used to stimulate cultural vibrancy and promote placemaking in Downtown parks, but it was eliminated in the 2023/24 budget. Explore ways to bring this program back through integration into City departments and projects.

PUBLIC ART

The Parks and Recreation Department and the Redmond Arts & Culture Commission will continue to support the efforts of local artists, arts organizations, and arts projects and programs that strive to represent all of Redmond's diverse community. The Parks and Recreation Department and the RACC will continue to advance the goals and strategies in this PARCC Plan and the Public Art Master Plan. These plans will serve to guide initiatives and provide a preliminary framework to allow the energy, dedication, and passion of the City and the community to foster and expand arts and culture in the coming years.

Public art should continue to be incorporated into new and existing parks and trails to help with creative place-making, evoking historical events, fostering local identity, and engaging interest.

Trail Recommendations

Redmond's future trail initiatives will continue to build a safe, accessible, multi-modal trail system linking the community to destinations throughout Redmond and beyond. Trail use and improvements to the trail system should be done in coordination with the Transportation Planning and Engineering Division.

TRAIL PLANNING

The City has a network of planned trails to help connect pedestrians and cyclists to destinations and provide safe modes of travel. While the list of trail projects guide the investments for the continuing implementation of the trail system, additional planning is warranted to incorporate and distribute amenities along trail corridors, such as restrooms, bike racks, electric bike charging stations, drinking fountains, shelters or shaded rest areas, picnic tables, benches, public art, lighting, wayfinding signage, emergency response management information, and signage.

TRAIL CONNECTIONS

Expanding trail connections was identified as a top priority throughout the community engagement process. Additionally, the trail system must be ready for new modes of mobility, given the growing presence of e-bikes and e-scooters in Redmond and surrounding cities. Connecting parks and trails to the existing transit system should also be a priority.

Additional opportunities exist to expand pathways through parks to better connect existing park amenities and offer users more options for exercise and enjoyment. In some parks, paved pathways could be added to connect to picnic tables isolated in lawn areas to provide ADA-compatible access routes.

Other gaps and loop trails should be pursued, particularly along the Bear and Evans Creek Trail, or east/west PSE Powerline Trail within city limits. As parks are developed or renovated, opportunities to connect to other trail and transportation networks should be encouraged. The development of SE Redmond Park may be an opportunity to connect with the East Redmond Corridor. The city should also pursue right-of-way and trail corridor easements to fill essential system gaps as identified in the Level of Service maps and Transportation Master Plan.

PARTNER ON DEVELOPMENT & ACQUISITION

Redmond is expected to grow rapidly, particularly in the urban centers. The Parks and Recreation Department should support the work of the Planning Department on requiring development connections to existing and future trail networks. The City should also continue to coordinate the implementation of the pedestrian and bicycle facility improvements from the Transportation Management Plan, including Safe Routes to Schools and Safe Routes to Parks, that is managed by the Transportation Planning and Engineering Division.

TRAIL SAFETY

The increased use of electric-assisted mobility devices such as scooters, e-bikes, and one-wheel should be assessed for updates to trail rules around speed and to clarify what is meant by 'non-motorized' vehicles. With the potential for increased travel speeds, the risk for user conflict will increase. Trail management will need to adapt to accommodate new rules and guidance on trail user etiquette. Posted travel speeds, reminders of when to give warning when passing, yield hierarchies, upcoming road crossings, surface type changes, risks of flooding, etc. should be part of a comprehensive wayfinding and signage plan. Bollards, stop signs, pavement warning strips, and other safety measures should continue to be incorporated into new trail connections. Street crossings, especially any mid-block crossings, will warrant specific signage to alert trail users of their responsibility to avoid risks with vehicular conflicts. Landscape (vegetation) management should be cognizant of any visual blind spots created by overgrown vegetation or plantings growing too close to corners or trail turns.

TRAIL SIGNAGE, WAYFINDING & EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The City should work to continue to improve trail and trailhead signage and wayfinding, enhance online trail maps, and explore ways to indicate connections to bus and rail transit. The City should consider how to integrate the signage style used along the Redmond Central Connector as the trail system expands and connects to additional non-motorized travel opportunities.

The following signage types should be considered and implemented as appropriate throughout the trail network:

- Directional and regulatory signage
- Trail user etiquette and hierarchy signage
- Continuous route signage for route identification and wayfinding
- Distance markers or periodic information regarding distance to areas of interest
- Warning signs to caution users of upcoming trail transitions or potential conflicts with motor vehicles
- Interpretive information regarding ecological, historical, and cultural features found along and in proximity to the trail
- QR codes should be considered for access to online trail maps and additional information

The installation of kiosks at regional trailheads is a practice that could add value. Kiosks provide important trail information in addition to community news, while reinforcing the visual brand of the Redmond trail experience.

As Redmond's trail system expands, a coordinated emergency response system should be considered to identify trailhead locations, trail crossing locations, and other potential emergency access sites. The emergency response locator numbers should be integrated into the wayfinding signage and mile marker designs.

An emergency response system, incorporated into the wayfinding signage program and emergency services locator program should be coordinated across the trail system. A comprehensive review of existing EMS approaches to locator identification and current regional trail EMS locator programs should be considered in designing an integrated trail emergency management system. Trails signs at destinations, trailheads, and other 'nodes' along the trails should include the emergency locator ID number to help emergency response teams find and address any emergencies.

TRAIL AMENITIES & ENHANCEMENTS

With the broad popularity and high usage of Redmond's trails among the public, trail amenities would enhance the user experience. Exercise stations, waystations, bike repair stands, distance markers, and rest areas could expand usage and provide amenities that were requested from the community feedback. Providing places for rest along trail natural areas or view corridors would enhance connections to nature and could provide opportunities for educational signage. Revised bike parking amenities to accommodate the range of e-bikes and other electric powered scooters, boards, etc. with charging stations will help accommodate the new emerging electric-assist trend and help Redmond prepare for the future. Regional trails should include new trailhead installations with charging stations, especially at destination locations where parking a bike is likely or provided.

PRIORITIZE EQUITY IN TRAIL DEVELOPMENT

Trails go beyond recreation and provide a transportation option for residents and users without access to a vehicle such as seniors, teens, and lower-income residents. Trails can also provide a necessary transportation link for wheelchair users. Enhancements to the trail network can improve equitable outcomes for City of Redmond residents:

- Wherever possible, use universal design standards to make trails and their access points accessible to individuals with disabilities and people of all ages and abilities.
- Incorporate features like smooth surfaces, gentle slopes, and rest areas to accommodate diverse user groups.
- Prioritize creating connections between neighborhoods and community hubs and areas that are currently underserved.
- Integrate trails with public transportation, bike lanes, or pedestrian pathways and advocate for transit connections when they are missing.

Conservation Recommendations

Conservation recommendations are guided by cumulative information gathered from multiple sources outlined in Chapter 3. The following recommendations should be used to help direct the investments for the future stewardship of the City's natural and cultural resources in conjunction with the Environmental Utilities & Services Division.

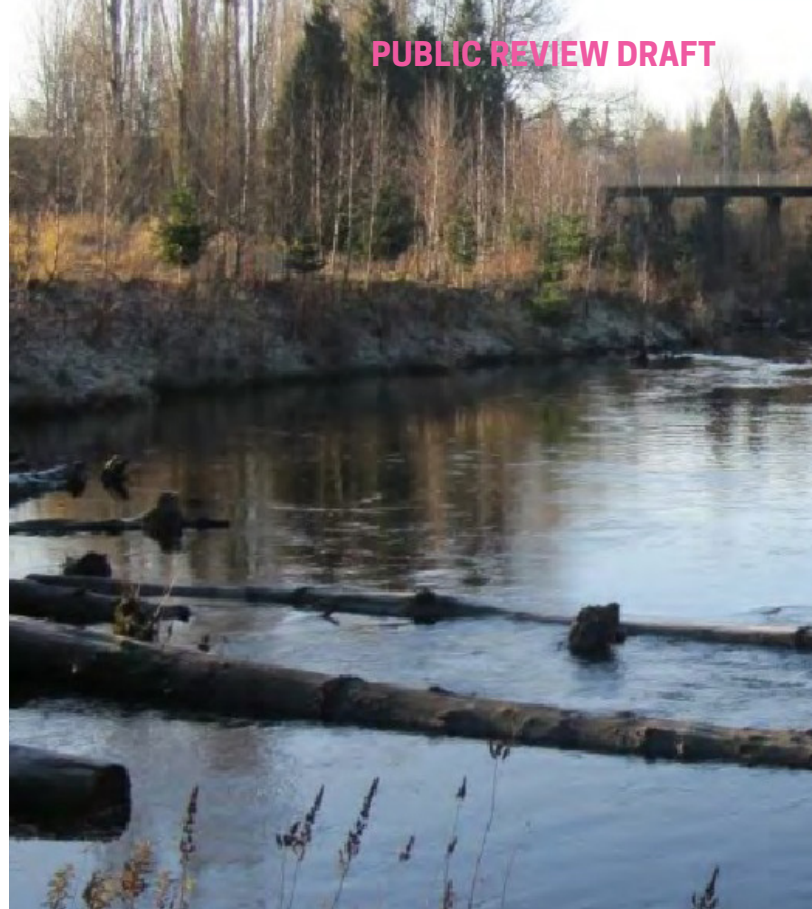
URBAN FORESTRY

Expanding tree canopy coverage is an important element of the City's planning for sustainability and climate resilience. All public parkland and trail corridors should be planned to help maximize the percentage of tree canopy, integrating shade, microclimate, habitat, and aesthetics into park and trail spaces. The City's Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) emphasizes the need for more tree canopy coverage and the importance of parklands as the primary target for planting trees.

- Evaluate Rotary Park for tree canopy and habitat along Sammamish River corridor.
- Seek to acquire future needed parkland to help contribute to the protection of natural resources and provision of tree canopy coverage, while offering much-needed outdoor recreation access.
- As master planning and design development are engaged for un- or under-developed parks, integrating the need for more extensive native tree canopy coverage should remain a major target.
- Conservation easements and public access easements are tools that could be applied to increase habitat benefits and connect access across the parks and open space system.
- Continue to implement the 20-year Forest Management Plan to restore and enhance natural areas.
- Update the Green Redmond 20-year Forest Management Plan (2023-2024).
- Expand tree canopy in urban neighborhoods to reduce urban heat island effect.
- Conduct comprehensive tree health and risk assessment.
- Replace street trees that fail due to poor health or damage.
- Seek ongoing funding for street tree replacement.
- More native, canopy trees are recommended for areas along stream corridors, especially where the stream is near paved surfaces or collects urban runoff.
- Consider the acquisition of forested parcels to conserve existing canopy and the acquisition of non-forested parcels to be re-planted or serve as tree mitigation banks for private development.
- Review existing park plans for locations to add plantings that don't detract from planned use.

IDENTIFY LOCATIONS FOR TREE CANOPY EXPANSION

- Conduct GIS modeling to identify additional locations for tree plantings and increase City-led tree planting efforts.
- Develop list of sites for off-site tree replacement for developers and fee-in-lieu funding.



ENHANCE RESIDENTIAL ENGAGEMENT & PROGRAMMING

Canopy expansion on private property will be necessary in order to achieve the 40% coverage goal. Engaging Redmond residents, schools, and businesses around tree plantings and providing pollinator habitat should be considered to reach conservation targets.

- Promote public information reflecting the importance of parks and open spaces and their contribution to a more sustainable and resilient community.



- Look to develop tree giveaway programs for private land that enhances citywide tree canopy.
- Support programs such as Bioblitz and pollinator friendly garden pilot projects.

SUPPORT ESAP EFFORTS & CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION

- Provide ongoing greenspace maintenance that incorporates irrigation and other best management practices as needed to support tree health.
- Consider drought-tolerance and irrigation needs when selecting plant species to install in green spaces and urban forest land.
- Prioritize programs and enhancements in vulnerable communities as identified in the ESAP who may be disproportionately affected by pollution, habitat degradation, or climate change.

MANAGE HISTORIC PROPERTIES & RESOURCES

- Prepare a design plan for the future park use for Conrad Olson Farm and determine the feasibility and potential for preservation and adaptive reuse(s) for its primary historic structures.
- Prepare a design plan for Dudley Carter Park to enhance its role in providing outdoor recreation

value, while considering the feasible programming for the historic structure.

- Prepare a plan for Juel Park to increase its conservation value, outdoor recreation amenities and potential re-uses for any existing buildings to remain.

SALMON HABITAT RESTORATION

- Continue to support the work of the Kokanee Recovery Interlocal Agreement and Chinook recovery projects.
- Expand education and awareness at City-owned sites along Lake Sammamish and its tributaries, including signage in multiple languages.
- Support restoration work of shorelines and tributaries that improves the habitat of this native species.

EXPAND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & PROJECTS WITH PARTNERS

- Support volunteer planting events and invasive plant species removal.
- Fund volunteer efforts around sustainability like the Green Redmond program.
- Fund Washington Conservation Corps invasive plant removal.
- Fund three EarthCorps planting events per year.

Operations & Maintenance Recommendations

The park operations and maintenance activities within each work program are influenced by the resources needed at each park and facility. Recommendations are based on cumulative information gathered from community insights, conditions assessments, and professional planning to help direct the investments for the next six years.

ASSET MANAGEMENT, SAFETY & LIABILITY

- Identify and correct safety concerns to ensure parks, trails, and facilities are safe for public use.
- Address emerging issues such as interim uses, graffiti, damaged facilities, encampments, or downed trees.
- Continue to implement and support accessibility improvements laid out in the ADA Transition Plan.
- Proactively plan for the replacement and renovation of park amenities and green infrastructure based on condition ratings and age of amenities.
- Removing grass from the base of trees and adding a circle of wood chips can eliminate the need for string trimmers and mowers to be close to tree trunks that can damage tree trunks and roots.
- Investigate security enhancements.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- Continue to seek options to reduce synthetic pesticide usage, expand the use of energy conservation equipment and practices, improve water conservation, and expand the usage of recycled/reclaimed materials.
- As noted in the Conservation chapter (3E), pursue opportunities to implement “rewilding” in underutilized turf areas, expand urban tree canopy, and update plant selections to be better equipped to adapt to climate change.





ADOPT CLIMATE RESILIENCY POLICIES, PLANS & OPERATIONS

- Integrate park development practices that emphasize predominant use of native Pacific Northwest plant species for use in park landscapes.
- Continue to adapt park maintenance practices to shift irrigation applications and timing to approach sustainable water use balanced with park asset value and tree canopy management.
- Promote plantings and pockets of open space to break up blocks of paving and mitigate the urban heat island effect as well as provide habitat for pollinating species.
- Assess and plan vegetation management citywide.
- Plant selection for tree replacements or renovations that consider the anticipated climate in 10-50 years will be more likely to create resilient, mature landscapes that can better transition to warmer, drier conditions.

PARTNERSHIPS & VOLUNTEERISM

- Continue to coordinate and expand the usage of volunteers and partner organizations to provide additional support for Department efforts.

FUNDING FOR FUTURE NEEDS

- Coordinate the six-year Capital Improvement Plan with the planning and budgeting of future staffing resources.
- Compile information related to the impacts of inflation on levy funding and recommend a levy lift to maintain standards of service.
- Maintain a sinking fund to annually set aside reserves for future turf field replacement and other lifecycle replacements.



Capital Improvement Plan 2023-2030 & Beyond

Projects listed in the PARCC Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) have been identified to advance the vision of sustaining and enhancing the Redmond park and trail system, while accommodating expected growth and future park infrastructure needs. The CIP provides a framework to improve opportunities to recreate, to advance more equitable park and trail facilities, to ensure safety and sustainability, and to support community vitality.

The preceding recommendations have helped inform these project recommendations, but not all recommendations are associated with a Capital Improvement Project. The City of Redmond defines a capital investment as costing \$50,000 or more with a useful life of five years or longer. These PARCC Plan CIP projects are general capital investments. Proposed projects in the six-year list are considered to be achievable within the existing staffing capacity and fit with community priorities. However, estimated maintenance and operation costs for the more

significant CIP projects have not been determined as part of this Plan.

Consistent with the City's longer-term outlook for financial planning, a 20-year capital investment strategy has been outlined for identified park projects that may not be feasibly accomplished within the next six years. By identifying long range projects, those projects may be eligible for grant funding, partnerships, or development agreements as future opportunities arise.

The proposed capital projects were prioritized based on if the project improves resiliency, supports community demand, improves sustainability, and improves equity. Unless otherwise noted, the proposed projects are not yet budgeted. This list identifies planning-level cost estimates and does not assume the value of volunteer or other non-city contributions. Detailed costing may be necessary for projects noted. This list is intended as a guiding document for City staff in the preparation of departmental budgets and work plans.

Figure 56. Capital Project Prioritization Considerations

Improves Resiliency*	Community Demand	Improves Sustainability*	Improves Equity*
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserve or Replace Asset Partnership Safety Hazard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> High use Community feedback Projected growth needs of the community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Benefits Regulatory Requirements Supports the ESAP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improves the current Level of Service Creates connections

.....*

*Aligns with themes of Redmond 2050

Project Types

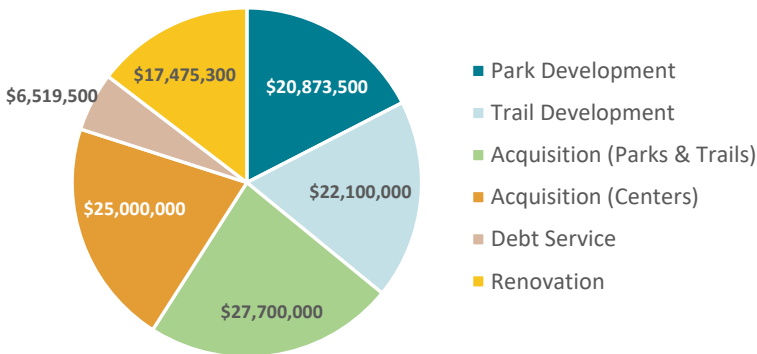
Expand Capacity: Park, trail & community center development & acquisition

Lifecycle Project: Renovation of existing facilities or asset replacement

Non-Capital & Planning Projects: Master or strategic plan, recreational programming (not on CIP list)

The following CIP list identifies the park, trail, and facility projects considered for the next six years and provides brief project descriptions for those projects to assist staff in preparing future capital budget requests. The majority of these projects entail the maintenance, acquisition and development of parks, recreational amenities and trails. The following table summarizes the aggregate capital estimates by park types for the next six years.

Figure 57. Six-Year Capital Improvements Plan Summary



“We could definitely use more community garden space, like in Juel Park. Update playground equipment, add some on small neighborhood parks - not only equipment for younger kids, but 8-12 year olds.”

-Survey respondent

ADDRESSING GAPS & GROWTH NEEDS

The mapping analyses outlined earlier in this Plan reveal an unequal distribution of park locations and outdoor recreation amenities. Large gap areas without public parkland exist in northwest and southeast Redmond. The acquisition of land to provide public space is an ongoing challenge, and the need will increase rapidly as the City grows. New potential park sites have been identified in eight locations. Securing at least two of these sites has been listed in the six-year CIP.

Undeveloped park properties are ready to be designed and constructed to add outdoor recreation value to the park system, as well as contribute to the City’s environmental sustainability goals. Several existing undeveloped park sites are proposed for near-term implementation. Other undeveloped parks may need to wait for annexation to clear a path for capital investment and future maintenance requirements.

PROPOSED NEAR TERM PARK CIP PROJECTS

The 28 park projects listed in the six-year CIP represent approximately \$93 million in capital investments (including community centers acquisition and development) for the Redmond park system. These projects represent a mix of renovations, acquisitions, and development of new amenities that have been

prioritized based on need, community demand, and the project's connection to goals in the PARCC Plan. The additional 20 projects listed in the 20-year CIP could be considered for more immediate implementation if conditions shift to accommodate additional capital work.

- ADA Improvements - Park restrooms
- ADA Improvements- Parking Lots and Pathways
- Community Garden Expansion
- Demonstration Dog Park
- Meadow Park sports court resurfacing
- Redmond Senior & Community Center Debt Service
- Reservoir Park sports court resurfacing
- SE Redmond Neighborhood Park Development
- Community Center in Marymoor Village
- Community Center in Overlake Village
- Downtown Park Event Street Closures
- Hartman Park Sports Field Project: baseball infield
- Land Acquisitions
- Urban park or plaza acquisitions in Overlake and Marymoor neighborhoods
- Smith Woods Development
- Sports Field Project: Grass Lawn Multi Use Field 2
- Sports Field Project: Grass Lawn Softball Field 1
- Anderson Park Retaining Wall
- East Redmond Corridor Implementation
- Anderson Park Adair House Repairs
- Hardscape Project: Grass Lawn Parking Lot
- Hardscape Projects: systemwide
- Hartman Park playground replacement
- Idylwood Park Restroom and Concession Renovation
- Idylwood Parking Lot Repairs
- Infrastructure Replacement Projects 2023-24
- Play feature in Urban Center
- Sports court resurfacing - multiple sites

The following table shows a tentative timeline for the development of the near-term, six year proposed capital improvement projects following the city's biennium. There may be changes in the timeline based on a further evaluation of project readiness and funding, but projects have been grouped by priority, readiness, and potential project efficiencies. Projects around acquisition and development of community centers were not assigned a time period, but should be considered as opportunities arise in the next six years.

Figure 58. Tentative Timeline of Capital Projects

2023/2024 Proposed CIP Projects	
ADA Improvements-Parking Lots & Pathways	Grass Lawn Park Parking Lot Renovation
Community Garden Expansion	Infrastructure Replacement Projects
Demonstration Dog Park	Meadow Park Court Resurfacing
Downtown Park Event Street Closures	Perrigo Park Sports Field Lighting Replacement LED
Grass Lawn Park Multi Use Field 2	Reservoir Park Court Resurfacing
2025/2026 Proposed CIP Projects	
ADA Improvements- Park Restrooms	Hartman Park field renovations
Anderson Park Adair House Repairs	Idylwood Park Parking Lot Renovation
Anderson Park Retaining Wall	SE Redmond Park Development Grass
Hartman Park playground replacement	Lawn Softball Field 1
2027/2028 Proposed CIP Projects	
East Redmond Corridor Implementation	Play feature in Urban Center
Idylwood Park Restroom and Concessions	Smith Woods Development
Proposed Projects with Timelines Dependent on Opportunity	
Community Center in Marymoor Village	Land Acquisitions
Community Center in Overlake Village	Urban park or plaza acquisitions in Overlake and Marymoor neighborhoods

PROPOSED NEAR TERM TRAIL CIP PROJECTS

Trail corridors and paved pathway connections also are designated on the CIP for both the near- and long-term. These projects include extending existing trails that connect to destinations such as parks, schools and across neighborhoods and providing more trailhead amenities. These connections are broadly supported by community members, and Parks staff should work with the Transportation Planning and Engineering division to advance this work.

Trail projects were evaluated to discern priorities based on elements of connectivity, improved service delivery, public safety, potential partnerships, and other benefits. Fifty planned trail connections were measured and ranked to assist in selecting the more immediate trail projects to be implemented in the coming six years. These five near-term trail projects focus on creating connections to expand the City’s existing trail system. The other trail projects are included in the 20-year trail CIP to allow for implementation opportunities and plan for longer term proposed links.

“Add more trails and bike paths/lanes to make it easier and safer to go car-less. Add more river access for kayaks. Add more outside exercise equipment for adults (ex: pull-up and parallel bars).”

-Survey respondent

- Redmond Central Connector Phase III
- East Redmond Corridor – Acquisitions
- East Redmond Corridor – SE Redmond to Arthur Johnson Park
- East Redmond Corridor - Bear & Evans Creek Trail
- Nike Park Trail Improvements

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Redmond 6-Year Proposed Parks CIP Project List

Priority Weighting	Project Name	Type	Description - Notes	Cost Estimate	Impact Fee Eligible	Goal 1: Expand Access	Goal 2: Build Strong Communities	Goal 3: Innovate for the Future	Goal 4: Protect the Natural Environment
E	ADA Improvements - Park restrooms	RN	In the City's most well-used parks, create accessible restrooms that are in compliance with the recommendations outlined in the 2019 ADA Parks Transition Plan. Restrooms are a key piece of making parks accessible. (Anderson Park, Grass Lawn, Farrel-McWhirter, Idylwood, Perrigo)	\$1,115,000	No	X	X		
E	ADA Improvements- Parking Lots and Pathways	RN	Create ADA-compliant parking and accessible routes at high priority community parks throughout the system.	\$1,072,000	No	X	X		
E	Community Garden Expansion	D	Juel Park expansion and additional sites in urban centers prioritized.	\$77,500	Yes	X	X		X
E	Demonstration Dog Park	D	Construction and operation of a pop-up, off-leash dog park, with an aim to build a permanent facility.	\$102,000	No	X		X	
E	Meadow Park sports court resurfacing	RN	Replace sports court to address failing court surfacing and adjacent pathways, root eruptions, and functional layout	\$636,000	No	X		X	
E	Redmond Senior and Community Center Debt Service	FD	Debt Service	\$6,519,500	No		X		
E	Reservoir Park sports court resurfacing	RN	Replace sports court to address failing court surfacing and adjacent pathways. Create a safe sports court and maintain our level of service for tennis/pickleball/active recreation in the neighborhood.	\$1,417,000	No	X		X	
E	SE Redmond Neighborhood Park Development	D	Design and construction of SE Redmond Park based on Master Plan.	\$6,000,000	Yes	X		X	X
H	Anderson Park Retaining Wall	RN	The degrading historic Anderson Park rock wall needs to be renovated	\$135,000	No			X	
H	Community Center in Marymoor Village	A	Acquire property for the future development of a community center in Marymoor Village.	\$13,000,000	No	X	X	X	
H	Community Center in Overlake Village	A	Acquire or partner for the future development of a community center in Overlake Urban Center.	\$12,000,000	Yes	X	X	X	
H	Downtown Park Event Street Closures	D	Construct permanent infrastructure to close streets for events in and around Downtown Park. Ability to close streets for special events using permanent infrastructure to reduce staff time and rental costs and to improve safety.	\$844,000	No		X	X	
H	East Redmond Corridor Implementation	D	Development within the East Redmond Corridor based on the Master Plan, with special attention to connecting park properties and expanding access to the corridor.	\$3,000,000	No	X			X
H	Hartman Park Sports Field Project, baseball infield	RN	Replacement of degraded synthetic turf playing surface that is at end of life in 2025.	\$599,300	No	X	X	X	
H	Idylwood Parking Lot Repairs	RN	Renovation and expansion of Idylwood main parking lot to address pavement failures, drainage issues, damaged curbing, and ADA deficiencies.	\$4,000,000	No	X		X	
H	Land Acquisitions	A	Park, trail, urban park and plaza acquisition to fill gaps in our service distribution. Dependent on opportunity.	\$13,000,000	Yes	X	X	X	
H	Smith Woods Park Development	D	Development of this neighborhood park to serve surrounding area with update of concept plan if needed. Consideration for bridge, access improvements, and native plantings.	\$3,000,000	Yes	X		X	X
H	Sports Field Project: Grass Lawn Multi Use Field 2	RN	Replacement of degraded synthetic turf playing surface that is at end of life in 2023. Initial plan will include cricket striping, in proposed budget.	\$1,913,000	No	X		X	
H	Sports Field Project: Grass Lawn Softball Field 1	RN	Replacement of degraded synthetic turf playing surface that is at end of life in 2025.	\$1,852,000	No	X		X	

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Redmond 6-Year Proposed Parks CIP Project List

Priority Weighting	Project Name	Type	Description - Notes	Cost Estimate	Impact Fee Eligible	Goal 1: Expand Access	Goal 2: Build Strong Communities	Goal 3: Innovate for the Future	Goal 4: Protect the Natural Environment
H	Urban park or plaza acquisitions in Overlake and Marymoor neighborhoods	A	Acquire or partner for one urban park or plaza near SE Redmond light rail station in the Marymoor Village and Overlake neighborhoods. Dependent on opportunity.	\$11,000,000	Yes	X	X	X	
M	Anderson Park Adair House Repairs	RN	Replace roof & remodel kitchen & restroom to increase longevity & enhance use.	\$550,000	No		X	X	
M	Hardscape Project: Grass Lawn Park Parking Lot	RN	Renovation of 148th Avenue NE parking lot to address pavement failures, root eruptions, and ADA deficiencies.	\$982,000	No		X		
M	Hardscape Projects: systemwide	RN	Ongoing paint and pavement management for parking lots, pathways & trails	\$1,200,000	No			X	
M	Hartman Park playground replacement	RN	As the current playground reaches the end of its useful life, a replacement would be installed, following the guidance of the Master Plan and taking into account equity & accessibility goals.	\$730,000	No	X	X	X	
M	Idylwood Park Restroom and Concession	D	Build a new Idylwood Park Restroom and Concession building to better serve the community.	\$7,400,000	No	X		X	
M	Infrastructure Replacement Projects 2023-24	RN	Annual ADA upgrades to site furnishings	\$2,600,000	No			X	
M	Play feature in Urban Center	D	Evaluate urban center sites for the addition of children's play features. Pursue partnerships and creative play features.	\$450,000	Yes	X		X	
M	Sports court resurfacing - multiple sites	RN	Repair, resurface and re-stripe courts at Municipal Campus, Nike Park & Viewpoint Park	\$1,350,000	No	X		X	

SUBTOTAL \$96,544,300

Priority Scale

E	Essential Priority (18+)
H	High Priority (10 - 17)
M	Moderate Priority

Project Type

P	Planning
RN	Renovation/Repair
D	Development
A	Acquisition
FD	Financial/Debt Service

NOTES:

This list identifies planning-level cost estimates and does not assume the value of volunteer or other non-City contributions. Detailed costing may be necessary for projects noted.

This list is not an official budget and intended as a guiding document for City staff in the preparation of department budgets. CIP projects for Facilities are not detailed in the PARCC Plan or included in these estimates.

* Cost estimates derived from 2023 - 2024 Preliminary Budget (or otherwise noted).

** Annual inflation of 4% applied to 2017 estimates.

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Redmond 20-Year Parks Project Vision

Project Name	Type	Description	Cost Estimate	Impact Fee Eligible
East Redmond Corridor				
Arthur Johnson Park Design & Development	D	Development of parking, natural retreat, and native plants.	\$4,000,000	Yes
Conrad Olson Park Design & Development	D	Phase 1 development based on updated master plan.	\$3,250,000	Yes
Farrel-McWhirter Renovation	RN	Renovate park based on need.	\$18,800,000	No
Farrel-McWhirter Hutchison Picnic Shelter	RN	Replace the picnic shelter and make available for community rentals.	\$930,000	No
Farrel-McWhirter Mackey Creek Playground	RN	Renovate the playground at the Park for more inclusive play.	\$500,000	No
Juel Park Design & Development	D	Phase 1 development based on updated master plan.	\$5,500,000	Yes
Perrigo Park -2b Development	D	Inclusive playground, picnic shelters, stage area.	\$2,990,000	Yes
Perrigo Park Field Lighting Conversion	RN	Energy efficiency conversion.	\$952,000	No
Martin Park Design & Development	D	Phase 1 development based on updated master plan.	\$3,500,000	Yes
Urban Parks and Plazas				
Downtown linear park or plaza acquisition	A	Acquisition - Downtown Redmond light rail station & under elevated tracks.	\$3,000,000	Yes
Marymoor Village urban park or plaza development	D	Develop park or plaza at SE Redmond light rail station area.	\$6,000,000	Yes
Overlake urban park or plaza development	D	Develop parks or plazas near the two light rail station areas.	\$12,000,000	Yes
Downtown linear park or plaza development	D	Develop park at Downtown Redmond light rail station & under elevated tracks.	\$5,000,000	Yes
Overlake Village Central Infiltration Vault	A, P, D	Develop a signature park over vault. Price does not reflect the public works infrastructure for the vault.	\$6,000,000	Yes
Park Development & Enhancements				
Cascade View Park Expansion	D	Expansion into west section of property.	\$1,000,000	Yes
Dudley Carter Park Renovation	D	Renovation & development of existing park.	\$3,000,000	No
Luke McRedmond Park Renovation	D	Improvements - potential dog park area. Existing Master Plan from 1980.	\$1,000,000	No
Multi-purpose Artificial Turf Sports Field	D	Partner with King Co. or LWSD for regional cricket field.	\$2,000,000	Yes
North Redmond Park Development	D	Development of park in N Redmond once land is acquired.	\$3,000,000	Yes
Rose Hill Area Park Development	D	Development of park in Rose Hill once land is acquired.	\$3,000,000	Yes
Rotary Park Design for Access Improvement and Canopy Expansion	D	Design and Develop resource park for improved public access and expanded tree canopy.	\$260,000	No
Sammamish Valley Park Development	D	Phased development based on master plan update. Potential mitigation bank.	\$3,000,000	Yes
Community Centers				
Old Firehouse Teen Center Renovation	RN	Renovate or replace Old Firehouse Teen Center	\$8,000,000	No
Overlake Community Center	D	Development of Community Center in Overlake	\$20,000,000	Yes
Marymoor Village Community Center	D	Development of Community Center in Marymoor Village	\$13,000,000	Yes
Subtotal			\$129,682,000	

- Project Type
- P Planning
 - RN Renovation/Repair
 - D Development
 - A Acquisition
 - FD Financial/Debt Service

NOTES:

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CIP projects for Facilities are not detailed in the PARCC Plan or included in these estimates.

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Redmond 6-Year Proposed Trails CIP Project List

Priority Weighting	Trail Project Name	Project Type	Description	Cost Estimate	Impact Fee Eligible	Goal 1: Expand Access	Goal2: Build Strong Communities	Goal 3: Innovate for the Future	Goal 4: Protect the Natural Environment
E	East Redmond Corridor: SE Redmond Park trail to Arthur Johnson Park	D	As part of the East Redmond Corridor, connect the SE Redmond Park to Arthur Johnson Park, Martin Park, and the Evans Creek Natural Area. Concurrent development of these parks would lend itself to project efficiencies.	\$4,300,000	Yes	X		X	
E	East Redmond Corridor: Bear & Evans Creek (Trail 8)	D	Leg of the Bear & Evans Creek Trail would connect the Bear Creek Trail at its north end near Avondale Road to Perrigo Park, traveling through the Keller Farm wetland. This project would close a significant gap in the regional trail system and improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Acquisition of trail corridor is required on two properties for the project. Would expand Level of Service metrics.	\$9,000,000	Yes	X		X	X
E	Redmond Central Connector: Phase III	D	Complete the final 1.6 miles of the Redmond Central Connector between the 9900 block of Willows Road to NE 124th Street.	\$7,600,000	No	X	X	X	X
H	East Redmond Corridor: Bear & Evans Creek Trail Acquisition and Development	A	As part of the East Redmond Corridor, acquire trail easements to provide connection between Farrel McWhirter Park and Conrad Olson Park (NE 95th Street).	\$3,700,000	Yes	X		X	X
H	Neighborhood Connections: Nike Park Trails	RN	Develop and improve the network of local trails that would neighborhoods around Nike Park to Hartman Park and Avondale Road.	\$600,000	No		X		
M	Trailhead enhancements	D	Enhance trail user experience with amenities like shelters, tables, benches, bike racks, drinking fountains, restrooms, public art, as feasible.	\$1,200,000	No	X		X	

SUBTOTAL \$26,400,000

Priority Scale

E	Essential Priority (18+)
H	High Priority (10 - 17)
M	Moderate Priority

Project Type

P	Planning
RN	Renovation/Repair
D	Development
A	Acquisition
FD	Financial/Debt Service

NOTES:

This list identifies planning-level cost estimates and does not assume the value of volunteer or other non-City contributions. Detailed costing may be necessary for projects noted.

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Redmond 20-Year Trails Project Vision

Trail Project Name	Project Type	Description	2023 Cost Estimates
Access to Rotary Park	D	Explore options to enhance local trail access to the Rotary Park natural area.	\$250,000
Blue Trails Access Points	D	Assess opportunities to enhance access to Redmond's waterways via blue trails.	TBD
East Redmond Corridor: Bear & Evans Creek Trail 10	D	North route through former Keller Farm site (Friendly Village).	\$3,200,000
East Redmond Corridor: Bear & Evans Creek Trail to East Lake Sammamish Connection	D	Develop connection between Redmond Way and the East Lake Sammamish Trail. Southern most portion of East Redmond Corridor.	\$2,000,000
East Redmond Corridor: Woodbridge extension trail	D	Neighborhood, connects to future East Redmond Corridor.	\$600,000
Marymoor to Idylwood Park on West Lake Sammamish Parkway	D	In coordination with partners, provide multimodal access between Idylwood Park and Marymoor Park along West Lake Sammamish Parkway. Would enhance Level of Service metrics and meet community demand for increased access to Idylwood Park.	\$3,500,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: 100th Street Trail	D	Assess options to connect the westside of the Redmond Central Connector Trail to Rose Hill.	\$250,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: Audubon Elementary Area Trails	D	Neighborhood connection to elementary school.	\$480,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: Faith Lutheran to RedWood Rd		Connector Trail	\$600,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: NE 111th Ct to NE 112th Way	D	Neighborhood connection	\$650,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: NE 116th Trail 4	D	Neighborhood Connection, 178th Ave NE to 179th Ave NE.	\$200,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: NE 80th St Trail	D	SE Redmond neighborhood	\$1,000,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: NE 84th and 85th connections to 139th Ave	D	Neighborhood connection, short segment connecting neighborhoods.	\$600,000
Neighborhood and School Connections: Tosh Creek Trails Phase I	D	Recreational trails through the natural areas around Tosh Creek.	\$350,000
PSE Powerline Trail: Willows Crossing	D	Crossing at Willows Road, linkage	\$525,000
PSE Powerline Trail: North Redmond infill linear park (development agreement)	A	PSE corridor near Sammamish River Trail and up to Rockwell and Einstein Elementary Schools. Negotiate PSE agreement to use land for small neighborhood park.	TBD
PSE Powerline Trail: West Redmond	D	On the western edge of Redmond, beneath the existing PSE Powerline that runs between Bridle Crest and NE 124th, on the west side of Redmond, obtain easements and develop trail for public use along corridor.	\$10,000,000
Redmond Central Connector: Willows to 154 Ave NE	D	Connect the RCC2 with Westpark business park.	TBD
Redmond Central Connector: Willows to Redmond Way Connector Trail	D	Connect RCC II to Redmond Way (difficulty making it ADA accessible).	\$1,200,000
West Lake Sammamish Crossing	D	West side of the Sammamish River, W. Lake Sammamish turns to 154th connection out of Downtown. Project would pave and provide a crossing.	TBD

Project Type	
P	Planning
RN	Renovation/Repair
D	Development
A	Acquisition
FD	Financial/Debt Service

NOTES:

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** Annual inflation of 4% applied to 2017 estimates.

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Redmond Proposed Park Site & System Planning Project List

Priority Weighting	Project Name	Description	Cost Estimate	PIF Eligible
E	East Redmond Corridor Strategic Implementation Plan	Update the East Redmond Corridor Master Plan and provide strategic direction for implementing the vision of the corridor, including interim uses, acquisitions, and partnership opportunities.	\$75,000	No
E	Hartman Park Master Plan	Master Plan to be updated before renovations & upgrades to fields, facilities, and amenities. Sport field lay out consultant work should include evaluation of Hartman’s facilities.	\$75,000	No
E	SE Redmond Neighborhood Park Master Plan	Develop a Southeast Redmond Park master plan to define community needs and potentially fund the design and construction of a park in a 2025-26 budget. Currently, Parks is not meeting service level goals in Southeast Redmond.	\$75,000	Yes
E	Sports Field Layout: Design Consultant	Funds will be used to hire a consultant to identify potential sports layouts within existing facilities that could accommodate cricket and other sports in need of additional recreational space.	\$80,000	Yes
E	Study of Community Center Facility Needs/Acquisition	Refinement study of Facilities Master Plan exploring detailed needs for future centers.	\$25,000	No
E	Vegetation Management Strategic Plan	Assessment and planning of vegetation management citywide including rights-of-way, parks and trails, street trees, tree canopy and urban forest. A plan will be created to look toward carbon sequestration goals, carbon emission reduction, native plantings, and drought resistant landscaping.	\$200,000	No
H	Sammamish Valley Park Master Plan update	As this project nears development, update the Master Plan from 2010 to include Tree Canopy Goals and mitigation plantings that have been done. Look for ways to develop the park in stages, as budget is available.	\$75,000	No
H	Interim Activation of Park Properties	Explore partnerships and opportunities to activate park properties that are undeveloped or underutilized.	\$20,000	No
M	Acquisition Strategy	Develop near and long term acquisition strategy for parks, community centers, and trails properties. Consider collaboration with other City Departments such as Fire, Police, and Natural Resources for a comprehensive look at Real Property needs.	\$50,000	Yes
M	Watershed Preserve Trail User Analysis	Revisit trail user categories to ensure continues to meet needs of users. Consider "Equestrian Only" trails be shared with cyclists on certain days of the week.	\$10,000	No
subtotal:			\$685,000	

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CIP IMPLEMENTATION

The 2023-2030 CIP project recommendations will trigger funding needs beyond current allocations and may also require additional staffing and resources for operations and maintenance responsibilities. Given that the operating and capital budgets of the Parks and Recreation Department are finite, additional resources will need to be considered. While grants and other efficiencies may help, these alone will not be enough to achieve the project goals identified in this plan.

The following recommendations and strategies are presented to offer near-term direction to realize these projects and as a means to continue a dialogue between City leadership, community members, and partners. A comprehensive review of potential funding and implementation tools is included in Appendix J, which addresses local financing, federal and state grant and conservation programs, acquisition methods, and others.

POTENTIAL FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOLS

Parks Levy Renewal

The existing Parks levy provides nearly \$1 million in annual funding for the Redmond parks system, of which about \$250,000 is directed toward capital projects. With the scale of renovation and restoration projects noted throughout this Plan, the City will, at a minimum, need to pursue renewal of the parks levy at its current rate to maintain current service levels.

The City also should evaluate the potential to expand the levy or contemplate a companion ballot measure to provide funding for some of the 2023-2028 Parks CIP projects. Studying these options should be prioritized and included in the City's 2023/24 work plan.

Park Impact Fees

Park Impact Fees are imposed on new development to meet the increased demand for parks resulting from new growth. Park impact fees can only be used for park property acquisition and projects that increase capacity of the parks system. Park impact fees cannot be used for the operations and maintenance of parks and facilities. The City of Redmond currently assesses park impact fees, and the City should pursue updating the methodology and rate structure, as appropriate,

to be best positioned to obtain future acquisition and development financing from the planned growth of the community.

Real Estate Excise Tax

The City currently imposes both quarter percent excise taxes on real estate, known as REET 1 and REET 2. The REET must be spent on capital projects listed in the City's capital facilities plan element of the comprehensive plan. Eligible project types include planning, construction, reconstruction, repair, rehabilitation or improvement of parks, recreational facilities, and trails. Acquisition of land for parks is an eligible use of REET 1 resources but not a permitted use of REET 2.

REET resources currently fund facilities, parks, trails, and transportation capital projects. Recently, a strong real estate market and increasing sales prices have increased REET revenues, with projections for the 2023-2024 Budget near \$7 million, compared to \$4.0 million for 2021-2022. Through the annual budgeting process, and with discussions with City Council, the Parks and Recreation Department should continue to seek access to REET funds to support the delivery of the 2023-2030 PARCC Plan CIP.

Conservation Futures

King County assesses the maximum allowable excise fee of \$0.0625 per \$1,000 assessed value to fund the Conservation Futures program and provides cities a venue to access these funds through a competitive, local grant process. The City should continue to submit grant applications to support open space projects and improved linkages to expand the trail network.

Parkland Donations & Dedications

A program to support parkland donation should be developed to support the City's property acquisition goals. Gift deeds or bequests from philanthropic-minded landowners could allow for lands to come into City ownership upon the owner's death or as a tax-deductible charitable donation. The City should develop policies to facilitate such donations efficiently. This work is anticipated to be combined with the overall property acquisition strategy.

Property dedication for park use by a developer could occur in exchange for Park Impact Fees or as part of a planned development where public open space is a key design for the layout and marketing of a new residential

project. The Parks and Recreation Department should vet any potential dedications to ensure that such land is located in an area of need and can be developed with site amenities appropriate for the projected use of the property.

Internal Project Coordination & Collaboration

Continued internal coordination with the Public Works and Development Services Departments can increase the potential of discrete actions toward the implementation of the proposed trail and path network, which relies heavily on street right-of-way enhancements, and in the review of development applications with consideration toward potential property acquisition areas, planned trail corridors, and the need for easement or set-aside requests. However, to expand the extent of the park system and recreation programs, additional partnerships and collaborations should be considered.

Public-Private Partnerships

Public-private partnerships are increasingly necessary for local agencies to leverage their limited resources to provide community parks and recreation services. Corporate sponsorships, health organization grants, conservation stewardship programs, and non-profit organizations are just a few examples of partnerships where collaboration provides value to both partners. The City has numerous existing partners and should continue to explore additional and expanded partnerships to help implement these capital project and policy recommendations.

Development Incentives

The City should continue to pursue the development of urban parks and plazas through various development incentives with private developers. Aside from the use of park impact fee credits, density bonuses and transfers of development rights are two common tools. Density bonuses offer the incentive of being able to develop at densities beyond current regulations in one area in return for concessions in another and can be applied to a single parcel or development. The transfer of development rights (TDR) is an incentive-based planning tool that allows landowners to trade the right to develop a property to its fullest extent in one area for the right to develop beyond existing regulations in another area.

Grants & Appropriations

Several state and federal grant programs are available on a competitive basis, including WWRP, ALEA, and LWCF, all of which are further detailed in Appendix J. Pursuing grants is not a panacea for park system funding. Grants are both competitive and often require a significant percentage of local funds to match the request to the granting agency. This can be as much as 50% of the total project budget, depending on the grant program. Redmond should continue to leverage its local resources to the greatest extent by pursuing grants independently and cooperating with other local partners.

Appropriations from state or federal sources, though rare, can supplement projects with partial funding. State and federal funding allocations are particularly relevant on regional transportation projects, and the likelihood for appropriations could be increased if multiple partners are collaborating on projects.

Volunteer & Community-based Action

Volunteers and community groups already contribute to the improvement of park and recreation services in Redmond. Volunteer projects include community event support, habitat enhancement, invasive plant removal, and tree planting, among others. Redmond should maintain and update a revolving list of potential small works or volunteer-appropriate projects for the website, while connecting to the Lake Washington School District to encourage student projects.

While supporting organized groups and community-minded individuals adds value to the Redmond park and recreation system, volunteer coordination requires a substantial amount of staff time. Additional resources may be necessary to enable a volunteer coordinator to fully utilize the community's willingness to support park and recreation efforts.

Other Implementation Tools

Appendix J identifies other implementation tools, such as voter-approved funding, grants and acquisition tactics, that the City could utilize to further the implementation of the projects noted in the Capital Improvements Plan.

Future PARCC Plan Amendments & Updates

The PARCC Functional Plan can be amended to keep the functional plan a useful and relevant guide. However, amendments shall consider the extensive community outreach and analysis that went into the creation and recommendations in the Plan. Amendments should be limited in scope and will only be considered on odd calendar years before CIP and budgeting work takes place. After the proposals have been submitted, staff will review the proposed amendments and cumulative effects of the proposal. The Parks, Trails and Recreation Commission will review and confirm the list of amendments (known as the “docket”) to be considered and will hold a discussion during a Commission Meeting that is open to the public. If the Commission recommends approval, Parks and Recreation Department staff will work toward amending the Plan and informing relevant parties, such as the Redmond City Council, Planning Commission, and Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).



Memorandum

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-582

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Executive	Malisa Files	425-556-2166
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Executive	Amy Tsai	Chief Policy Advisor
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TITLE:

City of Redmond 2024 State Legislative Agenda

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

This is Council's second review of the City of Redmond 2024 State Legislative Agenda. Council's feedback has been incorporated into a new draft for committee discussion (Attachment 1), with a goal of Council adoption on November 6.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☐ **Receive Information**

☒ **Provide Direction**

☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
RMC 2.80 Representation of City to Legislative Bodies

- **Required:**
N/A

- **Council Request:**
The draft legislative agenda includes new verbiage for the Electric Fire Engine Charging Infrastructure priority item to make it a joint request with the City of Bellevue for \$800K, which includes \$250K for Redmond charging infrastructure and \$550K for Bellevue's engine cost gap. This proposed language allows the Cities to work in partnership on these requests during session.

Language improvements made in response to Council feedback include strengthening the Idylwood Park project ask with number of visitors, strengthening the environmental sustainability description by adding a reference to 2030 goals, clarifying that concerns about fiscal impacts of labor regulations is about educating legislators not an intent to detract from the City's commitment to its employees' health and well-being, recognizing the City's work in alternative crisis response, adding facets of childcare support, and clarifying public safety language

including support for a breadth of public safety services.

- **Other Key Facts:** N/A

OUTCOMES:

The City's legislative session advocacy potentially results in state funding for projects identified in the State Legislative Agenda. The State Legislative Agenda helps the City advance top priority requests, and it focuses attention on policy areas that may be considered by the state legislature and that could have a positive or negative impact on the City of Redmond and the Redmond community.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
N/A
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

N/A

Approved in current biennial budget:☐ Yes☐ No☒ N/A**Budget Offer Number:**

N/A

Budget Priority:

N/A

Other budget impacts or additional costs:☒ Yes☐ No☐ N/A***If yes, explain:***

Funding may be provided by the State for Redmond projects on the City's State Legislative Agenda. The proposed 2024 State Legislative agenda includes a funding request of \$500,000 for Idylwood Park accessibility improvements and a \$250,000 request for electric fire engine charging infrastructure (submitted as a joint \$800,000 combined request with the City of Bellevue).

Funding source(s):

N/A

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ **Additional budget details attached**

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
10/10/2023	Study Session	Provide Direction

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
11/6/2023	Business Meeting	Approve

Time Constraints:

The 2024 Legislative Session begins on January 8, 2024. To effectively advocate for the City's Legislative agenda, the agenda should be approved by Council as soon as possible to support state lobbying efforts.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

The City will not be effective in lobbying for the items on the City's Legislative Agenda if the agenda is not approved in a timely manner.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Draft 2024 State Legislative Agenda 10-24-23

About Redmond

The City of Redmond has a population of 77,000, and in pre-pandemic times, experienced a daytime working population of over 130,000. Urban life and the outdoors come together in one of the fastest-growing cities in the state. We are home to a thriving technology and space industry, Eastside supportive services, and business incubators. The City actively partners in regional and state conversations, bringing housing, environment, and other experiences and expertise to the table. Redmond requests state support to keep our communities livable, walkable, safe, and sustainable.



Top Funding and Legislative Requests



Idylwood Park Accessibility Improvements

Redmond seeks \$500,000 to help expand the capacity of the parking lot, incorporate ADA improvements, and make multimodal enhancements.

Idylwood Park is one of the City's most heavily used community parks with more than 250,000 annual visitors and it is the only municipal park with access to waterfront recreation. The parking lot serving the park is frequently beyond capacity, often compelling users to park across a busy multilane thoroughfare, which reduces safety and accessibility. The City of Redmond has committed \$723,516 thus far for design and construction of this \$4 million project for an expanded facility that supports multimodal access. State funding assistance would support the City's Vision Zero commitment and ADA Transition Plan.



Electric Fire Engine and Charging Infrastructure

Together, Bellevue and Redmond seek \$800,000 to invest in the first electric fire engines in the state.

The Cities of Redmond and Bellevue are at the forefront of sustainable emergency response in acquiring the State's first electric fire engines. Expected to arrive in late 2024, Redmond's engine heralds a new era for firefighting in Washington State, and \$250,000 of this ask supports charging infrastructure for the engine. Both cities successfully received partial grant funding from Ecology and anticipate federal support, but an electric engine costs approximately double that of a diesel engine. This investment closes cost gaps for both cities. Electric fire engines not only offer clean technology; they have operational efficiencies, reduce maintenance costs, and contribute to the health of our firefighters and the communities they serve. The City requests the State continue investing in this groundbreaking project, setting a precedent for a cleaner, more efficient future in emergency response.



148th Avenue NE/SR 520 Bicycle Pedestrian Overpass Prioritization

We are in the process of seeking funding opportunities and will need the State's partnership to align funding in upcoming years.

The Legislature appropriated \$8 million in the 2022 Move Ahead Washington transportation package for this project and scheduled the funds to be allocated in "future biennia," post-2029. The project continues to be a top priority for mobility and safety of the Redmond community. It will allow pedestrians to safely cross State Route 520 in the Overlake Urban Center, one of the largest job centers in the Puget Sound region with a capacity for 70,000 jobs. The construction trajectory for this project aligns with the timing of anticipated growth. Future state support will be critical.



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2024 STATE LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Supported Issues



Housing

Redmond looks forward to continuing to share our expertise in statewide dialogue on the affordable housing crisis. We are a regional partner on housing solutions, including transit-oriented development, housing trust fund affordable housing projects, and building complete neighborhoods. Redmond is a statewide leader in inclusionary zoning. Redmond's longstanding inclusionary zoning regulations apply to most areas of the city and have contributed to the creation of 1,127 cost-controlled affordable housing units. Under HB 1220, Redmond's residential growth target is 20,000 new homes between 2019 and 2044, with almost 75% of those units serving households making 0 to 50% of the area median income. The City supports proposals that preserve, improve, and expand housing stock; increase housing choices for people at all income levels and abilities; and eliminate racially exclusive and discriminatory land use and housing practices. Redmond supports legislation that is consistent with Redmond's Comprehensive Plan, Housing Action Plan, and Community Strategic Plan.

Redmond supports:

- Housing affordability, production, anti-displacement, and statewide tenant protections
- Condominium liability reform and other measures to increase production
- Permit streamlining and city and trade workforce development to improve the housing development pipeline
- Recognizing on-the-ground impacts and city resource constraints, and allowing time for cities to successfully implement recent state housing and land use legislation

Environment Sustainability

Redmond takes effective local action with state funding and supports state efficiencies in local climate funding. The City is working to reduce community greenhouse gas emissions by half by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 via a comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Action Plan that frames necessary actions as climate change consequences escalate. Redmond is a champion of clean water, as Redmond has a uniquely shallow aquifer. As a leader in equitable building decarbonization and other sustainability programs, Redmond has an aggressive environmental action plan to put into action with state dollars.

Redmond supports:

- Decarbonization, green building, and renewable energy sources
- Investments in building and fleet electrification and charging infrastructure
- Effective and efficient distribution of Climate Commitment Act, Inflation Reduction Act, and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law dollars
- Culvert, fish, and habitat funding
- State funding for vegetation management and tree canopy preservation and expansion
- Stormwater and clean water funding
- State action plans, funding, and technical assistance for the potentially devastating impacts of PFAS introduced into city water systems
- Waste stream reduction and statewide extended producer responsibility
- Climate resiliency and wildfire response

Planning and Infrastructure

Time and funding are critical to successfully implement the old and new Growth Management Act requirements.

Redmond consistently ranks among the fastest growing cities in the state and in the nation. In the next few years, the City will welcome four new light rail stations. The City is investing in multimodal transportation, trail connections, and incoming light rail stations to increase walkability, livability, and sustainability.

Redmond supports:

- Increased funding for the Public Works Assistance Account, other grants, and financing tools for local needs, such as establishing a state public bank
- Increased funding for pavement preservation
- Improving road safety and achieving Vision Zero objectives
- Funding for parks, trails, and recreation maintenance, operations, and acquisitions, including Recreation and Conservation Office grants

General Government

Redmond encourages the State to identify reforms to the tax system that provide progressive, equitable, stable, and reliable revenue sources to meet the needs of state and local government. Giving cities local option flexibility with revenue streams is critical to accomplishing state priorities such as meeting the state-provided housing targets. When there are new state mandates, ensuring corresponding funding is critical for City financial sustainability.

Redmond supports:

- Tax reform, including local options to exceed the 1% annual property tax growth limit
- Increasing flexibility for local revenue streams, including real estate excise tax revenues
- Tools and efficiencies to address public records request costs while maintaining transparency
- Flexibility in state recording requirements for digital and paperless records
- Tools that protect voting rights and equitable access to voting
- Educating the state on City fiscal impacts of changes in state labor regulations

Community Vitality

Redmond supports the State's critical funding of health and human services and crisis care facilities. As the City grows, so, too, does its need to provide living wage jobs, employment training, and human and social services. Redmond actively engages with Eastside and regional partners in support of regional solutions to address and support individuals experiencing homelessness. Redmond's Mobile Integrated Health program received the National Alliance on Mental Illness's Crisis Intervention Team Fire/EMS Agency of the Year award for the northwest region in 2022 for our outstanding work in crisis alternative response.

Redmond supports:

- Childcare accessibility, affordability, and workforce support
- Small business assistance programs and small business financial support
- Funding for the Housing Essential Needs Program and other subsidized housing solutions
- Investments in human services programs and workforce
- Investments in workforce reskilling and work-based learning opportunities
- Investments in behavioral health services and facilities
- Funding and access to healthcare that respects rights, such as gender-affirming care and abortion rights

Public Safety

The City has significant capital needs and workforce shortages that will continue to put pressure on public safety services. One-time funding has balanced the City's current budget, but structural gaps have expenses outpacing revenues. The City works to provide a safe community while also ensuring transparency, accountability, and innovation.

Redmond supports:

- Safe neighborhoods and adequately resourced public safety programs and training
- Criminal justice reform to ensure transparency and accountability
- Funding for treatment alternatives and implementing new state laws on possession of controlled substances
- Gun safety



Memorandum

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-585

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Executive	Lisa Maher	425-556-2427
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Executive	Jenny Lybeck	Sustainability Program Manager
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TITLE:

Monthly Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Update - October 2023

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

This report includes an informational update on implementation activities completed over the past three months in support of the 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) and Climate Emergency Declaration (Attachment A).

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☒ **Receive Information**

☐ **Provide Direction**

☐ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, Climate Emergency Declaration, City of Redmond Operations Zero Carbon Strategy, Community Strategic Plan, Tree Canopy Strategic Plan
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
Council requested monthly updates at the Parks and Environmental Sustainability Committee of the Whole meetings.
- **Other Key Facts:**
The Environmental Sustainability Action Plan was adopted in September 2020 and serves as the community's strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and preserve natural resources. Council also adopted a Climate Emergency Declaration, which was integrated into the ESAP and identifies key sustainability objectives for the City's work.

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-585

Type: Committee Memo

OUTCOMES:

See Attachment A for a summary of implementation highlights.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
N/A
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
N/A
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

N/A

Approved in current biennial budget:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

Budget Offer Number:

The memo includes updates across multiple departments and divisions.

Budget Priority:

Healthy and Sustainable

Other budget impacts or additional costs:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

The memo includes updates across multiple departments and divisions.

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ **Additional budget details attached**

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
1/24/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information
3/28/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information

Date: 10/24/2023

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability

File No. CM 23-585

Type: Committee Memo

5/23/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information
6/27/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information
9/26/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
11/28/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information

Time Constraints:

N/A

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Implementation Update

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

- City Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Rate Impact Monitoring: A new fee for public EV charging was put into place at the end of July to reduce long dwell times, increase the availability of the chargers, and reduce complaints to staff. Council requested staff report on charging trends on a quarterly basis to monitor the impact on the desired outcomes. Between August and September 2023, the average dwell time went down to 2 hours and 40 minutes, with just 18% of sessions exceeding the posted three-hour limit. During the same period in 2022, the average charging time was 3 hours and 3 minutes, with 26% of sessions exceeding the three-hour limit. As anticipated, charging sessions declined from 791 sessions in 2022, to 433 sessions in 2023. The fee has generated \$1,373, which is returned to the Parks budget for ongoing operation of the chargers, including electricity costs.
- Sustainable Living Classes: Fall Sustainable Living Classes are now open for registration. Class topics include safer cleaning, sustainable holiday meals, waste free holiday giving and more. These free virtual classes are interactive and taught by a live instructor. Class participants will receive emailed resources covered in the class. More information in the Upcoming Events section at Redmond.gov/sustainableliving.
- Bear Creek Planting: In October, a group of Scouts planted 900 native trees on 2-acres of Bear Creek buffer. Prior to the Scouts planting the trees, the City's Stormwater crew mowed invasive blackberries covering the site. Volunteers from Amazon, Microsoft and the WCC crew helped prepare the site by digging out blackberry roots.
- Fleet Study: Phase 1 of the Fleet Study is underway with a focus on right sizing, utilization, space planning, and fleet shop needs to inform the MOC master planning process. The second phase of the study will include electrification, decarbonization, and replacement planning. This is a critical plan to strategically transition the fleet to low carbon sources. The project is on schedule and expected to conclude by Q3 2024.

- Fleet EV Infrastructure Installations: One dual head fleet charger was installed in October at the MOC to support the City's growing fleet of EVs. Two fleet chargers (four heads) are now available at the MOC. Fleet chargers are also being installed at the City Hall parking garage, but that work is delayed until late 2024 due to supply chain issues with electrical switch gear. This project is the first phase of a long-term project to install EV charging infrastructure in support of fleet electrification efforts.

Sustainability Programming

- Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Newsletter: The October Sustainability eNewsletter was distributed to more than 2,000 subscribers and highlighted community programs and resources (Appendix A).
- Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC): The Committee held its regularly scheduled meeting on September 28 from 5:30-7. The committee welcomed new members and provided feedback on the draft Climate Resilience and Sustainability element of the Redmond 2050 Comprehensive Plan update. The meeting minutes can be found on the ESAC webpage.
- Overlake Green Building Tour: The ESAC and city staff partnered to host a tour of Verde at Esterra Park on October 18. Verde is a new all-electric multifamily building in the Overlake neighborhood that's targeting LEED Zero Carbon certification. 20 attendees (maximum allowed) learned about the sustainable practices used to build and operate the building, while connecting with other members of the community and ESAC.
- Smith Woods Tour: The ESAC and city staff partnered to host a walk around Smith Woods in September to learn about the city's restoration efforts and stormwater pilot projects. 10 community members were in attendance. This is part of an ongoing ESAC effort to increase opportunities for community members to learn more about the City's sustainability efforts and connect with ESAC members.



IMAGE 1: PETER HOLTE (RIGHT) AND TOM HARDY (SECOND FROM RIGHT) SHARING INFORMATION ABOUT STORMWATER AND HABITAT RESTORATION EFFORTS IN SMITH WOODS.

- Annual Report: The City is working with Cascadia and the Eastside Climate Partnership to prepare an updated greenhouse gas inventory for city operations and the community for calendar year 2022. Staff will present the 2022 GHG inventory and other ESAP key performance indicators in a staff report at the November 21 Council Business meeting.

Environmental Sustainability Newsletter - October 2023

City of Redmond Washington sent this bulletin at 10/13/2023 08:12 AM PDT

CITY OF REDMOND Environmental Sustainability



Enjoy a Green Building Tour in Overlake

Join the City of Redmond's Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) and city staff from 4 - 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 18, for a tour of Verde at Esterra Park. Verde is a new all-electric multifamily building in the Overlake neighborhood that's targeting LEED Zero Carbon certification. We'll learn about the sustainable practices used to build and operate the building, while connecting with other members of the community and ESAC. Space is limited, so please register.

[Register today!](#)



AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Fellows Support Environmental Goals

The City's environmental sustainability efforts would not be possible without the dedication of numerous volunteers and city staff. Redmond is fortunate to have AmeriCorps and Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) fellows serving alongside staff and the community to support the implementation of the Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP) through electric vehicle infrastructure planning, planting native trees in critical areas, and more. We recently welcomed our new 2023-2024 fellows, Bridget (AmeriCorps), Audre (WCC), Dalyna (WCC), Josie (WCC), Maddie (WCC), and Tiffany (WCC). Kelaya (WCC) is returning for her second full year as the WCC crew supervisor. We're grateful for their service to the Redmond community!



Scouts Plant Native Trees Near Bear Creek

This month, a group of Scouts led by Troop 520 will plant 900 native trees on two acres of Bear Creek stream buffer. Prior to the Scouts planting the trees, the City's Stormwater crew mowed invasive blackberries covering the site, and groups from Amazon, Microsoft, and the WCC crew helped prepare the site by digging out blackberry roots.



Take Free Sustainable Living Classes

The City of Redmond is offering free classes to help residents live more sustainably. Class topics include safer cleaning, sustainable holiday meals, waste free holiday giving, and more! All classes are interactive and taught by a live instructor. Class participants will receive emailed resources covered in the class. All classes are virtual and are free, but registration is required.

Register today!



Happy Halloween from Redmond's Sustainability Team!

Ghosts and pirates are not the only scary aspects of Halloween. Keep waste in check this fall with these simple **eco-friendly practices**:

- **Be pumpkin smart.** When carving your pumpkins, try not to let anything go to waste! You can bake the pumpkin seeds for snacks or use the flavorful interior of the pumpkin for sweet breads, blends, or other goods. Make sure to compost any pumpkin scraps (either during the carving process, or the old jack-o-lantern), and keep them out of the trash.
- **Reduce and reuse.** For decorations or costumes, consider buying second-hand or repurpose old clothes. Explore your local buy-sell groups for more ideas.
- **Prepare sustainable trick-or-treat baskets.** Whether it's for going around the neighborhood or holding candy at the door, find a basket or bag around the house instead of purchasing something new.
- **Host sustainable parties.** Plan your meals and snacks to avoid excess food and use reusable food ware!



Adopt Your Neighborhood Storm Drain!

Join 170+ neighbors who volunteer to help keep the storm drains near their home or business —the grates at the edge of the road—clear of falling leaves, tree limbs, and debris. Redmond's volunteer-powered Adopt-a-Drain program helps prevent localized flooding and keeps pollutants and litter out of our streams, lakes, and wetlands.

Sign up today!



Participate in a FREE Virtual Recycling Center Tour

Become a recycling expert and get all your questions answered by attending Waste Management's virtual recycling center tour. During the tour, you'll learn what happens to your recycling when it leaves the curb, why it's so important to recycle right and more. This quarter, we'll have a focus on what to do with some holiday items, like jack-o'-lanterns. The virtual tour is free, but registration is required.

Register today!

Welcome New ESAC Members

The City of Redmond hosts an Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee (ESAC) made up of Redmond community members. The ESAC advises and supports the City's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and create a thriving and resilient landscape. This month, the ESAC welcomed two new members, **Mike Vermeulen** and **Nancy Logan**, to help inform and guide as representatives of their community. Welcome, Mike and Nancy!

Learn more about the ESAC

Council Items Supporting Environmental Sustainability Initiatives

[June Environmental Sustainability Action Plan Implementation Update](#) – June 27

[Adoption of a Resolution Amending the City Fee Schedule to Include Fees for Electric Vehicle Charging](#) – July 5

[Award Bid to Apex Mechanical, LLC, in the Amount of \\$323,469 for the Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Project](#)

– July 5

[Approval of the Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing Contract for the Perrigo Park Field Lighting Energy Efficiency Conversion](#) – July 18

[Approval of Consultant Agreement with Urban Forestry Services - Bartlett Consulting, for the Tree Health Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan](#) – July 18

[Approval a Contract Amendment to the Comprehensive Garbage, Recyclables, and Organics Collection Contract](#) – July 18

[Approval of the AmeriCorps Fellowship Agreement with CivicWell for \\$62,000](#) – July 18

[Safer Streets for All \(SS4A\) Consultant Agreement](#) – Oct. 3

[Redmond 2050: Phase 2 Policies](#) – Oct. 3

[Approve \\$282,420 Washington Conservation Corps \(WCC\) 2023-24 Agreement between the City of Redmond and the Washington State Department of Ecology](#) – Oct. 3

[Redmond 2050 Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement](#) – Oct. 3



Jenny Lybeck, Sustainability Program Manager
Email: jlybeck@redmond.gov
Website: redmond.gov/Environment

15670 NE 85th St, Redmond, WA 98052
P.O. Box 97010, Redmond, WA 98073

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