



Council Policy Proposal

Please save as a copy and return this form to Diedra Maher at dmaher@redmond.gov by Wednesday at 5 p.m. the week prior to the Study Session. Council Leadership will be alerted there is an item to schedule for consideration at a future Council Talk Time. This form and any attached documentation will be provided to the City Clerk for addition to the agenda for all Councilmembers and the public to review.

Tracking Number 0007 Date of Request 9/18/2024 Requester Jeralee Anderson

Problem Statement

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

Explore the potential operational and management efficiencies for Redmond’s participation as Lead Agency in a Regional Fire Authority, including setting the groundwork for governance, finance, and labor engagement and a potential ballot strategy with partner agencies and locals at Bellevue, Kirkland, Fire District 34, and Eastside Fire & Rescue.

Proposal

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

An budget allocation of \$250,000 for consulting, legal and administrative expenses for the purpose of establishing a Regional Fire Authority where Redmond is the Lead Agency coordinating participating agencies and managing payments.

Relationship to City Business or Proposed City Business/Services

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

- From a management and operational perspective, the formation of an RFA offers several key advantages:
- Shared Training and Resources: One of the most compelling aspects is pooling training resources and expertise across departments, leading to higher training standards and more efficient resource allocation, including REDI implementation.
 - Operational Efficiency: A unified management structure will streamline decision-making, resource deployment, and long-term strategic planning. This will allow the City and partner agencies to optimize the use of personnel and equipment, improving overall emergency response capabilities while reducing duplication of effort.
 - Financial Stability: A dedicated and predictable revenue stream will ensure that we can continue to invest in critical areas such as personnel, equipment, and infrastructure, securing long-term stability for fire and emergency services across all participating communities.
 - Union Merger Considerations: The unions will play an integral role in this transition. Conversations around merging or unifying contracts within the RFA structure have already begun, and the City is committed to maintaining robust management rights while working collaboratively with labor organizations.

Connection to Strategic Plan and/or Budget Priorities

Choose all that apply or enter plan name

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Environmental Sustainability
- Housing Choices
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety
- Other [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)
- Healthy and Sustainable
- Safe and Resilient
- Vibrant and Connected
- Strategic and Responsive
- Capital Investment Program
- Other [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Timing

Is this issue time-sensitive? / Are there other timing factors to consider?

This issue is requested for consideration in the 2025-2026 budget.

Supporting Documentation

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

Staff will provide a brief presentation and materials related to initial work on this topic that is previously completed and can be shared with Council when this item is scheduled.

Councilmember Sponsors (not required)

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

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

Anderson

 Sponsoring Councilmember

1. _____
 Councilmember

2. _____
 Councilmember

Post Action (to be completed by Council Leadership)

- Referral to: Study Session
- Staff Review
- No Action

- Committee of the Whole
- Add to Priorities List / Ranking _____
- Legal Review

