



Memorandum

Date: 4/14/2026

File No. CM 26-220

Meeting of: Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications

Type: Committee Memo

TO: Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications

FROM: Mayor Angela Birney

DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Executive	Lisa Maher	425-556-2427
Executive	Zach Houvener	425-556-2306

DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Executive	Kelly Schutz	Communications Manager
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TITLE:

2026 City Council Communications Investment Update and Engagement

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Staff will present an update related to 2025-2026 Budget communications-related investments, as well as provide an overview of and seek feedback on current scheduled Council engagement opportunities and activities for 2026, which include:

- Council Conversations - March 19, May 21
- America 250 Day of Service - June 14
- Derby Days - July 25
- Downtown Redmond Art Walk (DRAW) - September 17
- Town Hall (taking place of fall Council Conversations event) - Fall TBD

Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached

REQUESTED ACTION:

- Receive Information Provide Direction Approve

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
Community Strategic Plan, Redmond 2050
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
An update on 2025-2026 Budget Communications was requested by City Council

- **Other Key Facts:**
N/A

OUTCOMES:

Councilmembers will:

- Be informed on the status of 2025-2026 communications-related budget investments.
- Be informed on opportunities and currently scheduled Council engagement opportunities and provide feedback to staff.
- Commit to volunteer shifts at events and sign up via email with staff.
- Provide staff with clear direction on any additional desired engagement activities in 2026.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
March 19, 2026 - Council Conversations (Redmond Middle School)
April 14, 2026 - Discuss proposal and receive Council direction
May 21, 2026 - Council Conversations (Idylwood Park)
June 14, 2026 - America 250 Day of Service
July 25, 2026 - Derby Days
September 17, 2026 - Downtown Redmond Art Walk (DRAW)
Fall date TBD - Town Hall / Council Conversations

Additional events to be determined based on meeting discussion and direction.

- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
All listed events will be robustly promoted via the City’s various communication channels, guided by individual communications plans. Councilmembers are also encouraged to publicize events via personal networks.
- **Feedback Summary:**
N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:
N/A

Approved in current biennial budget: Yes No N/A

Budget Offer Number:
0000298

Budget Priority :
Strategic and Responsive

Other budget impacts or additional costs: Yes No N/A

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If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

General Fund

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
6/9/2026	Committee of the Whole - Finance, Administration, and Communications	Receive Information

Time Constraints:

As some of these events are approaching quickly, staff is requesting confirmation of Council participation, location, and timing prior to booking events and executing communications plans.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: Communications Investment Summary

Attachment B: Communications Plan Sample