



Memorandum

Date: 4/22/2025
Meeting of: City Council Study Session

File No. SS 25-028
Type: Study Session

TO: Members of the City Council
FROM: Mayor Angela Birney
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Parks	Loreen Hamilton	425-556-2336
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Parks	Darcey Rayner-Shepard	Park Operations Manager
Parks	David Tucheck	Deputy Director
Parks	Cameron Zapata	Parks Planner

TITLE:
Climate Resiliency and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan Update

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

In the 2023/24 budget cycle, a Climate Resiliency and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan was developed with a consultant. Once complete, the Parks department began implementation of that plan through testing sites for naturalized meadows, incorporating climate resilient species lists for any new project designs or replacement of existing plants and trees, changing our leaf management practices, cultivating wildflower meadows and pollinator gardens, identifying areas for tree canopy and understory expansion, testing more resilient turf mixes to reduce irrigation needs long term, programming a public tree giveaway program, and began the electrification of our equipment.

Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached

REQUESTED ACTION:

Receive Information **Provide Direction** **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
2023/24 City of Redmond Adopted Budget, 2025/26 City of Redmond Adopted Budget, Climate Resiliency and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan, 2023 PARCC Plan, Tree Canopy Strategic Plan, Environmental Sustainability Action Plan, 20-Year Forest Management Plan.
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**

N/A

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

OUTCOMES:

Building upon previous City planning efforts related to environmental sustainability, the consultant developed a plan focused on actionable items and strategies resulting in a more climate resilient and sustainable natural environment. Strategies included, but not limited to, tree canopy expansion on public lands, rewilding City owned properties, replacing formal lawns areas with naturalized meadows/pollinator habitat, modifications of maintenance practices, future equipment electrification recommendations, adjusting tree/plant species (varieties) to align with climate change, and additional carbon sequestration opportunities. Parks began implementation in 2024 and this work will continue for years to come as we adjust our best management practices to create and maintain spaces that align with our CRSVM Plan and work toward our climate action goals.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**
Outreach occurred during and after plan development and continues through city website and social media posts.
- **Outreach Methods and Results:**
During plan development stakeholder focus groups, digital media, in-person outreach, and collateral were used to engage the community. During implementation, outreach and education efforts are being focused through social media, the city website, and through signage on site at test areas.
- **Feedback Summary:**
Feedback has been mostly supportive of our implementation efforts with strong engagement online.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

\$300,000 Landscape Conversions (CIP), \$400,000 Tree Canopy Expansion (CIP), General Fund Operations Costs, Levy Fund Operating Costs

Approved in current biennial budget: **Yes** **No** **N/A**

Budget Offer Number:

CIP - Parks, 0000263 Parks, Trails & Open Space

Budget Priority:

Healthy & Sustainable

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

If yes, explain:

Changing our best practices for maintaining spaces to align with CRSVM Plan when possible. Some efficiencies gain and some lost as we move to sustainable practices.

Funding source(s):
CIP, General Fund, Levy

Budget/Funding Constraints:
N/A

Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
7/25/2023	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Provide Direction
8/2/2023	Special Meeting	Approve
2/27/2024	Committee of the Whole - Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information
3/26/2024	Study Session	Receive Information
3/25/2025	Committee of the Whole-Parks and Environmental Sustainability	Receive Information

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:

Attachment A: Climate Resiliency and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan
Attachment B: CRSVM Update- 04.22.25 Study Session Presentation