Background

This document provides a high-level update of monthly implementation activities for the <u>Environmental Sustainability Action Plan (ESAP</u>). 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 the 2020 ESAP 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

The following are key updates from May through June.

High Impact Initiatives

- <u>Clean Buildings Incentive Program</u>: The City of Redmond has partnered with the cities of Bellevue and Issaquah to expand the Clean Buildings Incentive Program (CBIP) to Redmond. CBIP will provide notification, education, technical assistance, and energy benchmarking for qualifying buildings in the three cities. This program will help building owners meet requirements for energy use and reporting under the State Clean Buildings Performance Standards law. The program is expected to become available to Redmond businesses later this year.
- <u>Solarize Campaign Update</u>: Redmond and the Eastside Climate Partnership, in collaboration with Olympia Community Solar, launched the <u>Solarize Eastside</u> campaign in March. To date, 66 Redmond community members have signed up for an assessment, and 8 contracts have been signed to install solar. The goal of Solarize Eastside is to help Eastside community members install solar on their homes and businesses by providing education, vetted installers, a group purchasing discount, and technical support. More information can be found at <u>SolarizeEastside.org</u>.
- <u>2025 ESAP Refresh</u>: Throughout 2025, the City is updating the 2020 Environmental Sustainability Action Plan. The City is in the first phase of the Refresh process, which includes community outreach. Key efforts completed over the past two months include:
 - Community Questionnaire: more than 115 community members have completed the ESAP update questionnaire, an important component informing the ESAP Refresh. The questionnaire opened in June and will close on August 1. <u>Take the questionnaire</u>.
 - Five Big Moves: The preliminary outreach and data analysis for the Plan update is complete, which has culminated into a proposed plan framework. The proposed Five Big Moves are the key pathways that support meaningful progress towards the City's sustainability and climate goals. Key strategies and actions will be developed through the community and staff engagement process. More information on the proposed Big Moves can be found on the ESAP Refresh Let'sConnect page.
 - *Community Workshop*: A community workshop is scheduled for July 16 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Redmond Senior and Community Center. During the workshop, community members

will learn about the Five Big Moves and provide feedback on priorities, experiences, and barriers to inform strategy and action development.

- Non-profit Partnerships: The City executed contracts with <u>United Hub</u>, <u>Indian American</u> <u>Community Services</u>, <u>Centro Cultural Mexicano</u>, and <u>Sustainability Ambassadors</u> to support community engagement and ESAP activation efforts. Each organization engages a different subset of the Redmond community and is helping to integrate previously underrepresented voices into the ESAP Refresh process.
- *Events and Engagement*: Throughout the months of May and June, staff and the ESAC hosted office hours, events, and tabled at numerous community events. Community members came out for the Sustainability Division and ESAC's first ever <u>Trivia Night</u>, hosted in partnership with Flatstick Pub. Additional events can be found on <u>Let'sConnect</u>.
- <u>Ebike Incentive Grant Application</u>: Redmond's Sustainability and Transportation Planning and Engineering Divisions partnered with the Eastside Climate Partnership cities of Issaquah and Bellevue on a joint \$329,000 grant application to Puget Sound Energy's Transportation Emissions Reduction grant program. If awarded, the cities will launch a regional ebike incentive, mirroring the Washington State ebike incentive. PSE will notify successful applicants in Q4 2025.
 - Note: the Washington state ebike application window was open for 14 days in April; 264 income qualified Redmond community members applied for the state's \$1,200 rebate, and 230 non-income qualified Redmond community members applied for the state's \$300 rebate. This demonstrates high need and interest in ebikes in Redmond.
- <u>Construction and Demolition Recycling Program Launch</u>: On May 1, 2025, City of Redmond waste reporting requirements went into effect and the first permits under the new waste reporting and salvage assessment requirements have been submitted. While final waste reports from projects are still in progress, there is encouraging evidence that salvage companies are being engaged before demolition occurs, saving materials for reuse. To comply, demolition permit applications must complete a <u>salvage assessment</u> and construction and demolition projects must <u>report waste</u> through the new <u>Green Halo portal</u>. The Construction and Demolition Recycling Program was a key action within the 2020 ESAP. More information can be found at <u>Redmond.gov/2274</u>.
- <u>On-Demand Microtransit Shuttle Coming Soon</u>: The City has been conditionally awarded a grant from WSDOT to pilot the Redmond On-Demand Microtransit Shuttle. The program will provide a free shuttle service to individuals in Downtown Redmond and surrounding neighborhoods to help with accessing a variety of transit facilities in Downtown, including the recently opened 2 Line Downtown Redmond Station. The City is seeking to connect transit riders with first/last mile solutions to increase accessibility to transit. A request for proposals to identify a shuttle provider is currently open. The shuttle service is anticipated to start Q1 2026.

Lead by Example

• <u>US Conference of Mayors Climate Leadership Award:</u> The Parks and Recreation Department's Climate Resilience and Sustainability in Vegetation Management Plan was recognized by the US Conference of Mayors as an Honorable Mention in the small city category. This is the second time the City has received the recognition. Learn more about the award.

Sustainability Programming

- <u>ESAC Meet and Green Drop-in Hours</u>: The City and the Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee hosted drop-in hours at the Redmond Library in May and June. The gatherings are part of an <u>ongoing outreach series</u> to engage community members. The next gathering is scheduled for <u>July 24 at 3:00 pm in Downtown Park</u>.
- <u>July Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting</u>: The next Environmental Sustainability Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for July 24. More information can be found at <u>Redmond.gov/1524</u>.
- <u>Sustainability eNewsletter</u>: Sustainability enewsletters were published in <u>May</u>, <u>June</u>, and <u>July</u>, highlighting ESAP Refresh engagement opportunities, the Solarize Campaign, and other ways for community members to get involved.