

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** this year is the 52nd anniversary of the first Earth Day, when millions of Americans took to the streets, college campuses, and hundreds of cities to protest environmental ignorance and demand a new way forward for our planet and communities; and in the years since, Redmond government, organizations, businesses, and community members have celebrated and echoed this appreciation and call to action; and
- WHEREAS,** we must use creativity and innovation to address our environmental challenges, with local communities leading the way by embedding equity, encouraging sustainable energy and water use, sustainable land use and transportation, and waste reduction, reuse and recycling practices; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Redmond has a long history of environmental conservation, climate action, and environmental sustainability to reduce emissions and protect Redmond's natural resources for current and future generations; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Redmond adopted the comprehensive Environmental Sustainability Action Plan and Climate Emergency Declaration in 2020 to accelerate progress towards a sustainable, low carbon, and climate resilient future; and
- WHEREAS,** after years of planning, light rail will soon arrive in Redmond, which will bring clean transportation options to the Redmond community while also reducing transportation emissions, the state's largest source of greenhouse gas emissions; and
- WHEREAS,** Redmond's Comprehensive Plan establishes the City's vision and policy direction for the future, and an important element of the 2011 update included sustainability as an organizing principle across all Plan elements, while also integrating climate change into the Natural Resources chapter to continue to plan and grow Redmond sustainably; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Redmond continues this legacy of climate action planning within its current comprehensive plan update (Redmond 2050) and embodies much of the content and principles of House Bill 1099, which if it had passed during the 2022 legislative session, would have improved the state's climate response through updates to the state's comprehensive planning framework; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Redmond has identified sustainability, resiliency, and equity as core pillars of its current comprehensive plan update as it continues to proactively integrate climate action and preparedness efforts into its plan and vision for the future; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of Redmond recently completed a Climate Vulnerability Assessment to inform climate preparedness efforts and better understand the systems and community members who may be most vulnerable to a changing climate, and the findings from the assessment have been integrated into the Redmond 2050 Environmental Impact Statement and growth alternatives analysis to embed climate action and preparedness efforts into the Redmond 2050 comprehensive plan update; and

City Hall

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Redmond
WASHINGTON

**Connected Community
Enhanced Livability
Environmental Sustainability**

- WHEREAS, City staff are also serving on the Department of Commerce Climate Action Review Committee to lend their experience and expertise in the development of a model climate change comprehensive planning chapter that will be made available to all cities in the state; and
- WHEREAS, our acknowledgement of Earth Day each April serves as an annual reminder of the constant need for ongoing stewardship, climate action, and conservation, and it is also a time to recognize the work still ahead and strengthen our commitments to environmental progress; and
- WHEREAS, we are all stewards and beneficiaries of the earth, and its healthy and diverse ecosystem is vital to a thriving community, a vigorous local economy, and a sustainable environment for this generation and future generations, and our commitment to climate action will continue.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **ANGELA BIRNEY**, Mayor of the City of Redmond, Washington, do hereby proclaim April 19, 2022, as

CLIMATE ACTION DAY

and encourage the Redmond community to commit to increased environmental action so that together, we can make a better world for future generations.

Angela Birney, Mayor

April 19, 2022

Date

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