



**Redmond**  
WASHINGTON

**Council Policy Proposal**

**Return this form to Diedra Maher at [dmaher@redmond.gov](mailto:dmaher@redmond.gov) by Wednesday at 5 p.m. the week prior to the Council Study Session. Council Leadership will be alerted there is an item to schedule for consideration at a future Council Talk Time. Attached documentation will be provided to the Clerk for addition to the agenda for all Council Members and the public to review.**

<b>Tracking Number</b>	Click or tap here to enter text.	<b>Date of Request</b>	Click or tap to enter a date.	<b>Requester</b> Jessica Forsythe
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

**Problem Statement Proposal**

Beneath the Downtown, Avondale Rd and southeast Redmond areas lie sand and gravel that was deposited long ago by glaciers and rivers. Within the tiny spaces of this geologic material flows groundwater that supplies 40% of Redmond's drinking water.

Recently, a neighboring city has seen commercial production of bottled water threaten their groundwater supply. In an effort to protect Redmond's drinking water supply and ensure the protection of the 40% of our water for generations to come in the face of climate change, I submit the following we protect our critical water supply.

**Relationship to City Business or Proposed City Business/Services**

**Proposed Action for addition to City Code where applicable per staff and legal review:**

(a) For the purposes of applications for new water withdrawals received after January 1, 2025, and considered pursuant to this section, any use of water for the commercial production of bottled water is deemed to be detrimental to the public welfare and the public interest.

(b) For the purposes of this subsection, "bottled water" includes all water that is labeled or marketed for sale as "water" in containers, including plastic bottles. "Bottled water" also includes the category of bottled waters known as "spring water" or "enhanced waters," but does not include any other product made from water that is not marketed as "water." This limitation does not apply if there is a state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to RCW 43.06.010 or an order or drought emergency issued pursuant to RCW 43.83B.405. This limitation does not apply if there is a public health emergency and bottled

water is needed because of a public water system's inability to provide water service to its customers.

(c) This subsection does not apply to an application from a municipal water supplier.

### Connection to Strategic Plan, Budget Priorities or other Citywide Plans

Choose all that apply or enter plan name

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Environmental Sustainability
- Housing Choices
- Infrastructure
- Public Safety
- Healthy and Sustainable
- Safe and Resilient
- Vibrant and Connected
- Strategic and Responsive
- Capital Investment Program

### Timing

*Initial question was of code updates to protect 40% of Redmond's groundwater was raised at the meeting with Cascade several months ago. Issue was also raised at Council Retreat and myself and CM Nuevacamina volunteered to lead the effort. The sooner was act the better as our groundwater is a precious resource*

### Supporting Documentation

The state attempted to take action on this exact topic with SB 6278 (2019-20) which was passed by the Senate. The language above is repurposed from SB 6278 regarding water rights and the commercial production of bottled water for sale. The bill made it to the House and passed through committee but no action was take in Executive Session. The fiscal note found no fiscal impacts <https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2019-20/Pdf/Bills/Senate%20Bills/6278.pdf?q=20240529101610>

Bill analysis <https://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2019-20/Pdf/Bill%20Reports/House/6278-S.E%20HBA%20RDAN%2020.pdf?q=20240529104612>

Pre-emptively protecting our precious ground water supply.  
<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/feb/18/bottled-water-ban-washington-state#>  
<https://mrsc.org/explore-topics/environment/resources/water-rights>

### 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.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jessica Forsythe  
Sponsoring Councilmember

1. Steve Fields \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember

2. \_\_\_\_Angie Nuevacamina \_\_\_\_\_  
Councilmember

**Post Action (to be completed by Council Leadership)**

Referral To  Study Session

Committee of the Whole

Staff Review

Add to Priorities List / Ranking \_\_\_\_\_

No Action

Legal Review