



Memorandum

Date: 3/16/2021
Meeting of: City Council

File No. AM No. 21-037
Type: Consent Item

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

Planning and Community Development	Carol Helland	425-556-2107
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Planning and Community Development	Beverly Mesa-Zendt	Deputy Director
Planning and Community Development	Brooke Buckingham	Human Services Planning Manager

TITLE:

Adoption of the Resolution Approving the Housing Action Plan

- a. Resolution No. 1544: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Redmond, Washington, Approving the Housing Action Plan as a Guiding Document with Recommendations for Future Housing Policy, Planning, and Regulatory Amendments to Improve Housing Diversity, Quantity, and Affordability to Meet the Needs of All Economic Segments of the Community

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

Staff is seeking adoption of a resolution approving the Housing Action Plan to comply with Department of Commerce HB 1923 grant requirements.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☐ **Receive Information** ☐ **Provide Direction** ☒ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
Redmond Zoning Code, Redmond Municipal Code, Redmond Comprehensive Plan
- **Required:**
N/A
- **Council Request:**
Council requested revisions to the draft Housing Action Plan at their meeting on March 2, 2021. A summary of

the Council comments and subsequent revisions is provided in **Attachment C**.

- **Other Key Facts:**

In the fall of 2019, the City of Redmond applied for grant funding through the Department of Commerce for the development of a Housing Action Plan (HAP). Funding for the HAP was made available through HB 1923 passed by the Washington State Legislature and intended to incentivize cities to take actions to increase the variety of housing types available and to increase urban residential density. On February 18, 2020, the City Council authorized the Mayor to execute a contract with ECONorthwest for the development of Redmond's HAP. Project deliverables include:

1. Housing Needs Assessment - *completed*
2. Public Involvement Plan - *completed*
3. Public Involvement Report - *completed*
4. Draft Housing Action Plan - *completed*
5. Implementation Plan/Refined Housing Action Plan - *completed*
6. Final Housing Action Plan - *completed*

OUTCOMES:

Adoption of the resolution for approval of the Housing Action Plan will provide Redmond with appropriate actionable strategies to assist the City in meeting current and future housing needs and ensure compliance with Department of Commerce grant requirements.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**

- Phase 1 - from May to July 2020
- Phase 2 - Community check-in on HAP from January 2021-through March 2021

- **Outreach Methods and Results:** Outreach efforts included stakeholder interviews, focus groups, an initial community questionnaire and a final community questionnaire. Staff have reconnected with original stakeholders regarding the draft plan to identify community priorities for the strategies and implementation actions. Additionally, documents were posted and available for comment on the city's website and for public meetings with both the City Council and the Planning Commission.

- **Feedback Summary:**

Phase 1 outreach results indicated that housing affordability is an issue for many; Redmond is a desirable place to live; homeownership is out of reach for many; lack of housing is a challenge for businesses; new housing types are needed; and people face stigmas about their housing.

Phase 2 outreach results affirmed the draft strategies, prioritizing affordable housing and calling for a diversity of housing stock such as townhomes, duplexes, and low maintenance housing for seniors.

Results from public involvement are more fully provided for in Appendix C of the final Housing Action Plan (**Attachment B**).

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

The city was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce in October 2019 to complete the Housing Action Plan. Staff resources have been utilized in management and oversight of plan development and will be utilized in implementation.

Approved in current biennial budget: ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ N/A

Budget Offer Number:
000248 Housing and Human Services

Budget Priority:
Vibrant and Connected

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

If yes, explain:

The most significant budget impact is provided by means of staff time and resources needed to advance implementation components. Other potential city investment and funding impacts are identified in the Implementation Plan and include items that might be supported through future budget requests.

Funding source(s):
General Fund and grant funds received from State 2019 HB 1923 legislation.

Budget/Funding Constraints:
Grant disbursement is contingent upon preparation of deliverables required by the grant contract.

☐ Additional budget details attached

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
9/22/2020	Business Meeting	Provide Direction
12/8/2020	Committee of the Whole - Planning and Public Works	Receive Information
1/5/2021	Business Meeting	Receive Information
2/9/2021	Study Session	Receive Information
3/2/2021	Business Meeting	Provide Direction

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	None proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:
The Housing Action Plan must be completed by April 1, 2021, to comply with contractual requirements for adoption identified in the agreement between the City and the Department of Commerce.

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

Final disbursement of grant funds is conditioned upon adoption of the Final Housing Action Plan.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Redmond, Washington

Attachment B: Exhibit A to the Resolution | Housing Action Plan

Attachment C: City Council Comment Matrix