

CODE ORDINANCE

CITY OF REDMOND  
ORDINANCE NO. 2531 (AM)

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE REDMOND MUNICIPAL CODE AND THE REDMOND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO UPDATE THE PARKS, RECREATION AND ARTS ELEMENT AND ADOPTING THE PARKS, ARTS, RECREATION, CULTURE AND CONSERVATION PLAN FOR 2010 TO 2016

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WHEREAS, the Growth Management Act requires that comprehensive plans and development regulations shall be subject to continuing evaluation and review; and

WHEREAS, through Ordinance No. 2494, the City Council set the content of Redmond's 2009-10 Annual Comprehensive Plan Amendment Package, which includes this proposed amendment; and

WHEREAS, the Parks, Art, Recreation, Culture and Conservation Plan (PARCC Plan) for 2010 to 2016 updates the 2004-2010 PRO Plan and amends the Comprehensive Plan. The 2010 PARCC Plan, provides an inventory of existing facilities, a review of Comprehensive Plan park and recreation policies including new policies to further develop intergovernmental partnerships; a revision to park and trail level of service standards, a new recreation level of service standard, projected needs of the community for six-year, ten-year, and 20-year horizons, a capital improvement plan and budget; and

WHEREAS, RCW 36.70A.070 requires local jurisdictions to develop a parks and recreation element of the comprehensive plan that (a) estimates park and recreation demand for at least a ten-year period; (b) evaluates facilities and service needs; and (c) evaluates intergovernmental coordination opportunities to provide regional approaches for meeting park and recreational demand; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redmond Comprehensive Plan Policy CF-1 requires a parks and recreation functional plan includes a Capital Improvement Program (CIP); and

WHEREAS, the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) requires such a plan as a pre-requisite applying for state grant funding for capital projects; and

WHEREAS, upon adoption of this revised plan, staff from the City of Redmond will pursue available funding opportunities for implementation of the proposals designated herein; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Department of Commerce and the Recreation and Conservation Office received 60-days notice of Redmond's proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments and provided acknowledgement; and

WHEREAS, State Environmental Policy Act Checklists were prepared and a Determination of Non-Significance was issued on April 9, 2010 for the proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments; and

WHEREAS, the City sought public involvement in the development and review of the 2010 PARCC Plan and proposed amendments to the Parks, Recreation, and Arts Element of the Comprehensive Plan through numerous public meetings, public comments periods, commission meetings, a Planning Commission public hearing, and council study sessions, as described further in Chapter 3 of the PARCC Plan; and

WHEREAS, the City of Redmond desires to adopt the 2010-2016 PARCC Plan and updated Comprehensive Plan Parks, Recreation and Arts element to comply with the aforementioned requirements.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Findings and Conclusions. After carefully reviewing the record and considering the evidence in the record and at public meetings, the City Council hereby adopts the findings, analysis, and conclusions in the Planning Commission Report dated May 12, 2010, as amended.

Section 2. Redmond Comprehensive Plan Element Amended. The Comprehensive Plan, Parks, Recreation and Arts Element, is amended to add and revise certain policies as shown in Exhibit 1 incorporated herein by this reference as if set forth in full to this ordinance.

Section 3. Preparation of Final Comprehensive Plan Element. The Administration is directed to complete preparation of the final Comprehensive Plan, Parks, Recreation and Arts Element, including any updates to policy numbers; correction of any typographical edits; minor editorial revisions; and inclusion of appropriate graphics and illustrations.

Section 4. PARCC Plan Adopted. The City Council hereby adopts the Parks, Art, Recreation, Culture and Conservation Plan (PARCC Plan) for 2010 to 2016, as shown in Exhibit 2, incorporated herein by this reference to supersede and replace the PRO Plan, as if set forth in full to this ordinance.

Section 5. Severability. If any policy, section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance, or any policy adopted or amended hereby, should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity of any other policy, section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance or any policy adopted or amended hereby.

Section 6. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect five (5) days after passage and publication of an approved summary consisting of the title.

ADOPTED by the Redmond City Council this 1<sup>st</sup> day of June,  
2010.

CITY OF REDMOND


  
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JOHN MARCHIONE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MICHELLE M. MCGEHEE, CMC, CITY CLERK

(SEAL)

APPROVED AS TO FORM:  
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES HANEY, CITY ATTORNEY

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: May 26, 2010  
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: June 1, 2010  
SIGNED BY THE MAYOR: June 1, 2010  
PUBLISHED: June 7, 2010  
EFFECTIVE DATE: June 12, 2010  
ORDINANCE NO. 2531 (AM)

AMENDED 6-1: YES- Allen, Carson, Cole, Myers, Stilin and Vache; NO- Margeson

ADOPTED 7-0: Allen, Carson, Cole, Margeson, Myers, Stilin and Vache

| Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element

| *Future Vision for Redmond - Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture and ArtsConservation*

| Redmond in 20~~30~~<sup>22</sup> has maintained a very green character. The City is framed within a beautiful natural setting, with open spaces and an abundance of trees continuing to define Redmond's physical appearance. A system of interconnected open spaces provides habitat for a variety of wildlife.

Lake Sammamish and the Sammamish River, noted for their water quality, are used for boating, swimming, and other types of recreation. Public access to shorelines has been enhanced while protecting the natural environment. The open space and agricultural character of the north Sammamish Valley has been maintained and is highly valued by the community.

Neighborhood and community parks contribute to a high quality of life in Redmond by providing a full array of opportunities ranging from active recreation, such as sports and games, to more restful and reflective activities, such as walking and viewing wildlife. Residents enjoy larger natural areas, such as the Watershed Preserve and Farrel-McWhirter Park, as well as smaller open spaces and gathering places located throughout the city close to residences and work places. Indoor and outdoor recreational facilities and programs meet the needs of residents of all ages.

Known as the Bicycle Capital of the Northwest, Redmond has developed an excellent system of bike paths and trails that are used for recreation, commuting and riding to schools, parks and other destinations.

Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element

Organization of this Element

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## Introduction

One of Redmond's most attractive features is the large number of high quality recreational opportunities in the area. The City of Redmond, in cooperation with other public and private agencies, has endeavored to provide and will strive to continue the exemplary parks, recreational and cultural facilities, and open space areas for those who live or work in Redmond.

The City of Redmond's setting in a large valley surrounded by a series of hills enables the parks, recreation, open space, and arts system to take advantage of this abundant natural beauty. Lake Sammamish, the Sammamish River, and Bear Creek, along with the forested hillside areas and valley floor are many of the special features that identify the Redmond area and are elements of the system which many people can enjoy.

Redmond's park, recreation, arts, and open space system, guided by the policies in the Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element, has the following basic functions:

- To serve existing and future demand for a variety of park types and a multitude of recreation activities;
- To provide recreational programs for the entire community, including all ages, physical capabilities, and cultural backgrounds;
- To provide for the cultural needs of the community, by providing facilities used for performing arts and arts exhibits, arts education and programming, and other facilities such as informal gathering places;
- To provide for the conservation of important environmental resources which might otherwise be lost to development, such as shorelines and wetlands; and
- To preserve areas which are unsuitable for development due to flooding, erosion or other hazards, such as flood plains, or steep slopes.

The Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element helps achieve Redmond's vision for the future by helping to maintain the community's high quality of life, and meeting the City's recreational, social, and cultural needs for a diverse population with changing interests and needs.

This Element is coordinated with the Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Open SpaceConservation Plan (PARCCRO Plan): It is the planning document for the specific programming and implementation strategies that are identified in the PRO-PARCC Plan. Therefore, the policies within the Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation Element ~~Parks, Recreation and Arts Element~~ provide the policy direction for implementation as described in the PRO-PARCC Plan. The PARCCPRO Plan is hereby incorporated by reference into this document. The PARCCPRO Plan is updated every five years to comply with requirements for federal funding from the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC)-State of Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).



## A. Parks, Arts, Recreation, Conservation, and ArtsCulture System Policies

### *General Guidelines*

An integrated system of parks, trails, open space, and cultural facilities will be provided and managed primarily within the City of Redmond with some sites expanding slightly beyond the City limits. Redmond's parks, recreation, and open space system provides for land and facilities to meet the demand for a variety of park types and recreation activities. It also must provide for the conservation of important environmental resources and limit the development of areas that have severe or very severe natural constraints. Most importantly, it will provide for people living or working in the City, now and in the future, who are diverse in age, interests, cultural identity, and physical ability.

- PR-1 Provide a parks, recreation, arts, trails, and open space system to serve existing development and planned growth.
- PR-2 Maintain planning guidelines which address diverse recreational needs, accessibility, cultural and arts program requirements, service radius, and requirements for open space acreage.
- PR-3 Maintain a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan that implements the policies in this element, is flexible and can respond to changes in user population or recreational preference, and is consistent with Redmond's Comprehensive Plan, including neighborhood goals and policies.

Redmond has worked with other jurisdictions in the area to develop its parks and recreation facility guidelines and level of service standards. The existing and projected demand for parks and recreation facilities is based on established levels of service, park department statistics and guidelines, and recommended standards.

As required by the Countywide Planning Policies for King County, Redmond will continue to work with other local governments in the County to prepare coordinated level of service standards for parks and open space. A level of service standard is an established minimum level of park land, open space, or recreational facilities that must be provided for each unit of demand, typically expressed in acres of park land per population, or in the case of trails, miles per population. *Level of service standards are used to determine the amount of funds that a particular level of development must provide to compensate for the increased demand for parks, open space, and recreational programs that the development will generate.*

Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element

The Redmond City Council has adopted the following levels of service standards:

Neighborhood Parks - 1.00 acre per 1,000 people (neighborhood population)

Community Parks - 3.00 acres per 1,000 people (citywide population)

Resource Parks - 2.50 acres per 1,000 people (citywide population)

Trails - 0.35 miles per 1,000 people (neighborhood population)\*\*

Recreation - 7.6 hours of programmed recreation per person annually

*\*The population is 100 percent of the residential population and 25 percent of the employment population to account for the high demand on the parks system from people who work in Redmond, but don't live in Redmond.*

*\*\* The trail level of service standard will increase to 0.45 miles per 1,000 neighborhood population in 2017.*

<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>	<b>1.00 acre per 1,000 population</b>
<b>Community Parks</b>	<b>3.00 acres per 1,000 population</b>
<b>Resource Parks</b>	<b>2.50 acres per 1,000 population</b>
<b>Trails</b>	<b>.25 miles per 1,000 population</b>

The PRO-PARCC Plan defines the above categories of parks as follows:

Neighborhood Parks (NP) provide space for active and/or passive recreation. These parks are accessible to nearby residents and business people primarily by walking and bicycling. Neighborhood parks are the smallest parks and vary in size from pocket parks to 20 acres, and typically have fewer activities or amenities than community parks. The unique character of each site will help determine appropriate amenities, which may include: children's playgrounds, small scale active recreation amenities, open fields, open space, trails, environmental preservation areas, picnic areas, urban plazas, passive areas for reflection and gathering, and occasionally restrooms or other small structures.

Community Parks (CP) provide diverse active recreation opportunities with some passive recreation uses. Community parks generally range in size from 20 acres to 40 acres and have a more regional draw than neighborhood parks. Community parks typically include a variety of active amenities that use more than half of the park for uses such as sport fields, courts and facilities, playgrounds, picnic facilities, beach facilities, equestrian facilities, educational facilities, and community gardens. The remainder of the park may also contain natural habitat and trails. Support facilities typically include parking, restrooms and lighting.

Resource Parks (RP) include natural areas under City control that will not be developed for active recreation use. Development is typically limited to trails and interpretive and educational opportunities. Resource parks include unique natural sites that likely include wildlife habitat and/or environmentally critical areas that the City intends to preserve and sometimes enhance.

## Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element

Private Parks (PP) are created by a developer while building a development of homes. These parks are usually in the form of a small neighborhood park or resource park. Typically the parks are developed to comply with zoning regulations to provide usable open space and as an amenity to the development. In most cases, this land is controlled by the homeowners association and is private property. These parks are recognized in this plan and counted toward parks level of service (LOS), because they serve a portion of the population or protect sensitive habitat, just as a public park does.

Neighborhood parks have an optimum size of 5 to 10 acres with a service area of less than .75 miles. They provide space for active and passive recreation, usually with a combination of playground and park space designed for non-organized recreation activities. They are located within neighborhoods and are intended to be accessible by walking and bicycling. No restrooms are typically provided.

Community parks are a minimum of 20 acres, and preferably 30 to 40 acres, with a service area of typically less than 1.5 miles. They are designed to provide diverse active and structured recreation opportunities with some passive recreation uses. Support facilities include parking, restrooms, and field lighting. These parks may include game grade sport fields, tennis and other sport courts, trails, playgrounds, picnic facilities, and environmentally sensitive areas.

Resource parks include Special Use Areas, Local Parks, Natural Open Space, and Beautification Sites. (Please refer to the PRO Plan for further definition of these terms). Resource parks provide unique recreation opportunities in a variety of facilities.

Trails consist of in-park amenities (e.g., the equestrian trail at Farrel McWhirter Park) and the City's Trail Network. Various elements of the trail network hierarchy are defined as: regional, connector, local trails, and blue trail as defined further below; the Backbone system, Collectors, Soft Surface Multi-use and Neighborhood Linkages. The Sammamish River serves as a water or "blue" trail, allowing non-motorized watercraft with low impact on the natural environment.

Regional trails pass through the city, connecting to other jurisdictions and other trails and trail systems. Regional trails such as the Sammamish River Trail are designed to standards for Shared Use Paths as specified in the City of Redmond's Bicycle Facilities Design Manual Guidelines (2009, or latest version). In general, regional trails are physically separated from roads by distance or barriers. At-grade crossings of roadways are minimized to avoid conflicts. These trails should be 12 feet wide under most conditions, with a minimum two-foot wide graded shoulder. Where desirable, paths should have an adjacent four-foot wide unpaved area to accommodate pedestrians. Regional trails are paved; however, interim uses sometimes require the use of soft surface materials such as crushed rock or wood chips.

Connector trails are the key linkages between regional trails and other facilities. These trails can be paved or soft surface trails, and are typically narrower than regional trails, due to more limited use and constraints. Connector trails should meet the City's sidewalk standards and be a minimum width of six feet to ten feet wide. Soft surface materials may be used for interim use.

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Local trails are typically soft surface trails that range from two feet to six feet wide. Narrower widths may be allowed for single-track trails. The trails may be used as neighborhood linking trails, park trails, and hiking, off-road bicycling, and equestrian trails. Local trails are sometimes constructed with the native soil on-site. Vegetation will be cleared and the trail will be graded slightly to reduce off-camber trail conditions, which is an angled slope that can cause difficulty for riders. Some local trails may require reinforcement with gravel, pavers, or bridges in wet or eroding areas.

Blue Trails are water trails along navigable waters within the city such as the Sammamish River and Lake Sammamish. The primary design criteria for blue trails include providing frequent access points to the water where non-motorized personal water craft can be safely and easily transported from parking areas and providing adequate signage and route finding materials.

*Projected Needs*

Based upon the Level of Service standards described above, the future needs of park land (year 203022) in the various park categories is as follows:

<u>Park Category</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Existing (Acres)</u>	<u>Standard (Acres)</u>	<u>Need (Acres)</u>
<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>126</u>	<u>15</u>
<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>16</u>
<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>127</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>Neighborhood</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>139</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>Community</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>219</u>	<u>-131</u>
<u>Community</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>350</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>-74</u>
<u>Community</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>363</u>	<u>314</u>	<u>-50</u>
<u>Community</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>351</u>	<u>-21</u>
<u>Resource</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>-890</u>
<u>Resource</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>230</u>	<u>-845</u>
<u>Resource</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>261</u>	<u>-814</u>
<u>Resource</u>	<u>2030</u>	<u>1,075</u>	<u>292</u>	<u>-783</u>

*Source: PARCC Plan, 2010*

<u>Park Category</u>	<u>Existing (acres)</u>	<u>Standard (acres)</u>	<u>Need (acres)</u>
<b>Neighborhood Parks</b>			
2004	44	46	2
2022	-	56	12
<b>Community Parks</b>	<u>Existing (acres)</u>	<u>Standard (acres)</u>	<u>Need (acres)</u>
2004	95	138	43
2022	-	195	100
<b>Resource Parks</b>			

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<b>Special Use Areas</b>			
2004	105	115	10
2022	-	140	35
<b>Resource Parks Open Space Areas</b>			
2004	132	115	-
2022	-	140	8

Source: PRO Plan, 2004

Based upon the needs for park land projected in the PRO Plan, the City should pay particular attention to the service areas for each category of park and trails as identified in Figures 4, 5 and 6 of the PRO Plan.

***Land Acquisition and Facilities Planning***

PR-4 Distribute parks and recreation and cultural facilities throughout Redmond and within Potential Annexation Areas in a manner which, as much as possible, provides an equitable service radius distribution of parks, and improves walkability. Acquire land and develop parks in areas which are:

- Experiencing rapid growth;
- Targeted for significant growth, such as the Downtown and Overlake Centers; or
- Identified as having a deficiency in recreational and cultural services.

PR-5 Encourage the acquisition of greenbelts and park land to maintain open space, protect environmental resources, provide circulation linkages and wildlife corridors, and ensure adequate separation and buffers between various land uses.

PR-6 Reduce the impacts of development and ensure open space is retained by encouraging private developments to provide land for parks, trails, walkways, and open space.

PR-7 Actively pursue private dedication of land through a variety of methods to facilitate public access to parks and provide a continuous system of parks, trails, and open space.

PR-8 Actively pursue the private dedication of arts media for viewing and enjoyment in public areas.

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- PR-9 Coordinate park planning and land acquisition with other City plans for streets, utilities, and buildings, thereby maximizing the benefits available from public lands for parks, arts and cultural programs, and recreational activities.
- PR-10 Encourage parks, beautification areas, art, and gathering places throughout the City by coordinating planning efforts with other City departments and private businesses early in the development review process.
- PR-11 Continue to promote a street tree program throughout the City.
- PR-12 Encourage the development of smaller, local parks in locations throughout the City when feasible. Support efforts for private developments to provide shared open space and the development of "pocket" or "mini" parks when feasible.
- PR-13 Seek funding opportunities from a variety of sources (federal, state, and private) for the acquisition and development of parks, trails, open space, and the arts.
- PR-14 Continue to develop the Parks Improvement Plan for a parks and recreation system that serves existing development and planned growth, is financially feasible, and can be funded at a level which allows for a reasonable implementation schedule.
- PR-15 Utilize quasi-public land, where possible, and dual-use facilities, such as Puget Sound Energy corridors, utility easements, or rights of way.
- PR-16 Coordinate the development and use of parks and recreation with King County, neighboring jurisdictions, local school districts, and user groups to avoid duplication of facilities and services.
- PR-17 Work with other governmental agencies and private organizations to provide a complete Parks, Recreation, Trails, and Open Space System for the City and greater Redmond area.

## B. Recreation, Arts and Cultural Program Policies

These policies describe how the City of Redmond will provide for the recreation and cultural needs of the community. These services are provided for the people of Redmond to enjoy all of the elements that make up the parks, recreation, arts, and open space system.

- PR-18 Provide a balanced system of recreation, arts, and leisure programs that are comprehensive, enriching, and affordable for all citizens.
- PR-19 Work with private organizations and service clubs to encourage the development of parks, recreational and cultural facilities, and trails.

**Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Arts Conservation Element**

- PR-20 Provide a community center or centers for indoor and outdoor recreation including provisions for programs or facilities such as but not limited to: meeting rooms, social services, facilities to serve special populations, recreation classes, aquatics, athletics, and gymnasiums.
- PR-21 Provide athletic facilities for organized sports that meet the current demands and needs of the community derived from the level of service analysis. such as but not limited to: practice and tournament regulation softball, practice and regulation baseball fields, soccer fields, and tennis courts. Design new and renovated sport facilities utilizing appropriate technologies to gain cost efficiencies, accommodate diverse uses, and increase capacity through extended and expanded play.
- PR-22 Provide facilities for non-organized, active recreation such as but not limited to: rollerblading, skateboarding, and bicycling. Continue to develop safe facilities for recreation enjoyed by youths and teens where such needs have been demonstrated.
- PR-23 Cultivate community and provide uses for all ages by considering the incorporation of interactive recreational, sensory, and contemplative elements such as water features, public gardens, pea patches, and picnic areas into City parks.
- PR-24 Encourage the development of special purpose recreation facilities such as ice arenas, swimming pools, and golf courses.
- PR-25 Promote the development of facilities to support the cultural arts such as program rooms for arts activities and education, display areas, a performing arts center, and outdoor concert space.
- PR-26 Encourage the development of outdoor plazas and squares within parks and private developments in the Downtown and in other City neighborhoods in order to have places for community and civic events as well as informal gatherings.
- PR-27 Ensure adequate provision for allowing the location of private or non-profit concessions within parks where such uses will not conflict with the enjoyment of the park or have adverse effects on neighboring property.
- PR-28 Develop facilities and acquire land for environmental education, including a city-wide interpretive sign program for shorelines, streams, native growth areas, aquifers, and other important natural systems, by the appropriate agencies or City departments. (SMP)
- PR-29 Actively promote the development of a linkage system that includes, for example, bicycle lanes, trails and pathways that connect the park system, schools, and other important public facilities in the City. Provide appropriate and well-designed signage to encourage wayfinding and connectivity.

PR-30 Continue to support policies and the methods for providing City residents priority of preference in registration for parks and recreation programs.

## C. Special Features Policies

Natural features and shorelines such as Lake Sammamish, the Sammamish River, major creeks, and the Redmond Watershed are important aspects of Redmond's character. The Sammamish River Trail provides for access along the river. Redmond currently has an active program to purchase land along Bear Creek and Evans Creek for a multi-use trail project and open space. Idylwood Beach Park is the City's waterfront recreational access on the west side of Lake Sammamish and shoreline property on East Lake Sammamish has been purchased for a waterfront park. Farrel McWhirter Park is one of the City's largest parks and provides an important tie to Redmond's history with areas for farm animals, special programs, and natural, open areas. Marymoor Park, which is owned by King County, is a significant recreational amenity situated between Lake Sammamish, the Sammamish River and the Downtown.

PR-31 Encourage the acquisition and development of property by the City, King County, and Washington State that will provide access to water resources, such as Lake Sammamish, the Sammamish River, and local streams. Promote the creation of open space corridors along these water resources to provide for passive recreation and wildlife habitat where appropriate, provided the ecological function of the resources are maintained and impacts can be mitigated. (SMP)

PR-32 Continue to protect and enhance the habitat values and natural features of the Sammamish River through sensitive development of the trail right-of-way along the river between the Municipal Campus and Marymoor Park.

PR-33 Encourage King County to develop the trail on the west side of the Sammamish River.

PR-34 Design development along the Sammamish River to orient toward the river and reinforce its identification as a community gathering place and recreation area in a manner that is sensitive to and protects the natural environment.

PR-35 Upon Acquireacquisition of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad right-of-way within the City, when the right of way is no longer used for rail service. Coordinate with King County, the City of Woodinville Sound Transit, and other partners and the Puget Sound Regional Council on acquisition of the right of way north of the City through Woodinville. on the planning and development of the corridor for a regional trail, opportunities for community gathering, art, culture, and historic interpretation, as well as for light rail transit, options for other transportation connections and utility placement.



## Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and ArtsConservation Element

- PR-36 Continue conservation practices designed to preserve and enhance diverse habitats and sensitive ecosystems within the Watershed Preserve, while providing complementary, passive recreation opportunities, including trails for hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, and interpretive education.
- PR-37 Continue to support and enhance the historic resource of Farrel McWhirter Park in its provision of farm animal programs, special programs for children and families, trails, and open space.
- PR-38 Support King County in the planning for and use of Marymoor Park such that the park activities are consistent with the City's vision and character as described in Redmond's Comprehensive Plan. Ensure that there is communication between King County, the City of Redmond, and the Friends of Marymoor regarding the current and future activities and uses in the park. Support the future annexation of Marymoor Park into the City of Redmond.

### D. Trails Policies

There are many existing trails throughout Redmond and the surrounding area which citizens enjoy for a variety of recreational as well as transportation purposes. The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan (PROPARCC Plan) shows the existing and proposed trails in the Redmond area. (Please refer to Proposed and Existing Trail Network map in the PRO-PARCC Plan - Figure 68-5). Most are City owned and maintained; however, the Sammamish River Trail is owned and maintained by King County and the SR 520 Bikeway is owned and maintained by the Washington State Department of Transportation. The Sammamish River is designated as a "blue trail" that is part of the regional Lakes to Locks water trail system for low impact, non-motorized watercraft. In addition, there are some trails through private developments which allow public access.

This trail network provides for a system of trails which link public lands with residential, employment, and shopping areas throughout the neighborhoods and community. In addition, Redmond's trail network provides connections with the regional trail system, linking Redmond with surrounding communities and unincorporated King County. The Proposed and Existing Trail Network map identifies a hierarchy of trails according to their construction and function.

The Trail Network complements the City's Bicycle System Plan which utilizes, for the most part, street right-of-way and focuses primarily on bicycle lanes as a means of transportation. The Trail Network is a combination of paved and unpaved pathways and wherever possible, the pathways are separated from streets. However, in some cases, where no other option exists, the route uses street right-of-way, often by widening the sidewalk area. Where this occurs, the Trail Network will follow the Bicycle System Plan very closely.

*Trail Network Plan*

- PR-39      Develop an interconnected trail system throughout the greater Redmond area in cooperation with local, state, and federal agencies and private organizations. Identify and develop a hierarchy of trails, based upon trail construction and function. Serve a variety of activities and abilities for both recreation and transportation, including pedestrians, bicyclists, equestrians, and other users in appropriate locations.
- PR-40      Promote the concept and use of the "Blue Trail", which is the Sammamish River as a waterway trail. Continue to work with jurisdictions and others in the region which share the Sammamish River waterway to ensure the continuation of the Lakes to Locks Trail for non-motorized watercraft with low impact on the natural environment.
- PR-41      Promote the linkage of communities, neighborhoods, parks, schools, public facilities, and other destinations with connections to trails developed by other agencies in the region.
- PR-42      Coordinate planning of trails, bike lanes, and other non-motorized modes of transportation among City departments and with surrounding jurisdictions to:
- Ensure safe and efficient use of all types of trails and other non-motorized facilities;
  - Encourage convenient travel between and within neighborhoods and local activity centers;
  - Reduce car trips within the City; and
  - Encourage convenient access and connectivity between trails, trailheads, and public transit.
- PR-43      Develop a visual system for enhancing connections to trails, pedestrian pathways, or other areas, including identification of shoreline areas, with such elements as street graphics, landscaping, street furniture, or artwork. (SMP)
- PR-44      Encourage the development of recreational pathways and trails which are not part of a street roadway. Pay particular attention to safety, especially where routes must use existing roadways. Design the pathway to minimize potential conflicts between motorists and trail users, especially equestrians.
- PR-45      Develop trails that are interesting to the users and maximize the number and diversity of enjoyable viewing opportunities whenever possible.

## Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Arts Conservation Element

- PR-46 Consider soil conditions, steep slopes, surface drainage, and other physical limitations that could increase construction or maintenance costs when planning trails.
- PR-47 Develop trails that create loops and inter-connect to provide a variety of trail lengths and destinations. Review proposed trails to determine if they should be part of the City's park and recreation program.
- PR-48 Require during the review process for new development or redevelopment construction of multi-use pathways through proposed developments, where such improvements would provide needed linkages between trail routes and access to public destinations.

### *Trailheads*

Trailheads are important elements of the trail system acting as staging areas and offering support facilities along the trail route. For the most part, existing parks can offer parking and other conveniences.

- PR-49 Develop trailheads with the following characteristics:
- Provide centralized and, when possible, effective staging areas for trail access;
  - Provide parking, orientation and information, and any necessary specialized unloading features, especially for equestrians and persons with disabilities; and
  - Provide sufficient vehicular and equestrian parking, signage, and restroom facilities.

### *Equestrian Trails*

Where possible, soft-surface trails have been developed that accommodate equestrian use. In some cases, these trails parallel a hard surface, multi-use trail as along the Sammamish River Trail. In most instances, the soft surface corridor also serves as a multi-use trail accommodating bicyclists and hikers as well as equestrians (e.g., Bridle Crest Trail and Puget Power Trail). Some trails, such as the Farrel McWhirter Loop and Watershed Preserve Trillium, are designated equestrian/hiker only.

- PR-50 Develop equestrian trails with the following characteristics whenever possible:
- Separate and provide buffer areas between equestrian trails and multi-use trails;
  - Construct trails to be soft-surface, preferably fine crushed rock;

- Design road crossings to acceptable safety standards;
- Connect local trails with regional trails;
- Provide looped trail systems; and
- Construct trails to withstand all-weather use.

## E. Parks, Trails and Facilities Maintenance

Maintenance of the parks, trails, open space, and facilities is an important element of a successful parks program. The public investment in these facilities is considerable; therefore, on-going, scheduled maintenance will ensure the safe use of parks and facilities for as long as possible. Further, the neat and well-maintained appearance of a park or park facility will encourage its continued use in a positive manner.

- PR-51 Monitor existing parks, trails, and facilities to ensure that they meet acceptable standards for safety and performance.
- PR-52 Provide for safe and accessible use of all parks, trails, and facilities by the physically impaired through adaptation and renovation of these facilities where feasible. (SMP)
- PR-53 Provide funding to permit the orderly, ongoing repair and rehabilitation of existing parks, trails, and facilities.
- PR-54 Reduce maintenance and operation costs by upgrading existing parks, trails, and facilities in a manner which will maximize efficient maintenance practices and conserve resources.
- PR-55 Require the preservation and maintenance of private recreational facilities, such as pocket parks, tot lots, and informal trails, when these facilities have been required as a condition of development.

## F. Conservation of Public Land and Natural Areas

These policies provide for the protection of public lands that are important natural areas. In addition, they provide for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive areas.

- PR-56 Conserve existing public lands currently in a natural state through careful planning and cooperative agreements between appropriate government agencies and private entities.

- PR-57 Designate appropriate uses within the capability of the parks, natural areas, and greenbelts (e.g., trails and outdoor education) as determined by site analysis.
- PR-58 Use appropriate acquisition methods to protect natural areas that are sensitive to potential adverse impacts from urban development or that represent a significant natural and visual asset.
- PR-59 Design and construct park facilities in a manner that is compatible with the neighborhood and is sensitive to the environment.

## G. Open Space Policies

Open space provides valuable natural areas and corridors which enhance the sense of space for a community. They contrast with building footprints and roadways and add to the quality of the natural environment and community.

- PR-60 Preserve open space areas throughout the community whenever feasible to:
- Retain an important component of Redmond's character;
  - Provide for linkages within and between neighborhoods;
  - Protect valuable wildlife habitat and corridors; and
  - Provide unique recreational opportunities.
- PR-61 Coordinate with City departments and other agencies to develop and implement a long-term and comprehensive acquisition, dedication, and management program for open space.

Open space can be enjoyed for both passive and active recreation. The level of recreational use will vary with the ownership of the open space and the environmental sensitivity of the area. Publicly owned open space is available for public use unless the use would damage sensitive environmental resources. Privately owned open space, however, is not available for public use unless permitted by the owner. State law limits the liability of private land owners for public use of their property. This law is intended to encourage land owners to allow public use where appropriate. Where sensitive environmental resources are present, such as bird nesting sites, public access, or recreational use may be limited even on public open space.

- PR-62 Protect the natural resources of publicly owned open space and allow utilization of these areas at a level that will not compromise the environmental integrity of the area.

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PR-63 Encourage property owners to grant permission for the public use of informal trails where such trails will provide connections between neighborhoods or other destinations and where natural resources will not be adversely affected.

***Open Space Corridors***

The Growth Management Act requires local governments to designate open space corridors. Open space corridors have multiple uses: they provide open space and clusters of trees, they can provide recreational opportunities, and they can help to tie together fish and wildlife habitats into a countywide network.

Such a network will help to maintain species diversity by providing habitat for various species and by allowing species that no longer live in their former habitats to repopulate suitable areas. A unified open space corridor network also can increase the potential for interbreeding by allowing individuals of the same species to move from one area of a particular habitat type to another area of that habitat type. Open space corridors differ from the trails rights-of-way in that the open space corridors are managed for both habitat and recreation, whereas trail corridors emphasize recreation and non-motorized transportation alternatives.

PR-64 Link areas of protected habitat, wetlands, rivers, lakes, gullies, native vegetation easements, preserved areas of trees, and native vegetation suitable for wildlife use through open space corridors and other suitable habitat areas.

PR-65 Ensure that recreational uses located in open space corridors are compatible with fish and wildlife resources.

Open space corridors will be managed through the use of Redmond's critical areas regulations and potential City acquisitions. Since these areas are generally included within areas already protected by the critical areas regulations, a new critical areas category is not needed. In several cases, undeveloped ravines have been identified as open space corridors. Development will be directed away from these areas. The Natural Environment Element contains policies on managing critical areas and fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas.

PR-66 Manage open space corridors through Redmond's critical areas regulations. During development review, direct new development away from undeveloped ravines identified as open space corridors.

Redmond has several existing trail corridors that can provide habitat for wildlife and allow them to move from area to area. The habitat values of these areas should be improved where consistent with the primarily identified uses of recreation or non-motorized transportation options.

PR-67 Encourage appropriate use of recreational corridors by wildlife by providing native vegetation and other habitat enhancements, when consistent with use of the corridor for recreation.

## G. New Policies

- a) Develop a more walkable and geographically equitable system of parks and trails by calculating neighborhood park and trail level of service policies based on neighborhood populations.
- b) Develop a park and trail, recreation, and arts finance strategy that meets the needs of the community and preserves the level of services of these facilities and programs.
- c) Expand the City's Joint Use Agreement with the Lake Washington School District to develop park space at school sites and co-develop sports fields to increase community use of school fields.
- d) Develop a Joint Use Agreement with King County to use fields and other facilities at county parks within or near Redmond.
- e) Develop a long-term strategy with King County to transfer ownership of county parks within or adjacent to Redmond to the City of Redmond.
- f) Develop a strategy to annex all City of Redmond parks that exist within King County.
- g) Create a more healthy community by targeting additional active recreation programming to underserved populations and adding more health education programs.
- h) The park level of service analysis should consider how community members use park spaces by providing credits for school properties and non-Redmond parks within the City and within walking distance of the City.

**EXHIBIT 2: PARCC Plan for 2010-2016**  
(On file with the City Clerk's Office)