

ORDINANCE NO. 941

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF REDMOND, WASHINGTON, AMENDING THE REDMOND MUNICIPAL CODE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GUIDE TO IDENTIFY COMMUNITY PROBLEMS AND NEEDS WITH REGARD TO HUMAN RESOURCES, HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION BY ADDING NEW SECTIONS 20B.20.030, 20B.20.040, 20B.20.050, 20B.30.030, 20B.30.040, 20B.30.050, 20B.60.060, 20B.60.070, and 20B.60.080.

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

Section 1. The following sections are hereby added to Chapter 20B.20 of the Redmond Municipal Code and Community Development Guide to read as follows:

"20B.20.030 COMMUNITY PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

Although families with very low incomes (less than 50% of median income) are not concentrated in Redmond, they are present, representing 8.7% of all households. The County average by census tract is also 8.7%. Families with low-moderate incomes represent about 20% of all families in the community.

Since low-moderate income families are probably similar to all Redmond families, they can be expected to have children living at home. Many of these families may also be headed by a single parent.

Low-moderate income families are less able than affluent families to locate and pay for services needed when family problems arise, since a high percentage of their income must be used for food and shelter. Most medical and social services are sought outside the local community. Family counseling, mental health services and temporary shelter are needs which may not be adequately met locally.

Because there is a large number of young people in the community, some of the needs of this age group are a problem. Young people suffer from lack of job opportunities, insecure or inadequate finances, and transportation difficulties. A high percentage of crimes prevalent in suburban areas, such as theft, are committed by boys between the ages of 15-18.

Redmond's senior population, age 60 and older, is about 7% of the population of the community (1,200 people estimated). However, many elderly persons in the community are living on poverty level or low incomes. As they often live in single-person households, they may be isolated from community resources. Many lack access to adequate transportation, health care, legal services, or social and recreational opportunities. Inadequate nutrition may also be a problem, particularly when elderly persons are living independently.

Redmond's handicapped citizens include at least 26* adults confined to a wheelchair. However, because the range of disabilities is not limited to persons in wheelchairs, the

percentage of handicapped persons living in the community is probably much higher. King County has estimated that 8.3% of the population of the County between the ages of 16 and 65 is handicapped or disabled. Many elderly citizens also suffer from limited mobility.

A very high percentage of the handicapped/disabled population have low incomes. Specific needs of residents of the community will be surveyed in a social service needs study funded by the Block Grant Program and expected to be completed in August 1980.

*Reference: Washington State Department of Social and Health Services"

"20B.20.040 COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PLAN

In order to assure the implementation of the Community Development Block Grant Program consistent with the wants, needs and desires of the community, the following goals and policies are set forth in Section 20B.20.050 et. seq."

"20B.20.050 COMMUNITY GOAL

Improve the safety and welfare of senior citizens and low-income families.

20.050(05) Policy - Improve the delivery of counseling and mental health services for youth, senior citizens, and low income families.

20.050(10) Policy - Provide a community center to facilitate senior citizen activities and programs.

20.050(15) Policy - Support programs for senior citizens which will improve nutrition, improve access to services, and provide recreational opportunities.

20.050(20) Policy - Prevent environmental health problems which will contribute to blight and health hazards."

Section 2. The following sections are hereby added to Chapter 20B.30 of the Redmond Municipal Code and Community Development Guide to read as follows:

"20B.30.030 COMMUNITY PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

Because the City has grown rapidly since 1950, the majority of housing units have been produced since that date, and few could be classified as substandard. Some substandard housing is concentrated in the central business district or older County neighborhoods on the fringe of the City. Generally, rehabilitation needs are related to the normal aging of the housing stock, and minor repairs may be required such as roof, gutters and plumbing. Families or elderly persons with low incomes may need assistance in making repairs which are important to help maintain the quality of the housing stock.

The most severe housing problems in the community are related to the high cost of housing for renters. Housing costs have dramatically increased in the last decade, rising more rapidly than personal income in the last 2 years. At the same time demand for housing has increased locally contributing to low vacancy rates, particularly in multi-family dwellings.

Because the predominate type of housing in the community is newer single-family housing, few lower cost rental units are available, and multiple-family rentals are even scarcer. Elderly persons or low-moderate income families are discouraged from entering or remaining in the community and tend to locate in areas where low cost housing is concentrated."

"20B.30.040 COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PLAN

In order to assure the implementation of the Community Development Block Grant Program consistent with the wants, needs and desires of the community, the following goals and policies are set forth in Section 20B.30.050 et. seq."

"20.30.050 COMMUNITY GOAL

Provide housing opportunities for low-moderate income families and elderly persons.

30.050(05) Policy - Provide assistance with housing rehabilitation for low-moderate income homeowners in order to protect health and safety, and prevent neighborhood deterioration.

30.050(10) Policy - Work with King County Housing Authority and private developers to provide assisted rental housing for low-income families and elderly persons.

30.050(15) Policy - Participate in innovative programs to reduce housing costs and produce energy-efficient housing."

Section 3. The following sections are hereby added to Chapter 20B.60 of the Redmond Municipal Code and Community Development Guide to read as follows:

"20B.60.060 COMMUNITY PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

Rapid growth and development have contributed to problems with pedestrian circulation and traffic safety. Heavy traffic through the City, and traffic generated by new commercial developments have contributed to local congestion. The result has been a dramatic increase in accidents, particularly those involving pedestrians and bicycles.

Older streets and county roads incorporated into the City were constructed without walkways, and are hazardous for walking or bike-riding, particularly for elderly people or children. Bicycles must share crowded arterials with automobiles and trucks. Obstacles to movement of wheelchairs such as curbs and medians exist at many locations.

Although the City is served by Metro with frequent service to Kirkland, Bellevue and Seattle, local transportation within the City is a problem for young people or elderly persons without access to automobiles. Lack of safe walkways and bicycle routes limits the use of alternative methods of transportation for short trips, contributing to local traffic congestion and inhibiting energy conservation."

"20B.60.070 COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PLAN

In order to assure the implementation of the Community Development Block Grant Program consistent with the wants, needs and desires of the community, the following goals and policies are set forth in Section 20B.60.080 et. seq."

"20B.60.080 COMMUNITY GOALS

Remove obstacles to mobility for handicapped, elderly and low-income citizens.

60.080(05) Policy - Reduce traffic hazards and improve pedestrian circulation in the vicinity of housing occupied by low-moderate income families or elderly persons.

60.080(10) Policy - Remove physical obstacles for handicapped and elderly persons in pedestrian facilities and public buildings.

60.080(15) Policy - Provide local transportation services for senior and handicapped citizens."

Section 4. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after its passage and publication as provided by law.

CITY OF REDMOND


MAYOR, CHRISTINE T. HIMES

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATED:


CITY CLERK, PAUL F. KUSAKABE

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
OFFICE OF THE CITY ATTORNEY:

BY 

FILED WITH THE CITY CLERK: September 16, 1980
PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL: September 16, 1980
SIGNED BY THE MAYOR: September 16, 1980
PUBLISHED: September 24, 1980
EFFECTIVE DATE: September 29, 1980