

Bear Creek Vision Statement Draft – November 19, 2009

Bear Creek Neighborhood Plan Update

The neighborhood vision describes the Bear Creek neighborhood in 2030. It represents what the neighborhood will look and feel like when the neighborhood plan is implemented.

By 2030, the Bear Creek neighborhood has grown while still sustaining natural and recreational resources for future generations. People live in a clean, healthy, and well-maintained environment in which everyone has a stake. The City works cooperatively with the community to promote environmental quality.

Character. Bear Creek continues to be a safe neighborhood where people feel connected to one another. The neighborhood has a green character, both because it retains a significant tree canopy, and because developments employ the latest in energy-efficient and low-impact development techniques. The heart of the Bear and Evans Creek valley continues to have a rural-agricultural feel.

Housing. Residents take pride in living in the Bear Creek neighborhood, while builders take pride in providing attractive housing in the neighborhood. Builders and designers seek-out the neighborhood to pioneer new housing technologies and construction methods. People who live in the neighborhood enjoy that they can find homes that match their life needs, from apartments, condominiums, and senior housing, to traditional single-family detached housing. Multi-unit housing is located near arterials and transit, with some limited attached homes designed to look like single family dwellings in single family zones. Housing is affordable at a variety of income levels.

Business. Neighborhood businesses prosper. This is in part because residents and the business community support each other by working cooperatively to address common issues. Residents take pride in the successful businesses in and adjacent to the neighborhood, while business owners and employees are partners in maintaining a high quality of life in the neighborhood and in Redmond as a whole.

Transportation. Redmond and the region have grown, and that has led to additional congestion on major roadways. Even so, everyone has safe access between the neighborhood, the rest of Redmond, and the region using a variety of travel modes. Pedestrians can safely cross busy streets to access transit, and can also safely walk within the neighborhood to access parks and other recreation opportunities. Some services are easily accessible by foot and bicycle, while other local destinations may be easily reached by transit. Those visiting find that there is sufficient guest parking.

Natural Environment. The Bear Creek community values a culture of conservation and education. This has helped promote the health of the valley's ecosystem. In the Bear and Evans Creek valley, plants and wildlife thrive in the streams and the riparian corridors. For example,

the creeks support healthy salmon runs and freshwater mussels, and have been reconnected to surrounding wetlands. The community is keenly aware that Redmond's drinking water aquifer lies just beneath the creek valleys, and so people employ methods to minimize groundwater pollution. The community enjoys these assets because there is sufficient access to natural areas in order to appreciate them. Residents breathe clean air and wildlife benefit from improved surface water quality.

Parks & Recreation. Residents, employees and visitors alike enjoy parks in the neighborhood that offer a balance of active and passive recreation opportunities. Natural park areas are walkable, educational, and designed to minimize environmental disturbance. Park visitors arrive by a number of travel modes, and most times there is sufficient parking to accommodate those arriving by car.