



W. Lake Sammamish Parkway and Bel-Red Road Roundabout

With the completion of the West Lake Sammamish Parkway Corridor Study, City staff is proposing Redmond's first roundabout for the intersection of West Lake Sammamish Parkway and Bel-Red Road. This improvement is expected to facilitate increasing traffic volumes more efficiently than the traffic signal that currently exists at that location.

Roundabouts are not traffic circles, nor are they the older style rotary traffic islands drivers may be more familiar with. A modern roundabout is a circular intersection where traffic flows around a center island. Drivers entering a roundabout are required to yield to traffic already in the circle. More vehicles can move through the area with less delay. Communities installing roundabouts are finding that traffic is better-managed. Capacity is increased while speeds and collisions are greatly reduced. Roundabouts virtually eliminate serious right-angle, left-turn, and head-on collisions because vehicles all travel in the same direction.

West Lake Sammamish Parkway is a critical link in Redmond's transportation system to three urban centers: Downtown Redmond, Overlake, and to the City of Bellevue. The West Lake Sammamish Parkway Corridor Study took a comprehensive look at the corridor to determine the future configuration of the roadway and where it intersects with Bel-Red Road and with NE 51 Street. While the study was underway, a community kick-off meeting (September 20, 2007), the Viewpoint neighborhood meeting (October 16, 2008), and the Overlake Open House (November 18, 2008) gave area residents opportunities to review study and design information, see a presentation on roundabouts, and share comments and opinions with project staff.

Watch for more information about proposed improvements to West Lake Sammamish Parkway between NE 51 Street and Bel-Red Road on the City's web site at www.redmond.gov.

Check the City's website now for more on roundabouts by going to www.redmond.gov/connectinredmond/resources/neighborhoodRounds.asp.

Please share questions or comments with the project manager, Tricia Thomson at (425) 556-2776 or tthomson@redmond.gov

Sound Transit East Link Project News

A draft environmental impact statement has been released for public comment. Sound Transit will accept feedback through February 25, 2009.

An open house and public hearing is scheduled for Redmond citizens on January 21, 2009 beginning at 4:00 pm at the Old Redmond Schoolhouse.

Learn more at <http://www.soundtransit.org/eastlink>



Mayor Marchione's Welcome

Last October, the City hosted the Viewpoint Neighborhood Plan Update Open House at Audubon Elementary. Approximately 50 other residents, City Council Members and I mingled and discussed transportation, parks, land use, and other topics that will formulate the Viewpoint Neighborhood Plan. Neighborhood plans are specific to each neighborhood, yet fit into the overall vision of the City's Comprehensive Plan. Also attending were eleven of your neighbors who serve on the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). These members are guiding the development of the Viewpoint plan update and will make recommendations to the Planning Commission in late 2009.

Redmond annexed Viewpoint into the City in 1964. Viewpoint adds a unique character to the City with its older, tree-lined neighborhoods; lake front amenities; and private golf course. The plan update will examine and recommend improvements to those amenities the residents find valuable, while working to better those things they want changed.

Neighborhood Open Houses Well Attended

Residents in the Viewpoint neighborhood and the single-family, residential portion of the Overlake neighborhood recently participated in an open house for their respective areas. Both served as an opportunity for neighborhood residents to provide input and feedback regarding the current neighborhood plan updates.

The Viewpoint open house, held on October 16, 2008, was attended by over 50 residents and the Overlake open house, held on November 18, 2008, by over 25 residents. For both, the Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC) will continue to explore the neighborhood interests, concerns, and opportunities at regularly scheduled work meetings. As they near the completion of their effort, additional feedback will be sought from neighborhood residents to ensure that the proposed plan represents the thoughts and the pulse of the citizenry. Additionally, you are invited to continue participation at the CACs' work meetings. Several neighborhood residents have already attended and provided comment for the CACs' consideration. To learn more about the meeting format and to view the upcoming discussion topics, please refer to the respective web pages listed in this newsletter.

At the open house, the CAC presented its preliminary thoughts to date, asking those in the audience for additional ideas. The participants emphasized the need to increase and enhance connections and safety measures for pedestrians. Many people feel walking safely throughout the neighborhood is an integral part of Viewpoint's character, and without a network of sidewalks and trails, Viewpoint would be a less inviting community.

Here is another opportunity to help shape your neighborhood. What do you think? What are the most critical pieces of Viewpoint to protect? What would you like to see in the neighborhood that does not currently exist? Please let the CAC know your thoughts. It is not too late. To share items with members of the CAC, contact kdietz@redmond.gov or 425-556-2415.

I hope to see you at the next neighborhood meeting.

Sincerely,

John Marchione, Mayor

Also on the neighborhood web pages, you may view a complete summary of the items that were shared by attendees at the open houses. Comments were written on maps, feedback boards, and survey forms. If you did not complete a survey and wish to do so, please refer to the web pages listed below where you will find a link to the current survey.

Your thoughts are a significant component of neighborhood planning and will be presented to the CACs as part of their continued work effort.

CITY OF REDMOND NEIGHBORHOODS TEAM

Kimberly Dietz, (425) 556-2415, kdietz@redmond.gov
Jeff Churchill, (425) 556-2492, jchurchill@redmond.gov
Jayme Jonas, (425) 556-2496, jjonas@redmond.gov
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Bear Creek

<http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/BearCreek/>

Overlake Single-family Residential Portions

<http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/Overlake/subArea/>

Viewpoint

<http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/viewpoint/>

Viewpoint Neighborhood Open House Report

The following are some of the major items that were shared by attendees on October 16, 2008:

- **Transit service enhancements**
- **Bike and pedestrian safety improvements**
- **Complete streets including lighting and vegetation**
- **W. Lk. Sammamish Pkwy. Safety**
- **Maintaining the single-family character that is present today**
- **Increased opportunities for walking**
- **Neighborhood gathering**
- **Water quality and stormwater concerns**
- **Vegetation preservation**

Overlake Single-Family, Residential Portions Open House Report

The following are some of the major items that were shared by attendees on November 18, 2008:

- **Transit service enhancements**
- **Connections to Downtown Redmond**
- **Complete and connected sidewalks**
- **High-quality house design**
- **Parks improvements and amenities**
- **Neighborhood gathering in parks**
- **Increased trail connections**
- **Stormwater concerns**
- **Vegetation preservation**

Overlake Neighborhood Urban Center and Employment Areas

A number of projects are underway which relate to the neighborhood as a whole or the Overlake Village and Employment Area districts, including:

Overlake Phase II Policy and Regulatory Updates: In the Comprehensive Plan, update policies related to the amount and phasing of growth in the neighborhood as needed, pending the outcome of joint work between Redmond and Bellevue on the Bel-Red/Overlake Transportation Study (BROTS) Agreement. This Agreement specifies transportation improvements and provides a framework for allowing commercial growth in the Bel-Red and Overlake areas. In the Redmond Community Development Guide, the City will consider updates for parking provisions, impact fees, site requirements, and environmental review provisions for the neighborhood.

Overlake Wayfinding Study: Identify locations for wayfinding features in the Overlake Neighborhood to promote walking and biking throughout the area and to enhance the neighborhood.

Overlake Parking Study: This study will lead to a Parking Management Plan for the neighborhood, which will support the development of the neighborhood as a vibrant and attractive destination for shopping, working, living, recreation and entertainment. Two public workgroups will be held in February at City Hall to discuss best practices from peer communities and how they might apply to Overlake.

NE 40th Street Corridor Study: The primary purposes of this corridor study are to improve the use of the corridor for non-motorized modes, identify preliminary solutions to improve the function and safety of the SR 520 interchange, and identify gateway and activity node treatments to enhance corridor aesthetics. A consultant will be selected in the coming months to assist with this project.

Please contact Jayme Jonas at (425) 556-2496 or jjonas@redmond.gov for more information regarding these projects.

Green Building & Green Infrastructure Incentive Program

Redmond residents have consistently indicated support for initiatives to preserve Redmond's natural environment, particularly its streams and forests. Consistent with that, City staff have proposed changes to Redmond's development regulations to encourage green building and natural stormwater management, a type of green infrastructure. During summer 2008 the City hosted a community open house on this topic, which drew more than 40 citizens. Twenty-three citizens also completed a survey green building and green infrastructure. The Redmond Planning Commission reviewed the proposal in autumn 2008 and recommends approval.

The use of green building and green infrastructure techniques leads to increased natural resource conservation, lower home operating costs, **Continued on page 3**

Green Building & Green Infrastructure Incentive Program **continued**

and better stewardship of Redmond's drinking water aquifer. The proposal encourages the use of such techniques by allowing developers to earn incentives for incorporating them into new residential development. The proposal takes the place

Ongoing Neighborhood Work

VIEWPOINT

The Viewpoint Citizen Advisory Committee will continue to meet through the first half of 2009. Meetings take place at City Hall on two Tuesday evenings each month. A time for neighborhood citizens to share their thoughts is provided at the beginning of each session. Citizens are invited to attend all of these work meetings and to learn more by chatting with members of the committee and staff. The committee considers all aspects of living, working, and recreating within and in close proximity to the neighborhood over a twenty-year time frame. Please contact Kimberly Dietz at (425) 556-2415, kdietz@redmond.gov or visit the neighborhood web site at <http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/viewpoint/> to learn more and to view meeting schedules.

UPCOMING VIEWPOINT CAC MEETING DATES - 2009:

Jan. 27 Feb. 10 & 24 Mar. 10 & 24

Get Ready for the Bear Creek Neighborhood Plan Update

The City of Redmond is preparing to update the Bear Creek Neighborhood Plan, and we need your help! Beginning in 2009, Planning Department staff will begin review of the existing Neighborhood Plan, which was adopted in 1995. During a recent property-specific amendment in the neighborhood, residents asked that the City work with the neighborhood to update the entire neighborhood plan.

Throughout the update process, City staff will be asking for participation and input from neighborhood residents, employees, business owners, and other interested citizens to help update the neighborhood's vision for itself over the next 20 years. Later in 2009, Mayor Marchione will appoint, and the Council will confirm, a Citizen Advisory Committee composed of neighborhood representatives to advise the

of the Planned Residential Development, an incentive program that has been in place since the mid-1990s.

The City Council is expected to begin review of this proposal in January 2009. To learn more, visit www.redmond.gov/green and click on "Green Redmond's Residential Development Regulations," or contact Jeff Churchill at (425) 556-2492 or jchurchill@redmond.gov.

OVERLAKE SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PORTIONS

Through the first quarter of 2009, the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) will continue to consider the next twenty-years and to recommend guidelines for the future. Topics include how to provide a variety of housing and transportation choices, maintaining natural resources, and providing neighborhood amenities. The CAC and City staff work with residents to explore these and many other aspects of daily living within the neighborhood and vicinity. Meetings take place at City Hall once each month, providing an opportunity for neighborhood citizens to share their thoughts. To learn more, please contact Kimberly Dietz at (425) 556-2415, kdietz@redmond.gov or visit the neighborhood web site at <http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/Overlake/subArea/>.

UPCOMING OVERLAKE CAC MEETING DATES - 2009:

Jan. 20 Feb. 17 Mar. 31

Neighborhood Plan update. All are encouraged to participate in whatever capacity they can. The update will likely address land use, community character, the natural environment, parks and recreation, land use, transportation, housing, and related topics, all at the neighborhood level.

The Bear Creek Neighborhood is the area north of Union Hill Road, east of Avondale Road, and west of the City limit. Its major natural features are the Bear Creek and Evans Creek basins. It is also home to several single-family residential areas, a large business park, industrial operations, and City parks.

Stay tuned as the Bear Creek Neighborhood Plan update gets underway. For more information, contact Jeff Churchill at (425) 556-2492 or jchurchill@redmond.gov.