

**City of Redmond
Comprehensive Plan Amendment
Application Form**

1. Applicant Information

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Date of application: March 25, 2010

2. Description of Proposed Amendment

If this proposal is for a **non-site specific amendment**, provide the specific language for the proposed amendment in the space below or attach to this form. Reference the Comprehensive Plan pages or sections to be amended.

INTRODUCTION

The 1994 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan is being updated and the new plan will be called the Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture & Conservation (PARCC) Plan for 2010 to 2016. This six-year update is necessary to meet regulatory requirements. The Plan is also a tool the City will use to maintain, operate, and expand the park system to meet the existing and future needs of the City. In addition, the plan provides modifications and new additions to the policies within the Parks, Recreation and Arts Element of the Comprehensive Plan. The plan proposes a modification to policy PR-3 in order to reflect the change of the plan name:

Proposed Modification to the Title of the Element (pg 10-1, 10-2, 10-3): Parks, Arts, Recreation, ~~and Arts~~ Culture & Conservation

Proposed Modification to the Title of the Plan (pg 10-1, 10-2, 10-3, 10-9): Parks, Arts, Recreation, ~~and Arts~~ Culture & Conservation Plan or PARCC Plan or Plan

Proposed Modification to Existing Policy – PR-3 (pg 10-3): Maintain a ~~Parks, Recreation and Open Space~~ Parks 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.

Proposed Modification to text (pg 10-1):

Future Vision for Redmond - Parks, Arts, Recreation ~~and Arts~~, Conservation & Culture

Redmond in ~~2022~~30 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.

Proposed Modification to text (pg 10-2):

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

Proposed Modification to text (pg 10-9): 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 ~~PROARCC Plan - Figure 6 Exhibit 8-5~~). 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.

SECTION 1

The PARCC Plan proposes policy changes in order to support the following Comprehensive Planning goals relating to the quality of life, cultural opportunities, urban centers, and transportation connections.

- **To retain and enhance Redmond’s distinctive character and high quality of life, including an abundance of parks, open space, good schools and recreational facilities.**
- **To promote a variety of community gathering places and diverse cultural opportunities.**
- **To support vibrant concentrations of retail, office, service, residential, and recreational activity in Downtown and Overlake.**
- **To provide convenient, safe and environmentally friendly transportation connections within Redmond and between Redmond and other communities for people and goods.**

The Plan revisits the Level of Service policies using a multi-faceted approach that includes demand, need, geographic equity, walkability, and function and projects the level of service for future growth target years. A new level of service was created for recreation in order to better project recreation capital improvement projects. New policies and a modification to an existing policy are proposed to support the new level of service approach and new recreation level of service:

New Proposed Policy - 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.

New Proposed Policy - Develop a strategy to annex all City of Redmond parks that exist within King County.

Proposed Modification to Existing Policy – PR-4 (pg 10-5): 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.

New Proposed Policy - Create a more healthy community by targeting additional active recreation programming to underserved populations and adding more health education programs.

Proposed Modification to Existing Policy – PR-21 (pg 10-7): 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. *New sports fields should be designed and constructed for multiple purposes whenever possible.*

Proposed Modification to Level of Service Standards (pg 10-3): 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.**

New Proposed Policy - 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.

Proposed Modification to Projected Needs Table (pg 10-4):

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

Source: PARCC Plan, 2010

The Plan develops a capital improvement project ranking methodology that prioritizes projects that are driven by the multi-faceted approach to the level of service analysis. The capital improvement projects provided in the plan clearly identify what the City will need to accomplish in order to accommodate the projected growth in the City in the next 20 years. A new policy is proposed to support the construction of these projects:

New Proposed Policy - Develop a park, recreation, and arts finance strategy that meets the needs of the community and preserves the level of services of these facilities and programs.

The Plan proposes changes to the definitions of parks and trails to support the proposed level of service changes and new policies, as follows:

PARK DEFINITIONS (pg 10-3 to 10-4)

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.

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.

TRAIL DEFINITIONS (pg 10-4)

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.

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.

SECTION 2

The PARCC Plan supports the two Comprehensive Plan goals below by continuing to support signature parks and trails in Downtown and Overlake urban centers and proposes modifications to policy PR-35 to show progress being made in the BNSF project.

- **To support vibrant concentrations of retail, office, service, residential, and recreational activity in Downtown and Overlake.**
- **To provide convenient, safe and environmentally friendly transportation connections within Redmond, and between Redmond and other communities for people and goods.**

Proposed Modification to Existing Policy – PR-35 (pg 10-9) : ~~Upon Acquire acquisition 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, Sound Transit and other partners 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, and utility and transportation connections. the City of Woodinville, and the Puget Sound Regional Council on acquisition of the right of way north of the City through Woodinville.~~

SECTION 3

The PARCC Plan will support the Comprehensive Planning goal below by adding new policy language to highlight the importance of the park and recreation system in developing healthy communities and collaborating with other jurisdictions to use public facilities to the best and highest use possible.

- **To remain a community of good neighbors, working together and with others in the region to implement a common vision for Redmond’s future.**

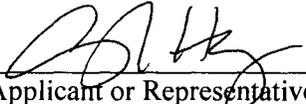
New Proposed Policy - Expand the City’s Joint Use Agreement with the Lake Washington School District to develop park space at school sites and co-develop sports fields to increase community use of school fields.

New Proposed Policy - Develop a Joint Use Agreement with King County to use fields and other facilities at county parks within or near Redmond.

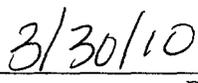
New Proposed Policy - Develop a long-term strategy with King County to transfer ownership of county parks within Redmond to the City of Redmond.

3. Must be Included for All Applications

- a. Completed and signed copy of this form.
- b. Completed answers to the Comprehensive Plan Amendment questions on pages 3 and 4 of this form.
- c. Completed and signed City of Redmond General Application Form. Available on the City's web site at www.redmond.gov/insidecityhall/permitting/devapps.asp, and also available from the City's Development Services Center.



Applicant or Representative



Date

Comprehensive Plan Amendment Questions

Questions 1 through 8 apply to **all proposed amendments**. Please answer the questions in writing and attach the answers to the application. Answer all questions separately and reference the question number in your answer.

1. What is your proposed amendment intended to accomplish?

The City of Redmond's 2010 PARCC Plan will revise the current 1994 plan. The new plan proposes changes to the level of service (LOS) policies including the use of a multi-faceted approach to the development of LOS policies. The proposed modifications to policies and new policies reflect the changes to the LOS approach. In order for the City to meet LOS standards, there will need to be a shift in the funding strategies that are priorities, such as with partnerships, and some of the proposed modifications address this issue.

2. How will your proposal support the goals contained in Redmond's Comprehensive Plan? These goals are included on page 5 of this form.

The proposed amendment will support the following goals, as described in detail in the description of the amendment above:

- To retain and enhance Redmond's distinctive character and high quality of life, including an abundance of parks, open space, good schools and recreational facilities.
 - To support vibrant concentrations of retail, office, service, residential, and recreational activity in Downtown and Overlake.
 - To promote a variety of community gathering places and diverse cultural opportunities.
 - To provide convenient, safe and environmentally friendly transportation connections within Redmond, and between Redmond and other communities for people and goods.
 - To remain a community of good neighbors, working together and with others in the region to implement a common vision for Redmond's future.
3. How will your proposal support other applicable policies and provisions from Redmond's Comprehensive Plan?

The amendment supports the following framework policies of the Comprehensive Plan:

- | | |
|-------|---|
| FW-26 | Maintain and promote a vibrant system of parks, trails, open space, art, and recreational facilities that provides infrastructure designed to meet community needs, enhances Redmond's high quality of life, and protects its natural beauty. |
| FW-27 | Provide citizens of all ages, including seniors and teens, with diverse, attractive, safe, and accessible recreational and cultural opportunities. |

Accommodate a broad range of community interests including active programs, such as sports, as well as opportunities for passive enjoyment, such as gathering areas and art, within a variety of civic settings.

- FW-34 Maintain Redmond as a green city with an abundance of trees, forested areas, open space, parks, wildlife habitats, riparian corridors, access to shorelines, and other elements of its beautiful natural setting.
- FW-37 Preserve Redmond's heritage, including historic links to native cultures, logging, and farming, and its image as the Bicycle Capital of the Northwest, as an important element of the community's character.
- FW-45 Work with other jurisdictions and agencies, educational and other organizations, and the business community to develop and carry out a coordinated, regional approach for meeting the various needs of Eastside communities, including housing, human services, economic vitality, parks and recreation, transportation, and environmental protection.

4. What impacts might your proposal have on the natural environment, such as critical areas and other natural areas?

This is a non-project action. As specific projects are developed, special studies and an environmental review will be conducted to evaluate potential impacts to the natural environment including critical areas. The City is committed to protecting the natural environment and enhancing critical areas in all of its projects.

5. What economic impacts might your proposal have, such as impacts for businesses, residents, property owners, or Redmond City Government?

The proposed amendment would increase the number of neighborhood parks and trails within each neighborhood based on the population of each neighborhood. As described in the PARCC Plan, parks and trails add to the local property value, tourism value, direct use value, health value, community cohesion value, and reducing the costs of storm water management and air pollution.

6. How will your proposal address the long-term interests and needs of the community as a whole?

The revised LOS policies are based on a five pronged approach consisting of community demand, community need, geographic equity, walkability, and functionality. These elements were identified as highly important to community members. In addition, community members want governmental agencies to be more efficient with their resources and there are policy changes to support that desire.

7. Are you aware of any public support for your proposed amendment?

Yes, the development of the PARCC plan began with a public visioning process that helped shape the document and policy changes. Three surveys were conducted at the onset of the planning process as well. After the Draft Plan was prepared, another public involvement process was held to ensure support for the plan. Public comments were used to edit the Draft Plan and develop the

Final PARCC Plan. The public involvement process is described in more detail in Chapter 3 of the PARCC Plan.

8. If your proposal has been considered within the last four years, what circumstances have changed to make the proposed amendment appropriate?

Not Applicable.