# REDMOND CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

March 2, 2010

Mayor

John Marchione

**Members of the Council** 

Richard Cole, Council President
Pat Vache, Council Vice-president
Kim Allen
David Carson
Hank Margeson
Hank Myers
John Stilin

**Staff** 

Craig Larsen, Parks and Recreation Director Carolyn Hope, Senior Parks Planner Chip Cornwell, A/V Program Coordinator Michelle M. McGehee, CMC, City Clerk

### **MEETING SUMMARY**

Convened: 9:09 p.m. Adjourned: 9:25 p.m.

Council President Richard Cole opened the meeting and overviewed the agenda.

## Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation (PARCC) Plan

Ms. Carolyn Hope, Senior Parks Planner, provided a report to the Mayor and Members of the Council regarding the City's Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture, and Conservation (PARCC) Plan. The presentation addressed the purpose of the Plan – the Washington Recreation and Conservation Office (WRCO) requires jurisdictions that plan to apply for grant funding from the State to submit a capital improvement program and plan every six years. The deadline for the revision of Redmond's Plan is June 15, 2010. The Plan must be adopted prior to that date. Ms. Hope advised that various commissions and groups of community members have been briefed on the draft PARCC Plan and suggestions/comments were solicited through a citywide mailing, press release, and the City's website. A summary of the comments received is as follows:

### Council

- Strengthen the equitable distribution of Parks policy language.
- Ensure that East Lake Sammamish Park is credited, since Redmond technically still owns the property.
- Modify policy language relating to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad to reflect the current status of the project.
- Add a more specific policy or strategy on how to partner with user groups and other jurisdictions.

#### Parks and Trails Commission

- Some members were surprised by the covered arena project being rated high; discussion ensued regarding the high use of the park for equestrians, the opportunity the park provides for those who don't own a horse, and the condition of the facilities at the park.
- The group debated the limitations of trail use by mountain bikers in the watershed.
- The Bear Creek Trail system should be a priority as a regional trail.
- There is support for the proposed development of trails in the Willows neighborhood, including the single-track trails that exist near the Puget Sound Energy easement.

## • Joint Community Advisory Committee and Citizens Workgroup Meeting

- The operational issue of enforcing trail easements should be addressed by the City. The proposed indoor fitness and aquatics center should be located near a future light rail station.
- Consider asking the City of Bellevue to build the indoor fitness and aquatics center on their property east of Marymoor Park.
- Update policy PR-21 to reflect the City's goal of creating multi-purpose fields for new fields in the future and do not limit the use of the fields, since new sports and demands are hard to identify for the future.
- Encourage the City to gain control and ownership of Marymoor Park.
- Consider creating multi-purpose fields that are marked for lacrosse.
- Be more specific about the types of fields that need to be developed in the future and where they will be developed.
- There are concerns with Viewpoint neighbors about traffic at West Lake Sammamish Parkway and NE 51<sup>st</sup> Street.

# • King County

- The County is not interested in transferring Marymoor to Redmond at this time. The park is used to meet county revenue goals and is a great amenity that tax payers can identify with.
- The County parks levy expires in 2012; the County is considering the possibility of another bond measure to rebuild pools in the region.
- The City of Redmond can begin working with Marymoor Park programming staff to determine how to program fields now and what the potential is for other partnerships in the future
- The County would like to partner to develop an indoor tennis facility at Marymoor Park.

# • Planning Commission

- Clarify that the maintenance capital projects list can be paid for from either Operations money or from Capital Improvement Program money.
- When is the City going to be "built out" from a parks perspective? What is the future of our level of service approach? Compare to what other cities are doing that are a step ahead of us in development- how many parks do they have and does it work? Discussed the idea that staff is still exploring ways to change the level of service policy for parks and trails in the next six years that is based more on a use or capacity approach. More data collection is necessary to develop this type of an approach.
- We should count event attendance in the recreation level of service.
- Parks should be incorporated into transit-oriented development.
- Wheeled recreation needs to be addressed in the plan.

- Discussion ensued about the process of developing a bond or park district and the level of support from the community for these proposals. The Commissioners noted the City will need to have the right projects on the list for voters to be willing to support such measures.
- An indoor fitness and aquatics center should also include an ice rink.
- Discussed how a performing arts center would fit into the existing local arts scene and what the initial plans are for such a facility.
- Discussed how the recreation level of service evaluated age distribution and the effects of age on programming in the future.

## Public Meeting

- How much of the citywide CIP budget goes to Parks?
- How would the \$160,000 multitude of projects be funded with so little CIP funding available?
- What is a metropolitan parks district?
- How do you see the funding for the aquatics/fitness center and performing arts center being the same, or different?
- Several recommendations of formalizing existing social trails, including maps showing some possible locations were received.
- A community member was supportive of the environmental education and sustainability initiatives in the Plan.

#### • Public

- Reference the Transportation Master Plan in the introduction of the Trails Chapter to better explain how the two documents are related and where there is some overlap. More explicitly explain which projects on the proposed trail map are transportation projects as opposed to park projects. Explain that bicycle lanes on roads are developed and maintained by transportation.
- Ensure that local trails are inclusive of more technical single-track mountain bike trails that already exist in places like Nike Park.

Ms. Hope advised that during the month of April, staff will prepare the final PARCC Plan and a SEPA checklist. Once the SEPA determination is made, staff will hold a study session and public hearing with the Planning Commission (tentatively scheduled for April 21, 2010) on the proposed policy changes within the PARCC Plan. The Plan will later be brought to the City Council for consideration in May 2010.