

**REDMOND CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION**

March 22, 2011

Mayor

John Marchione

Staff

Carolyn Hope, Parks Senior Planner
Lori Peckol, Planning Policy Manager
Kim Dietz, Senior Planner

Members of the Council

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

INTERVIEWS

Interview of a candidate for the Parks and Trails Commission was conducted at 7:15 p.m. prior to the opening of the Study Session.

STUDY SESSION SUMMARY

Convened: 7:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 9:48 p.m.

Councilmember Cole opened the study session and overviewed the agenda for the evening.

Trolley Study Session

Ms. Carolyn Hope, Parks Senior Planner, with consultants contracted in the process, provided a report to the Mayor and Members of the Council with regards to the feasibility of a trolley system in the Redmond Central Connector Corridor area. She noted that staff is seeking direction from the Council with regards to the study in order to move forward with the preferred final design for the Redmond Central Connector.

Ms. Hope reported that the City of Redmond commissioned a Trolley Feasibility Study as part of the Redmond Central Connector Master Plan. The study was intended to evaluate the feasibility and requirements necessary to operate a trolley on the existing tracks between Downtown Redmond and the Woodinville Winery District. The primary type of service would be tourist-based; however, there was some interest in evaluating local commuter service along the same route due to peak hour traffic congestion on the City's north-south arterials, Willows Road, and the Red-Wood Road (SR202). The limited study provided preliminary information about the regulatory issues, operational and capital needs, market analysis, and financial requirements for trolley service.

A majority of the Members expressed their desire to maintain the tracks in the corridor segment in question, as they currently exist, in order to make future decisions, if and when needed, with regards to rail use.

Neighborhood Commercial Amendments to Comprehensive Plan and Development Guide

Ms. Kimberly Dietz, Senior Planner, provided a report to the Mayor and Members of the Council with regards to proposed Neighborhood Commercial amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Development Guide. She overviewed an Issues Matrix of Council's questions and concerns collected at the February 22, 2011, study session.

Discussion ensued regarding examples of 'materially detrimental' to surrounding uses; how land uses, as they pertain to alcohol sales, would be addressed; identifying a way to have Neighborhood Commercial zoning be neighborhood-initiated and having public discussions through the neighborhood planning process. Members of the Council concurred to leave the existing language proposed, as presented.

Discussion continued as the Council addressed issues related to the proposed amendments.