

Workshop Minutes

Executive Conference Room & Remote Video Conferencing

<https://www.redmondoregon.gov/city-council>

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fitch called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Present: Clifford Evelyn, Ed Fitch, John Nielsen, Kathryn Osborne (left at 3:34 pm), Jay Patrick (left at 4:43 pm), Shannon Wedding, Cat Zwicker

Excused: None

Staff Present: City Manager Keith Witcosky, Deputy City Manager Steve Ashworth, City Attorney Keith Leitz, City Recorder Kelly Morse, Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan, Planning Director Kyle Roberts, Police Chief Devin Lewis, Housing Programs Analyst Linda Cline

Media Present: None

PRESENTATIONS

A. Wildfire Protection Strategies from Redmond Fire

Redmond Fire and Rescue Fire Marshal Tom Mooney, Oregon Department of Forestry Julia Johnson, and Oregon State Fire Marshal's Regional Fire Risk Reduction Specialist Heather Miller provided an in-depth presentation on wildfire preparedness in Redmond and strategies for becoming a fire-adapted community. Key highlights included the fire history and ecology of Central Oregon, fire science, how to prepare and protect structures from fire, and potential policies the City could enact to protect the community.

Questions and comments from the Council centered around City regulation of building materials, the cost and difficulty of home hardening, community education, compliance with homeowner associations (HOAs) on fence materials, developers building more ember-resistant structures, Code Enforcement's involvement in vegetation management, and City coordination with utilities as part of an emergency management plan.

The Council discussed maintaining wider streets for fire safety and access, public perception of government control over private property, potential confusion with certain addresses in the city that could impact emergency response, and the Council's communication with constituents during serious disasters. The Council was supportive of Mr. Mooney and Ms. Miller developing preparedness resources the Council could share and recommended the presenters create a video version of the presentation.

B. Northpoint Check-in

Deputy City Manager Steve Ashworth reported working with the City Attorney to draft a resolution for the Council's consideration in early May regarding the selection of Pahlisch Homes as the recommended single-family residential developer partner for Northpoint. The resolution would allow staff to initiate collaboration on planning, negotiation, and a future development agreement or property sale. No price has been set nor any formal commitment made.

Mr. Ashworth announced the master developer will have a pro forma discussion with the Council on May 19, 2025, at which point an update on RootedHomes' LIFT Grant funding would hopefully be available.

C. Collection System Master Plan and Transportation System Plan Amendment Next Steps

Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan reviewed anticipated system development charge (SDC) fee increases associated with master plans to ensure available resources and revenue match the projects. The Collection System Master Plan and Transportation System Plan Amendments are expected to be adopted this summer. Total SDCs for a single-family dwelling are estimated to increase from approximately \$26,000 to \$30,000 over the next several months.

The Council expressed concern about the economy's potential impact on projects and noted freezing SDCs during the last major economic crisis created long-term issues. Discussion regarded the potential need for a Plan B if the City shifts from a pro-growth to a no-growth footing and the effects of potential cuts to federal funding on City projects and services. It was noted that Redmond is entering the period of economic uncertainty in a better position than peer cities.

City Manager Keith Witcosky confirmed the Council's direction to be cautious and noted Staff is trying to stagger the master plans according to importance.

Mayor Fitch announced the Water Resources Director will attend the April 22, 2025, Water Conservation Summit.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:47 pm.

Prepared by ABC Transcription Services
Reviewed by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 27th day of May 2025.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder