

**Redmond City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes**

June 10, 2025

Council Chambers & Remote Video Conferencing
<https://www.redmondoregon.gov/city-council>

Present: Clifford Evelyn, Ed Fitch, John Nielsen, Kathryn Osborne, Jay Patrick, Cat Zwicker

Excused: Shannon Wedding

Staff Present: City Manager Keith Witcosky, Deputy City Manager Steve Ashworth, City Attorney Keith Leitz, Chief Financial Officer/Deputy City Manager Jason Neff, Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan, City Recorder Kelly Morse, Finance Director James Wood, Network Administrator Christian Armatas, Planning Director Kyle Roberts, Human Resources Director Jason Bavuso, Police Chief Devin Lewis, Economic Development/ Urban Renewal Program Manager Chuck Arnold, Urban Renewal Program Analyst Meghan Gassner, Airport Finance and Analytics Manager Steve Juba, Paralegal Joyce Mumia-Stubbs, Budget Analyst Herlinda Corn, Housing Programs Analyst Linda Cline

Media Present: None

CALL TO ORDER / ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Mayor Fitch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

BLESSING

Pastor John McKay, Grace Bible Church, led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Fitch reported on the Oregon Department of Transportation's (ODOT's) proposed safety project at O'Neil Junction, including a planned median and turn restrictions. The City will submit a letter supporting safety improvements but opposing the proposed southbound lane reduction on Highway 97.

Finance Director James Wood and Cascades East Transit (CET) Director Bob Townsend presented the Federal Section 5310 funding pause that is impacting dial-a-ride services. The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council (COIC)/CET offered to advance two quarters of funding for Central Oregon to avoid service interruption and requested that the City proceed with awarding the contract, with added language to protect the City from financial risk.

Mayor Fitch noted Republic Services had begun billing every two months with no increase in the rate. Councilor Zwicker added that Republic Services will work with customers who are unable to pay the full amount at once.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of April 22, 2025, Council Meeting**
- B. Minutes of May 6, 2025, Council Special Meeting**
- C. Minutes of May 13, 2025, Council Meeting**
- D. Art Acceptance: "The Pincher" by Artist Rodger Squirrell and "Big Bigmouth" by Artist Rick True**
- E. Recognitions**

Mayor Fitch noted recognitions for the month of June include Redmond Manufacturing Day, Flag Day, Juneteenth, Pride Month, Father's Day, National PTSD Awareness Month, and National Homeowners Month.

Councilor Evelyn moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

BID AWARDS/BID REJECTIONS

A. Contract Award for Attorney of Record - Legal Services at Redmond Municipal Airport to Bryant, Lovlien & Jarvis, P.C.: \$253,750

Airport Finance and Analytics Manager Steve Juba requested approval of the Airport Attorney of Record contract and noted two proposals were received. Bryant, Lovlien & Jarvis scored highest in the Evaluation Committee's review.

Mayor Fitch recommended a one-year contract to evaluate in-house capacity.

Councilor Zwicker moved to do the contract for one year with the option to extend into the second while we decide if it is feasible and affordable to have a second attorney. Councilor Patrick seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

B. Contract Award for Air Service Development Consulting Services at Redmond Municipal Airport to Mead & Hunt: \$367,393

Mr. Juba requested approval of a three-year contract in the amount of \$367,393 for air service consulting services with two additional one-year extension options. The Evaluation Committee reviewed the three proposals received and recommended awarding the contract to Mead & Hunt.

Councilor Osborne moved to award the contract for Air Service Development Consulting Services to Mead & Hunt and authorize the City Manager to sign the contract. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Public Hearing and Adoption of the City of Redmond Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget: \$297,746,396

Mayor Fitch opened the public hearing at 6:24 pm.

Chief Financial Officer/Deputy City Manager Jason Neff presented an overview of the budget process, the City's Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget, and two budget resolutions on State Shared Revenues and the adoption of the budget.

Mayor Fitch confirmed there was no public testimony and closed the public hearing at 6:34 pm.

Councilor Nielsen moved to adopt Resolution #2025-07. Councilor Evelyn seconded the motion.

Councilor Patrick commended Staff's budget preparation and, despite concerns with certain items, expressed support for adopting the full budget.

Councilor Osborne commended Budget Committee volunteers as well as Staff's and Council's legislative advocacy to secure funding for local projects.

Councilor Nielsen commended Staff for their conscientious work.

Mayor Fitch noted the size of the budget reflects two major capital projects and commended Council and Staff for their extensive review to ensure funding would not burden taxpayers. Given current economic

uncertainty, financial assumptions were stress-tested to confirm the projects' viability and community benefit.

The motion passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

Councilor Zwicker moved to adopt Resolution #2025-08. Councilor Osborne seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

B. Resolution #2025-11 - A resolution adopting the Community Development Block Grant 2025 Annual Action Plan and an amendment to the 2023 Annual Action Plan, and authorizing the submission of said plans to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Mayor Fitch opened the public hearing on Resolution #2025-11 at 6:34 pm.

Housing Program Analyst Linda Cline requested approval of the 2025 Annual Action Plan and the 2023 Plan Amendment, reviewing the Housing and Community Development Committee's funding recommendations. Redmond's 2025 Community Development Block Grant allocation is approximately \$219,000.

Mayor Fitch confirmed there was no public comment and closed the public hearing at 6:38 pm.

Councilor Nielsen moved to adopt Resolution #2025-11, adopting the Community Development Block Grant 2025 Annual Action Plan and an Amendment to the 2023 Action Plan and authorize the submission of these documents to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Councilor Evelyn seconded the motion, which passed 5 to 1. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Zwicker. Nays: Patrick.)

C. Ordinance #2025-11 - An ordinance amending the 2040 Redmond Comprehensive Plan, adopting the 2025 Central Oregon Regional Economic Opportunities Analysis as a Supporting Plan to the 2040 Redmond Comprehensive Plan.

Mayor Fitch opened the public hearing at 6:39 pm.

Redmond Economic Development, Inc. Director Steve Curley requested approval of Ordinance # 2025-11 to amend the Comprehensive Plan to update the Regional Economic Opportunities Analysis under Goal 9. He provided an overview of the Regional Large Lot Industrial Program.

Mayor Fitch confirmed there was no public comment and closed the public hearing at 6:47 pm.

Councilor Osborne moved to have a First and Second Reading of Ordinance #2025-11 by title only. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

City Attorney Keith Leitz provided the First and Second Reading of Ordinance #2025-11 by title only.

Councilor Osborne moved to adopt Ordinance #2025-11. Councilor Zwicker seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker.

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 6 to 0.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Safe Parking - An increase in allowable shelter vehicle spaces on City-owned property

Ms. Cline requested approval to increase the number of shelter vehicles from six to eight at the City-owned properties at 1949 S Highway 97. She noted input from two neighbors indicated no concerns with the increase.

Councilor Zwicker moved to authorize an increase in the allowable number of shelter vehicles from six to eight used in the Safe Parking Program located on City-owned properties at 1949 S Highway 97. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

B. Resolution #2025-10 - A resolution of the City of Redmond, Oregon authorizing the execution and delivery of multiple amendments to Clean Water State Revolving Fund Loan Agreement Number R76074 in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$81,250,000 to finance the design and construction of a Wastewater Treatment Plant; authorizing such other agreements, certificates and documents as may be necessary and appropriate to carry out such transaction; designating an authorized representative; delegating responsibilities; and related matters

Budget Analyst Herlinda Corn requested approval of a loan resolution to convert the Redmond Wetlands Complex design loan into a construction loan. She reviewed key steps, the \$88.8 million project cost breakdown and funding, Department of Environmental Quality loan terms, and financial feasibility.

Councilor Zwicker moved to adopt Resolution #2025-10. Councilor Evelyn seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

C. Central Electric Cooperative Material Deposit for Northpoint Vista Project: \$376,359

Deputy City Manager Steve Ashworth requested approval of a payment to Central Electric Cooperative for the materials deposit for the Northpoint project's backbone electrical infrastructure.

Mr. Neff added a budget adjustment request to fund the deposit until future reimbursement will be presented to Council on June 24, 2025.

Councilor Nielsen moved to approve a deposit of \$376,359 to Central Electric Cooperative for the backbone electrical infrastructure materials for the Northpoint Mixed-Income Neighborhood Project. Councilor Evelyn seconded the motion, which passed 6 to 0. (Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Patrick, Zwicker. Nays: None.)

Mayor Fitch reconvened the meeting after a break from 7:05 pm to 7:12 pm.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

A. Written Testimony from Marty Sharp

Mayor Fitch noted prior discussions regarding general access the southwest part of Redmond, adding he has confirmed an application is under review by the Planning Department to extend Yew Avenue to Helmholtz Way.

- Resident Jill Engle displayed a map and spoke about emergency egress concerns in the Redtail Ridge Subdivision area. Photos of current fire exits had been submitted to the Council. She noted 96 signatures in support and urged the Council to unlock fire gates, remove boulders, and clear debris from exit paths.

Mayor Fitch confirmed the Council will speak with Redmond Fire and Rescue about the gate locks and possible next steps the City could take.

- Resident Deborah Read-Ostner urged immediate planning for egress routes in Redtail Ridge and nearby neighborhoods, noting fire-related impacts on insurance, and advocating for green space, play areas, dog facilities, and a consistent planning vision. She added that the increasing number of

neighborhoods has made the area's layout confusing and that Global Positioning System's can be unreliable.

Councilor Nielsen noted prior discussions with emergency service providers, emphasized real-time disaster response over comprehensive pre-planning, and stated that Council shares residents' concerns.

- Resident Marti Sharp expressed concerns about development and evacuation routes in Redtail Ridge, noting only two current exits, one shared with six other developments. She urged immediate mitigation and submitted a map of four low- to no-cost evacuation alternatives.
- Resident Vicki Harrington referenced lessons from recent national fires, emphasizing the need for improved egress routes, wider streets, and better evacuation planning due to limited time during disasters. She highlighted the lack of adequate planning in the Redtail Ridge area.
- Resident Caroline Siegmann expressed concerns about daily access challenges and blocked fire exits in Redtail Ridge. She noted proposed bike paths on both sides of SW 43rd Street combined with parking restrictions could further limit access for emergency services, garbage collection, and residents, including disabled and elderly individuals. She urged the Council to pause plans until solutions are found.

Mayor Fitch stated the bike path project will be paused pending review of all public comments.

- Resident Adrian Siegmann highlighted access difficulties in Redtail Ridge, noting that driveways are too small to accommodate anything larger than compact cars, creating unsafe conditions.
- Resident Sandy Dye emphasized the importance of dog parks for community and senior socialization. She expressed concern about foxtail and cheatgrass infestations at the Dry Canyon Dog Park, noting that early spring maintenance did not address the issue and patrons fear for their dogs' safety.

Mayor Fitch stated the matter will be discussed with the Parks Department tomorrow.

- Resident Marty Nelson urged the Council to address fire safety concerns related to emergency egress, identifying residents with health issues, fire gate access, communication about changes made by the City, and parking in front of fire gates.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Witcosky noted the SW 43rd bike paths discussion will take place at the Council meeting on June 24, 2025, and commended the swift repair of the sinkhole near the Airport caused by the Euston Fire. Upcoming events include the Public Safety Facility ribbon cutting in August, and groundbreakings for the Airport Terminal Expansion and Northpoint projects in June and July, respectively. Fireworks safety information is available on the City and Redmond Fire and Rescue websites. The City will advocate for a four-way signal at SW 35th Street/Highland Avenue at the June 12, 2025 safety hearing in Salem.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Nielsen thanked attendees for sharing their concerns and affirmed the Council's commitment to ensuring peace of mind for the community.

Councilor Osborne thanked Redmond's educators, congratulated graduates, commended those involved in community firewise education, and expressed appreciation for the contract wildland firefighters deployed to Canada and their families.

Councilor Evelyn thanked attendees for their participation and appreciated their comments. The Council will address the concerns raised.

Councilor Zwicker expressed appreciation for engaged community members and encouraged participation in programs to become a firewise community. She thanked the providers who responded to the Euston Fire. Additionally, she reported an approximate 20 percent funding loss for NeighborImpact, impacting food access for 20,000 people, and urged support for neighbors experiencing food insecurity.

Councilor Patrick thanked attendees for raising concerns such as locked fire gates and obstructed egress paths. He noted staff is working to resolve issues related to homeless camping near Lowe's and a van on Salmon Avenue, and thanked staff for their continued efforts.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Fitch stated the Council will soon review potential solutions to traffic concerns raised by Redtail Ridge residents. He noted increased enforcement against illegal fireworks due to fire danger and their impact on individuals with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and animals. He encouraged the public to report violations.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

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

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 22nd day of July 2025.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kayla Duddy
Kayla Duddy, Deputy City Recorder