

**Redmond City Council
Workshop Minutes**

April 20, 2026

Executive Conference Room & Remote Video Conferencing

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

Present: Clifford Evelyn, John Nielsen, Jay Patrick, Shannon Wedding, Cat Zwicker

Excused: Ed Fitch, Kathryn Osborne

Staff Present: City Manager Keith Witcosky; Deputy City Recorder Kayla Duddy; City Attorney Keith Leitz; Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff; Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan; Communications Director Heather Cassaro; Finance Director James Wood; Police Chief Devin Lewis; Planning Director Kyle Roberts; Human Resources Director Jason Bavuso; Housing Programs Analyst Linda Cline; Billing & Collection Manager Valerie Taylor

Media Present: Ian Haupt, Redmond Spokesman

CALL TO ORDER

Councilor President Wedding called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Status of Cascades East Transit Fixed-Routes in Redmond

Cascade East Transit (CET) Transit Director Bob Townsend provided an update on CET fixed-route services, covering core service ridership data, fare re-implementation impacts, monthly ridership, and cost-per-ride data for the City's two Flex Routes and Dial-a-Ride services. He noted significant ridership declines following fare implementation and that current Flex Route operating costs were not sustainable and outlined service options to address the challenges. He recommended maintaining both routes in an alternating format while conducting additional outreach and rider surveys before returning with a recommendation by January.

Councilors suggested extending routes and bus service hours to better serve the workforce and affordable housing residents, exploring employer or institutional bus rental for commuter transport, and improving public awareness and marketing of transit services. Additional discussion included prioritizing higher-capacity transit service over Dial-a-Ride and concerns that Dial-a-Ride may be underutilized due to perceptions that it is only for ailing users.

Councilors requested a breakdown of CET funding and City costs, ridership data from Bend with expanded route times, and detailed transit data tracking riders transferring from Redmond to Bend.

Councilors expressed support for expanded coverage to additional neighborhoods, including the Redmond Area Park and District Recreation Center and cautioned against service reductions given projected population growth and rising fuel costs.

B. Status of Microshelters at Safe Parking Sites

Housing Programs Analyst Linda Cline provided an update on the one-year microshelter pilot program, which expires on May 26, 2026, and requires Council action.

Councilors expressed concern that the program is operating on private property without being tested on public property and requested that staff evaluate costs to add power at one City location to test the program in a public setting. They noted that program expansion without identified funding would not be feasible and raised concern about the transition from safe parking to ADA-compliant housing.

The Council requested a breakdown of participants in vehicles versus microshelters to assess movement through the housing continuum, cautioning that the program may become long-term, low-income housing on City land if participants do not transition.

The Council supports the City's provision of power infrastructure but not ongoing service connections and encouraged continuing private partnerships if funding for expansion is limited. Council requested feedback on program performance, including experience and responses from the Fuel Safe microshelter.

C. Tiered Rate Water Discussion Continued

City Manager Keith Witcosky provided an update on the water usage tiered rate system, noting that staff completed analysis overlaying the system onto homes as requested. The information would be sent to the Council, and the topic will return in about two weeks.

The Council requested an early discussion before any decisions are made and cautioned that the system could be perceived as "taxing the rich to pay for the poor," urging clear messaging on the proposal.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Prepared by ABC Transcription Services, Inc.
Reviewed by Kayla Duddy, Deputy City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 14th day of July 2026.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kayla Duddy
Kayla Duddy, Deputy City Recorder