

## **Memorandum**

**To:** Planning Commission

**From:** Lori Peckol, AICP, Policy Planning Manager, 425-556-2411, lpeckol@redmond.gov  
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**Date:** December 9, 2015

**Subject:** **Cultural Resource Management Plan**

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### **MEETING PURPOSE**

- Describe the purpose and background of the Cultural Resource Management Plan development process,
- Learn Commissioners initial questions and interests. Commission review of recommended amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code is anticipated during the second quarter 2017, and
- Seek Commission input regarding periodic check-ins.

### **INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

In 2013, phase 1 of the Bear Creek Rehabilitation project was constructed. The purpose of this City capital project was to rehabilitate the lower, channelized part of Bear Creek starting at the Sammamish River and going upstream on Bear Creek to the Bear Creek enhancement work previously completed. The project construction scope included recovery of archaeological artifacts in accordance with permit conditions. During construction, there was some inadvertent damage to the resource area by the construction contractor and archaeological contractor, which was determined to be a permit violation.

The resolution of mitigation due to this is described in an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement for the Bear Creek Rehabilitation Project, which City Council approved in August 2014. This Agreement requires the City to use the services of a qualified archaeological consultant to prepare Redmond's first Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) within 3 years of the agreement. Generally, the purpose of a Cultural Resource Management Plan is to help organizations ensure compliance with federal, state, and local laws and regulations that govern and provide guidance for good stewardship in protecting and managing cultural resources.

During the past few months, staff worked with a team that included representatives from the Tribes, King County Historic Preservation and the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) to develop the request for proposals for consultant services for

development of the CRMP. The team is currently in the selection process and City Council award of the contract is expected in January 2016.

Redmond's Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code include policies and code regarding cultural resources. The Cultural Resource Management Plan will not be a functional plan though the scope for developing this plan includes development of recommended updates to the Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Code. For this reason, staff would like to provide an overview on this topic and seek any initial Commission questions and input.

### **Existing Policy, Code and Administrative Context**

Cultural resources include archaeological and historic sites, buildings, structures, districts, and objects that are associated with or representative of peoples, cultures, and human activities and events in the past. These can range in age from prehistoric sites through the 1970s. Examples of cultural resources are petroglyphs, burial grounds, and buildings, resources such as spiritual sites and shell middens from the pre-contact period, and garbage dumps from the historic period.

The Comprehensive Plan includes goals and policies regarding both the archaeological and the historical context of cultural resources. These are found in the Goals, Vision, and Framework; Community Character & Historic Preservation; and Natural Environment Elements. The Zoning Code includes specific regulations in the following sections: the Redmond's Heritage Resource Register, Certificate of Appropriateness, Archaeological Resources, and SEPA.

In general, staff currently plans for and responds to cultural resources through project-based on-call agreements for archaeological services. For public capital projects involving federal funding, staff coordinates site-specific response to Section 106 (per the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966) and NEPA, requiring preservation of important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of national heritage.

Private projects planned for new or re-development in high probability or high risk areas include the same type of response, provided to the City, Tribes, County, and State using SEPA and project-based cultural resource management plans. Plans include specific actions regarding inadvertent discoveries and occasionally, commitment to monitoring of ground-disturbing activities by on-site archaeologists.

### **Purpose of a Cultural Resource Management Plan**

The primary purpose of the Cultural Resource Management Plan is to guide the City in the following areas:

- Identifying sites with a high probability of cultural resources being present. The City will use existing materials, WA Dept. of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (DAHP) data, King County Historic Preservation (KCHP) data, and any additional information provided by the Muckleshoot, Snoqualmie, Stillaguamish, and Tulalip Tribes to identify these sites;
- Documenting known resource locations and inventorying for additional high probability or high risk locations;
- Developing protocols for further identifying, investigating, and treating cultural resources, including how to address high probability or high risk areas;

- Designing implementation and assessment procedures that help ensure data security;
- Establishing protocols for coordinating cultural resource review between City departments;
- Designing and implementing a cultural resource training plan and schedule for Redmond employees;
- Administering procedures to improve existing tribal consultation protocols;
- Developing and implementing Inadvertent Discovery Procedures, including provisions for the discovery of human remains;
- Providing emergency response protocols; and
- Monitoring protocols.

The Plan will relate to a variety of City functions and therefore, the project team includes staff from all appropriate functional areas within Planning, Parks, and Public Works. This team will work collaboratively with key project partners from the Tribes, KCHP, ACOE, WSDOT and DAHP.

Additionally, the Plan's stakeholders will involve people likely to have significant interaction with the development and/or the implementation of the Plan. These include and are not limited to the following:

- Southeast Redmond property owners along Bear & Evans Creek
- Property owners of undisturbed or parcels of significance
- Developers
- Other Tribal representatives
- Redmond Historical Society
- Redmond Town Center
- WSDOT
- Sound Transit
- Marymoor Park
- Green Redmond and other organizations involved with parks, open space, and critical areas
- Burke Museum
- Corp of Engineers

Among the anticipated opportunities and considerations as a result of developing the Cultural Resource Management Plan are:

- Increased awareness of cultural resource presence and associated requirements;
- Opportunity for enhanced level of predictability regarding high probability or high risk areas and inadvertent discovery planning;
- Streamlined efficiencies for project planning and development in low risk areas;
- Coordinated, proactive administration; and
- Clear and concise protocols for staff, property owners, and developers.

### **NEXT STEPS**

Following the City Council's approval of the consultant contract in January, the Plan will be developed over the course of 2016 and will include staff training, proactive guidance for planning and reviewing public and private development, several community engagement events, and process recommendations for enhancing communication and collaboration with Tribes.

Work with team members, stakeholders, and the consultant will lead to recommended amendments to policies, codes, and functional plans. During the Plan's development, staff proposes periodic check-ins with the Commission, particularly on concepts for policy and code updates. Staff anticipates the Planning Commission's review of proposed policy and code amendments in mid-2017. Amendments to other functional plans would likely occur subsequent to this process.

Please contact Kimberly Dietz, [425-556-2415](tel:425-556-2415)/[kdietz@redmond.gov](mailto:kdietz@redmond.gov) prior to the meeting if there are questions or concerns.