

Memorandum

To: Planning Commission

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Date: January 13, 2016

Subject: 2016 Park, Arts, Recreation, Conservation and Culture (PARCC) Plan
Commission input on policy updates.

BACKGROUND AND STUDY SESSION PURPOSE

The City is updating the Park, Arts, Recreation, Conservation and Culture (PARCC) Plan, which will be adopted as an amendment to the Redmond Comprehensive Plan. Components of the plan update have been brought to Planning Commission study sessions for review as follows:

1. July 22, 2015 – Public involvement and overall plan update schedule
2. September 30, 2015 – Initial consult on modifications to the levels of service (LOS) standards specific to parks and trails
3. November 18, 2015 – Draft resource park & recreation LOS and CIP ranking criteria

Chapter 10 of the Redmond Comprehensive Plan (Exhibit A) contains the policies for Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture and Conservation (PARCC) that direct all related activities in Redmond. The PARCC Plan is the document that outlines the implementation of those policies. As part of the 2016 update of the PARCC Plan, current policies will be reviewed by staff and commissions for recommendations on changes and additions.

For the January 13, 2016 study session, staff is seeking feedback on concepts for policy updates to Chapter 10 of the Comprehensive Plan. A draft of the proposed policy changes includes new subsections for Conservation, Cultural Arts and Maintenance & Operations. Reorganization of plan chapters is proposed that will involve corresponding policies to be relocated to new sections. Policies related to level of service will be recommended to reflect the new methodologies that have been proposed. In addition to these changes, several clarifications and some consolidations are proposed. A PowerPoint presentation of these changes is attached as Exhibit B.

The proposals that will be presented to the Planning Commission have been discussed with the Parks and Trails Commission and the Arts and Culture Commission. A summary of major ideas to date can be seen in the section below. The material provided to the Planning Commission will reflect these ideas.

PREPARATION FOR THE JANUARY 13th STUDY SESSION

Staff asks that Planning Commission review the attached presentation. Staff is seeking feedback particularly on any gaps or areas of concern regarding the policy concepts. Formal review of the

Technical Committee recommended updates to the policies and the rest of the PARCC Plan by the Planning Commission will begin in April or May 2016, including study sessions and public hearing.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR IDEAS TO DATE

Parks & Trails Commission (PTC) Meeting Summary (Dec. 7, 2015):

During this discussion of policy updates, Commissioners shared the following guidance and suggestions:

- A. Parks, Arts, Recreation, Culture and Conservation System: Commissioners made suggestions for language that speaks to the diversity of Redmond's community, and to provide opportunities to improve personal health and community connections.
- B. Coordination and Communication: Commissioners supported more emphasis on coordinating with other public and private organizations, and involving more community volunteers.
- C. Conservation: Commissioners supported a new policy to help increase tree canopy coverage in natural areas within parks.

Arts & Culture Commission (ACC) Meeting Summary (Dec. 10, 2015):

Note that the Commissioners' discussion at this meeting focused on proposed policies for the new Arts section of the policy chapter. Commissioners shared the following guidance and suggestions:

- A. Focus initial policy on how arts and culture contribute to the vitality of the city.
- B. Encourage investment in local artists and nonprofit organizations.

REVIEW SCHEDULE

Follow up study sessions with the Planning Commission on this and other components of the PARCC Plan are scheduled for the following dates:

- Spring/Summer 2016: Official review and adoption process of the PARCC Plan Update

ENCLOSURES

- Exhibit A: Comprehensive Plan Chapter 10
- Exhibit B: PowerPoint presentation – PARCC Proposed Policy Updates