



REDMOND

Transportation System Plan

Date: December 11, 2017

To: Project Management Team

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Subject: Final Public Involvement Plan

INTRODUCTION

The current City of Redmond Transportation System Plan (TSP) was adopted in 2008. This project will update the current TSP to reflect changes that have occurred since 2008 and provide a transportation plan to meet the needs of the City for the next 20 years.

The focus on this TSP update will be to achieve the following outcomes:

- Adopt an updated TSP that provides for a safe, efficient, multi-modal transportation network, based on the needs of existing and future land uses;
- Provide a data driven safety plan that focuses on reducing or eliminating fatal and serious injury crashes;
- Improve circulation and connectivity through the City for all modes;
- Provide parallel routes to support the long-term function of highways and major roadways, particularly in the South Redmond corridor;
- Identify short and long-term transportation solutions that support economic development and redevelopment including Transportation System Management and Operations (TSMO);
- Evaluate the potential transportation needs to support economic development including industrial, mixed use and business districts, and identify solutions that will support the development of these sites;
- Determine the appropriate means for managing the state highways and major arterials to meet both local access and through traffic needs as well as improving safety and mobility for all users (auto, transit, bicyclists, pedestrians and motor carriers);
- Evaluate intermodal safety and access for all types of users;

- Consider the needs of disadvantaged travelers in assessing both transportation needs and solutions;
- Review recent changes to the Transportation Planning Rule (TPR) and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) related to access management and alternative mobility standards to identify potential opportunities to employ the use of alternative/local standards;
- Integrate concurrent, parallel planning efforts related to the US 97 Redmond South Corridor and the Downtown Transportation Plan into the TSP; and
- Develop TSP implementation policies which support a safe, convenient, and economical transportation system.

COORDINATION ACROSS TRANSPORTATION PROJECT TEAMS

Community engagement will be an essential component the TSP Update's success. The City of Redmond is currently conducting a number of transportation and livability projects that will help to shape the future vision and economic prosperity of the community. To better serve the community and increase the value of the input provided, the City, ODOT and the consultant teams working on the various planning efforts will work in partnership on the various community engagement efforts and share information received on individual projects. To this end, we recommend that:

- the City maximize public engagement efforts by centralizing information about each project on a City of Redmond planning projects web page and;
- the individual project teams encourage community input on all of the projects underway, work together on public engagement efforts, and share such input across project teams.

KEY PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT MESSAGES

The TSP Update is an important project for the community of Redmond. As the project team engages the community, consistent messaging will be important for community comprehension and the success of the project. Key messages include:

- The TSP Update will plot a course for the transportation system needed to support continued economic prosperity in the community for the **next 20 years**.
- Transportation planning **focuses on the safety and mobility of all users** from community members' ability to easily access schools, shopping, parks, and medical facilities to the needs of commercial and industrial users to safely and efficiently transporting goods to and from Redmond.

- The **last TSP Update was completed in 2008**. Since that time Redmond and the surrounding area has changed and grown substantially and a TSP Update is needed to support these changes.
- A **number of transportation and livability projects are underway** to enhance and improve the community of Redmond. The City and its project teams will collaborate to share information about how the TSP Update complement and relies upon other efforts. Examples of these efforts include the Redmond Neighborhood Revitalization Project, Airport Master Plan Update, and the US 97 South Corridor Project. Community members are invited to share their input with any of the project teams who will in turn work to share such input across project teams.
- The community will have a **number of opportunities to share their experiences, ideas, and concerns** as well as weigh in on project alternatives. Public input is invited via the project website, attendance at advisory committee meetings, participation in public open houses, and direct communication with the project team.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT GOALS

The City of Redmond seeks a community-supported TSP Update that meets the needs of its residents and supports continued economic growth. Stakeholder engagement will be central to understanding local needs and expectations. The goals of the public involvement plan include the following:

- Inform the community about the project and foster the exchange of ideas;
- Document community interests, ideas, and concerns;
- Involve affected or interested stakeholders in the development and evaluation of alternatives considered;
- Maximize public engagement effectiveness by sharing public input received in this project with other transportation projects underway in the City and, when feasible, coordinate with other project teams on public engagement events; and
- Develop a community-supported Transportation System Plan that will enhance the vitality of Redmond and the surrounding area.

KEY AUDIENCES

City of Redmond

The Consultant Team will be directed by selected **City staff, working in collaboration with ODOT and Deschutes County staff**. The **Redmond City Council** has ultimate decision-making authority on the adoption of a TSP Update for the City.

Project Management Team

The PMT will provide the day-to-day guidance for the consultant team. The PMT includes two City staff members, one ODOT staff, and one Deschutes County staff. Each member of the PMT is responsible for engaging other staff from his/her agency at appropriate times throughout the project to solicit input/review on deliverables, technical analyses and feasibility of solutions being considered.

Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Deschutes County

ODOT and Deschutes County will be key partners in the project. The project team will plan and incorporate ODOT and Deschutes County feedback and needs into the effort and work with these agencies on the findings and outcomes of the TSP Update process. Re

Technical and Public Advisory Committee (TAC and PAC)

Public engagement will be an important component of the success of the project. The technical and public advisory committee will comprise a cross section of stakeholders, appointed by the City Council, and tasked with advising the project team. This group will be relied on to represent the public interest in the analyses of community needs and the development and identification of preferred alternatives. In general, the technical advisory committee is comprised of representative agency stakeholders while the public advisory committee is comprised of representative community members.

Redmond Community

The project team seeks engagement from stakeholders and interested parties in meaningful ways throughout the project. With an eye on engaging communities affected by the outcomes of the project, the project will specifically target the following groups for their participation:

- **Community members** and the general public across the project area.
- **Community organizations** including non-profit organizations, youth organizations, and organizations representing older adults and people with disabilities, as well as culturally-specific organizations.
- **Economic development partners** such as the Redmond Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development for Central Oregon, Redmond Economic Development, Inc., and the local business community.
- **Property owners and renters** in the City and surrounding area.
- **Local representatives and other government partners** including the Redmond City Council, Redmond Planning Commission, fire department, local law enforcement, Department of State Lanes, Deschutes County representatives, and Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council.

- **Transportation partners** including Cascades East Transit, bicycle and pedestrian advocates (Deschutes Count Bicycle and Pedestrian Committee, and regional freight industry representatives).
- **Educational, recreational, and health partners** including the Redmond School District, Central Oregon Community College, Redmond Area Park & Recreation District, St. Charles Health System, and Deschutes County Health Services.
- **Local news** media outlets.

Equity

Appendix A presents an overview of Redmond’s demographics and identifies concentrations of low-income, minority, and limited-English proficient residents. The analysis of demographics will be used to refine the public involvement program (PI program) as needed. However, regardless of concentration, members of all of these groups will be invited to participate in the planning process and accommodations will be made (e.g. translation services as provided by the City of Redmond) to encourage their participation. The project will also compile a Title VI report at the end of the project. This report will compile all Title VI activities, document project process and outreach for all low income, race, gender, and age groups.

To engage these traditionally underrepresented communities, the project team will employ the following strategies:

- **Advisory Committee meetings:** The advisory committee includes interested citizens, property and business owners and groups. The PAC also includes groups that advocate for, or serve as networking places for, these traditionally under-served communities. All PAC meetings are open to the public.
- **Community workshops and events:** As possible, the team will identify partner organizations that can co-host or promote open house events to traditionally underserved communities. Demographic information (anonymously) will be collected at all public events to be added to the final report and for City’s use for Title VI reporting requirements.
- **Articles in local papers:** The City will distribute short media releases or articles will be written at key milestones and sent to local media outlets. City staff will also conduct interviews with media outlets to increase the likelihood of an article running in the paper or on the radio. These outlets reach a wide audience.
- **Translation, special accommodations, and graphics:** translation services and other special accommodations will be provided at all meetings upon request (provided through City or partner agencies). All public materials will be presented in “easy to understand” language with “jargon” words removed or fully explained. Graphics will also be used to convey information, as a way to reduce the need to translate materials and to accommodate multiple learning styles.

DECISION MAKING

As noted, the Redmond City Council holds ultimate decision-making authority on the adoption of an updated TSP. The Council will work with the Redmond Planning Commission, the Oregon Department of Transportation, the community, and other partners throughout this process.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROCESS

Coordination with Other Transportation and Livability Projects

As noted, the City has a number of transportation and livability projects underway. Coordinating the public involvement efforts of these various projects will contribute to effective community engagement. For community members, it may be helpful for the project team, and other transportation project teams working in Redmond currently, to adopt a “one-stop shopping” approach when interacting with the public. In other words, community members should feel welcome to share their input with the TSP Update project team about any transportation-related project underway in Redmond and feel confident that information will be shared with the appropriate project team.

Where possible, it will be valuable to plan public involvement meetings that incorporate the findings and analysis of other projects from the US 97 South Corridor Project, the Redmond Neighborhood Revitalization Project, the Downtown Transportation Plan, and any other relevant projects.

The city will provide a central location on its website for quick access to all transportation projects’ web pages.

Website

The consultant team will develop and maintain a project website that will serve to provide a project overview, key input opportunities for the community, project materials and meeting notes, community meetings information, and an on-line mapping tool that allows the public to provide input and pinpoint issues, ideas, and comments directly on a map of the Project Area.

The project team will include links to other transportation projects underway, as well as websites of the City and ODOT, and updates on other ongoing projects at the TSP Update project website.

Stakeholder Interviews

The project team will work with the City of Redmond to identify key stakeholders to interview in the early stages of the TSP update. These interviews are intended to help the TSP update process understand and learn about key transportation issues and opportunities from the perspective of different groups, sectors, and communities. City and consultant staff will conduct the interviews.

Community Open Houses

While the larger community will be encouraged to be involved throughout the process, two community open houses will serve to solicit important direct community input early in the process and then again when alternatives are developed.

Open House #1: Existing and Future Transportation Needs

The first Community Open House will take place in late fall/early winter 2017 to provide the community with information about the project, including existing and future transportation conditions data. Emphasis will be placed on why and how transportation planning impacts the daily lives of community members. Community members will be asked to share their experiences living and working in Redmond, as they pertain to their transportation needs in Redmond and the surrounding area. Community input will help to shape the process as it moves forward.

During this Open House, the US 97 South Corridor Project and Redmond Neighborhood Revitalization Project teams may be asked to present information about those projects, including how they relate to the TSP Update. US 97 South Corridor Project team leads may also be asked to have a table or display at the event to inform community members about that project and ways for the community to become involved. The TSP Update team will also come prepared to answer basic questions about these other projects and how community members can contribute.

Open House #2: TSP Alternatives

The second Community Open House will take place in early 2018 and will focus on sharing project alternatives from the TSP Update. The project team may elect to conduct a shared open house event with the US 97 South Corridor Project, which may also be ready to share project alternatives at this date. Such partnerships are likely to garner increased community participation, as well as enhanced community understanding of the various transportation projects underway and how they are interconnected and vital to the continued success of Redmond.

Group Presentations (City staff to conduct as needed)

Community engagement is enhanced when project leaders seek out involved and affected parties. Agency staff is encouraged to seek out community groups, especially those who do not traditionally engage in community projects or public meetings on their transportation needs. Informal presentations and discussions with community groups are likely to be effective in gathering community input. In addition, many of the groups listed below can help inform the project team on the best ways to engage their membership, perhaps by attending an already existing meeting, providing articles or data for a group's newsletter or website, or meeting specifically with members to update them and solicit input.

The following groups, while not exhaustive, are recommended for direct engagement:

- Redmond Chamber of Commerce
- Economic Development for Central Oregon (EDCO)
- Redmond Economic Development, Inc. (REDI)
- St. Charles Redmond
- Redmond School District (and Parent Teacher Associations)
- Redmond neighborhood groups and homeowners' associations
- Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC)
- Latino Community Association of Central Oregon
- Central Oregon Council on Aging (COCOA)
- Central Oregon Veterans Outreach
- Central Oregon Visitors Association (COVA)
- Redmond Library
- Freight and rail trade groups

OUTREACH

The City of Redmond is adept at community outreach. In addition to soliciting input from the groups named above for their advice on reaching their membership, the project team will share information with media outlets, community newsletters, and an interested parties list at key milestones and before community events. In addition, a social media campaign that involves regular updates and information sharing via the City's social media platforms, as well as those of the members of the advisory committees, will contribute to community awareness and participation in the project.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT TIMELINE

A public open house to discuss existing conditions and future needs will be held in early February 2018. This open house will be a joint effort with the South Redmond Corridor Study. A second open house to discuss the Draft Transportation System Plan will be held in late Summer 2018.

ONGOING PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT EVALUATION

The PMT will regularly discuss and debrief ongoing community involvement efforts and seek feedback from City staff, advisory committee members, and the community-at-large. Responses from questionnaires or surveys from participants at in-person and online will be compiled and utilized to refine public engagement.