

City of Redmond Planning Commission

**January 15, 2014 Meeting Summary
Redmond City Hall – Council Chambers
15670 NE 85th Street, Redmond, Washington**

Planning Commissioners in Attendance:

Franz Wiechers-Gregory, Chair; Vibhas Chandorkar, Vice Chair; Scott Biethan, Eric Murray, Robert O'Hara

Planning Commissioners Excused:

Phil Miller, Sheri Sanders

Staff in Attendance:

Jon Spangler, Manager, Natural Resources Division; Andy Rheume, Senior Planner, Natural Resources; Sarah Stiteler, Senior Planner

1. Call to Order:

Chair Wiechers-Gregory called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda was approved unanimously without changes.

3. Items from the audience:

No items were presented.

4. Approval of meeting minutes, December 4, 2013:

The minutes were approved unanimously without changes.

5. Approval of meeting summary, December 10, 2013:

The summary for the special meeting on 12/10/13 was approved without changes by a unanimous vote.

6. Briefing, Water Resources Strategic Plan.

Mr. Spangler introduced the topic, stating that the purpose of this strategic planning effort is to better define and communicate the City's approach to water resources protection. He stated that the areas covered by the Plan include Groundwater, Surface Water and Stormwater. Mr. Spangler outlined three overall goals of the Plan as:

1. Sustain the ground water resources as a supply for drinking water and stream base flows.
2. Manage stormwater runoff to protect people, property and the environment, and
3. Ensure the quality of surface waters and associated buffers to support thriving salmon and wildlife populations and provide recreational opportunities and beautiful natural areas.

The Water Resources Strategic Plan also describes objectives, strategies and tactics that will help to identify future implementation actions. Commissioner Murray asked if there had been a

risk assessment done in terms of consequences if the City does not adhere to the goals of the Plan. Mr. Spangler responded that one way of illustrating that was if there was a significant loss of water quality or quantity in the City's wells. If the City lost its wells, we would need to buy into the supply of the Cascade Water Alliance at a huge expense. Commissioner Chandorkar asked how community stewardship of water resources could occur. Mr. Spangler noted that basic awareness of the resource and simple changes in behavior was a good start, such as washing your car on the lawn instead of in the driveway so that water runoff could be filtered. In addition, not dumping oil or other household items into catch basins and participating in planting events were other examples of how people could become involved in protecting the resource. He stated further that if people take ownership of the resource there are larger, multiple benefits for the community.

For next steps, Mr. Spangler will continue to provide briefings to selected staff groups as well as external stakeholders this spring. He anticipates City Council approval of the Plan in mid-2014.

7. Briefing, Watershed Management Plan.

Mr. Rheume gave an overview of the City's Watershed Management Plan, describing it as a holistic strategy and work plan that addresses the source of a water body's problems. The primary components of the Plan include the following:

- Extensive data collection and analysis
- Prioritize where to focus investment
- Implementation strategy
- Performance measurement and adaptive management

City Council adopted the Plan on December 3, 2013. The next activities will be the Tosh Creek retrofit and other implementation tools development.

8. Reports/Scheduling/Topics for Next Meeting

Commissioner Biethan reported on the Southeast Redmond Neighborhood tour led by Jeff Churchill and Kimberly Dietz in the Planning Department on Tuesday, January 14, 2013. Mr. Biethan stated that the tour was very helpful and that Jeff and Kim did a great job of coordinating and leading it.

9. Adjourn

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Summary prepared by:

Sarah Stiteler, Senior Planner / Planning Commission Staff Liaison