

CITY OF REDMOND
BEAR CREEK CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING SUMMARY
April 22, 2010 – Redmond City Hall

NOTE: This summary is not a full transcription of the meeting.

CAC MEMBERS PRESENT: Murillo, J. Thompson, S. Thompson

STAFF PRESENT: Jeff Churchill, Senior Planner

The Bear Creek Citizen Advisory Committee is appointed by the Mayor to advise vision, policy, and regulatory updates during the course of the Bear Creek neighborhood plan update.

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Thompson convened the meeting at 4:35pm.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION ON NEIGHBORHOOD COMMERCIAL

Kimberly Dietz, Senior Planner, shared her research into what can make neighborhood commercial uses successful in Redmond. Among her findings are that businesses rely on car trips and adequate parking. There needs to be parking for customers, employees, and for special events. Some stay open late with music and young people congregate outside.

For bicyclists and pedestrians, businesses need seating, bicycle racks, and perhaps special signage to draw people in who are traveling on foot or bicycle. Signs in general are a must-have, and the more conspicuous the better from the point of view of a business owner.

Business owners tend to prefer locations near parks if they are in a low density area. They need a place that attracts people. If it is a bakery or café, it would need wholesale or corporate clients to survive.

Size is not a primary issue. One acre is probably enough. The importance of hours depends on the type of business. Some have early morning deliveries, some have deliveries late at night.

Landscaping is not a primary issue. Gathering places could be created at any neighborhood business except an office business (like a dental office). Most businesses could serve fresh food to alleviate "food deserts".

The CAC then discussed the idea of a neighborhood business where Gil's Fruit Stand is now. They discussed the idea of a café or grocery. They discussed that it should be accessible to pedestrians

that fosters a sense of safety and is a place that a resident would visit often. It should fill a niche that is not already filled. Access is important so it would need to be near a signal for cars and pedestrians.

Other idea discussed included wayfinding to local businesses, a rating/registration symbol or standard, and having a library branch in the neighborhood.

DEBRIEF APRIL 8 MEETING AT FRIENDLY VILLAGE

CAC members reviewed notes from the April 8 CAC meeting at Friendly Village. The overarching environmental theme was improving habitat in and around Bear Creek. The overarching land use theme was maintaining affordable senior housing. Two transportation themes were pedestrian access to Perrigo Park along NE 95th Street and bus pullouts for school buses.

REVIEW OF APRIL 8, 2010 MEETING SUMMARY

The CAC unanimously approved the meeting summary for its April 8, 2010 meeting.

TRANSPORTATION AND CIRCULATION POLICIES

CAC members asked what the school district position on bus pullouts for school buses is. The CAC agreed to include a policy about considering bus pullouts during the next Avondale corridor study. There was also a question of whether buses impact travel times in a corridor when they do not use pullouts.

LAND USE POLICIES

The CAC began its discussion of land use policies. There was some discussion about policy #6, which addresses neighborhood commercial zoning. The discussion centered on the minimum size for a neighborhood commercial zone, and the kind of access to an arterial that should be required.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is Monday, May 10 at 3:30pm at Fairwinds of Redmond, 9988 Avondale Road. Topics of discussion will be transportation, the environment, and parks and recreation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.