

# Vision 2040

## Regional Planning Statement

Redmond's Comprehensive Plan provides a vision for how the city will grow and develop over the next 20 years. That future may seem distant, but the decisions we make today affect our quality of life tomorrow. The Comprehensive Plan guides decision making to ensure steady progress toward our desired future vision.

Sustainability is the lens through which we will consider actions for our community today and in the future. From our overarching vision statement and throughout each element of the Plan, we have challenged ourselves to consider actions with this value in mind: that to be a sustainable community, we will strive to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. A strong economy, healthy natural environment, and equitable access to services are vital pillars to support a sustainable community now and for generations to come. Redmond's Comprehensive Plan reflects the City's adopted sustainability principles and includes goals and policies that speak to how the City will strive to achieve a balance among the three pillars through the protection and conservation of ecosystems, support for a strong and diverse economy, and provision of services for those who live, work, visit and recreate here.

We have updated Redmond's Comprehensive Plan to align with changes in regional policies and state planning requirements since 2004. The Plan

maintains our established vision, which is to realize Redmond's future as a city with vibrant regional growth centers in the Downtown and Overlake, to enhance the livability of and connections between our neighborhoods, and to deliver high-quality services in partnership with the community. The Plan is based on updated information, including population and employment targets that are consistent with VISION 2040 and analysis in the 2011 East King County Housing Needs Assessment. Redmond's housing policies and regulations provide the framework for the creation of affordable housing and updated housing policies strengthen this commitment. Further, as a member of A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH), we work cooperatively with other neighboring cities and King County to address affordable housing needs.

VISION 2040 policies are addressed throughout all Comprehensive Plan elements. The Urban Centers Element includes specific plans for Downtown and Overlake that provide for concentrated residential, employment, and transportation activity and support sustainable growth over the 20-year planning horizon and beyond. Our Natural Environment Element includes policies regarding climate change, as well as conservation of Redmond's unique natural setting and protection of air and water quality and fish and wildlife habitat. The policies encourage low-impact development techniques and the use of related building certification programs whenever feasible. Our Transportation Element calls for a

transportation system that embodies the City's sustainability principles: a system that includes a variety of convenient travel modes, provides complete streets, enhances the character of the community, encourages physical activity, and helps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Transportation Element also calls for the development and full funding of regional infrastructure projects and programs, such as East Link Light Rail and improvements to SR 520. Our Housing Element addresses the needs of an increasingly diverse community. New housing policies also focus on serving seniors, as well as low- and very low-income households. Our Economic Vitality Element emphasizes partnerships among business, education, and government leaders and organizations. The element further encourages the continued economic health of Redmond by emphasizing opportunities for existing businesses, as well as new innovative companies and by encouraging a variety of jobs in different sectors and at varying income levels.

Several Comprehensive Plan elements speak to the rich community and social assets contained within Redmond. The Human Services Element contains policies that guide the City's work in partnership with other jurisdictions, organizations and businesses to support individuals and families in need through coordination with nonprofit and faith-based service providers, as well as through local and regional social service planning and funding. Goals for protecting and enhancing our local identity are found in the Community Character and Historic Preservation Element. The Participation, Implementation and Evaluation Element describes our process for encouraging public participation in development and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan, as well as how the City monitors and evaluates the effectiveness of its plans and programs.

The Redmond Community Indicators Report is one means through which the City measures the performance of various actions and programs and provides feedback on our progress in accomplishing the community's vision. The City's Budgeting by Priorities process provides another way to measure the performance of programs and policies that have been identified in the Comprehensive Plan.

Redmond's Comprehensive Plan encourages a number of implementation actions that support those identified in VISION 2040, including methods for

monitoring greenhouse gas emissions, with the goal to achieve reductions of emissions citywide. The plan's vision supports the development of strong regional growth centers, with additional policy emphasis on the provision of adequate infrastructure to serve these centers. Throughout the Comprehensive Plan and particularly within the Land Use, Transportation and PARCC elements, policies speak to providing opportunities for optimizing physical health through the conscientious planning of land use, transportation and recreation facilities. We coordinate with neighboring jurisdictions, agencies, a variety of other organizations and stakeholders to plan for Redmond's future and to implement the Comprehensive Plan.



*Regional map of Redmond, Washington*