

**REDMOND CITY COUNCIL
STUDY SESSION**

March 30, 2010

Mayor

John Marchione

Members of the Council

Richard Cole, Council President
Pat Vache, Council Vice-president
Kim Allen
David Carson
Hank Margeson
Hank Myers
John Stilin (*absent*)

Staff

Bill Campbell, Public Works Director
Craig Larsen, Parks and Recreation Director
Jean Rice, Parks Senior Management Analyst
Carolyn Hope, Parks Senior Planner
B. Sanders, Parks Senior Planner
Michelle M. McGehee, CMC, City Clerk

Members of the Parks and Trails Commission

Peter McDonald, Chair
Cindy Jayne, Vice Chair
Mary Bourguignon
Ken Bachmann
Polly Kirkpatrick
Becky Reininger (*absent*)
Tina Sarin
Ray Smalling
Colin Worsley (*absent*)

MEETING SUMMARY

Convened: 7:30 p.m.

Adjourned: 10:31 p.m.

Council President Richard Cole opened the meeting and overviewed the agenda for the joint session with the Parks and Trails Commission. Councilmember Cole noted that Councilmember Stilin would be absent for the meeting.

Mr. Peter McDonald, Chair of the Parks and Trails Commission, thanked the Members of the Council for the meeting, stating that the Redmond parks and trails system is an important feature in the City.

Park Plan Funding/Park District/Future Park Bond

Members of the Parks and Trails Commission and the City Council reviewed a list of projects distributed by staff to the Parks and Trails Commission. The list is a combination of four Capital Improvement Program lists, to include: trails, parks, recreational programs, and maintenance.

The members discussed the projects contained on the list, the date ranges for completion of the projects, and the monetary costs associated with the projects.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the definition of a park district;
- park district partnerships;
- separating out of the capital projects list the projects that fall within a potential park district, and those that fall into local projects; Commissioner McDonald relayed that he will have that conversation with staff and the other Commissioners;
- shaded projects on the list indicating secured funding or grant funding;
- specific projects in specific areas around the City; and
- park bonding for projects such as a regional aquatics center.

Members of the Parks and Trails Commission requested staff explain to the Commissioners the differences between a park levy and a park bond.

Discussion continued regarding:

- the priorities of the Council with regard to the projects;
- creating a bond proposition that is about parks maintenance, just not acquisition;
- placing the park district discussion item on the agenda for both upcoming joint meetings with the cities of Kirkland and Sammamish;
- obtaining a draft list of park district possible projects prior to the joint meetings; and
- having the Arts Commission and the Parks and Trails Commission members meet regarding park bond projects.

(The study session recessed at 8:35 p.m. and reconvened at 8:48 p.m.)

Rail Options in the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Right-of-Way

Members of the City Council met with Bruce Agnew and Tom Jones of Cascadia, and Tom Payne and Doug Engle, of GNP.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- the relationship between Cascadia and GNP;
- possible systems costs;
- existing and needed infrastructure to construct excursion rail in the corridor;
- pedestrian accesses and trail along the corridor;
- railway regulation and permitting requirements;
- maintenance requirements;
- GNP's request to Redmond to not remove the tracks through the corridor;
- an economic development mechanism, "the tasting train";
- GNP's current federal loan application;
- GNP bearing the cost of plan implementation;
- financing strategies;
- whether or not light rail will be able to share the tracks with GNP;
- indemnification and hold harmless agreements;

- GNP's requirement of a confidentiality agreement to discuss what a partnership with a local government for excursion rail would look like;
- GNP servicing its debt, while the City serves theirs;
- required right-of-way through the corridor; and
- the timeline associated with the final purchase of the right-of-way by the City of Redmond.