CityofRedmond

### **Citizen Advisory Committees**

Neighborhood planning provides a variety of venues for residents to stay informed and to provide feedback. At the commencement of a new neighborhood planning effort, focus groups and open houses allow City staff to collect preliminary thoughts with regard to a neighborhood's existing conditions and future vision. Because a neighborhood plan considers the next twenty-years, residents are encouraged throughout the process to think about changes that will occur, may occur, and those that they wish to see take place. After attending the Neighborhood Citizen Academy and developing a common knowledge base, interested residents serve on a Citizen Advisory Committee for up to two years. As representatives of and liaisons for the neighborhood, the members attend regular meetings with City staff and participate at neighborhood-based public events such as open houses and coffee klatches. At the end of the CAC's core work effort, a series of recommended changes to policies and regulations are presented to City officials for review and adoption as part of the City's Comprehensive Plan and Community Development Guide. The plan remains in place to guide changes and projects that take place within each neighborhood. The plans are updated at approximately seven-year intervals and involve a vast amount of neighborhood participation.

To learn more about participating and to share your thoughts, visit the neighborhood web pages or contact staff as listed on the first page of this edition of Neighborhood News.

# **Upcoming Activities in** Other Neighborhoods

#### **EDUCATION HILL**

A fully-operational traffic signal will soon replace the existing 4way stop on 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE at NE 104<sup>th</sup> Street on Education Hill. Along with this construction, 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE from NE 100<sup>th</sup> to NE 104<sup>th</sup> Street will be reconfigured to 3 vehicle lanes plus bicycle lanes on both sides of the street. These improvements will enhance safety at the intersection for the high volume of school-aged residents who bike and walk to and from school every day, as well as improve traffic operations for all who travel this segment of the 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE corridor.

On February 7, City of Redmond staff invited Education Hill residents to a community meeting at Redmond Junior High to hear about plans for the Federally-funded Safe Routes to School traffic signal project and to gather public comment on proposed roadway configurations along the front of Redmond Junior High.

The traffic signal project and the reconfiguration of 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE are moving forward, with an anticipated completion date in the fall. Once done, City staff will host another public meeting to bring alternatives to the Education Hill neighborhood so residents can consider completing the reconfiguration of 166<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE south of NE 100<sup>th</sup> Street to NE 85<sup>th</sup> Street. Please contact Tricia Thomson (425) 556-2776 or tthomson@redmond.gov to learn more.

Spring 2008 City of Redmond



# **Neighborhood News**

http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/neighborhoods/

### **Mayor Marchione's Welcome**

My vision for Redmond is a city with two vibrant urban centers and connected neighborhoods, while providing high quality, responsive services for an engaged citizenry.

How do we get there? By concentrating growth in our urban centers (in our case Overlake and Downtown) and providing appropriate transportation and services. This strategy preserves the character of our existing neighborhoods while accommodating inevitable growth. I see a network of neighborhoods connected together by physical means such as trails and sidewalks, creating a dynamic and vibrant city through the energy created when neighbors connect to neighbors.

The City's Neighborhood Plans are good ways to achieve our goals. Through meetings and events, neighbors get to know

and work with each other towards their common interests. They also get to learn about the variety of opinions held by today's Redmond residents. The Neighborhood Plans tackle the physical issues of neighborhoods, such as how neighborhoods can remain vital, where improvements could be made, and what the character should be, now and in the future.

I hope you will find time to participate in your neighborhood's planning process. It is critical to the future of Redmond that we all do what we can to help shape our community into one that continues to enhance our quality of

Sincerely,

John Marchione, Mayor

### **Neighborhood Plan Updates Continue**

Residents of the Viewpoint neighborhood and the singlefamily residential portions of the Overlake neighborhood are invited to take part in neighborhood planning and update activities that are underway.

Several residents of both neighborhoods, as well as residents from the Grass Lawn and North Redmond neighborhoods. have recently completed a 10-session series of the Redmond Neighborhood Citizen Academy. As a prerequisite for assisting with the development of recommendations that propose updates to neighborhood plans, the attendees learned about the inner-working of city government including the variety of services and programs that Redmond offers.

Following recognition by the City Council on April 15, 2008, the participants of the academy will begin work as a Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC). Together with City staff and neighborhood residents, they will explore issues, needs, opportunities, and guidance for possible changes that could occur within the neighborhood over the long-term.

Several types of meetings and public events will take place throughout 2008-2009 during which residents will be asked to provide feedback and additional direction as the

neighborhood plans evolve. Meeting details as well as summaries of past meetings will be posted to the neighborhood web pages.

A neighborhood survey is currently available for the Viewpoint and the single-family residential portions of the Overlake neighborhood on the respective web sites listed below. Paper copies may be requested as well by contacting Kimberly Dietz at 425-556-2415.

### **CITY OF REDMOND NEIGHBORHOODS TEAM**

Kimberly Dietz, (425) 556-2415, kdietz@redmond.gov

Jayme Jonas, (425) 556-2496, jjonas@redmond.gov

Sarah Stiteler, (425) 556-2469, sstiteler@redmond.gov

### Viewpoint

http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/viewpoint/

**Overlake Single-family Residential Portions** http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/Overlake/subArea/

Redmond, WA Permit No. 31

PRSRT STD

### The Comprehensive Plan and **Neighborhood Planning**

Each of Redmond's ten neighborhoods retains a neighborhood plan. Updated through citizen involvement, the neighborhood plan adds specificity to citywide policies and regulations while addressing a twenty-year vision for the neighborhood. A neighborhood plan is consistent with the citywide vision and goals, while focusing on the opportunities. issues, and needs of each individual neighborhood. A plan may include additional guiding aspects for:

- Neighborhood communication
- The natural environment
- Parks, recreation, open space, and cultural arts
- Community facilities and services
- Housing variety to serve a diversity of income levels, ages, family sizes, and special needs
- Neighborhood character and design
- Formal and informal gathering places
- **Neighborhood gateways**
- Historic, archeological, and cultural sites
- Neighborhood transportation including alternative travel modes and traffic management
- Priority projects for nearterm implementation
- **Neighborhood identity**

### INTERESTED IN A **NEIGHBORHOOD-WIDE** PICNIC/POTLUCK? **MEET THE CAC?**

Please let us know... Send your thoughts to kdietz@redmond.gov

## Introduction to the **City's Comprehensive Plan**

The Comprehensive Plan contains the City's vision for the future and policies that guide long-term development of the City. Included within are descriptions of the City's social and economic character; community values and aspirations; and guiding elements that address land use, housing, transportation, capital facilities and services.

As a living document, the plan is built and updated with extensive community input. Those who live, work, and own property in the City are invited to participate in the development of the Comprehensive Plan.

The City's Planning Commission reviews the plan and addresses both staff and citizen recommendations for updates and modifications. The Commission hosts public hearings, discusses proposed modifications, and subsequently recommends adoption to the City Council.

Redmond's first plan was established in the 1940's. The most significant update occurred in the 1990's with the establishment of State mandates such as the Growth Management Act (GMA). The GMA called for the addition of specific elements to the plan. Today, the "Goals, Vision, and Framework Policies" element sets the overarching citywide goals and describes the vision that looks to the future, while addressing the character and day to day functioning of the City.

The Comprehensive Plan feeds into many other city-wide documents. The Community Development Guide consists of regulations that carry out Comprehensive Plan policies. Other guiding documents such as the Transportation Master Plan and Parks PRO Plan also reflect the specific items called for in the Comprehensive Plan.

In 2004 and 2005, Redmond engaged in and completed a major update to the Comprehensive Plan. A series of workshops and public events allowed residents and other interested parties to share their thoughts. The result was a document that expressed:

- Greater emphasis on community character,
- A variety of housing and housing that better addresses the workforce needs,
- Transportation choices and connections,
- An annual monitoring program, and
- A greater commitment to neighborhood planning.

To learn more, please visit the City's 2022 webpage at:

http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/Redmond2022/default.asp and the Redmond Community Indicators webpage at: http://www.redmond.gov/ intheworks/Redmond2022/implbenchmark.asp



# **Overlake Neighborhood High Tech and Urban Center Sub-areas**

In December 2007, the Redmond City Council adopted Phase 1 • Plan for arrival of high capacity transit/light rail of the Overlake Neighborhood Plan update. This update will guide the growth and development of the Overlake neighborhood through the year 2030. This action sets the stage for public and private-sector implementation of the neighborhood vision established in 1999.

Overlake is envisioned as an attractive, safe place to live, work, shop and play. A vibrant neighborhood with a greater mix and density of uses, Overlake will include plazas, parks, trails, and other amenities for its residents and visitors. It will be walkable, bikeable, and served by frequent transit service. It will also continue to thrive as an employment center, residential neighborhood, and commercial center serving nearby areas. Strong multi-modal linkages will provide connections within the neighborhood and to surrounding areas. Throughout the planning process, 152nd Avenue NE was identified as a focus for the neighborhood. Early on, participants saw the potential for 152nd Avenue NE to

transition into a place with an active streetscape, with shopping

In sum, the plan update includes policies, zoning and other strategies to:

and dining opportunities, transit connections, and attractive

- Facilitate the evolution of Overlake Village (the shopping area) as a vibrant residential, retail and commercial neighborhood
- Address concerns of small businesses

### **Next Steps**

#### **VIEWPOINT**

landscaping.

The Viewpoint Citizen Advisory Committee will begin work in May 2008. Meetings are currently planned to take place at City Hall and will occur on weekday evenings. This group of residents will consider all aspects of living, working, and recreating within and in close proximity to the neighborhood over a twenty-year time frame. Residents who wish to learn more, ask questions, and provide comment may attend these public meetings. A comment period is provided at the

beginning of each session. Please contact Kimberly Dietz at (425) 556-2415, kdietz@redmond.gov or visit the neighborhood web site at http://www.redmond.gov/ intheworks/viewpoint/ to learn more and to view meeting schedules.

#### WHAT HAVE WE HEARD?

Some topics that have been shared to date: Neighborhood Character Housing Design Water Quality Neighborhood Amenities Gateways & Identity Children Play Spaces Tree-lined Streets

Trails Safe Bike/Ped. Routes Natural Vegetation Transportation Habitat Front Porch Designs Traffic Calming

- Improve walkability, bikeways, and transit, and help address
- Create parks, plazas, and open spaces
- Allow buildings taller than six stories in Overlake Village (the shopping area) as an incentive for providing major public amenities, such as park space
- Promote housing at a variety of income levels
- Phase additional commercial development

The Council's adoption of the plan was the culminating event of a more than two-year project which included a number of public events, such as open houses, a design workshop, and focus groups. The participation of a large number of people who live or work in the area, business and property owners, interested community members, and other key stake-holders was critical to the project's success.

The City plans to carry out implementation actions over the next several years as identified in the Overlake Master Plan and Implementation Strategy and will continue to work with the public and key stakeholders in implementing the neighborhood vision. Phase 2 actions include updates to the Redmond Transportation Master Plan, Parks Recreation and Open Space Plan, as well as joint work with the City of Bellevue.

For more information on the Overlake Neighborhood Plan, please visit http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/ overlake/default.asp or contact Jayme Jonas at jjonas@redmond.gov, 425.556.2496.

#### **OVERLAKE SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PORTIONS**

In late-May, the Citizen Advisory Committee will consider the next twenty-years and begin work to establish guidelines for the future. Topics will include how to provide a variety of housing and transportation choices, maintaining natural resources, and providing neighborhood amenities. The CAC and City staff will work with residents to explore these and many other aspects of daily living within the neighborhood and vicinity. Meetings and events will take place through 2008-

2009 and will provide a wide variety of input and feedback opportunities. To learn more, please contact Kimberly Dietz at (425) 556-2415, kdietz@redmond.gov or visit the neighborhood web site at http://www.redmond.gov/intheworks/ Overlake/subArea/