OneRedmond Advocacy Update Fall 2022

At the local level, the City of Redmond released the budget for the 2023-2024 biennium. Click here to view the final budget. The 2023 budget was adopted on December 6th. Below are highlighted revenue increases that are in the budget:

- The allowed 1% real estate tax annual levy lift.
- Including an amount equal to 35% of the previous period’s construction sales tax revenue as expected revenue. A conservative amount is used, since this revenue is variable, and construction is subject to broader economic forces. Revenues collected in excess of the budgeted amount will be used as contingency reserves.
- A 0.01% sales tax increase was approved.
- Increased fees for various licenses.
- No increases in utility charges, but King County is raising wastewater fees.

Over the next year, the City of Redmond plans to conduct a fee study. This study will look at the current fee structures in all City departments in comparison to our surrounding cities. This study should be an informative tool that can be utilized for future budget decisions and OneRedmond looks forward to following this study.

At the state-level, on October 10th, OneRedmond sent a letter of support for the Eastside Light Rail Starter Line, an idea first proposed by King County Council Chair and Sound Transit board member Claudia Balducci, to the Sound Transit Board of Directors and the new CEO Julie Timm. In addition, OneRedmond joined other community leadership organizations in drafting a stakeholder letter also recommending the implementation of the Eastside Light Rail Starter Line.

OneRedmond is thrilled to sponsor the City of Redmond Legislative Send-Off event in January, 2023 to celebrate the beginning of session with our state legislators from the 45th and 48th districts. This invite-only event will allow us to connect again with our community leaders and learn more about the legislative priorities.

At the federal-level, OneRedmond continues to connect with the U.S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) to understand the opportunities for small business export assistance.

Early next year, OneRedmond will be coordinating with our federal delegation on a couple of events: one around the New Space sector; and another for our new “meet your leader” series for our members.

As always, OneRedmond helps our congressional members in a variety of ways including identifying businesses to participate in roundtables, and supplying economic data surrounding the needs and opportunities for our region. As the only public/private economic development entity in East King County, we have been an ongoing resource for our leaders.