



OneRedmond

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## OneRedmond Advocacy Update 2023: Volume 1

**At the local level:** With a mission to build and maintain economic vitality, OneRedmond actively supports increased density in Downtown Redmond. Increased density in close proximity to transit is critical to the success of surrounding small businesses as it provides the much-needed opportunity for additional foot traffic to support current and future retail growth.

The City of Redmond is actively working on their [Redmond 2050 Plan](#) and our team will continue to enjoy reading the latest updates and providing feedback as they become available.

OneRedmond gave their 2022 Annual Economic Development Report to Redmond City Council. You can see that report [here](#) and begins at the 1:10 mark.

**At the regional level,** OneRedmond's Director of Business Expansion, Justine Mulholland, has joined the Eastside Housing Roundtable. This is a broad coalition comprised of employers, non-profits, business organizations, housing advocates, and private and non-profit housing developers. The purpose of this group is to support the creation of more affordable housing and diverse housing types at all income levels on the Eastside as a shared response to rapid growth.

OneRedmond also joined with our partners from around the region in advocating for the East Link Starter Line. Sound Transit took a pivotal first vote to authorize funds to continue to study the East Link Starter Line. With a positive vote in the fall, the East Link Starter Line will start service from South Bellevue to Redmond Technology Center in spring of 2024.

**At the state-level,** OneRedmond's CEO has testified in Olympia this session. The most recent topic surrounds the 124<sup>th</sup> interchange that was left off the Governor's Budget this session. However, this work cannot be postponed. Transportation is tightly linked to our economic vitality. In 2021, Redmond was the fastest-growing city in Washington State. Improving our transportation options for our residents and workforce in this region is imperative and of great value to our economy.

In addition to testifying and in-person visits, OneRedmond provides a number of letters of support to our State leadership on issues that matter to our members including affordable housing and permitting reform, public safety, education, and transportation.

**At the federal-level,** OneRedmond will be coordinating with our federal delegation and agencies on a couple of events: one around the New Space sector and another for our new "Meet Your Leader" series for our members. The OneRedmond CEO is scheduled to meet with Senator Patty Murray later this month to discuss the needs in our business community.

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.