



OneRedmond

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## OneRedmond Advocacy Update 2023: Volume 2

**At the local level,** Redmond City Council recently passed a major rezone for Redmond Town Center which will help improve economic vitality for this area. The Redmond 2050 Plan update process continues to be a priority for OneRedmond as it addresses many of our key challenges: growth allocations, housing affordability, green building, and Overlake development incentives.

Other key issues for OneRedmond include public safety, impacts of light rail, Development Services process improvement, and new regulations.

Redmond City Councilmember Melissa Stuart announced new office hours on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays from 3 to 5pm at the Redmond Library.

**At the regional level,** OneRedmond continues to work with our regional partners to support solutions to our most challenging problems. The OneRedmond CEO will be participating in Chamber Day on March 14<sup>th</sup> with the East King Chamber Coalition to advocate for jointly supported issues. In addition, OneRedmond signed on to multiple letters supporting bills that relate to a fix to the long-term care legislation, to public safety, and others.

**At the state level,** OneRedmond is closely following the bills going through this year's legislative session. 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.

The 2021-23 biennial Transportation budget allocated funds for the I-405/SR520/124th Ave Interchange project. However, in the Governor's proposed budget, those dollars would reprogram those funds and delay the project for another decade. OneRedmond testified and signed on to a letter asking for restored funding for the SR520/124th St Interchange project to the level and timeline enacted in the 2022 Transportation Budget. The project has the full support of our Eastside legislators. Sen. Patty Kuderer has taken the lead in organizing support among her colleagues for restoring project funding. Soon we'll know whether the House and Senate Transportation Committee chairs will include restored funding in their budget bills.

OneRedmond opposed Senate Bill 5236 which mandates nurse to patient staffing ratios. This bill would severely impact the health care options available to residents, have an adverse effect on hospital quality, and harm all businesses' ability to attract and retain talented staff to Washington.

**At the federal level,** OneRedmond has been coordinating with our federal agencies and with our New Space sector event coming up in April. This industry roundtable is a wonderful opportunity for our local industry to be at the table with the decision makers in DC.

The OneRedmond CEO recently met with Senator Patty Murray to discuss the needs of our business community. The topics covered included: small business support, public safety, issues with our hospitals being at over capacity, and more.

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.