



OneRedmond Advocacy Update 2023: Volume 7

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At the local level, two new Redmond City Council Members were elected to serve our community this last month- Angie Nuevacamina and Osman Salahuddin. You will have the opportunity to meet our two new representatives at our January 4th Lunch & Learn featuring these two newly elected City leaders.

The City of Redmond continues to focus on Redmond 2050 and on December 20th, the Planning commission will be briefed on the final Environmental Impact Statement. Also during this meeting, there will be a study session around the Overlake incentives.

At the regional level, Line 2 of the Sound Transit Light Rail is poised to open this next spring. Line 2, formerly known as the Eastlink Starter Line, will connect South Bellevue and Redmond Technology stations. OneRedmond is joining partners from around the region to work on the opening of this wonderful new addition to our community.

For the last year, staff has worked with King County and the King County Aerospace Alliance on the Air and Space 2030 study. The results outlined were released earlier this year and reinforced what we have learned here in Redmond: The New Space industry is a sector that is on an upward trajectory, and it contributes greatly to regional and state economy.

At the state level, OneRedmond regularly convenes our Redmond Space District companies along with regional partners to learn of needs and barriers to their growth in our region. Over the first several meetings, it was learned that the incentive programs that other states offer to the space industry are substantial. In reviewing those incentives from California, Texas, and Florida, this group is now looking at what our state needs to develop to compete to retain and grow our companies and workforce in this industry.

Discussions with our local elected officials indicate that priorities of our state legislature in 2024 will be behavioral health, the opioid and fentanyl crisis, affordable housing, broadband access, AI and cyber security, and public safety.

At the federal level, OneRedmond continues to help 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.