



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING FEBRUARY 3, 2026

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Dave Rosenbaum called the Regular Hybrid Meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Slater Room Council Chambers at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Lisa Ander Julie Hsieh, Craig Reynolds, and Ted Weinberg attended in person. Deputy Mayor Daniel Becker attended via Zoom. Councilmember Wendy Weiker was absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Weinberg to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

SPECIAL BUSINESS

AB 6853: Sound Transit Link 2 Line Update

City Manager Jessi Bon introduced Sound Transit CEO Dow Constantine who spoke about the opening of the Link 2 Line crosslake connection on March 28 that will connect the eastside to Seattle. Mr. Constantine introduced the Sound Transit team assigned to the Mercer Island station: Executive Director of Security and Fare Enforcement Brian de Place, Executive Director of Communications Luke Lamon, and Senior Corridor Director & Government & Community Relations Ariel Taylor. He shared a video on the journey from design to completion of the crosslake connection.

Ms. Taylor provided an overview of the areas served by Sound Transit, the three voter approved ballot measures in 1996, 2008, and 2016, and the phased opening of 2 Line in East King County.

Mr. Lamon spoke about the planning work for the opening day ceremony on March 28. Mr. de Place discussed the 2 Line operations, parking and access for the stations on the eastside, and safety and security on the trains and on the platforms.

City Council was in recess from 5:56 pm – 6:00 pm.

AB 6852: 2024 Financial, Accountability and Federal Audit Exit Conference

Deputy Finance Director LaJuan Tuttle introduced the audit team of Audit Manager Haji Adams, Assistant Audit Manager Elsa Kim, and Audit Lead Kieu Nguyen.

Ms. Adams spoke about the process for the presentation and the importance of the work the State Auditors Office does. Mr. Nguyen spoke about the results of the Financial and Accountability Audits. Ms. Kim spoke

about next steps and about timeline for publication of the audit on the Auditors' website.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:**
 - City Council/ MISD School Board Joint Meeting on Thursday, February 5 at 6:00 pm.
 - City Council Meeting on Tuesday, February 17 at 5:00 pm
 - Parks & Recreation Commission on Thursday, February 5 at 5:00 pm
 - Utility Board Meeting on Tuesday, February 10 at 5:00 pm
 - Open Space Conservancy Trust on Thursday, February 12 at 5:00 pm
- **City Updates:**
 - Board & Commission Recruitment – Recruitment has been extended through March 6, with appointments scheduled for the March 17 City Council Meeting. There are three vacant positions: one on the Arts Council, one on the Open Space Conservancy Trust, and one on the Utility Board.
 - Transportation Feedback – The public comment period for the annual update to the Six Year Transportation Improvement Program is open through April 21, 2026.
 - 2 Line Crosslake Connection will launch on March 28, 2026.
 - Sewer Lakeline Reach 1 Update – This 2026 project focuses on evaluating 2.5-miles of sewer lakeline along the east shore of Mercer Island.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Mercer Island Chinese Association Lunar New Year at MICEC on February 8 from 10:00 am–2:00 pm
 - MIYFS Foundation Annual Breakfast at MICEC on February 11 from 7:30-8:30 am
- **News:**
 - New Utility Portal – The City launched a new utility customer portal for water customers.

APPEARANCES

Gene Robertson, Mercer Island, spoke about ICE.

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6854: January 23, 2026 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the January 23, 2026 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$1,050,943.25 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council Planning Session Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2026 and City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Planning Session Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2026 and City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of January 20, 2026.

AB 6855: Certification for Claims Paid January 1, 2026 through January 15, 2026

Recommended Actions: Approve the January 1, 2026 through January 15, 2026 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$3,255,765.89 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

AB 6851: Card Reader Capital Project Closeout

Recommended Action: Receive report. No action necessary.

AB 6867: Reservoir Booster Pump Station Upgrades Project Closeout

Recommended Action: Accept the completed Reservoir Booster Pump Station Upgrades project and authorize staff to close out the project.

AB 6868: Sewer SCADA System Replacement Project Change Order & Fund Reallocation

Recommended Action: Reallocate \$132,650 in sewer capital project resources in the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget to incorporate the upgrade of Sewer Pump Station 11 into the Sewer SCADA System Replacement Project.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Anderl to:

Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and the recommendations contained therein.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6859: ARCH Housing Trust Fund Project Approvals

CPD Director Jeff Thomas introduced ARCH Executive Director Lindsay Masters who provided background on A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH), the cities that are served, the interlocal agreement that defines the purpose and responsibilities of ARCH, and the structure of ARCH. She presented the Housing Trust Fund priorities and the projects that are included in the recommended funding for the Housing Trust Fund.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Approve the use of \$40,600 from the City's contributions to the ARCH Housing Trust Fund as recommended by the ARCH Executive Board and authorize execution of any related agreements and documents.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

AB 6857: Forged Fiber 37, LLC Telecommunications Franchise Agreement (Ord. No. 26-01, First Reading)

Transportation Engineer Rebecca Corigliano introduced outside legal counsel Daniel Kenny who spoke about the background of the request for a telecommunications franchise agreement from Forged Fiber 27. He presented the requirements for a franchise agreement, what it is, and what the procedure is to obtain a franchise agreement.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Anderl to:

Schedule Ordinance No. 26-01 for second reading and adoption at an upcoming City Council Meeting.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

AB 6839: Capital Improvement Program Overview

Finance Director Matt Mornick spoke about the goal of balancing capital priorities to address ongoing City facility needs. He provided an overview of the current situation with City facilities, the eight capital project categories: Public Buildings, Technology, Equipment, Streets, Pedestrian, & Bicycle Facilities, Parks, Recreation, & Open Space, Water Utility, Sewer Utility, and Storm Water Utility.

Finance Director Mornick spoke about what plans guide City infrastructure planning including the Comprehensive Plan, the Capital Improvement Program, and the Capital Budget.

Chief of Operations Jason Kintner presented the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) that includes 142 active projects across eight different capital project categories. He provided an overview of the projects currently included in each capital project category and the funding source for each project category.

Finance Director Mornick spoke about the financing strategy for capital projects, the restrictions on some capital funds, utility rate revenues, and how proportionate share is a legal requirement to ensure that utility ratepayers are not unconstitutionally subsidizing general government operations. He discussed Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), the restrictions on REET funding, and the options available to modify the REET financing strategy based on near and long-term CIP project priorities.

City Council choose to re-convene the ad-hoc City Council Finance Committee and selected Mayor Rosenbaum and Councilmembers Reynolds and Weiker to serve on the committee.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences and Reports

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Reynolds to:

Excuse Councilmember Weiker's absence from the February 3 City Council Meeting.

PASSED: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

Councilmember Weinberg made a statement about his views on current immigration issues. He noted that he has made seven trips to Olympia so far during the legislative session and that his next monthly open lunch is at Sushi Joa on February 21 at 12:00 pm.

Councilmember Reynolds noted he resigned from the King County LEOFF 1 Disability Retirement Board.

Councilmember Anderl noted she met with a Cub Scout den and spoke about local government.

Councilmember Hsieh made a statement about her views on current immigration issues. She noted she attended the AWC Action Days, the Mary Wayte Pool renovation celebration, and that her next community coffee is on February 25 at ASA at 11:00 am.

City Council was in recess from 8:28 pm – 8:33 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 8:33 pm, Mayor Rosenbaum convened an Executive Session in Room 104 at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, WA and via Microsoft Teams for approximately 30 minutes until 9:03 pm.

Executive Session for planning or adopting the strategy or position to be taken by the City Council during the course of any collective bargaining, professional negotiations, or grievance or mediation proceedings, or reviewing the proposals made in the negotiations or proceedings while in progress pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) and to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

Mayor David Rosenbaum, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl Julie Hsieh, Craig Reynolds, and Ted Weinberg participated in person. Deputy Mayor Daniel Becker participated via Microsoft Teams. Councilmember Wendy Weiker was absent.

Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session at 9:03 pm for an additional 15 minutes to 9:18 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session at 9:18 pm for an additional 10 minutes to 9:28 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session at 9:28 pm for an additional 5 minutes to 9:33 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum extended the Executive Session at 9:33 pm for an additional 5 minutes to 9:38 pm.

Mayor Rosenbaum adjourned the Executive Session at 9:37 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 9:38 pm.


Dave Rosenbaum, Mayor

Attest:


Deborah Estrada, Deputy City Clerk