



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR VIDEO MEETING

Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 5:30 PM

BOARD MEMBERS:

Chair Rory Westberg
Vice Chair Jodi McCarthy
Board Members: Don Cohen,
Sara Berkenwald, Peter Struck,
Member TBD

LOCATION & CONTACT

Zoom Meeting
Phone: 206.275.7626 | www.mercerisland.gov

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the Staff Liaison at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at 206.275.7706.

Virtual Meeting Notice

The virtual meeting will be broadcast live on Zoom and recorded and saved on the City Council's [YouTube Channel](#)

Registering to Speak: Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances will need to register their request with the staff liaison at **206.275.7871** or [email](#) and leave a message before 4 PM on the day of the Commission meeting. Please reference "Appearances" on your correspondence. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

Join by Telephone at 5:30 PM: To listen to the meeting via telephone, please call **253.215.8782** and enter Webinar ID **896 5507 6791** and Password **694967** when prompted.

Join by Internet at 5:30 PM: To watch the meeting over the internet via your computer, follow these steps:

- 1) Click [this link](#)
- 2) If the Zoom app is not installed on your computer, you will be prompted to download it.
- 3) If prompted for Webinar ID, enter **896 5507 6791** Enter Password **694967**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL - 5:30 PM

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approve the minutes of the May 6, 2021 Regular Meeting
Recommended Action: Approve minutes.
2. Election of Officers
Recommended Action: Take nominations and vote.
3. Recreation Reset Update – Planning 2022
Recommended Action: Discuss and provide input on the Recreation Reset plans for 2022.
4. PROS Plan: Capital Project Prioritization Tool and Second Community Survey
Recommended Actions:
 - 1) Review the capital project prioritization tool and provide feedback.
 - 2) Review the draft of the second community survey and provide feedback.

OTHER BUSINESS

5. Planning & Meeting Schedule Update
6. Department Report & Update
7. Commissioner Reports/Work Plan Updates

ADJOURNMENT



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES May 6, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Westberg called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm via Zoom Online meeting.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Rory Westberg, Don Cohen, Jodi McCarthy, Lyn Gualtieri, Amy Richter, Sara Berkenwald and Peter Struck were present.

City Council Liaison Jake Jacobson and Consultants Steve Duh, Jean Akers, and Emily Moon were present.

Staff present were Jessi Bon, City Manager, Ryan Daly, Operations Transition Team Manager, Jason Kintner, Public Works Director, Paul West, CIP Projects Manager, Katie Herzog, Recreation & Operations Coordinator and Merrill Thomas-Schadt, Recreation & Operations Coordinator.

APPEARANCES

1. Jon Hamer spoke in support of the Mercedale Playground project and inclusive play elements and to consider inclusivity in consideration of the PROS Plan process.

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approve Meeting Minutes of the April 1, 2021

Recommended Action: Approve minutes.

Cohen motioned, Berkenwald seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Recreation Reset Plan (Cont.)

Recommended Action: Receive report

Daly and Moon provided verbal update- brief summary of the Council's reception of the April 20, 2021 meeting; staff monitoring State phase changes, and bringing on a new staff member. Staff proposes to use appropriation on limited number of community events, limited use of drop in and gym rentals at MICEC, and facilitating limited outdoor recreation in the fall. Staff will develop preliminary budget and phasing plan for next phase of services in the summer, to be considered by Council in the fall for 2022.

3. PROS Plan Update - Virtual Open House update and initial discussion of Parks Conditions Assessment and ADA Compliance

Recommended Action: Receive presentation and provide input.

Bon provided a summary of the project of late. Duh presented a summary of the Virtual Open House on March 23, 2021. No questions from Commissioners.

Akers presented on the park facility assessment and ADA compliance material. Struck encouraged more information on how items on the assessment might be prioritized for attention or resources.

Duh stated that more on that will come further along in the PROS process. Westberg asked if ADA information would be published in order to help prioritize. Kintner stated that the City's ADA Transition Plan process will be managed in conjunction with publishing the park ADA compliance assessment. Westberg stated interested in park use data. McCarthy observed a significant difference in usage during a recent tour of various park areas. A discussion about the balance of resources that go toward more-and-less-used parks.

Kintner asked the group about their reaction to the conditions assessment- if it was what they expected or not.

BREAK 6:57-7:05PM

4. Mercedale Playground Update

Recommended Action: Receive presentation, provide input, and make recommendation to City Council for preferred option for Mercedale park playground.

Kintner and West presented on the April _ public meeting and design options. West asked for direction on:

- 1) Option 1: 72" platform or 2: 60" platform
- 2) Accessible Whirl
- 3) Simple or more elaborate design in the resilient ("poured in place") surfacing

Commissioners overall supported mixed surface of poured and grass.

Commissioners overall did not support the accessible whirl feature.

Commissioners overall did not support the enhanced design option in the surface.

Commissioners overall supported design option 2.

Commissioners discussed color scheme preferences- were overall split between options 2 and 4.

5. Commission Planning and Meeting Schedule Update

No updates.

6. Department Report and Updates

Daly presented a report.

7. Commissioner Report and Workplan Updates

Gualtieri spotted a pileated woodpecker!

MEETING ADJOURNED 8:23PM



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Item 3
June 3, 2021
Regular Business

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

TITLE:	Recreation Reset Update – Planning 2022	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Discuss and provide input	
STAFF:	Ryan Daly, Operations Section Chief – Emergency Operations Center Emily Moon (Consultant)	
COUNCIL LIAISON:	Jake Jacobson	
EXHIBITS:	n/a	

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

On [April 20, 2021](#), the Recreation Reset Team and the Parks & Recreation Commission presented the “Strategy for Mercer Island Community and Event Center and Recreation Programs and Services” (known as the “Reset Strategy”) to the City Council during a joint study session. That strategy included a phased implementation plan. During regular business, the City Council appropriated the remaining 2021 Recreation Recovery funds that had been set aside in the budget and directed staff to utilize those funds to continue the Reset planning and to begin delivering additional recreation services and programs to the community. During the [Parks & Recreation Commission’s May meeting](#), the Reset Team announced that the funds would be put toward offering some drop-in programs and gymnasium rentals, facilitating the Arts Council’s Immediate Action Plan, readying the facility for some public use (including hiring some temporary staff, purchasing supplies and tidying up the interior and grounds), organizing a few outdoor recreation activities or programs, and providing permitting and collaboration for some community special events.

Tonight, the Reset Team will provide an update on its progress implementing the plan for 2021 and share initial thoughts about 2022 implementation. Commission members are encouraged to provide feedback to the Recreation Reset Team.

RESET UPDATE

Summer camps kickoff on June 21. Originally staff projected 750 total registrations, however registration numbers continue to grow; current registration is at 886 participants. Some camp activities will occur in the MICEC, which will mark the public’s first access to the building since March 2020.

Recruitment is underway for the additional, temporary staff who will be needed at the MICEC to serve the growing number of facility users. The Reset Team hopes to have all positions filled and new staff starting on/around July 1. That would enable drop-in programming and gymnasium rentals to begin on July 12.

The Reset Team continues to facilitate a wide range of other recreation programs and services such as boat launch parking permits, picnic shelter rentals, athletic field rentals, special events and use permits, and P-Patch use. In addition, the Team has been busy drafting procedures and policies, researching automation and self-service enhancements, conducting classification and compensation analysis for a future staffing model, establishing 2021 and 2022 fee schedules, planning Mostly Music in the Park, contemplating which programs and services to offer in 2022, and building corresponding budgets and revenue estimates for 2022.

2022 INITIAL THOUGHTS

The Recreation Reset Team is committed to implementing the Reset Strategy. As the Commission knows, the strategy describes how to allocate resources (such as tax dollars and user fees) toward community- and individually-derived benefits from recreation programs and services. With most of the tax dollars being put toward foundational expenses and community-wide benefits that are present from the first day onwards (e.g., maintenance, general administration, utilities, and inclusion services), programs that are subsidized to a lesser degree and that generate greater revenue are needed to fully implement the balanced strategy. Therefore, in 2022, the Team hopes to jumpstart the economic engine of the division by offering full-scale facility rentals. In addition, and as staffing and budget allows, the Reset Team is contemplating that 2022 might include planning and implementing the following:

- Fitness Center
- Preschool-aged programming
- Social-focused programming for seniors (i.e., not human service-focused)
- More community partnerships
- More drop-in activities
- Therapeutic/adaptive/specialized recreation services (evaluation and development of in-house programming)

The list above largely mimics what was included in Phase 1 and 2 of the Reset Phasing Plan, with a couple additions from Phase 3. Next year, all 2021 services and programs will be offered, and more Reset work will occur, including program design and evaluation, cost recovery analysis, and policy development.

NEXT STEPS

The Reset Strategy is anticipated to return to City Council in late June for their endorsement. In July, the Reset Team will present City Council with a high-level plan for the Recreation Division in 2022. The Team will collect City Council's input and incorporate that feedback into a budget proposal for 2022, which is likely to receive City Council consideration in November as part of the citywide biennial budget amendment process.

Following approval of the budget and staffing allocations, the Recreation Division can begin recruiting new staff and gearing up for 2022. New staff would likely start near the end of the first quarter of 2022, which means that some of the new programs and services would not likely commence until the second quarter or later.

The Rec Reset Team will bring the Parks and Recreation Commission some policy considerations over the course of the next few meetings. These policies will help the Team implement the strategy; examples may include differential pricing and facility use prioritization principles.

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss and provide input on the Recreation Reset plans for 2022.



PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Item 4
June 3, 2021
Regular Business

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

TITLE:	PROS Plan: Capital Project Prioritization Tool and Second Community Survey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Review the capital project prioritization tool and provide feedback. Review the draft of the second community survey and provide feedback.	

STAFF:	Jessi Bon, City Manager Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations
COUNCIL LIAISON:	Jake Jacobson
EXHIBITS:	A. Draft: Capital Project Prioritization Memo B. Draft: Second Community Survey

SUMMARY

At the June 3, 2021, Parks and Recreation Commission meeting, the Commission will continue work on the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan update. The discussion topics will include:

- Review and feedback on the draft capital project prioritization tool
- Review and feedback on the second community survey

The project team is seeking input from the PRC to inform revisions of both documents.

BACKGROUND

As directed by the City Council in September 2019, the Parks & Recreation Department, in collaboration with the Parks & Recreation Commission (PRC), began the process of updating the PROS Plan. The previous PROS plan expired at the end of 2019.

The PROS Plan is a six-year plan that anticipates the programming and capital infrastructure investments necessary to meet the community’s need for parks, recreation, open space, trails, arts, and cultural events. Conservation Technix was selected as the consultant to manage the process, including providing a baseline analysis of existing conditions and community needs, facilitating a community engagement process, and developing a draft framework for the final PROS Plan.

Work was suspended on the PROS Plan update in April 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

At the end of 2020, the staff and consulting team resumed the planning process for the PROS Plan, with an initial focus on assessing the work that was already completed, adjusting the project timeline, and modifying the scope of work to reflect the need for virtual engagement strategies. To date, work that has been completed on the PROS Plan includes a review of existing conditions, completion of a capital facilities

assessment, three presentations to the Parks and Recreation Commission, the completion of a community survey, and a Virtual Open House.

On January 19, 2021, the City Council hosted a joint study session with the PRC (see [AB 5797](#)) to kick-off the re-start of the planning process for the PROS Plan update.

A subsequent meeting was held with the PRC on February 4, 2021, to gather input to help inform the first Virtual Open House held on March 23, 2021.

At the March 6, 2021, meeting, the PRC received a report out on the March Virtual Open House, reviewed the parks condition assessment, and discussed the consultant's initial findings related to ADA compliance.

CAPITAL PROJECT PRIORITIZATION TOOL

The Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) is a component of the PROS Plan and will provide a list of all of the potential parks, trails, and open space capital projects under consideration over the next 10 to 20 years. Types of CFP projects include:

- Renovations or enhancements to existing facilities.
- New facilities or amenities.
- Property acquisitions.

The projects in the CFP will be prioritized based on a scoring tool to be developed as part of the PROS Plan process. The staff and consulting team are seeking feedback on the proposed capital project prioritization tool (see Exhibit 1). Once the criteria and weighted scoring approach is confirmed, staff will turn their attention to updating the list of potential capital projects for review and consideration at a future PRC meeting.

SECOND COMMUNITY SURVEY

The project team is recommending conducting a second community survey to solicit input on capital project priorities, to further refine our understanding of recreation program priorities, and to explore revenue and funding alternatives. The project team is seeking feedback from the PRC on the draft survey questions (see Exhibit 2).

NEXT STEPS

The following agenda items are anticipated for the July 8 PRC Meeting:

- Review final draft of second community survey
- Continue review and discussion of capital investment priorities
- Introduction to goals and policies

Work will continue on the PROS Plan at the September 2 PRC meeting and the PROS Plan will likely be a standing agenda item through the end of 2021.

RECOMMENDATION

Review and provide feedback on the draft capital project prioritization tool and the second community survey.

Mercer Island PROS Plan

Capital Project Prioritization

Background

The Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) is a component of the PROS Plan and will provide a list of all of the potential parks, trails, and open space capital projects under consideration over the next 10 to 20 years.

Types of CFP projects include:

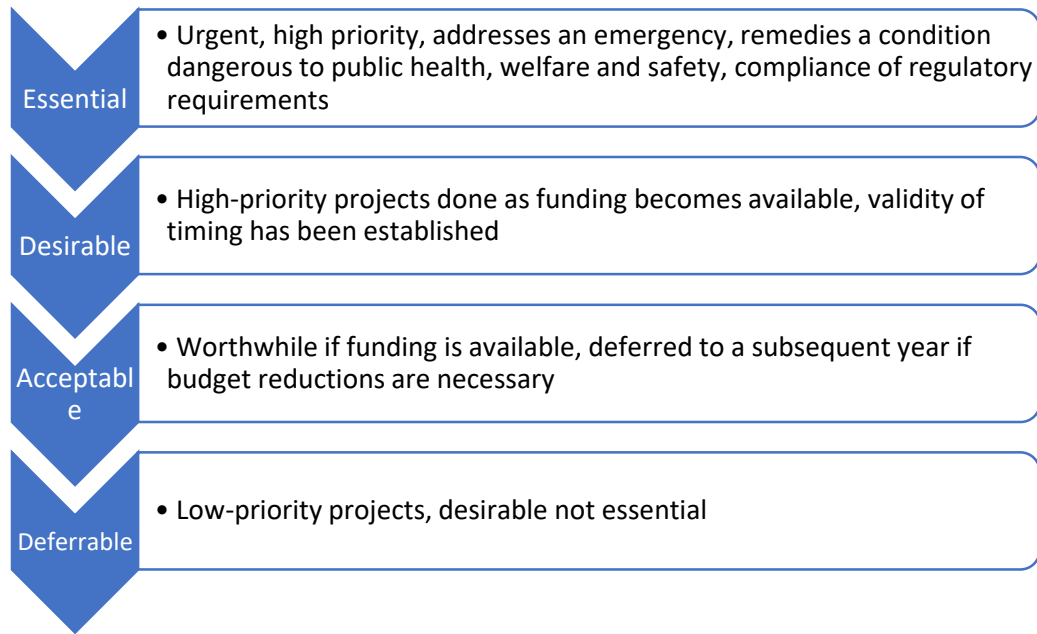
- Renovations or enhancements to existing facilities.
- New facilities or amenities.
- Property acquisitions.

The Capital Facilities Plan (CFP) will include a brief description of each project and assign an estimated project cost. The CFP is not an approved budget, but instead serves as a guiding document to inform preparation of departmental budgets, identify project priorities, estimate capital funding loads, and prepare grant funding strategies.

The projects in the CFP will be prioritized based on a scoring tool to be developed as part of the PROS Plan process. The framework for developing the CFP prioritization tool is further described in the next section.

Concepts to Frame Capital Planning Prioritization

Capital project prioritization tools range from value-based ranking systems to complex rating scales. In developing the prioritization tool, we want the criteria to align with the values of the community and be easy to understand and apply. At a high level, system improvements could be weighed in a tiered system, as shown below.



Other considerations for project prioritization may include the following:

Park Capital Renovation & Repair Projects

- Capital repair projects that address public safety should receive the highest priority for budget allocations and implementation.
- Minor capital repair projects that prevent the need for major renovation at a later date should be prioritized and scheduled in a timely fashion.
- Capital repair projects for transportation, water, sewer, or stormwater should be evaluated to consider how/if/when coordination with the Parks CFP could achieve multiple benefits or project efficiencies.
- Park system renovation and repair projects should address existing barriers and seek compliance with ADA guidelines to the extent possible.

New Park Capital Facility Projects

- New capital projects should be consistent with the goals and policies of the PROS Plan, the City’s Comprehensive Plan, and relevant, adopted park or open space site master plans.
- New capital projects should be compliant with ADA guidelines to the greatest extent possible and incorporate identified ADA upgrades or improvements, where feasible.
- New capital projects in transportation, water, sewer, or stormwater, should consider how to compliment and/or coordinate with parks capital projects (*especially for trail and utility connections and water access*) to leverage public funding and facilitate park or trail improvements.
- Public involvement should be incorporated into any master planning and park design development and should inform the recommendation on new capital projects.
- New capital projects should clearly demonstrate how they meet an identified public need or maintain an existing asset.

- Funding for new capital projects should seek funding from state and federal grant programs.

Framework Considerations to Establish Project Priority Criteria

Higher Significance:

- Addresses public and/or physical safety issue
- Completes a multi-phase project (e.g., Luther Burbank or Aubrey Davis master plans)
- Enhances existing site conditions (i.e., improves efficiency, enables better connections, expands capacity, reduces overuse by patrons, etc.)
- Addresses multiple goals or values (i.e., stormwater management, recreation, civic engagement, ADA, cultural arts, etc.)

Medium Significance:

- Reduces repetitive maintenance needs
- Maximizes current site use or adds to future capacity
- Adds significant recreational value
- Creates more diverse or varied recreational options systemwide
- Improves walkability and/or addresses gaps in trail system
- Promotes stewardship, sustainability & public health

Lower Significance:

- Improves visual or aesthetic value and civic pride
- Expands the distribution of recreational opportunities systemwide

SAMPLE Prioritization Criteria

The CFP prioritize projects based on public feedback, Parks and Recreation Commission guidance, and staff review. A preliminary list of seven criteria have been identified to be applied to the draft capital project list.

Criteria	Rating Scale	Rating Definitions	Weighting Factor	Max. Score
Safety & Security: projects that address safety and security needs in order to provide safe public park spaces that are accessible to all, with a higher rating applied for projects with high risk of safety concern or amenities at the end of useful life.	(0, 1, 2)	0: No / Low risk 1: Moderate risk of safety or failure to be addressed 2: High risk of safety or failure to be addressed	6	12
Operating Budget Impact: assesses the project impact on the operating budget	(0, 1, 2)	0: Increase to operating budget 1: No change to operating budget. 2: Decrease in operating budget.	3	6
Geographic Distribution: projects that support equity and access to parks and facilities across the Island, with higher rating applied for projects that fill known geographic gaps in service.	(0, 2) Binary	0: North of SE 40th St 2: South of SE 40th St	2	4
Expanding Opportunities: projects that offer additional or expanded recreation opportunities based on public feedback and/or projects that improve conditions for ADA usage and equity.	(0, 1, 2)	0: No new recreational amenity or opportunity 1: Moderate / Minor improvement to recreational opportunity (i.e., small trail connections, small ADA enhancements) 2: Significant / New recreational improvements (i.e., newly added features, major ADA upgrades)	2	4
Extending Useful Life: projects that repair or replace existing amenities or add new amenities that provided longer life cycles.	(0, 1, 2)	0: Nominal / No extension of amenity life 1: Moderate extension of amenity life (i.e., 5-10 years) 2: Significant extension of amenity life (i.e., 10-20 years)	2	4
Unique Recreation Feature: projects that are high value and unique amenities, such as docks, piers, all-weather turf, splash pad or specialized equipment.	(0, 2) Binary	0: Does not pertain to a unique amenity 2: Does pertain to a unique amenity	1	2
High Use / Intensity Site: projects that improve parks and facilities that are used heavily and/or where cost of project is evaluated against the volume of usage/resident benefit.	(0, 2) Binary	0: Does not support a high-use site 2: Does support a high-use site	1	2

Draft: Capital Project Prioritization Memo

The (draft) ranking criteria, once confirmed, will be applied to a preliminary project list. Each project will be scored using the rating scale per criteria. The individual project scores for each criterion will then be multiplied by a weighting factor and summed to arrive at a weighted matrix value.

Other considerations: The sorting of the CFP project list can be segmented between major project classifications, such as Park Renovations & Upgrades, Trail Improvements, Open Space Management, Facilities & Centers, and Property Acquisitions.

SAMPLE Application of Prioritization Criteria – Aubrey Davis Park

In the table below, a number of potential capital projects at Aubrey Davis Park were evaluated using the scoring criteria provided on the previous page. The total weighted project score is calculated in the column to the right.

Rating Scale		0, 1, 2	0, 1, 2	0, 2	0, 1, 2	0, 1, 2	0, 2	0, 2	
Weighting Factor		6	3	2	2	2	1	1	
Aubrey Davis Park: Potential Capital Projects (Sample Only)		Safety / Liability	Operating Budget Impact	Geographic Distribution	Expands Opportunities	Extends Useful Life	Unique Feature	Supports High-Use Sites	Total Weighted Score
Lid A Backstop Lifecycle Replacement	CRP	2	1			2		2	21
Lid A Playground Replacement	CRP	2	1		1	2		2	23
Lid B Playground Replacement	CRP	2	1		1	2		2	23
Lid C Field Drainage Renovation	CRP		1			1		2	7
Lid Connector Trail	CFP				1			2	4
Outdoor Sculpture Gallery Improvements	CFP		1				2		5
Tennis Court Resurfacing/Conversion	CRP	1	2			2		2	18
Trail Safety Improvements	CFP	2	1			1		2	19

Mercer Island PROS 2021

Community Survey #2 - DRAFT

Intro

The City of Mercer Island began the process of updating the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan in early 2020. The PROS Plan will help inform parks and recreation priorities for the next 6 to 10 years. Work on the plan was suspended in in early 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and resumed in early 2021. For more information on the PROS Plan, please visit the [Mercer Island Let's Talk Page](#).

In early 2020 the City of Mercer Island facilitated a community survey on parks and recreation and the results are available [here](#). The City is now conducting a second PROS Plan survey to better understand local priorities for improvements to the parks system. We understand that COVID-19 may have impacted your ability to visit parks and trails this past year. We ask that you consider the future orientation of the parks plan as you evaluate needs and priorities for the parks and recreation system.

The survey consists of ___ questions regarding priorities for future improvements. It takes about 15 minutes to complete, and residents of all ages are encouraged to participate.

Thank you in advance for participating!

1. In the past year, how often did you visit or use Mercer Island parks, trails, or open space areas?

- At least once a week
- 2 to 3 times a month
- About once a month
- A few times over the year
- Do not visit
- Don't know

2. Rate your household’s overall satisfaction with the City of Mercer Island parks, trails, and open space areas.

- Very Satisfied
- Somewhat Satisfied
- Somewhat Dissatisfied
- Very Dissatisfied
- Don’t Know

[Staff Note: Recommendation is to run question #2 again to benchmark it against the responses we received as part of the previous PROS survey.]

3. How did the COVID-19 Pandemic impact your use of Mercer Island parks, trails, and open space areas?

- Use increased during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Use decreased during the COVID-19 Pandemic
- Use was about the same during the COVID-19 Pandemic

4. The City of Mercer Island must prioritize limited funding to address park system needs. For each of the following, please indicate whether you think it is a High Priority, Medium Priority, Low Priority, or Not a Priority for your household.

	High Priority	Medium Priority	Not a Priority	Not Sure
Maintaining existing parks, trails, and open space areas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Improving/upgrading parks, trails, and open space areas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Safety improvements at parks, trails, and open space areas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquiring new land for parks, trails, and open space areas.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Building new parks and trails.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

5. Please indicate whether you think the City of Mercer Island should spend more, spend less, or is spending the right amount for each of the items listed below.

	Spend More	Spending is the Right Amount	Spend Less	Not sure
Natural areas/open space areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pocket parks or small neighborhood parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking/jogging trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public beaches, waterfronts, and docks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Picnic areas/picnic shelters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biking trails and paths	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Athletic or sports fields (soccer, baseball/softball, football, lacrosse)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sport Courts (tennis, pickleball, baseball)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-Leash Dog Areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skateparks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community gardens	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. How important are each of the following parks, trails, or open space amenities to your household?

	Very Important	Somewhat Important	Not Important	Not Sure
Picnic shelters/covered picnic areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restrooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking/jogging trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open space and natural areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pickleball courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Synthetic/artificial turf athletic fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pocket parks/small neighborhood parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
BMX/mountain biking facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skate park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bike lanes or bike paths	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor fitness equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spray park/splash pad	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basketball courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-leash dog areas	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boating / water sport facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

[Staff note: Question #6 (see previous page) is similar to question #7 asked during the first survey, but is asked slightly differently and includes the amenities that have surfaced lately as priorities through the public process.]

6a. Select your top three park amenity priorities from the list above.

7. Do you agree or disagree with this statement:

The City of Mercer Island has enough land for parks, trails, and open space to meet community needs, now and in the future.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Not Sure

8. If the City of Mercer Island were to acquire additional park land, please rank your land acquisition priorities from 1 (highest priority) to 6 (lowest priority). Select each priority only once.

	Select each priority ONLY ONCE .						Don't know
	Highest priority —————>Lowest priority						
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	
Acquire land for new or expanded waterfront access	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquire land to preserve habitat and open space areas that can include walking/jogging trails	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquire land for active recreation such as sports fields and playgrounds	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquire land for pocket parks or small neighborhood parks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Acquire land for indoor recreation facilities, like gyms or classrooms	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

9. If you wanted the City of Mercer Island to do just one thing to improve parks, trails and/or open space areas, what would it be? (Open-ended)

10. For your household, please indicate your interest in the following recreation programs and activities.

	Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Not Interested	Not Sure
Swimming & water safety (classes or for fitness)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boating programs (sailing, kayaking, paddle boarding)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor classes (fishing, environmental or orienteering)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Educational classes (technology, safety or health)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Performing arts (theater or concerts)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs for adults 55+ (drop-in activities, trips)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult classes (arts, crafts, fitness)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Children's after-school programs or summer day camps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth activities (fitness, music, arts or crafts)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Youth sports programs and camps during school breaks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

11. Recognizing that the City of Mercer Island cannot provide every desired service, please indicate your priorities by identifying item in the list as either a core/primary service (one the City should lead), partner/secondary service (one the City should collaborate with or partner with another organization to provide), or not a priority for city government.

	Core / Primary Service	Partner / Secondary Service	Not a Priority	Don't Know
Youth activities, such as supervised after-school programs or summer day camps	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Teen activities, such as drop-in facilities, trips, or camps during school breaks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Programs for senior adults 55 and over, such as drop-in activities, trips, or health	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fitness or wellness classes (aerobics, yoga, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Adult sports leagues, such as soccer or softball	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community events, concerts & celebrations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Seasonal lifeguarding at swim beaches	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. For your household, please indicate your interest in the following aquatic programs and activities.

	Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Not Interested	Not Sure
Swimming lessons	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sailing classes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kayak / paddleboard rentals or other watercraft rentals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fishing programs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water-oriented special events such as dragon boat races, sailing races, etc.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Water-oriented summer camps (sailing, kayaking, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

13. Prior to COVID-19, if your household did not often participate in or utilize recreation programs or activities offered by the City of Mercer Island, what are the reasons? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY

- N/A - Does not apply to me
- Not aware of programs
- Don't have activities I'm interested in
- Poor quality of programs
- Poor quality or outdated facilities
- Held at inconvenient times
- Held at inconvenient locations
- Classes or programs are full
- Need childcare in order to participate
- Too busy; no time
- Lack of transportation
- Too expensive / Fees too high
- Other (please specify)

14. The City of Mercer Island is exploring options to enhance revenue generation to support the delivery of parks and recreation services. How would you rate your level of support for each of the following options?

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Supportive	Not Sure
Install and rent additional picnic shelters	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Charge fees for outfield fence banners or other advertisements at athletic fields	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Institute a paid parking program at Luther Burbank Park	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Institute a paid reservation system for tennis and pickleball courts	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increase rental scheduling at the Community Center for private events and gatherings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Alternative survey questions to consider related to funding parks and recreation services:

15. Which one of the following statements best describes how you feel park and recreation programs and facilities should be funded? (Please select one)

- 100% from user fees
- 100% from taxes – no fees should be charged to use recreation facilities and programs
- Mostly from user fees and some from tax dollars
- Mostly from tax dollars and some from user fees
- Don't know

16. While no new property taxes are currently being proposed, what additional funding sources would you support to improve parks and recreation opportunities in Mercer Island?

- None, existing tax revenues and user fees should be sufficient
- Implement or increase user or rental fees for specific parks, programs, or events
- New tax to fund park system development and renovation projects

Demographics

The following, optional questions help us understand whether we have a cross-section of the community responding to this survey, and the data will help in future grant requests. Thank you for your understanding.

19. How many children under age 18 live in your household?

- 0
- 1
- 2
- 3 or more

20. What is your age?

- Younger than 20
- 20 to 34
- 35 to 44
- 45 to 54
- 55 to 64
- 65 and older

21. Using the map, in which section of Mercer Island do you live?

- (A) North of SE 40th
- (B) Between SE 40th and SE 68th
- (C) South of SE 68th
- Don't live on Mercer Island

Closing Statement & Re-direct

Parks & Recreation Commission



Department Report

June 3, 2021

Reminder: Register for Summer Camp

- Over 900 registrations to date! (pre-season estimate was 750)
- Spots remain in some of these popular camps!
- Register by visiting the individual organization’s website
- The camp flyer, with organization links can be found on the Parks & Recreation webpage (www.mercerisland.gov/parksrec) and the Parks & Recreation Facebook page
- Register TODAY to secure your summer of fun!



Fire @ Lid Picnic Shelter

- Tuesday evening MIFD responded to flames in Aubrey Davis Park.
- Crews extinguished flames in the garbage can and on the roof of the picnic shelter. It reignited Wednesday morning.
- No one was hurt, but the wood structure is a total loss.
- This shelter generates approximately \$5K in revenue annually.



Did you happen to see something in the area? Have a tip? The [Mercer Island Police Department](#) requests anyone with information to contact Detective Bobby Jira at (206) 275-7913.

Boat Launch Payment System

- In February, we announced progress towards an updated payment system at the Boat Launch.
- **PayByPhone officially launched last Tuesday.**
- Users interested in purchasing daily and monthly passes will be prompted to download the PayByPhone parking application to either fill out a profile or continue as a guest.
- User's will then enter the Boat Launch's unique location code (**206010**) and follow the app prompts to pay for daily or monthly passes.
- Yearly passes can still be purchased via the City's website.
- **For more information or to purchase an annual pass visit www.mercerisland.gov/boatlaunch.**



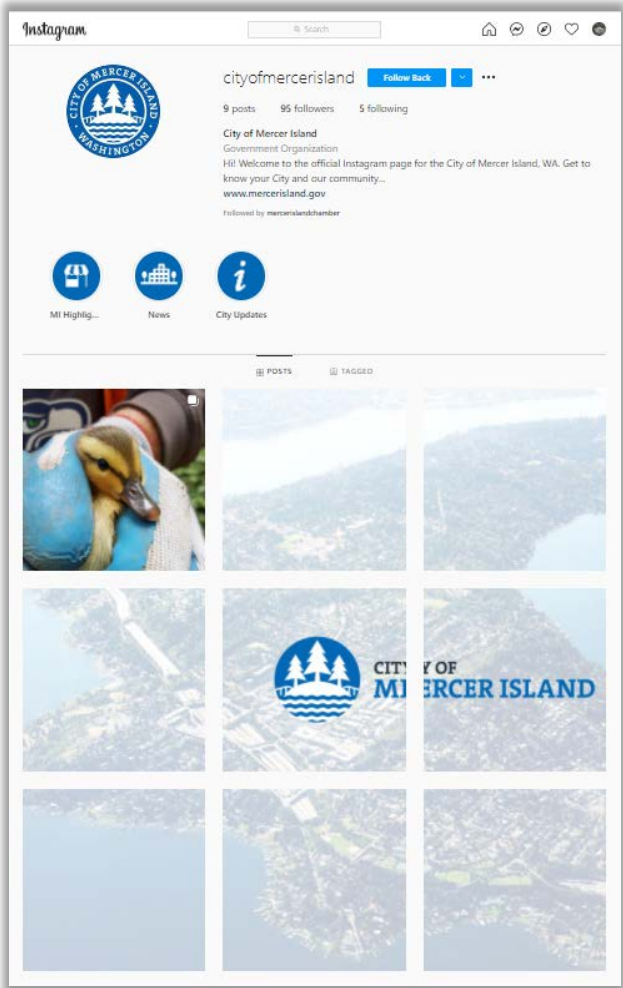
Lifejacket Loaner Station

- The kiosk will be maintained by P&R Staff and Marine Patrol will regularly inspect the condition of the jackets and replace as needed.
- These lifejackets are ENCOURAGED to be used by anyone in need, we ask that they be returned after use.
- Additional kiosks will be constructed in early 2022:
 - Groveland Beach, Clarke Beach, and Luther Burbank.
- **Thank you to Heather Kurt and the Mercer Island Community Fund for making this possible!**



City Instagram

- The City has launched its official Instagram account.
- The new account launched last week and has a graphic placeholder and its first message with more content on the way.
- Follow the City at **@cityofmercerisland** and stay tuned for more on the City’s renewed social media strategy.
- Thanks to Councilmember Rosenbaum for reserving the account name years ago and transferring it over to the City.



Mercer Island Parks & Recreation

Thank You!