



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## SPECIAL HYBRID MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, October 8, 2024 at 5:00 PM

### COMMISSIONERS

Chair Peter Struck  
Vice Chair Paul Burstein  
Commissioners: Jodi McCarthy, Don Cohen  
Sara Marxen, Rory Westberg, and Ashley Hay

### LOCATION

MICEC – Slater Room Council Chambers  
and via Zoom  
8236 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040  
Phone: 206.275.7600 | [www.mercerisland.gov](http://www.mercerisland.gov)

*We strive to create an inclusive and accessible experience. Those requiring accommodation for meetings should notify the Staff Liaison's Office 3 days prior to the meeting at 206.275.7870 or by emailing [ryan.daly@mercerisland.gov](mailto:ryan.daly@mercerisland.gov).*

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 staff at **206.275.7861** and leave a message or [email](#) before 4 PM on the day of the Commission meeting. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

**Join by Telephone at 5:00 PM:** Call **253.215.8782** and enter Webinar ID **829 5722 6992** and Password **537663**.

**Join by Internet at 5:00 PM:**

- 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 **829 5722 6992** and Password **537663**.

**Join in person at 5:00 PM:** Mercer Island Community & Event Center - 8236 SE 24<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercer Island

### CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL – 5:00 PM

### APPEARANCES

This is the opportunity for anyone to speak to the Commission about issues of concern.

### STAFF LIAISON REPORT

1. Staff Liaison Report and Planning Schedule

### SPECIAL BUSINESS

2. Approve the minutes of the September 5, 2024 Regular Hybrid Meeting  
**Recommended Action:** Approve minutes.
3. PRC24-12: Parks Zone Development Discussion  
**Recommended Action:** None. Discussion only.

### OTHER BUSINESS

4. Absences and Commissioner Reports

### ADJOURNMENT



# City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Commission

## Department Report October 8, 2024



# Project Updates



# Public Input on Clarke & Groveland Beaches

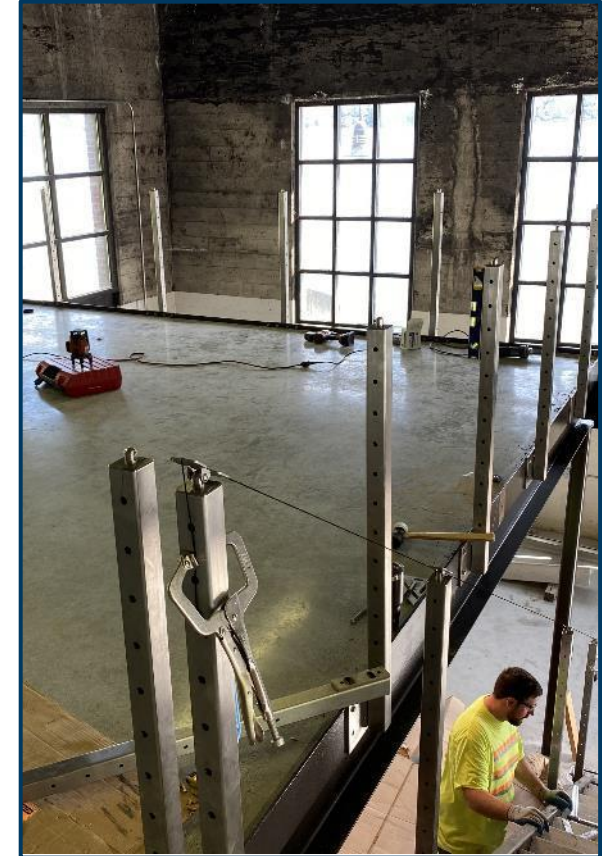
- The City has launched a digital survey to collect information about how the community currently uses **Clarke and Groveland Beaches**.
- Responses will be accepted until **October 22**.
- Community input will be combined with other background analysis to inform the scope of the planning process for future improvements at these parks.
- Staff anticipate engaging the PRC for input in December and bringing a recommended planning scope to the City Council in early 2025.
- Please visit our Let's Talk page to provide input!  
[www.mercerisland.gov/cgmp](http://www.mercerisland.gov/cgmp)



# Luther Burbank Boiler Building

Item 1.

- Work continues on the Luther Burbank Boiler Building project.
- Installation of the mezzanine and stairway railings is underway. Some parts need to be modified, so the completion may be delayed a few weeks.
- The rollup door for the concessions stand and the water heaters for the restrooms have been installed.
- The chimney cap fabrication is complete, and it should be delivered and installed soon.
- Substantial completion on the project is expected in about 2 weeks.



# Pickleball Courts at LBP

- Last week Northwest Asphalt placed the second lift of asphalt pavement and the team conducted a flood test to check the court planarity and drainage.
- Drainage performed as planned, and the team found a few ridges along the paving seams, which is typical for sport court paving.
- Next up, FieldTurf will complete other items, including installing a new drains, building the new access path, and grading the south hillside.
- Staff still anticipate the courts will be playable for pickleball later this month, with temporary striping.
- The final playing surface and markings will be installed next spring- with a Ribbon Cutting to follow!



6 Stay updated at: [www.mercerisland.gov/lbpcourts](http://www.mercerisland.gov/lbpcourts)



# Good News



# Family Movie Night Fun

- 124 people registered for last Friday's Family Movie Night, watching Kung Fu Panda 4!
- Families brought blankets and chairs, enjoyed popcorn and treats, played in the Game Room, and hung out in the lobby.
- THANK YOU to Mercer Island Martial Arts for sponsoring!
- The next Family Movie Night is scheduled for Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> as part of our "Family Holiday Party" event!
- Staff is currently arguing about the BEST family-friendly holiday movie to show - input can always be sent to [Miparks@mercerisland.gov](mailto:Miparks@mercerisland.gov) to sway the selection.





# Mid-Autumn Festival

- The City partnered with the Mercer Island Chinese Association to bring the Mid-Autumn Festival to the Community Center on **September 22 from 10am – 2pm.**
- WOW- What a turn out!
- This event included beautiful lanterns, delicious mooncakes, incredible performances, a variety of games and activities for the entire family.



# Winter Web-Special for Athletic Fields

- Last week, the Recreation Division offered a “Winter-Web Special” for booking athletic fields at a discounted rate- as a test offering.
- The process allows field users to view synthetic turf field availability, book, and pay online.
- In the first week, 16 bookings (40.5hrs) were completed by 4 different organizations.
- The web- special will run through the month of November, and will be reintroduced in December following the Mercer Island resident priority booking period.
- Staff will be coordinating with the PRC in 2025 to review booking policies to enhance the process while maintaining resident priority.



[www.FieldsonMercer.com](http://www.FieldsonMercer.com)



# Upcoming Programs and Events



# Kick-Off Planting Season!

Register here:

<https://volunteersignup.org/48JMA>



Join Us for  
**ARBOR DAY**  
Gallagher Hill Open  
Space  
**Saturday, Oct 19th**  
**10am-2pm**

Come celebrate Mercer Island's forests by **helping us plant trees and shrubs.**  
All ages welcome, gloves, tools and **lunch** for all volunteers **provided by Pagliacci's Pizza.**



Scan code to register



# P-Patch-Community Garden



**Staff has begun work preparing for the 2025 P-Patch Program.**

- Confirming participants and identifying plot locations.
- Updating maps and program materials.
- Contacting current and prospective participants.

**Your Invited! Informational meeting November 13, 4pm at the MICEC:**

- Introduce participants to Recreation Staff
- Inform on the application and registration procedures.
- Discuss program participation and maintenance expectations.
- Answer questions participants may have.

[www.mercerisland.gov/parksrec/page/p-patch-community-garden-program](http://www.mercerisland.gov/parksrec/page/p-patch-community-garden-program)

# New Recreation Programs

## URBAN SKETCHING MERCER ISLAND

WITH STEVEN REDDY

OCT 19TH - 10 AM TO 3 PM

*Join us!*



Sketch Mercer Island!  
October 19th  
Urban Sketching Class  
10 AM – 3 PM  
Cost: \$120  
MIVAL members \$100



Register: [MIVAL.org/classes](http://MIVAL.org/classes)

We will start indoors for a lesson on technique at Mercer Island Community and Event Center, 8236 SE 24th St, Mercer Island and then moves to Mercer Island City Center near Starbucks to practice the technique and sit with our coffee and snacks! Beginners and all levels are welcome!

There is a \$10 cash fee payable to the instructor for some special supplies if you have not taken a workshop with Steven Reddy before.



EMERALD BALLET THEATRE AND  
THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND  
PRESENT

# Friday PreBallet

FOR AGES 4-6

*a joyful introduction to movement and music*

-  Dates: October 4, 11, 18, 25 & November 1, 8, 15, 22
-  Time: 4:15-5:00pm
-  Location: Mercer Island Community Center  
8236 SE 24th St., Mercer Island, WA 98040

*Sign up today at*

[emeraldballet.org/community-classes](http://emeraldballet.org/community-classes)



# Town Center Trick or Treating

Friday, October 25  
4 - 6pm

Trick or Treat in Town Center with participating businesses. Look for the pumpkin decal in the windows!

This free-family-friendly event provides our community with the perfect start to their Halloween festivities!



# PUMPKIN WALK



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27 5 - 8 PM  
MERCERDALE PARK

*Join a fun, family friendly walk along the Mercerdale loop. The path will be lined with a glowing display of carved pumpkins.*

## WE NEED YOUR PUMPKINS!

*Carvers of all ages are encouraged to participate in the display. Carved pumpkins can be dropped off from 12pm - 4pm on the day of the event at Mercerdale Park or the week of at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center.*

Sponsored By:

MERCER ISLAND  
CITY LIFESTYLE



# Parks and Recreation Planning Schedule

Item 1.

## November 7

- Park Zone Planning
- Recreation Policy Implementation Update

## December 5

- Park Zone Planning
- Groveland Beach/Clarke Beach Planning Update
- Parks Capital Projects and Levy Update- **Move to 2025**







# Thank You



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

## 2024 PLANNING SCHEDULE

Items are not listed in any particular order.  
Agenda items & meeting dates are subject to change.

<b>OCTOBER 8, 5:00 PM (SPECIAL) *ROSH HASHANA OCT. 3*</b>		<b>STAFF WORK</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE 10/1</b>
Absences:			
<b>TIME/TOPIC</b>		<b>STAFF</b>	
	PRC 24-12: Kick-off Park Zone planning	Jessi Bon	

<b>NOVEMBER 7, 5:00 PM</b>		<b>STAFF WORK</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE 11/1</b>
Absences:			
<b>TIME/TOPIC</b>		<b>STAFF</b>	
	PRC 24-XX: Park Zone planning	Jessi Bon	
	PRC 24-XX: Recreation Policy Implementation Update	Ryan Daly	

<b>DECEMBER 5, 5:00 PM</b>		<b>STAFF WORK</b>	<b>AGENDA GO LIVE 11/27</b>
Absences:			
<b>TIME/TOPIC</b>		<b>STAFF</b>	
	PRC 24-XX Groveland/Clarke Master Plan- Public Engagement	Sarah Bluvus	
	PRC 24-XX: Park Zone planning	Jessi Bon	
	PRC 24-XX: Work Plan Progress and CIP Progress Update	Ryan Daly/Jason Kintner	



## PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR HYBRID MEETING MINUTES September 5, 2024

### CALL TO ORDER

The Parks & Recreation Commission was called to order by Chair Struck at 5:00 pm.

### ROLL CALL

Chair Peter Struck, and Commissioners Jodi McCarthy, Rory Westberg, Don Cohen, Ashley Hay, and Sara Marxen were present for the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Vice Chair Paul Burstein was absent.

Recreation Manager Ryan Daly, Parks Operations Manager Sam Harb, Management Analyst II Carson Hornsby, and Recreation Specialist Raven Gillis were present.

### APPEARANCES

No Public Appearances

### STAFF LIAISON REPORT

#### 1. Recreation Manager Ryan Daly reported on the following items:

- Pride in the Park
- Luther Burbank Sports Court Renovation
- Playground Replacements
- Art Uncorked
- Mid-Autumn Festival
- Summer Recap
- Thank you to our Summer event sponsors!
- Parks and Recreation Planning Schedule

### SPECIAL BUSINESS

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the July 11, 2024 Special Meeting were presented.

It was moved by Westberg; seconded by Hay to:

**Approve the minutes from the July 11, 2024 Special Meeting**

Passed: 6 – 0

#### 3. PRC 24-11: Park Tour

Recreation Manager Ryan Daly led the Commissioners and Staff on the Park Tour

#### Park Tour from 5:14pm to 7:58pm

At 5:22 pm Council Liaison Craig Reynolds joined the Park Tour.

## OTHER BUSINESS

### 4. Absences and Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Westberg reported that he will be absent from the October Meeting. Prior to tonight's meeting, Vice Chair Burstein shared his Commissioner report with Chair Struck. Chair Struck read it on Vice Chair Burstein's behalf. Vice Chair Burstein recognized Recreation Manager Ryan Daly and his Parks & Recreation Team for "pulling off such a spectacular summer program!" Chair Struck seconded Vice Chair Burstein's comments.

Recreation Manager Ryan Daly extended his appreciation, and in turn recognized the Parks & Recreation Commission for their great work and for their attendance at this summer's programmed events. Daly also extended his appreciation to Sam Harb and his Park Maintenance crew for all their hard work behind the scenes.

Chair Struck noted that Vice Chair Burstein had communicated his absence from tonight's meeting with Chair Struck and Staff in advance of the meeting. Chair Struck asked for a motion to excuse Vice Chair Burstein's absence.

It was moved by McCarthy; seconded by Cohen to:  
**Excuse Vice Chair Burstein's absence from tonight's meeting**

Passed: 6 – 0

**ADJOURNMENT at 8:02 PM**



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

**PRC 24-12**  
**October 8, 2024**  
**Special Business**

## AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	PRC 24-12: Parks Zone Development Discussion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Recommendation
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	No action. Review draft Parks Zone development process. Discussion and idea sharing on the Parks Zone purpose statement, designation requirements, and uses permitted.	
<b>STAFF:</b>	Jessi Bon, City Manager Carson Hornsby, Management Analyst II Alison Van Gorp, Deputy CPD Director Ryan Daly, Recreation Manager Sam Harb, Parks Operations Manager Alaine Sommargren, Deputy Public Works Director	
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Presentation and photo tour of park properties	

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Parks Zone is a proposed new land use designation that will establish regulations for most City-owned and/or managed parks. Its purpose is to ensure these lands are preserved and managed appropriately, in alignment with the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, City code, master plans, and similar guiding documents.

- During the October 8 Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting, staff will introduce the project and begin discussions on the framework, objectives, and timeline for development of the draft Parks Zone.
- Staff recommends that the PRC follow a process similar to the development of the Open Space Zone. Over the course of several meetings, staff and the PRC will collaborate on the draft text for the new Parks Zone, ensuring it meets all regulatory requirements.
- Crafting regulations that balance the built environment with the preservation and protection of parks will be particularly complex given the unique features in the park system. See Exhibit 1 for a photo tour of the Mercer Island parks system, highlighting the many different features and amenities across the various parks.
- For now, staff suggests setting aside the specific nuances of each individual park and focusing on drafting code language that aligns with stewardship and management plans, preservation goals, community feedback and desires, best practices, current and future uses, and other practical considerations.
- At this first meeting, the PRC will begin sharing ideas on the Parks Zone purpose statement, designation requirements, and permitted uses. These initial ideas will be incorporated into draft text for consideration at the next PRC meeting in November. This work is anticipated to continue through March 2025.
- It is currently anticipated that the PRC will hand-off a recommendation to the Planning Commission (PC) in Q2 2025 and the City Council will undertake review and adoption of the new Parks Zone by the end of 2025.

## BACKGROUND

### Parks Zone/Open Space Zone Background

The scope of work for the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update, adopted by the City Council in 2022 with [Resolution No. 1621](#), included creation of a new Parks Zone. A preliminary Parks Zone draft was presented to the PRC and PC in January 2024. After staff gathered feedback from the commissions and community, the legislative review process was paused and the draft Parks Zone was returned to the PRC for further discussion.

The PRC revisited the Parks Zone in March 2024 and provided a recommendation to staff to separate the Parks Zone planning work into two phases: the first phase to develop a new zone for City-owned public Open Space Lands, and the second phase to develop a new zone for City-owned public park properties.

The PRC and the Open Space Conservancy Trust (OSCT) Board held several joint meetings to provide input on the development of legislation establishing the Open Space Zone. At the [May 8, 2024 PC meeting](#), the PRC and OSCT Chairs presented a joint recommendation on the draft Open Space Zone. The PC completed the legislative review process related to the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update in June 2024. The PC approved a recommendation regarding the Open Space Zone code amendment at the [September 25, 2024 PC meeting](#). The City Council is scheduled to review the PC recommendations regarding the Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update and Open Space Zone code amendment in Q4 2024.

Now that the PRC's first phase of work is complete on the Open Space Zone, the PRC will shift focus to the development of the Parks Zone with the goal of presenting a recommendation to the PC in Q2 2025.

Establishment of the Parks Zone will require amendments to the MICC and Comprehensive Plan:

- Development Regulations – create a new subsection or subsection(s) under MICC 19.05, amend [MICC 19.01.040](#) to establish the Parks Zone, and amend [MICC 19.16.010](#) to establish new definitions (as needed).
- Zoning Map – amend the Zoning Map in the MICC to reflect where the Parks Zone applies.
- Land Use Designations – amend the Land Use Designation table in the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan (if needed).

### Legislative Review Process

Once the PRC makes its recommendation to the PC, the PC will commence the formal legislative review process to gather public input and provide a recommendation to the City Council, as established in [Chapter 19.15 MICC](#).

The legislative review process includes the following steps:

- The Planning Commission holds a public hearing ([MICC 19.15.020](#)).
- The Planning Commission makes a written recommendation to the City Council following the public hearing ([MICC 19.15.260\(B\)\(2\)](#)).
- The City Council considers the Planning Commission recommendation during a public meeting, deciding to adopt, reject, or amend the recommendation ([MICC 19.15.260\(B\)\(3\)](#)).

## **Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan**

The PROS Plan is a six-year plan that anticipates the programming and capital infrastructure investments necessary to meet the community's needs for parks, recreation, open space, trails, arts, and cultural events. The City Council adopted the [Parks, Recreation and Open Space \(PROS\) Plan](#) on March 1, 2022.

The PRC served as the lead advisory board on the PROS Plan update with support provided by the Arts Council and OSCT. The 2022 PROS Plan community engagement process included two statistically significant mail-in surveys with concurrent surveys available online, virtual open houses, a dedicated project webpage, and numerous board and commission meetings.

Chapter 4 of the PROS Plan establishes goals and objectives that serve as the policy framework for the provision of parks and recreation services by the City of Mercer Island. Development of master plans, policies, codes, and other work products should align with this policy framework, which includes development of the Parks Zone.

## **ISSUE/DISCUSSION**

### **Parks Zone Development Process**

Staff recommends that the PRC follow a process similar to the development of the Open Space Zone. Over the course of several meetings, staff and the PRC will collaborate on the draft text for the new Parks Zone, ensuring it meets all regulatory requirements. Staff will incorporate feedback from each meeting into the draft text and present it at the following meeting for PRC review. This process is anticipated to continue through March 2025.

### **The Mercer Island Parks System is Complex**

Crafting regulations that balance the built environment with the goal of preserving and protecting parks will be particularly complex given the unique features in the park system. See Exhibit 1 for a photo tour of the Mercer Island parks system, highlighting the many different features and amenities across the various parks.

For now, staff suggests setting aside the specific nuances of each individual park and focusing on drafting code language that aligns with stewardship and management plans, preservation goals, community feedback and desires, best practices, current and future uses, and other practical considerations.

### **“Test Fitting” the draft Parks Zone**

Once the PRC work is complete on the initial draft Parks Zone, staff will conduct an analysis or "test fit" to identify any non-conforming features or other potential issues with the proposed zone. How we address those issues will depend on what we find and will likely involve policy direction from the City Council.

### **Zoning Code Framework**

Zoning code in the MICC generally consists of the five components summarized below, which were used to guide the development of the draft Open Space Zone. Staff proposes that the PRC use this framework again to guide the development of the draft Parks Zone.

#### **1. Purpose**

- What is the goal of the Parks Zone?
- Review PROS Plan goals and objectives (Chapter 4).

2. Designation Requirements
  - What criteria is used to determine if land is included in the Parks Zone?
  - Review PROS Plan classifications and inventory (Chapter 5).
3. Uses Permitted
  - What are the allowed uses in the Parks Zone?
4. Development Standards
  - What are the regulations for physical modification and structures in the Parks Zone?
5. Definitions
  - What terms require further definition?
  - Are the terms used elsewhere in the code? If yes, do the existing definitions meet the needs of the Parks Zone? If not, what revisions are proposed?
  - Staff will develop a definitions list for key terms based on the draft code.

At the October 8 PRC meeting, staff suggest the PRC start with discussion and idea sharing on the purpose statement, designation requirements, and uses permitted. These initial ideas will be incorporated into draft text for consideration at the next PRC meeting in November.

## NEXT STEPS

The PRC will provide input on the development of the draft Parks Zone and provide a recommendation to the PC. The PC will conduct the legislative review process and provide a final recommendation to the City Council regarding amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and MICC. The anticipated PRC meeting schedule for this work is provided below.

- Tuesday, October 8, 2024
  - Presentation: Parks Zone introduction and parks photo tour
  - Discussion and Idea Sharing: Purpose Statement, Designation Requirements, and Uses Permitted
- Thursday, November 7, 2024
  - Review Draft Text: Purpose Statement, Designation Requirements, and Uses Permitted
  - Discussion and Idea Sharing: Development Standards
- Thursday, December 5, 2024
  - Review Draft Text: Development Standards
  - Discussion and Idea Sharing: Definitions
- Thursday, January 2, 2025 (Meeting anticipated to be rescheduled due to holiday)
  - Review Draft Text: Full Code Review
  - Test Fit Analysis – Review Applicability of Draft Parks Zone to Existing Parks
- January 2025 - Potential Joint Meeting with City Council (tentative)
- Thursday, February 6, 2025
  - Follow-up Discussion on Test-Fit Analysis and Feedback from City Council (tentative), revisions to draft Parks Zone if necessary
  - Review draft Hand-Off Memo to PC



- Thursday, March 6, 2025
  - Finalize All Materials
  - Discussion: Next Steps (hand-off to PC, legislative review process, timelines of the Comprehensive Plan annual update and code amendment)

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

No action. Review draft Parks Zone development process. Discussion and idea sharing on the Parks Zone purpose statement, designation requirements, and uses permitted.



# Parks Zone

PRC24-12

October 8, 2024





# Agenda

- Staff Presentation
  - Parks Zone Introduction and Background
  - Review: Zoning Code Framework
  - Discussion & Idea Sharing: Purpose Statement, Designation Requirements, and Uses Permitted
  - Review: Timeline
- Reference Photos: Park Uses and Amenities



# Parks Zone Introduction & Background



# Update on Open Space Zone

- The City Council directed staff to develop a Parks Zone as part of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update.
- The PRC and OSCT provided a recommendation to separate the work item into two zones: Parks and Open Space.
- The PRC and OSCT provided a joint recommendation on the draft Open Space Zone to the Planning Commission in May 2024.
- The Planning Commission completed the legislative review process for the amendments to the Comprehensive Plan in June 2024 and code in September 2024.
- The Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update and code amendment are anticipated to be reviewed and adopted by the City Council in Q4 2024.

# Parks Zone

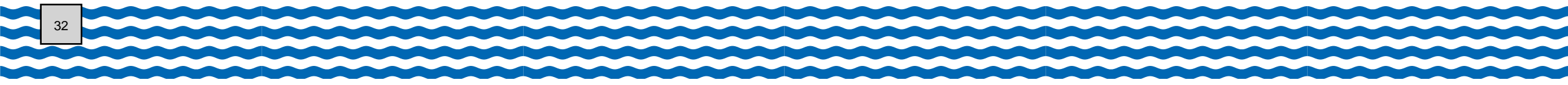
- The PRC will now shift focus from the Open Space Zone to developing a recommendation on the draft Parks Zone.
- The Parks Zone is anticipated to be established as part of the 2025 Comprehensive Plan annual update.
- Staff proposes the PRC follow the framework used for development of the draft Open Space Zone.

# Parks Zone: Code and Comp Plan Amendments

- Development of a new Parks Zone requires amendments to the **Mercer Island City Code (MICC)** and the **Mercer Island Comprehensive Plan**:
  - **Development Regulations** – create a new subsection or subsection(s) under MICC 19.05, amend [MICC 19.01.040](#) to establish the Parks Zone, and amend [MICC 19.16.010](#) to establish new definitions (as needed).
  - **Zoning Map** – amend the [Zoning Map](#) in the MICC to reflect where the Parks Zone applies.
  - **Land Use Designations** – amend the Land Use Designation table in the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan (if needed).

# Legislative Review Process

- The Mercer Island zoning code is established in [MICC 19.01.040](#).
- Any amendment of Title 19 MICC must proceed through the legislative review process established in Chapter 19.15 MICC:
  - The Planning Commission holds a public hearing.
  - The Planning Commission provides a written recommendation to the City Council following the public hearing.
  - The City Council considers the Planning Commission recommendation during a public meeting, deciding to adopt, reject, or amend the recommendation.







# PROS Plan (2022)



# Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan

- The PROS Plan was adopted in March 2022 after two+ years of community engagement: two surveys, open houses, and guidance from the PRC, OSCT, and Arts Council.
- The PROS Plan established goals and objectives which serve as the policy framework for the provision of parks and recreation services on Mercer Island.
- The PROS Plan provides a foundation to guide decisions related to planning, acquiring, developing, and maintaining parks, open space, trails, and recreation facilities.
- The PROS Plan identifies priorities for recreation programs, special events, arts, and cultural activities.
- The PROS Plan is intended to align with and incorporate all other parks and recreation related plans, policies, codes, and other work products.



# PROS Plan – Goals (Chapter 4)

- 1. Planning, Acquisition & Access:** Provide a high quality, welcoming, and inclusive parks and recreation system that meets community needs now and in the future.
- 2. Maintenance & Operations:** Provide the Mercer Island community with safe, well-maintained parks and recreation facilities.
- 3. Environment & Sustainability:** Provide a high quality, diversified open space system that preserves and enhances urban forests, critical habitat, and other environmental resources. Incorporate sustainability practices into operations, maintenance, and planning.
- 4. Trails:** Develop and promote an interconnected community through safe, accessible, and attractive trails and pathways easily accessed by a variety of trail users.
- 5. Recreation Facilities & Programming:** Provide a variety of recreation programs, services, and facilities that promote the health and wellbeing of residents of all ages and abilities.
- 6. Arts & Culture:** Facilitate and promote comprehensive and engaging arts and culture experiences.
- 7. Community Engagement & Partnerships:** Encourage and support community engagement and pursue collaborative partnerships to strengthen and grow parks and recreation programs and services.
- 8. Administration & Fiscal Sustainability:** Provide leadership and sufficient resources to maintain and operate a welcoming, efficient, safe, and sustainable parks and recreation system.



# Parks Zone Discussion



# Parks Zone - Approach

- Staff recommends that the PRC follow a process similar to the development of the draft Open Space Zone. Over the course of several meetings, staff and the PRC will collaborate on the draft text for the new Parks Zone, ensuring it meets all regulatory requirements.
- Crafting regulations that balance the built environment with the preservation and protection of parks will be particularly complex given the unique features in the park system.
- For now, staff suggests setting aside the specific nuances of each individual park and focusing on drafting code language that aligns with stewardship and management plans, preservation goals, community feedback and desires, best practices, current and future uses, and other practical considerations.

# Zoning Code Framework

## 1. Purpose

- What is the goal of the Parks Zone?

## 2. Designation Requirements

- What criteria is used to determine if land is included in the Parks Zone?

## 3. Uses Permitted

- What are the allowed uses in the Parks Zone?

## 4. Development Standards

- What are the regulations for structures and other physical modifications in the Parks Zone?

## 5. Definitions

- How are key terms in the Parks Zone code defined?

# Tonight's Discussion:

## 1. Purpose

- What is the goal of the Parks Zone?

## 2. Designation Requirements

- What criteria is used to determine if land is included in the Parks Zone?

## 3. Uses Permitted

- What are the allowed uses in the Parks Zone?



# PRC Meeting Schedule





# PRC Meeting Schedule

## Tuesday, October 8, 2024

- Presentation: Parks Zone introduction and parks photo tour
- Discussion and Idea Sharing: Purpose Statement, Designation Requirements, and Uses Permitted

## Thursday, November 7, 2024

- Review Draft Text: Purpose Statement, Designation Requirements, and Uses Permitted
- Discussion and Idea Sharing: Development Standards

## Thursday, December 5, 2024

- Review Draft Text: Development Standards
- Discussion and Idea Sharing: Definitions

## Thursday, January 2, 2025 (Meeting anticipated to be rescheduled due to holiday)

- Review Draft Text: Full Code Review
- Test Fit Analysis – Review Applicability of Draft Parks Zone to Existing Parks

## January 2025 - Potential Joint Meeting with City Council (tentative)

### Thursday, February 6, 2025

- Follow-up Discussion on Test-Fit Analysis and Feedback from City Council (tentative), revisions to draft Parks Zone if necessary.
- Review Draft Hand-Off Memo to PC

### Thursday, March 6, 2025

- Finalize All Materials
- Discussion: Next Steps (hand-off to PC, legislative review process, timelines of the Comprehensive Plan annual update and code amendment)



# Reference Slides: Parks Photo Tour



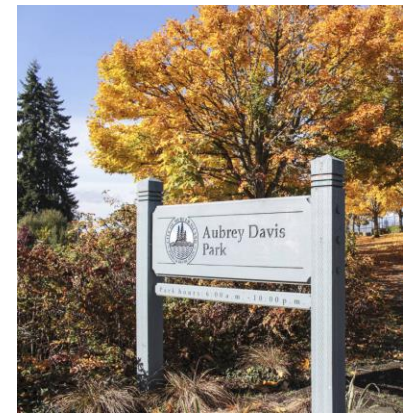
# Aubrey Davis Park

- Baseball fields
- Basketball court
- Boat launch
- Bocce courts
- Grass areas
- Paved trails
- Picnic shelter
- Picnic areas
- Playgrounds
- Plaza
- Public art
- Restrooms
- Soccer/lacrosse field
- Tennis courts
- WSDOT right-of-way



# Aubrey Davis Park

Item 3.



# Luther Burbank Park

- Amphitheater
- Luther Burbank Building
- Boiler Building
- Docks and fishing pier
- Sport courts
- Swimming area
- Playgrounds
- Paved pathways
- Trails
- Open Space
- Picnic and BBQ areas
- Public art
- Parking
- Restrooms
- (Future) pickleball courts
- Wetlands and boardwalk



# Luther Burbank Park



# Clarke Beach Park

- Swimming area
- Docks
- Picnic and BBQ areas
- Restrooms
- Open Space
- Paved trails
- Parking



# Groveland Beach Park

- Swimming area
- Docks
- Volleyball court
- Picnic and BBQ area
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Open Space
- Parking





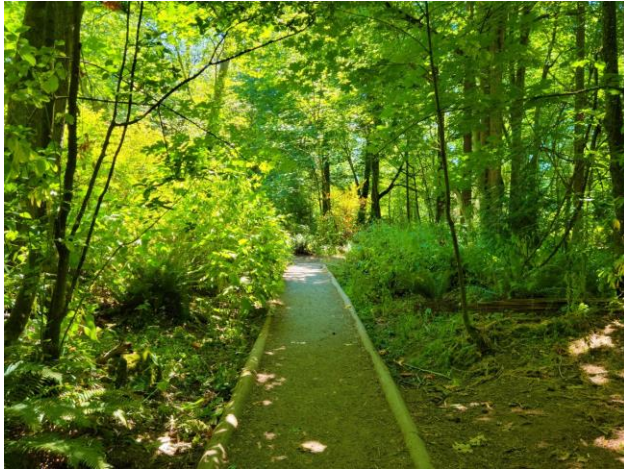
# Homestead Park

- Baseball field
- Basketball court
- Tennis courts
- Playground
- Restrooms
- Open Space
- Public art



# Island Crest Park

- Baseball fields (football, soccer)
- Batting cage
- Bleachers
- Bullpen
- Concessions stand
- Dog waste station
- Drinking fountains
- Open Space
- Parking
- Paved pathways
- Picnic and BBQ areas
- Restrooms
- Tennis courts
- Trails



# Island Crest Park



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Item 3.



# Mercerdale Park

- Grass areas
- Inclusive playground
- Kirk Robinson Skate Park
- Native plant garden
- Natural areas
- Outdoor exercise equipment
- Open Space
- Paved pathways
- Plaza and Veteran's Pergola
- Picnic areas
- Public art
- Restrooms
- Recycling center
- Trails
- Venue for City events



# Mercerdale Park

Item 3.



# South Mercer Playfields

- Softball fields
- Soccer field
- Playground
- Field lights
- Track
- Batting cage
- Concessions stand



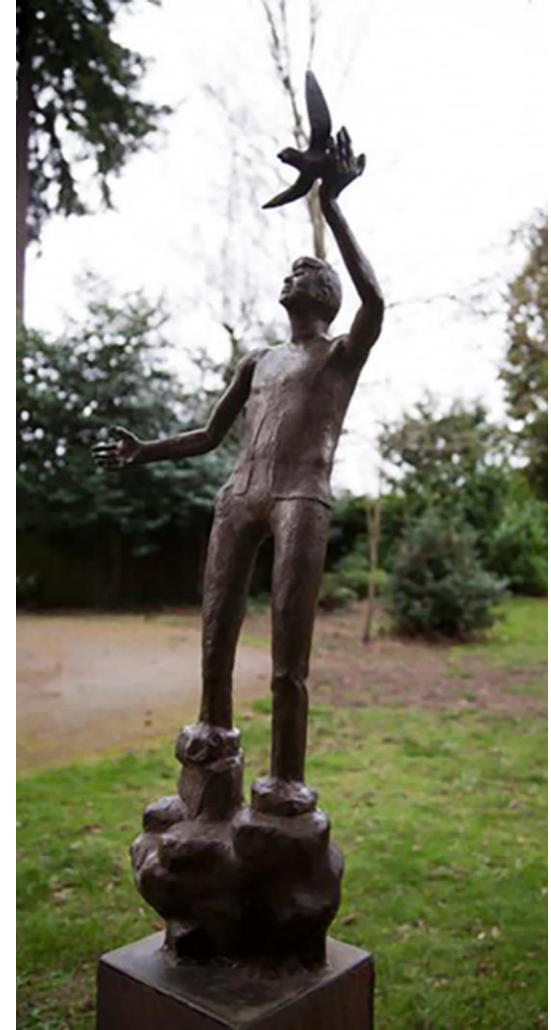
# Deane's Children's Park

- Benches
- Bike rack
- Bike Skills Area
- Playground
- Picnic shelter
- Picnic tables
- Public art
- Restrooms
- Trails



# First Hill Park

- Backstop
- Grass area
- Paved court
- Playground
- Picnic table
- Public art





# Roanoke Park

- Tennis court
- Grass area
- Playground
- Picnic table
- Drinking fountain
- Public art
- Parking



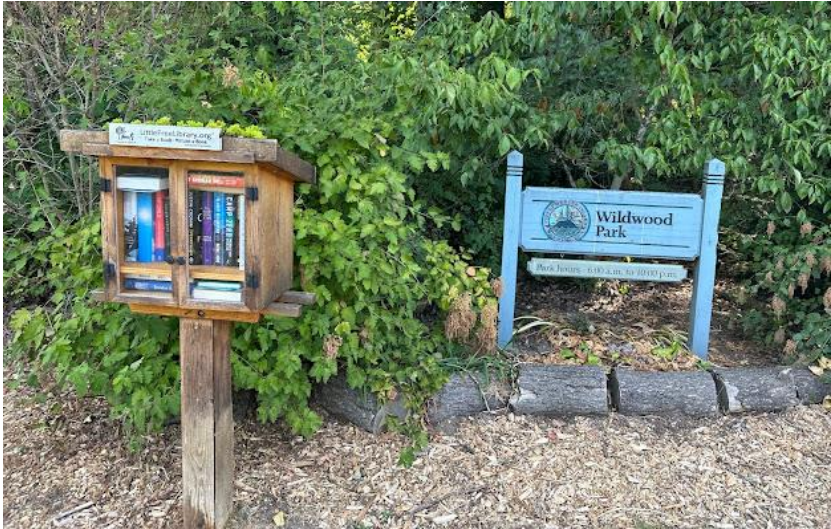
# Rotary Park

- Trails
- Shed
- Benches
- Picnic tables



# Wildwood Park

- Off-leash dog area
- Grass area
- Open Space
- Picnic table
- Library kiosk
- Dog waste station



# Bicentennial Park

- Restroom
- Flagpole
- Drinking fountain
- Plaza
- Trail



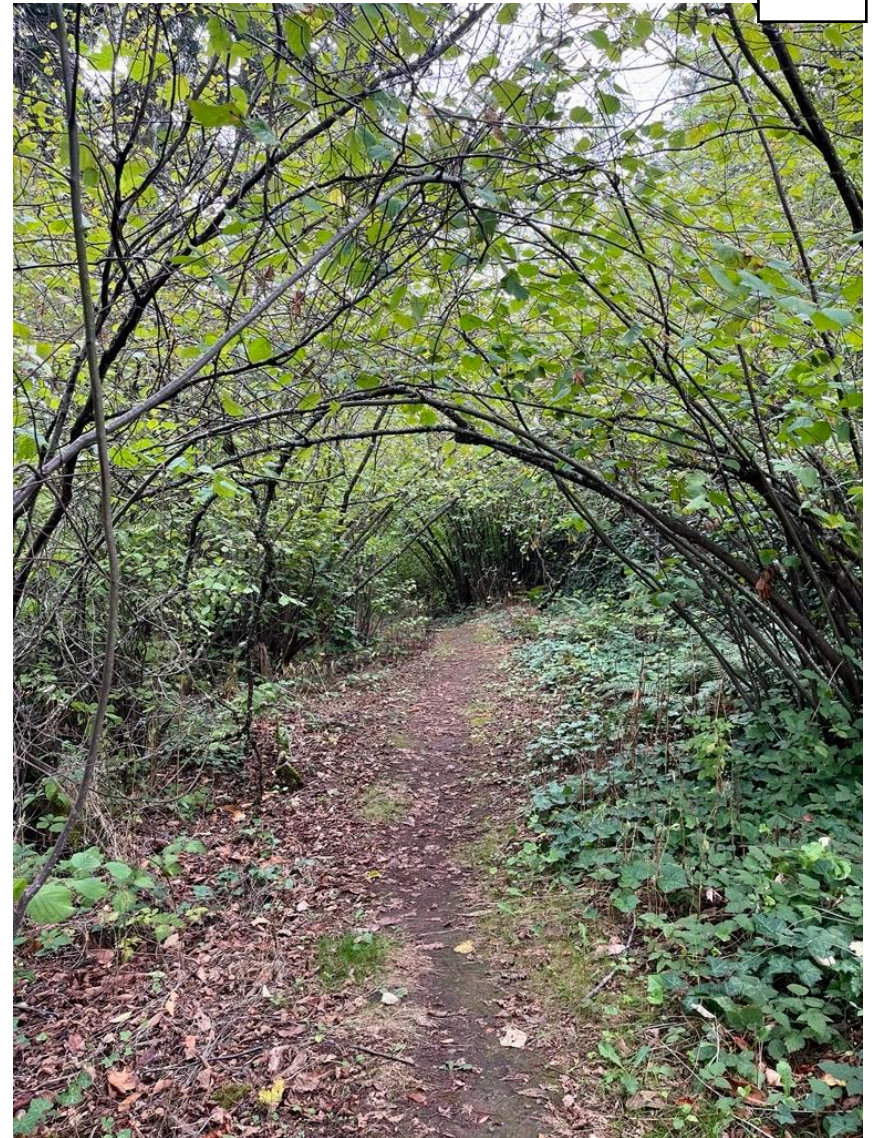
# SE 28<sup>th</sup> St Mini Park

- Bench



# Secret Park

- Playground
- Picnic table
- Open Space
- Trail



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# Slater Park

- Picnic tables
- Benches
- Moss garden
- Parking
- Public art
- Dog waste station





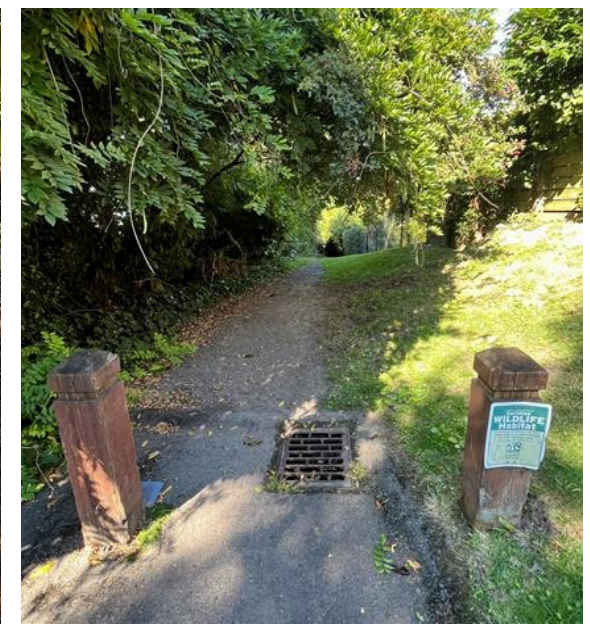
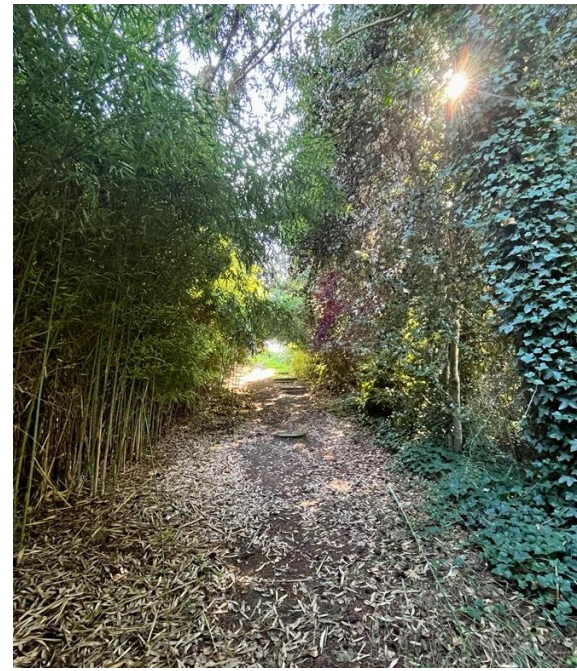
# Landings & Street Ends





# 77th Ave SE Landing

- Joint-use sewer services (2)
- Sewer stub (1)
- Storm main (1)
- Catch basins (5)



# Calkins Landing

- Sediment vault (1)
- Storm mains (2)
- Catch basins (3)
- Sewer vent lines (2)

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# Forest Landing

- Pumps (2)
- Generator (1)
- Pressurized sewer mains (4)
- Sewer mains (2)
- Storm main (1)
- Sewer stub (1)
- Catch basin (1)



# Franklin Landing

- Sewer mains (3)
- Storm mains (3)
- Catch basin (1)



# Fruitland Landing

- Pumps (2)
- Generator (1)
- Pressurized lines (3)
- Sewer mains (4)
- Storm main (1)
- Storm lateral (1)
- Sewer stubs (4)
- Catch basins (3)



# Garfield Landing

- Storm mains (2)
- Catch basin (1)



# Lincoln Landing

- Storm mains (2)
- Sewer mains (4)
- Catch basins (2)

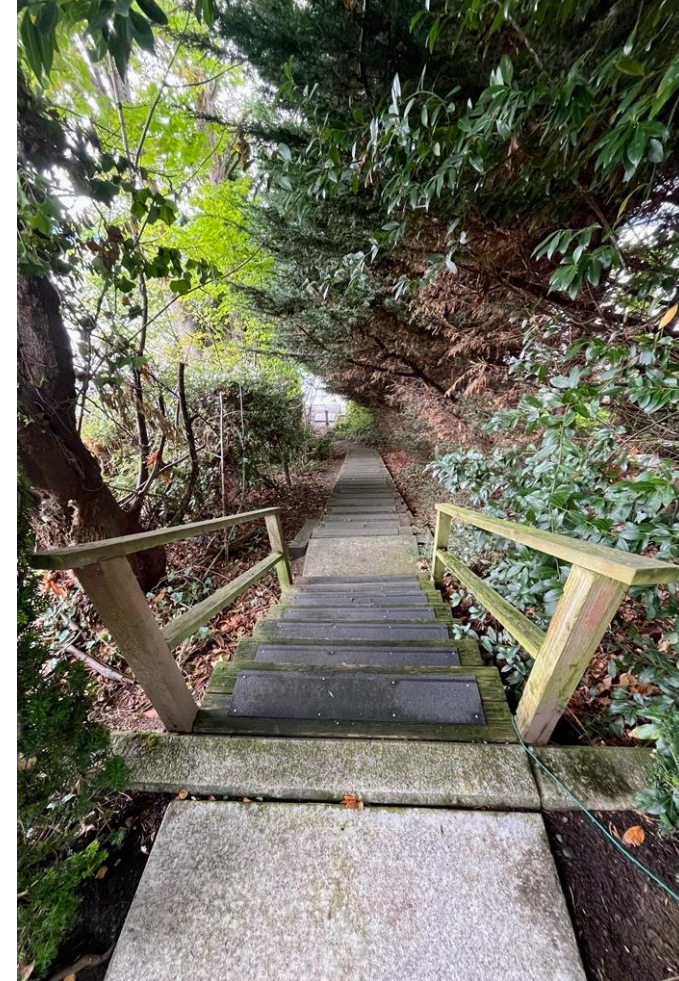


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# Miller Landing

- Pumps (2)
- Generator (1)
- Pressurized sewer mains (5)
- Sewer mains (4)
- Storm mains (2)
- Storm lateral (1)
- Catch basins (4)





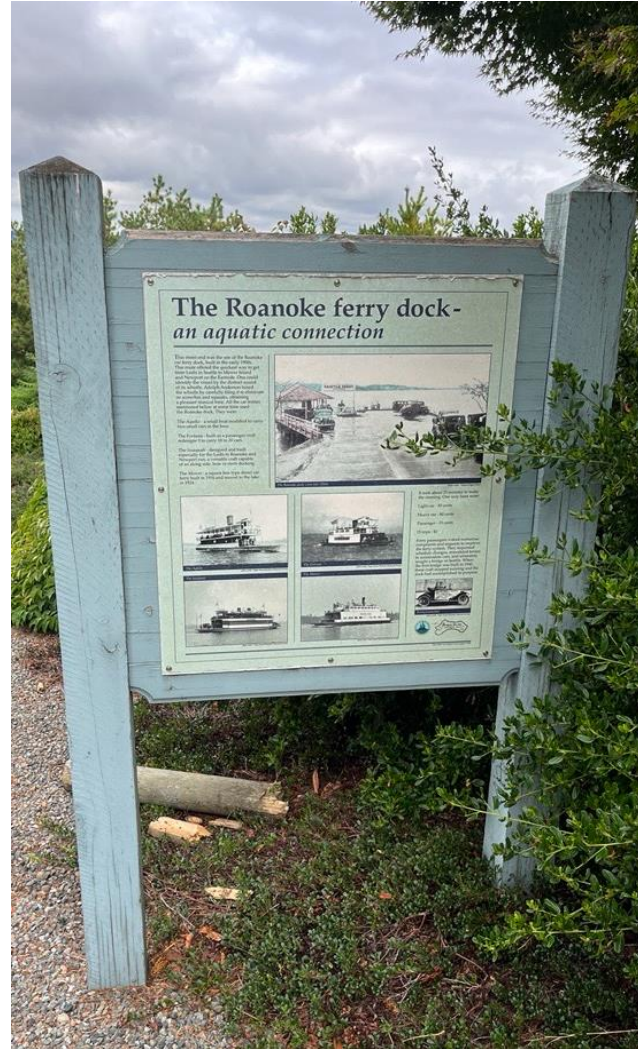
# Proctor Landing

- Sewer mains (3)
- Sewer vent line (1)
- Storm line (1)
- Special sewer catch basin (1)
- Sewer stub (1)



# Roanoke Landing

- Storm main (1)
- Sewer main (1)



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# Special Facilities



# Mercer Island Community & Event Center

- Full gymnasium
- Game room
- Dance room
- Fitness room
- Meeting rooms
- Catering kitchen
- Terrace
- Landing
- Lawn
- Public art
- 222 parking spaces
- Emergency generator
- Annex facility



# Mercer Island Community & Event Center

- Provides facility space for both recreational and non-recreational programs, activities, and events.
- Serves as the City's Emergency Operations Center, shelter, warming, and cooling center.
- Hosts City Council, Board, and Commission meetings.
- Provides leased facility space for childcare.
- Provides City-wide meeting and office space.





# Recap: Open Space Zone



# Open Space Zone - Purpose

**Purpose.** The purpose of the Open Space Zone is to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance Open Space Lands, which provide habitat for native plants and animals and ecological services including stormwater management and carbon sequestration. Open Space Lands provide access to nature for passive recreation and relaxation and educational and stewardship opportunities.

# Open Space Zone - Designation Requirements

Item 3.

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**Open Space Zone Designation Requirements.** In addition to the requirements established in Section 19.15.240 MICC, Open Space Lands must be owned, leased, or managed by the City of Mercer Island and fulfill the purpose provided in subsection (A) above to qualify for classification as Open Space Zone.



# Open Space Zone - Uses Permitted

**Uses Permitted.** The following land uses are permitted in the Open Space Zone. A use not permitted by this section is prohibited.

1. Trails.
2. Passive recreational uses.
3. Passive recreational amenities.
4. Habitat restoration and enhancement.
5. Temporary uses compatible with the purpose of the Open Space Zone, as authorized by the City Manager or designee.
6. Wireless communications facilities. (Only if otherwise permitted by MICC 19.06.040 – Wireless Communications and/or MICC 19.06.070 – Small wireless facilities deployment and as subject to design and concealment standards as otherwise provided in the MICC).
7. Utilities, only where necessary for public safety or protection of the natural environment and no reasonable alternative location exists. Utilities should be underground, if feasible.