



OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST SPECIAL VIDEO MEETING

Thursday, October 19th 2023 at 5:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS:

Chair Geraldine Poor
Vice Chair Hillary Ethe
Secretary Marie Bender
Board Members: Lisa Anderl,
Thomas Hildebrandnt, Craig Olson and
Carol Lynn Berseth

LOCATION & CONTACT

Mercer Island City Hall – Zoom Meeting
9611 SE 36th Street | Mercer Island, WA 98040
Phone: 206.275.7706 | 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 206.275.7874 or by emailing sam.harb@mercerisland.gov

Registering to Speak: Individuals wishing to speak live during Appearances will need to register their request with staff at 206.275.7874 or email sam.harb@mercerisland.gov and leave a message before 4 PM on the day of the meeting. Please reference "Appearances" on your correspondence. Each speaker will be allowed three (3) minutes to speak.

Join by Telephone at 5:00 PM: To listen to the meeting, or speak under appearances, via telephone, please call **253.215.8782** and enter Webinar ID **897 7505 0426** and Password **074222** when prompted.

Join by Internet at 5:00 PM: To watch the meeting, or speak under appearances, 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 **897 7505 0426**; Enter Password **074222**

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL, 5 PM

PUBLIC APPEARANCES

REGULAR BUSINESS

1. Approval of Minutes for the July 20, 2023 Meeting
Recommended Action: Approve the July 20, 2023 minutes
2. Climate Action Plan
Recommended Action: Receive report

OTHER BUSINESS

3. [Department Update](#)
4. [Quadrant](#) Reports
5. Topics for Future Discussion
6. [Next](#) Scheduled Meeting – January 18th, 2023

ADJOURNMENT



OPEN SPACE CONSERVANCY TRUST BOARD MEETING MINUTES July 20th, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Berseth called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM

Chair Berseth, Vice Chair Geraldine Poor, Secretary Hillary Ethe, and Trustees Marie Bender, and Craig Olson participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

Staff participating remotely included: Parks Operations Manager Sam Harb and Natural Resources Project Manager Lizzy Stone

PUBLIC APPEARANCES:

No public appearances

REGULAR BUSINESS:

1. Approve Minutes of the April 20th, 2023 Meetings

Corrections: Two scrivener's errors were corrected

Motion by Olson and seconded by Ethe to:
Approve the Minutes of the April 20th, 2023, meeting.
PASSED: 5-0

2. Election of Officers

Chair Berseth started the process by asking for nominations.

Chair

Olson nominated Poor
There were no further nominations.
VOTE:
Passed: 5-0
Poor was elected Chair.

Vice Chair

Poor nominated Ethe.
There were no further nominations.
VOTE:
Passed: 5-0
Ethe was elected Vice Chair

Secretary

Bender nominated Bender
There were no further nominations.
VOTE:
Passed: 5-0

Bender was elected Secretary.

New quadrant assignments:

NW- Berseth and Hildbrandt

NE- Ethe and Bender

SE- Olson and Poor

3. Herbicide Application Report

Lizzy Stone, Natural Resources Project Manager gave a report on 2023 herbicide use.

4. Off Leash Dog Update

Sam Harb, Parks Operations Manager gave an update on off leash dogs

OTHER BUSINESS

Department Report

Sam Harb, Parks Operations Manager presented an update on the department.

Quadrant Reports

Northwest quadrant – Looking great, brushing, gravel. People dumping fern fronds

Northeast quadrant – Fantastic, canopy looks cool, lots of people, contractors and City crew

Southeast quadrant – Looking good, more people in the park, changing usage throughout the day

Topics for future discussion

Update on trail closures, historical use by native people, placards or educational links in the park, title transfer

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 19th, 2023, at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Open Space Conservancy Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM

Carol Lynn Berseth, OSCT Chair

Attest:

Andrea Larson, City Clerk



Mercer Island Climate Action Plan Recap

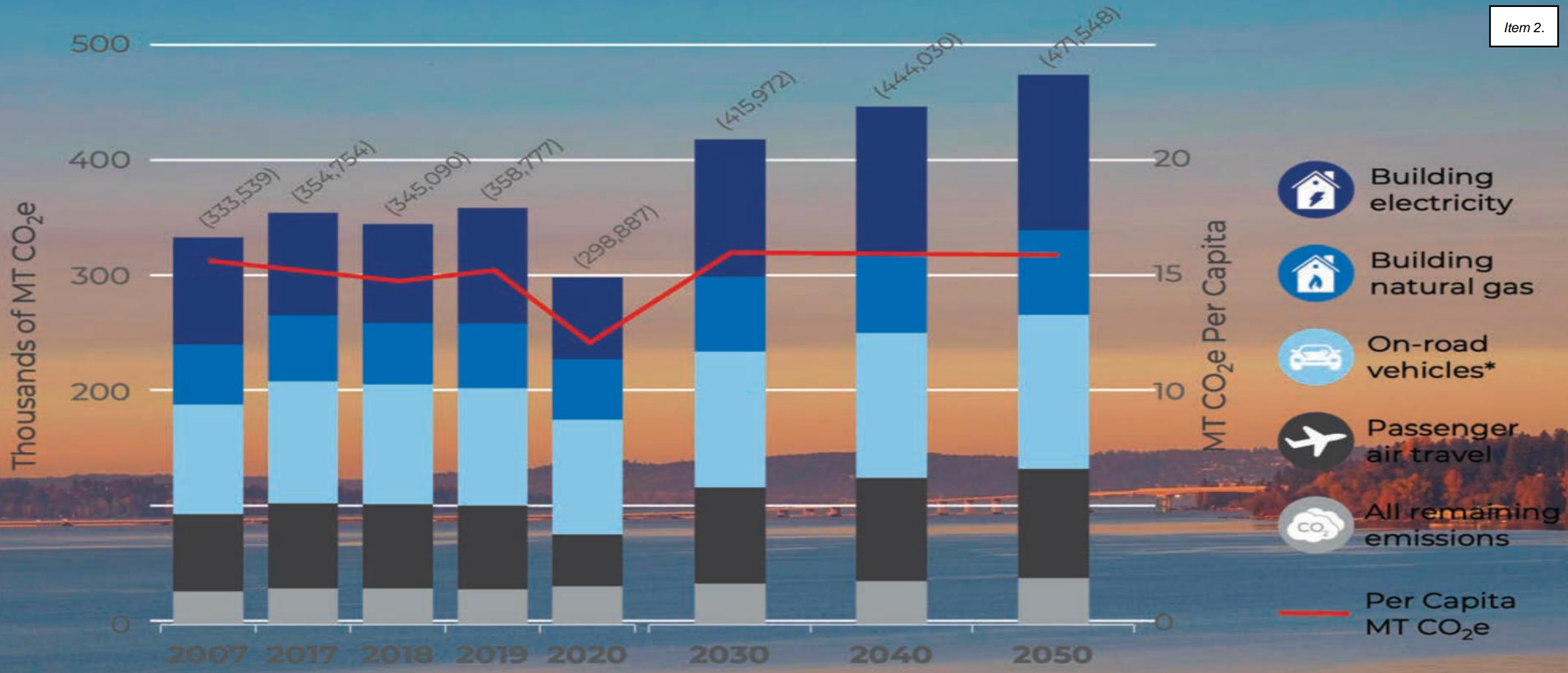
What is a Climate Action Plan?

- City of Mercer Island has completed its first-ever **Climate Action Plan** (CAP) to summarize and guide the key government, business, and household actions needed to reduce our community's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and to protect our environment from some aspects of climate change that are already underway
- The CAP serves to organize and prioritize a range of actions and policies that will help us achieve our climate goals, align with other City and regional plans, and build on the long history of stewardship the community has already demonstrated over the past few decades.



Historic and Forecasted GHG Emissions 2007-2050

Item 2.



Calculated emissions based on GHG inventory data

Expected emissions if no action (local, regional, state, federal) is taken

*On-road vehicles include buses, not passenger trains or light rail

CAP Process

Sept/Oct 2022:

- Conduct and analyze community-wide random sample survey

Nov 2022:

- Present survey results to Council (Nov 15 Mtg)
- Host Community Workshop (Nov 29)
- Refine GHG actions
- Perform Multi-Criteria Analysis (MCA)

Dec 2022:

- Develop Implementation Plan
- Begin CAP drafting

Jan 2023:

- Publish Draft CAP for 4-week review
- Present Draft CAP to City Council

Feb/Mar 2023:

- Public Hearing
- Discuss and approve edits to Draft CAP
- Implement revisions, finalize layout

Apr 4, 2023:

- Council adoption of Final CAP



Focus Areas

- Cross-Cutting & Municipal:
 - *Example:* Continue City efficiency programs; expand green fleet; GHG tracking
- Buildings & Energy
 - *Example:* Improving energy efficiency and reducing natural gas usage
- Transportation
 - *Example:* Creating clean, accessible transportation; adding more bike/ped options
- Consumption & Disposal
 - *Example:* Reducing waste; increasing recycling; shopping local
- Natural Systems
 - *Example:* Improve watering efficiency and preserve tree canopy
- Community Resilience
 - *Example:* Prepare for climate impacts and extreme weather events



Natural Spaces Goals

- City's tree replacement ratio for trees lost on public lands is at least 5:1
- 5% increase in tree canopy cover on private land
- 10% of public open space transitions from active restoration to monitoring & maintenance



Natural Spaces Focus Area

Strategy	KPI/Metric	2030 Target	2050 Target
Increase urban tree canopy and green space	Increase in tree canopy acreage and replacement counts	<p>City's tree replacement ratio for trees lost on public lands is at least 5:1</p> <p>Retention of healthy, mature canopy in parks, rights-of-way, and open space areas continues to be prioritized</p> <p>5% increase in tree canopy cover on private land</p>	<p>All new City planting are climate-adapted species</p> <p>15% increase in tree canopy on private land</p>
Foster healthy & resilient natural systems	Improvement in ecosystem function	<p>10% of public open space transitions from active restoration to a monitoring and maintenance phase of management</p> <p>Landowners participate in active restoration efforts and/or habitat conservation on private land</p>	50% of public open space transitions from active restoration to monitoring and maintenance phase of management



Natural Spaces Targets

- Strategy 1: Increase urban tree canopy and green space
 - Tree planting incentive program
 - City-led tree planting
- Strategy 2: Foster healthy & resilient natural systems
 - Water-efficient landscape standards
 - Water conservation incentives
 - Green stormwater infrastructure
 - Greywater reuse education
 - Monitoring and maintenance baseline for all City open spaces
 - Open space restoration



Open Spaces Actions – Current Status

Action	Implementation	By EOY 2023	By EOY 2024
Monitoring and maintenance baseline for all City open spaces	Complete an assessment of all City open spaces to establish a baseline for monitoring and maintenance phase.	RFQ for assessment	Assessment completed by contractor
Open space restoration	Using the baseline data from the assessment, expand acreage of forested open space undergoing intensive restoration in order to reach a more stable monitoring and maintenance phase of management. Expand contiguous areas of open space in the monitoring and maintenance phase to improve habitat connectivity and limit boundary effects.	Levy-funded work in Pioneer Park in progress	





Department Report October 19th, 2023

Open Space Conservancy Trust



City Hall Closure: Accessing City Services

Customer Service Team

(206) 275-7600

CustomerService@mercerisland.gov

(staffed Mon-Fri 8:30a-5:00p, except holidays)

- For the quickest and fastest service, community members should contact the City of Mercer Island Customer Service Team.
- The City's Customer Service Team can help answer your questions about services, such as service requests, pet licensing, business licenses, or parking permits during the closure of City Hall.
- The Customer Service Team can also assist you in getting connected to other City department teams as needed.

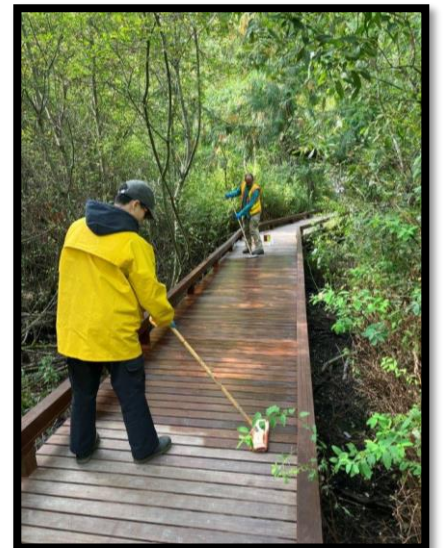
Special Events

- Celebrate Arbor Day with Mercer Island, Mountains to Sound Greenway
 - October 21st 9:45 tree planting to commemorate opening of Luther Burbank South Shoreline Trail, 10am-1pm volunteer event
- <https://www.mercerisland.gov/calendar>
- Hallo-Weekend
 - Trick or Treat in Town Center October 27th 4-6pm MI Town Center
 - Pumpkin Walk October 29th 5-8pm Mercerdale Park



Parks and Natural Resources

- Crews testing out electric leaf blowers with funds allocated from the Climate Action Plan
- Ellis Pond boardwalk pressure washed and stained
- Walsh Group started seasonal occupation of half of Luther Burbank South lot through May 15th, 2024
- Washington Conservation Crew (WCC) working this winter Nov-March



Parks and Natural Resources

- Park bench donations have restarted. Donors can contribute to refurbish or replace
- Seasonal closures of beach restrooms: Clarke, Groveland, Luther Burbank Swim beach



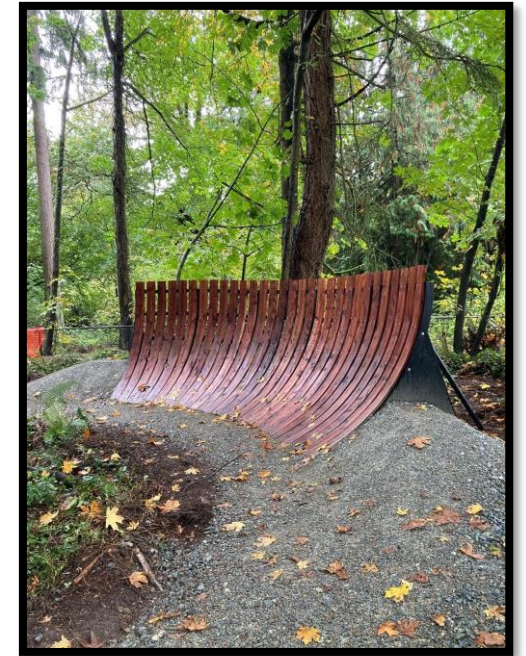
Volunteers

- 71 Volunteers contributed 138 hours in September, 10 events scheduled in October
- Volunteer Coordinator Jordan Fischer trained 7 new Forest Stewards this month



Bike Skills Area

- Construction has started
- New trail and wood features installed
- Parking in Deane's Childrens park and Island Crest Park impacted
- Details on Let's Talk:
- www.mercerisland.gov/bikeskillsarea



Open Space Conservancy Trust Board

- Boards and Commissions bylaws rewrite and legal review
- Hosted volunteer event on 10/7 for Indigenous Peoples Day
- Engstrom Title Transfer
- Trail repairs, changes
- Story map

Mercer Island's Public Art Collection

Mercer Island's robust public art collection is an important avenue for engaging the community with arts, culture, and creativity. The collection features more than 60 two-dimensional and three-dimensional works. Venture outdoors to be inspired by one of the many outdoor sculptures in the collection, or stop by a public building to take in a painting or small sculpture. The Mercer Island Arts Council collaborates with artists, City staff, and the public to acquire high quality works that will enrich the lives of Islanders and preserve notable creative expression. Much of the collection has been acquired through the Mercer Island's "1% for Art in Public Places" fund, which is funding set aside from public construction projects, as well as through public donations.

Public Art Collection

Art For Purchase

63 Mythical Bird



ARTIST: Dudley Carter

MEDIUM: Yellow Cedar

YEAR: 1980

ACQUISITION: City of Mercer Island 1% for Art in Public Places fund

LOCATION: Pioneer Park

Learn more at <https://bit.ly/2xM8P7E>

