

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
ORDINANCE NO. 21C-10**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON
AMENDING CHAPTER 2.60 OF THE MERCER ISLAND CITY CODE TO
REVISE THE CODE OF ETHICS FOR OFFICIALS; PROVIDING FOR
SEVERABILITY; AND ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the residents and businesses of Mercer Island are entitled to have fair, ethical and accountable local government that has earned the public's full confidence for integrity; and

WHEREAS, a Code of Ethics strengthens the quality of government through ethical principles that shall govern the conduct of the City's elected and appointed officials; and

WHEREAS, a Code of Ethics has been adopted and codified in chapter 2.60 of the Mercer Island City Code (MICC) since 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics in chapter 2.60 MICC was amended in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the amendments to the Code of Ethics currently proposed further strengthen and clarify prohibited conduct regarding conflicts of interest, appearance of conflict, misuse of public position or resources, representation of third parties, gifts and favors, and confidential information; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendments provide a process that is improved for complaints, investigations, hearings and enforcement related to violations of the Code of Ethics.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. **Chapter 2.60 MICC, Code of Ethics, Amended.** Chapter 2.60 MICC, Code of Ethics, is hereby amended as set forth in Exhibit A attached to this ordinance, and herein incorporated by this reference.

Section 2. **Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality does not affect the validity of any other section, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance.

Section 3. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 5 days after its passage and publication.

PASSED by the City Council of the City of Mercer Island, Washington at its regular meeting on the (DAY) day of (MONTH) 2021 and signed in authentication of its passage.

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

Benson Wong, Mayor

Approved as to Form:

ATTEST:

Bio Park, City Attorney

Deborah A. Estrada, City Clerk

Date of Publication: _____