

# City Manager's Report

Tuesday, February 6, 2024







# Council Board and Commission Updates



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024

# Hybrid Meetings

- Upcoming Hybrid City Council Meeting
  - Tuesday, February 20 at 5:00 PM
  - Friday, March 1 at 9:00 AM – Council Planning Session
- Hybrid Boards and Commissions Meetings (All Meetings on Zoom)
  - Parks & Recreation/Planning Commission – February 8 at 6:00 PM
  - Utility Board – February 13 at 5:00 PM
- Visit [www.mercerisland.gov/meetings](http://www.mercerisland.gov/meetings) for more information.





# City Updates



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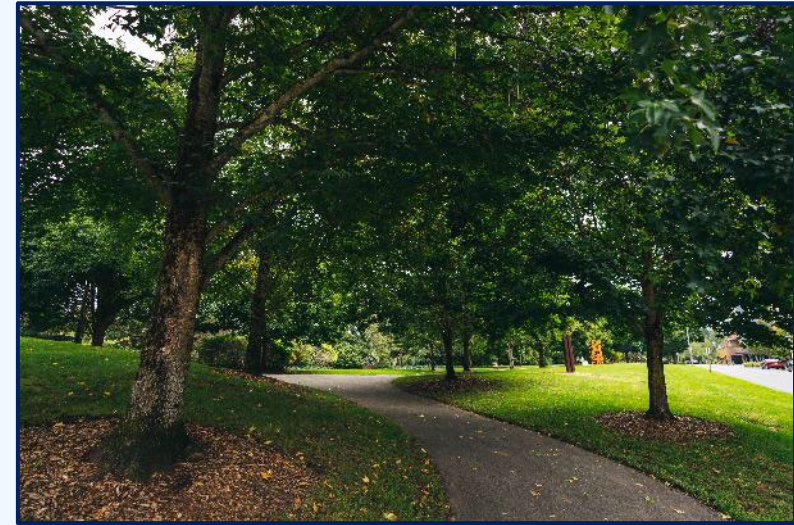
# City Hall Transitions

- We are anticipating taking delivery of the Police modular units at the end of the month. Staff teams are working on multiple permit and coordination issues.
- Work continues sorting materials and records at City Hall. Recycling pickup has been coordinated to remove the dumpsters in the parking lot.
- Slater Room adjustments continue. Staff mounted the second TV to the wall behind the dais. Staff also hung drapes behind the staff table to cover the cupboards and kitchen area behind.



# Parks Zone Update

- The City of Mercer Island is updating its Comprehensive Plan as part of the periodic review required by the Washington Growth Management Act (GMA). The City Council added the creation of a new Parks Zone to the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update scope of work with [Resolution No. 1621](#).
- A preliminary draft of the new Parks Zone was presented to the Parks and Recreation Commission on January 4, 2024, and to the Planning Commission on January 24, 2024.
- After receiving extensive feedback from both commissions and the community, the City Manager has directed staff to pause the legislative review process and return the draft Parks Zone to the Parks and Recreation Commission for review, comment, and revision.
- The Planning Commission and Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a Joint Meeting this Thursday, February 8.
- The Parks and Recreation Commission will hold their first work session on the parks zone on Thursday, March 7, 2024.





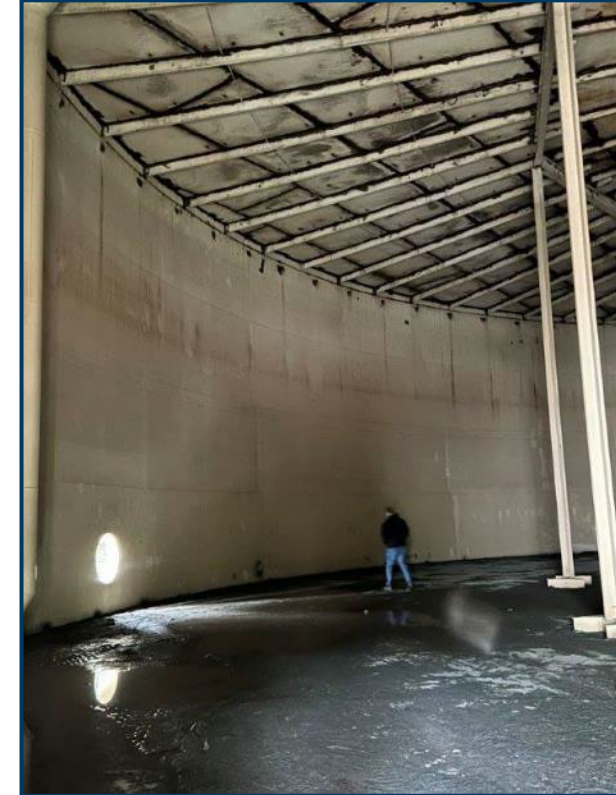
# Island Crest Park Athletic Fields

- Progress continues on the North Infield turf replacement. The old infield turf has been fully removed and the bullpen turf removal and site preparation is almost complete.
- Work is scheduled to be complete by the end of this month.



# North and South Reservoir Improvement Project

- Work is progressing on the water reservoirs. Exterior stairways, roof railings, and rain gutter systems are now complete on both reservoir tanks.
- The major sandblasting of the north tank interior is complete along with welded reinforcement of the roof.
- Recently, work inside the north tank transitioned to paint preparation. The painting stage will continue for the next several months and will be completed in time to refill the tank for operation as water system demand increases in late spring.
- The project is expected to continue through this year and will be completed by May of 2025.





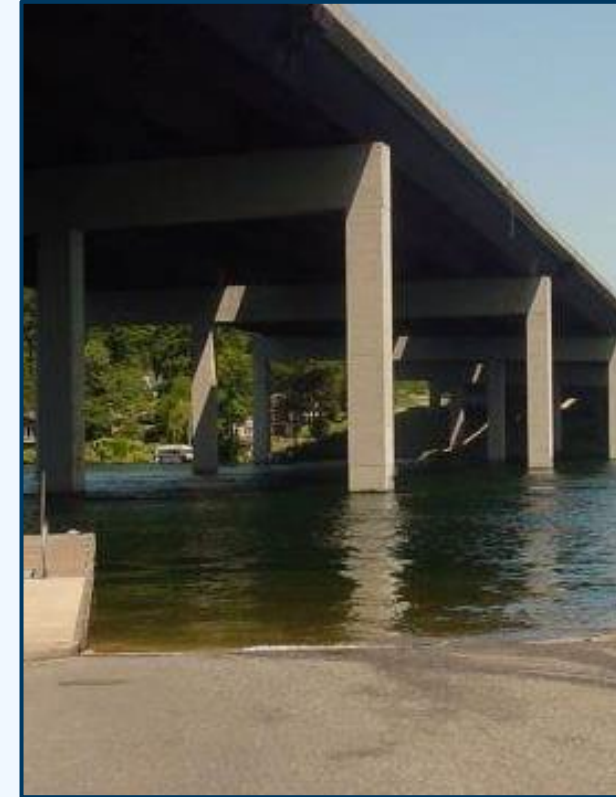
# WMW Crosswalk Installation

- The City will be installing a marked crosswalk in the 4800 block of W Mercer Way in mid to late March, pending weather and ROW crew availability and is expected to take no more than a day.
- Pedestrians frequently walk across W Mercer Way to access the trail stairs to 84th Ave SE/SE 47th Pl, however, a marked crosswalk does not exist at this location.
- This improvement encourages pedestrians to cross W Mercer Way at the new marked crosswalk while alerting drivers and cyclists to be aware of crossing pedestrians.
- This will improve safety for all roadway users and will be used by children to access nearby school bus stops.



# King County Sewerline Upgrade

- The work on the North Mercer – Enatai Sewer Upgrade project continues. King County is upgrading four miles of sewer pipeline across north Mercer Island and south Bellevue. These pipes, installed in the 1970s, are aging and reaching capacity.
- On Friday, **February 9th** and Saturday, **February 10th**, Frontage Road and the Mercer Island Boat Launch will be closed to public access for sewer pipe installation. Closures are also planned for Saturday, **February 17th and 24th**.
- Crews need to install sewer pipe along a section of Frontage Road to connect the pipe from Southeast 35th Place to the pipe running underwater in Lake Washington's East Channel.
- Access for pedestrians, emergency vehicles, and driveways on Frontage Road will be maintained during these Friday and Saturday closures. Frontage Road and the Mercer Island Boat Launch will reopen as soon as this work is completed.





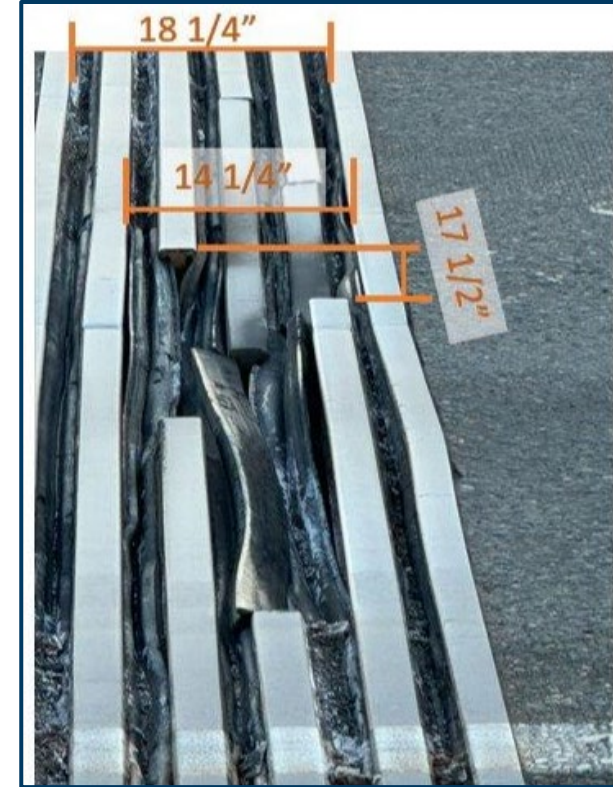
# Roanoke Park Playground Replacement

- Thanks to the community members who joined us last week for the Roanoke Playground Virtual Meeting!
- Couldn't make the meeting? There's still time to provide input!
- A 3-question survey about swings and site amenities is live on [Let's Talk](#) now.
- Responses will be collected through Friday, February 9, and combined with those received during last week's meeting to inform the final site plan and equipment selection.
- Learn more and take the survey here:  
[www.mercerisland.gov/roanokeplayground](http://www.mercerisland.gov/roanokeplayground)



# I-90 Lane Closure

- Emergency work on I-90 has caused delays and we know it's been frustrating for drivers.
- The right lane of eastbound I-90 between Mercer Island and Bellevue has been temporarily closed by WSDOT on an emergency basis due to a failing expansion joint on the East Channel Bridge.
- This emergency single-lane closure will be in place for the next few weeks as WSDOT prepares the area for temporary lane restriping later this month.
- The completion of the lane restriping will restore all four lanes of travel and allow for the joint to be replaced in 2025 (moved up from 2027).
- We're continuing to monitor the situation and working with our partners at WSDOT. We will relay updates to keep you informed as this work progresses.





# Legislative Session Updates

- Last Monday, Mayor Nice, Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum, and staff visited to Olympia to meet with the delegation from the 41st Legislative District.
- Meetings focused on advocating for the City's legislative priorities and funding requests.
- Throughout the session, Mayor Nice, supported by staff and the City's lobbyists, has been regularly testifying at committee meetings and engaging with legislators on issues of importance to the City.
- Much work remains! We are at the midpoint of the 60-day session, and we also just passed the first two cutoff deadlines. Bills will pass to the other house for review and consideration before the session concludes on March 8.



# Upcoming Events

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024





# Celebrate Lunar New Year and Paint a Lantern!

- Everyone is invited to paint lanterns at the Mercer Island Chinese Association's Lunar New Year celebration on February 11 at the Community Center!
- In addition to the lantern-making, you can also take part in other cultural experiences including a tea ceremony and calligraphy.
- Lanterns painted at this event will be added to the current display either at Mercerdale Park or the MICEC.
- The festivities go from 10:00 AM to 2:30 PM and entry is free. Come join us!



# Pioneer Park Restoration Event!

- Join us Saturday, February 10 from 10am to 1pm in Pioneer Park!
- Ivy plays a big role in habitat destruction by pulling down trees, shading out native plants, and reducing habitat and food for wildlife.
- Last years volunteers helped to remove over 10,000 acres of ivy from Pioneer Park. We would love your help beating our numbers from last year!
- All ages welcome, and no experience is necessary! Gloves, tools, water, and small snacks provided.
- You can register at [volunteersignup.org/3YMAX](https://volunteersignup.org/3YMAX)





# Some Good News

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# Congratulations Andrea Larson!

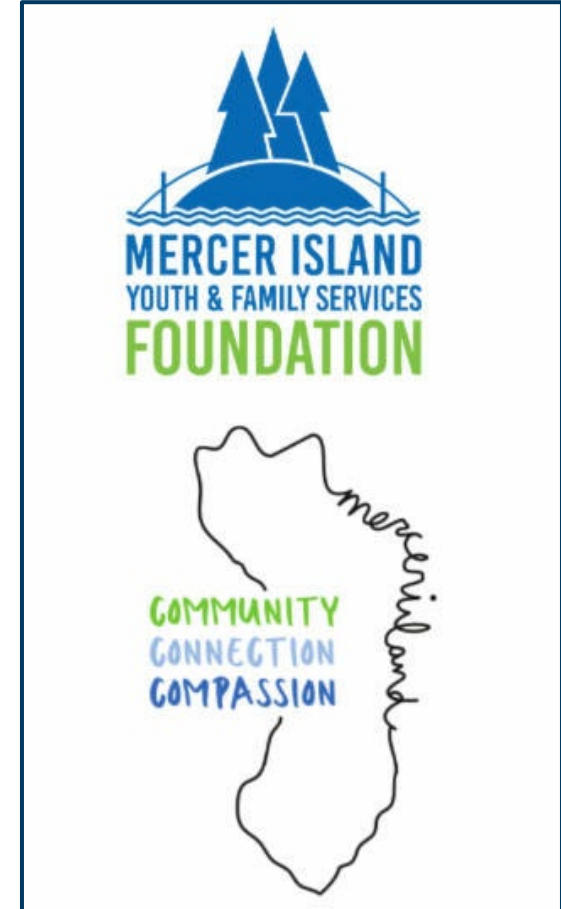
- In the spirit of celebrating our accomplishments, I am excited to announce that Andrea Larson has recently earned her Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC)!
- IIMC grants the CMC designation only to those City Clerks who complete demanding education requirements (over 120 hours over three years); and who have a record of significant contributions to their local government, their community, and state.
- Please join me in congratulating Andrea on this milestone in her career!





# MIYFS Foundation Helps With Increasing Food Costs

- In 2023, the demand for Emergency Assistance/Food Pantry services increased greatly resulting in additional program costs—most still related to the pandemic.
- In 2023, Food Pantry expenditures alone totaled \$202,000.
- Our fabulous partners at the MIYFS Foundation stepped up and provided additional financial support of \$115,000 for the overages specific to Food Security programming at YFS!
- We are very grateful for their generosity and support!
- If you're not already registered to attend the YFS Foundation Breakfast this week, consider supporting them in other ways at [MIYFS.org](https://MIYFS.org).





# Reflecting On A Recent Loss

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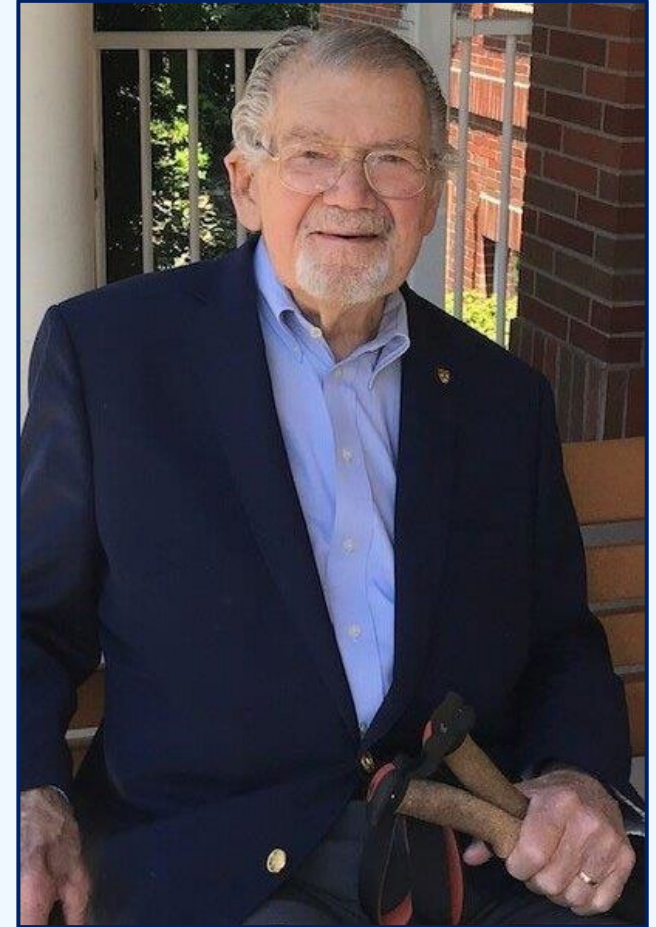
# In Memoriam

We are deeply saddened to share that Mercer Island Thrift Shop volunteer Bob Wiley passed away in early January.

He was so eager to help at the Thrift Shop and found that being a greeter for us was the best place for him. Each week he came in, he would identify something he wanted to sell that day. He would often brainstorm other ways one could use each item in their home.

And if he wasn't selling something, he was counting; number of customers who left without purchases, number of MI resident shoppers, how many round-ups we received, and more.

We will miss you, Bob. Thank you so much for your dedication to our City and Thrift Shop!



**Thank you!**

