

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND  
RESOLUTION NO. 1650**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO CEASE CITY OPERATIONS AT  
MERCER ISLAND CITY HALL AND PERMANENTLY CLOSE THE BUILDING**

**WHEREAS**, in April of 2023, City staff visually identified broken floor tiles and flooring adhesive in the City Hall mechanical room near air handling units of the HVAC system; and

**WHEREAS**, the tiles and the adhesive were tested and confirmed to be asbestos containing materials; and

**WHEREAS**, to ensure the safety of City staff and visitors, City Hall was closed immediately while further testing was conducted to determine if asbestos fibers were present in other areas of the facility; and

**WHEREAS**, additional testing in the HVAC system identified the presence of asbestos in the HVAC system; and

**WHEREAS**, City contractors designed and provided preliminary cost estimates for scenarios for re-occupancy of City Hall at an estimated cost of at least \$10 million dollars with an estimated timeline of two years; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the significant cost of the abatement and re-occupancy plan and the City Hall facility already being at the end of its useful life, during the July 18, 2023 City Council meeting, councilmembers expressed support for the City Manager to stop pursuing abatement and re-occupancy of City Hall, return to Council with a resolution permanently ceasing City operations at City Hall, and pursue alternative long-term solutions for City facilities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

The City Manager's decision to pause City operations at City Hall in light of the findings described in the WHEREAS clauses above is ratified by the City Council. Furthermore, the City Manager is directed to (1) continue to wind down City operations at City Hall until they are all permanently ceased; and (2) take reasonably necessary steps to close and secure the City Hall building until a decision on its future use or disposition is made by the City Council.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AT ITS MEETING ON THE 3<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER, 2023.

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Salim Nice, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Andrea Larson, City Clerk