

# City Manager's Report

Tuesday, April 2, 2024





# Council Board and Commission Updates



TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2024

# Hybrid Meetings

- Upcoming Hybrid City Council Meeting
  - Tuesday, April 16 at 5:00 PM
- Hybrid Boards and Commissions Meetings (All Meetings on Zoom)
  - Design Commission – April 3 at 6:00 PM
  - Parks & Recreation Commission with Open Space Conservancy Trust – April 4 at 5:00 PM
- Visit [www.mercerisland.gov/meetings](http://www.mercerisland.gov/meetings) for more information.



# City Updates

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# Police Modular Buildings

- Work continues on the City Hall campus to operationalize the two new modular buildings, which will be used to temporarily house the Police Department due to the permanent closure of City Hall.
- The City's Public Works crews completed the installation of water and sewer utility lines over the past two weeks, including infrastructure for the third modular building, which is scheduled for delivery in the next three months.
- Meanwhile, work is underway to connect the modular buildings to electrical and data services, one of the final steps in the process. Staff expect to have the buildings energized by the end of the month.
- Staff are also working on final details for key cards, furniture move-in, etc.



# Public Safety & Maintenance Building

- At the Planning Session on March 1, the City Council provided direction to commence design work on a new Public Safety and Maintenance Building.
- The new building will address critical facility needs for the Police Department, all maintenance teams, Public Works, and IT/GIS.
- Planning work is underway for this new facility and the staff anticipate several touch points with the City Council on the progress throughout the year.
- Currently, consultants are completing survey and critical area assessment work for the property. This early step in the pre-design process is necessary to inform decisions related to building and yard siting.
- Planning workshops are being held with staff teams to better understand operations and space needs. This pre-design work will continue through April and into May.
- Staff currently anticipate having a facility concept and early cost estimates to share with the City Council at the end of June.



# Luther Burbank Boiler Building

- Phase 1 construction is well underway. Work entails seismic retrofits for the Boiler Building, chimney reinforcement, and renovation of the restrooms.
- Contractors continued grading inside the building to prepare for a new floor slab, and rough-in plumbing is underway for the restrooms and concession area.
- The top 10 feet of chimney has been removed and all fire brick inside has been removed. Crews will begin installing reinforcing steel in the chimney later in April.
- Completion of Phase 1 is anticipated this summer. A second phase of project work on the docks and waterfront is anticipated to begin in 2025.



# Water Meter Replacement Project

- The City is replacing all 7,800 water meters in its system. As they age, meters underreport the actual amount of water used, and almost two-thirds of the island's water meters are over 20 years old.
- This project began in early March, and to date, 951 new water meters have been installed – which accounts for approximately 13% of all meters in service.
- These new meters will allow the City to identify leaks almost immediately and will provide hourly water use data to customers through a customer portal.
- Installations are scheduled to be completed in the third quarter of the year. You can follow project updates on Let's Talk!





# New Bike Skills Signage

- Last week, Parks Operations staff installed signage at four Island Crest Park trailheads along 84<sup>th</sup> Ave SE.
- These signs will enhance rider and driver safety, providing additional awareness to cyclists that they are approaching a roadway while biking these trails.
- Parks staff also adjusted sign placement within the Bike Skills Area to better identify where jump lines start, signal where lines merge, and improve other wayfinding in the park.
- Future BSA updates can be found at [mercerisland.gov/bikeskillsarea](https://mercerisland.gov/bikeskillsarea).



# First Hill Park Playground Replacement

- Staff launched an online community survey for First Hill Park to collect input on playground equipment, play style preferences, and more.
- **Responses will be collected through April 14.**
- Results will inform site concepts that will be shared via a pre-recorded presentation on Let's Talk, scheduled to launch around April 30. Community members can watch the presentation at their convenience and then respond to concepts through a second online survey.
- Staff are working with Mercer Island Preschool Association, the School District, and other community partners to promote survey participation.
- More details about this project and the survey are available at [mercerisland.gov/firsthillplayground](https://mercerisland.gov/firsthillplayground).



# Upcoming Events



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# Leap for Green - Earth Day Fair

- Join us for the annual Leap for Green Earth Day Fair on April 20, 2024, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM!
- This free event promotes environmental practices and activities for kids and adults, and to raise general awareness of local sustainability resources.
- The event features entertainment, food vendors, numerous summer camp sign-ups, and more.
- Thank you to our sponsors: Cedar Grove and The Mercer Island Community Fund!



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# Some Good News

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# All-Staff Meeting

- Last week, City employees came together for a semi-annual All-Staff meeting.
- We had over 100 staff members from different departments gathered at the MICEC to discuss City updates and work plan items in the year ahead.
- The time together was excellent for connecting our workforce, and serving as a reminder that even though we lost our home base when City Hall closed, we are resilient and continue to move forward!



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**Thank you!**

