



City of Mercer Island, Washington

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION

DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island (City) is a non-charter code city organized under title 35A RCW; and

WHEREAS, RCW 38.52.070 has authorized the creation of local organizations for emergency management within the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance 95C-007, the City established an Emergency Management Organization and designated the Police Chief (or Emergency Manager as designee) to administer the Emergency Management Organization; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager and Emergency Manager have reported to the City Council that a state of emergency exists within the city of Mercer Island based on impacts of multiple water main breaks along East Mercer Way during the evening of August 5, 2025 and morning of August 6, 2025 ("Main Breaks") on Mercer Island; and

WHEREAS, impacts of the Main Breaks on Mercer Island include water service outage and interruption, flood damage to public and private properties, and closure of a segment of East Mercer Way; and

WHEREAS, Public Works crews, supported by Police and Fire, have been working since the Main Breaks to repair the mains, restore water service and mitigate other impacts from the Main Breaks; and

WHEREAS, the City's Emergency Operations Center was activated to monitor and assist City teams responding to the Main Breaks, including providing meals to on-duty teams, communications assistance, water to affected residents, and facilitating coordination of meetings; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation declaring a local emergency is necessary to preserve the public health, safety and welfare of Mercer Island;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Emergency Declaration.** A state of emergency, specifically under Chapter 38.52 RCW, exists within the city of Mercer Island, Washington, caused by multiple water main breaks along East Mercer Way during the evening of August 5, 2025 and morning of August 6, 2025 ("Main Breaks"). Extraordinary efforts by the City are required to address and mitigate the impacts of the Main Breaks. This emergency impacts public health, safety, and welfare of those living and working at Mercer Island, as well as continuity of government operations.
2. **Emergency Powers.** All pertinent emergency powers and authority set forth in RCW 38.52.070 are hereby invoked, including without limitation to the right to enter into contract, employ temporary workers, and incur obligations without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (except mandatory constitutional requirements).

3. **Limitations.** This emergency proclamation is not intended as a “proclamation of civil emergency” under MICC 9.40.010 or as a finding of “public danger” under RCW 35A.13.030.

DATED this 7th day of August, 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J Bon', is written above a horizontal line.

Jessi Bon
City Manager