
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

www.mercerisland.gov



Arts Council March 10, 2021 Arts Reset

To: Arts Council

From: Sarah Bluvas, Economic Development Coordinator; Emily Moon, consultant

Date: March 10, 2021

At tonight's meeting Emily Moon will share a summary of the draft Recreation and Mercer Island Community and Event Center reset phasing plan.

The Arts Council meeting will also include reviewing a proposed Immediate Action Plan, which was predicated on Arts Councilmembers' comments during the February 23rd workshop. This draft framework is being provided simply to help the Arts Council focus its discussion. If the Arts Council wishes to implement any actions this summer or fall, it should communicate a plan to and request any needed resources from City Council this spring.

During the February 23rd workshop, Arts Councilmembers voiced interest in pursuing actions in three realms:

1. Community Engagement and Collaboration
2. Policy Development and Updating
3. Long-term Phased Approach to Services

While members shared many different ideas regarding how to implement these focus areas, the following is an alternative that seems feasible and responsive to the Immediate Action Plan parameters and would advance the Arts Council's goals.

1. Community Engagement and Collaboration:
 - Action: Convene a listening opportunity with Mercer Island arts organizations and artists to discuss impacts of the pandemic on the arts community.
 - Purpose: Use the listening opportunity to:

- Gather ideas and identify partners for a possible public art project to commemorate the pandemic.
 - Gain an understanding of how the Arts Council may be able to assist the arts community.
 - Timing: Design the event in April and invite attendees; conduct event in May.
 - Anticipated Resources: X hours of staff time; X hours of Arts Councilmembers' time; \$X (to host the listening forum).
2. Policy Development and Updating:
- Action: Identify policies that need attention and begin work on improving those policies.
 - Purpose: Enhance the Arts Council's ability to perform its essential functions and to manage the municipality's arts assets.
 - Timing: Begin this work in April and continue through the end of 2021.
 - Anticipated Resources: X hours of staff time; X hours of Arts Councilmembers' time; \$X.
3. Long-term Phased Approach to Services
- Action: Continue discussion on the Arts Council's priorities. Evaluate needs and resources. Develop an approach to carrying out those priorities.
 - Purpose: Focus upcoming efforts and the use of resources to achieve Arts Council outcome goals.
 - Timing: Begin this work in June (following the community engagement event where helpful input may be received) and continue through the end of 2021.
 - Anticipated Resources: X hours of staff time; X hours of Arts Councilmembers' time; \$X.