



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 5958
October 19, 2021
Consent Agenda

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	Ordinance Amending MICC 2.08.020 to include Juneteenth as a Legal Holiday of the City (Ord. No. 21C-24 Second Reading)	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed:
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Adopt Ordinance No. 21C-24	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

DEPARTMENT:	City Attorney
STAFF:	Jessi Bon, City Manager Bio Park, City Attorney
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a Choose an item. Choose an item.
EXHIBITS:	1. Ordinance No. 21C-24
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ n/a

SUMMARY

On October 5, 2021, City Council conducted a first reading of Ordinance No. 21C-24 to amend Mercer Island City Code 2.08.020(A) to add Juneteenth as an official legal holiday of the City effective in 2022. (See [AB 5951](#)). At direction of the City Council, Ordinance 21C-24 is scheduled for a second reading and adoption.

BACKGROUND

On June 19, 1865, more than two years after President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, enslaved Americans in Galveston, Texas, finally received word that they were free from bondage. As those who were formerly enslaved were recognized for the first time as citizens, June 19 came to be known as "Juneteenth," a celebration of freedom.

STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATION ESTABLISHING JUNETEENTH AS A HOLIDAY

Washington Governor Jay Inslee signed [Substitute House Bill 1016](#) on May 13, 2021 establishing Juneteenth as a state legal holiday in 2022; and United States President Joe Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into Law on June 17, 2021 to immediately establish Juneteenth as a federal legal holiday.

Pursuant to [RCW 1.16.050](#), employees of the state and local government are entitled to a paid holiday on state legal holidays. Consequently, City Council approval of Ordinance 21C-24 will amend Subsection (A) to MICC 2.08.020 “Hours of business and holidays” to add Juneteenth as a Legal Holiday of the City effective in 2022. .

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Ordinance No. 21C-24 Amending MICC 2.08.020 to add Juneteenth as a Legal Holiday of the City.