
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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PLANNING COMMISSION

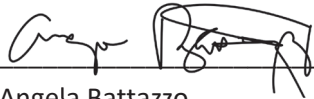
To: City Council
From: Angela Battazzo, Planning Commission Chair
Date: September 25, 2024
RE: Planning Commission Recommendation: ZTR24-002 Open Space Zone Code Amendment
ATTACHMENTS: A. Planning Commission Recommended Amendments on the Open Space Zone

On behalf of the Planning Commission, I am pleased to present our recommendation on ZTR24-002, the amendments to the development code to establish an Open Space Zone and the accompanying development regulations.

The scope of work for the Comprehensive Plan periodic review, adopted by the City Council in 2022, included creation of a new Parks Zone. The Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) recommended separating the Parks Zone planning work into two phases: the first phase to develop a new zone for City-owned public Open Space Lands, and the second phase to develop a new zone for other City-owned public park properties. The PRC recommended prioritizing the development of the Open Space Zone to be included as part of the 2024 Comprehensive Plan Periodic Update. The Open Space Conservancy Trust Board was invited to hold joint meetings with the PRC to provide input on the proposed Open Space Zone and the associated development regulations.

This matter came before the City of Mercer Island Planning Commission at their meeting on May 8, 2024 when the PRC and OSCT provided their recommendation to commission. The Planning Commission held an open record public hearing on September 25, 2024. One public comment was made during the public hearing on this amendment. The Planning Commission considered this feedback as well as the staff reports dated [May 8, 2024](#), [May 15, 2024](#) and [September 25, 2024](#) in making its recommendation.

After deliberation, the Commission recommends the draft code amendment to create new sections of City Code (MICC 19.05.030 Open Space – OS and MICC 19.05.040 Open Space Development Standards) and amend MICC 19.16.010 Definitions, MICC 19.01.040 Zone Establishment and MICC Chapter 19 Appendix D, as shown in Attachment A. The Planning Commission recommended code amendment would establish a new Open Space Zone, implement the associated development regulations for the zone and update the City's Zoning Map.



October 8, 2024

Angela Battazzo
Planning Commission Chair
City of Mercer Island

Date