



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND**

**AB 6621
February 4, 2025
Consent Agenda**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6621: Washington State Transportation Improvement Board Grant Agreement	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Authorize the City Manager to accept the \$850,000 grant from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board to design and construct the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 Project	

DEPARTMENT:	Public Works
STAFF:	Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations Patrick Yamashita, City Engineer Rebecca O’Sullivan, Transportation Engineer
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Grant Agreement under the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	3. Make once-in-a-generation investments to update and modernize aging infrastructure, capital facilities, and parks.

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Staff is seeking the City Council’s authorization to accept a grant award from the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB).

- In August 2024, staff applied to the Washington State Transportation Improvement Board for a grant in the amount of \$850,000 to design (\$106,993) and construct (\$743,007) the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project.
- In November 2024, the TIB announced the selection of the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project, for a total award amount of up to \$850,000.
- The Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project is included in the City’s adopted Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan as a sub-task of Island Crest Way Corridor Improvements (90.20.0013). Design of Phase 1 is planned for 2025-2026 and construction is planned for 2030.
- The total project budget for design and construction of Phase 1 of the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path is \$1,620,270.
- For the obligation of award funds, the grant agreement must be signed by the City Manager.

BACKGROUND

The Washington State Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) is an independent state agency, created by the Legislature, that distributes and manages street construction and maintenance grants throughout Washington State. Funding for TIB's grant programs comes from revenue generated by the statewide gas tax.

Since 1999, TIB has helped fund several projects on Mercer Island, including:

- Pedestrian signals on Island Crest Way at SE 32nd Street, SE 42nd Street, and SE 47th Street
- Sidewalk on SE 40th Street between Island Crest Way and Gallagher Hill Road
- Traffic signal at the intersection of SE 40th Street and 86th Avenue SE

The City applied for and was awarded a Washington State TIB grant up to \$850,000 to design and construct the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project. An award of \$850,000 is near the maximum award amount for this type of grant. The total project budget for design and construction of Phase 1 is \$1,620,270.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Project Background

Island Crest Way is the primary north-south route on Mercer Island, serving approximately 15,000 vehicles, 300 pedestrians, and 50 bicyclists on weekdays between 90th Avenue SE to SE 68th Street. In 2022, a safety study was conducted for the Island Crest Way corridor which identified collision patterns and recommended safety treatments. Recommendations include the crosswalk improvements at Island Park Elementary, SE 62nd Street, and SE 63rd Street (construction to be completed in spring 2025), SE 68th Street, and SE 53rd Place intersection improvements, and shared use path improvements in three phases.

The Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project will construct a 10-foot-wide shared use path with a planter strip buffer on the west side of Island Crest Way between Island Park Elementary (south driveway) and SE 60th Street. Illumination, drainage improvements, crosswalk markings, and ADA upgrades at the intersections will be installed. The first phase of the shared use path will connect to the newly constructed crosswalk improvements at Island Park Elementary, with subsequent shared use path phases connecting to the SE 62nd Street and SE 63rd Street crosswalk improvements.

Construction of the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project is planned for 2030 in the City's adopted Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). Having construction planned years out from the design has allowed staff the opportunity to pursue grant funding opportunities. With the award of the TIB grant, the City Council could consider accelerating project construction as part of the update to the TIP this spring.

Financial Impacts

The Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 is part of the Island Crest Way Corridor Improvements Project (90.20.0013) along with intersection improvements at SE 53rd Place and SE 68th Street. It has an approved project budget of \$458,300 for design, funded by the Street Fund, with \$225,000 in 2025 and \$233,300 in 2026. The TIB grant will cover \$106,993 of the design costs. The remainder of the project budget is funded via the Street Fund.

For the obligation of award funds, the grant agreement must be signed by the City Manager. The agreement is included as Exhibit 1.

NEXT STEPS

Next steps include the following:

1. City Manager signs the grant-related agreements.
2. Commence design of the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project in 2025.
3. Finance to include the budget changes as outlined in the Issue/Discussion section of this agenda bill in the subsequent budget amending ordinance.
4. Commence construction of the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project in 2030.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Authorize the City Manager to accept a Washington State Transportation Improvement Board grant award described in Exhibit 1 in the amount of \$850,000 to design and construct the Island Crest Way Shared Use Path Phase 1 project, and to execute all agreements and amendments related to the grant.