



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6110
July 5, 2022
Consent Agenda

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6110: Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation No. 290	<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:	Proclaim July 2022 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island	

DEPARTMENT:	Public Works
STAFF:	Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations Ryan Daly, Recreation Manager
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to recognize the importance of parks and recreation opportunities in the Mercer Island community and to proclaim July 2022 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island.

BACKGROUND

National Parks and Recreation Month was originally celebrated in the month of June through the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). In July of 1985, the NRPA wanted to engage and accommodate more children with differing school schedules. With the support and endorsement of then Vice-President George H.W. Bush and NFL Hall of Fame running back Walter Payton, NRPA formally recognized the month of July as National Parks and Recreation Month.

In 2009, with bipartisan support, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.Res.288 designating July as National Parks and Recreation Month while acknowledging the societal value of parks and recreation and honoring the vital contributions of employees and volunteers within parks and recreation.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

PARKS & RECREATION ON MERCER ISLAND

"The Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Division takes pride in providing the highest quality facilities and services in partnership with the community to enhance livability on Mercer Island."

The Parks and Recreation Division, a part of the Public Works Department, assumes a major role in developing a sense of community and enhancing Mercer Island residents' quality of life by providing recreation and social opportunities to people of all ages. Fundamental to this mission is providing affordable and ready access to parks, facilities, programs, events, and other social opportunities. The City of Mercer Island is responsible for operating and maintaining the Mercer Island Community and Event Center (MICEC), a 42,000 square foot facility, over 475 acres of parks and open space, and more than 30 miles of trails. Partnerships with community agencies, businesses, and other community groups are actively solicited to enhance and support diverse offerings. These partnerships and relationships are vital to meeting communities needs for access to parks and recreation opportunities.

July 2022 is a resurgence for recreational opportunities on Mercer Island. Summer camps are back with 1,500 participants anticipated; the public is accessing the MICEC for meetings, athletic opportunities, celebrations, and weddings; the Arts Council is supporting the Mostly Music in the Park concert series along with the return of Shakespeare in the Park at Luther Burbank Park, and community organizations are taking advantage of newfound opportunities to collaborate with the city on various special events hosted within the parks system.

After a three-year hiatus, the return of Summer Celebration has created a much-needed community gathering and has received tremendous support through various partnerships totaling over \$38,000 in sponsorships to date. The one-day event, hosted Saturday, July 9 will include: music, food, entertainment, art, and fireworks. This event and all the other parks and recreation related services, partnerships, and opportunities highlight the importance parks and recreation plays on Mercer Island and demonstrates the appreciation the Mercer Island community has for its parks and recreation sponsors, supporters, volunteers, and staff alike.

NEXT STEPS

Encourage the community to get out, enjoy, and support the many parks and recreation opportunities on Mercer Island provided by various public and private agencies.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Proclaim July 2022 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island.