

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
PROPOSITION 1
LEVY LID LIFT FOR
PARK OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE**

Explanatory Statement

Since 2008 Mercer Island has had a levy lid lift to pay costs of operating and maintaining City parks, open spaces, and recreational facilities, including the full costs of operating and maintaining Luther Burbank Park. The current parks levy lid lift was approved by Mercer Island voters in 2008 and is set to expire on December 31, 2023.

Proposition 1 is a replacement parks levy lid lift that would continue funding operation and maintenance of City parks. Because collections under this levy lid lift will begin in 2023, the City will terminate the existing parks levy one year early, should voters approve this replacement levy.

If approved, this proposition authorizes an increase in the City's regular property tax levy by approximately \$1,630,000 to a maximum rate of \$0.862/\$1,000 of assessed valuation for collection in 2023, as allowed by RCW 84.55.050, for a period of 16 years (expiring December 31, 2038).

Proceeds will be used to pay costs of maintaining and operating City open spaces, park, and recreation facilities, and to fund playground replacements, operations and maintenance of Luther Burbank Park, and forest restoration at Pioneer Park. Details about the levy lid lift are described in City Ordinance 22-13.

Proposition 1 is estimated to cost the owner of an estimated 2023 median-valued \$2,375,000 Mercer Island home \$18.94 per month (\$8.09 per month increase from 2022 park levy) in 2023. Qualifying seniors, disabled veterans, and others would be exempt, per RCW 84.36.381.

APPROVED AS TO SUBSTANCE AND FORM:

Bio Park, City Attorney