



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

**AB 6545  
October 1, 2024  
Consent Agenda**

**AGENDA BILL INFORMATION**

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 6545: Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Proclamation No. 347	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Approve Proclamation No. 347 Proclaiming October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Mercer Island.	

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Youth and Family Services
<b>STAFF:</b>	Mayor Salim Nice Derek Franklin, YFS Administrator
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	n/a
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Proclamation No. 347
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	n/a

<b>AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE</b>	\$ n/a
<b>AMOUNT BUDGETED</b>	\$ n/a
<b>APPROPRIATION REQUIRED</b>	\$ n/a

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda bill is to proclaim October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Mercer Island (Exhibit 1).

**ISSUE/DISCUSSION**

Each October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is recognized nationally and highlights the importance of preventing domestic violence through awareness, direct action, and support for survivors. The theme for the 2024 Domestic Violence Awareness Month is “Heal, Hold, & Center.”

Domestic violence is defined as the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, or other abusive behavior as part of a systemic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another. It can include overt physical or sexual violence and threats as well as covert economic/ emotional/ psychological abuse and patterns of excessively controlling behavior. More prevalent than often perceived, domestic violence will be experienced by one in four women and one in seven men in their lifetimes. Every minute in the United States, 32 people experience intimate partner violence.

Mercer Island is not immune to the epidemic of domestic violence, and the impact it has on individuals, families, and the community. The City's Youth and Family Services Department provides counseling, assessment, and referral for those experiencing domestic violence and for survivors. Regional partner Lifewire is an additional resource available to Mercer Island residents for victim advocacy, safety planning, and 24-hour crisis response.

Anyone concerned about intimate partner violence, abuse, or relationship safety can access free and confidential help at Lifewire's 24-Hour Helpline at 425-746-1940 or 1-800-827-8840. Mercer Island residents impacted by domestic violence can also contact the Youth and Family Services Department Intake Line and Voicemail Line at 206-275-7657 for confidential assistance and referrals.

## **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Approve Proclamation No. 347 Proclaiming October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month on Mercer Island.