

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
RESOLUTION NO. 1572**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON TO
REVISE THE CODE OF ETHICS STATEMENT FOR MEMBERS OF THE CITY
COUNCIL, THE CITY'S BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS AND THE CITY
MANAGER**

WHEREAS, the residents and businesses of Mercer Island are entitled to have fair, ethical and accountable local government that has earned the public's full confidence for integrity; and

WHEREAS, a Code of Ethics for members of the City Council, the City's boards and commissions, Council-appointed task groups or committees, and the City Manager promotes public confidence in the integrity of local government and fair operation; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics adopted by the City Council is codified in chapter 2.60 MICC; and

WHEREAS, MICC 2.60.030 requires the adoption by resolution of a Code of Ethics Statement, which all officials, as the term is defined in MICC 2.60.010(C), shall comply with and sign to acknowledge having read and understood its contents; and

WHEREAS, the Code of Ethics Statement requires revisions pursuant to amendments to chapter 2.60 MICC as adopted in Ordinance No. 19C-20;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON AS FOLLOWS:

The City Council hereby adopts a revised Code of Ethics Statement in substantially the form as the attached Exhibit A, which all officials, as defined in MICC 2.60.010(C), shall comply with and sign to acknowledge having read and understood its contents upon taking office pursuant to MICC 2.60.030.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, AT ITS REGULAR MEETING ON THE 3RD DAY OF DECEMBER 2019.

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

Debbie Bertlin, Mayor

ATTEST:

Deborah A. Estrada, City Clerk



Code of Ethics

The purpose of the City of Mercer Island Code of Ethics is to strengthen the quality of government through ethical principles which shall govern the conduct of members of the City Council, the City's boards and commissions, Council-appointed task groups and committees, and the City Manager ("officials") who shall:

Be dedicated to the concepts of effective and democratic local government.

***Democratic Leadership:** Officials shall honor and respect the principles and spirit of representative democracy and set a positive example of good citizenship by scrupulously observing the letter and spirit of laws, rules and regulations.*

Affirm the dignity and worth of the services rendered by government and maintain a deep sense of social responsibility as a trusted public servant.

Be dedicated to the highest ideals of honor and integrity in all public and personal relationships.

***Public Confidence:** Officials shall conduct themselves to maintain public confidence in city government and in the performance of the public trust.*

***Impression of Influence:** Officials shall conduct their official and personal affairs in such a manner as to give the clear impression that they cannot be improperly influenced in the performance of their official duties.*

Recognize that the chief function of local government always is to serve the best interests of all the people.

***Public Interest:** Officials shall treat their position or office as a public trust, only using the power and resources of public office to advance public interests, and not to attain personal benefit or pursue any other private interest incompatible with the public good.*

Keep the community informed on municipal affairs; encourage communication between the citizens and all municipal officers; emphasize respectful and courteous service to the public; and seek to improve the quality and image of public service.

***Accountability:** Officials shall ensure that government is conducted openly, efficiently, equitably and honorably in a manner that permits the citizenry to make informed judgments and hold city Officials accountable.*

Respectability: Officials shall safeguard public confidence in the integrity of city government by being honest, fair, caring and respectful and by avoiding conduct creating the appearance of impropriety.

Seek no favor; believe that personal benefit or profit secured by confidential information or by misuse of public time is dishonest.

Conflicts of Interest: Officials shall abstain from participating in deliberations and decision-making where conflicts exist.

Misuse of Public Position or Resources: Officials shall not use public resources that are not available to the public in general, such as city staff time, equipment, supplies or facilities, for other than a city purpose.

Gifts and Favors: Officials shall not take any special advantage of services or opportunities for personal gain, by virtue of their public office, which are not available to the public in general.

Confidential Information: Officials shall not disclose or use any confidential information gained by reason of their official position for other than a city purpose.

~~**Business Interests:** Officials shall have no beneficial interest in any contract which may be made by, through or under his or her supervision, or for the benefit of his or her position or office, or accept directly or indirectly, any compensation, gratuity or reward in connection with such contract unless allowed under State law.~~

~~**Private Employment:** Officials shall not engage in, solicit, negotiate for, or promise to accept private employment or render services for private interests or conduct a private business when such employment, service or business creates a conflict with or impairs the proper discharge of their official duties.~~

~~**Confidential Information:** Officials shall not disclose to others, or use to further their personal interest, confidential information acquired by them during their official duties.~~

~~**Gifts:** Officials shall not directly or indirectly solicit, accept, or receive any gift whether it be money, services, loan, travel, entertainment, hospitality, promise, or any other form—under the following circumstances: (a) it could be reasonably inferred or expected that the gift was intended to influence the performance of official duties; or (b) the gift was intended to serve as a reward for any official action on the official's part.~~

~~**Investments in Conflict with Official Duties:** Officials shall not invest or hold any investment, directly or indirectly, in any financial business, commercial or other private transaction that creates a conflict with their official duties. Should a conflict arise, Officials shall take proactive steps to disclose all relevant information and refrain from participating in any city business or activity related to the conflict.~~

~~**Personal Relationships:** Officials shall disclose personal relationships in any instance where there could be the appearance of a conflict of interest.~~

***Business Relationships:** Officials shall not use city time, equipment, or facilities for marketing or soliciting for private business activities.*

Conduct business of the City in a manner which is not only fair in fact, but also in appearance.

Not knowingly violate any Washington statutes, City ordinance, or regulation while performing their duties.

<name>

<title>