



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

**AB 5642
December 3, 2019
Regular Business**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 5642: Design Commission Vacancy Appointment	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Appoint the Mayor and Deputy Mayors recommendation for appointment to the Design Commission.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

DEPARTMENT:	City Council & City Manager		
STAFF:	Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Deputy Mayor Salim Nice, & Deb Estrada, City Clerk		
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
EXHIBITS:	n/a		
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a		

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

SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

Each March the City begins its annual recruitment process for filling positions whose terms are expiring on the City’s advisory boards and commissions. Position vacancies were advertised in the Mercer Island Reporter, the MI Weekly, and on the City website. The application deadline was also announced at four meetings of the City Council and emails were sent to current board and commission members encouraging recruitment. In response to outreach efforts, there was one request for reappointment to the Design Commission and no additional applications were received, leaving one vacancy.

In consultation with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, staff recommended contacting past Design Commission members with landscape architecture experience that wished to serve again. At which point, June 24 was set as the new application deadline. Two applications were subsequently received and neither applicant had landscape experience; however, it was noted that Lara Sanderson had previous experience as a Design Commissioner.

Staff met with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and discussed the Design Commission’s current membership (3 Lay Members, 3 architects, and 1 vacancy). Pursuant to Mercer Island City Code 3.34.030, the Design Commission membership should achieve a broad-based representation by appointing members that specialize in “architecture, landscape architecture, urban planning, and civil engineering.” To achieve the

desired representation, it was agreed that the application deadline should be extended again. The new application deadline was therefore extended to mid-September.

NEXT STEPS

Four applications were received by the September 18 deadline and forwarded to City Council on September 23 and again on November 26 for review. All applications are on file with the City Clerk.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor, in consultation with other Councilmembers, put forth a recommendation to appoint Lara Sanderson to Position No. 2 on the Design Commission, which expires May 31, 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

Appoint the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's recommendation of Lara Sanderson to Position No. 2 on the Design Commission.