



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

**AB 5629  
December 3, 2019  
Regular Business**

**AGENDA BILL INFORMATION**

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 5629: Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan Adoption	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Approve Resolution No. 1571 adopting the Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan as revised and direct the City Manager and the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop a scope of work for the \$500,000 Washington State Department of Commerce Grant.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Parks and Recreation
<b>STAFF:</b>	Ryan Daly, Interim Parks and Recreation Director
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	n/a
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Revised Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan</li> <li>2. List of Revisions</li> <li>3. Resolution No. 1571</li> </ol>
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	2. Prepare for Light Rail and Improve Mobility

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

**SUMMARY**

This agenda bill presents the revised Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan (Plan) for adoption by the City Council and includes details related to recent revisions to the Plan.

**BACKGROUND**

The draft Plan was developed with significant input from the community over the past year. Planning began in the fall of 2018 with project scoping based on input received from an initial community survey (launched 8/1/19 and completed 10/9/18) and four public forums (9/25/2018, 10/25/2018, 11/8/2018, and 11/29/2018). The planning team (which includes staff from multiple City departments, members from the Washington State Department of Transportation (“WSDOT”), and the project consultant team HBB) developed draft products to characterize how people currently utilize the park and what park amenities or uses could be included in the final Plan.

Products received through initial community engagement opportunities were presented in a second phase of vision and goals at Open House #1 on February 28, 2019 and in a concurrent online survey. City Council

previewed these products at its January 15, 2019 Study Session. The planning team then developed a set of concept alternatives for ideas that had been gathered. Most of these concepts were not supported based on the public feedback received through Open House #2 on April 23, 2019 and in the concurrent online survey. Staff reported this to City Council at its July 16, 2019 Study Session.

The City Council reviewed the Plan at Study Sessions on October 15, 2019 (AB 5613) and November 4, 2019 (AB 5622) and provided additional guidance and feedback.

## REVISIONS TO THE DRAFT PLAN

Plan revisions are shown in red text in Exhibit 1 and a list of the substantive revisions is provided in Exhibit 2. Minor revisions for clarity and readability are not listed in the exhibit.

Plan revisions came from four sources. First, the City Council deliberated on seven revisions proposed by staff at the November 4, 2019 Study Session. The changes that received City Council support are as follows:

1. **Planting Palette:** Designate the “Northwest Feel” palette as primary for the park and include the “Ornamental” and “Sensory” palettes to be used when appropriate for specific project designs.
2. **Water Conservation:** Include both strategies in the final Plan. Conduct trials of the strategies on a limited basis with public input and evaluate before considering further implementation.
3. **Trail Width:** Include photographic cross sections. Change the Lid Park cross section trail width label from “current width” to “12 feet”.
4. **Restroom Conflict Zone:** Keep both options in the final Plan. The costs and operational considerations for each option will need to be further studied before a final recommendation is made.
5. **Optional Informal Soft Surface Trails:** Remove from the Plan.
6. **New Restroom (Westside Lid Park):** Show both locations in the final Plan. Develop an engineering analysis as part of an early design phase to assess the cost implications of either location. This is primarily related to the potential utility impacts (sewer and water infrastructure costs) associated with the proposed restroom locations.
7. **Dog Off-leash Area:** Keep in the Plan without specific design details. Development of this area for a future off-lease dog area will require additional analysis and public input.

Second, a few additions were proposed in AB 5622, Exhibit 1: Consolidated List of Questions and Comments:

- Discussion of ADA requirements
- A description of the trail lighting project on the Luther-Shorewood section of trail
- Clarification of how costs will be updated and that inclusion in the Plan does not imply a project will be funded or given special priority.
- Criteria for public engagement on the development of future projects identified in the Plan.
- Addition of safety as part of the criteria for the highest priority projects.

Third, staff also received feedback from Councilmembers that it is unclear whether the trail cross sections apply to just the main Mountains to Sound Trail or to all of the trails in the park. The Plan was revised to clarify that the cross section applies to the Mountains to Sound Trail Only, shown as a red line in the Plan.

Fourth, the Arts Council ad hoc committee on the Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan also asked that clarifying language be added to the Plan to provide a reference to the information in the appendices and that it refer to the City's existing policies on public art to indicate the process that any arts, culture or placemaking project will follow.

With these revisions, the planning team believes that the Plan is complete and ready for adoption. Staff's recommendation is to adopt Resolution No. 1571 (Exhibit 3).

#### **DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE GRANT**

In June 2019, the City of Mercer Island was awarded a Direct Appropriation Grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce for trail safety and accessibility improvements. City staff are preparing the required paperwork to enter into an agreement with the State for this grant award. The grant funding will be available once the grant agreement is executed. The prioritized list of projects in the Plan will be the starting point for consideration of how the grant funds are utilized.

Staff recommends that the City Manager engage the Parks and Recreation Commission in reviewing a scope of work that is consistent with the Plan, provides for adequate public engagement and meets grant requirements. The recommend scope of work for the grant funding will be presented to the City Council for consideration and approval along with a budget adjustment in Q1 2020.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. Approve Resolution No 1571 adopting the Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan as revised.
2. Direct the City Manager and the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop a recommended scope of work for the \$500,000 Washington State Department of Commerce grant to be presented to the City Council for consideration and approval in Q1 2020.