

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
RESOLUTION NO. 1571**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON
ADOPTING THE AUBREY DAVIS PARK MASTER PLAN**

WHEREAS, Aubrey Davis Park was created in the early 1990's as a result of the efforts of many Mercer Island citizens who demanded mitigation for the expansion of Interstate 90; and

WHEREAS, the park extends over 92 acres and contains the Park on the Lid (also known as the Lid Park), the Mountains to Sound Regional Multi-use Trail, the Gretta Hackett Outdoor Sculpture Gallery, and the Mercer Island Boat Launch, as well as all the overpass and lid structures spanning the highway canyon; and

WHEREAS, Aubrey Davis Park is primarily located on state highway right-of-way owned by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT); and

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island (City) maintains the landscaping in Aubrey Davis Park through agreements with WSDOT that reimburse the City for maintaining WSDOT's landscape; and

WHEREAS, the declining landscape and failing infrastructure that are now evident throughout the park, represent capital reinvestment needs that were not anticipated in the maintenance agreements; and

WHEREAS, the City and WSDOT have both expressed the desire to update the agreements to reflect current and future needs for the landscape; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, WSDOT and the City recognized the need to make future planning decisions about the park jointly by executing a Memorandum of Understanding to create a master plan for Aubrey Davis Park; and

WHEREAS, the combined results of Sound Transit's East Link light rail, commuter parking, and transit integration projects are expected to significantly impact Aubrey Davis Park; and

WHEREAS, King County Wastewater Treatment Division's North Mercer Enatai sewer project will remove and replace major sections of the Mountains to Sound Trail; and

WHEREAS, the landscaping, trails, recreational facilities and arts/cultural elements of the Aubrey Davis Park are essential to the character of the Park and are inextricably interconnected; and

WHEREAS, the Mercer Island City Council recognized the need for a master plan to guide the operational and capital needs for the park and appropriated a budget of \$300,000 to develop a master plan for Aubrey Davis Park; and

WHEREAS, WSDOT funded \$100,000 of the master plan costs through a Local Programs Grant and also funded staff time to provide guidance and review throughout the planning process; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island conducted an extensive public engagement process from August 2018 to November 2019, including four public forums, three public open houses, four public online surveys, two all-island mailings, five City Council study sessions, and maintained the Let's Talk public engagement platform throughout the planning process; and

WHEREAS, the Mercer Island Arts Council developed a vision and four tenets for future arts, culture, and placemaking opportunities in the Aubrey Davis Park; and

WHEREAS, the resulting plan provides conceptual guidance for the operational and capital needs for Aubrey Davis Parks' landscaping, trails, recreational facilities and arts/culture/placemaking elements; and

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island Community Planning and Development Department issued a Determination of Non-significance (DNS) after conducting State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) review of the draft plan; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Mercer Island community to have a formal master plan for the stewardship of Aubrey Davis Park going forward;

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

Section 1. The City Council adopts the Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan as presented and revised at the November 19, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting and attached as Exhibit A.

Section 2. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

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