

**To:** Jessi Bon, City Manager  
**From:** Steve Duh, Conservation Technix, Inc.  
**Date:** September 30, 2021  
**Re:** **Mercer Island Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan**  
Community Survey #2 Summary Results

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Conservation Technix is pleased to present the results of the survey of the general population of the City of Mercer Island that assesses the recreational needs and priorities of the community.

### **SURVEY METHODOLOGY**

In close collaboration with the City of Mercer Island staff and the Parks & Recreation Commission, Conservation Technix developed the 15-question survey.

The survey was mailed to a random sample of 2,500 households within the boundaries of the City of Mercer Island on August 23, 2021. The random sample of addresses was unique to this survey and not the same address list used in the PROS Plan survey from early 2020. Reminder postcards were mailed to the 2,500 households on September 1.

An online version of the survey was also available and posted to the City's website. The online survey was posted several days after the mail survey was distributed to allow the mail recipients to receive first notice about the survey.

Information about the survey was provided on the City's website home page and on the Let's Talk PROS Plan page. It also was promoted via multiple social media postings. The survey was closed on September 17.

Overall, 505 responses were received from the random-sample mail survey (20% response rate), and 824 responses were generated via the online link published on the City's website. In total, 1,329 survey responses were recorded. These may not have been unique responses given that someone completing the mail survey could also complete the online survey. The data for the mail and online surveys was kept separate.

This report includes findings of community opinions based principally on mailed survey responses. The data is summarized for the mail and online surveys to highlight overall community preferences, with clarifying remarks on response differences between the two datasets.

Although households were randomly chosen to receive the mail survey, respondents were not necessarily representative of all City residents, see age demographics in the table on the following page indicating the higher response rate (as compared to population) from people age 65 and older for the mail survey.

The survey data was compared against the demographic data (e.g., age, location, number of children in the household) to examine if differences existed between the different respondent subgroups.

Age group	Survey Respondents			M.I. Population	
	Mail	Online-only	Combined	Full	Over 20
Under 20	<1%	2%	<2%	25%	--
20-34	5%	4%	4%	12%	<b>16%</b>
35-44	14%	20%	17%	12%	<b>16%</b>
45-54	22%	28%	26%	17%	<b>23%</b>
55-64	19%	23%	21%	14%	<b>19%</b>
65 and older	40%	23%	30%	20%	<b>27%</b>
Total	100%	100%	<b>100%</b>	100%	<b>100%</b>

The survey summary on the following pages identifies variations in responses per question, if such variations existed and were significant between subgroups.

Percentages in the report may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

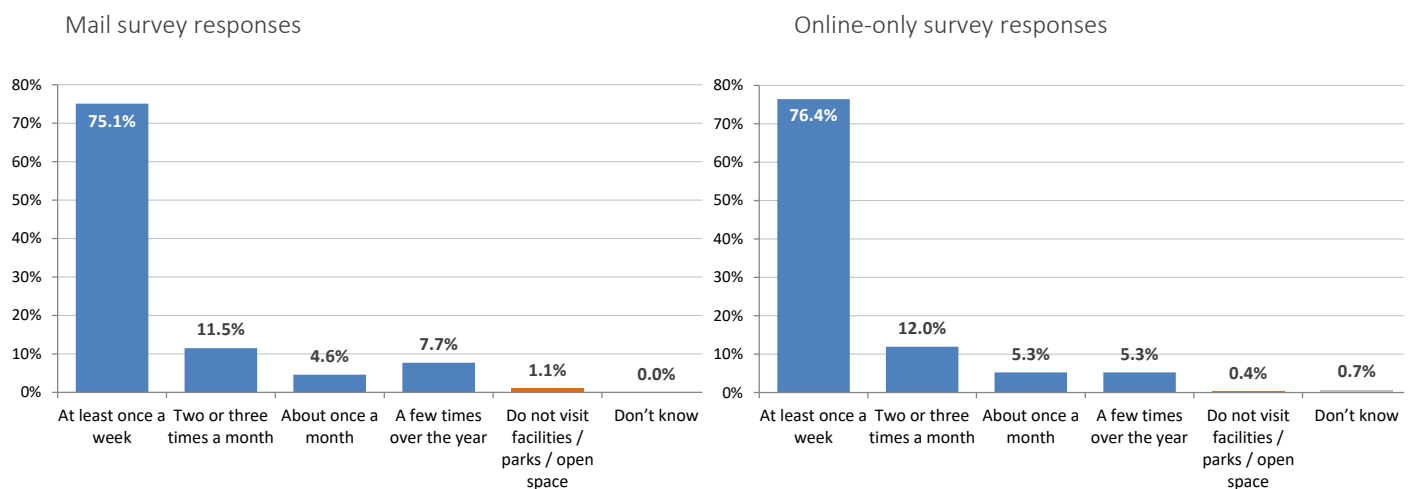
## FULL RESULTS

### How often do residents use Mercer Island Parks & Recreation facilities?

Respondents were asked how often they, or members of their household, visited a Mercer Island Parks & Recreation park, recreation facility, or open space area. Visitation is high, with 75% of mail survey respondents visiting at least once a week and another 16% visiting one to three times per month. Only 7% of respondents visit just a few times per year. Very few (1%) did not visit a park last year. Responses about visitation were nearly identical in the online-only survey.

As compared to other subgroups, adults between 35 and 54 are the most frequent users of Mercer Island parks. Respondents of households with children also visit significantly more frequently than those without children. No significant differences in park visitation exist between respondents living in different areas of Mercer Island.

#### 1. How often do you visit or use Mercer Island Parks & Recreation facilities, parks, or open spaces?

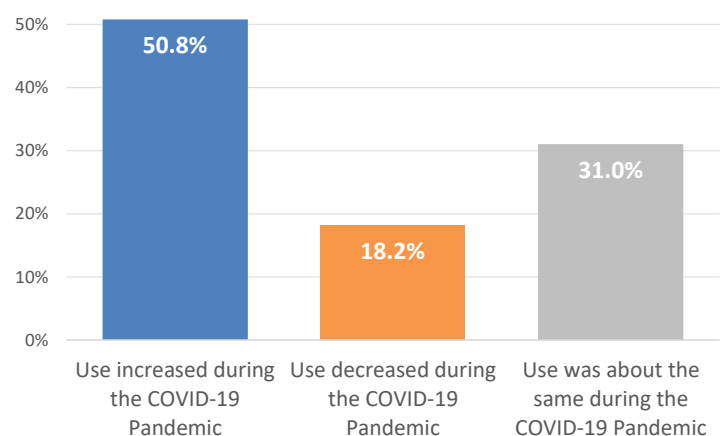


### How has resident usage changed due to the COVID pandemic?

Half of all respondents (51%) indicated an increase in usage of parks, trails, and open space areas since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Approximately one in five respondents (18%) said their usage decreased due to the pandemic. Approximately one-third noted their usage of parks, trails and open space has been the same. The mail survey and online-only survey responses were similar.

As compared to other subgroups, respondents between 20 and 34 noted slightly increased usage of parks, trails, and open space areas during the pandemic than other age groups. Respondents of households with two children also noted slightly increased usage as compared to other household types. No significant differences in park usage due to the pandemic were noted between respondents living in different areas of Mercer Island.

#### 3. How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted your use of Mercer Island parks, trails and open space?

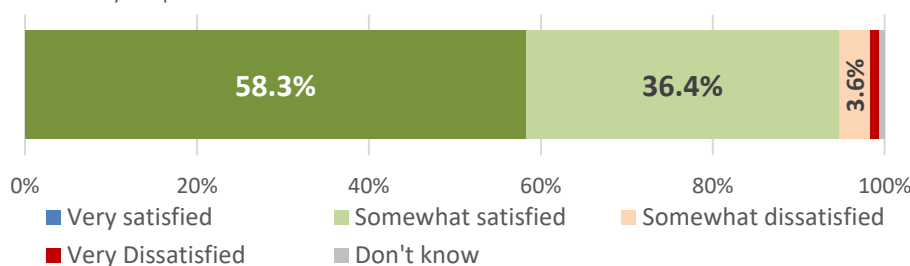


### Are residents satisfied with the value they receive from Mercer Island Parks & Recreation?

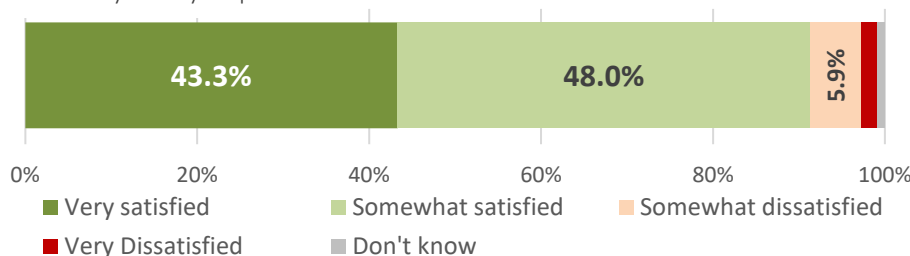
A large majority of respondents are somewhat to very satisfied with the value they receive from Mercer Island Parks & Recreation for parks, facilities, and open space areas (95% for the mail survey and 91% in the online-only survey). However, one in twenty respondents (5%) is either somewhat or very dissatisfied. This question was also re-tested from the 2020 survey to see if community sentiment has shifted over the past 18 months; the responses to both the mail survey and the online survey were nearly identical to that of the responses from the 2020 survey. Also, the online-only survey respondents were slightly less satisfied than mail survey respondents, with more than a 10 point difference in being 'somewhat satisfied' with the City's facilities, parks or open spaces. There were no significant differences in levels of satisfaction between subgroups.

2. Rate your household's overall satisfaction with Mercer Island Parks & Recreation facilities, parks, or open spaces.

Mail survey responses



Online-only survey responses



### What do residents see as the most needed improvements for parks, trails, and open space?

In an effort to further distinguish community priorities from those noted in the 2020 community survey, respondents were provided a range of options related to specific potential improvements to the Mercer Island park system and were asked to select their top three choices.

A strong number of respondents (44%) noted that connecting gaps in the trail system was a top priority, which was also 13 points higher than the next highest ranked option provided. Between one-quarter and one-third of respondents identified as the next top three options the following priorities: expanding maintenance and restoration of open space (31%), repairing or upgrading waterfront areas (29%), and improving restroom facilities (25%). Fewer than one in five respondents selected the remaining options. With the write-in 'other' option provided, 409 respondents provided comments, and the most common responses among these included:

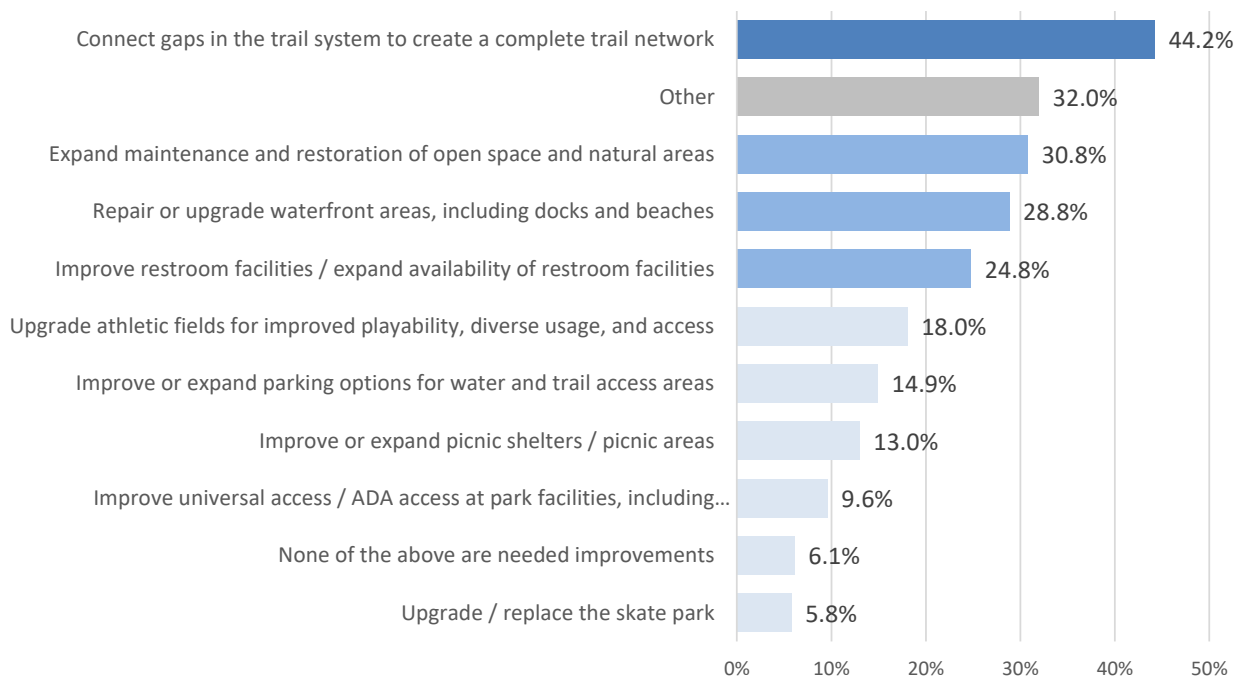
- Add pickleball courts; convert tennis and/or basketball courts to pickleball
- Enhance maintenance, to include playground replacements, trail maintenance, pathway repaving and invasive plant management
- Off-leash dog management and leash law enforcement

- Enhanced trash management, such as adding more trash cans and more frequent waste hauling
- Security and safety management, including managing for homeless encampments

Respondents to the mail survey were more favorable toward the top three most needed improvements by at least 10 points over those from the online-only survey. Respondents to the online survey were more strongly in favor of upgrading athletic fields (23% for online-only versus 10% for mail responses).

Respondents living in the southern portion of the island noted a slightly stronger interest in upgrading athletic fields. Respondents with children in the household more strongly supported the following improvements: improved picnic areas, improved restrooms, improved universal access, upgraded athletic fields, and upgraded skate park. Respondents over 65 years of age noted a stronger interest in expanded maintenance and restoration of open space, while those between 20 and 44 years of age more strongly supported improved picnic areas and improved universal access.

4. What do you think are the most needed improvements to the current City of Mercer Island parks system, including trails, and open space areas? Select UP TO 3 items.



### Which outdoor recreation amenities are important to residents' households?

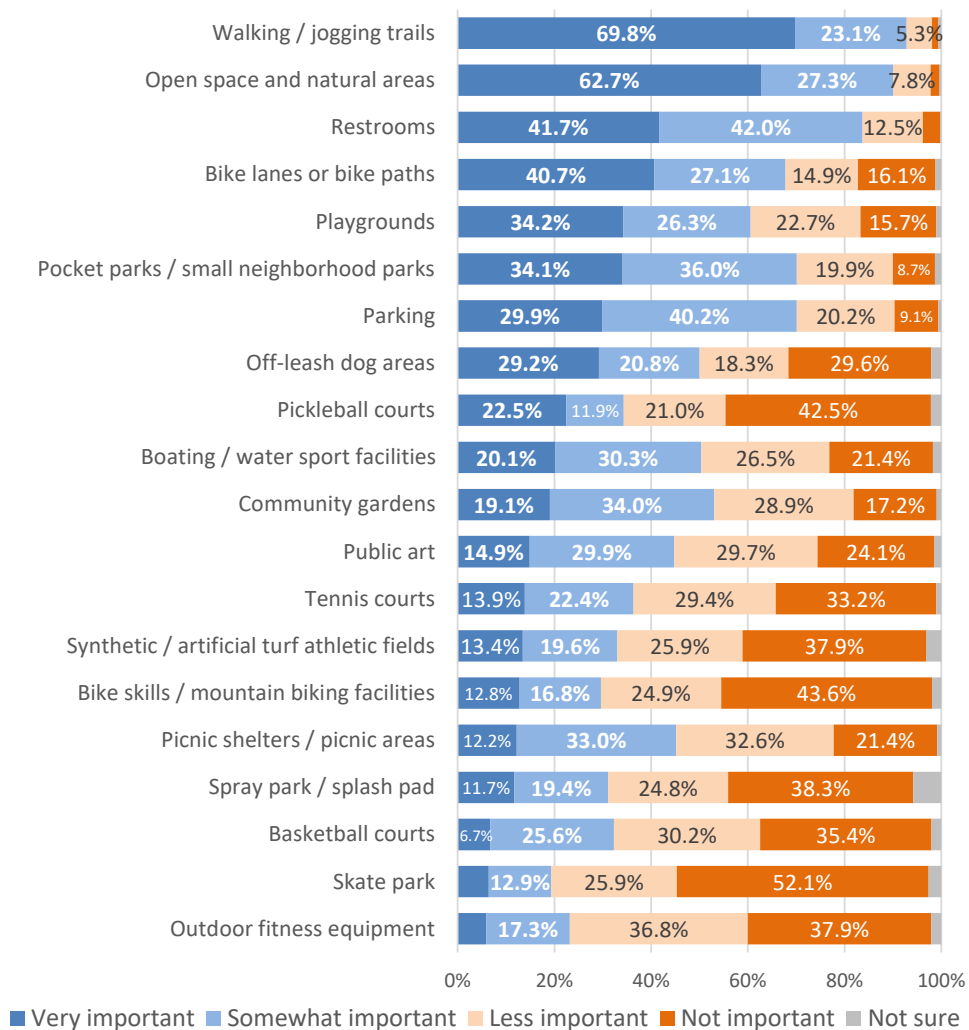
The survey provided a list of outdoor recreation amenities and asked respondents to identify those amenities that are important to their household, using a scale of very important to not important. Strong majorities of respondents indicated an interest in walking or jogging trails (93% very or somewhat important) and open space and natural areas (90% very or somewhat important). A second tier of amenities of strong interest include restrooms (84% very or somewhat important), bike lanes (68% very or somewhat important), pocket parks (70% very or somewhat important), parking (70% very or somewhat important) and playgrounds (61% very or somewhat important). Additionally, community gardens, boating and water sport facilities and off-leash dog areas were identified as either very or somewhat important by approximately half of respondents.

Respondents to the online-only survey were more likely than respondents to the mail survey to indicate pickleball courts as an important amenity (30% for online-only versus 7% for mail responses). Respondents to the mail survey noted a

strong level of importance of walking/jogging trails and open space/natural areas by more than 12 points over those from the online-only survey.

Respondents with two or more children in their household placed a slightly higher level of importance on restrooms, bike lanes, splash pad, bike skills area, and turf sport fields. In addition, respondents with children and those between 20 and 44 years of age noted a slightly higher level of importance for playgrounds and pocket parks. Respondents without children and those between 55 and 64 years of age indicated a higher level of importance for pickleball courts. Also, a substantial portion of the non-resident respondents (93%) noted the importance of pickleball courts. Respondents living in the northern portion of the island placed a higher level of importance on picnic areas than other locations.

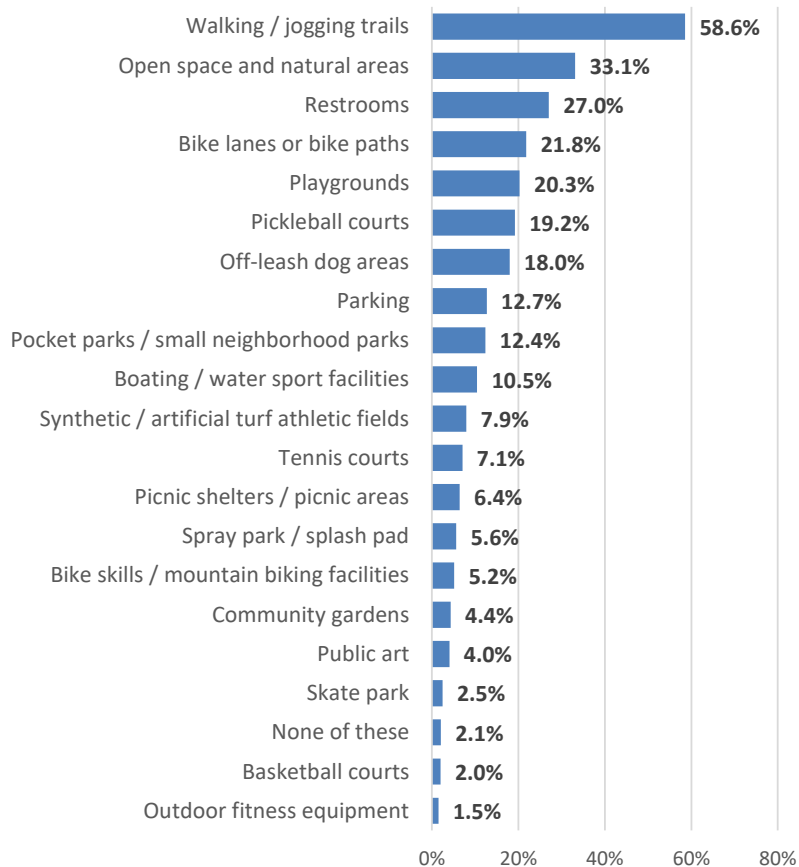
5. How important are each of the following parks, trails or open space amenities to your household?



Respondents were asked to use the same list of amenities to also select their top three amenities, in an effort to identify community priorities. Four of the top five amenities selected aligned with the top tier responses based on the sum of very and somewhat important responses; these included walking/jogging trails (59%), open space and natural areas (33%), restrooms (27%) and playgrounds (20%). Approximately one in five respondents noted bike lanes (22%), pickleball courts (19%) and off-leash dog areas (18%) as important to their household. Also, local interest in pickleball courts outpaced support for any other field or court sport facility by at least a factor of two.

In reviewing the top five amenities between the mail and online-only survey response, four of the top five amenities identified were the same. Mail survey respondents included bike lanes and paths within the grouping of top five, and online-only respondents included pickleball courts in the top five.

6. Using the same list again, select UP TO THREE amenities from the list that are the most important to you and your household.

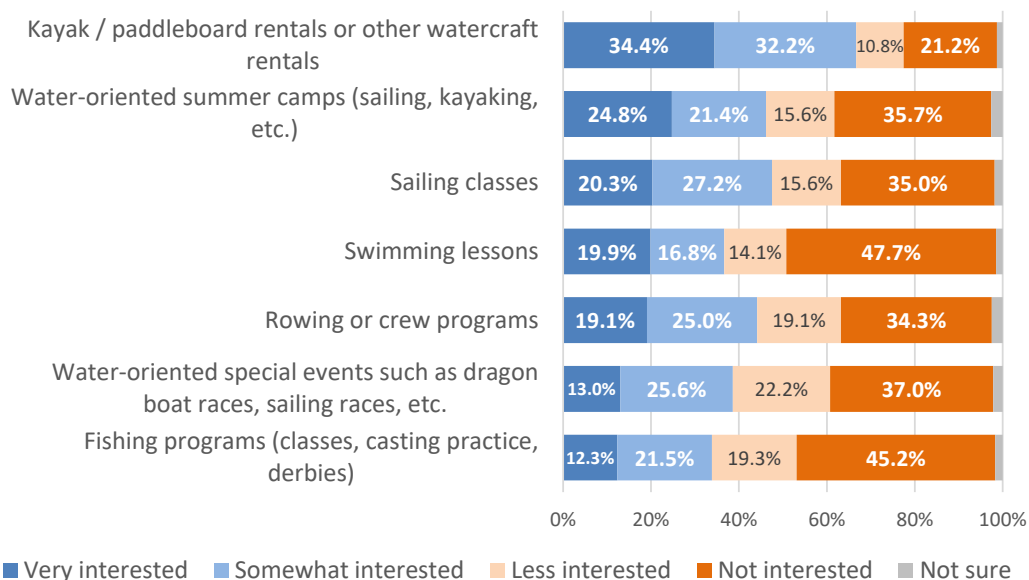


### Which water-oriented programs and activities are of interest to residents' households?

The survey asked respondents to identify their level of interest in a variety of water-oriented activities and programs. A majority of respondents (67%) were either very or somewhat interested in access to kayak or paddleboard rentals. None of the other options listed secured a majority of respondents' interest; however, strong responses were noted for water-oriented summer camps (46%), sailing classes (47%), and rowing or crew programs (44%). Interest in fishing programs (33%) was the weakest of the options listed. Online-only survey respondents were 'very interested' in water-oriented summer camps by a larger degree than those from the mail survey (27% for online-only versus 21% for mail responses), which is likely due to the higher percentage of households with children responding to the online-only survey.

Households with children indicated stronger interest in all of the water-oriented program and activity options over households without children, with the strongest support for swimming classes (25 points higher on average) and water-oriented summer classes (13 points higher on average). Respondents living in the northern portion of the island indicated a slightly stronger interest in swimming lessons. Those living in the central portion of the island indicated a slightly higher interest for kayak and paddleboard rental opportunities.

7. Indicate your household's interest in participating in the following aquatic programs and activities.

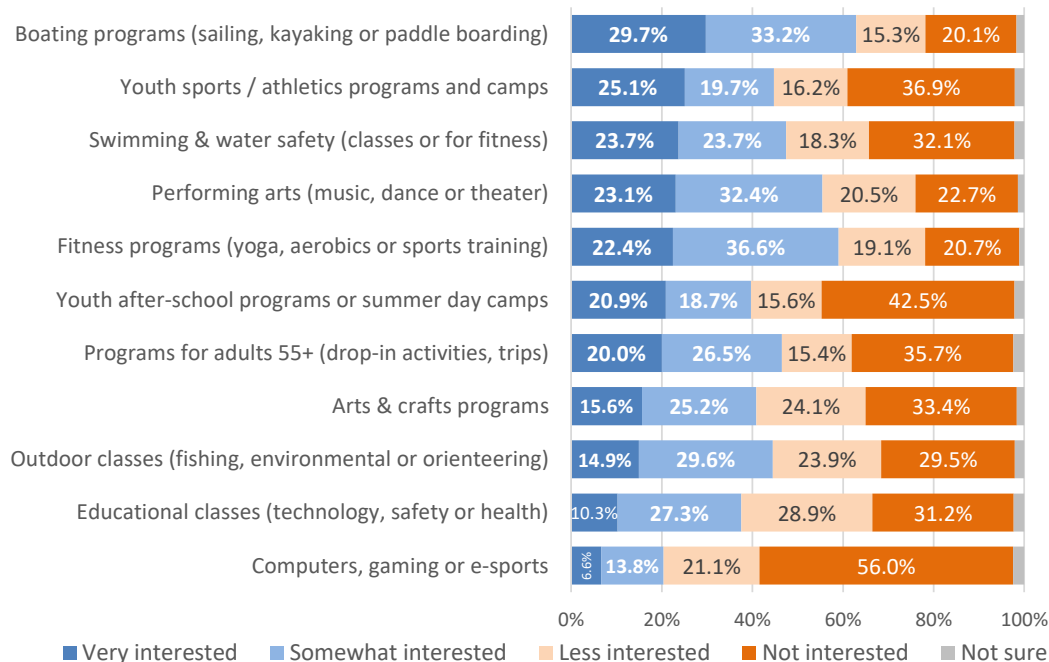




### What recreation options are of interest to residents' households?

The survey asked respondents which types of recreation programs, classes, and activities their household might have interest in. Similar to the responses on water-oriented recreation, a majority of respondents (63%) were either very or somewhat interested in boating programs. A majority of respondents also indicated interest in fitness programs (59%) and performing arts (55%). In addition, at least two in five respondents indicated interest in programs for adults 55+ (47%), youth sports camps (45%), outdoor classes (45%), and arts & crafts programs (41%).

8. Indicate your household's interest in participating in the following recreation programs and activities.



Online-only survey respondents were 'very interested' in outdoor classes (16%) and youth sports (28%) by a slightly larger degree than those from the mail survey. Respondents to the mail survey were 'very interested' in fitness programs (26%) to a slighter larger degree.

Respondents living in the northern portion of the island indicated slightly stronger interest for swimming classes and fitness programs. Respondents with children in the household and those between 35 and 54 years of age had more interest for youth-oriented recreation options including youth sports, after-school programs, educational programs and outdoor camps. Respondents without children noted stronger interest for fitness programs and programs for 55+ adults. Respondents to the mail survey who were over 45 years of age indicated stronger interest for performing arts.

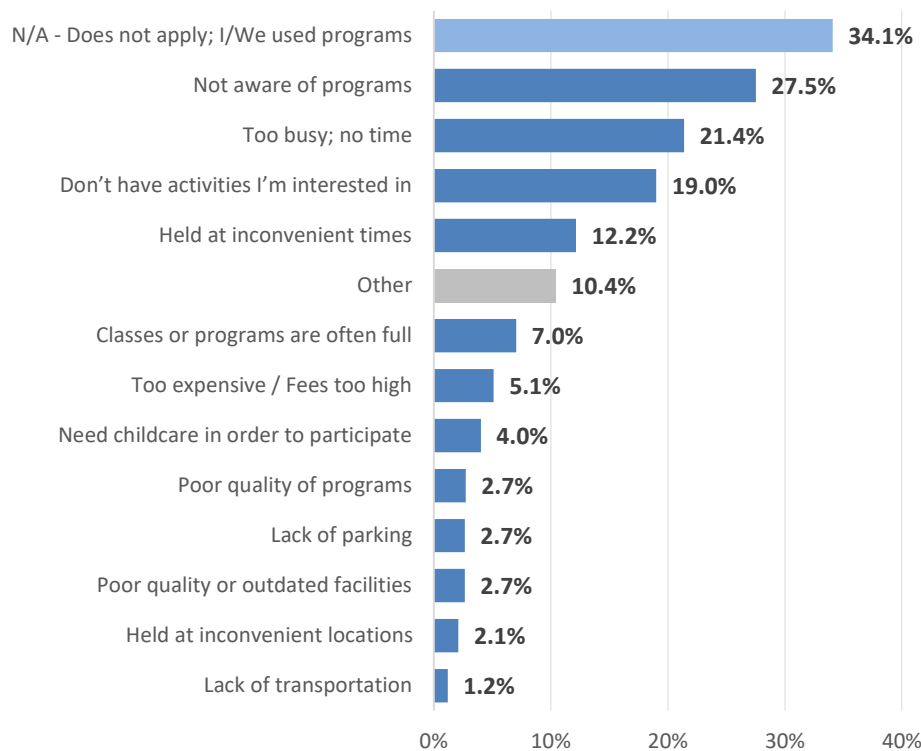
### What are residents' reasons for not participating in City recreation programs?

A majority of respondents (34%) indicated that the question about the reasons for not participating in recreation programs does not apply and that they use recreation programs. In terms of other feedback, two of the top three responses relate to conditions the City might be able to address in the future: being not aware of programs (28%) and not having activities of interest (19%) to respondents. Approximately one in five respondents (21%) indicated that they were too busy to participate in programs. Of the other options to choose, none were noted as barriers by more than 7% of respondents, with the exception of programs being held at inconvenient times (12%). Respondents to the online-only survey indicated the lack of childcare (5%) and programs being held at inconvenient times (14%) by a slightly larger degree than those from the mail survey.

Responses to the write-in option for 'other' included several comments about having recently moved to Mercer Island, having a lack of interest, utilizing private facilities, or references to age or physical abilities.

Respondents with children in the household indicated that a need for childcare and classes being full as limitations to participating in programs more often. No other significant difference were noted between other subgroups.

9. Prior to COVID-19, if your household did not often participate in or utilize recreation programs or activities offered by the City of Mercer Island, what are the reasons?  
CHECK ALL THAT APPLY.

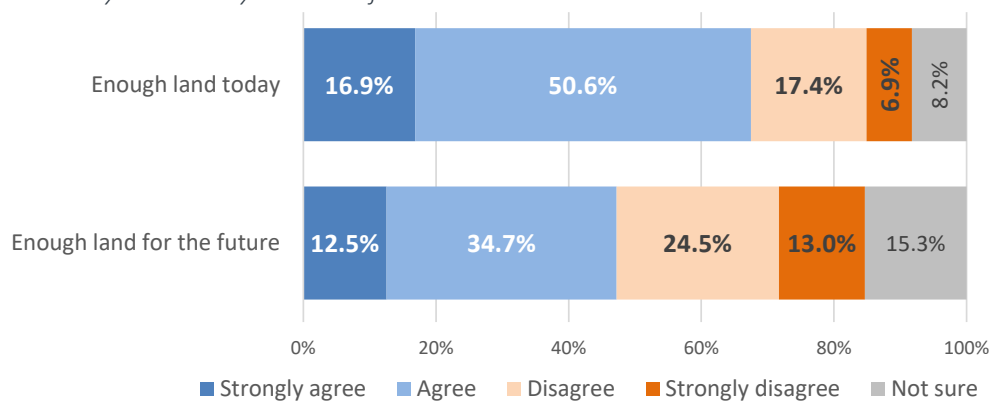


### What are residents' sentiment and priorities regarding the supply of parkland?

The survey asked respondents to indicate their level of agreement with two statements about the supply of parks, trails, and open space areas and whether there is enough land today and enough for the future. A strong majority of respondents (68%) indicated agreement that there is enough park and open space land today on Mercer Island. Approximately one-quarter of respondents (24%) disagree that enough land exists today for parks and open space. Considering the sentiment about the supply of park and open space land for the future, fewer than half of respondents (47%) feel there is enough land, which is a 20 point decrease from sentiment about the supply of parkland today. More than two-thirds of respondents (37%) disagree that there will be enough parklands for the future. The percentage of 'not sure' responses regarding future sentiment doubled from that of having enough parkland today. No significant differences were noted between the mail survey and online-only survey responses.

Respondents over 55 years of age, those with three or more children, or those living in the northern portion of the city indicated a stronger sentiment about disagreeing with the statement that Mercer Island has enough parkland for the future. No other significant differences were noted between the subgroup responses.

10. Do you agree or disagree with this statement: *The City of Mercer Island has enough land for parks, trails and open space to meet community needs today and in the future.*

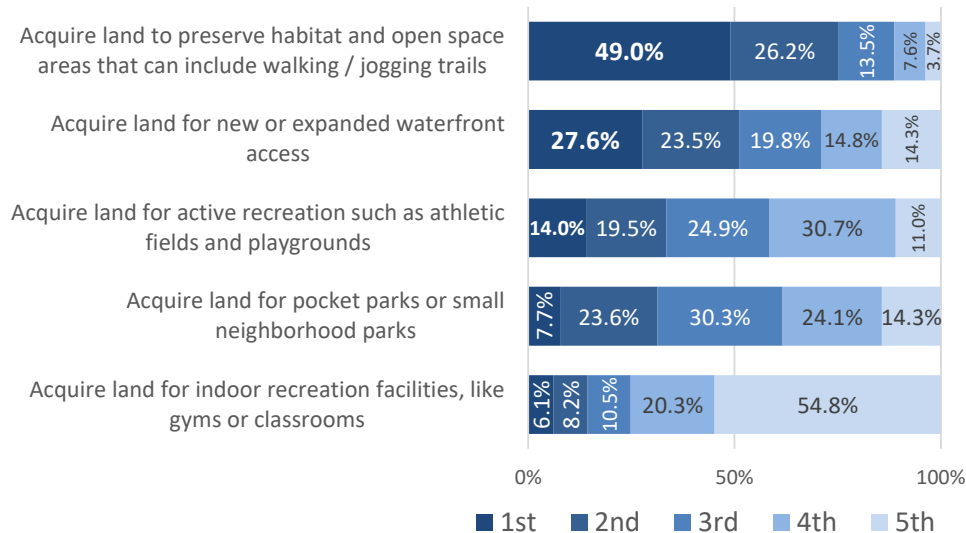


In a follow-up question, respondents were asked to prioritize in a forced-rank question which types of parkland acquisitions should be a priority if the City were to acquire additional parkland. Nearly half of respondents (49%) prioritized the acquisition of land to preserve habitat and open space as their top choice, and 75% of respondents indicated this option as either their first or second priority in rank order. Acquiring land for waterfront access was ranked as the second highest priority, with 51% of respondents indicating this option as either their first or second priority.

The priority rankings indicated by the responses to the mail survey and the online-only survey were listed in the same order; however, respondents to the mail survey indicated slightly greater strength in priority for acquiring land to preserve habitat and open space (84% for mail versus 70% for online-only responses as first choice priority).

Respondents between 35 and 44 years of age and households with two or more children indicated that acquiring land for waterfront access and for active recreation uses was a higher priority than other household types. Respondents over 55 years of age and households without children indicated that acquiring land to preserve habitat and open space was a higher priority than others.

11. If the City of Mercer Island were to acquire additional park land, please rank your land acquisition priorities from 1st (highest priority) to 5th (lowest priority). Select each priority only once.



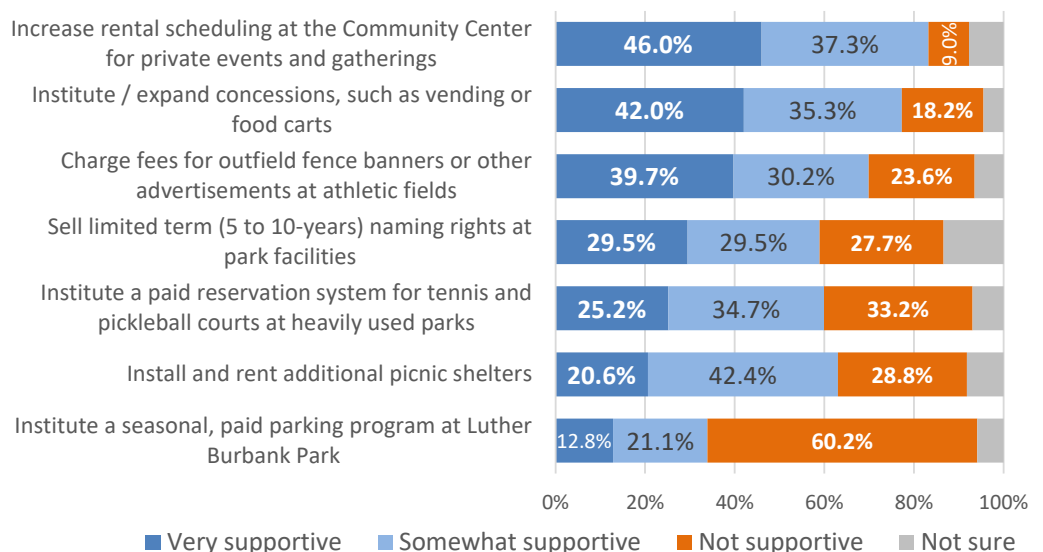
### What revenue generating options would residents support?

The survey asked respondents their level of support from a list of potential revenue generating options. A majority of respondents were either very or somewhat supportive of every option listed, except for a paid parking program at Luther Burbank Park. A strong majority of respondents were either very or somewhat supportive of increasing rental scheduling at the Community Center (83%), instituting or expanding concessions options (77%), and charging fees for outfield fence banners or advertisements (70%). Significantly fewer respondents (34%) were supportive of implementing a paid parking program at Luther Burbank Park, with 60% of respondents being not supportive. No significant differences were noted between the mail survey and online-only survey responses.

Households with children were more supportive of all of the potential revenue options compared to households without children, with at least a 15 point difference in responses in support of outfield, selling naming rights, and concessions.

Those living in the northern portion of the city were slightly more favorable toward outfield banners than other parts of the City.

12. The City of Mercer Island is exploring options to increase revenue to support the delivery of parks and recreation services. How would you rate your level of support for each of the following potential suggestions?



### What one improvement would residents make to Mercer Island's parks, trails or open space?

A closing question on the survey was open-ended for write-in responses, and the question asked "If you wanted the City of Mercer Island to do just one thing to improve parks, trails, and/or open space, what would it be?" In all, 802 write-in responses were provided. The most frequently noted remarks include the following:

- Improve maintenance of existing parks, trails, and open space, including more frequent trash removal, weed and invasive plant management and eliminating the use of certain pesticides/herbicides
- Create more trail connections and linkages, including improved trail safety and separating bike and pedestrian uses
- Provide pickleball
- Acquire additional open space and provide additional beach or waterfront access, including street end improvements
- Provide additional amenities, such as more/larger playgrounds, splash pads and restrooms
- Replace the Luther Burbank Park dock
- Provide additional off-leash parks and trails, and also enforce leash laws
- Upgrade sport fields

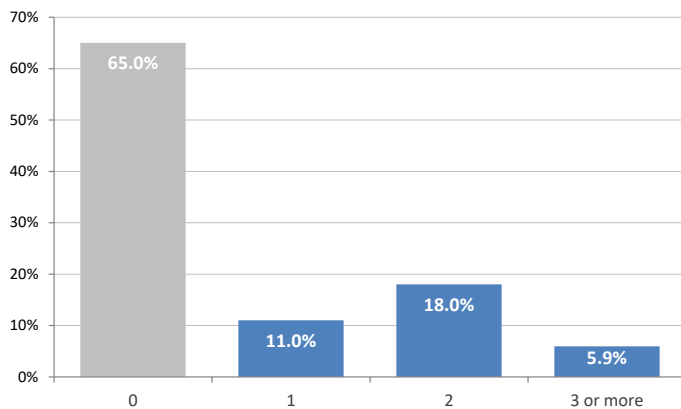
The full list of write-in comments is provided at the end of this summary memo.

## Demographics

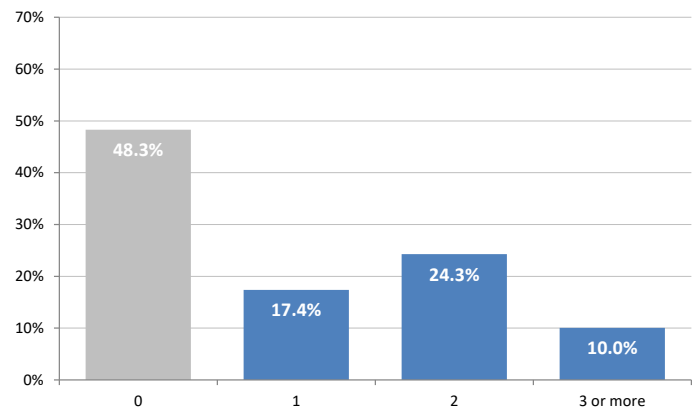
### Number of Children in Household

Nearly seven in ten respondents to the mail survey (65%) have no children in their household. These households tended to include older adults (over age 55). The remaining 35% of households have one (11%), two (18%), or three or more (6%) children in the home. These responses from the random-sample mail survey are nearly identical to that of the 2020 survey. Online-only respondents were 16% more likely to have children at home than mail survey respondents.

Mail survey responses



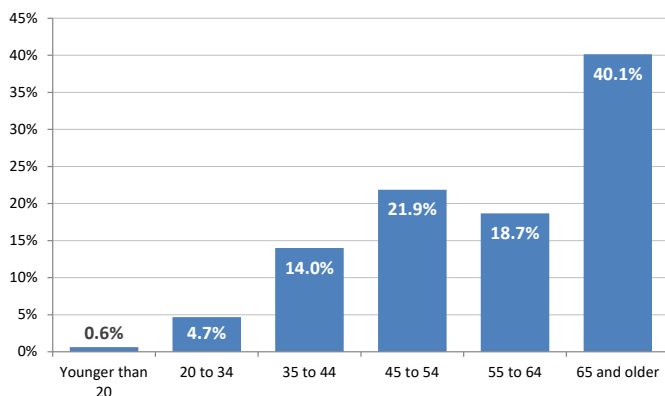
Online-only survey responses



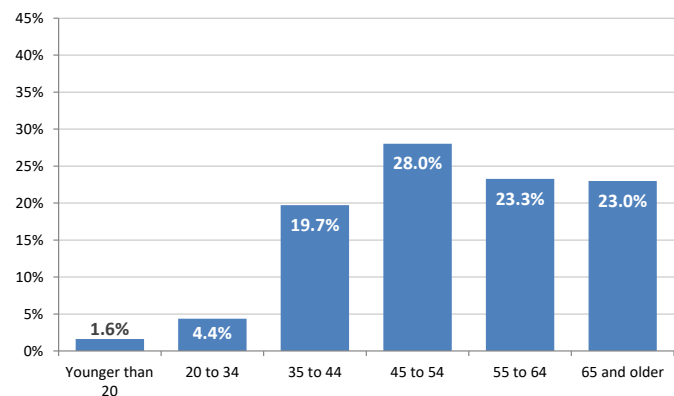
### Age

Nearly 40% of respondents to the mail survey were over 65 years of age. Another 19% were between 55 and 64, while 22% were 45 to 54. There were few responses from younger residents, 14% of responses were from people 35 to 44 and 5% were from those under 35 years of age. Respondents to the online-only survey were predominately 45-64 years old (51%), followed by 35-44 (20%), with fewer residents over 65 responding.

Mail survey responses



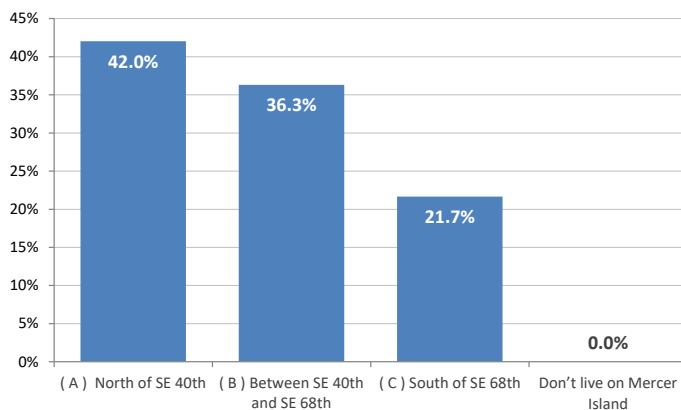
Online-only survey responses



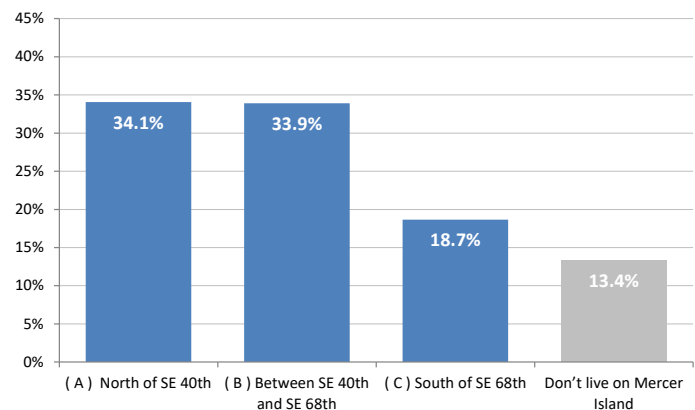
### Location of Residence

Approximately 42% of mail survey respondents live on the northern part of the island (north of SE 40<sup>th</sup> Street). Another 36% respondents live between SE 40<sup>th</sup> and SE 68<sup>th</sup> Street. The remainder of respondents live south of SE 68<sup>th</sup> (22%). No respondents to the mail survey live outside of the City of Mercer Island. As with the household composition statistics, the random-sample mail survey responses were nearly identical to those of the 2020 survey. Respondents to the online-only survey were similarly distributed across the island. However, 13% of online-only respondents indicated that they do not live on Mercer Island.

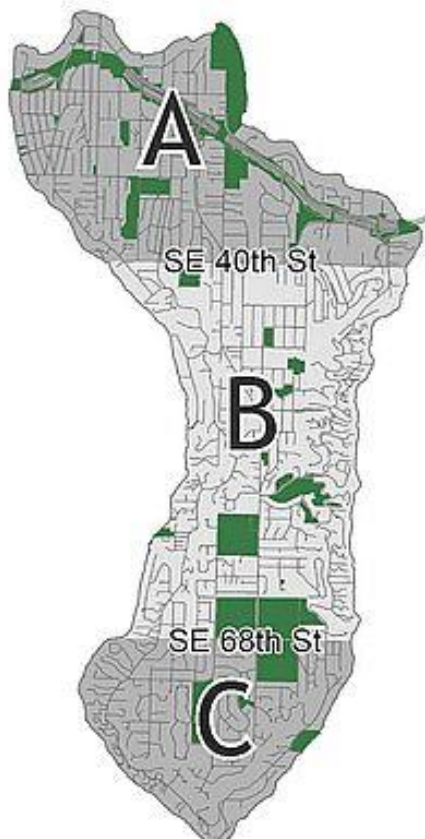
Mail survey responses



Online-only survey responses



### Location Map (for reference)





## ATTACHMENT 1. SURVEY INSTRUMENT



# City of Mercer Island

## 2021 Community Survey on Parks and Recreation

### Dear Mercer Island Resident:

The City of Mercer Island began updating the Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Plan in early 2020. The PROS Plan will help inform parks and recreation priorities for the next 6 to 10 years. Work on the PROS Plan was suspended in early 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and resumed in early 2021. For more information on the PROS Plan, please visit the Mercer Island Let's Talk page ( <https://letstalk.mercergov.org/miprosplan> ).

In early 2020, the City facilitated a community survey on parks and recreation and now is conducting a second PROS Plan survey to better understand local priorities for improvements to the parks system. We understand that COVID-19 may have impacted your ability to visit parks and trails this past year. We ask that you consider the future orientation of the parks plan as you evaluate needs and priorities for the parks and recreation system. Your opinions are important to the City.



You can return the survey in the reply-ready envelope provided or with this QR code:

1. How often do you or members of your household visit or use Mercer Island Parks & Recreation facilities (Community Center, parks, trails or open space)?

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> At least once a week       | <input type="checkbox"/> A few times over the year                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two or three times a month | <input type="checkbox"/> Do not visit facilities / parks / open space |
| <input type="checkbox"/> About once a month         | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know                                   |

2. Rate your household's overall satisfaction with Mercer Island Parks & Recreation facilities, parks, trails and open space.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very satisfied     | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat dissatisfied |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat satisfied | <input type="checkbox"/> Very dissatisfied     |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know            |

3. How has the COVID-19 Pandemic impacted your use of Mercer Island parks, trails and open space?

- ☐ Use increased during the COVID-19 Pandemic  
☐ Use decreased during the COVID-19 Pandemic  
☐ Use was about the same during the COVID-19 Pandemic

4. What do you think are the most needed improvements to the current City of Mercer Island parks system, including trails and open space areas? Select UP TO 3 items. (Responses with more than three items selected will not be recorded.)

- ☐ Improve or expand picnic shelters / picnic areas  
☐ Improve or expand parking options for water and trail access areas  
☐ Improve restroom facilities / expand availability of restroom facilities  
☐ Improve universal access / ADA access at park facilities, including playground upgrades  
☐ Repair or upgrade waterfront areas, including docks and beaches  
☐ Upgrade athletic fields for improved playability, diverse usage and access  
☐ Connect gaps in the trail system to create a complete trail network  
☐ Upgrade / replace the skate park  
☐ Expand maintenance and restoration of open space and natural areas  
☐ None of the above are needed improvements  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_



Take this survey online using the link below or the QR code:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MercerIslandPROS>

Or send it back in the reply-ready envelope provided. **Thank you in advance for participating!**



5. How important are each of the following parks, trails or open space amenities to your household? Then, Select UP TO THREE amenities from the list that are the most important to you and your household.

	Very important	Somewhat important	Less important	Not important	Not sure	TOP 3 Priorities
Picnic shelters / picnic areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Restrooms	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Walking / jogging trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Open space and natural areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pickleball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Synthetic / artificial turf athletic fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Tennis courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pocket parks / small neighborhood parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bike skills / mountain biking facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skate park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Bike lanes or bike paths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Parking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Outdoor fitness equipment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Spray park / splash pad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Basketball courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Off-leash dog areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Public art	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boating / water sport facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community gardens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="radio"/>

6. Indicate your household's interest in participating in the following aquatic programs and activities.

	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Less interested	Not interested	Not sure
Swimming lessons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sailing classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kayak / paddleboard rentals or other watercraft rentals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing programs (classes, casting practice, derbies)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water-oriented special events such as dragon boat races, sailing races, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water-oriented summer camps (sailing, kayaking, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rowing or crew programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



7. Indicate your household's interest in participating in the following recreation programs and activities.

	Very interested	Somewhat interested	Less interested	Not interested	Not sure
Swimming & water safety (classes or for fitness)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boating programs (sailing, kayaking or paddle boarding)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Outdoor classes (fishing, environmental or orienteering)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Educational classes (technology, safety or health)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Performing arts (music, dance or theater)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Programs for adults 55+ (drop-in activities, trips)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness programs (yoga, aerobics or sports training)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth after-school programs or summer day camps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts & crafts programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth sports / athletics programs and camps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Computers, gaming or e-sports	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> N/A - Does not apply; I/we used programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Classes or programs are often full     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not aware of programs                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Need childcare in order to participate |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't have activities I'm interested in  | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of parking                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor quality of programs                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of transportation                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor quality or outdated facilities      | <input type="checkbox"/> Too expensive / Fees too high          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Held at inconvenient times               | <input type="checkbox"/> Too busy; no time                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Held at inconvenient locations           | <input type="checkbox"/> Other:                                 |

- |                            | Strongly agree           | Agree                    | Disagree                 | Strongly disagree        | Not sure                 |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Enough land today          | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Enough land for the future | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- [illegible]

11. The City of Mercer Island is exploring options to increase revenue to support the delivery of parks and recreation services. How would you rate your level of support for each of the following potential suggestions?

	Very supportive	Somewhat supportive	Not supportive	Not sure
Install and rent additional picnic shelters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Charge fees for outfield fence banners or other advertisements at athletic fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institute a seasonal, paid parking program at Luther Burbank Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institute a paid reservation system for tennis and pickleball courts at heavily used parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Institute / expand concessions, such as vending or food carts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increase rental scheduling at the Community Center for private events and gatherings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sell limited term (5 to 10-years) naming rights at park facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12. If you wanted the City of Mercer Island to do just one thing to improve parks, trails and/or open space, what would it be?

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The following questions help us understand whether we have a cross-section of the community responding to this survey. It's important that you provide a response to each question. Please remember your answers are confidential.

13. How many children under age 18 live in your household?

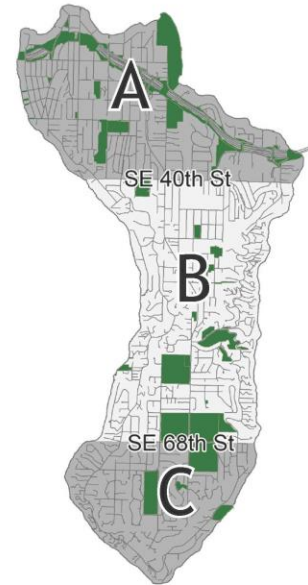
☐ 0                      ☐ 2  
☐ 1                      ☐ 3 or more

14. What is your age?

☐ Younger than 20                      ☐ 45 to 54  
☐ 20 to 34                              ☐ 55 to 64  
☐ 35 to 44                              ☐ 65 and older

15. Using the map, in which section of Mercer Island do you live?

☐ ( A ) North of SE 40th                      ☐ ( C ) South of SE 68th  
☐ ( B ) Between SE 40th and SE 68th      ☐ Don't live on Mercer Island



**Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!**

Your input will help guide the development of the Mercer Island Parks, Recreation & Open Space Plan.

**Save a stamp! Take this survey online with the QR code or link:**

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MercerIslandPROS>

Learn more about why Mercer Island needs a PROS Plan and stay informed about the process at <https://letstalk.mercergov.org/miprosplan>



The City of Mercer Island is using the services of a consultant team who specializes in park and recreation planning.

**Please return your completed survey in the enclosed Return-Reply Envelope addressed to:**

Conservation Technix Inc.  
 PO Box 885  
 Orinda, CA 94563

## ATTACHMENT 2. OPEN-ENDED RESPONSES

Question 4. What do you think are the most needed improvements to the current City of Mercer Island parks system, including trails and open space areas? Select UP TO 3 items. (*open-ended "other" responses*)

### MAIL RESPONSES

- Open up 40th Street end walking path to water
- Recharge 56th Landing beach
- I think just Keeping up on general maintenance at Nance at our parks and replacing items when they are broken, such as the Dragon Park screening site, and items that are broken around to different playgrounds would be ideal- it's unfortunate when you attend parks and things are broken/ not working properly
- Better maintenance of Pioneer park and designated parking.
- No to homeless encampments in our parks and open spaces
- Do more to mitigate impact of dogs - enforcement of on-leash areas, esp. at Luther Burbank; promote waste pick-up by owners in woods - area trails (such as Mercerdale Hillside and Pioneer Park)
- new activities golf practice range
- plant and water trees in Sculpture Park next to I-90
- Facility for the Performing Arts
- Do not use parks
- Repair and resurface tennis courts, cracks in the court surfaces are a safety hazard for children and adults
- Upgrade children's play area - it is so ugly! Go look at Bellevue Parks - look at beautiful improvements! Mercerdale is a sad mess - love the benches, love the idea, but the kids area with wood chips and 2 swing sets is pathetic
- Trail maintenance to include erosion of trail surfaces exposing stone underlying the trail. Common in Pioneer Park NE sector and SE 53rd Greenspace
- Increase garbage facilities/cans in Luther Burbank Park
- Mercerdale Park walking path which my husband and I walk several times a week is in dire need of repaving. It is presently a danger with all the cracks and unevenness of the cement. It is hard to navigate if anyone has balance issues and there are a lot of elderly with walkers and canes
- Can't really say, since I am not familiar with a lot of these facilities. I use mainly the trails or pool
- Preservation of natural spaces
- Maintain open space where volunteers have worked
- Make all parks "leashed" - the problem of off-leash dogs has grown exponentially since we moved here on '04. I cannot safely walk my dog on-leash, as we are often approached by off-leash dogs whose owners rarely care that their dog is an issue for mine and other vulnerable walkers, i.e., small children or the elderly
- More trash cans - empty more frequently please!
- Coffee hour at Community Center (closed now)
- mountain bike trails
- Signage for turns on trails
- Repair damage to trails by tree roots and keep homeless out of the parks and trails
- Allow picnic shelter reservation in more parks like neighborhood parks
- Restore and remove invasive plants from Pioneer Park

- Strategies for better compliance with dog rules
- Do a better job of maintaining the parks in general
- Make all playgrounds inclusive
- Trim all trees - overgrown everywhere
- Why did you tear down the Mercerdale playground and why do it months before a replacement could be ready?
- Enforce dog leash laws
- General maintenance of current parks
- Reinforce leash laws for dogs off-leash and remove "voice control" as allowed. Voice control of a dog is a fiction. I do not feel safe around dogs off leash
- Spray park / splash pad
- I wish you had allowed a small hotel with a restaurant on the water at Luther Burbank. Bike trails around the Island
- Get back the flower arrangements in Luther Burbank - am sure patrons will be willing to pay some \$ towards this
- Put speed limit on the I-90 trail! Between electric bikes and scooters, it's becoming extremely dangerous for seniors!
- restrooms at Luther Burbank Park
- Create mountain bike trails
- Improve maintenance
- more available maps for trails
- More playgrounds - bigger ones!
- Turn off play field lights when not in use. It's a big waste of money
- Luther Burbank - lease space to Ivars
- checking woods for cleaning and protecting trees
- Fill mud puddles
- Improve water access your round
- Mountain bike park
- Develop/expand mountain bike/BMX park on SE 28th
- Signage and wayfinding for trails that snake into and through neighborhoods - even a map would be nice
- Disc golf
- Stop Spraying Roundup !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Improve playgrounds
- Trash cans on the trails
- Security of parks and trails; enforcement of leash laws. Concern over finding used needles in trails and parks, litter
- I think what we have access to is AMAZING!
- Separate bikers from walkers, especially through Lid Park. Give dog owners other options from using playing fields or cite them for ignoring 'field closed' signs
- Clark Beach could use some love
- Improve ventilation and air flow in community center and reopen it fully to the community with a vaccination mandate
- control parking and visitors after closing.
- a running track / bicycle riding area for kids

- Prioritize the Mercer Island Center for the Arts
- Improve trash collection / overall cleanliness
- Lifeguards
- Benches could be added everywhere
- Keep homeless out of parks and other areas
- add and improve children's playgrounds
- Lifeguards
- Cleanliness, garbage bins!
- Upgrade Luther Burbank theatre space and create another
- Keep ensuring no tents
- South end dog park
- Repair Luther Burbank tennis courts. Convert to pickleball courts which would get a lot of use
- Improve garbage collection and recycling
- increase playground equipment
- More bike trails/paths down the island - the amount of bikes on narrow West and East Mercer Way roads is dangerous and it would be nice to have some areas where kids can bike safely
- Increase the number of pickleball courts
- I walk my dog - no improvements needed
- Maintain the tennis courts at Luther Burbank Park
- Add rock climbing and golfing facilities
- Post signs in equine quadrant that make it clear horses have priority
- Dogs on leash!!!!
- More bike and running trails. Unpaved great too
- Add park properties as opportunities arise
- Increase number of swings available
- Pickle ball courts addition
- Expand Pickleball courts
- Bike trail and bike park
- More dog park areas
- A second fenced dog park in a hilly area.
- Add more playground options
- Upgrade basketball hoops
- Life-guards at Groveland
- Keep the parks safe and secured.
- Renovate pool
- Bike park and pump track
- Have a connected bicycling path/route connecting the south end plaza to the north end light rail.
- Fix the bridges in the parks instead of just removing them

- Enhance bike access
- Place a water park somewhere on the island!
- Improve tennis/pickleball
- Add garbage cans back to Franklin landing
- Water better. Also be efficient and not waste taxpayer money

#### ONLINE RESPONSES

- More Pickleball
- irrigation for all the trees that are dying
- Many sidewalks on island need to be repaired. Too many cracks and grates sticking up, too many safety concerns regarding sidewalks and even where I live at the Hadley. The courtyard area that is made with boards has holes and is coming apart.
- Correct dilapidated state of parks, weeds and overgrowth.
- Restore trash cans removed at the start of the pandemic
- Improve security in parking area behind IC W baseball field
- We need to enhance maintenance of Pioneer Park. Take out ivy, etc.
- Upgrade the tennis courts- ALL NEED NEW NETS and pavement repair.
- Pickleball courts need attention
- Improved biking routes so they are safer for kids to independently get to and from schools and parks
- More Pickleball courts
- biking trails need to be safer especially in the perimeter of the island
- More pickleball courts please
- In busy use months (summer ) the bathrooms are not at all kept sanitary and up to a normal standard.
- Make Luther Burbank tennis courts into permanent dedicated pickleball courts with refurbished surfacing, lines, posts, and nets
- Pickleball
- Covered rest area at tennis/pickle ball courts
- Dedicated pickleball courts! :)
- more garbage & recycling receptacles are needed on all trails
- permanently protect all parks from future development
- Add more outdoor pickleball courts
- Add more pickleball courts, if possible cover and with lights since we live in sark and rain most of the year
- More pickleball courts
- Provide and improve pickleball courts
- Increase availability for indoor/outdoor pickleball
- Need pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts will be very helpful.
- Create more gathering spaces, lingering locations, viewing areas, etc. For instance, experiment with improvements that invite older adults to rest and watch the youngsters at play in the skate park and sport courts. Don't fear failed experiments.
- Sitting in off leash dog park for older people

- With all the adults now living in city center, we should consider adding a chess board and a basketball hoop somewhere in city center, e.g. at Mercerdale or the lid park. The sports at Bellevue's downtown park seem to be well used.
- 1. Charge a HIGH USE FEE for Non-Island Teams and a PARKING FEE for NON-ISLAND Residents without a MI Resident sticker just like locally managed parks all across the country. 2. Fix and re-install the bridge across the gully in Island Park. IT NEVER SHOULD HAVE BEEN REMOVED IN THE FIRST PLACE. IT ONLY NEEDED MINOR REPAIR.
- Add Pickleball courts
- Improve drainage
- I say None based on retired, 70, no kids
- Benches on trails for older walkers to rest! Thank you
- Pickleball
- Add frisbee golf to Luther Burbank and enforce dogs on leash requirement
- More pickleball courts
- More pickle ball courts please
- EACH tennis court could accommodate 3 pickleball courts Add PBmarking
- Girls need softball field on par with boys. It's the law.
- The South fields on Mercer Island
- The south Mercer ball field needs to have a dedicated softball field for our high school team.
- The fields at the south end are retrofitted baseball fields. It would be nice if they fit the needs of all of the softball players as well.
- Please fix the softball field at South Mercer. It's time and the girls deserve it. It's been far too long playing on a field intended for baseball.
- Pickleball courts at Luther Burbank!
- Beaches need lifeguards
- Stop using herbicides on blackberries
- Add more pickleball courts
- Create a dedicated softball facility at South Mercer.
- Would like to see permanent Pickleball courts. Courts also need resurfacing.
- More pickle ball courts
- Would like to see permanent pickleball courts replace tennis courts at Luther Burbank Park.
- Add Pickleball Courts
- Better maintenance - a lot of dead bushes / trees and not cleaned out
- Add lights to more tennis courts around the Island
- Better bike and walking paths to reach parks
- Add a spray park / wadding pool to the island. Maybe South Mercer Playground which could use a "lift" and has great sunlight/parking/accessibility
- 1. Dedicated outdoor pickleball courts; 2. Improve the dog park at Luther Burbank (i.e., add bark over the top of the sand/dirt to help with dust, mud, and dirt).
- More pickle all courts
- Dedicated Pickleball courts
- Add lights to mercerdale park around sidewalk for evening walks and security



- More turf fields
- More outdoor Pickleball courts please!
- Add dedicated Pickleball courts
- more pickleball courts
- swap tennis courts to pickleball courts
- Add more pickleball courts
- Add dedicated pickle ball courts
- I'm not sure
- Transform the original tennis court at Luther Bank Park into multiple developed pickleball courts instead of the original three.
- Provide pickleball facilities
- Permanent pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts.
- I don't really know what needs to be upgraded or repaired but I still want a performing arts center.
- don't use enough to speak to this
- paddleboard/kayak rental, summer camp, dock/waterfront improvement/accessibility
- More outdoor pickleball courts
- Build dedicated pickle ball courts
- A park like Meadowcrest in Renton, ideal for ages 2-5
- Add good quality Pickleball courts
- More dedicated pickleball courts
- Resurface and renovate Luther Burbank pickleball courts and expand to 6 courts
- Please expand the trail network! Our family walks on the trails several times a week, and it would be great to have additional variety
- Enforce no camping law to keep parks and open spaces clean and safe. Enforce the law.
- add pickle ball courts
- Covered pickleball courts!
- Add permanent pickleball courts, please
- Add more trash bins
- My daughter to the paddle camp this summer and loved it. I would love to see an adult version, or options to paddle as part of the community
- Pickleball designated courts
- More pickleball courts
- Replace tennis court ground at Luther Burbank
- Just want to say how impressed I have always been (44 yrs here). Love all that is there.
- paddle board, kayak, rental
- Eliminate off leash for dogs outside of LB's off leash area. It's abused in other areas by pet owners and/or confusion over which areas allows it vs not. Just too many injuries to other dogs and people by aggressive dogs not under 'voice control' and no accountability by owners.

- Make Pickle Ball Court High expedited priority
- Would love to have kayak/SUP rentals available, better access for kayaks/paddleboards, more water-based summer camp opportunities
- Keep free of homeless campers, trash including drug needles, and more trash can placement to help dog walkers.
- Walking trail in Upper LBP
- We need year-round outdoor pickleball courts
- Many small parks are still missing trash cans
- Add Pickleball courts please!
- Ad more outdoor Pickleball options
- more outdoor pickleball courts with more parking provided
- Better enforcement of leash laws so all can enjoy the parks. Better signage for leash laws. I could go on and on. I don't use the parks as often as I would if dog owners would be respectful of the laws and only have dogs off leash in the designated off leash areas. This "voice command" law isn't working. Many dog owners are inconsiderate and break the laws. If you want me to pay for parks levy, then enforce the leash laws and change the voice command law.
- kill the ivy and stop it from killing the trees. Also, put a small dock or something similar at the end of the street at SE 84th which would allow water access for launching a kayak or raft or paddle board. You have something like 6 parks allowing water access in the "East" Seattle area and nothing at the south end of the lake other than Clark Beach which is a mile away from the end of SE 84th St., which used to be a ferry landing from Renton
- more paddle camp! and kayak/sup rentals!
- Require dogs be on a leash.
- Fruitland Landing pocket park is actually DANGEROUS: uneven lawn (tripping hazard), steps to water need repair, overgrowth of tree blocks steps into water, ...
- More sheltered basketball courts, particularly on the north side of the island. They are relatively cheap, simple to maintain, and can serve singles and groups of many sizes. They are always full now and it's a sport growing in popularity compared to say, tennis which we are oversupplied with.
- bumps along i-90 trail
- upgrade skatepark pls
- Increase biking areas for kids - i.e., pump track by skate park, jumps/bridges/features in wooded areas.
- Focused classes for the ever expanding senior population that are aging in places don't want to wind up in assisted living warehouses
- Improve the smaller neighborhood parks
- Add more picnic shelters/covered areas.
- With the increase in population on Mercer Island, we actively need more park space. Many jurisdictions buy homes/lots and turn them into "pocket parks" for smaller neighborhoods. I understand the city recently made such a purchase of the home on 40th and ICW. We should do more of it.
- Improve trail maintenance on undeveloped trails
- Add performing arts center
- permanent pickleball courts
- More dedicated Pickleball ball courts
- Add Pickleball courts!!!!
- Keep trash bins emptied regularly particularly at Luther Burbank

- pickleball!!!
- Add more pickleball courts
- King county trails
- Playground equipment/installation
- Pickleball courts
- Dedicated Pickleball courts are needed
- Provide lifeguards 7 days a week at Groveland, Clarke and LB during the swimming season. Maintain grounds at Groveland.
- More bike trails
- Need more pickleball courts - you don't have ANY!!! Not OK.
- Rebuild the burned picnic shelter at the Lid Park
- make more fields available to school kids, sports teams, rather than dogs
- More pickleball
- I use a cane and I do not feel safe in the NW quadrant of Pioneer Park due to off leash dogs running ahead of their complacent owners.
- Increase off leash dog areas
- Pickleball dedicated courts
- Off leash dog areas, keep pioneer park and Luther Burbank
- pickleball courts
- Splash pad/Splash park
- Better surface for the pickle ball courts
- Other than the box checked, please leave it alone!
- Increase amount and quality of Pickleball Courts available on Mercer Island.
- Pickleball courts
- Add a pickle ball court at the Luther Burbank tennis courts. They are easy to convert
- Dedicated outdoor pickle ball courts. Fastest growing sport in the country!
- convert Luther Burbank tennis courts to pickle ball courts, to increase access, since the number of courts would more than double, and usage is higher
- Pickleball courts
- Provide dedicated indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
- More Pickleball courts
- Stagnant tennis courts should be converted to Pickleball specific courts.
- create dedicated indoor pickleball courts
- More Pickleball courts
- Year round outdoor Pickleball courts
- Dedicated Pickleball courts
- more pickleball courts
- provide dedicated pickleball courts
- We need more outdoor pickle ball courts

- Increase Pickleball courts. Don't push us out for tennis
- Make trails more bike friendly (ramps next to stairs, bike features (small jumps, berms))
- Add pickleball courts please!
- Pickleball. Need more and improved courts.
- More pickleball outdoor courts
- Dedicated Pickleball courts
- Add pickleball
- Need dedicated outdoor pickleball courts
- more pickleball courts
- More pickleball outdoor courts
- Please improve the skatepark and increase lighting at all Mercer Island Parks. This community is not friendly to skateboarders, so if that is going to continue please at least improve the one area that allows skating.
- keep tennis courts. Please do not convert them to pickle ball courts
- Add permanent pickleball courts
- Dedicated indoor and outdoor pickleball courts
- 1) Please be rigorous in trying to use native plants instead of exotics. These are needed for the appropriate insects for the local birds to feed their young. 2) Please minimize the use of steps and remove, without replacing, as many as possible when they are beyond their usefulness. The steps that have been installed are too high for senior citizens. Walking without encountering hardscape is more natural and mimics being in wild nature. It's better for the soul. 3) Would you please make it easier to volunteer to keep invasive plants in check? Too much formal planning and the paperwork is too much and very tedious to manage. Meanwhile the ivy wreaks havoc. Could you welcome groups, e.g. Scouts, Rotary to adopt sections of open space to keep ivy removed in their space with minimal formal process?
- Need public outdoor Pickleball courts!
- More dog facilities - poop bag dispensers (poorly stocked) near trash containers (poorly emptied particularly in Luther Burbank on weekends)
- More covered areas to exercise
- Pickleball courts!
- Resurface pickleball outdoor courts
- More courts lined for pickleball
- Expand more pickle ball courts
- improve existing pickleball courts and add new ones
- more pickleball courts
- Dedicated pickleball courts are needed, or at a minimum, more tennis courts lined with pickleball lines. Currently courts are frequently crowded with people wanting to play pickleball.
- Dedicated outdoor Pickleball courts
- Permanent Pickleball courts at Luther Burbank.
- Enforce all dogs to be leashed. Owners have failed to keep unleashed pets under control and do not pick up pet waste.
- Reduce intrusive amenities at Pioneer Park. Increase usage of Luther amphitheater Am
- Add permanent Pickleball courts
- Expanded off lead dog areas

- Install actual pickle ball courts
- An off leash dog park (fenced) at south end
- Add dedicated pickleball courts
- Pickleball
- Canoe and sailboat rental at Luther Burbank
- We need a splash park/splash pad!!
- Convert tennis court with low usability to Pickleball courts
- Need pickleball courts
- Convert the tennis courts at the park adjacent to the MICC to Pickleball courts.
- More pickleball options
- Pickleball
- Protect our open spaces and low impact parks
- Bring back lifeguards at beaches!
- Expand Mercerdale Park
- Pickleball
- More indoor and outdoor pickleball
- not expand maintenance, just do it. seems like basics are neglected and the only focus is spending on new features
- Maintain accessibility of parks and facilities. The parks were closed during most of 2020. Playgrounds were closed. Parking was closed. Trashcans were not emptied. What's the point of spending money on facilities that are locked up?
- Improve pickleball courts
- Add pickle ball courts!
- Preserve our green spaces and pervious surfaces. Keep our parks parks.
- provide more outdoor shelters to enable more covid safe outdoor social gatherings in any weather
- Cover in outdoor areas for inclement weather. With COVID I prefer to be outside but there is a lack of outdoor covered areas to sit with friends
- Permanent, dedicated outdoor pickleball courts
- Luther Burbank Pickle Courts!!!
- improve the pickleball courts in Burbank Park
- Improve and expand outdoor pickleball courts
- Support for pickleball, finish the Mercerdale playground
- Fix broke. Playground equipment! Faster please :)
- Dedicated pickleball courts
- dedicated pickleball courts would be great. existing tennis courts are not used.
- Permanently change Luther Burbank tennis courts to pickleball courts and resurface them.
- Increase size of Mercerdale Park (it is the Central Park of the island)
- Stop illegal digging in parks
- Put dedicated pickleball courts
- Facilitate more opportunities for parks activities. For example formalize the bike trail in upper Luther Burbank so it does not

continue to damage the area but make it work for the kids

- Pickleball courts!!!
- resurface pickleball courts -- and keep them for pickleball!
- Do not allow Upper Luther to become a Mountain Bike facility!
- Convert Luther Burbank tennis to 8 pickleball courts
- I would like to see improvements in the former tennis courts, now used for pickle ball.
- Pickleball courts
- A water spray park with bathrooms
- Dedicated Pickle ball courts
- Install permanent Pickleball courts
- Better maintenance and prioritization of tennis facilities
- Convert tennis courts at Luther Burbank to dedicated Pickleball courts, The space used for one existing Tennis court could accommodate 3 if not 4 dedicated PB courts. The courts at LB Park are used heavily for Pickleball and the numbers are growing on a daily basis. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in USA. There is a deep need for more courts. There are plenty of other Tennis Court options for tennis players on MI.
- Maintain / improve surface tennis courts at Lid
- Create dedicated pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts- only 3 and tennis players take them over for hours while 20 people wait in line to rotate in and play a new game every 20 min. Lots of tennis on Mercer and only one place to play for pickleball (the fastest growing sport in US). Dedicate the Luther Burbank courts to pickleball or make 4 pickleball courts and leave one tennis court.
- Remove skate park (return to actual park)
- Fix broken playground equipment more expediently, improve restrooms at Deane Children's Park, hand sanitizer available at all playgrounds/select locations on trails (such as Pioneer Park junctions).
- add pickleball to Luther Burbank outdoor courts please
- outside designated pickleball courts
- I would like to see outdoor cafes in our parks.
- Repair/increase the number of tennis courts as they are all heavily used, add pickle ball courts, increase garbage cans on trails and in parks, more lighted trails and pathways
- Make M.I. Kayak Friendly! Remove 1 steel bulkhead at Clarke so can easily put in/take out on the beach! Create access at South Point to put in/take out. With those two items, then kayakers have at most a 3 to 3.5 mile "reach" between potential stops without having to take on unnecessary danger getting in and out of their kayak.
- Build dedicated pickleball courts
- Make repairs to broken playground equipment more quickly
- provide baseball fair access to ICP - it paid for the improvements!
- Add a water splash feature for kids please
- Add mountain bike pump track
- Fence on parks dogs are allowed, let's keep dogs and kids safe!!
- Restore trash facilities on north mercer I90 trail
- We use the parks everyday! They are fantastic and love spending at least an hour walking and enjoying all the parks on island.

- 1) Paddle sports teams, lessons, rentals; 2) Refreshments availability esp. at Luther Burbank
- Add a playground in NE quadrant
- Why don't playgrounds on MI have swings???
- Trail maintenance
- Actual enforcement of leash laws in the park
- Ensure dog bags and trash cans are located at each park.
- Mercerdale Park essentially has no parking at all. This needs to be corrected.
- Repave paths due to extreme cracking from trees
- Create safe bike lane access around the whole Island so that kids and adults can cycle safely to parks system sites.
- Mercer Island needs a splash pad!!!
- Expand maintenance on current parks, Wildwood Park is not taken care of enough. Small trails are frequently ignored (branches across trails)
- Better maintenance and general upkeep of existing green/open space
- improve parking AND install security cameras at entrances to Pioneer Park
- Water fountains turned back on
- Improve and maintain the playgrounds
- We DO NOT need any more "athletic fields." We need trash cans, restrooms, and tree maintenance (cut down / trim trees so residents don't have to jump over fallen branches daily). Basically, MAINTAIN what we have!
- Add MICA
- Improvements and expansion of park playgrounds
- Improve dog park
- Bring more business/food establishments to the parks- food trucks, small restaurant along the LB dock
- Options like a water park for kiddo, accessibility, and water craft rental
- Designate ADP as an on-leash dog area to deconflict with bike trail traffic.
- A real solution to the drainage issues in Mercerdale, not mosquito trap ditches that are already filling with plants.
- Build rowing boathouse. Crazy that we are an island with no access to crew
- our waterfront and docks are severely underutilized. We need kayak and small boat storage and rentals, maybe a cafe, etc.
- Lighting and maintenance to help protect our public art in parks.
- Allow the public to use the dance/aerobic room in the rec center for free if dancing solo or in a very small group for free or a very nominal fee. My daughter would have liked to practice or video her dances for college applications but your current structure made it impossible.
- Fill old merry-go-round space at Luther Burbank
- Better recreational connection to water - revitalize boat house at Luther Burbank
- Add benches to playground areas
- Maintenance, care, & cleaning of existing spaces
- My family is overall happy with the parks. However the play structure at the south Mercer play fields is a disappointment. The kids just don't play at it as much as the old rainbow slide structure.
- Playgrounds! Replace train in mercerdale, add NE option
- Water and maintain what we already have. Half of lid park is dead after lack of maintenance. Also, trash service needs to be

restored.

- (1) Remove the asphalt adjacent to the Recycling Center (2) create a rain garden in the repossessed wetland area
- I would love to see us create a rowing + sailing center to teach and train youth.
- Install cameras at high theft parking areas like lower Luther Burbank
- prevent overnight camping
- Return to normal garbage service in parks.
- Increased spaces for mountain biking
- Expand and diversified biking trails
- Maintain tennis courts
- Do not develop any part of Lid Park for commercial or parking use
- Fenced playground so when my two kids run in different directions, I don't have to choose which one is more likely to run into the street
- Upgrade tennis courts to accommodate Pickleball. Create under cover spaces for athletic play.
- Add permanent Pickleball courts
- We need a more advanced and sophisticated bike park system to meet the demand of Mercer Island Youth (target 8-16 years old)
- Pickle ball courts! Either a lot at LB or scattered throughout the park system
- Create areas that are closed to dogs and safe for kids

Question 9. Prior to COVID-19, if your household did not often participate in or utilize recreation programs or activities offered by the City of Mercer Island, what are the reasons? CHECK ALL THAT APPLY. (*open-ended "other" responses*)

#### MAIL RESPONSES

- Wanted crew
- too old now to care
- Only moved here in January 2020
- Need pickleball for beginners. The "players" make newcomers feel bad
- I could use facilities on my own. No need for program participation
- Our children no longer live on MI
- Too elderly, 88 years, 50 on Mercer Island
- I participated in exercise programs
- Old age (97). Still walk in park occasionally
- More senior programs
- enjoy parks as one-alone or one-on-one activity
- Activities were mostly for young kids and seniors
- No activities for middle schoolers
- Belong to other fitness facility



- na
- Doing other activities
- Was not a Mercer Island resident then
- grown children
- wanted to use fitness center more
- Often out of town
- We moved to Mercer Island during COVID
- Didn't live here then
- Quit going to park for dog walks after Pet passed away from roundup related Lymphoma - Understand this is not scientific evidence but every dog that goes there everyday that I knew from daily use passed away from cancer and usually lymphoma which is what Bayer has lost all of their Roundup lawsuits from - At some point someone is going to sue the city and would LOVE if the city stopped using Roundup before that happens especially when we are the tax payer and 100% of the park users I speak with agree
- Belong to JCC. Interested in active senior classes/activities, need more.
- Moved here during pandemic
- did not live here prior to COVID-19
- Not a senior, and without children
- too old
- MICEC hours too limited. Not enough parking at Luther Burbank north lot
- Not quite sure what is meant by programs and activities. We used the trails and parks quite a bit!
- I just like walking in parks
- I did not need these
- activities not available for child with special needs
- Did not live on MI
- am elderly; most of my interests already satisfied elsewhere
- We moved here
- We moved to Mercer Island during COVID
- I didn't live on MI pre-COVID
- Did not live here at that time
- New to island
- Activity bus from elementary schools didn't go to Community Center, so JCC was more convenient
- I didn't live on Mercer Island before COVID-19
- Moved here during pandemic
- We moved here during the pandemic
- I was a Jazzerciser, but didn't know if this counted. I always wanted to take a dance class but they were either smack in the middle of my work day or in the evening. I prefer early morning or late afternoon.
- None that fit with our lifestyle. We do use trails daily.
- Playgrounds have become more toddler focused and not good for older kids 12 and under
- Kids too young

- Moved a year before Covid. Little chance to explore programs.

#### ONLINE RESPONSES

- Didn't live here
- Prefer adults only activities that are not specific to just seniors.
- I work daytime so most program hours not doable. With flex work hours can do more now.
- Providing programs for the special needs community and families with special needs with developmental and disabled ability. Many programs do not service this and ages 10-70. Please improve this category
- Senior Programs are too high priced for some of us.
- I used the fitness center in the Community Center and found frequent contention for popular equipment like the recumbent stationary bike
- Have outside activities
- too old
- Senior water exercise class was cancelled due to low number of participants.
- Lack of planning by us
- We travel almost weekly so no routine to take a class other than a drop-in
- Too old
- Not interested
- Ada compliance for beach access
- More open gym hours at community center for kids /families. Often full of adult focused classes or training.
- Ballet for kids was always full and gymnastics was promised but never happened for kids
- need staff to help disabled individuals while they attend classes; would like some open time for disabled adults to use facilities/spaces
- Indoor Pickleball courts were too crowded, not enough time allocated for pickleball
- We live in SE Seattle and honestly had never thought to look at parks and rec on Mercer island. A friend steered us toward the website for this past summer. Our daughter attended two of Seattle adventure sports camps and she loved every minute of her time spent on the water and at Luther Burbank. We will be looking for programming on Mercer island for summer 2022.
- Husband did participate in senior social while able. Otherwise, I am otherwise occupied.
- Luther Burbank tennis courts dangerous-Need Pickle Ball courts -consider covering
- Travel
- Hadn't lived on Mercer Island
- Not interested in programs
- I go elsewhere on the Island to work out (gym & exercise classes)
- Moved to MI during Covid
- Lived in Seattle
- Organized pickleball
- Was not living in the area.
- did not recognize the importance to my well being

- Not aware of ALL programs
- I will use more programs when I retire from work. I love Shakespeare in the Park!
- Wasn't aware of it
- Didn't live here yet
- Moved here beginning of covid
- No pickleball
- Lack of interest in City run activities
- Was member of private club
- only moved to island in March 2019
- Used other island offerings: JCC, MICC, Boys and Girls Club
- Children have outgrown most programs
- Not interested in the programs/activities provided
- desired activities not available
- not a lot of variety
- We moved here during Covid
- Need programs to help families dealing with disability, including childcare, senior care, and respite care
- Just moved here during pandemic
- Lifelong MI residents, now retired, do not have a need just now.
- Did not need to attend
- Primarily do sports and activities at private clubs.
- Accessibility for wheelchairs
- We did not live here prior to covid.
- Moved to MI during pandemic
- It is not the JOB of the city to provide recreation programs and activities. This is an affluent community and the residents / taxpayers belong to private clubs and organizations and pay for camps/activities that they desire. The city needs to focus on maintaining our property and reducing expenses, not attempting to be a YMCA providing every little class and activity it \*thinks\* folks might want.
- Costs are very high for many Seniors or non Tech employed residents
- Could not use dance room at community center. Basketball court can be used but not dance rooms, this is a major problem and not conducive at all to the arts and truly talented and committed dancers.
- Programs offered were not of interest
- Kids not old enough
- Kids have outgrown activities and alternatives like programming offered thru our membership with MSC
- We loved the SVP / Voice program. Please bring it back!
- Competing programs thru private clubs (MIBC and MICC)
- Need to retire!!
- Kids were busy with other school related programs and we were with work and other activities. We think offering many program is good for the community as a whole, even if we don't participate.
- We moved to MI last august during the pandemic

- no interest

Question 13. If you wanted the City of Mercer Island to do just one thing to improve parks, trails and/or open space, what would it be? (*open-ended responses*)

#### MAIL RESPONSES

- Open up waterfront access on SE 40th
- My sons tell me that getting rid of the "Park Association" (at Snake Hill) would be a good start...
- Recharge beaches
- Connect bike trails
- Maintain trails better
- Improve Luther Burbank waterfront
- Parks, trails and open space are already excellent for our small city
- Expand Community Center for active seniors (i.e. exercise room, more events, classes) Issaquah Senior Center is outstanding - use as example
- Connect gaps in the trail system to create complete network!
- Commitment to preserving healthy natural spaces/wildlife habitat
- All good! South end park /playground by Lakeridge is TERRIBLE! Needs to be replaced ASAP. They're never any kids there.
- Safer access to our wonderful parks and trails via bike, foot (i.e., cross walks at park entries, more bike lanes)
- Repair/replace the docks at Luther Burbank and provide long term ground lease for one or more restaurants
- Linking up walking/running/cycling trails
- Make certain to keep what we currently have and maintain it, especially open space
- water the lawns; new activities, fresh view
- pull or eradicate all English Ivy and plant drought tolerant trees - and re-up the irrigation system
- Facility for the performing arts
- More trails for walking/jogging, especially gravel, not asphalt. Re-open community center
- Expand trail network to connect gaps in trail system
- Take care of what we have
- Maintain current trails; discourage vandals digging bike trails in undesignated areas; and quality maintenance would be my priority
- More kid playground structures
- More staff and resources to care for the parks, trails and open space we have so they are all well-kept, watered, updated and safe
- Better parking or a frequent off-site park and ride route to Luther Burbank
- Walking/jogging trails
- Keeping trails safe for day use - no camping
- Maintain, improve and expand hiking trails. Connect trails and provide adequate trail signs

- More people needed to keep Mercerdale clean - garbage cans overflow! Notice natural materials used in play areas - neat and tidy and soft for playing
- Walking/jogging trail maintenance
- Expand trails for walking
- Be able to maintain trimming and care of trees, bushes, etc.
- More land and trails
- Don't take away any of the existing parks or trails
- Provide medium-sized sailboat rentals
- Better marking and mapping of walking routes and trails on the island
- Improve maintenance of paths
- Add a trailhead to connect the north side of Pioneer Park northeast quadrant with the Creek Trail
- Continue the excellent maintenance
- Keep all the trails well maintained
- Love the idea of boat rentals
- Add more and preserve walking/biking trails
- Some parks need seasonal irrigation. The Lid connecting upper and lower parts of Luther Burbank needs urgent help. Increasingly dry summers are likely to cause more damage in our parks
- Open boating programs for all
- Have more access for "residents" at pocket parks and enforce No Dogs in areas not dog parks
- More consistent maintenance and weeding
- Improving ADA access!
- More connected trails
- Improve usability and accessibility at street end parks. Calkins Landing has no place to sit comfortably close to the water, for example
- Stop continually clear cutting parts of Luther Burbank Park. Most park users prefer the natural setting. #1 concern is to stop using Roundup in our parks.
- Update kids sports fields including the Lid/Aubrey Davis, Island Park, Southend Playfields
- Maintain open spaces where volunteers have worked!
- Completion of park projects seems to take a very long time - study less, work more. (example, Mercerdale playground)
- They're doing a great job! I wish they would use equipment/cutting on overgrowth rather than poisons such as glyphosate. Plant new trees to replace ones recently lost
- Make all of Mercer Island "leashed"; off-leash does not work for the safety of island residents any longer. Dogs are too often untrained and dangerous to others. Otherwise I think the city is doing an admirable job - the parks are beautiful, peaceful and a respite from Seattle-ization
- Mark and maintain what already exists
- Please clean up some of the open space/forested areas. I regularly walk these natural spaces and there are lots of trees and branches laying around
- More staff for more maintenance
- Improve bike lanes
- Increase connectivity for the MI trail system

- Remove excessive tree "trash" from ditch on west side of Island Crest Way between 78th St and 72nd. Remove pile of branches from northeast corner of 72nd and Island Crest Way. (It's been over 2 years)
- Improve athletic fields
- To conserve what we have - not develop it. Also, more parking to access Pioneer Park
- Investigate volunteer maintenance teams
- Maintain what we have
- Please continue the care and interest in city parks as the past
- Maintain the parks better
- More picnic facilities in the parks
- Add more trails
- Add signage for turns on trails
- Quickly execute the new waterfront plan for Luther Burbank. Beyond that, create more mountain biking paths and expand the current BMX/mountain bike course in Upper Luther Burbank Park.
- Fix tree roots on asphalt trails. Keep homeless away. Add pickleball courts
- Weed and maintain the parks we have. Garbage services, etc.
- It feels like people rotate constantly to different jobs, so they are not accountable for long. Working with anyone doesn't last long. Inspect parks on a regular basis or timetable. Stop deferring maintenance when problems are found. Develop a plan for each park to maintain regularly for safety. Follow through with viable plan, be accountable to someone. Pay attention to all parks, not just very visible ones.
- The Parks and Recreation Dept should restore the Senior Social program that was conducted at the Community Center. It is sorely missed!
- Barring the ability of schools to spend money on better sport fields, the city should explore adding some all weather fields with lighting
- Better trail maps and markings - finding them is always a bit of a surprise - like unlocking a mystery
- Increase maintenance at Pioneer Park
- More pickleball courts
- Ensure access to seniors, e.g. steep road to Groveland Park
- More emphasis on rules for dog owners, ex. NE Pioneer Park is a leash only area, not voice command. Also displaying phone number to report violators is not realistic; how does one know the name of the dog owner? Need some enforcement for deterrence
- provide restrooms and maintain near playgrounds, expand space for fitness programs at Community Center
- More off leash dog areas, more trails / connect current trail system
- Improve and create more walking trails
- Maintain the facilities we've got in good working order
- Better protected bike trails on West Mercer Way and East Mercer Way
- Restrooms
- Staff all beaches with lifeguards all summer!
- Ensure safety
- Improve restroom facilities for handicapped individuals
- Improved beach access and use of docks at Luther Burbank for rental use of non-motorized boats (kayaks primarily)

- Access to fenced grass areas for dogs to chase balls off leash. Some responsible (pick up after) dog owners can't take pets to dog parks and need a safe place to let them run. School grounds etc. are "no dogs allowed". Most others are dogs on leash
- Make the parks look good. We currently have poor landscaping
- Open the community center!
- Keep things maintained/clean
- Waiting for an Art Center over more parks
- Audit all playgrounds for accessibility/inclusivity and bring them up to highest possible standards. Make MI Parks a model for all abilities
- Create a trail that has more separated area for bikes vs pedestrians
- Maintain what we have now!
- Add more biking trails
- Do not waste what you have, like tear out a playground at Mercerdale Park for fixable problems like standing water
- Provide additional pocket parks and small neighborhood parks
- Lighting
- Enforce the dog leash laws
- Mountain bike pump track (see Velosolutions). Splash pad in the middle field at Mercerdale Park
- Increase frequency of trail maintenance
- more ADA accessibility
- Avoid use of Roundup to control weeds
- Splash pad
- The better care of current parks. I'm a heavy user of parks
- Create more off-leash dog areas and open space
- All parks, trails and open spaces should be dogs on-leash only. No dogs off leash except in fenced areas dedicated to dogs off-leash
- Preserve access to the smaller trails. (We are quite impressed with all the Parks Dept already does!)
- Splash pad / spray park - Thank you, City of MI!
- Upgrade/improve Mary Wayte Pool
- Pickleball as it is my sport of choice
- Improve restrooms
- A few more bathrooms on walking and biking routes, like the porta-potty in Pioneer Park - locate along East and West Mercers. More disability assistance at parks and trails
- Connect existing trail systems
- Make biking around the Island safe
- Continue to maintain trail system
- Update/repair/maintain current parks and trails
- Increase access to waterfront at no cost to citizens
- Build a bicycle pump-track
- Bring back Flower arrangements
- Outlaw motorized bikes and scooters at Luther Burbank and the I-90 trail

- More garbage cans!
- Add trail signage throughout Pioneer Park
- More trails and off-leash areas for dogs
- Bathrooms - fully stocked and cleaned!
- Find some ways for having separate trails for walkers and cycling
- Kayak/SUP water access points
- Maintain and add to if possible natural areas and preserve habitat for birds and wildlife. Ban dogs from trails in those areas
- Improving the trails and clean the roads
- Have the picnic area garbage emptied more often. Most of the times, garbage are over-spilled to the ground where crows constantly pick into the garbage
- More aquatic programs/places for swimming
- Keep the dogs off leash only in the off-leash parks!
- Trails
- Create a mountain bike loop in underused hill areas such as Gallagher Hill
- Maintain and expand open space trails
- Update maintenance at small parks
- I love most dogs but one quadrant of Pioneer Park should be leash only for dogs - for elderly and little kids please.
- More sailing/kayaking/paddleboard options
- Make parks and recreation services accessible to all, such as handicapped people
- Bike riding around MI on E/W Mercer Way is an amazing experience and there should be a safe lane at least on one side of the road all the way around the island
- Fix the path in downtown park with the circular walking path. Roots make it very uneven and hazardous in several places
- Don't spend money needlessly. Parks and recreation are fine as is.
- Luther Burbank - Lease space to Ivars. Build retaining walls for waterfront
- Enforce the leash laws! Luther Burbank has turned into an entire off-leash park with untrained/rude dogs and owners
- Improve bathrooms and cleanliness. Put garbage along trails so people don't leave their dog poop bag around!
- Boat parking; food/restaurant service at Luther Burbank Park to open up waterfront access and great place for Mercer Island families
- Improve walking trails
- Appreciate all members for the efforts you use to make a better parks and trails. Sometimes looks like more check and control the woods cleaning and make it more attractive is ideal!
- Fill mud puddles
- Fees are too high for activities/classes. Every family pays enough fees through city of MI
- Everything having to do with increasing FITNESS for citizens. Not 'sit down' as much as action for mind and body
- Would like to see the city maintain/manage what we have rather than looking to acquire new land. If opportunities come along, it's worth considering, but don't spend \$ on new just to acquire more land
- ensure existing restroom facilities don't get vandalized and ruined. Keep current parks, trails safe. Great job on trails - thanks!
- acquire more greenspace



- More trails
- Better general maintenance and care. Invasive species removal; general care (Clarke Beach seems somewhat left alone)
- More picnic tables
- Create more trails and increase their maintenance
- Stop using toxic herbicides, stop making more ADA trails; there are enough. And just keep parks natural and wild, not urban. And don't even think of asking for a parks levy. Not interested and what's the budget?
- Connect the trails as much as possible
- Install webcams for remote wildlife viewing (e.g., beavers at Luther Burbank); guided nature walks; in future, use volunteers to do a free survey
- Protect open spaces from overbuilding. Connect open spaces if possible or expand to neighborhoods. I've noticed a large number of people enjoying our parks during the pandemic and would love for that to continue. Good for mental health, community building and physical health. Thank you!
- Preserve the land and keep the parks and trails cleaned up
- More off-leash dog trails. More accessible dog-friendly water/beach areas
- Centrally or on the north end located mountain bike park like Redmond Bike Park next to Hartman Park. Could also ask the Evergreen Mtn Bike Alliance for help 206-524-2900
- Downhill mountain/BMX flow course. Perhaps in Gallagher Hill Green Space
- Increase volunteerism opportunities.
- Improve wayfinding among and through neighborhood trails
- Disc golf
- Just Stop - Everyone I know who is daily Luther Burbank user would prefer the park be left as is so we can enjoy nature. We don't need the constant clear cutting of hills and parts of the park. It would be cheaper and appease the daily user desires to cut back the blackberry once per year and let the park be a park and leave the rest along with STOPPING ROUNDUP spraying - PLEASE !!
- Playgrounds
- Discontinue use of harmful chemicals on flora and greenspaces
- I can't think of a thing. I walk in Pioneer Park daily and I'm so grateful and feel blessed to have access to such beautiful outdoor activities. Thank you
- Have more adult education programs that are well-publicized
- Upgrade and keep Mary Wayte (don't use. but very important for my kids). Love Luther Burbank and Pioneer Park. Keep them up as doing.
- Lights along sculpture garden and train park. I walk my dog in early AM and feel unsafe in the dark parts. Empty trash cans more often. Crows pull from fallen cans. Yuck! We love our MI Parks! Thank you for all you do!
- to develop a system of trails that went around the whole island through cut-through areas and neighborhoods. I think there are public land connection routes that don't have a path yet
- Connect build out bike trails
- More/better athletic fields and improve the Luther Burbank docks
- Provide rental options for waterfront activities.
- Improve Clark Beach; Groveland seems to get all the love
- Reopen community center fully. Make the facility upgrades to do it safely. If Mercer Island and its 90% vaccination rate can't do it safely, no one can

- More outside walking/trekking/nature hikes.
- Control after-hours parking and activities
- Everything seems very well managed and maintained, therefore I have no comment.
- public access covered turf soccer field(s)
- Maintenance
- Enforce the leash law
- Make all parks have a dog on leash policy
- We re new to Mercer Island. We came from an area with an excellent park district program. It really brought our community together!
- Acquire more open/green spaces
- Get rid of rotting wood picnic tables and benches. Install well-designed, weather resistant HD recycled plastic tables, benches and chairs. Remove garbage cans - never sorted or composted
- Don't cut down trees
- Keep parks park-like: green, trees, limited concrete. Do not build MICA or MICA-like structures in parks
- Add benches. In the past, we used the parks a lot. Now, I'm alone, old (89) and still like to enjoy the parks, but not enough benches. Seniors like benches!
- Keep it safe for MI residents and clean and maintained
- Landscape maintenance - trees, grasses have overgrown and turned yellow due to lack of maintenance at MI
- Add more playgrounds for kids!
- Lifeguards
- Connect off-road and/or wooded paths for walking, hiking, biking so that it's easier to access schools, grocery stores, bus etc. via foot or bike.
- Concentrate on reforestation including removing trees
- Fine people with off-leash dogs in parks/trails. This has been a huge issue for my family. I (sadly) avoid many trails with my kids because of off-leash dogs
- Please clean up more. The parks, the streets, garbage areas! Thank you!
- Get bikes, specifically electric bikes, off the trails (walking/jogging)
- Street end improvements
- More places to run/jog that aren't concrete or asphalt. Tracks or synthetic turf
- Keep restrooms open in winter/off season
- Continue to maintain and improve trails and walking spaces
- More trash cans / recycle. Water fountains
- Quit contracting for this type of questionnaire - The paid staff and council members should do this stuff
- Improve public performance areas (particularly Luther Burbank)
- Maintain and expand trail and water access systems consistent with natural state and utilizing plants/trees native to region
- Clear some of the major fallen trees in Pioneer Park; it's fine as-is too, just could be nicer w/ new trees in place
- Trails - fill gaps in trail system
- Keep them clean
- Directional signage on the trails

- a complete trail network
- Provide outdoor pickleball
- Open Community Center gym and all programs it used to have!
- Restore and maintain the source sculpture by John Hoge at Luther Burbank Park
- acquire more open space to secure natural areas for the future
- Keep playgrounds and restrooms open year round
- Give landowners an incentive to open their land for public benefit use or possibly sell those rights
- Add more swings, add a boat and kayak rental
- Keep them clean and safe. Maintenance is critical to good management
- Keep it safe and clean
- Cut back brush, keep trails free of debris, etc.
- Install bike lanes down Island Crest Way
- Bike paths on some of the main roads so older kids can bike safely - e.g., Island Crest Way
- Indoor recreation facilities, especially during the rainy season
- Cleaner and better restrooms (more of them)
- Walking trails, benches, picnic tables
- Boating classes (kayak, canoe, sailing, etc.)
- Inattentive walkers and off leash dogs are hazards on trails - separate bikes from these hazards
- Purchase land and build a Youth Theater
- Work hard to preserve all of our parks permanently (as in our Nature Conservancy) for present and future generations. (You cannot expand an Island)
- Put in more pickleball courts
- Consider climate impacts - connect trails, add trails, restore land
- Improve skateboard facility
- Off the leash dog park in Pioneer Park is out of control. Require dogs to be leashed.
- Playgrounds
- Maintain the tennis courts at Luther Burbank Park and maintain the restrooms.
- Add a climbing walls and a golf driving cage
- trail network to be able to walk across the island in a loop
- Separate bike lanes
- Keep trails maintained better
- Protect the health of natural spaces
- Require dogs to be on leash!!!!
- Mountain biking
- Emphasize trail maintenance
- Hire more natural resources staff
- safety
- More parks

- Southend fenced off leash dog park
- Keep resources open to as many people as possible. Don't put systems in place (like paid reservations for court use) that create benefits for those already in an elite position, at the expense of those who can't afford the extra fees.
- More mountain bike trails
- We currently have three outdoor pickleball courts on the island. Clearly heavily used and not enough to support the interest of the sport. Convert some tennis courts to pickleball courts and/ or add new ones. There are NONE available in the summer during tennis camp at Luther Burbank. I have noticed empty tennis courts .
- Provide more Pickleball courts, this is the fastest growing sport in the nation with tremendous use per court.
- More turf fields for youth athletics
- expand no-car bike lanes
- Dedicated bike lanes and corridors.
- Year round use of trails. Keep from becoming a mud pit
- Water sports activities
- More beach/water access.
- Install more and empty garbage cans.
- Support Mercer Island Performing Arts and stop being bossed around by people thinking that Mercerdale Park is so sacred.
- Do nothing
- Keep them clean.
- Ensure safety
- More waterfront access for paddle boarding if you own a board, also for a trail or sidewalk around west Mercer or the waterfront area for more walking trails!
- Maintaining the health of Pioneer Park woods
- Convert the old recycle center to parkland
- Offer more outdoor summer camp options that run for multiple weeks with the same kids (not week long sessions!) as well as increase options for waterfront accessing through these programs - boating, sailing, kayaking, swimming, etc. that
- Keep them safe!
- Maintenance of walking/jogging trails--e.g., gravel, tree removal. Already pretty good, could be better.
- Keep lots of open green space.
- More parking
- A nice sport track that is avail for the community during school hours; and more covered courts and play spaces for people to be outside but dry during winter like at the elementary schools
- "Keep the land natural. Don't overdevelop. Once it's developed it can never go back.
- Also figure out how to deal with bike trails and monetize that. "
- More waterfront and parking
- Clean up the parks. Too much debris on walking trails. Need clearly marked signs on trails for directions.
- Trash cans for dog poop in pioneer park.
- Keep it clean; no trash etc.
- about 10 years ago the city removed an aging bounding bridge from Islander Park. I would like that replaced! More tennis courts would be nice.
- More support, access, and programs for cycling. (Road and mountain)

- Stop the destruction and restore the BMX bike area of Upper Luther Burbank Park. (It's supposed to be a bike trail, no jumps.) Keep the bike trail separated from the walking trail which parallels 84th Ave SE. There's not enough room for walkers and bikers.
- Remove homeless people who seem to live in the parks.
- Control pets and their waste, especially at waterfront parks.
- Maintain and improve walking trails
- Remove invasive species, ivy, holly....from the parks, maintain the existing parks for future generations
- Splash pad
- Charge private tennis instructors for using public courts
- More social activities like food trucks & jumping house even for families.
- Convert the Luther Burbank boathouse (smokestack) into a restaurant (tax income). Build a restaurant at Calkins Point (the north end of LBP) where that concrete ruin is located. Perfect family spot especially with the lawn and beach next to it. (Tax income)
- Bring back the Summer Arts Fair with Firework Display.
- Off leash dog park for small dogs on south end
- No suggestions
- More waterfront access and beaches
- Open the community center exercise facility
- Spend less taxpayer money

#### ONLINE RESPONSES

- More mus
- Park ranger support and presence
- Provide resident only parking passes for all park/waterfront access, and charge parking/use fees for off island park users.
- More pickleball
- Add more outdoor pickleball courts or improve current ones that are tennis courts.
- water existing trees and planting to prevent losing more trees. Do not plant trees where not needed, ex. along N. Mercer Way west of the bus stop.
- Improve playgrounds at Luther Burbank and Homestead and downtown park. Do what Bellevue has done!
- Provide a designated location for smokers
- Clean and maintain them better. With Covid and budget challenges, they got dilapidated and in many places sad. I voted for the last (defeated) Bond.
- Road shoulders big enough to walk on all around the Mercer Ways. Dangerous where shoulders abruptly end especially around corners
- Restore trash cans removed at start of the pandemic
- Safer bike lanes around the island
- Make parking lots safer
- Revitalize the Boathouse at Luther Burbank to accommodate a waterfront cafe, boat rentals and beach access. We're an Island, for goodness sake - more water activities!
- Bike lane improvements - maybe this is Roads, not Parks. If so, bike/walk trails expansion/improvement.

- keep up the great work at Luther Burbank Park and the great dog off leash area
- Fix the Lid - it is in terrible shape
- solar lighting to walk safely in winter and evenings.
- Revive ivy and other invasive species from Pioneer Part.
- "Please get a GOOD Pocket Park at East Seattle.
- Also enforce dogs off leash in the parks and tennis courts."
- More parks and improved maintenance with park bonds and levies
- Improve the pickle ball courts. Huge demand and growing
- Safe biking/walking connectivity between neighborhoods and parks and schools
- More outdoor performance at
- Plant a tree in place of the old recycling center
- Offer more children's' programming (slots fill up fast), and ensure that it is ADA accessible
- boat and water sports equipment rental
- paint more pickleball courts
- No more concrete - let parks & nature be natural!
- Quit using toxic herbicides in our parks and on our fields. We walk our dogs in our parks and on our trails. We do not need toxic herbicides on our clothing or on our animals. Do you?
- Bathroom cleanliness and more Town Center Parking on 76 th Ave
- Improve pickleball courts at Luther Burbank
- More multi-use trails in any wooded areas available.
- Occasional surveillance.
- "Add Pickleball courts
- Increase youth camp/class programming"
- keep paths and trails trimmed and add more trash and recycling cans all over.
- preserve all current parkland from development!
- Make parks accessible for all; senior, ADA
- Add more outdoor pickleball courts with nets!
- Provide and improve pickleball courts
- "Lay off workers
- Stop weeding the woods"
- Charge for off islanders to use parks, especially for day use such as at Clark Beach with all off Islanders are setting up camp and cooking out!
- Keep out development!
- Improve availability for indoor/outdoor pickleball
- Keep our open space for our residents
- Increase and expand Pickleball courts, as there are more and more people playing as time goes.
- Maintain trails and play fields
- Preserve native vegetation

- Keep it natural. The beauty of a park is the unblemished (with naming rights, advertisements, or commercialization) connection to nature . Also, accessibility of parks to all residents regardless of their ability to pay to enjoy or use them.
- Keep bicycles off the walking trails
- Keep them clean
- Continue to not allow camping in our parks
- Fully fund the Community Center. Other cities do it. We own a winter house on Mercer Island and a summer house in the Tri-Cities. Mercer Island Parks and community Center seem to be starved and impoverished compared to facilities on the "poor" ( lower income) side of the state. What is wrong with that picture? - gl
- Keep Mercerdale park the way it is.
- Give priority to walkers
- Issue Resident ONLY Parking Passes (free to residents) with TOWING of any vehicles parking without stickers, and high fees applied for any Non-Resident Parking and use.
- Lighting in the evenings.
- More open space
- Keep the park lands we currently have and don't bow to developers in the name of \$\$\$'s
- Purchase a quiet, natural parcel to establish a Mercer Island cemetery, where residents could purchase plots. Open to residents for quiet reflection as well as burials.
- Keep all land we have now
- Keep parks clean and litter free.
- Pickleball courts
- Treat slippery surfaces
- HAVE A LIMITED # YEARLY PASSES SOLD TO NON-RESIDENTS FOR USE OF FACILITIES.
- Add frisbee golf course so there is something for young adults - also a mini golf course would be nice. Finally expand parking so people can use parks.
- "
- Restore Clarke Beach park!"
- More pickleball courts
- This is a beautiful park. There are many virtually unused tennis courts on the island- I check them out often.. I think Tennis and Pickleball can co-exist, but the usage is higher, currently for pickleball. This morning there were over 56 people there to play. Weekdays between 7:30-9am (and they keep trickling in), I counted 23.
- Develop softball fields on par with baseball fields to comply with title ix violations.
- Upgraded (full turf) softball facilities
- South fields. Dedicated Girls Softball Filed for high school. Major inequalities compared to boys baseball
- Build a softball field near the high school to be used just for the girls softball team. Right now they use a makeshift swampy boys baseball field on the south end.
- Athletic fields!!!!
- Acquire more open space and maintain/expand trail network
- Update, repair, replace the softball field on the south end! It's hazardous playing on the field and embarrassing hosting other teams whose facilities are top notch.
- Improve Pickleball court area and add more. It is a great community area and brings many together

- Create sidewalk
- Lifeguards at the beaches
- connect trails
- Dedicated pickle all courts
- They're quite good as they are.
- More mid-island parks with playgrounds.
- Stop using herbicides to control blackberries. It's completely unsafe for our ecosystem. Do better.
- Add new and enhance existing pickleball courts
- Create a dedicated softball facility at South Mercer
- Expand waterfront access
- Make Pickleball courts permanent and resurface.
- More pickle ball
- Expand boating programs (kayak, sailing, crew) at Luther Burbank, and ensure paddle camp can continue to operate summer camps during renovations
- Support the growing NW sport of Pickleball!!
- Convert the 3 tennis courts at Luther Burbank Park into 12 pickleball courts; add parking to support additional park use.
- More tennis court lights
- Upgrade maintenance
- Improve bike and walking access to the parks
- Add a splash pad / water play area to the island.
- More pickleball opportunities, please :) Outdoor is preferable (still not keen on indoor during COVID) but once winter sets in then indoor times at the community center will be more popular.
- Upgrade and increase number of fields available for sports.
- Consider resident permit for parking at Mercer Island Parks and charge a parking fee to off-island visitors
- More pickle ball courts
- Dedicated pickleball courts
- "allow use of gym in a non class situation
- Also following page does not ask anything about disabled individuals"
- More turf fields for kids athletics.
- Never allow any advertising banners/materials on any facility -
- "More Pickleball courts please!
- "
- Develop a performing arts center. Our household was extremely disappointed when the MICA discussions to use Mercerdale Park never came to fruition. In our travels, we often see arts centers in other towns, often ones with less wealth than Mercer Island. It's remarkable to us that Mercer Island hasn't been able to develop this sort of facility.
- Add lighting to turf parks for evening use.
- Convert abandoned tennis courts to pickleball courts
- We really need more pickleball courts as the sport is growing and more and more people are joining with very limited courts to currently use.



- Just keep them open and clean.
- Enforce leash laws.
- Dedicated pickle ball courts
- Parks and pickleball courts
- Update the pickle ball courts, maximize the space and add more of them to support the growing community....it's spans all ages.
- Increase the number of and improve maintain on park walking/jogging trails.
- Create and maintain more trails
- Leave Pioneer Park wild. Stop putting gravel on trails. Provide decent bathroom access
- Provide dedicated pickleball facilities.
- More doggy waste bag and trash can locations, especially on trails where practical.
- More pickle ball courts.
- Performing arts center
- "1. better maintenance and restoration of vegetation in parks;
- 2. prohibit cars from parking in public bicycle lanes"
- Don't charge kids to use the courts; you could charge the PROs who sit have courts for hours on end and aren't paying for them. Do a better job of managing that aspect of the courts that we have.
- Develop a system of bike trails. Riding on W Mercer is at best, challenging.
- Pickleball is America's fastest growing sport. Install dedicated pickleball courts in addition to the existing tennis/pickleball courts. Dedicated PB courts are much smaller than tennis courts. Include backboards.
- Build dedicated pickle ball courts!
- Add at least 8 good quality Pickleball courts
- Provide more pickleball outdoor pickleball courts
- More of them. Trails that don't flood.
- parking
- Leave it in Natural habitat. You destroyed the north point of Luther Burbank with all that cement. It use to be a very peaceful and beautiful place to enjoy.
- More connected trail systems
- Renovate Luther Burbank pickleball courts and expand to six courts.
- Increase the number of trails + make them more visible (clearly marked + have a trail map)
- Clarify bike right of way rules, or disallow. TOO many near misses with bicyclists within the Pioneer Parks. Someone is going to get seriously hurt. Cyclists have been rude and dismissive to this issue.
- This is difficult to answer. I am not informed enough to give constructive recommendations. I suppose obtaining land is a place to start.
- Upgrade maintenance of the park space we already have.
- add pickle ball courts
- separate bike and walking trails so no conflict. bikes go way too fast.
- Turf more athletic fields with lights
- Please convert the Luther Burbank courts to become permanent pickleball courts. Please re-surface and maybe add an overhead covering. There could be at least 6-8 pickleball courts in that space. Thank you!!

- More waterfront access with boating and recreation opportunity for all.
- Increase the enforcement of rules to make the parks/trails safe for all.
- Mountain biking, off leash dog areas
- We do not live on Mercer island so I don't think our voice should be considered for major public works. We did however use the summer programming, along with others from SE Seattle and I suspect this will be a trend going forward. Great programs!
- Signs for bikers coming onto island with 'rules of sharing residential roads with cars and pedestrians. See next door for ideas or your own city plan from 12 years ago. Keep our roads, children, elderly, bikers, drivers, strollers and pets safe! Educate those coming on island and post frequently along WMW EMW at bike and car heights.
- keep parks and trails, and maintain habitat, improve water access
- water activity rentals
- Eliminate off leash options for dogs.
- Develop Pickle ball courts at Luther Burbank. Charge non-Islanders for parking. Develop online reservations and charge for the reserved court. drop in Free. Off Islanders, and there are many, will gladly pay for a reserved court. Maximize the number of courts there. Go Big so we can host tournaments bringing customers to our Island businesses. Saw a couple of off Islanders buying groceries here after playing the other night. I'll say it again-- Go Big-put in as many courts there as possible!!!
- Add more trash cans
- Heard complaints about enlarged mountain bicycle trail in Upper LBP from people I know
- stop using roundup chemicals
- Outdoor pickleball courts
- Add Pickleball courts please
- provide a safe way to bicycle around the island and along Island Crest without having to comeingle with the cars.
- Maintain and acquire open space.
- It would be to have larger and clearer signage and enforce the laws for dog owners behaving badly. My enjoyment of Calkins Point and the Luther Burbank swimming beach has been ruined by dog owners who allow their dogs to roam freely despite all the signs saying dogs must be on leash (Calkins) or dogs not allowed in areas where children play. The ultimate in laziness when the off leash dog area is steps away from Calkins Point. If the city and the police wont' enforce the laws, what's the point? Also - I support small parks, but again what is the point if the city policies permit homeless people to take over our parks while the police aren't allowed to do anything?
- More community garden space + outdoor preschools!!
- stop building/constructing in our parks/trails/open spaces..
- Have more lighted and artificial turf fields for rental
- Revoke the law that allows dogs to be off leash if on voice control. The majority of owners don't have that level of control over their dogs. It is unfair and dangerous to other people, horses and dogs. This law prevents the full use and enjoyment of the open spaces or even the streets when you have to worry about getting knocked down or your dog attacked when venturing out. And I am a dog trainer!
- Increase the number of turf fields on the island so youth and adult activities can occur year-round, regardless of weather conditions.
- More paddleboard and kayak camps/trips from Luther Burbank park! Loved Adventure Sports summer camps for kids... please offer more of them, including an overnight kayak camp!
- remove congestion of field space for youth sports
- The kayaking summer camp was fantastic. Would love more of these!

- Add more sheltered areas.
- More all season turf fields for youth sports. invest in partnership with the schools to upgrade and share costs of building out more artificial fields for outdoor youth sports
- Not enough usable turf for popular youth sports like soccer, lax and American football
- Add a public golf course!
- Increase field access for youth sports, including turf and lighting
- paddleboard/kayak rentals after camp!
- DON'T LET OUR EXISTING PARKS, TRAILS, POCKET PARKS, OPEN SPACE DECLINE
- More lights
- Install a splash park. Add/improve bathrooms would be nice at certain parks. Otherwise, just keep and maintain what we have. We visit and love multiple parks on the island (especially trails for hiking and playgrounds)!
- More dedicated pickle ball courts
- Require dogs to be on a leash.
- It would be great if we had more connective trails between all of the trails on the Island and especially completing the bike trail around the Island on the south end where there are dangerous blind curves.
- Continue to maintain trails and facilities, pick up trash, and keep restrooms clean, open, and safe.
- Maintain what we have.
- Clean up/fix existing trails (some lead to nowhere!) & pocket parks. (Suggestions to raise money: donor wall (creative/artsy) &/or buy bricks with donor's name on them.)
- Preserve open spaces. Once developed they are lost forever. As we see more density and climate warning, our only reprieve is green, natural spaces.
- Increase the density of activities within the parks. Mercer Island and the region has plenty of "open space"--for a park I'd much rather have an increased number and broader range of activities to increase usage and encourage mixing of ages, interests, etc. I think this is partly why Luther Burbank is so much more heavily utilized compared to the other parks--there is more to do so I can go with my family (kids, grandparents, etc.) and they can all find multiple things to do. Install sports courts and playgrounds at Clarke, branded permanent beach chairs at Groveland for revenue. More courts along Aubrey Davis. Something, anything at the pocket parks (petanque?) as right now this is almost just wasted land. This has the added benefit of increasing population density, thus improving safety.
- Weed and water and prune the vegetation, which is often suffering, lately! and it hurts to see them dying and overgrown.
- more biker friendly
- improve skatepark, make bigger and better the obstacles
- Increase land available for that.
- Improve the skatepark and let someone who skates for a longtime design it.
- Don't change leash rules
- Add mountain bike skills areas at Pioneer Park and Mercerdale Park with a paved pump track at Mercerdale (see Leavenworth pump track).
- More lighting on the soccer fields/more turf fields
- Connected greenways for walking/running
- more playgrounds for kids
- Connect more trails.
- Keep trails cleared

- Improve restroom facilities.
- Lifeguards at the beaches. Restricting pot smoking on the piers
- More trails
- Parking near the entrance to some trails is difficult to find.
- We should buy and “re-forest” property to expand our wooded public parks and increase walking/jogging trails. Our population is exploding and lots are being subdivided left and right. We need more wooded parkland. A close second “wish” would be a boating facility that provides sailing lessons and boat rentals. One way to fund such a purchase would be renting boat slips to island residents and/or renting space for a restaurant to offer waterfront dining. People have commented for as long as I’ve lived here that Mercer Island should have a waterfront dining option. It could be a “boathouse restaurant” next to the boating facility and surely would generate substantial revenue over the years.
- add space for Parkour activities - possibly near old horse stable ? area at Luther Burbank
- Provide a park ranger to enforce dog lease laws along with park rules and to be resource for park users for information and help. I would like to get to know my park ranger have her/him be my resource on park questions.
- Make sure it continues to be safe to walk/ the trails and enjoy our parks. Maybe improve lighting.
- preserve them. thank you
- NA
- Spray park on the island
- Improve trail/route signage
- permanent pickleball courts
- Have a nice dedicated Pickleball area with at least 6 to 8 courts like Bainbridge Island. Pickleball is good for all ages from young adults to seniors and is a very inclusive sport. We need better facilities.
- Please keep garbage picked up and enforce dog owners to keep dogs leashed in Pioneer Park. We avoid Pioneer Park because so many dog owners do not have voice command of their dogs and they attack, jump up on us or run out into the street. We have even witnessed one dog being hit by a car as it ran from its owner. When dogs are off leash in Pioneer Park owners frequently do not pick up after their dogs' waste.
- Improve soccer and sport facilities including availability of indoor facilities.
- dedicated pickleball courts outside, properly lined and maintained.
- More off leash dog parks
- Add more pickleball courts
- better waterfront
- No off leash dogs
- Upgrade the beach parks (especially Groveland, Clarke), they are in poor condition relative to neighboring town/city beach parks around Lake WA. We can do better!!!
- Replace broken (or absent) playground equipment
- Keep the off leash dog park in pioneer Park. Fix the docks at Clarke and Groveland
- Put ALL of the garbage cans back. At Proctor landing people leave their bags of dog poo where the garbage can used to be.
- Enforce dogs being on leashes. Also enforce dog owners picking up their dogs poop. Too many dog owners do not respect either of these.
- Extend leash laws to include more areas.
- better clean up of garbage/trash
- Require all dogs to be on leashes, except in certain areas like the off leash dog park at Luther Burbank.

- Eliminate dogs off leash
- To have more recreational programs for kids 5 and 6 years old.
- Add more playgrounds
- Build more dedicated Pickleball courts.
- Improve maintenance
- Add more playing fields
- Not sure
- Maintain what we got. Don't increase our taxes.
- Preserve off-leash status at Pioneer Park.
- Enforce dog leash laws. Expand use of parks for kids rather than families with dogs.
- Add dedicated pickleball courts
- Build covered shelters (for dog owners) for off leash dog park at Luther Burbank for the winter/rainy months
- Make the NW quadrant of Pioneer Park truly ADA compliant. It is the only quadrant free of horse droppings and hills thus best for canes, walkers, wheelchairs. Yet, off leash dogs prohibit me from using the trail by myself. I need to have a companion to ward off dogs that run at me.
- Keep pets off bike trails in the transportation areas like Mountain to Sound Greenway
- Reinstate Jazzercise at Community Center
- retain off leash dog trails
- More off-leash parks
- We need more synthetic turf athletic fields.
- Get rid of bike path going through park and ride waiting area. I have almost been hit by bike twice, waiting for bus.
- bike safety
- We need a splash pad! We love our parks, trails and playgrounds - Thank you city of MI!
- Improve the pickle ball courts, and increase the number of them
- Better weed control/removal. Better irrigation to save trees.
- More pickleball courts.
- Outdoor pickle ball courts. All ages love this easy to learn sport.
- more pickle ball courts (sorry to grind the axe)
- Create more indoor and outdoor facilities for Pickle ball use including restrooms.
- Improve beaches
- dedicated pickleball courts
- reduce user fees
- Pickleball Only outdoor options. Or Convert some green space to pickleball courts.
- Sell food at all parks
- Remove natural habitat and wild animals that endanger the public and domestic animals.
- More Pickleball courts
- Designate Luther Burbank Pickleball courts as you can create 8 great courts in the space of 3 unkept and rarely used tennis courts.

- develop indoor dedicated pickleball courts with permanent nets.
- Pickleball-specific courts
- More Pickleball courts
- Sorry two: permanent outdoor Pickleball courts & kayak/paddle board rentals
- Build large amounts of Dedicated Pickleball Courts at multiple locations.
- More pickle ball courts
- improve or provide pickleball facilities
- Need more outdoor pickle ball courts. People aren't playing tennis nearly as much as they were 15 years ago
- More and improved Pickleball court
- more pickleball courts
- More pickleball courts, outdoor and indoor
- light policing / signage to help control dog poop, share the trail concepts, road riding etiquette, small trail maps such as QFC/Pioneer Park.
- Please make pickleball courts permanent at Luther Burbank park and consider adding them at other parks with existing tennis courts
- Enforce dog restrictions
- Add more outdoor pickleball courts
- Remove trash from open spaces.
- More outdoor pickleball courts. Covert the underused tennis courts to pickleball courts.
- The City of Mercer Island needs to do more than just one thing to improve parks.
- More and improved pickleball courts
- Pickleball courts double lined with tennis courts and scheduled hours for use by each sport so the courts will be used more in good weather.
- Add lights to the public parks - safely is an issue everywhere, and we need more lighting on Mercer Island.
- Do not sacrifice tennis courts for pickle ball courts.
- Add pickleball courts
- Have playground equipment working in all of the playgrounds currently on MI.
- Provide classes and leagues for sports and activities where people can find other like minded players
- More pickleball courts. Sport increasing in popularity but not enough locations to play, especially indoors.
- Restore open spaces. Make it easy for community groups to maintain a space with reduced burden of formal process. Foster "ownership" of a maintenance space and role. Group could include Scouts, Rotary, students, clubs, neighborhoods, etc.
- Less is more. By definition Open Space should not be 'improved' or changed. The City spends too much money on open space.
- Water equipment rental and/or Concessions (2 things, sorry!)
- Convert the tennis courts at Luther Burbank Park to Pickleball courts!
- More poop bag dispensers and better trash cleanup
- More litter bins
- Covered areas for exercises

- More connected pathways
- Dedicated Pickleball courts!
- Provide more dedicated pickle ball courts because more people play pickle ball.
- Improve existing pickleball courts and add additional pickleball courts
- Dedicated Pickleball courts
- Provide dedicated pickleball courts.
- Upgrade the docks and beaches.
- Provide dedicated pickleball courts.
- Please do not institute reservations for pickleball. Reservations are antithetical to the community culture of Pickleball.
- Off leash dog parks
- Permanent Pickleball courts
- Keep ALL dogs leashed in parks. Pet owners have failed to prevent animals from wandering, attacking or depositing uncollected waste off leash. This privilege must be revoked immediately. No amount of signage has fixed this. Owners can have off leash pets at designated fenced dog parks. Our trails simply cannot be enjoyed with stray dogs running about. Joggers with dogs must leash as well.
- Keep them safe
- Increase/improve Pickleball courts. Outside activity that is great for all ages. I'm open to paying a premium, but struggle with how it will be implemented. I love the "pick up" culture and wouldn't want that to be compromised.
- Improvements at Island Crest Park (baseball field). Update / replace infield turf.
- More pickleball courts
- Keep homeless out.
- Keep being awesome!
- Create permanent Pickleball courts
- One connected trail!
- Pickleball courts
- More places for dogs to be dogs - need more off lead dog areas.
- More walking trails
- Develop Pickleball - dedicated courts will add value to the community, while generating revenue for the city if done right.
- "Keep up the good work!
- "
- Add dedicated Pickleball courts
- Dedicated pickleball courts!
- Stop with the vegetation management/Master Plan. It is not improving the parks. We want natural parks.
- Prevent new construction of buildings in or near our parks.
- Clear ivy and other non-native vegetation.
- More Pickleball courts
- Lots of nature.
- Pickleball courts
- We need a spray park. This would be a HUGE WIN for our community.

- Create an accessible splash pad
- Convert three low usage tennis courts at Luther Burbank park to 8 or 9 Pickleball courts to attract more park users
- Improve the outdoor pickle ball courts.
- Safe walking between trail areas/parks on west mercer by Groveland park.
- Expand them by trying to purchase more land, then leave them alone and natural. No sports fields, lights or facilities. No glyphosate please! There are better alternatives that aren't harmful to people or pets. Make a commitment to be free of toxins like many cities have.
- Picnic areas expanded.
- Or pic
- Convert unused tennis courts to Pickleball courts.
- Dedicated Pickleball courts. It would make Mercer island a destination for people. Pickleball has such a strong community.
- Pickleball
- Create an outdoor pickleball complex with 10 to 24 courts in one location. Lights for evening play would be a plus. A roof (no walls) would be a plus as well.
- bring back lifeguards at beaches
- Protect open spaces from overuse destruction, like what is happening at Upper Luther Burbank Park.
- Expand Mercerdale Park
- Make a complete island trail
- Add pickleball courts or at the least line all tennis courts for pickleball
- More opportunities to play pickle ball, both indoors and outdoors. Especially in the evening or weekend, for those who work during the day. Thanks!
- focus on preserving what we have, ensuring maintenance is kept up;
- Provide sufficient workforce to manage them. The issue of the illegal bicycle park is a case in point. I find it deplorable that the city has not taken action.
- Increase and keep the parks, trails and open spaces without increasing development or the creation of impervious surfaces.
- Add more electricity to Mercerdale Park
- Better Quality pickle ball courts. Don't like having to leave the island to play, it's a waste of gas when our courts could be beautiful.
- Add pickleball courts
- Stop paving them. Number 12 above looks like a fire sale of our parks. You will never renew the parks levy by paving or selling our parks.
- More maintenance. Especially trails and stairs in the trails.
- more permanent or temporary shelters for outdoor activities in bad weather
- more covered areas
- Permanent dedicated pickle ball courts with proper fencing nets and even lighting if possible. Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country, costs very little, Suitable for all ages and abilities . At least nine pickle ball courts could be made at Luther Burbank on the current crummy three tennis courts that we have converted -- volunteers only Dash two marginal pickle ball courts. The pickleball Nets in the Mercer Island community center need to be replaced as well.
- New pickle ball courts !!!!!
- More pickleball



- upgrade the pickleball courts at Burbank Park. I play there 3-4 times a week and the facilities are not up to par with surrounding communities.
- "Expand outdoor pickleball facilities.
- Make Luther Burbank a pickleball destination for this area. Charge accordingly."
- Would love to have a splash park!
- Finish the Mercerdale playground.
- Properly design and equip outdoor pickleball courts. Do not paint lines on tennis courts only.
- Better enforcement of leash laws
- Install more micro playgrounds!
- Pickleball courts
- use existing courts that have minimal use to create pickleball courts
- expand the walking/hiking trails so that they form a continuous loop around the island
- Convert Luther Burbank tennis courts to permanent pickleball courts
- "Leave them in their natural state
- No need to improve nature"
- Expand Mercerdale Park
- Stop illegal digging
- Install permanent pickleball courts. 8
- Create more linkages between trails especially cross island
- Protect Upper Luther Burbank Park from illegal digging by youth. Shrink "dirt trail" to its original small size. Do NOT allow a Mountain Bike facility here!
- Resurface pickleball courts. Keep them open with no fee
- More pickleball
- More pickle ball courts.
- Fix cracks, nets, surface of the tennis courts at Aubrey Davis Park, and prioritize it over other potential conflicting uses.
- Build dedicated Pickleball courts at Luther Burbank. There are thirty plus people that come to play at least three times a week. Rarely are there tennis players.
- Trails
- Convert mostly un-used and un-maintained Tennis courts like Luther Burbank into Pickleball courts
- Convert part of Pioneer Park into a golf course! Generates revenue, including from off-island, can be used by the high school, and it's fun!
- More dedicated pickleball courts.
- More playgrounds
- Discourage biking and off leash dogs on trails.
- Pickleball dedicated at Luther Burbank (with signage stating the priority). Lots of tennis all over the island but the only 3 courts for PB will be taken over by a tennis player for an hour and half while 20 people (yes-20) have to wait in line to rotate in every 20 min. Except for day tennis camps for kids- those courts could have signs to say pickleball priority while players are waiting.
- Public private partnership
- Add a public boathouse with a rowing program, kayak/paddleboard rentals, etc.

- add pickleball
- Spray park
- wider walkways please! It is difficult to walk comfortably with mom friends with strollers.
- Outdoor dining options such as cafes, food trucks, more chairs and tables that could be repositioned and used by the community for picnics.
- Put lights in so that trails are safer, enforce off-leash dog laws
- Make M.I. Kayak Friendly! Remove the northernmost steel bulkhead at Clarke so can easily put in/take out on the beach! Create access at South Point to put in/take out. With those two items, then kayakers have at most a 3 to 3.5 mile "reach" between potential stops without having to take on unnecessary danger getting in and out of their kayak.
- Pickleball courts!
- Accessibility
- Provide SECURE and plentiful bike parking
- Enforce on leash requirements for dog owners
- Add a splash feature for kids.
- Expand the trail network -- I love that my child's first hike can be right on the island!
- Add a mountain bike pump track for kids
- "MICEC -- allow exercise/training rentals e.g. Jazzercise
- PARKS -- allow covered space for exercise "
- add a fence along the front of the grass portion of Island crest park! we are desperate for a safe fenced location for our dogs that aren't schools or the dog park!!
- more outdoor fitness equipment for the older age groups (especially with the pandemic a lot more people would prefer outdoor exercise)
- Add a neighborhood park (like First Hill) in the NE section of the city. In this area, we have no access to a playground within walking distance.
- Boat rentals
- Ask the community to self police hazards on the trails. I have noticed large sticks being placed in gofer holes and sharp tree branches being broken at eye height. We all need to be aware that some people could be injured by carelessness. Thanks!
- Keep walking trails trimmed and supply waste cans.
- Make public spaces accessible and inclusive for all residents.
- Control the dogs. Dog leash laws should be strictly enforced and huge fines should be in place if owners are off leash or don't have paid tags. Dogs attack kids at parks and shit all over the place. must be controlled.
- connect upper Luther Burbank park with Luther Burbank
- Trash pick up
- Maintain what we already have.
- More, safer bike paths
- Keep them clean
- Connect trails- especially upper Burbank trail
- Make our city look pretty
- Update and increase the turf fields for athletic pursuits
- Trails

- Add more dog parks and require leashes everywhere else. Ban dogs from sports areas. I'm tired of my child coming home from soccer practice covered in dog poop!
- Pickleball courts
- Increased athletic fields
- It's just fine. Don't do anything.
- More off leash space for dogs
- Restoration and maintenance of parkland.
- More trash bins
- Make sure our parks are safe and clean from potential homeless threats from nearby.
- Either enforce leashing of dogs, or provide parks and trails where dogs are not allowed.
- Ensure every park has dog poop bags and a trash can available to dispose dog poop.
- Connect trails, increase ADA accessibility
- Clean up the dump (old recycle center) at Mercerdale Park so it is a respectable place to show friends when visiting.
- Improve cycling access
- More open areas or permissible spaces for dogs to run around secured in.
- Increase maintenance on smaller parks i.e. Wildwood Park
- maintain beach parks and provide life guards
- Maintenance and restoration of environment e.g. removal of invasive species, plant trees to replace those dying.
- Have a proper bike lane around the island
- Inclusive playground equipment
- connect them more via safe bike trails, which kids could also ride on to get to school etc.
- #1-Control off leash dogs - too many encounters in NW Pioneer Park. #2-Be self supporting - charge fees - no levies.
- Keep trails open. Ensure that they are not lost due to staircase or bridge deterioration as has happened near Dragon Park and Tarrywood.
- Bring back lifeguards and patrols to the existing beach parks to make them more family friendly. The excessive pot smoking has made it more and more difficult to enjoy.
- Increase basic maintenance.
- TRIM/CUT trees; create pedestrian only paths so cyclists/skateboarders/scooters don't hit my dog and me every time we're walking.
- prevent transient/homeless use and otherwise keep clean (more trash cans and regularly empty them)
- Update/improve Skate park and provide more athletic field options with lights
- Don't tear down old playground until a new playground is ready to be installed — we missed having Mercerdale park. Old is better than none , especially peak season
- Limited high-end concessions (e.g. bakery, espresso, salad) like in many European parks.
- Enforce leash laws
- bring in food businesses
- "1. Stop taking away open land in neighborhoods - i.e. East Seattle.
- Maintain the trails and steps you have. Use the people who are really not working 8 hours a day and drawing large salaries- physical work is important for Recreation Employees. ALL OF THEM"

- Pick up trash regularly, more trash receptacles and dog bags.
- ban off leash dogs at ADP, create a separate ADP off-leash area.
- New pool, Mary Wayte is old and out dated.
- Splash park
- Add rowing facilities
- Maintain, protect, increase our public art in parks.
- More waterfront access and trails
- Convert buildings in Luther Burbank (admin & boat house) into restaurant / rec facilities. We need more waterfront activation - like Kirkland.
- Splash Pad/Spray Park
- Repair/remove damaged picnic shelters, restrooms... Repair fences, paint, spruce things up
- Increase maintenance, care, garbage removal. Our existing parks are in disrepair. We need to care for what we have before looking at expanding.
- Just keep doing a good job maintaining them like they have.
- Improve waterfront parks
- More parking
- Pocket park with playground behind city hall on 40th, with trail connecting it to 36th st / I90 trail
- Manage the fallen trees better. Clean up paths. Cut trees more often before they become a hazard
- With the exception of waterfront, We don't need to expand. We just need to take care of and make better use of the park spaces we have and develop them better. But we are not utilizing our one asset of being on an island and need a waterfront park facility that is world class with rentals and services that can be a revenue stream.
- acquire and protect as much open space as possible and please keep all our parkland free of advertising and commercialization
- Provide more opportunities for fun for older kids ages 12--18. A pump track bike park or a sailing + rowing club would be wonderful.
- More garbage cans
- Make sure they are not taken over by the homeless/unhoused/drug addicted.
- More accessible and safe for all users who are there for different purposes
- Would love to have sailing/paddling/fishing/environmental outdoor programs especially for kids throughout the year.
- Available garbage cans
- Keep doing what you are already doing.
- More playgrounds / splash pads
- Make waterfront landings accessible for boats to pick up friends. Luther docks, Proctor's, Fruitland, Roanoke landings. Clarke and Groveland Beach. They all need access from the water.
- More inclusiveness - no fees and more cultural activities.
- I just want Mercer Island to do the basics well. Let's keep our parks clean and go back to normal trash pickup again.
- Better public water access
- better enforcement of leash laws
- More regular sweeps for alcohol and drugs.
- Facilitate kayak / canoe /sailboat rentals

- Turn Mercerdale into a Botanical Garden.
- Expanded mountain biking offerings
- Provide bike facilities to support bike teams and find way to partner with regional bike organizations like Evergreen mountain bike alliance
- Dedicated margin on W and E Mercer Way for walking, running, cycling safety.
- Repair tennis courts
- Improve landscaping and maintenance on the Lid Park. So much dead plant material, trees, ground cover. Heavily used! Highest population density in the City
- Fenced playground. Off leash dogs get a fence. Do we care more about dogs than kids? Seriously, I'm not the only one who uses tennis courts for this purpose, but they are noticeably lacking in stuff to actually play with. Looking for left behind balls only entertains but so long.
- Better maintain parks, not necessarily trials and open spaces but tennis courts, restrooms, play structures, picnic tables, volleyball court Groveland, grand stands, etc. at parks. They look shabby.
- Undercover outdoor play space for playground basketball and Pickleball.
- Completely refurbish and convert the three old tennis courts into 7 - 8 new pickleball courts in Luther Burbank Park
- develop park space that encourages active recreation targeting youth, bring community together, and compels youth to get outside. And be active: More athletic fields/turf build a challenging and enticing bike park, make an exciting and fun skate park for scooters, skateboarders and BMX, a best of class splash park, etc.
- provide more safe bicycling paths/trails.
- Pickle ball courts!
- Facilities for a rowing center - we should be aiming to start a full rowing and sailing club on mercer island. Sailing and rowing classes are in high demand.
- Pioneer Park all leash!!! I've been bit two times, chased by a dog once, and now that I'm in a wheel chair, dogs continually come up to my face. Owners do not care - feel that their dog needs run time and that I shouldn't mind as "no big deal."