



# PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

Item 4  
October 5, 2023  
Regular Business

## AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION

<b>TITLE:</b>	Review of P-Patch Community Garden Rules	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Endorse the proposed Mercer Island P-Patch Community Garden Rules	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution

<b>STAFF:</b>	Dave Setterlund, Recreation Coordinator Katie Herzog, Recreation Supervisor Ryan Daly, Recreation Manager
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	Craig Reynolds
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Draft P-Patch Community Garden Rules

## SUMMARY

The purpose of this staff report is to seek Parks and Recreation Commission’s endorsement of the draft P-Patch Community Garden Rules (Exhibit 1).

### Background

Rules and eligibility requirements are standard practice for recreational programs and activities. These standards of participation ensure participants and coordinating staff understand the behavioral expectations of the program as well as the objectives and anticipated outcomes to ensure the best possible experience for all.

At the [September 7<sup>th</sup>](#) Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) meeting, the Commission discussed the P-Patch Community Garden program purpose statement and objectives to further guide development and refinement of the P-Patch Community Garden Rules. At that meeting staff committed to returning to the PRC to seek endorsement of the program rules at a future meeting.

### Discussion

This draft of P-Patch Community Garden Rules has been revised by staff to reflect Commission input received from the September 7<sup>th</sup> meeting and incorporates guidance from the Washington City’s Insurance Authority (WCIA) on community garden programs.

The draft rules reflect the Commission’s desire to:

- Prioritize resident participation.
- Promote access to the program.
- Maintain natural character of the area.
- Enhance participant and visitor safety.

**Next Steps:**

Following the Parks and Recreation Commission’s endorsement of P-Patch Community Garden Rules, staff will proceed to refine registration processes and coordinate with current participants to establish and implement timelines (potentially over the course of numerous seasons) to align participation and plots with the new P-Patch Community Garden Rules. New participants will be immediately subject to the updated program rules.

**RECOMMENDATION**

Endorse the proposed Mercer Island P-Patch Community Garden Rules