



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

**AB 6927  
June 2, 2026  
Consent Agenda**

**AGENDA BILL INFORMATION**

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 6927: Public Display of Fireworks Permit Issuance	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Approval and authorization for the Fire Marshal to sign and issue an operational permit to Western States Fireworks.	

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Fire
<b>STAFF:</b>	Deputy Fire Chief Kara Putnam, Eastside Fire & Rescue Fire Marshal Mark Lawrence, Eastside Fire & Rescue
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	n/a
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Insurance Verification 2. Site Layout, Display Area Map, Safety Information, Pyrotechnician License
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	n/a

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

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this agenda item is to issue a public display of firework permit as required under the International Fire Code (IFC) Section 105 and Mercer Island City Code (MICC) [8.35.020](#) for Summer Celebration on July 11, 2026.

- Western Fireworks has applied for an operational permit for the public display of fireworks. This event will take place during the City of Mercer Island’s Summer Celebration on July 11, 2026 at 2200hrs (10pm).
- The operational permit conforms to applicable City adopted codes and Washington State RCW 70.77.295.
- The Fire Marshal’s Office is required to investigate the validity of the permit application and make a recommendation for approval or denial to the City Council.
- The Fire Marshal’s Office recommends approval of the permit.

**BACKGROUND**

On average, the City of Mercer Island approves one to two public fireworks displays per year. Western Fireworks has applied for an operational permit for the public display of fireworks during the City of Mercer Island’s Summer Celebration on July 11, 2026 at 2200hrs (10 pm). The information provided by Western

Fireworks meets submission requirements. The applicant provided information containing MICC required insurance (Exhibit 1), discharge location, loading, firework manifest, safety plan, security plan, timing and applicable licenses (Exhibit 2).

In addition, Mercer Island Marine Patrol was contracted to provide security of the required isolation zone as done with previous displays of this type. Professional public displays provide a safe and controlled environment for spectators to observe from a distance. These displays are designed with a high level of safety margin and operated by a licensed pyrotechnician.

## ISSUE/DISCUSSION

While this display is being conducted on a barge in a waterway, the jurisdiction for the barge location falls under the Mercer Island Fire Marshal's Office for a *public display of fireworks* permit and is subject to our adopted code. Adopted Mercer Island Municipal Code (8.35.020) requires:

*The local fire official shall conduct an investigation and submit a report of findings and recommendation for or against the issuance of the permit to the city council. The city council shall have the power in its discretion to grant or deny the application, subject to such reasonable conditions, if any, as it shall prescribe.*

During the application review it was found that the applicant meets all state and local requirements, including licensed pyrotechnician, General Display Fireworks License, barge layout and manifest, isolation area, and safety plan. Additionally, the applicant provided a Certificate of Liability Insurance (see Exhibit 1) with the proper insurance limits required by [RCW 70.77.295](#) and [MICC 8.35.020 \(F\)](#).

The discharge of fireworks is occurring on a barge in the water. In the Puget Sound area, firework displays are conducted in/around water areas for an increased safety margin. The applicant will secure proper waterway permits (where applicable) and security for exclusion zones.

## NEXT STEPS

If approved the Fire Marshal's Office will issue an operational permit to Western Fireworks. This permit will contain specific conditions as outlined by best practices, applicable laws, and industry standards. The operational permit is only valid for this one event. Any further displays requests will follow the same requirements and brought before council.

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve and authorize the City of Mercer Island Fire Marshal to sign the submitted operational permit for Western Display Firework's application for a Public Display of Fireworks to be discharged per the permit conditions on July 11, 2026 at 2200hrs (10:00 pm) for a total duration of approximately 20 minutes pursuant to MICC 8.35.020(C).