



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

**AB 6957
July 7, 2026
Consent Agenda**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6957: Parks and Recreation Month, Proclamation No. 392	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve Proclamation No. 392 proclaiming July 2026 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island.	

DEPARTMENT:	Public Works
STAFF:	Mayor David Rosenbaum Ryan Daly, Interim Parks, Recreation & Facilities Director
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Proclamation No. 392
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ n/a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda item is to recognize the importance of parks and recreation programming and opportunities in the Mercer Island community and to proclaim July 2026 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island (Exhibit 1).

BACKGROUND

National Parks and Recreation Month was originally celebrated in the month of June through the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). In July of 1985, the NRPA wanted to engage and accommodate more children with differing school schedules. With the support and endorsement of then Vice-President George H.W. Bush and NFL Hall of Fame running back Walter Payton, the NRPA formally recognized the month of July as National Parks and Recreation Month. In 2009, with bipartisan support, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.Res.288 designating July as National Parks and Recreation Month while acknowledging the societal value of parks and recreation and honoring the vital contributions of employees and volunteers within parks and recreation.

PARKS & RECREATION ON MERCER ISLAND

The Parks, Recreation, Natural Resources, and Facilities divisions, supported by many other City departments, play a central role in fostering community and enhancing the quality of life for Mercer Island residents by

providing recreation, social, and cultural opportunities for people of all ages. Fundamental to this mission is ensuring affordable, accessible parks, facilities, programs, events, and other community amenities. The City operates and maintains the 42,000-square-foot Mercer Island Community & Event Center (MICEC), more than 475 acres of parks and open space, and over 30 miles of trails. Partnerships with community organizations, businesses, and other stakeholders further expand and enrich these offerings, helping ensure residents have broad access to high-quality parks and recreation opportunities.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

CELEBRATE PARKS AND RECREATION MONTH

July 2026 is packed with recreational opportunities across the Mercer Island community. Indoor and outdoor summer camps are expected to serve more than 1,500 participants, while the Mercer Island Community & Event Center (MICEC) continues to host a wide range of events, celebrations, sports, and fitness activities. Athletic programs are in full swing on the community's sports fields, and the newly renovated playgrounds at Roanoke and First Hill parks are seeing heavy use. Trails and open space areas are welcoming visitors of all ages throughout the summer. Signature events, including the *Mostly Music in the Park* concert series at Mercerdale Park and *Shakespeare in the Park* at Luther Burbank Park, will bring the community together, while partnerships with local organizations continue to expand opportunities for programs and special events throughout the parks system.

Summer Celebration will be hosted on Saturday, July 11, the event will include music, food, entertainment, art vendors, the community parade, and fireworks. This event and all the other parks and recreation related services, partnerships, and opportunities highlight the importance that parks and recreation plays on Mercer Island and demonstrates the appreciation the Mercer Island community has for its parks and recreation sponsors, supporters, volunteers, and staff alike.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve Proclamation No. 392 proclaiming July 2026 as Parks and Recreation Month on Mercer Island.