



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6781
October 7, 2025
Special Business

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6781: Mercer Island Community Fund Recognition	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve Resolution No. 1683 recognizing the Mercer Island Community Fund's contributions to the Recreation Division and the City of Mercer Island.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolution

DEPARTMENT:	Public Works
STAFF:	Jason Kintner, Chief of Operations Katie Herzog, Recreation Supervisor
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Resolution No. 1683
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mercer Island Community Fund (MICF) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life on Mercer Island by providing financial support to local nonprofits, community initiatives, and cultural events. Since its founding in 1989, MICF has awarded hundreds of grants to projects that promote the arts, education, human services, the environment, and community building on Mercer Island.

Funded entirely by donations from individuals, families, and local businesses, MICF serves as a philanthropic partner helping residents invest in the long-term vitality of the Island. From youth programs to concerts in the park and community celebrations, MICF plays a vital role in fostering a vibrant, inclusive, and connected Mercer Island. Resolution No. 1683 (Exhibit 1) recognizes the historical impact of financial support to the City of Mercer Island, that has helped enhance community special events.

BACKGROUND

The Mercer Island Community Fund (MICF) was founded with the vision of strengthening the Mercer Island community through philanthropy, collaboration, and support for initiatives that enrich Island life. Over the years, MICF has become a trusted partner to the City, demonstrating consistency in its support and commitment to advancing recreation, culture, and community well-being.

MICF's impact is seen most prominently in its proactive efforts to generate funds to sustain and expand beloved community events and programs. Working closely with City staff, MICF has identified opportunities where additional resources could significantly enhance the quality of life for Mercer Island residents. Notable events supported by MICF include Mostly Music in the Park, Summer Celebration, Shakespeare in the Park, Illuminate MI, Leap for Green, and Community Coffee.

By underwriting costs for entertainment, logistics, and accessibility, MICF allows the city to offer high-quality, free events that otherwise might not be feasible within the municipal budget. This collaboration reflects a shared commitment to strengthening community on Mercer Island and ensuring that public spaces and experiences remain welcoming and enriching for all.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

The City of Mercer Island deeply values the Mercer Island Community Fund's long-standing partnership and investment in the Island's cultural and social vitality.

MICF has demonstrated a consistent and enduring partnership with the City, collaborating with both the Recreation Division and the broader Island community to advance shared goals. Through their proactive efforts to generate funds, MICF has strengthened the sustainability of recreation programs and expanded opportunities for residents to connect through community events.

MICF's contributions reflect and promote core Mercer Island values: community, wellness, inclusion, and stewardship, while also ensuring that recreation services continue to evolve and meet the needs of residents. In collaboration with City staff, MICF has worked thoughtfully to identify opportunities for event enhancements, including support for the Mostly Music in the Park (MMIP) series. In 2025 the generous support of the MICF allowed MMIP to expand in scope and quality, highlighted by enhancements such as the addition of the stage, banners, and lighting at Mercerdale Park.

Through consistent partnership, proactive forethought, and commitment to community enrichment, the Mercer Island Community Fund continues to play a vital role in ensuring the expansion and long-term success of City recreation programs and the vibrancy of community life.

The City Council recognizes MICF as an indispensable partner whose generosity and commitment continue to elevate the Recreation Division's ability to serve the community and create lasting opportunities for connection and celebration. Over the past five years, MICF has contributed over \$50,000 to Parks and Recreation events.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve Resolution No. 1683 recognizing the Mercer Island Community Fund's contributions to the Recreation Division and the City of Mercer Island.