



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR HYBRID MEETING APRIL 7, 2026

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Dave Rosenbaum called the Regular Hybrid Meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Slater Room Council Chambers at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center, 8236 SE 24th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Dave Rosenbaum, Deputy Mayor Daniel Becker and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl (arrived 5:01 pm), Julie Hsieh, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg attended in person.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy Mayor Becker lead the City Council in delivering the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Becker; seconded by Weinberg to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker and Weinberg)

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- **Council, Boards & Commission Meetings:**
 - City Council Meeting on Tuesday, April 21 at 5:00 pm
 - Arts Council Meeting on Wednesday, April 15 at 5:30 pm
 - Open Space Conservancy Trust Meeting on Thursday, April 16 at 5:00 pm
- **City Updates:**
 - Annual Board & Commission Recruitment – Open through May 8 for vacant and expiring positions on the City's advisory boards and commissions. Appointments are scheduled for the May 19 City Council meeting.
 - King County North Mercer Sewer Interceptor – King County has been working since 2022 to replace sewer pipes and pump stations along the north end of the Island. Through early August work will be conducted on SE 36th Street in front of City Hall to install a temporary sewer bypass. This work will shift eastbound traffic into the center turn lane on SE 36th Street.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - Earth Month Activities – We are hosting lots of exciting events throughout April in celebration of Earth Month. Planned activities include park volunteer restoration events, garden club get togethers, seasonal nature journaling, and even a sustainable fashion show.
 - DEA Drug Take Bay Day – April 25, 10:00 am -2:00 pm, City Hall Loading Dock
- **News:**
 - Thank you to Senator Wellman and the 41st Legislative District delegation for securing funding for the Mercer Island Community & Event Center HVAC project in the final combined House and Senate Capital budget.

APPEARANCES

The following individuals spoke in support of the Deane's Children's Park Site Plan:

- Courtney Hampson
- John Hamer
- Bob Day
- Mariana Parks
- Jill Hawkins
- Julie Day
- Eve Hampton
- Adele Carson

The following individuals spoke about concerns related to the Deane's Children's Park Site Plan:

- Kim Florence
- Andy McAndrews
- Emily Moss
- Nick Jones
- Thomas Alexander
- Orna Samuelly
- Monica Waldie
- Eric Timmreck
- Rich Grutzmacher
- Tasha Brown
- Kirsten Duell
- Nikki Norvell
- Carolyn Boatsman

Cole Kiser (Mercer Island) thanked the City Council for issuing Proclamation No. 382 for Black Wellness Week

Addie Smith spoke about being a hate crime survivor.

City Council was in recess from 6:16 pm – 6:25 pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

AB 6896: March 25, 2026 Payroll Certification

Recommended Action: Approve the March 25, 2026 Payroll Certification in the amount of \$928,241.22 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2026

Recommended Action: Approve the City Council Regular Hybrid Meeting Minutes of March 17, 2026.

AB 6897: Certification for Claims Paid February 28, 2026 through March 15, 2026

Recommended Actions: Approve the February 28, 2026 through March 15, 2026 Accounts Payable Certification of Claims in the amount of \$3,713,478.93 and authorize the Mayor to sign the certification on behalf of the entire City Council.

AB 6898: Autism Acceptance Month, Proclamation No. 380

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 380 Proclaiming April 2026 as Autism Acceptance Month on Mercer Island.

AB 6899: Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month, Proclamation No. 381

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 381 Proclaiming April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month on Mercer Island.

AB 6900: Black Wellness Week, Proclamation No. 382

Recommended Action: Approve Proclamation No. 382 Proclaiming April 13-17, 2026 as Black Wellness Week on Mercer Island.

AB 6901: Public Works Facility Seismic Retrofits Project Closeout

Recommended Action: Accept the completed Public Works Building Seismic Retrofit Project (90.05.0016) and authorize staff to close out the project.

AB 6870: Parking Enforcement System Appropriation Request

Recommended Action: Appropriate \$110,000 from the Technology and Equipment Fund (330) to acquire

and install a parking enforcement system.

It was moved by Weinberg; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve the Consent Agenda as presented, and the recommendations contained therein.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker and Weinberg)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6903: Public Hearing: 2027-2032 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP)

Mayor Rosenbaum opened the public hearing at 6:27 pm.

Robert Thorp (Mercer Island) spoke about traffic improvements in the 5800 block of West Mercer Way.

There being no further comments, Mayor Rosenbaum closed the public hearing at 6:30 pm.

AB 6902: Deane's Children's Park Site Plan

City Manager Jessi Bon introduced the project team for the Deane's Children's Park Site Plan, recognized the Parks and Recreation Commission for their work on this item and noted that Chair Ashley Hay and Vice Chair Rory Westberg were present and would be available for questions. City Manager Bon also introduced consultant Ingrid Kanics who specializes in inclusive play.

Ingrid Kanics, owner of Kanics Inclusive Design Services, spoke about the inclusive design experience and how inclusive design can be integrated into a broader natural setting. She discussed the definition of disability, the different types of disabilities, and how many people live with a disability.

Capital Parks Manager Shelby Perrault presented the Deane's Children's Park site plan, referencing the 2022 PROS Plan and Parks Levy, which guide maintenance, accessibility improvements, and playground replacements. She noted many existing park elements are aging, not ADA-compliant, and lack inclusive features, including play equipment, amenities, trails, and parking.

Capital Parks Manager Perrault explained that the site plan establishes a long-term, community-informed vision for phased improvements, including upgraded play areas, amenities, circulation, and parking. She highlighted opportunities to enhance accessibility and provide inclusive, multi-generational play through universal and inclusive design principles.

She summarized the four-phase planning process, including extensive community engagement, concept development, and commission review, resulting in a preferred plan. She noted that implementation will occur incrementally as funding becomes available and will rely on multiple funding sources, including grants.

Parks & Recreation Commission Chair Ashley Hay and Vice Chair Rory Westberg spoke about the recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Commission on the site plan.

City Council thanked the Parks & Recreation Commission for the work they did on the site plan.

City Council discussed the proposed site plan and asked questions of staff.

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve Resolution No. 1692 (AB 6902, Exhibit 2) to adopt the Deane's Children's Park Site Plan.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Amend the main motion to:

Include the full extension of the accessible path to Island Park Elementary into Phase 1.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker and Weinberg)

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Amend the main motion to:

Revise the Site Plan to remove Forest Surprise elements 25-30, along with all associated impervious surfaces, and replace them with Organic “Found Objects.”

PASSED: 4-3

FOR: 4 (Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, and Weinberg)

AGAINST: 3 (Anderl, Rosenbaum, Weiker)

It was moved by Anderl; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Amend the main motion to:

Revise the Site Plan to retain Forest Surprise element 25 and reinstate and relocate Forest Surprise elements 26-30.

PASSED: 4-3

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Rosenbaum, and Weiker)

AGAINST: 3 (Hsieh, Reynolds, Weinberg)

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Hsieh to:

Amend the main motion to:

Direct staff to revisit the playground equipment choices to make sure at least one-third of the equipment is focused on the 5-12 age bracket.

FAILED: 3-4

FOR: 3 (Hsieh, Reynolds, and Weinberg)

AGAINST: 4 (Anderl, Becker, Rosenbaum, and Weiker)

MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

Approve Resolution No. 1692 (AB 6902, Exhibit 2) to adopt the Deane’s Children’s Park Site Plan and (1) include the full extension of the accessible path to Island Crest Elementary as part of Phase 1 and (2) relocate Forest Surprise elements 26-30.

PASSED: 6-1

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Rosenbaum, Weiker and Weinberg)

AGAINST: 1 (Reynolds)

City Council was in recess from 9:24 pm – 9:30 pm.

AB 6891: City Hall Facility Full Renovation Cost Estimate and City Council Direction on Next Steps

City Manager Jessi Bon spoke about the assessment of City Hall that was conducted after direction received at the January 16 Planning Session and introduced Brett Hanson, from Mackenzie. Mr. Hanson reviewed the history of the 1957 City Hall building, findings from the facility conditions assessment, and estimated renovation costs. He noted key deficiencies, including asbestos, seismic limitations preventing compliance with essential facility standards, and outdated mechanical and electrical systems.

He outlined required architectural, accessibility, structural, and system upgrades to meet current codes, including seismic Category IV standards. Mr. Hanson also discussed the scope of renovations needed and considerations of renovating the existing building versus constructing a new facility.

City Manager Jessi Bon presented the recommended action to direct the City Manager to prepare a demolition plan for City Hall and return to the City Council for review and approval at an upcoming meeting.

City Council discussed the presentation and asked questions of staff and the consultant.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Becker to:

Direct the City Manager to prepare a demolition plan for City Hall and return to the City Council for review and approval.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Becker, Hsieh, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

AB 6903: Discussion: 2027-2032 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Preview

Chief of Operations Jason Kintner introduced Transportation Engineer Rebecca Corigliano and Street Engineer Ian Powell and spoke about the yearly process of review and adoption of the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Traffic Engineer Rebecca Corigliano spoke about the TIP schedule for adoption and the program elements and priorities contained in the TIP.

Street Engineer Ian Powell provided an overview of the street network on Mercer Island, how the City uses the Pavement Condition Index to manage the pavement network, and what projects have been modified in the 2026-2032 TIP.

Traffic Engineer Corigliano spoke about the next steps for TIP adoption in June.

City Council discussed the TIP and asked questions of staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences and Reports

Councilmember Weiker noted there is an SCA meeting tomorrow night and that Councilmember Hsieh will be attending as the alternate.

Councilmember Weinberg noted he attended the K4C elected our reach committee, and his next brunch is on April 18 at Valhalla Sandwiches.

Councilmember Reynolds noted there was a Parks & Recreation Commission meeting that discussed the athletic field use policy.

Councilmember Hsieh noted she took the light rail on Sunday and did not have trouble finding parking. She noted there are several options being explored for last mile solutions for Islanders who are looking to take the light rail.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 10:34 pm.

Attest:

Dave Rosenbaum, Mayor

Andrea Larson, City Clerk