



City of Mercer Island, Washington

Proclamation

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America will commemorate the Semiquincentennial—the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and

This milestone provides an opportunity to reflect upon our nation's founding ideals and to honor the individuals and communities who have shaped our history; and

The Treaty of Paris of 1783 secured the independence of the United States, and the Northwest Ordinance of 1787 established a framework for the governance and expansion of the nation, ultimately leading to the formation of Washington Territory and its admission as a state in 1889; and

Mercer Island is part of the ancestral territory of the Duwamish and Snoqualmie peoples, who used the Island and surrounding waters for fishing, hunting, and foraging; and

The Island was settled in the 1870s and named for pioneer Thomas Mercer; following significant growth spurred by the opening of the first Lake Washington floating bridge in 1940, the City of Mercer Island incorporated in 1960 and later consolidated with the Town of Mercer in 1970; and

The community of Mercer Island has contributed to the growth and vitality of Washington State through its strong commitment to education, environmental stewardship of Lake Washington, and its role as a vital residential and transportation link within the Puget Sound region; and

The Cascade Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, organized in Bellevue, Washington in 1961 and serving the Mercer Island area, reflects a long tradition of patriotism, historic preservation, and dedication to the nation's founding ideals; and

This Semiquincentennial provides an opportunity for all residents to engage in meaningful reflection, education, and celebration of our nation's history, and to recognize the contributions of all who have shaped Mercer Island and the United States over the past 250 years;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dave Rosenbaum, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim 2026 as the

AMERICA 250 COMMEMORATION YEAR

in the City of Mercer Island and encourage all residents to participate in activities that honor our nation's past, celebrate its present, and inspire its future.

APPROVED, this 16th day of June 2026.

Mayor Dave Rosenbaum

Proclamation No. 390

