

BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6662 April 15, 2025 Consent Agenda

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6662: Earth Day, Proclamation No. 357	☐ Discussion Only ☐ Action Needed: ☐ Motion ☐ Ordinance ☐ Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Approve Proclamation No. 357 proclaiming April 22, 2025 as Earth Day on Mercer Island.	
DEPARTMENT:	City Council	
STAFF:	Salim Nice, Mayor Andrea Larson, City Clerk	
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a	
EXHIBITS:	1. Proclamation No. 356	
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a	
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	AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE \$ n/a	

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this agenda bill is to proclaim April 22, 2025 as Earth Day on Mercer Island with Proclamation No. 357 (Exhibit 1).

BACKGROUND

The Earth Day Proclamation (Exhibit 1) recognizes this annual occasion and aims to inspire community action to protect our planet and the local environment.

Fifty-five years ago, Earth Day was launched in the USA with 20 million nationwide participants peacefully demonstrating for a healthy and sustainable environment. April 22, 1970 is considered by many as the beginning of the modern environmental movement, and it sparked landmark legislation to protect air, water, and endangered species. It also catalyzed the creation of the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and laid the groundwork for other environmental legislation.

Five decades later, <u>Earth Day</u> has evolved into a global movement, and more than one billion people around the planet take part in local events to voice their concerns or take action. The movement focuses on elevating science, promoting action and volunteerism on behalf of the environment, and expanding environmental education.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

The theme for 2025, *Our Power, Our Planet*, is focused on harnessing renewable energy to build a healthy, sustainable, equitable, and prosperous future for everyone. Switching to renewable energy sources is crucial for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Earth Day 2025 supports transitioning to renewable energy sources now to build a sustainable future for all.

NEXT STEPS

The City of Mercer Island began this critical work over 15 years ago by adding sustainability language to its Comprehensive Plan and adopting its first Climate Action Plan (CAP) in April 2023 (AB 6246). Progress on the implementation of the CAP and the upcoming City actions were presented to City Council in the Sustainability Workplan Update in March 2024 (AB 6434).

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve Proclamation No. 357 proclaiming April 22, 2025 as Earth Day on Mercer Island.