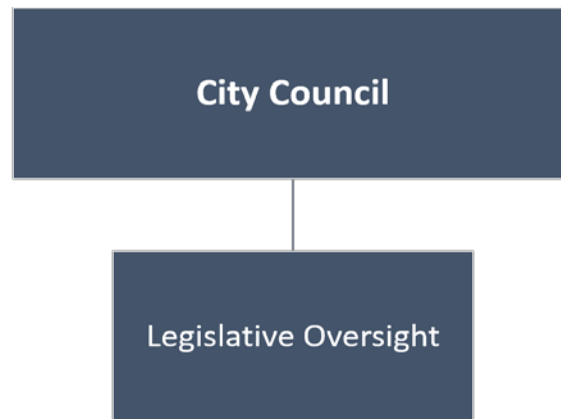


# CITY COUNCIL

The City Council is comprised of seven members who are elected on a non-partisan, "at-large" basis to four-year terms by majority votes of the Mercer Island registered voters. The City Council serves as the legislative branch of Mercer Island City government, establishing all City policies and passing all ordinances and resolutions. From its members, the City Council elects a Mayor and a Deputy Mayor every two years to preside over City Council meetings and establish a focal point for conducting the Council's business. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and the other five Councilmembers serve on a part-time basis. Council Meetings are scheduled the first and third Tuesday of each month. Councilmembers serve as liaisons between the City Council and City advisory boards and commissions, communicating information, policies, and work priorities between the bodies. In addition, Councilmembers represent Mercer Island interests in various regional and state forums.



## Operating Expenditures

Department Function	2019	2020	2021	2022	Percent Change	
	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget	20-21	21-22
Legislative Oversight	50,199	55,393	46,925	36,925	-15.3%	-21.3%
Sister City Program	1,011	415	450	950	8.4%	111.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>51,210</b>	<b>55,808</b>	<b>47,375</b>	<b>37,875</b>	<b>-15.1%</b>	<b>-20.1%</b>

## Work Plan

1. Prepare for the impacts of growth and change with a continued consideration on environmental sustainability
2. Articulate, confirm, and communicate a vision for effective and efficient city services.
  - 2.1. Stabilize the organization, optimize resources, and develop a long-term plan for fiscal sustainability
3. Implement an economic development program.
4. Provide emergency response services related to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

*Department:*  
**Community Planning & Development**

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**Work Plan (continued)**

- 3.11 Review and report back to the City Council on the effectiveness and impacts of the 2017 Residential Development Standards code amendments included in the Residential Code (MICC 19.02) Identify opportunities to streamline permitting processes.
- 3.12 Major Comprehensive Plan Update: begin work on the full update that is required every eight years in Q3 2022. A 24-month review process will include public engagement, Planning Commission review, and City Council adoption by Q2 2024. Included in this update will be substantial rewrites of the Economic Development Element and the Housing Element.
- 3.13 Conduct a Housing Needs Assessment to inventory the City's existing housing stock, analyze current and future housing needs, and identify gaps where the current housing market is not delivering needed housing types to inform a possible future Housing Action Plan to implement an updated Housing Element in the Comprehensive Plan.
- 3.14 Hire a Senior Policy Analyst position to address land use policy including code amendments and comprehensive plan updates beginning July 2021.
- 3.15 Analyze and update the Transportation and Park impact fees and implement a new Fire Services impact fee.

**4. Establish a citywide economic development program**

- 4.1 Hire an Economic Development Coordinator to implement a Citywide economic development program.
- 4.2 Partner with the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce to continue supporting local businesses in COVID-19 recovery and develop a long-term strategy for providing support post-Pandemic.
- 4.3 Review and identify gaps in policies/processes related to business attraction, retention, and expansion; Town Center activation; business taxation; and business promotion and outreach.
- 4.4 Administer a community-wide survey to understand community needs/wants related to business offerings, parking, walkability, and other issues concerning Town Center.
- 4.5 Conduct a public engagement process to solicit input to rewrite the Economic Development Element of the Comprehensive Plan (per supplemental goal 3.12).
- 4.6 Strengthen the relationship between the City and the local business community by providing transparent and timely information.
- 4.7 Bolster community support for local businesses through education and communication about local economic development.