



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND**

**AB 6081  
June 7, 2022  
Consent Agenda**

**AGENDA BILL INFORMATION**

<b>TITLE:</b>	AB 6081: Public Display of Fireworks Permit Issuance	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
<b>RECOMMENDED ACTION:</b>	Approval and authorization for the Fire Marshal to sign and issue an operational permit to Western States Fireworks.	

<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Fire		
<b>STAFF:</b>	Doug McDonald, Interim Deputy Chief Jeromy Hicks, Fire Marshal		
<b>COUNCIL LIAISON:</b>	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>EXHIBITS:</b>	1. Pyrotechnician License 2. General Display Permit and manifest 3. Site Layout and Display Area Map, Safety Plan, Coast Guard Letter 4. MICC 8.35.020(f) Required Insurance Documents		
<b>CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:</b>	n/a		

<b>AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE</b>	\$ n/a
<b>AMOUNT BUDGETED</b>	\$ n/a
<b>APPROPRIATION REQUIRED</b>	\$ n/a

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Western Fireworks is applying for an operational permit for the public display of fireworks. This event will take place during the City of Mercer Island’s Summer Celebration and conform to applicable City and Washington State codes (RCW 70.77.295). The Fire Marshal’s Office is required to investigate the validity of the permit application and make a recommendation for approval or denial to the City Council. The Fire Marshal’s Office recommends approval of this permit.

**BACKGROUND**

On average, the City of Mercer Island approves one to two public fireworks displays per year. Professional public displays provide a safe and controlled environment for spectators to observe from a distance. These displays are designed with a high level of safety margin and operated by a licensed pyrotechnician. The information provided by Western Fireworks for the Summer Celebration fireworks display meets the submission requirements. The applicant provided information containing discharge location, loading, firework manifest, safety plan, security plan, timing, and applicable licenses (Exhibits 1-4). Mercer Island Marine Patrol has been contracted to provide security of the required isolation zone as has been done with previous displays of this type.

## ISSUE/DISCUSSION

While this display is being conducted on a barge in a waterway, the jurisdiction for the barge location falls under the Mercer Island Fire Marshal's Office for the public display permit and is subject to the Mercer Island City Code (MICC).

MICC 8.35.020 requires:

*The local fire official shall conduct an investigation and submit a report of findings and recommendation for or against the issuance of the permit to the city council. The city council shall have the power in its discretion to grant or deny the application, subject to such reasonable conditions, if any, as it shall prescribe.*

During the application review it was found that the applicant meets all state and local requirements, including:

- Licensed pyrotechnician (Exhibit 1)
- General Display Permit and Fireworks License (Exhibit 2)
- Barge manifest (Exhibit 2)
- Isolation area (Exhibit 3)
- Safety Plan - Loading and Barge (Exhibit 3)
- Coast Guard permit applications (Exhibit 3)

Additionally, the applicant provided a Certificate of Liability Insurance (see Exhibit 4) with the proper insurance limits required by [RCW 70.77.295](#) and [MICC 8.35.020 \(F\)](#).

The discharge of fireworks is occurring on a barge on the water, which increases the safety margin. The applicant has secured proper waterway permits (where applicable) and security for exclusion zones.

## NEXT STEPS

If approved, the Fire Marshal's Office will issue an operational permit to Western Fireworks. This permit will contain specific conditions as outlined by best practices, applicable laws, and industry standards. The operational permit is only valid for this one event. Any further displays requests will follow the same requirements and brought before the City Council.

## RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approve and authorize the City of Mercer Island Fire Marshal to sign the submitted operational permit for Western Display Firework's application for a Public Display of Fireworks to be discharged per the permit conditions on July 9th, 2022, at/around 2200hrs pursuant to MICC 8.35.020(C).