

**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND  
ORDINANCE NO. 25C-09**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND AMENDING  
SECTION 15.12.010 OF THE MERCER ISLAND CITY CODE RELATED  
TO WATER SYSTEM; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND  
ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**WHEREAS**, the Mercer Island City Code (MICC) establishes regulations to oversee the City's Water, Sewer, and Public Utilities pursuant to Washington State law; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City recently completed installation of advanced water meters island wide that have the potential to bring about significant changes to how the City's water utility operates, including how it bills customers and manages customer billing; and,

**WHEREAS**, staff completed a comprehensive review of the City's current policies, researched utility billing policies from other local utilities, and identified opportunities to clarify regulations and align enforcement measures with current best practices for administering various aspects of the City's water utility;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON, DO ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1: MICC 15.12.010 Amended.** MICC 15.12.010 is amended as follows:

**15.12.010 - Water use charges—Date of imposition—Billings.**

- A. The city council shall establish by resolution the following classifications of water users and schedules of rates and charges:
1. Classification of water users and schedule of charges for water usage and rates for unauthorized use;
  2. Schedule of rates for fire service;
  3. Schedule of special service charges.

Three copies of the resolution shall be on file in the office of the city clerk.

- B. The charges for water shall be imposed from the date on which the water service connection shall be turned on. No charges shall be imposed upon any user after the date on which the water service connection is shut off. Billings will be made to the owner of each separate residence or commercial property served, except that, where authorized by the owner and the tenant in writing, the city may make its billing to the tenant. Billings for multiple separated residence service shall be made to the applicant therefor.
- C. Billing process and procedures for the City's water utility service, including those addressing disputes, adjustments and nonpayment, will be described in the City's Utility Billing Manual. The process and procedures in the Utility Billing Manual will apply to the City's water utility.

**Section 2. Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance should be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, or its application held inapplicable to any person, property, or circumstance, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the validity of any other section, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance or its application to any other person, property, or circumstance.

**Section 3. Publication and Effective Date.** A summary of this ordinance consisting of its title shall be published in the official newspaper of the City. This ordinance shall take effect and be in full force five days after the date of publication.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MERCER ISLAND,  
WASHINGTON AT ITS MEETING ON May \_\_\_\_, 2025.

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

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Salim Nice, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM

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Andrea Larson, City Clerk

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Bio Park, City Attorney

Date of publication: