

Question & Answer Matrix
July 21, 2026 - City Council Meeting

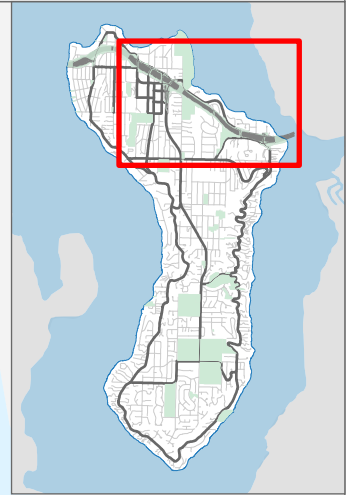
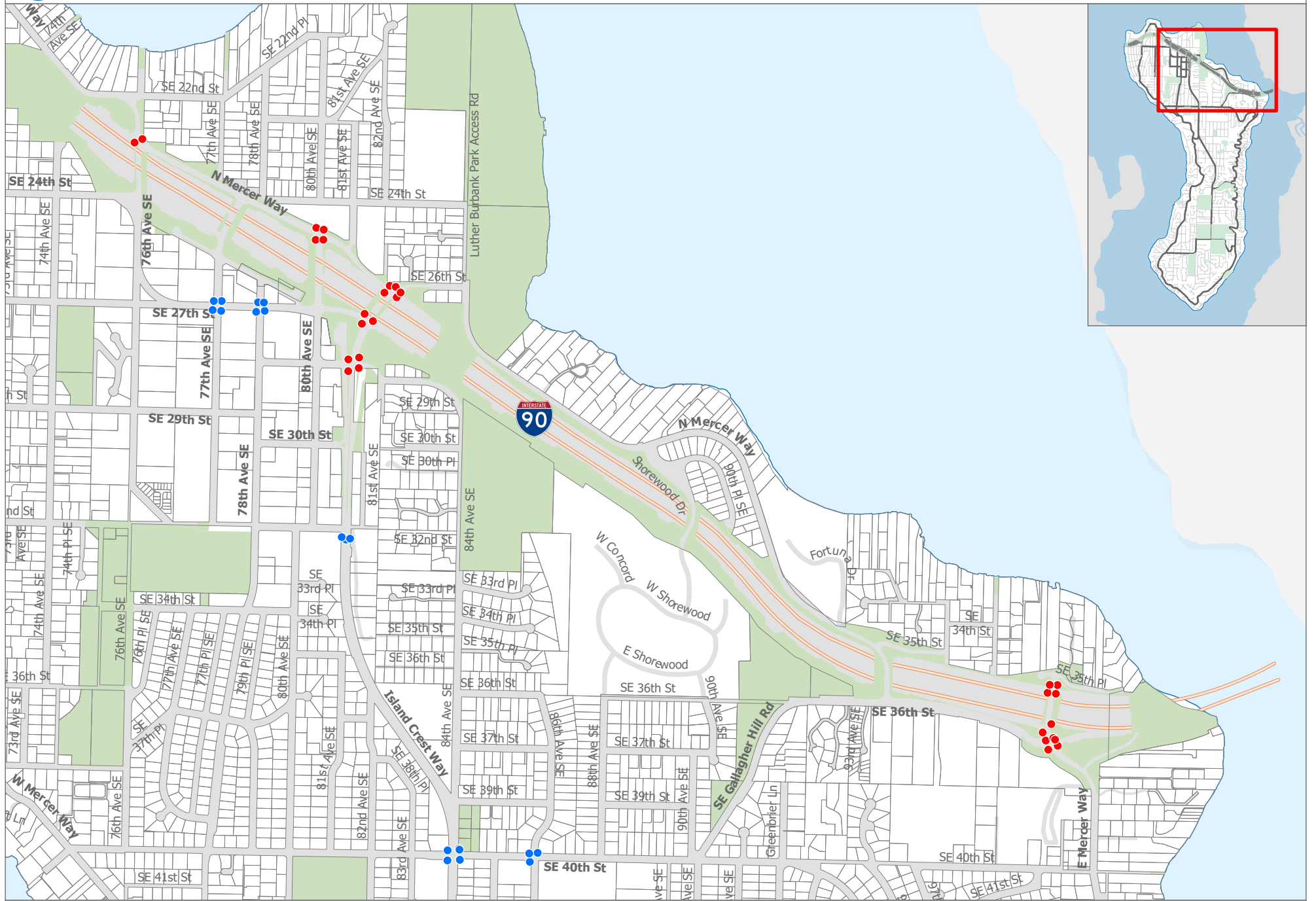
Log #	AB No.	Received From	Question	Staff Response
1	6964	Reynolds	Help me to understand how this can cost this much. I get that design and permitting are costly and important in construction, but, naively, it is puzzling why the cost can be this high for a demolition. Is it the asbestos issue that drives this?	Design and permitting costs are compounded by multiple factors including asbestos removal, as well as demolition of a property that is situated within a critical area stream buffer along the west property line. To complete design and permitting, additional components such as a topographic survey, geotechnical reports and all critical area studies are needed, in addition to standard engineering reports to satisfy permitting, bidding, and demolition requirements. City Hall is a large facility that is currently constructed at different grades, requiring structural considerations for the foundation walls and slabs. Finally, utilities such as water, power and sewer must be designed for disconnection/termination from the existing facility as well as reconnection (power) to continue to support ongoing City functions such as police operations within the temporary facilities.
2	6970	Becker	Besides the February 2021 meeting, has the Arts Council had any involvement in the discussions around allocating money from Fund 140 for either of these projects?	No, additional conversations have not been had with the Arts Council regarding these projects. Once the <i>Gateway Figures</i> repair is completed, City staff will discuss a plan for re-siting the pieces with the Arts Council.
3	6973	Reynolds	Was cost of the light installation originally covered by Sound Transit? What, if anything, are we paying them now?	Yes, Sound Transit covered the full cost of the installation work. The City will assume responsibility for operations of the light now that it is operational.
4	6973	Reynolds	Presumably maintenance of the light will now be our responsibility? Am I correct that this work is generally contracted out?	Yes, the City will assume responsibility for the operation and maintenance of the light. The City contracts with King County to maintain City owned traffic signals and will include this in the scope of work for ongoing maintenance and repairs once the warranty periods are expired.

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5	6973	Reynolds	Do we have an option NOT to accept it and thereby not be burdened with maintenance and repair costs? I am sure this is a stupid idea for some reason—tell me why.	The traffic signal and improvements were included as part of the 2017 SEPA Addendum to the East Link Project and were included to mitigate the impacts of the East Link Project. Per Section 5 of the ST agreement, Sound Transit was solely responsible for completing these improvements and all costs to complete the work. If the City chose not to accept the intersection, which is contrary to what was contemplated in our agreements with Sound Transit, we would lose all operational control of the facility. Transferring the new traffic signal and related improvements of this fully upgraded intersection to the City allows for operational control and future improvements or modifications to be held within the City’s purview. When transportation improvements are required as part of a development project, they are almost always transferred to the City for operation and maintenance. This ensures that the assets that comprise our transportation system and ROW network are managed to consistent and safe standards. For example, Town Center developments often require new sidewalks, which are transferred to the City for operation once the project is complete.
6	6973	Becker	The AB says WSDOT owns and operates many traffic signals within WSDOT ROW. Can you clarify which ones in MI they own and operate?	WSDOT owns and operates many of the signals entering and exiting I90. WSDOT maintains this control to help address traffic volumes on/off the freeway. An exhibit showing existing signals and their ownership is provided with this response. Note that the subject signal at 80th Avenue SE and SE 27th Street is not yet shown on the attached graphic.



WSDOT-OWNED TRAFFIC SIGNALS ON MERCER ISLAND



● WSDOT Traffic Signal

● Mercer Island Traffic Signal

□ Parcels

■ Parks

— Interstate 90



Map Date: 10/10/2025
2025CIPMaps.aprx
Map: WSDOT Traffic Lights
Layout: WSDOT Traffic Lights Layout