



2028 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan

City Council Regular Meeting
September 15, 2026 | AB6990



Purpose

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide an overview of the proposed scope of work and planning process for the 2028 Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan Update and seek City Council authorization on the following:

1. Designate the Parks and Recreation Commission as the lead commission for the 2028 PROS Plan update process.
2. Approve the proposed five-phase scope of work.
3. Direct the Parks and Recreation Commission to:
 - Incorporate input from the Arts Council and Open Space Conservancy Trust throughout the planning process.
 - Deliver its final recommendation and hand-off memo to the City Council by Q1 2028.

Agenda

- Background
- 2022 PROS Plan – Recap
- 2028 PROS Plan
 - Proposed Scope of Work
 - Anticipated Project Timeline
- Discussion



Background

What is a PROS Plan?

The Parks, Recreation & Open Space (PROS) Plan is a 6-year guide and strategic plan* for managing and enhancing parks, open space, trails, and recreation opportunities for the Mercer Island community.

- Policy and Strategy Guide
- Capital Planning Tool
- Communications Tool

**The last plan was adopted in 2022*



Background

What is a PROS Plan?

A PROS Plan:

- Is based on community input
- Includes goals and objectives to guide future decisions
- Includes facility-specific evaluations and assessments
- Includes recommendations on future capital funding, programming, and other potential initiatives
- Is the foundation for pursuing capital funding, particularly State grants and other sources of revenue



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

PARKS, RECREATION & OPEN SPACE PLAN

March 2022



2022 PROS Plan Planning Process

Overview

- Project began in fall 2019
- Paused due to COVID-19
- Project re-started in January 2021
- PROS Plan adopted on March 1, 2022

Community Engagement

- Two community-wide surveys and statistically valid surveys
- Two virtual public meetings
- Let's Talk project page for duration of project
- Nine Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC) Meetings
- Arts Council and Open Space Conservancy Trust (OSCT) Meetings
- City Council Meetings



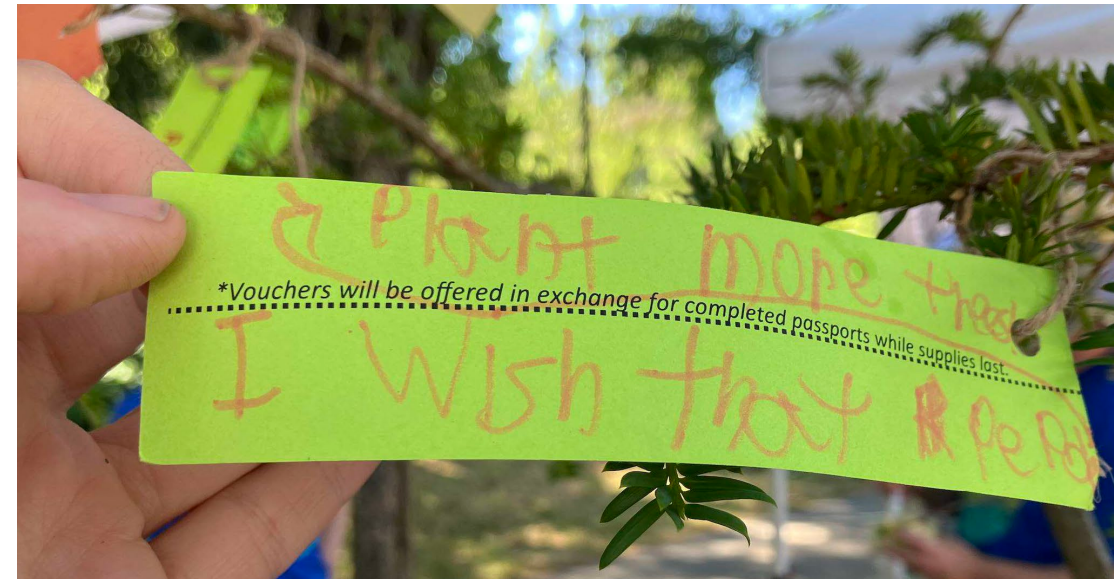
2022 PROS Plan

Goals & Objectives

- Provide strategic direction for managing, enhancing, and investing in the parks and recreation system
- Developed, reviewed, and refined with input from Boards, Commissions, and City Council

Eight Strategic Goals

1. Planning, Acquisition, and Access
2. Maintenance and Operations
3. Environment and Sustainability
4. Trails
5. Recreation Facilities and Programming
6. Arts and Culture
7. Community Engagement and Partnerships
8. Administration and Fiscal Sustainability



2022 PROS Plan

What We've Completed

2023

- South Mercer Turf Replacement
- Luther Burbank Park South Shoreline Trail

2024

- Island Crest Park Infield Turf Replacement
- Luther Burbank Park Boiler Building Phase 1

2025

- Roanoke Park Playground Replacement
- Luther Burbank Park Sport Court Renovation
- Art in Public Places Work Plan
- Aubrey Davis Park Trail Safety Improvements

2026

- First Hill Park Playground Replacement
- Deane's Children's Park Site Plan



2022 PROS Plan

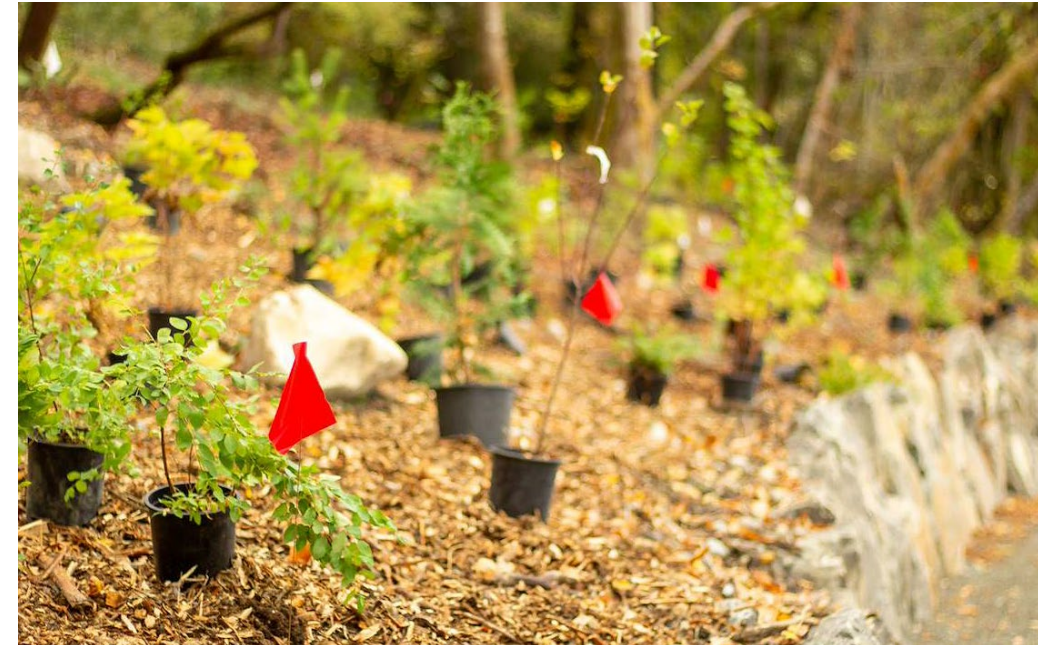
What's Still Underway

Underway

- Aubrey Davis Park Intersection and Crossing Improvements
- Clarke and Groveland Beach Parks Joint Infrastructure Plan
- Deane's Children's Park Playground Replacement
- Lake Water Irrigation Development
- Luther Burbank Park Dock and Waterfront Improvements
- Mercer Island Community and Event Center (MICEC) HVAC Replacement

Ongoing

- Aubrey Davis Park Vegetation Management
- Open Space Management
- Pioneer Park / Engstrom Open Space Forest Management
- Trail Renovation and Property Management
- MICEC Building Repairs



2028 PROS Plan

A Focused Update

Overview

- Build on comprehensive planning and analysis from 2022 PROS Plan
- Evaluate what's changed – progress, community needs, priorities, and available funding
- Targeted community engagement and advisory input to validate needs and priorities
- Prioritize capital investments to reflect current needs and a more constrained funding environment
- Parks and Recreation Commission will serve as lead advisory commission
- Update will be completed in five phases



2028 PROS Plan

Proposed Scope of Work

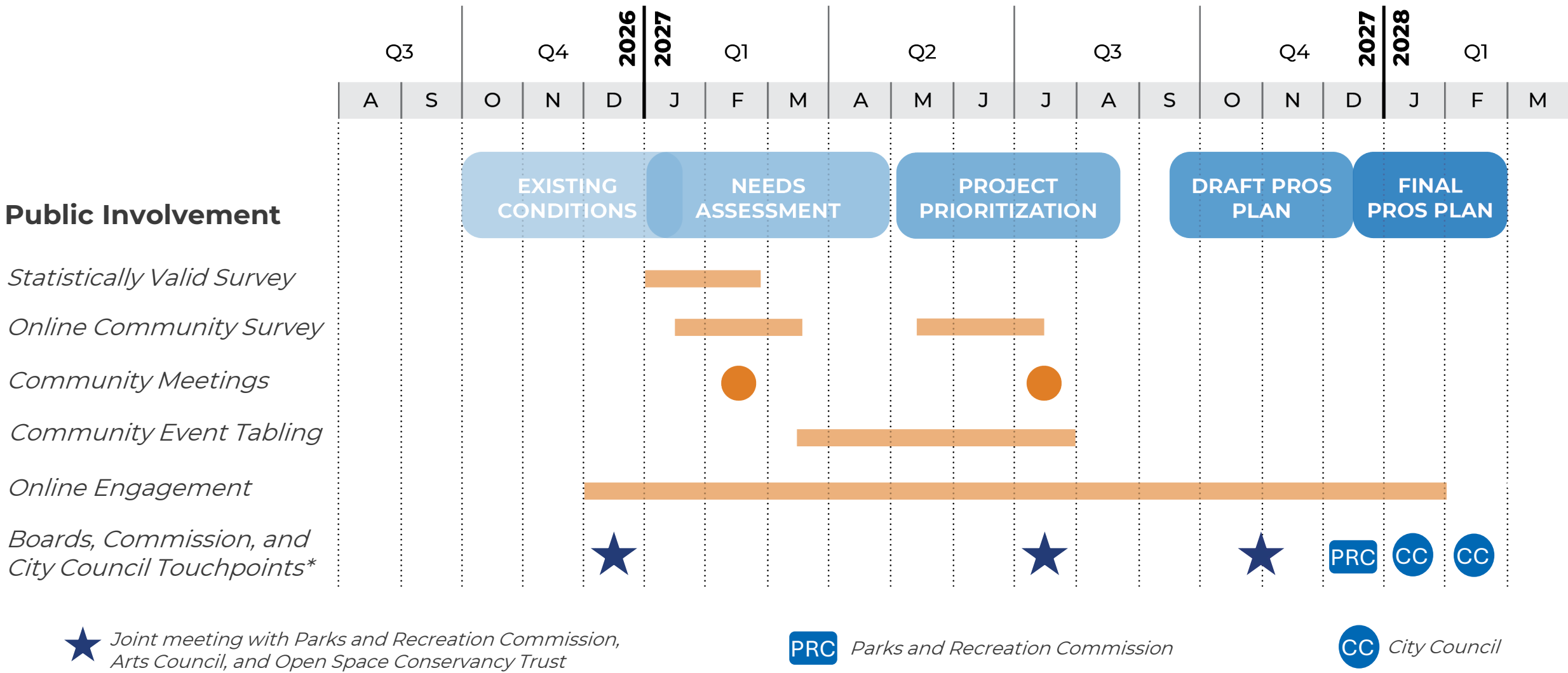
Phase	Key Activities	Board & Commission Touchpoint	City Council Touchpoint
1. Existing Conditions	- Review 2022 PROS Plan & progress - Update conditions, needs & level of service	Joint meeting* to kickoff project	
2. Needs Assessment	- One statistically valid survey & one online community survey - One virtual open house - Assess needs, gaps & opportunities	No formal touchpoint	
3. Project Prioritization	- Identify & evaluate projects - Update Capital Facilities Plan & Parks Capital Improvement Program (Parks CIP) - One online community survey - Engagement at one community event	Joint meeting* to: - Review/refine relevant goals & objectives - Provide input on prioritization of potential projects & investments	
4. Draft 2028 PROS Plan Review	- Develop draft PROS Plan - Refine goals, policies & priorities - Develop implementation strategies	Joint meeting* to: - Review draft PROS Plan - Obtain feedback & direction on refined goals, policies, priorities	Progress check-in to review draft & receive direction, if needed
5. Final 2028 PROS Plan Review & Adoption	- Incorporate feedback and finalize Plan - Complete SEPA review	PRC** review & recommendation to City Council. PRC host a joint meeting, if needed	Consider & adopt final 2028 Pros Plan

*Joint meeting: Parks and Recreation Commission, Arts Council, and Open Space Conservancy Trust

**PRC: Parks and Recreation Commission

2028 PROS Plan

Anticipated Project Timeline



*Meeting dates are subject to change

Discussion

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Thank You!

