



BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

AB 6589
December 3, 2024
Consent Agenda

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 6589: Ratification of Mayor and Deputy Mayor’s Joint Statement Regarding the Windstorm	<input type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Ratify the joint statement issued by Mayor Nice and Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum on November 23, 2024 regarding windstorm recovery and response.	

DEPARTMENT:	City Council
STAFF:	Salim Nice, Mayor David Rosenbaum, Deputy Mayor Andrea Larson, City Clerk
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a
EXHIBITS:	1. Joint Statement Regarding Recovery and Response from the November 19, 2024 Windstorm
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	n/a

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ n/a
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ n/a
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ n/a

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On November 19, Mercer Island was hit with a “Bomb Cyclone” windstorm (Storm). On November 21, City Manager Jessi Bon issued [Proclamation No. 351](#) Declaring a Location Emergency due to the impacts of the Storm.

ISSUE/DISCUSSION

Impacts of the Storm included downed trees, power poles, and powerlines, and extensive debris scattered across the Island. Many of the roads were closed and barricaded due to downed power lines and large trees. The City issued a shelter-in-place order for residents on East Mercer Way between the 4200 to 4600 blocks and Island Crest Way between 7400 to 7800 blocks due to dangerous debris, downed power lines, and hazardous trees. Other utilities on the Island, including cellphone and internet coverage were also impacted by the Storm.

The Storm caused significant damage to critical power infrastructure on Mercer Island and regionally, resulting in multi-day power outages for neighborhoods across the Island. At its peak, nearly 500,000 Puget

Sound residents were without power, including all Puget Sound Energy (PSE) customers on Mercer Island. Several homes and buildings sustained damage from fallen trees.

The Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated to a Level 2 – Partial Activation with staff from every department assisting in response efforts.

Warming and Charging Centers were opened by the City at the Mercer Island Community & Event Center and Islander Middle School and operated on extended hours to assist residents coping without heat, light, and connectivity.

Emergency Management volunteers were activated to help in the Warming and Charging Centers and with neighborhood canvassing.

Responders from various agencies and jurisdictions noted that Mercer Island was one of the cities most heavily hit by the storm.

Mayor Nice and Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum issued a joint statement to the Mercer Island Community on November 23, 2024 (Exhibit 1) regarding Storm recovery and response.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Ratify the joint statement issued by Mayor Nice and Deputy Mayor Rosenbaum on November 23, 2024 regarding storm recovery and response.