



City of Mercer Island, Washington

EMERGENCY PROCLAMATION

DECLARING A LOCAL EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island (City) is a non-charter code city organized under title 35A RCW; and

WHEREAS, RCW 38.52.070 has authorized the creation of local organizations for emergency management within the City; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ordinance 95C-007, the City established an Emergency Management Organization and designated the Police Chief (or Emergency Manager as designee) to administer the Emergency Management Organization; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager and Emergency Manager have reported to the City Council that a state of emergency exists within the city of Mercer Island based on impacts of the November 19, 2024 "Bomb Cyclone" windstorm ("Storm") on Mercer Island; and

WHEREAS, impacts of the Storm include downed trees and power lines, and debris scattered across Mercer Island; and

WHEREAS, most of Mercer Island is without power, and power outages may last several days as utility crews work to restore electricity across a wide region; and

WHEREAS, many roads on Mercer Island are closed and barricaded due to downed power lines and large trees; and

WHEREAS, other utility services on Mercer Island, including cellphone and internet, have also been impacted by the Storm; and

WHEREAS, warming shelters have been opened by the City at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center and Islander Middle School; and

WHEREAS, this proclamation declaring a local emergency is necessary to preserve the public health, safety and welfare of Mercer Island;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY PROCLAIMED AS FOLLOWS:

1. **Emergency Declaration.** A state of emergency, specifically under Chapter 38.52 RCW, exists within the city of Mercer Island, Washington, caused by the November 19, 2024 "Bomb Cyclone" windstorm. Extraordinary efforts by the City are required to address and mitigate the aftermath of the Storm. This emergency impacts public health, safety, and welfare of those living and working at Mercer Island, as well as continuity of government operations.
2. **Emergency Powers.** All pertinent emergency powers and authority set forth in RCW 38.52.070 are hereby invoked, including without limitation to the right to enter into contract, employ temporary workers, and incur obligations without regard to time-consuming procedures and formalities prescribed by law (except mandatory constitutional requirements).

3. **Limitations.** This emergency proclamation is not intended as a “proclamation of civil emergency” under MICC 9.40.010 or as a finding of “public danger” under RCW 35A.13.030.

DATED this 21st day of November 2024



Jessi Bon
City Manager