



**BUSINESS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF MERCER ISLAND**

**AB 5969
November 9, 2021
Regular Business**

AGENDA BILL INFORMATION

TITLE:	AB 5969 Legislative Priorities Discussion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Discussion Only <input type="checkbox"/> Action Needed: <input type="checkbox"/> Motion <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinance <input type="checkbox"/> Resolution
RECOMMENDED ACTION:	Discuss and provide feedback on the 2022 Draft Legislative Priorities	

DEPARTMENT:	City Manager		
STAFF:	Jessi Bon, City Manager		
COUNCIL LIAISON:	n/a	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
EXHIBITS:	1. Draft City of Mercer Island 2022 State Legislative Priorities 2. AWC 2022 Police Reform Statement 3. AWC 2022 Legislative Priorities 4. AWC 2022 Supplemental "Significant Issues" Document 5. City of Mercer Island 2021 State Legislative Priorities		
CITY COUNCIL PRIORITY:	Choose an item.		

AMOUNT OF EXPENDITURE	\$ Choose an item.
AMOUNT BUDGETED	\$ Choose an item.
APPROPRIATION REQUIRED	\$ Choose an item.

SUMMARY

The Legislative Priorities serves as a guide for 2022 work with State legislators. The adopted Legislative Priorities allow the City to respond quickly and efficiently to issues of interest that arise in Olympia during the Washington State Legislative Sessions. This also allows the Mayor, City Council, and staff to respond to requests for endorsement letters and other opportunities to advocate for the City's interests.

2022 STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 2022 Washington State Legislative Regular Session will begin in January 2022 and is scheduled to end in March. The entire 2022 Session, the "short" session, will last 60 days. (On odd years, the "long" session lasts 105 days). There could also be any number of special sessions called by the Governor, none of which can last more than 30 days.

PROPOSED MERCER ISLAND 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

The draft 2022 State Legislative Priorities (see Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2), have been updated from 2021 to reflect current conditions, interests, and goals of the City Council, and are categorized as follows:

- Preserve local decision-making authority
- Continued economic support for the COVID-19 Pandemic recovery
- Clarifications to 2021 Law Enforcement Reforms
- Sustainable and Flexible Local Funding
- Transportation Funding
- Preserving and Protecting the Environment

Attached for City the Council's reference are the Association of Washington Cities' 2022 Legislative Priorities (Exhibit 3), the Association of Washington Cities "Significant Issues" document (Exhibit 4), and the City of Mercer Island's 2021 Legislative Priorities (Exhibit 5).

NEXT STEPS

Staff are seeking feedback on the draft legislative priorities and will incorporate changes into the final draft for consideration and approval at the November 16, 2021, City Council meeting.

Upon adoption, the staff will ensure the final priorities are communicated to the legislators and their staff and will also be sent to the Association of Washington Cities and the Sound Cities Association.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Provide feedback on the 2022 draft legislative priorities.