



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

## SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH MISD BOARD

### APRIL 20, 2017

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#### CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

School Board President David D'Souza called the Joint Meeting with the Mercer Island School District Board to order at 5:05 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 9611 SE 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Bruce Bassett, Deputy Mayor Debbie Bertlin, and Councilmembers Benson Wong, Wendy Weiker, Jeff Sanderson, Dan Grausz, and David Wisenteiner were present.

School Board President David D'Souza, Vice-President Tracy Drinkwater and Directors Adair Dingle, Ralph Jorgenson, and Dave Myerson were present.

#### SPECIAL BUSINESS

##### Overview of Healthy Youth Survey Results - Fall 2016

MISD Executive Director of Learning Services Jennifer Wright and Assistant Superintendent Fred Rundel presented the findings of the Mercer Island School District Healthy Youth Survey. These results were compared in several quantitative charts to the results of their peers across the state of Washington. It was found that while there are areas in which Mercer Island youth are participating less in high risk activities, there were areas of concern as well. District staff reported that these findings highlight the importance of having Mercer Island Youth and Family Services programming available in the schools.

##### Demographic Study - 2017 Update

MISD Executive Director of Finance Tyrell Bergstrom presented the MISD 2017 Study of Demographic Trends in both Mercer Island and the region. The study took into consideration housing trends on the Island, birth rates, private school enrollment, and enrollment projections for 2017-2026. Superintendent Gary Plano advised that the largest area of concern with future capacity needs are with gym space at the High School.

##### 2017 Legislative Updates to School Funding and McCleary Requirements

MISD Executive Director of Finance Tyrell Bergstrom provided a high-level overview of education funding currently being discussed in the state legislature. Director Bergstrom advised that there are several plans in the Senate right now that are very concerning for a District like Mercer Island which relies heavily on levy funding to operate the schools. Dr. Plano advised that the one talking point the community could focus on in their communications to the legislature is to leave local levies alone. That way communities that chose to levy taxes amongst themselves to support education funding can do so without interference by the legislature.

##### Interlocal Agreement - Sports Fields

The interlocal agreement was removed from the agenda for the Joint meeting because the issue had not yet been brought before the School Board.

Councilmember Grausz asked about the District's consideration for utilizing organic infill for planned sports field renovations, as well as whether the District uses the King County Director's Association purchasing cooperative which was discussed at Monday's Council meeting.

Dr. Plano confirmed that the School District has used the purchasing cooperative in the past. MISD Director of Maintenance & Operations Tony Kuhn spoke about plans that are underway to install a shock pad in the High School Stadium's sports field. He also advised that the decision of whether to use rubber or organic infill is still being researched and bid proposals for each are being solicited.

City Manager Underwood advised that she would work with Dr. Plano to bring information on the School Board's decisions regarding sports field renovations to the Council at a later time.

### **School Bus Cameras Update**

MISD Director of Transportation David Bynum provided an update on the District's School Bus Camera program. The program began on August 31, 2016 and has since issued 33 stop arm citations. American Traffic Solutions is currently reviewing whether additional cameras would be beneficial to the success of the program.

### **I-90 and Mobility Update**

City Manager Julie Underwood provided an update on the three lawsuits the City is currently involved in relating to the I-90 litigation. The first lawsuit initiated by the City does not have any new updates and a hearing date has not yet been set. The second lawsuit initiated by Sound Transit seeking the Court's relief from the City's suspension of Sound Transit's Shoreline permit was decided in Sound Transit's favor. The Council directed staff at Monday's Council meeting to file a notice of appeal of the trial court's decision on April 7, 2017 and seek direct review of the issue by the Washington State Supreme Court. The City Council also directed staff to bring back an appropriation proposal for conducting our own supplemental environmental impact study. The third lawsuit initiated by both Sound Transit and WSDOT seeking the Court's relief from the City moratoria is underway and a decision is expected from the court on April 21, 2017.

Additionally, City Manager Underwood noted that negotiations with Sound Transit have resumed. A small negotiating team has been assembled composed of three Sound Transit Board members and three City Councilmembers, who have tentatively planned to meet on April 24.

### **Possible Levies in 2018**

Dr. Plano advised that 2018 would be a normal cycle year for a levy to be put forth to the public. The School Board is considering putting a levy on the ballot in February renewing a tax that funds 37% of school programs.

City Manager Underwood advised that the City will be gauging whether there is support from the community on a levy to help balance the City's budget as we approach the budget process in the next biennium.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Bassett adjourned the Joint Meeting at 6:54 pm.

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Bruce Bassett, Mayor

Attest:

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Ellie Hooman, Deputy City Clerk