



CITY OF MERCER ISLAND

CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Thursday
April 30, 2015
5:00 -6:45 PM

Mayor Bruce Bassett

Deputy Mayor Dan Gausz

**Councilmembers Debbie Bertlin, Jane Brahm,
Mike Cero, Tana Senn and Benson Wong**

Contact: 206.275.7793, council@mercergov.org
www.mercergov.org/council

All meetings are held in the City Hall Council Chambers at
9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, WA unless otherwise noticed

"Appearances" is the time set aside for members of the public to speak to the City Council about any issues of concern. If you wish to speak, please consider the following points:

- (1) speak audibly into the podium microphone, (2) state your name and address for the record, and (3) limit your comments to three minutes.

Please note: the Council does not usually respond to comments during the meeting.

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING WITH MISD BOARD

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

SPECIAL BUSINESS

(1) YFS Needs Assessment and Future Funding Issues

This is an opportunity for the Board and Council to discuss the results of the YFS Needs Assessment and whatever follow-up is intended regarding the delivery of services from the City of Mercer Island's Youth and Family Services to the students, parents and staff at each of the District's five (5) schools. Part of the discussion may include funding challenges for 2016-2017 and beyond, following the opening of school number 6.

(2) Highlights of Healthy Youth Survey Results

Students in grades 6, 8, 10 and 12 across Washington State participated in the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) during the fall of 2014. This report reviews the results of the survey and implications for the Mercer Island community.

The Healthy Youth Survey asks questions that are related to students' increased risk of injury, poor health outcomes, and alcohol and drug use. Results are used by schools, communities, and state and local health departments to plan programs to support our youth and reduce their risks. Survey questions come from several well-established surveys that have taken place across the nation and in Washington. The survey is administered in the fall of even numbered years.

This report highlights the results from the most important survey questions. The attached charts contain selected results from 2010, 2012 and 2014 survey administrations (broken down by grade level), as well as the state 2014 results. Overall there are areas of celebration and areas of concern.

Of particular note in the areas of tobacco, drugs and alcohol use are:

- Current cigarette use remains at or below state averages and steady.
- This is the first year eCig/Vape Pens use was reported. This is an area of concern at both IMS and MIHS, and will be tracked closely.
- Lifetime alcohol use is steady, but current alcohol use and binge drinking values were increased in grade 12. This increase may be linked to the survey administration within two weeks of Homecoming. Additionally, Grade 12 students reported an increased percent riding with a drinking driver, which may also be related to Homecoming.
- Current Illegal drugs use and prescription drug use are up in Grade 12.

As reported to the school board on May 16, 2013, of concern to both Mercer Island School District and Mercer Island Youth and Family Services was the passage of Initiative 502 that allows for the legalization of possession marijuana by adults over 21 in Washington State. Interestingly, while we did not see increase marijuana use among any grade level, as anticipated the perceived risk associated with use decreased at all grade levels as did the perceived neighborhood norms around marijuana use.

The survey also addresses mental health and school safety issues. Among the findings are:

- Feeling safe at school remains high.
- Our students continue to report depressive thoughts and contemplation of suicide at rates that are not as high as the state, but still concerning.
- Students reporting bullying in the last 30 days is down in grades 8, 10 and 12.

School programs that support students and general school climate are important in supporting the health of our youth. There are a variety of school programs, such as BRIDGES at MIHS, WEB at IMS, required health curriculum and access to counselors and caring adults at both schools, which support this goal. Additionally our zero tolerance of bullying and harassment and our continued focus on school safety support our youth.

These data also inform the prevention and clinical work of the school based Mercer Island Youth and Family Services mental health

and drug and alcohol counselors. As can be seen by these data, their support is necessary for the health and well-being of our students.

(3) Mitigation Fees vs. Impact Fees

The district has reviewed the benefits of collecting Mitigation fees vs. Impact fees from new developments on Mercer Island. The district currently collects Mitigation Fees, but sees significant benefit to switching to Impact Fees for future development. The benefits are as follows:

- Revenue from Mitigation Fees collected on Multi-Family units would be significantly less as they are only allowed on units that contain 2+ bedrooms.
- Revenue from Mitigation Fees are further reduced as they only apply to Single Family Developments of five or more units. Impact Fees would be collected on Single Family Developments of 2 or more units.
- While the Impact fee for Multi-Family Units is slightly lower than the Mitigation Fee, the number of units on which fees are collected would be far greater under Impact Fees (All units vs. 2+ bedroom units).
- Money collected from Mitigation Fees must be expended within five years. Money collected from Impact Fees must be expended within ten years.
- Mitigation Fees must be spent on projects at the school directly impacted by the development, while Impact Fees may be spent on projects throughout the district.

The Impact Fee for Single Family Units (without a discount) would be significantly more than the cost directly related to the impact created by a development. The law provides that:

1. Any impact fee imposed shall be reasonably related to the impact caused by the development and shall not exceed a proportionate share of the cost of system improvements that are reasonably related to the new development.
2. The formula shall provide for a credit for the anticipated tax contributions that would be made by the development based on historical levels of voter support for bond issues in the district.

In order to mitigate the disproportionate single family fee, as compared to the cost of the impact created by the development, the district may apply a 25% discount on the Impact Fee charged for Single Family Units.

The outcome of the investigation into Impact Fees indicates that the district will be better served under a system of collecting GMA Impact Fees and should transition to the Impact Fee methodology. The district, in conjunction with its land use attorney, has drafted an Impact Fee Ordinance for consideration by both elected bodies. Should the City Council move in the direction of an Impact Fee Ordinance, the district will be required to annually update its Six-Year Capital Facilities Plan.

ADJOURNMENT