



TOWN CENTER

Visioning & Development Code Update

Draft Updated Town Center Vision Statement

We envision a Town Center that will:

- Embody the small-town feel that residents love about Mercer Island.
- Be the heart of Mercer Island, a place that is beautiful and economically healthy, where residents will want to come to do business, shop, eat together, play and relax.
- Be pedestrian-friendly, with tree-lined streetscapes, wide sidewalks, storefronts with canopies, and cross-block connections that make it easy to walk around.
- Have ample parking, both on-street and off, and the ability to park once and walk to a variety of retail shops clustered along major streets.
- Be convenient and accessible to people of all ages and abilities, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and motorists.
- Have inviting outdoor spaces with seating, greenery, water features, and art that offer settings for outdoor entertainment and special events as well as for quiet contemplation.
- Have a range of building types, styles and ages that reflect the evolution of the Town Center over time, with human-scaled buildings, varied height, set-backs and step-backs and attractive facades.
- Locate taller buildings on the north end and step down through the center to lower heights on the south end, bordering Mercerdale Park.
- Have a diversity of uses including retail shops, professional offices, personal and automobile services, lodging, recreational facilities, and a variety of restaurants, cafes, pubs and bakeries, providing the option to meet daily needs without traveling off-island.
- Offer a variety of housing options, including townhomes, condominiums and apartments attractive to families, singles, and seniors at a range of price points.
- Support public and private investment in existing properties, infrastructure, and marketing to help maintain longstanding businesses and attract new ones