Facing Budget Shortfall, City Proposes Cuts, New Revenues

The City of Mercer Island has not escaped the recession. Lagging revenues have created a projected $2.9 million shortfall in 2011 and a slightly larger shortfall in 2012. To address the shortfall, the City has proposed a two-year budget that includes spending reductions as well as new sources of revenue.

The top priority for the proposed budget is to preserve essential public safety services. In order to maintain these basic services, the City has proposed $2 million in spending reductions that include decreasing City staffing levels, the elimination of employee cost of living adjustments as well as reductions in or the elimination of various discretionary or non-essential programs. The City has proposed eliminating 7.15 jobs in 2011, or 4% of the City’s workforce.

The City developed its proposed budget based on the following financial and policy criteria:

♦ Make reductions to services funded through the City’s General Fund, the main funding source for City operations and the area where revenues have declined the most
♦ Avoid service reductions to programs that are already significantly funded by user fees or grants
♦ Ensure service reductions largely reflect the City’s adopted “Priorities of Government”
♦ Prioritize service reductions according to whether the program is 1) discretionary, 2) essential or 3) mandatory (i.e. required by state law)
♦ Consider the relative popularity of a given program or service as the last criteria

Given these criteria, the City has proposed program and service reductions for the City Council’s consideration that include:

♦ Eliminating the City’s tree planting program
♦ Reducing maintenance levels at specific fields, public restrooms, and other parks facilities
♦ Ending the City’s subsidy for the fireworks show at Summer Celebration
♦ Eliminating the following City-sponsored events and activities: Mostly Music in the Park, Shakespeare in the Park, Outdoor Summer Films, Spring Egg Hunt, Arts Council Winter Dance, Family Valentine Winter Dance, Volunteer Recognition Party, Fun Mobile, and Adventure Playground
♦ Ending off-Island contracts with providers for the following programs: Reinvesting in Youth, King County Sexual Assault Center, and the Children’s Response Center (the proposed budget will preserve nearly all Mercer Island Youth and Family Service programs and services)

The City has also proposed $544,000 in revenue increases for the City Council’s consideration to help offset the budget shortfall in the General Fund. The Council will deliberate on the following new revenues:

♦ Increasing property taxes by 1% (about $12 per year per household)
♦ Implementing a fee for ambulance transport, a service currently provided by private ambulance transport companies at an average cost of $800 per transport
♦ Increasing building fees so that they more accurately reflect building costs on Mercer Island
♦ Instituting an access fee for the scheduled use of the City’s athletic fields
♦ Increasing room rental rates at the Community Center at Mercer View
♦ Instituting development fees related to Fire Marshal plan review and building permits

Citizens are invited to attend upcoming public budget meetings to share their opinions and insight on the City’s proposed budget. They can also comment on the budget by sending an email to customerservice@mercergov.org. View an overview of the proposed budget called the Budget Message at www.mercergov.org/files/11-12SEC-B.pdf. To view the entire proposed budget, visit www.mercergov.org/11-12Budget.

The next public Council budget meetings on November 15 and December 6 will take place at 7:00pm in the Council Chambers in City Hall located at 9611 SE 36th Street.
Our Roadways
Electronic Tolling Is Coming to the SR 520 Bridge – Are You Ready?
In the spring of 2011, all-electronic tolling will begin on the SR 520 Bridge to help pay for the construction of a new, safer bridge. Good To Go! electronic tolling uses technology to keep traffic moving with no toll booths, no stopping, and no slowing down.

Customers can set up prepaid accounts linked to a Good To Go! Pass that is installed in your vehicle or linked to your license plate. Automatic replenishment allows you to never have to worry about running low in your account. Simply link a bank account or credit card to the account and your Good To Go! account is automatically replenished when you run low.

As you drive under electronic sensors on the east high rise of the 520 bridge, the toll will be automatically deducted from your prepaid account. If the driver does not have a prepaid account, a photo will be taken of the vehicle’s license plate, and a bill will be sent in the mail to the vehicle’s registered owner.

You can get ready for all-electronic tolling on the SR 520 Bridge by joining the interest list at www.goodtogo520.org, and be among the first to sign up for a Good To Go! Pass in January 2011. Subscribers will also receive regular updates about rates, account options, special offers and customer service resources.

For more information, leave a message at: 1-888-G2G-WSDOT (1-888-424-9736) and a customer service representative will return your call as soon as possible; email goodtogo@wsdot.wa.gov; or visit www.goodtogo520.org.

Environmental Sustainability
Tree Planting Program Cut due to Budget Shortfall
Efforts to help residents grow the Island’s tree canopy for the second straight year are on hold indefinitely due to the City of Mercer Island’s budget shortfall.

Last autumn the City offered residents trees to plant on their private property. The City subsidized the cost of the trees and 285 found new homes.

Although the current budget anticipated funding to distribute more trees this autumn, lagging revenues made it necessary to discontinue the program.

Trees are an important part of the City’s strategy to reduce the island’s carbon footprint because trees capture carbon. They also help buffer the effects of storm water runoff and provide other environmental benefits.

The City encourages residents to explore how they can contribute to the improvement of the Island’s tree canopy in their own yards. For more information on planting native trees and plants, visit King County’s Native Plant Guide at www.kingcounty.gov/environment/stewardship/nw-yard-and-garden/native-plant-resources-nw.aspx.

New First-of-Its-Kind Emergency Well Now Operational
City Offering Residents Free Emergency Water Containers

The City of Mercer Island is better prepared than ever to handle a disaster.

Mercer Island’s new emergency well is now fully operational. Located at Rotary Park (88th Avenue SE and SE 44th Street), the well is designed to provide Island residents with drinking water if an earthquake or other disaster disrupts the City’s normal water supply from Seattle Public Utilities (SPU).

In the event of a disaster, water will be available to residents either on a walk-up basis at the well or via large 250 to 325-gallon totes, transported by trucks dispatched to Island neighborhoods. To leave City crews available for other emergency response, a volunteer Well Operations Team will help operate the well; these volunteers will also assist with neighborhood water deliveries.

To aid distribution, the City has purchased several thousand six-quart water containers. While a portion of this supply will be stored at the well, Mercer Island residents are invited to pick up these collapsible containers at the Finance Department at City Hall – one container for every household member. In addition, Island residents should store their own three-day supply of water at home, setting aside one gallon of water per person per day. Change this stored tap water twice a year.

“While we strongly encourage residents to do their part by preparing themselves for an earthquakes or other emergencies at home and at work, we are excited to be the pioneers in this method of securing a longer-term water supply for our citizens,” explained Mercer Island Mayor Jim Pearman. “The emergency well represents a big step in emergency preparedness for our city.”

The City of Mercer Island is the first jurisdiction in Washington State to receive a source permit for an emergency well. The permit was authorized by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

The emergency well itself was drilled in 2007, and construction of the permanent structure around the well was completed in April, 2010.

Learn more about the City of Mercer Island’s emergency well at www.mercergov.org/emergencywell.

Emergency Preparedness

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Learn more about the City of Mercer Island’s emergency well at www.mercergov.org/emergencywell.
Emergency Preparedness

Take Winter by Storm—Be Ready for Snow and Ice

Winter weather can be unpredictable. Prepare before the snow falls and ice forms.

Preparation for winter storms

-Listen to your radio or television for winter storm forecasts and other information.
-Prepare your home for cold weather. Install storm windows. Insulate outside walls, attics and crawl spaces. Wrap pipes, especially those near cold outer walls, or in attics or crawl spaces. Repair leaks in the roof, around the doors and in the windows.
-Have appropriate cold weather clothing available.
-If you have a kerosene heater, refuel your heater outside and remember to keep it at least three feet from flammable objects.
-Make sure your fireplace functions properly.
-Have rock salt and sand on hand for traction on ice.
-Fill your gas tank before the snow starts falling.

During a winter storm

-Wear several layers of loose fitting, light weight, warm clothing rather than one layer of heavy clothing. Wear mittens rather than gloves. Wear a warm, woolen cap.
-Do not drive unnecessarily.
-Reduce the temperature in your home to conserve fuel.
-Heat only the areas of your home you are using. Close doors and curtains or cover windows and doors with blankets.
-Use alternative heat methods safely. NEVER use a gas or charcoal grill, hibachi or portable propane heater to cook indoors or heat your home.
-Never use a generator indoors or in a garage or carport.
-Be careful when shoveling snow. Do not overexert yourself.
-Be sure to eat regularly. Food provides calories that maintain body heat.
-Watch for signs of frostbite and hypothermia—slurred speech, disorientation, uncontrollable shivering, stumbling, drowsiness and body temperature of 95 degrees Fahrenheit or less.
-If you become trapped outside, get out of the wind and stay dry. Build a lean-to or simple shelter.
-If trapped in a blizzard, clear your tail pipe and run your engine and heater for 10 minutes every hour. Open your window slightly.
-During night hours, keep the dome light on in the car so rescue crews can see your vehicle.
-Keep an emergency kit in your vehicle. Include a three-day supply of water and non-perishable food that can be eaten without being cooked. Include a blanket or sleeping bag for each passenger, a flashlight, cell phone, shovel, sack of sand or kitty litter, booster cables, flare, coffee can with lid and toilet paper.

In your vehicle

-Make sure someone knows where you are going. Stay on the main roads.
-If you must stop, remain inside the vehicle. Use a bright distress flag or your hazard lights to draw attention to your vehicle.
-If trapped in a blizzard, clear your tail pipe and run your engine and heater for 10 minutes every hour. Open your window slightly.
-During night hours, keep the dome light on in the car so rescue crews can see your vehicle.
-Keep an emergency kit in your vehicle. Include a three-day supply of water and non-perishable food that can be eaten without being cooked. Include a blanket or sleeping bag for each passenger, a flashlight, cell phone, shovel, sack of sand or kitty litter, booster cables, flare, coffee can with lid and toilet paper.

Other winter weather preparedness resources

-Take Winter by Storm (regional winter preparedness): www.govlink.org/storm/default.asp

Basic Winter Preparedness Checklist


Vehicle preparedness

-__Warm clothes in trunk
-__Chains in trunk
-__Full gas tank
-__Sand/shovel in trunk
-__Window ice scraper
-__Flares, flashlight in trunk
-__Antifreeze
-__Emergency contact cards

Family emergency plan

-__Familiarity with school and daycare plans
-__Alternative shelter plans
-__Alternative transportation arrangements
-__Emergency contact cards
-__Identified snow routes
-__Bus timetables

Home preparedness

-__Battery-operated radio/flashlights
-__Fresh batteries
-__Well-stocked provisions, including a seven day supply of non-perishable, ready to eat food and a can opener
-__One gallon of water per person, per day, for at least three days
-__Necessary medications
-__Pet supplies
-__Cash (bank machines may not be functional)

Upcoming Volunteers Opportunities for VOICE Participants

The Volunteer Outreach in Communities Everywhere (VOICE) Program provides structured group community service opportunities to high-school age youth. Upcoming volunteer opportunities include:

- Books to Prisoners: 11/15, 12/06, and 12/13
- Communities That Care (CTC) Committee Meetings: 11/07 and 12/05
- Operation Sack Lunch: 11/11
- Special Olympics Dance: 12/18

For more information on the VOICE Program and a complete listing of volunteer opportunities, visit www.mercergov.org/VOICE.

Youth and Family Services

Support School Counseling, Other Essential Human Services during All-Island Fund Drive

Support Mercer Island Youth and Family Services (MIYFS) with a donation when you receive your request by mail this December.

Formed in 1973, MIYFS is a City of Mercer Island department that partners with the police, fire and legal departments as well as Mercer Island’s public schools, to provide, coordinate and advocate for affordable, high quality human services for the Mercer Island community.

For more information on MIYFS, visit www.mercergov.org/yfs/.

Open Space

Engstrom Loop Trail Now Open

Mercer Islanders now have even more local options to explore the outdoors. The Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Department recently completed construction of a quarter mile long trail loop through the Engstrom Open Space. The trail begins near the 6500 block of East Mercer Way and traverses a hillside with varied terrain. The upper traverse is a wider, mostly level trail suitable for most trail users. The lower traverse is suited to experienced trail users looking for a more challenging experience.

For a map of trails in Pioneer Park and the Engstrom Open Space, visit www.mercergov.org/pioneerpark. For more information, contact Parks Natural Resource Coordinator Paul West at paul.west@mercergov.org or 202.275.7833.

You’re Invited

To the 5th Anniversary Open House at the Community Center at Mercer View

Please join us on December 16th as we celebrate the CCMV’s 5th Anniversary!

For more details, visit www.mercergov.org/ccmv.

8236 SE 24th St., Mercer Island, WA 98040 • 206.275.7609

Public Safety

Your Input Needed for Fire Safety Survey

Mercer Island Deputy Fire Chief Steve Heitman is working on a research paper for the National Fire Academy about residential sprinkler systems. As a part of this research, he asks Islanders to take just a couple minutes of their valuable time to complete a very short online survey about sprinkler systems. Follow this link to complete the survey: www.surveymonkey.com/s/B57YB5M.

Thank you in advance for your sharing your opinions. For more information on the survey, contact Heitman at steve.heitman@mercergov.org or 206.275.7961.
Youth and Family Services
Local Dollars, Local Youth
This November, Islanders have the opportunity to support local youth by adding $1.00 to their purchases at select Island businesses. Each dollar donated helps support the Island’s largest four youth serving organizations:
- The Boys and Girls Club
- Mercer Island Schools Foundation
- Mercer Island Youth and Family Services
- Youth Theatre Northwest

These local organizations touch the lives of every island youth, providing vital social services, educational enhancements, recreational and athletic opportunities, and dramatic arts activities.

Look for the Local Dollars, Local Youth signs when out shopping and join participating Mercer Island businesses in supporting your local youth with your local dollars. Donations will be split evenly between the four organizations.

Together we can ensure that Island youth have the cultural, social, educational and athletic programs they need.

For more information, contact Administrative Assistant Kim Richards at kimberly.richards@mercergov.org or 206.275.7754.

Youth and Family Services Offers Expanded Senior Grief and Loss Support Group
The Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Department is expanding its grief and loss support group to include senior adults who have experienced the loss of a spouse, partner, friend, or family member. The support group offers seniors the opportunity to gain peer support around all issues of grief in a confidential setting. The grief and loss support group will continue to take place the second Thursday of every month from 1:00pm to 2:30pm at the Community Center at Mercer View (8236 SE 24th Street).

Dates: Every second Thursday of the month
Time: 1:00pm to 2:30pm
Fee: Free
Age: Seniors 65 and older
Register: To reserve a space, contact Betsy Zuber at betsy.zuber@mercergov.org or 206.275.7752.

Giving from the Heart Breakfast
A benefit for Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Foundation
Wednesday, February 9, 2011
7:00am to 8:30am
Community Center at Mercer View (8236 SE 24th Street)

We’re saving you a seat. So please, SAVE THE DATE!

Giving from the Heart is a Mercer Island community event, held the second Wednesday of February each year that attracts over 400 recognized and active community members. This lively, fast-paced and dynamic community celebration is known to be inspirational, informative and entertaining—it’s a true tradition among Islanders.

Proceeds from the event directly support Mercer Island Youth and Family Services (MIYFS), the human services department that touches every member of our community through counselors in the schools, senior outreach and advocacy, affordable family counseling, arrested youth and early intervention programs, family assistance and a thriving thrift shop.

To attend, or for more information, contact MIYFS Development Officer Kris Kelsay at kris.kelsay@mercergov.org or 206.275.7751.

For more information on the Most of Us campaign, visit www.mercerisland-ctc.com.
The Mythical Bird sculpture before (right) and after (left) restoration.

Classics on Film Series Examines Work of Orson Welles
While best known for his 1941 feature film Citizen Kane, George Orson Welles began acting at an early age and was known as an ambitious and eccentric individual. The Mercer Island Arts Council’s fall and winter Classics on Film series features the work of the incomparable Welles with free screenings of his films at the Aljoya Theater. Films include The Lady from Shanghai and Macbeth, among others.

For a complete listing of show times, visit www.mercergov.org/ArtsEvents.

Dates: Various, now through February 25, 2011
Time: All showings at 7:30pm
Fee: Free (free parking and popcorn also included)
Location: Aljoya Theater (2430 76th Avenue SE)

The Mercer Island Arts Council Presents

MIVAL Holiday Art Show on Display at CCMV
Take a break from the stress of the holiday season with a stroll through the indoor art gallery at the Community Center at Mercer View (8236 SE 24th Street). The gallery is now featuring the Mercer Island Visual Arts League (MIVAL) Holiday Show with a variety of works by local artists. The exhibit runs through December 17, 2010.

From January 3, 2011 to February 11, 2011, the gallery will feature the Asian inspired art of Scott Moore and Catherine Foster.

The Gallery is open to the public at the following times:
♦ Monday—Friday | 6:30am to 9:00pm
♦ Saturday | 8:00am to 10:00pm
♦ Sunday | 11:00am to 6:00pm

Artwork is available for purchase, with a percentage of the sale going to support arts and cultural programming by the Mercer Island Arts Council. Exhibits change approximately every two months. For more information, visit www.mercergov.org/arts council.

Parks and Recreation

Help Keep Our Parks Healthy and Beautiful Volunteer at an Upcoming Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Forest Stewardship Event

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Register</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.6.10</td>
<td>Urban forest restoration</td>
<td>Island Crest Park (5500 Island Crest Way)</td>
<td>10:00am to 2:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.earthcorps.org">www.earthcorps.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.13.10</td>
<td>Trail work</td>
<td>Island Crest Park (5500 Island Crest Way)</td>
<td>9:00am to 3:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtsgreenway.org">www.mtsgreenway.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.20.10</td>
<td>Urban forest restoration</td>
<td>Clarke Beach (7700 E Hillside)</td>
<td>10:00am to 2:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.earthcorps.org">www.earthcorps.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>11.20.10</td>
<td>Tree planting</td>
<td>AVE SE at 37th Street)</td>
<td>9:00am to 3:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtsgreenway.org">www.mtsgreenway.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.4.10</td>
<td>Urban forest restoration</td>
<td>Pioneer Park (68th Street)</td>
<td>10:00am to 2:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtsgreenway.org">www.mtsgreenway.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>12.4.10</td>
<td>Trail work</td>
<td>Island Crest Park (5500 Island Crest Way)</td>
<td>9:00am to 3:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtsgreenway.org">www.mtsgreenway.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>12.11.10</td>
<td>Trail work</td>
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<td>9:00am to 3:00pm</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mtsgreenway.org">www.mtsgreenway.org</a></td>
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Public Art Restored
The Mercer Island Arts Council commissioned restoration work on two public art pieces this summer, including Primavera II located in the I-90 outdoor sculpture gallery and Mythical Bird located on SE 68th Street in Pioneer Park. Both sculptures required upkeep after years exposed to the outdoors.

Mercer Island enjoys a large collection of public art thanks to private donations and 1% for Public Art funding. The Parks and Recreation Department coordinated the restoration work, which will continue in 2011.

For more information on public art in Mercer Island, visit the City’s Public Art website at www.mercergov.org/Page.asp?NavID=620.
Register Now for Annual Senior Thanksgiving Lunch
Join old friends and new at the Community Center at Mercer View for the Parks and Recreation Department’s Annual Senior Thanksgiving Lunch on Friday, November 19. Parks and Recreation will provide a variety of traditional Thanksgiving dishes, including roast turkey with all the trimmings. Reservations are required and transportation will be available. Call 206.275.7609 to reserve a spot for lunch and a ride on the bus.

Date: Friday, November 19, 2010
Time: 12:00pm to 1:00pm
Course number: 11176
Age: 55 and older
Day: Friday
Fee: $5.00
Location: Community Center at Mercer View (8236 SE 24th)

Events and Activities

Holiday Tree Lighting and Firehouse Munch
Gather your family, friends and neighbors for an evening of holiday merriment at the community tree lighting ceremony and caroling at Mercerdale Park (77th Avenue SE and SE 32nd Street).

Santa photos, treats and children’s entertainment will follow at the Main Fire Station (3030 78th Avenue SE). Bring an unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots drive.

Friday, December 3, 2010  ♦  7:00pm to 9:00pm ♦
Mercerdale Park and Main Fire Station

Breakfast with Santa is Back
Bring the whole family to this festive breakfast with Santa. The Parks and Recreation Department will provide brunch for you to enjoy and Santa and his elves will be available for a visit and pictures. Reservations are required, Call 275.7609 to reserve a spot for the brunch.

Date: Saturday, December 11
Time: 10:00am to 12:00pm
Course number: 11235
Age: All ages
Fee: $5.00
Location: Mercer Room, Community Center at Mercer View (8236 SE 24th)

Parks and Recreation
A Civic Center Turns 5
The Community Center at Mercer View (CCMV) has reason to celebrate. December 2010 marks the facility’s fifth anniversary.

While the building is only five years old, the Mercer Island community has used the property as a civic meeting place for over 25 years. In celebration, the Parks and Recreation Department would like to offer MI Quarterly readers a look back at where the CCMV started and what it has evolved into today.

City Council approved a proposal to build a new center on the same site as the old CCMV in June 2003. By the time the old community center closed its doors in 2004, the building was 40 years old.

The new, 42,400 square foot CCMV opened its doors to the public in December 2005 as a modern, state-of-the-art center. It serves as both a primary civic and business meeting place and a multi-generational facility. In partnership with the Mercer Island community, the Parks and Recreation Department can now offer Mercer Islanders the opportunity to participate in a wider array of programs benefiting their health and wellness.

The new center strives to represent the best in civic recreational programming. The CCMV has WiFi, video and tele-conferencing capabilities, a 3,335 square foot multi-purpose room, a full-service kitchen, an indoor art gallery, a fitness center, locker and shower rooms, and an outdoor terraced patio.

The new CCMV also has a 10,500 square foot gymnasium that supports a wide array of fitness programs and rentals, and it has added a number of enhanced programs that were not offered at the old facility, such as open gym time and an indoor playground.

Adjacent to the new center is the North Annex, the only remaining building from the former facility. The City repaired and renovated the Annex, which now provides space for preschool and daycare, as well as one program room.

“Our City is so fortunate to have a healthy community gathering center for fitness, fun and friendship,” said Parks and Recreation Director Bruce Fletcher. “The CCMV is a place of pride where all Islanders can enjoy a variety of events, programs and activities throughout the year.”

The CCMV is open daily from 6:30am to 9:00pm Monday through Friday, 8:00am to 10:00pm on Saturday, and 11:00am to 6:00pm on Sunday. Hours of operation are subject to change. Extended hours are available Friday through Saturday for large rentals. The CCMV invites the community to an open house on December 16 in celebration of the facility’s 5th anniversary. For more information, visit www.mercergov.org/ccmv or call 206.275.7609.
City of Mercer Island
9611 SE 36th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040

POSTAL CUSTOMER
MERCER ISLAND WA 98040

To learn more about the Mercer Island City Council, please visit the City website. Council Meeting agendas and supporting documents are uploaded to the website the Friday before each meeting.

www.mercergov.org

Get the Latest Mercer Island News in Your Inbox
Stay up to date on the latest in City government news and information when you subscribe to the City of Mercer Island’s free weekly email newsletter, The MI Weekly.

Subscribe today and join hundreds of your neighbors who have discovered The MI Weekly. Just send an email with the word “Subscribe” in the subject line to stephanie.schwenger@mercergov.org.

Your community. Your government. Your Mercer Island.

Tune in to MI-TV
Mercer Island’s own cable station, MI-TV Channel 21, is on air. The station currently airs City Council meetings.

♦ 10:00am Council Meeting Replay
♦ 7:00pm Council Meeting Replay

Council meetings are also available online. Visit www.mercergov.org/MITV for more information.

Non-emergency Phone Numbers
9-1-1 is for emergencies only. Call 9-1-1 only if you need an immediate response from police, fire or medics.

♦ Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
  Mercer Island Fire Department: 206.275.7607 (business hours), 425.577.5656 (24 hour)

♦ Health and Human Services
  Crisis Clinic: 1.866.427.4747
  King County Public Health: 1.800.325.6165
  Mercer Island Youth and Family Services Department: 206.275.7611
  Washington Information Network: 211
  Washington Poison Center: 1.800.222.1222 (24 hour)

♦ Police
  Mercer Island Police Department: 425.577.5656 (24 hour)

♦ Roads, Transportation and Traffic
  Road closure information: 511
  Mercer Island Maintenance Department: 206.275.7608 (business hours), 425.577.5656 (after hours)
  Washington State Patrol Vehicle Collision Report: 360.570.2355

♦ Utility Company
  Puget Sound Energy: 1.888.225.5773 (24 hour)

♦ Other Services
  Animal Control: 206.296.7387
  Illegal Dumping: 1.866.431.7483