

From: mscero@comcast.net
To: [Planning Commission](#); [Council](#); [Parks & Rec Commission](#)
Cc: [Robin Russell](#)
Subject: FW: Help Protect Our Parks-Your input needed by this Wednesday January 31st!
Date: Sunday, January 28, 2024 7:10:34 AM

I agree with Robin. I've been following the hearings of the Planning Commission and the exception for city buildings is an end around. Far from the spirit and intent of the movement to protect our parks. I recognize the city is looking for property to build a city hall but this is taking the easier path. My initial thought is the city hall should stay in it's present location.
Mike Cero.

From: Protect MI Parks <protectmiparks@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, January 27, 2024 4:15 PM
To: Protect MI Parks <protectmiparks@gmail.com>
Subject: Help Protect Our Parks-Your input needed by this Wednesday January 31st!

Dear Park Supporter:

Our parks are once again under threat. With the pending creation of a new Parks Zone, the City of Mercer Island seeks authority to build and/or house government offices in our parks, reducing the valuable parkland and facilities available to the community!

REQUESTED ACTION:

Please send a short email by January 31,

Mercer Island City Planning Commission,
planning.commission@mercerisland.gov,
Mercer Island City Council council@mercerisland.gov,
Mercer Island Parks Commission
ParksAndRec.Commission@mercerisland.gov

Asking them to:

Protect OUR Parks by:

- Leaving parkland for recreational uses and facilities only – not government offices
- Substantially reduce the proposed height limit of buildings within the park
- No Net Increase in Impervious Surfaces
- Limiting transit stops to the right of ways
- Not allowing parking structures in our parks
- Not allowing a future re-zone of a park without a community vote

Please submit your email by Wednesday, 1/31/24, to have maximum effect. Your email will make you a person of record, and you will receive updates regarding meetings and the progress of the legislation.

Please join your neighbors in helping shape city policy and protecting and preserving our parkland (a background statement is included below).

Robin Russell

President

Concerned Citizens for MI Parks

Robinrussell2020@gmail.com

Background

City Councilmember Lisa Anderl proposed that existing parks and open spaces be included in a new land use designation entitled "Parks Zone." The Parks Commission has made recommendations regarding the Parks Zone, consistent with the PROS plan, and city staff have prepared material that the Planning Commission is reviewing for the legislation. These lands are currently zoned under residential, commercial, or public institutions, implying different development standards.

By grouping them under their unique zoning code, all parks and open spaces will have development regulations consistent with their intended use.

While this process will unfold over the next few months, the Planning Commission held its initial review of a proposed regulation written by City staff at its meeting on 1/24/24. You can visit the Planning Commission agenda packet [here](#) and video of the meeting by going to <https://www.mercerisland.gov/bc-pc/page/planning-commission-regular-hybrid-meeting-10>

Your comments are crucial in helping to shape this policy.

We firmly believe protecting and preserving our parks from unnecessary development (such as government offices) is critical.

We will keep you informed as the process moves forward over the coming months.

**Concerned Citizens for Mercer Island Parks,
P.O. Box 1337, Mercer Island, WA 98040
Protect All Mercer Island Parks
protectMIparks.org**

