Molly McGuire

From: Daniel Friedman <danielbfriedman@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2026 8:13 AM
To: Council
Subject: JCC

Dear Mercer Island City Council,

I'm writing to urge your support to amend the Comprehensive Plan to change the designation of the SJCC property from single-family to commercial.

I attended preschool at the JCC in the early 1970's and more recently my kids attended preschool there too. It has been a center of activity in our community for both religious and secular events it's entire existence. When I found out the land is still zoned as single family use, I initially laughed and thought it was a joke, or some silly error that never got corrected many years ago. It's time to fix that.

The J has been serving the Mercer Island community – as a community center for all - for over 55 years. Please align the comprehensive plan and land use maps to reflect that reality and ensure the J can continue to serve our community and thrive on Mercer Island for the next 55 years.

As Mercer Island works to develop its density "downtown" and now has functioning light rail, the need for nearby community services adds even more value. The J is a large and active preschool, fitness center, place for community events, lectures, and other activities for members, non-members, and everyone in the area.

It is especially important at a time when anti-Semitism and anti-Israel sentiment is rising, that our community actually increase the engagement and cross-religious bonds that the J provides. Please support the J in expanding its mission to do exactly that.

Sincerely,

Dan Friedman
Mercer Island