

Molly McGuire

From: Judy Benami <jibenami@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2026 1:26 PM
To: Council
Subject: Approval of JCC application

Dear City council members,

I was born on Mercer Island in 1959 and have lived my entire life on Mercer Island except for 10 years.

I feel this is extremely important for Mercer Island for you to accept the JCC's application. I understand there's a lot of neighbors that are protesting, but my opinion is that when they purchased their house/property they knew they were next to a Jewish community center, and that there would be possible future building. When they made their purchase, they knew what they were getting into and now to argue and try to stop the progress of the Jewish community center is just not right. Some even receive discounted pricing because of their proximity.

I feel the same way for people who purchase next to the Shore club or the Beach Club and then later protest whether it's regarding noise or anything else. When you purchase the property, you know exactly what you were purchasing and where it was located And to later protest any developments is not right.

This development of the JCC has been needed for many many many years. It is the only one in the greater Seattle area and a necessity for the Jewish people to have a place where they feel welcome to hold festivities, preschools, etc.

Thank you very much

Judy Benami
3845 81st Ave. SE.