

Molly McGuire

From: Gersch, Lauren M <lgersch@fredhutch.org>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2026 1:05 PM
To: Council
Cc: Stroum Jewish Community Center
Subject: Support Proposed Zoning Change for the SJCC

To the Members of the 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've been coming to the J off and on for more than 25 years and now that my daughter and I live on Mercer Island, we go there all the time. My daughter attends summer camp there. She takes weekly karate lessons and swim lessons plus we go to open swim for three hours almost every Saturday. My daughter has many challenges and diagnoses and everyone at the J is so kind and inclusive. They make us both feel welcome and she has become so comfortable and confident at the J. I truly can't imagine life on Mercer Island without the J.

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 and more!

Thank you,

Lauren Gersch