

Molly McGuire

From: MartyL <MartyL@sanmar.com>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2026 3:03 PM
To: Council
Subject: Support Proposed Zoning Change for the SJCC

To the Members of the Mercer Island City Council:

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

I am a longstanding resident of Mercer Island, and my wife and I raised our two children here from the day they were born. Today, both of our children continue to live on Mercer Island and are raising families of their own. As a result, our family connection to this community now spans multiple generations, and the SJCC has been an important part of that story.

We have been active members of the J for several decades, and all of my grandchildren grew up there. It has been far more than just a place to participate in activities - it has been a gathering place, a source of community. Over the years, the J has provided engaging programs, positive experiences, meaningful employment opportunities, and a welcoming environment where people of all ages can connect, learn, and grow.

What makes the J so special is that it serves the broader Mercer Island community. For more than 55 years, it has functioned as a true community center, bringing people together and enriching the lives of residents across generations. Its longstanding presence and role in the community are well established and widely recognized.

The current land use designation does not reflect the reality of how the property has been used for decades. Aligning the Comprehensive Plan and land use maps with the J's longstanding function would acknowledge its historic and ongoing contribution to Mercer Island while helping ensure its continued success in the future.

I respectfully ask that you support this amendment and help preserve a valued community institution that has served Mercer Island residents for more than half a century. Please align the Comprehensive Plan and land use maps to reflect the J's existing role in our community and ensure it can continue to serve residents and thrive on Mercer Island for the next 55 years and beyond.

Regards,
Marty Lott