

## Molly McGuire

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**From:** Carin Riekes Parcel <carinparcel@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2026 5:10 PM  
**To:** Deb Estrada; Planning Commission; Alison Van Gorp; Council  
**Subject:** Support Proposed Zoning Change for the SJCC

To the Members of the Planning Commission:

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.

Since moving here 17 years ago, the J has been our family's community. I moved here with a toddler and enrolled her at the J for classes so I could meet other moms. From that day forward all my kids (3) attended preschool there, participated in sports, has birthday parties at the facility, attended movies and community events. My husband joined the board and has remained on the finance committee for almost 8 years now. The J has been and always will be our community. Growing up in Omaha, the JCC facility was stellar - it brought together so many people and houses incredible organizations. Part of the reason it can accomplish this as well as other premier community centers across the country is the ability of the building and land to be updated, laid out appropriately, and be accessible.

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.

Thank you,  
Carin Parcel