

Molly McGuire

From: Catherine Lee <clee921@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 5:52 AM
To: Planning Commission; Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada; 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.

My family moved to Mercer Island in June 2023, and we immediately became members of the SJCC as it was so well regarded in the community as a center for fostering friendships with any person regardless of religion, race, ethnicity or socioeconomic status. The J is a center where my children enjoy camps, sports, swim, arts, and have the opportunity to learn Jewish culture. I regularly use the J to maintain my fitness and health. While my family is not Jewish, I deeply appreciate the support this center provides to all the families who follow the Jewish faith. We always feel so welcomed at the J by the staff and feel as part of the community despite my family not being of Jewish heritage. This center is a jewel on the island.

The J has been serving the Mercer Island community – as a community center for all - for over 55 years. However, in order to continue to serve all its members optimally in the future, we need to plan now for the future. The SJCC could benefit from building expansion and updates to serve its members safely and optimally. 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.

Sincerely,
Catherine Lee
Mercer Island Resident and SJCC Member