

Molly McGuire

From: Cindy Masin <cindy.masin@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 11:10 AM
To: Deb Estrada; Alison Van Gorp; Council; Planning Commission
Subject: Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Members of the Planning Commission of Mercer Island,

I am writing to urge your support in amending the Comprehensive Plan to change the designation of the SJCC property from single family to commercial. The J has been serving the entire Mercer Island community (NOT ONLY THE JEWISH COMMUNITY BUT THE ENTIRE MERCER ISLAND COMMUNITY) — as a community center — for over 55 years. My husband and I have been Mercer Island residents and members for nearly all of those 55 years and we use it regularly. My husband attends Rock Steady Boxing there every Monday, Wednesday and Friday. It is a community wide fitness program for people with Parkinson's Disease...not just Jewish people or SJCC members. Anyone can participate! Our kids and grandchildren have all matriculated through the SJCC Early Childhood Program alongside a very diverse group of kids. And, even now, they return to the "J" for various volunteer and cultural opportunities that are not limited to the J's members. My hope is that the J will be here for at least another 55 years. I am definitely not a land-use expert, but I know for certain the J has always served the community as a gathering space, an activity center, a school, and as a place for reflection and community — **it has never been in single family use. As such, the city should align the comprehensive plan and land use maps with the longstanding use of this property.** More importantly, it will allow the J to continue to serve the Mercer Island community without hindrance.

I recommend and urge your approval of this comprehensive plan amendment.

Thank you so much!

Cindy Masin

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