

Molly McGuire

From: Deborah A. Lawson <deborahalawson@icloud.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 29, 2026 8:19 PM
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.

Although, we don't live on Mercer Island, the JCC has been both valuable to my family and me over the years. I attended various programs at the MIJCC while in high school in the Shoreline School District. I attended both Jewish programs, but above all I used the different athletic facilities and took classes. This was about 50 years ago.

20 years ago, our eldest went to the high school of Jewish Studies at the JCC. A few years ago, my husband and I took Bridge playing classes for about 8 weeks in a row. Every year we attend the Jewish Film Festival movies at the JCC as well as many other events including speakers, cookbook tours, wine tastings, etc.

The JCC is on Mercer Island, but because it's on the north end of the island, it's very easy to get to from our north end Seattle home.

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.

The J is not only a community gathering space for Jewish people from the greater Seattle and Eastside area, it is also a gathering place for people who live on or near Mercer Island to work out or take various classes.

Thank you.

Debbie Lawson