

Molly McGuire

From: hayley d <hayleyduitch@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2026 12:41 PM
To: Planning Commission; Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada; Council
Subject: Support Proposed Zoning Change for the SJCC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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.

The J has been part of my family for generations. My husband and I both attended preschool there, as did our children. I worked at the J as a teenager, and today both of my kids work there as well, and also attend youth group meetings each week. Over the years I've taken classes and attended lectures at the J, my husband played in the basketball and baseball leagues, and my parents made some of their closest, lifelong friends through the community there, friendships that helped shape my own childhood. Three generations of my family have called the J home, and it has never once functioned as a single-family residence. It has always been exactly what it is today: a school, a gathering space, an activity center, and a cornerstone of community life on Mercer Island.

The J has been serving the Mercer Island community, as a community center, 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.

Sincerely,
Hayley Duitch
6551 80th Ave SE
Mercer Island, WA 98040