

Molly McGuire

From: Deb Estrada
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 1:23 PM
To: Molly McGuire
Subject: FW: Public hearing for CPA25-002

From: Justin and Jaime <jayisee@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2026 1:22 PM
To: City Clerk <cityclerk@mercerisland.gov>
Subject: Public hearing for CPA25-002

To the City of Mercer Island Planning Commission:

It has recently been brought to our attention that the City is considering the rezoning of residential property to commercial property, specifically, the JCC.

In doing so, a precedent will be set for other residential properties to be converted into commercial properties. As it is, Mercer Island is a premier residential community with great schools, close neighborhoods, and several vibrant communities. The JCC is one of these wonderful communities - and its growth is exciting. However, being part of the Island also comes with the social responsibility to preserve what makes the Island enjoyable for all residents. If this conversion occurs, the Island is at risk for other community centers to also request changes to commercial status and change the culture and environment permanently.

As such a decision impacts the entire Island, not just the properties within 200 ft of the construction zone, a greater conversation with education and notification needs to occur across the entire Island. Aside from the potential other conversions, just this change alone would significantly impact the traffic pattern. We all remember when the East Mercer Way ramp was closed just within the past year. The traffic spilled into the entire north Mercer Island - at least all of downtown and south beyond 40th. With more traffic at the JCC (and adjacent Herzl-Ner Tamid and upcoming new school), we can anticipate more traffic throughout. At least a formal traffic study should be performed.

We object to the hearing occurring on August 5. We request that the hearing be moved to allow for more time for research, review and discussion. The current date in August is while many are away on vacations. The September date is just at the start of the school year. And, while we're all always busy, October would be less so (before the holidays start up).

Sincerely,
Jaime Chang and Justin Deng
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Mercer Island, WA 98040