

## Molly McGuire

---

**From:** Michelle Molan <mmolan58@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 4, 2026 10:13 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 husband, our two small sons and I moved to Bellevue in 1992. Within 2 months we had found a home at the MI JCC. Both my sons went to preschool there, aftercare, day camps and went on to be camp counselors as older teens. I served on the search committee for the head of the Early Childhood Program director and she remained in that position for years providing stability to young families. I've been involved with the JCC as adult delegation leader for 7 years to the Maccabi games where we take teens 13-16 to other cities (including Canada) to have an Olympic style sports competition. It builds community and character in teens. I have been honored with the Max Kaminoff Volunteer of the Year Award from the JCC. And more recently as a senior, I have found a safe and welcoming community whether for the annual film festival or for Line Dancing classes. The J has been home to Jews and non-Jews for over 5 decades and while the programming remains strong, the building needs modernization to support growth in our community.

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.

Thank you in advance for your careful and thoughtful consideration of what needs to change so that the SJCC can remain a safe, vibrant community center for all.

Michelle R Molan, MPH  
Bellevue, WA