

Molly McGuire

From: Sean Morris <sean.morris@mifc.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 4:29 PM
To: Planning Commission; Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada; Council
Subject: Mercer Island FC - Statement of Support for the JCC Rezone Proposal

Good Afternoon, Mayor and Councilmembers,

My name is Sean Morris, and I serve as the Director of Soccer & Community for Mercer Island FC. Through my role, I have the privilege of working with hundreds of young athletes and families across Mercer Island every year.

While I am not Jewish myself, I have had the opportunity to see firsthand the important role the Stroum Jewish Community Center plays within our community. Many of the children and families we work with at Mercer Island FC are also involved with programs at the JCC. Together, our organizations are helping provide young people with opportunities to be active, build friendships, develop confidence, and find a sense of belonging.

I'm here today to urge your support in amending the Comprehensive Plan to change the designation of the SJCC property from single-family residential to commercial.

From my perspective as someone who works every day to create positive experiences for young people, this proposal is about much more than land use. It's about ensuring Mercer Island continues to invest in places where children and families can connect, learn, and thrive.

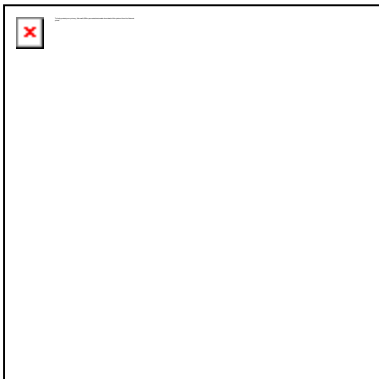
The JCC has served Mercer Island as a community center for more than 55 years. It has long been a gathering place, a hub for recreation and education, and a welcoming space where people can celebrate their culture, strengthen community ties, and support one another. It has never functioned as a single-family property, and updating the Comprehensive Plan simply aligns the designation with the longstanding reality of how the site serves our community.

As a youth sports leader, I believe we need more places where children can participate in healthy activities, build meaningful relationships, and feel connected to a community that reflects and celebrates who they are. Every child deserves access to safe spaces where they can grow, whether that's through sport, education, cultural programs, or community events.

Mercer Island is strongest when we support organizations that bring people together. While our missions may be different, Mercer Island FC and the JCC share a common goal: helping young people lead healthy, active, and connected lives while strengthening the fabric of our community.

For those reasons, I respectfully encourage you to approve this Comprehensive Plan amendment and help ensure the JCC can continue serving Mercer Island families for generations to come.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Sean Morris

Mercer Island FC Director of Soccer & Community

Eastside FC West Director of Coaching

Bellevue FC Director of Soccer

(425) 286-0532 | www.mifc.org

sean.morris@mifc.org

