

Molly McGuire

From: Tara Koehler <taracarrasco@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 4, 2026 3:47 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Planning Commission; Deb Estrada
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.

unds warm and authentic:

I value the J because it has truly been a home away from home for our family. My husband grew up attending preschool there, playing sports, and spending countless hours at the J. When we started our own family, it felt natural to continue that tradition. Both of our children attended the Early Childhood Education program full time and later participated in countless after-school activities, camps, sports, and programs.

Today, our children are in high school and college, but some of their closest friendships were formed at the JCC and remain some of the most meaningful relationships in their lives. The J has been so much more than a place to work out or take classes—it's been a community that has supported our family through every stage of life. Even now, we each continue to use the J in our own ways, whether it's exercising, taking classes, or simply feeling connected to a place that has meant so much to us over the years.

The JCC isn't just a community center to us—it's part of our family's story, and we're incredibly grateful for the sense of belonging, connection, and lifelong relationships it has fostered.

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.

Sincerely,
Tara Koehler

Sent from my iPhone