

Molly McGuire

From: tomacker1@comcast.net
Sent: Wednesday, August 5, 2026 2:46 PM
To: Planning Commission; Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada; Council
Subject: JCC Planning Meeting

I'm writing to share my support for the JCC remodel. As a 50+ year resident of Mercer Island, both myself and my family, have used the facilities off and on throughout the years both as members and as benefactors of their services including the Special Need Adaptive Swimming Programs.

While there have been many concerns raised over the years, the latest plans I've seen seemed to address all the concerns that have been raised over the years including security, lighting, tree plantings, parking, etc. The only remaining concerns are what the final designs look like, will there be an impact on the adjacent neighborhoods, AND whether or not there is an impact to drivers visiting/departing from Mercer Island. The concerns on nextdoor pointed out there are only three ways to leave the island heading eastbound and one is an HOV only onramp which begs the question as to whether or not there will be traffic impacts around the EMW onramp.

If the city processes work as intended (Design Reviews/Planning Commission Reviews), I'm confident these concerns as well as any further questions and concerns will be resolved. This is based on my understanding there are no plans to materially change the use of the JCC or the number of people who would be visiting the JCC. For example, the JCC will not create a "convention center" that would increase the number of people coming to, and departing from, the facility.

In addition, there are other changes that are naturally reducing the traffic impacts. These include the departure of the French American School and the completion of the i-90 East Channel Bridge Rebar Replacement Project.

In summary, the JCC has been, and continues to be, a valuable part of the community that serves the needs of many. And, quite honestly, this remodel has been needed to happen for over 20 years.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tom Acker