

Molly McGuire

From: velooceella@gmail.com
Sent: Wednesday, August 6, 2025 10:12 AM
To: Molly McGuire; Deb Estrada
Cc: velooceella@gmail.com; blkship@yahoo.com
Subject: Public comments

Please consider these public comments in response to the permit application notice file # DSR 25-009 issued by the city requiring public comments by August 7, 2025.

Please consider Matthew Goldbach and John Hall individually and representatives of Concerned Neighbors for the Protection of the Neighborhood as parties of record.

First, we object to the application because the City made it VERY DIFFCULT for residents to find documents in a timely manner Therefore, it is impossible for a neighbor to respond or comment.

Second, this email incorporates all filings submitted by Matthew Goldbach and John Hall individually or as representatives of Neighbors in the SEPA appeal hearing # APL-25003 held before Hearing Examiner Galt on 07/09/2025, specifically Neighbors' pleadings, briefs and any emails submitted with photographs of the parking along East Mercer Way.

Third, based on HE Galt's Decision on 07/18/2025 Neighbors re-raises two critical issues:

1. There must be a priority turn signal in any turn lane for the Herzl school going southbound on East Mercer Way. Otherwise, cars waiting to turn left will back up into the I-90 intersection and block East Mercer Way southbound, and anxious parents late for school will attempt left hand turns into heavy oncoming peak traffic that will be dangerous. However, it has to be considered that any priority turn signal southbound on East Mercer Way will back up peak traffic heading northbound to I-90 in the peak am hours, which includes parents who have dropped off students or campers or kids at the JCC and French American School and who now must re-access East Mercer Way northbound to get back to I-90 as the vast majority of students and campers at both schools are from off-Island.

2. As the photos show in the emails we and Neighbors submitted in the public hearing for the CUP parking due to overflow parking from the JCC, FAS and Herzl Synagogue is a major safety issue on East Mercer Way for pedestrians and kids crossing East Mercer Way which includes kids waiting for school buses as noted in one photo. Although the City's Report on the CUP indicated the FAS leases 34 stalls for parking at the Herzl parking lot in reality the number is much closer to 61 spaces according to the lease itself.

Although the HE found MICC allows the code official to reduce required parking on residential properties in extreme circumstances Neighbors believes this intersection and neighborhood is the last part of Mercer Island such parking minimums should be reduced simply because the B zoned property does not want to use any lot area for parking and Herzl's residential properties are so far beyond their legally allowed (or grandfathered) lot coverage limits they cannot accommodate more than 105 parking stalls.

There is little chance that the B zone school and Herzl synagogue will be able to reduce their required parking by 25%, or even 1%, and with the FAS having to look for and lease parking that it will lose due to the

abrogation of its lease for parking with Herzl this parking will again migrate to East Mercer Way and 40th creating a safety issue while the city refuses to enforce no parking rules on East Mercer Way.