Molly McGuire

From: Catherine Ford <fordjc@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 7, 2026 2:29 PM
To: Molly McGuire
Subject: Support Proposed Zoning Change for the SJCC

I'm writing to urge your support of the SJCC property rezone to Commercial Office.

Jim and I have been members of the SJCC since 2024 and have always been welcomed there. In addition, we find we have shifted a large part of our in person shopping to Mercer Island.

We have either read or heard (Zoom meetings) the comments of the Mercer Island residents who are opposed to the rezone. After studying the Presentation by the SJCC to the City in 2023 (link below) it seems that most, if not all, of the issues/concerns raised have been addressed with very sound solutions. We were especially pleased to see the extended "driveway" and separation for the educational component. We live near Enatai Elementary School where there was a similar situation with school buses lining up on the street and blocking street traffic. When the school was rebuilt in 2016, BSD very thoughtfully re-designed the school bus entrance and parking lot so that NO school buses were on the street while discharging (morning) or waiting (afternoon) for the children.

https://sjcc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/230907-SJCC-Presentation.pdf

The zoning change would not change the J's use as a community center. It would create a path for them to modernize their aging facilities and better address accessibility, safety, traffic, parking and the impact on their neighbors.

Please recommend approval of the rezone to ensure the J can continue to serve our community and thrive on Mercer Island for the next 55 years.

Cathy and Jim Ford
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