Molly McGuire

From: Carla Tobis <cjtobis@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 11, 2026 7:49 PM
To: Molly McGuire
Subject: Support of proposed zoning change for the SJCC

Dear Mercer Island Senior Planner Molly McGuire
I'm writing to urge your support of the SJCC property rezone to Commercial Office.

My husband and I have lived on Mercer Island for 40 years. During that time, the SJCC has been an essential part of the community and has enriched our family. All 4 of our children went to JCC preschool, summer camps, enjoyed the pool and gym, participated in sports and made lifelong friends. All 4 of our children are now grown and live on Mercer Island. Our 5 grandchildren now enjoy the JCC themselves - the same welcoming and nurturing environment and the same building of friendships that their parents enjoyed. In addition to our children, my husband and I are JCC "regulars" - at the gym, gym classes, the pool, the community events. The JCC is a daily part of our lives.

We can't help but notice that the building is in serious need of upgrading. The SJCC is clearly a commercial property - serving as a community center for more than 50 years. Moreover, despite its name and the importance of the JCC to Jews, it has served as a Mercer Island Community Center - non-Jewish Mercer Islanders also benefit from the JCC - sending their children to school, camps, and enjoying the programming. Having the JCC on Mercer Island enhances the quality of life for all residents. But the JCC needs help. It is clear that the JCC must have its property rezoned so that essential improvements to meet current building and safety standards can be done and upgraded facilities can enable the JCC to continue to serve the Mercer Island community for the next 50 years. We must lay the foundation for the future as those before us provided for us now.

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.

Sincerely,
Carla Greenbaum
Mercer Island, WA
2063721718