Molly McGuire

From: Leslie <lilrubie@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 11, 2026 1:00 PM
To: Molly McGuire
Subject: Support for SJCC Rezoning – Upcoming Public Hearing

Dear Ms. McGuire,

I am writing in support of the proposed rezoning of the Stroum Jewish Community Center and ask that my comments be included in the record for the upcoming public hearing.

As a Mercer Island resident, long-time SJCC member and an SJCC staff member, I see every day how much the J means to our community. Through fitness, lifelong learning, and opportunities to connect, the J helps people stay active, build friendships, and find a sense of belonging.

The J has operated as a community center since its beginning, and the proposed rezoning aligns with that longstanding purpose. The zoning change would not change the J's use as a community center. It would create a path for us to modernize our aging facilities and better address accessibility, safety, traffic, parking, and our impact on our neighbors - and attract more people to move to this wonderful, welcoming community.

In my work with fitness participants and older adults, I see how important safe, accessible, and welcoming facilities are. Updating our facilities would help us continue serving our community while thoughtfully addressing the needs of the surrounding neighborhood.

I encourage the City to support the proposed rezoning so the J can continue to be a place of connection, wellness, and belonging for generations to come.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Leslie Rubenstein
Mercer Island Resident and lifelong SJCC member

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Leslie
206-369-5115
"Try to be a rainbow in someone's cloud." - Maya Angelou