

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 5:17 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Rezoning of Property occupied by the Stroum Jewish Community Center

Comment received to the Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

Notice: Emails and attachments may be subject to disclosure pursuant to the Public Records Act (chapter 42.56 RCW)

The City of Mercer Island utilizes a hybrid working environment. Please see the City's [Facility and Program Information](#) page for City Hall and City service hours of operation.

From: Edward Flash <edwardflash65@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 5:07 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Rezoning of Property occupied by the Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

Growing up on Mercer Island I know the important role the SJCC plays in the community on Mercer Island and beyond with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Edward Flash

Attended East Seattle Elementary School, Mercer View Elementary School, North Mercer Junior High and Mercer Island High School

Deb Estrada

From: Katharine Lamperti <klamperti@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2023 11:10 AM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: Request for rezoning for SJCC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness. Our children attending SJCC camps when they were younger, performed in theater through partnership with YTN, and most recently, our youngest worked as a summer camp counselor.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Katharine and Thomas Lamperti

--
"Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter." - Martin Luther King, Jr

Deb Estrada

From: Yoela Zimberoff <yoelaz.h@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:06 PM
To: Planning Commission
Subject: Regarding Stroum Jewish Community Center request to rezone land

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Yoela Zimberoff

From: [Andrea Larson](#)
To: [Alison Van Gorp](#); [Deb Estrada](#)
Subject: FW: SJCC Property
Date: Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:48:34 PM
Importance: High

Comment received to the Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)
City Clerk
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206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: Jason Koehler <jason@rkkconstruction.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 4:16 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: SJCC Property
Importance: High

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

This is VITAL to our community. They can't be led to think we don't want them.

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact

on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Jason Koehler, MI resident for 46 years.

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 5:17 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Rezoning of Property occupied by the Stroum Jewish Community Center

Comment received to the Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

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From: Edward Flash <edwardflash65@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 5:07 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Rezoning of Property occupied by the Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

Growing up on Mercer Island I know the important role the SJCC plays in the community on Mercer Island and beyond with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

Edward Flash

Attended East Seattle Elementary School, Mercer View Elementary School, North Mercer Junior High and Mercer Island High School

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 8:30 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: JCC

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

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From: Denise Joffe <manner5@mac.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:36 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: JCC

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Paul Manner, MD

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 8:31 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: JCC

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

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From: denisejoffe@mac.com <denisejoffe@mac.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 19, 2023 9:35 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: JCC

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Denise Joffe, MD

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 2:31 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: SJCC remodel

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

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From: Laurie Koehler <callbutch@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 12:28 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: SJCC remodel

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Laurie and Randy Koehler

Joan Hirshberg

Sent from my iPhone

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 3:42 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Comment Received to Planning Commission mailbox.

Andrea Larson

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From: Adena Levi <adenalevi@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, October 20, 2023 3:23 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Adena Levi, teacher at the Stroum Jewish Community Center for five years

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 10:13 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Planning Commission: Approve the SJCC rezone!

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

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From: Jon Newman <jonn_msft@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, October 21, 2023 10:09 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Cc: Jon Newman <jonn_msft@hotmail.com>; naomi.newman@live.com
Subject: Planning Commission: Approve the SJCC rezone!

To the Mercer Island Planning Commission:

As a long-time resident of North Mercer Island, I ask that the Mercer Island City Council promptly add the Stroum Jewish Community Center's (SJCC) request to their 2024 docket, to rezone their residential land parcels to Commercial Office status.

The SJCC is a long-time asset to Mercer Island, but its physical plant is outdated in several regards. The pool is past its lifetime, the HVAC needs an update, and multiple changes are required for ADA compliance. Substantial redevelopment is required, but this is not possible with residential zoning. Commercial Office status would enable this remodel, while protecting both the neighborhood and the neighbors.

Any city should be eager to protect and upgrade a key asset like the SJCC, especially with private funding. Note that this request only affects the SJCC, not other facilities on Mercer Island.

Thank you for your prompt action!

Jon and Naomi Newman
9097 North Mercer Way

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 10:14 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox.

[Andrea Larson](#)

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From: Kayla Locke <kaylalocke17@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 7:07 AM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island. The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now. Thank you for your support.

Kayla Locke, 4741 90th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040. Grew up on Mercer Island and have owned a home for over 6 years.

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 10:16 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: SJCC rezone request

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox.

[Andrea Larson](#)

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From: Kathleen Sullivan Hurwitz <kathleensullivan14@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 9:01 AM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: SJCC rezone request

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness. We have been members of the J for many years, and have two children that are part of the amazing preschool program. Our membership and the community we've built was one of the main reasons we moved to MI.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this

request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 11:28 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Comment received to Council mailbox.

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk

City of Mercer Island

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From: Kayla Locke <kaylalocke17@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 7:10 AM
To: Council <council@mercergov.org>
Subject: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island City Council,

I'm writing to request that the Mercer Island City council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with prioritization for action in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its useful use.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility.

Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Kayla Locke, 4741 90th Ave SE Mercer Island WA 98040. Grew up on Mercer island and have owned for over 6 years

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 2:19 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: SJCC Rezoning Request

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)

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From: Lesley Malakoti <lmalakoti@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 2:02 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: SJCC Rezoning Request

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

As a Mercer Island resident, we use the SJCC facilities frequently and the whole community will be well served by improving the facilities, increasing the parking and easing traffic flow.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Lesley Malakoti

8885 SE 36th St., MI

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 4:30 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Stroum JCC and upcoming docket

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

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From: Jessica Prince <jgprince@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 3:30 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Stroum JCC and upcoming docket

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

I've been a member since 1993 and the place was tired even back then. We need this rezone now; it's critical to the future and best for the community.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

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Thank you for your support.

Jessica Prince
3940 96th Ave SE

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 4:31 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

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From: Leslie Rubenstein <lilrubie@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 3:26 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

I grew up on Mercer Island and have always been a part of the Stroum Jewish Community Center (SJCC). When my parents moved to Mercer Island in the early 70's, they enrolled my brother in the SJCC preschool. Soon after this, I was born and also enrolled. I remember being in the preschool, learning to swim, going to day camp, attending BBYO youth group, and starting my career in fitness. I worked as a camp counselor in my teens, in customer service during college, and then being director of the Group Exercise programs, and more. My parents met all of their friends there who have become my family.

Needless to say, the JCC is a huge part of my life. I have become even more aware over the years of how important this community center is to people on Mercer Island and beyond and I am so happy to be a part of it. When teaching my fitness classes I see every ethnicity, every faith, every age group in my classes, and I welcome all with open arms. I could tell so many stories of the amazing community that has been created in my classes, in the fitness center, in the pool, and in the early childhood area, and I am more than happy to share.

For this reason, I ask that you please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the SJCC's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

My classes, along with the other facilities are bursting at the seams, both in the numbers of people growing, and the deteriorating building. I would like people to understand how the SJCC brings so much to this community, and how it is such an important part of people's mental and physical wellness to be part of a community. There's nothing else quite like it.

Thank you for considering this amazing opportunity to the Mercer Island and surrounding communities.

Sincerely,

Leslie Rubenstein

3236 80th Ave SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Simeon Rubenstein

5327 84th PL SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 4:51 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Support for a Remodeled SJCC

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: Karin Cole <karin.alpert@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 4:34 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Support for a Remodeled SJCC

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Karin Cole

Mercer Island Resident

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Support for the Stroum Jewish Community Center

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: Jamie Kezner <jamiekezner@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 3:42 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Support for the Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

As a native of Mercer Island who chose to return to raise her family here, the SJCC was is a fixture in my childhood and is the same for my children. It is where I went to preschool, learned how to swim and do gymnastics, where I forged life-long friendships and thankfully I got to pass that down to my children, who are able to say the same. Mercer Island is a special community and the SJCC is one of things that makes it special, please do not rely on dated zoning decisions on a place that people feel at home and safe.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 11:53 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Be Visionary Leaders Now: Support SJCC request to be on 2024 docket

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson

City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: Elaine Kraft <ejk9151@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 11:46 AM
Subject: Be Visionary Leaders Now: Support SJCC request to be on 2024 docket

My family first moved to Mercer Island in 1948. I am a 1969 MIHS grad. I have seen many changes on the Island over 70 plus years. The changes were most often led by visionary leaders ((like Aubrey Davis) who made important decisions regarding the quality of life for the Island and its residents with great foresight and the willingness to act.

For most of my years I have found a focus for my life at the SJCC, as did my parents, grandparents, brothers, children and grandchildren. It was indeed the center not just of the Jewish community but often the Island as well. The building today still serves hundreds of thousands of individuals who need support, who want to gather and meet others, who attend for arts and culture as well as education opportunities for all ages. Cultural and holiday events draw even more. My grandchildren should have these same opportunities. The bulk of people who come to the J live here, but others come to the J, shop here, go to local merchants, and gather here. The J truly is a community center.

But the J is old. It is tired. The pool has outlived its useful life. The HVAC simply doesn't work. The building is not ADA compliant. Lots of patches, updates and other fixes have been done over the years. But the time to allow the J to be renovated and redeveloped is now. The council and planning commission have been aware of this need for many years and have even tried various zoning/planning directions that were dismal failures.

The J comes to the City to ask that it allow this venerable Island institution to thrive, as it has helped so many other such institutions on the Island thrive. The J asks only for a rezone for *its facility only*, so there will be no impact on other institutions. The neighbors have had half a dozen years of input which our designers have incorporated into the updated facility plans.

It would be a terrible thing to lose this great facility and its services to another community which would be our last resort. We are sure you -- like J users --don't want to have just another housing development, with affordable housing, in that space, serving only a few when a revitalized J serves thousands each week. These decisions will be up to you.

The time to act, to be leaders and to really be visionary for the Island, is NOW.

Please put the J on the docket for 2024. Approve its plans so it can continue to serve Island residents and members as well as provide important programming and offerings. We have people we need to serve. And we will. But to do so,

and continue to do it well, we ask that you show leadership for the J just as you have for other institutions on the Island.

Thank you

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Tuesday, October 24, 2023 11:56 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Re-Zoning JCC

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment Received to Planning Commission mailbox

Andrea Larson
City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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-----Original Message-----

From: Carrie Wernick Newman <carrie@wernicknewman.com>
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 4:47 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>; Council <council@mercergov.org>
Subject: Re-Zoning JCC

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission & City Council Members,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council & Planning Commission place the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

The SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,
Carrie Wernick
3422 97th Ave. SE
Mercer Island
Resident since 2008 & live close to the JCC

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 7:36 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk

City of Mercer Island

206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: jgoldberg777@comcast.net <jgoldberg777@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 5:02 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Stroum Jewish Community Center

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Jack Goldberg

713-962-0936

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 7:37 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Please help the JCC from an island resident of 30 years

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk

City of Mercer Island

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From: Jeremy Locke <jeremydlocke1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 7:11 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Please help the JCC from an island resident of 30 years

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

I've been a respondent for 30 years

Jeremy Locke

Mid island 🌴

Thank you for your support.

Jeremy Locke

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 7:38 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Rezoning Request

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk
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From: Alice Friedman <alicef.54@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 7:20 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: Rezoning Request

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

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The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

Alice Friedman

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 7:38 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: Voice Your Support for the J's Revitalization

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: Sarah Fletcher <fletchsa1@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 7:22 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>; amyl@jcc.org; Council <council@mercergov.org>
Subject: Fwd: Voice Your Support for the J's Revitalization

Hello, I just received this. I am sorry, I support the Stroum Jewish Community Center, but no way in the world do I support this massive project for that area. This is the size of a the whole of the south end Town Center. This is supposed to be a single-family residential neighborhood, not commercial and certainly not a whole change of a zone. People were bulking at the Legislature passing fourplexes and duplexes in single-zoned residential neighborhoods, but the JCC want to bring in a huge sportsfield and more buildings. And I would like to know, let's say, the City allows this, what is stopping someone else or a church group asking for the same thing? Can anyone ask for a rezone of a property from single-family residential to commercial? The one school on the island the School District is looking at closing, I would rather the JCC look at that property or even the Civic Center which is closed for asbestos. And I would like to know what the plan is for traffic? Everyone knows that it is a nightmare for traffic at the East Mercer Way intersection in the mornings. No-one seems to be doing anything about the traffic which already is a problem. And I don't know where they get "Revitalized" from. It is not a revitalization but the introduction of a whole other zone. I actually thought this JCC/Herzl was put to rest, I can't believe it is still ongoing. Please stop with this folly. Please make sure I am on record as opposing this massive development/city for a single-zoned residential neighborhood which the community I do not believe asked for and I am sure the neighbors do not want it and who should be consulted on as they are the ones whose neighborhood is going to be changed forever.

Sarah Fletcher

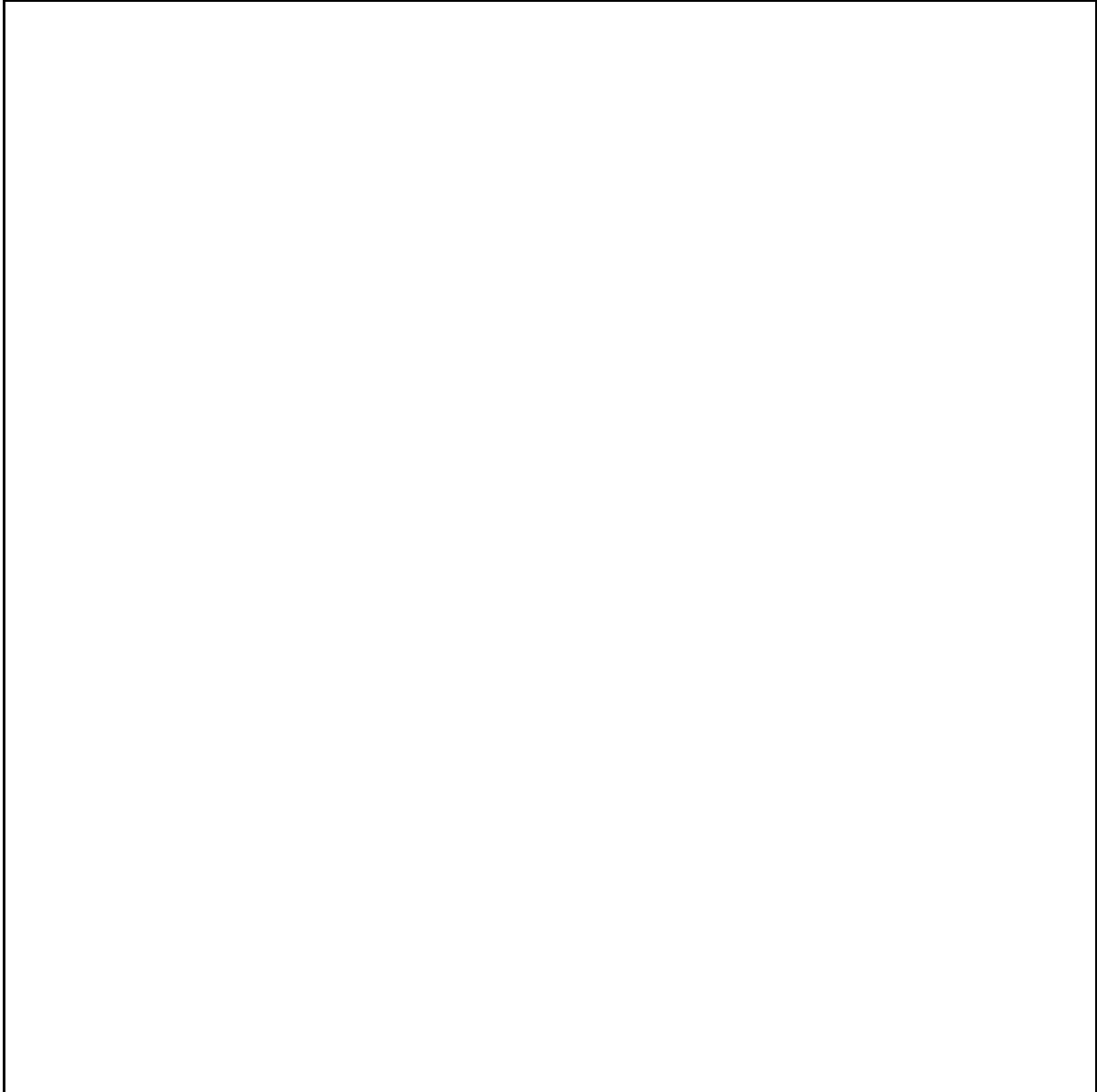
----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stroum Jewish Community Center** <enews@sjcc.org>
Date: Wed, Oct 25, 2023 at 7:03 PM

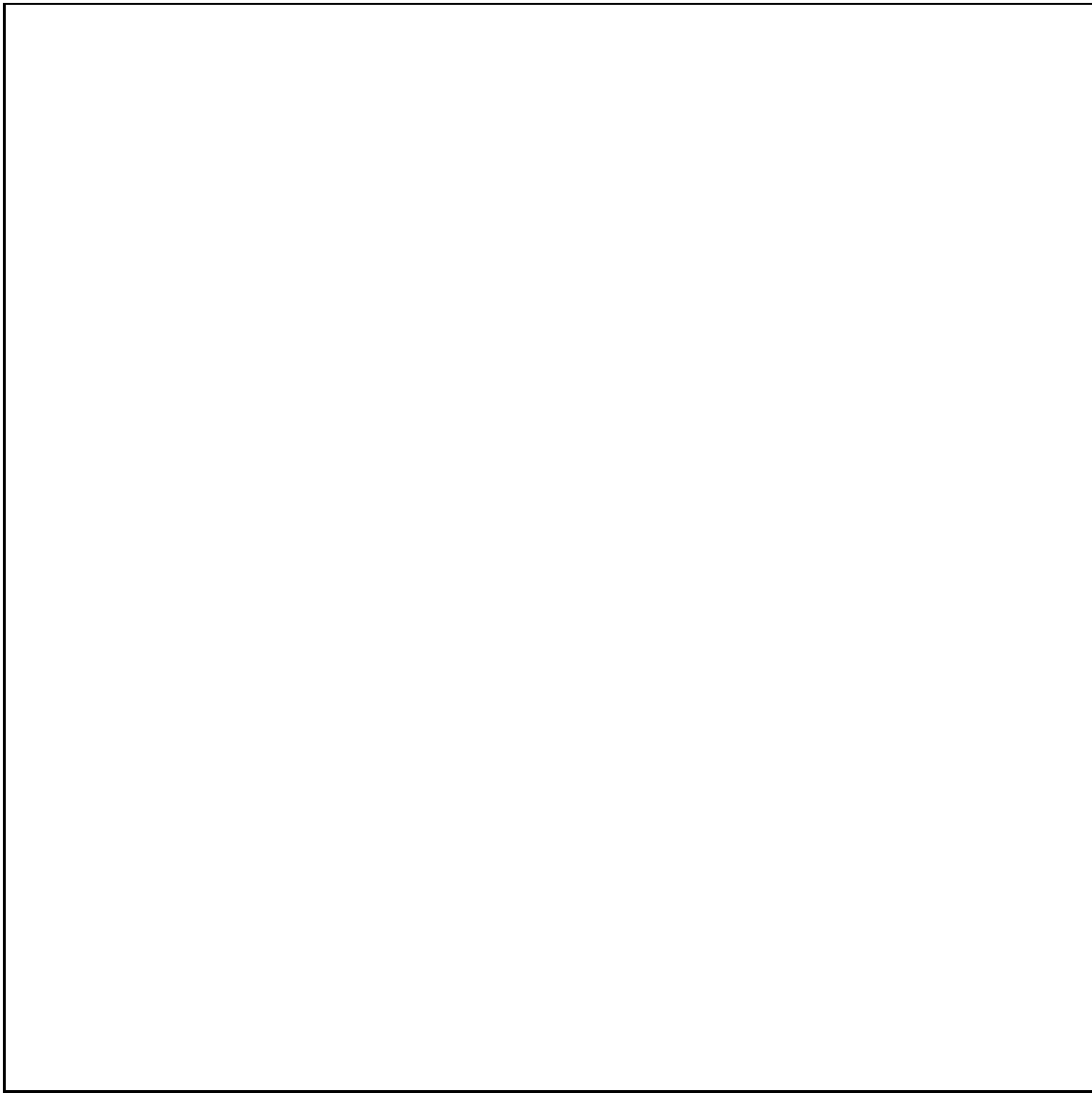
Subject: Voice Your Support for the J's Revitalization

To: <fletchsa1@gmail.com>

[View this email in your browser](#)



Community lifts us up and holds us together in the best and worst of times. The SJCC is proud to be a gathering place for our community, which is why it's more important than ever to voice your support for the SJCC's future on Mercer Island.



Voice Your Support for a Revitalized SJCC

Email the Mercer Island Planning Commission by November 15

The SJCC has announced the intent to significantly remodel our facilities and we need your help to make it a reality. Please voice your support to the Mercer Island Planning Commission **before November 15**, to request this topic be placed on the 2024 docket for Mercer Island City Council.

Here's how you can help:

1. Email your support to planning.comission@mercerisland.gov by November 15. If you prefer to compose your own message, you can find suggested email text [here](#).
2. Attend the Mercer Island Planning Commission meeting on November 15 to voice your support. Email AmyL@sjcc.org for details.

Moving Forward to Better Serve the Mercer Island Community

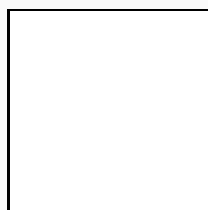
For the past 54 years, the SJCC has served the entire community of Mercer Island and beyond. Our proposed renovation will revitalize our facilities to help us build on our vision to be the most open and welcoming community-centered Jewish organization in the Puget Sound region.

Learn more about the inspiring design [here](#).

To facilitate this redevelopment, the SJCC submitted a request to the city of Mercer Island to rezone our property from a Residential zoning designation to a Commerical Office designation, which is better aligned with our operations.

The proposed renovation builds on feedback from neighbors, members, and our broader community and addresses the critical need to replace obsolete facilities and provide ADA accessibility in a safe, comfortable, and contemporary space to learn, grow, meet, and build community.

Thank you for helping the SJCC move forward.



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You are receiving this email because you opted in at our website or expressed interest in receiving emails from the SJCC.

Our mailing address is:

Stroum Jewish Community Center

3801 East Mercer Way

Mercer Island, WA 98040

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

Deb Estrada

From: Andrea Larson
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2023 7:39 AM
To: Alison Van Gorp; Deb Estrada
Subject: FW: SJCC remodel

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Comment received to Planning Commission mailbox

[Andrea Larson](#)

City Clerk
City of Mercer Island
206.275.7793 | mercerisland.gov

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From: Terry Azose <tlazose@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2023 7:29 PM
To: Planning Commission <Planning.Commission@mercergov.org>
Subject: SJCC remodel

Dear Mercer Island Planning Commission,

Please recommend that the Mercer Island City Council places the Stroum Jewish Community Center's request to rezone their large residential land parcels to Commercial Office on the docket, with action taken in 2024.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has served Mercer Island residents with programs for all ages and all are welcome. However, this building is old, is not ADA compliant, needs a working HVAC system and it features a swimming pool that is long past its usefulness.

It's time for a substantive, accessible, and sustainable redevelopment, yet the current residential zoning makes this nearly impossible. A rezone to Commercial Office property would significantly facilitate this remodel while honoring the neighborhood integrity and specific interests of the proximate neighbors.

For over 54 years, the SJCC has operated as a vital community asset. It would be a loss for the broad Mercer Island community to not support the modernization of this facility. Further, this request affects the SJCC ONLY, and will not have any impact on any other facility or institution on the Island.

The time to support the future of the Stroum Jewish Community Center on Mercer Island is now.

Thank you for your support.

David and Terry Azose
(206) 450-0995 cell
7740 81st Pl. SE
MI

We have lived on Mercer Island for 37 years and currently, all of our adult children and grandchildren live on the Island. Our children went to preschool, summer camp, swimming lessons at the SJCC before we moved to the island. All 8 of our grandchildren have gone through preschool, after school programs, swimming, camp at the J. We take classes, play pickle ball, and exercise at the J. The facilities are in desperate need of updating, remodeling and care to bring it back to the vibrant facility that will serve not only the Jewish population but Mercer Island and neighboring communities.

(David Azose, was a member of the Mercer Island planning commission for many years)