Andrew Leon

From: Jeff Goldstein <jpgoldstein56@icloud.com>

Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2023 9:03 AM

To: Andrew Leon **Subject:** File No DSR22-014

Sir,

I am writing to express my strong disapproval of allowing this project or any other residential project going forward on this site.

The downtown core, which was already lacking a significant retail presence to serve the growing population of Mercer Island, has already been severely crippled by both covid and the emptying store fronts in anticipation of the Xing Hau Project. What is needed are more retail establishments in the city core, not less.

The benefits of legislation enacted by the state, county, and city in an effort to fight climate change and lessen traffic congestion would largely be undone on Mercer Island if we fail to keep Islanders on the Island to meet their everyday retail needs.

With hundreds of new residents expected across the street in the Zing Hau project, the best way to limit their car usage, as well as others on MI, would be to provide them with eating and shopping options within walking distance. In a short while, this location will prove to be a highly desirable property ideal for just that. This needs to be planned for now before it's too late.

Respectfully,

Jeff Goldstein

Sent from my iPhone