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AUG 19 2016

CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
DEVELOPMENT SERVICE GROUP

TO: Development Services Group, City of Mercer Island

FROM: Mark Scalzo, 2915 74th Ave SE, Mercer Island

RE: Zoning Code Text Amendment ZTR16-002

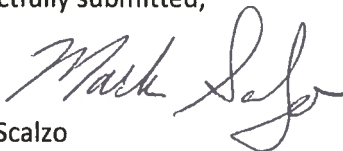
I am submitting this letter in support of the Zoning Code Text Amendment noted above. I fully support the Amendment both as a citizen of the Island for over fifty years, as well as an active real estate manager and developer. The modest changes are needed to accommodate a gift to the community that will last for generations to come.

My family lives nearby the proposed Center and we have, for years, taken advantage of the ability to walk thru the greenbelts. If the Center is to proceed the walks will not be hindered by the addition of the Center but rather enhanced by the ability to drop in and take advantage of the amenity. This is an opportunity that several neighbors are excited about. Also, it has been my experience as a developer that having the principals of a project living and working in the community in which they plan to construct helps ensure that the project will have a positive impact, and that they will adhere to the codes in place.

Specifically, to the proposed Zoning Code Text Amendments, I feel the modest adjustments requested are, once again, an improvement to the existing code, providing the opportunity for Park enhancement consistent with public use and benefit. In addition, as to parking in particular, the proposed text provides for ample checks and balances as well as further City review.

Finally, I believe it would be wise to take into account the public benefit of the stated use of the facility. This is not a request for a facility that is being developed to enrich limited individuals, but rather an entire community. The Center is an opportunity that should be fully appreciated and accepted, and allowing the Zoning Code Text Amendment help make that a reality.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Scalzo

206 232 7509