From: <u>Eleanor Wang</u>
To: <u>Robin Proebsting</u>

Subject: Comment re: Old East Seattle School Property

Date: Sunday, June 23, 2019 10:58:48 PM

I am writing to ask the City of Mercer Island to re-consider the developer's plan to demolish the building. I strong OPPOSE to the plan to demolish the historical building on the old East Seattle School property.

This property has been a public and community asset, for most of its history. It has been in the public domain with building of historical significance, and is one of the only remaining large site properties on Mercer Island and should be treated differently than other private properties. The site was a school and then a Boys & Girls Club and always an asset that extended the green-space and recreation space for the community on the north end of Mercer Island and for the whole of Mercer Island.

For history conservation and for Mercer Island Community's benefits, this building should not be demolished. The land should not be developed into multiple residences. Current owner promised to build ball field to benefit the Community at the time of purchase, and this plan is too far from his words. I also understand that this building is not in a good shape due to failure of maintenance. However, it can be renovated. It is one of the oldest building on the Island, which demonstrated our Islander pioneers' lives and hard work. Conserving this building will teach our young generations about our history. Moreover, we already got too many McMansions on the Island. There is no need to build more residences to cause negative impact on the Island. We do not have enough space for the community activities. This property has been served for this purpose, and should keep serving the entire community.

The City has already made a mistake in giving away this property without putting any restriction to limit the use in order to benefit the Community. This is the time we can fix the error to make sure that this property will still serve our community.

Thank you!

Respectfully submitted, Eleanor Wang 2236 78th Ave SE Mercer Island, WA 98040 ellieanan@aim.com