

Send a copy of your letters – to Mayor Doug Mah and Members of the Council; City of Olympia; P.O. Box 1967; Olympia, WA 98507-1967.

Join our email list. Get a yard or window sign – write us at waterfrontoly@aol.com.

Contribute to our campaign – send a check to Friends of the Waterfront; 1616 Water Street SW; Olympia, WA 98501.

WHO WE ARE

Friends of the Waterfront is a group of Olympia area residents and businesspeople who see the waterfront as a treasure -- a central feature that is vital to the health of the whole community. We advocate developing it for the benefit of the entire community, not just limited interests. We favor market-rate housing downtown – but we do not think it has to be built in the middle of this view, when there are many other available places downtown.

OUR VISION



SAVE OUR WATERFRONT VIEWS!



THE PROBLEM

Developer Tri Vo has requested a rezone of nine pieces of property on the strip of land between Capitol Lake and Puget Sound to allow buildings 90 and 65 feet high (plus up to 16 more feet of sheds on the top for equipment.) This would let him build high-rises now, on the land from the remodeled Kentucky Fried Chicken building over to the old state office high rise. It would let people build high-rises on the parking lots between Bayview Market and the Oyster House, and on three other spots down there. It would allow people to build a new high-rise where that ugly forty-year old one is when it eventually comes down.

WHAT WE WANT INSTEAD...

In twenty, or thirty, or forty years, the heart of Olympia should be a spectacular park stretching from Capitol Lake right out to Percival Landing and the boardwalk around Puget Sound, with sweeping unobstructed views up to the Capitol and out to the mountains. Granting this rezone would make that impossible.

For more information:

<http://www.friendsofthewaterfront.org>

PROBLEMS WITH THE REZONE

Misleading advertising

Triway's materials do not show the other buildings the rezone would allow. They also shoot and manipulate the photographs, like any other advertisers, to make the rezone they're trying to sell look as good as possible, or even better... If the City Council gives them a rezone, they do not have to build anything like what their current "design concept" drawings show; they can build whatever the new zoning allows and they can get past the city's Design Review Board, which has a very limited ability to turn down plans.

Loss of views

The cover image shows the city planners' visualization of the spaces that can be occupied by buildings if the City Council votes to grant the rezone. Granting this request will change the rules to enrich three or four property owners by letting them hand over the most spectacular views in the city to a few people.

Tax breaks for the rich

Triway wants to build 141 high-rise condos on its part of the rezone, across from Bayview, and to sell them for one million dollars each. The new owners would pay no property taxes on their condos for the next ten years, thanks to a city law to encourage housing downtown. They would still use city and county services though, and everybody else would pay their share of the bills for those and for local and state schools, the library, Medic One, the port, and the PUD. Triway's slogan for its plan is "City Life – it's there for the taking!" In fact, owners of these and other condos in the requested rezone would get to take the best views in the city, plus about \$95,000 each in tax breaks.

HELP US SAVE OUR WATERFRONT VIEWS

Talk to Your Friends and Turn Out!

If you don't want this rezone granted, these are the two most useful things you can do to help stop it.

Attend the Olympia Planning Commission rezone hearing — Tuesday, June 24, 6:30 p.m.; The Olympia Center (222 Columbia St. NW; downtown, next to Percival Landing). Sign in opposing the rezone proposal and, if you're comfortable doing so, testify.

(If you want to talk, arrive **early** to sign in. Tri Vo has sent his potential supporters a postcard asking them to get there and sign in at 5:30! Pro and con will take turns, but there may be more people signed up than there's time to hear.)

Other things you can do

Write a letter – **before** the June 24 hearing – to The Olympia Planning Commission; c/o Jan Weydemeyer, Senior Planner; City of Olympia; P. O. Box 1967; Olympia, WA 98507-1967

Or to – Letters to the Editor; The Olympian; P.O. Box 1219; Olympia, WA 98507 (Or email one news@theolympian.com)

Attend the June 19 forum sponsored by SPEECH:
Presenters on both sides of the issue—6:30 p.m.
United Methodist Church
1224 Legion Way SE
Olympia, WA