

Olympia Downtown Alcohol Impact Area

Public Comments Supporting Request for Mandatory Recognition

As a downtown merchant and property owner and volunteer for downtown and an everyday picker upper from 6am to almost 6pm and downtown 7 days a week, I'd like to support this AIA proposal for the downtown Olympia area! It is very true that most of the cans that are scattered in the alleys and sidewalks are the single high alcohol cans.

Thanks for your consideration.

Tim Koehler
Seldens Home Furnishings
220 Legion Way SE
Olympia, WA 98501

To whom it may concern

I am a merchant in downtown Olympia and have owned and operated the Popinjay in downtown Olympia since 1987. In the past few years I have witnessed increasingly bad behavior in the vicinity of my business. Almost every morning I have to clean up both the back and front entry to the store. Beer cans, vomit, human feces and evidence of urination are much too common. The beer cans left behind are mostly of the high impact by volume type that the city seeks to ban. I wholeheartedly think that a ban such as this will cut down the chronic inebriation that I see daily.

The other day a person pulled their pants down and urinated at my back door in broad day light. I talked to this person but she was too drunk to comprehend the conversation. I have watched so many people urinate in the alley day or night and believe that they would not act this way if they were sober.

I often go to the local convenience store to pick up milk for our morning coffee and see other customers pick up their beverages. Many have appeared quite drunk while shopping for more beer. I do not want downtown Olympia to be the favored gathering place for chronically inebriated people. At the moment it appears that this is the case.

Please ban the high volume alcohol sales in downtown Olympia. I believe this action will help give all residents an opportunity to bring their family and friends to the state's capital city to enjoy its many attributes in the comfort they should expect in civil society.

Thank you
Janis Dean
The Popinjay Inc
414 S Capitol Way
Olympia Wa 98501

Dear Liquor Control Board Members:

I support the City of Olympia's petition to prohibit sales of high-alcohol-content beverages for off-premises consumption in downtown Olympia. I live near downtown and I go there often. The city is working to improve the health, safety, and economic strength of our downtown in many ways, including developing public spaces, providing social services, cleaning up alleys and sidewalks, increasing police presence, encouraging new businesses, and promoting public events. An important part of this effort is the petition to you, to halt the sale of high-alcohol beverages by five downtown retailers you have licensed.

The City Council began this effort on a voluntary basis, as required by your rules, in April 2012. As a citizen member of the Olympia Downtown Association, I served on a task force helping city staff to monitor retailers' compliance with the Council's request to stop selling listed products. In monthly visits to the Capitol Lake Grocery on Capitol Way between April and August, I saw no significant change in what was offered and I observed several sales. In mid-August I stopped visiting the store, at the owner's request. I have no reason to think he has stopped selling these products. High-alcohol beverages seem to be a substantial part of the inventory and sales of all five downtown retailers. Since they compete in the same market, I doubt if any would stop selling them unless all do.

After I had to stop monitoring Capitol Lake Grocery, city staff asked me to walk through downtown alleys each week to look for high-alcohol beverage containers. I did this for about two months and found numerous empty cans of Dog Bite, Four Loko, Steel Reserve, Hurricane High Gravity, and other listed products. They amounted to about 80 percent of the alcoholic beverage containers I found littering our alleys near the five retail stores. This suggests that most of the public drinking downtown involves these products, bought at these stores.

I drink, and I understand that alcohol is part of our culture. I appreciate your efforts to reduce alcoholism, drunk driving, underage drinking, excessive service, and other problems. I worked with the LCB and other agencies as the crime and drug policy advisor to two Governors. I'm frankly astonished that the alcohol equivalent of four shots of 80-proof can be sold for less than two dollars in our state. Such products seem designed only to feed addiction. The people who drink them in our streets and alleys need help, and the city is working with the county, state and others to improve detoxification, treatment, and other services in the worst fiscal climate in decades. But change in anyone's life begins with motivation, and widespread sale of cheap high-alcohol beverages make it too easy to feed an addiction. You can help us build a cleaner, safer, healthier downtown by granting the city's petition and following up with effective enforcement.

Please disregard the last-minute attempt of the Washington Beer and Wine Distributors Association to derail our progress through a "voluntary agreement" with the retailers. First, the proposed agreement would not affect afternoon and evening sales. Second, it could end any time on short notice. Third, it would leave the issue in the hands of companies that have sold these products for years with no apparent regard for their consumers or the public. More than a year ago, the owner of Marine View Beverage helped city staff to narrow the list of products to be prohibited, and attended the first meeting of our monitoring task force, but as far as I know the distributors have done nothing else to help. They could have made voluntary compliance work by stopping sales to downtown retailers any time in the past year, but never did so.

Thank you for considering the city's petition and these comments, and for all you do for public health and safety.

Sincerely,
Richard D. Van Wagenen
1503 5th Ave. SE
Olympia WA 98501
360-705-1764
dvanwag@earthlink.net

ARCHIBALD

SISTERS

406 Capitol Way South • Olympia, WA 98501 USA
phone: 360.943.2707 fax: 360.943.5914

MAY 13, 2013

TO: Licensing and Regulation Division
Washington State Liquor Control Board

REGARDING: Olympia's request for mandatory recognition of the Downtown Alcohol Impact Area

Greetings,

I'm a business owner in downtown Olympia since 1975 and also currently live downtown. Based on the behavior I have witnessed and the constant empty containers; I'm very much in favor of a mandatory AIA in downtown Olympia. Being a retailer I understand the seriousness of asking another retailer not to sell something, but I believe the constant consumption of high alcohol inexpensive beverages downtown warrants that a mandatory AIA is a necessary step forward for the safety and peace of mind for all customers/visitors to the downtown area.

Best Regards,
Phil Rollins
Archibald Sisters/Owner
PBIA Board Member
Olympia Downtown Association Member

business: 360 943-2707
cell: 360 951-9182
phil@archibaldsisters.com

As a Downtown patron and President of the Olympia Downtown Association I strongly agree with instituting a permanent and mandatory AIA.

Thank you,
Tracy Knostman
VP, Branch Manager

Lacey Branch
665 Woodland Sq. Lp. SE
Lacey, WA 98503
Direct: 360.456.7705 | Fax: 360.456.2534 | Website: WCB.com



Dear Liquor Control Board:

I am writing to you as the Executive Director of the Olympia Union Gospel Mission and as someone concerned about the vitality of Downtown Olympia. In the strongest of terms, I am requesting that you vote to create the AIA in Downtown Olympia as a matter of public safety and as an act of humanity to those who do not have the will-power to control their consumption of alcohol. We find the used cans on our property and in nearby alleys; guests enter the Mission inebriated from drinking the beverages. Inebriation leads to acts of anti-social behavior on the Mission's property and in downtown Olympia. As Mission staff, we expect to have to deal with the fact that some Mission guests are inebriated, it's the nature of the work we do, but my wife does not expect to deal with it, nor should she have to, when she attends a downtown event or goes shopping.

It saddens me that some downtown merchants cannot look past income and see the negative effects from the sale of these beverages. So I am asking you to do the right thing for everyone and create the AIA in Downtown Olympia.

Sincerely,

Loren "Skip" Steffen
360-709-9725

To whom it may concern.

I am totally in agreement with a mandatory Alcohol Impact Area in Downtown Olympia. It's a necessary step to help revitalize downtown retail and increase the city's sales tax base. I am currently serving as Vice President of the Board of the Olympia Downtown Association.

Thank you.

Jerry Farmer

--

Jerry Farmer

Vice President

94.5 Roxy

2124 Pacific Ave SE

Olympia, WA 98501

360-236-1010 ext. 11

I support the adoption of a mandatory AIA in Downtown Olympia.



Thank you.

Leslie Panowicz

111 Market Street NE

Olympia, WA 98501

360.357.4943

360.956.0619 fax

www.panowicz.com

Hello and thank you for the opportunity to submit my input on Olympia's AIA.

I am a downtown business owner and the entrance to my business (Frida) is located in an alleyway that has long been a hot spot for illegal activity, in particular public alcohol consumption. The empty containers left behind are by and large cheap, high alcohol content cans. The behavior associated with this activity has directly affected my business as our clients have not felt safe entering my business through an alleyway that, both real and perceived, feels unsafe.

That said, this issue goes way beyond myself and my business. To me this is an issue of health, economic impact and overall perception of our downtown. If these beverages are removed, so is the element of "cheap and easy inebriation". We now have hard data from other cities that prove 911 calls decrease and emergency room visits go down. With an AIA our city's overall economy will reap the benefit through freed up resources of law enforcement, less strain on tax payer funded free medical services and most importantly, a healthy and vibrant downtown that feeds our city's revenue base through B&O tax and dollars spent locally, that stay in our local economy.

It is my personal opinion that these high alcohol content beverages should be eliminated across the board, not just in AIA's. They benefit no one in the long run, not even the stores that sell them who claim their profits will suffer without them. When a manufactured product has been proven to be a health risk a serious examination of that product should ensue. I believe AIA's are a step in the right direction but I would submit to you that this should be an issue that goes beyond specifically designated areas and one that should be addressed on a much larger level.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to express my thoughts.

Best,
Darren Mills
405 Franklin St. SE
Olympia, WA 98501
360-956-3600

Dear WSLCB,

I own two supermarkets in Olympia, Bayview Thriftway and Ralphs Thriftway. I support establishing a mandatory Alcohol Impact Area (AIA) in Downtown Olympia. Please vote to make this happen.

Kevin Stormans
Stormans Inc.
1932 East 4th Ave.
Olympia WA 98506
Ph: 360-596-0102
Fax: 360-754-2541
Email: kevin@stormans.com

Public Comment:

The Olympia Downtown Association is in full support of the downtown Olympia AIA. We feel the city did a good job of following all the criteria necessary to address this problem area in our downtown core.

Thank you,

Connie Lorenz

Connie Lorenz • Executive Director • Olympia Downtown Association

360-357-8948 • oda@tss.net

Dear WSLCB:

We have owned a retail store in downtown Olympia for 15 years.

The problem of public inebriation has grown dramatically over the last few years.

Just over the last 24 hours, a video camera I have installed out our back door recorded three people either urinating or defecating right outside our door. The person who defecated walked up to the back door holding a tall beer can, set the can down on the recycle bin, dropped their pants, and grabbed the beer again before stumbling away.

I have attached two photos, taken early this morning. Please take a look...it is something that we have to deal with every day. All you have to do is look at the photos.

As a business, we cannot operate successfully in an environment where the streets and allies feel like they are overrun by inebriated folks. It deters our customers, it hurts our business, and it intimidates my staff.

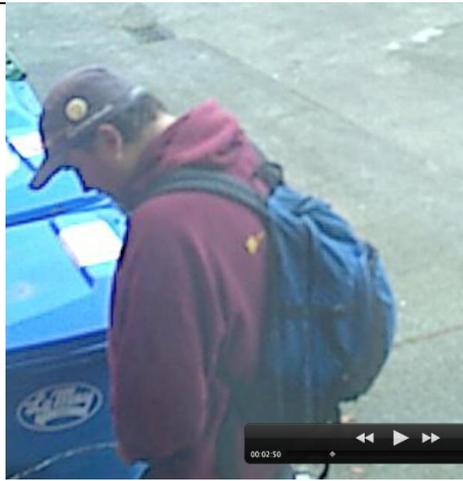
I know this is not a simple issue.

We are opening a store in the Proctor District of Tacoma. There, we have not suffered these issues. I believe it is in large part due to the fact that there is not easy access to cheap alcohol in the district. That is a major reason we are moving there.

If you want to help save downtown Olympia...literally...then I think an Alcohol Impact Area will be a major, major positive step. It might just make us want to stay.

Thank you for considering an Alcohol Impact Area in downtown Olympia.

Paul Shepherd
Compass Rose
360 870 0801



To whom it concerns, I believe that the Alcohol Impact Area is a necessary step in cleaning up our degrading downtown. Olympia suffers from a massive transient and homeless problem which is exacerbated by the new easier access to hard alcohol. The AIA is a valuable supportive measure for both the Olympia Police Department and the excellent Downtown Ambassador program. It makes sense, it needs to happen and I give it my full support as both an individual and a downtown business owner.

Thank you,

Brekke Hewitt

Wind Up Here

Toys for Kids of All Ages

121 Fifth Ave. SE

Olympia, WA 98501

P 360-943-9045

F 360-352-1228

winduphere.com

I'm in favor of it.

Regards,

Ken Adney

To Whom It May Concern

As an Olympia downtown business/ property owner since 1973 I have seen the community adversely effected by the easy availability of cheap high octane beverages. There are many other components of our decline but the banning of such drinks could at least be a beginning in the restoration of our downtown retail area. I see no positive benefit in their sale in the downtown core area. I feel a voluntary ban would be ineffective. There are only a few stores that sell it and since they are not responsible for the results like cleaning up our alleys of the empty cans, dealing with the passed out individuals at our storefront, washing the urine from our back door area, I have no empathy for the argument that it will impact their business. It already impacts mine and I don't make a dime from it.

Sincerely

Tom Anderson

117 Washington St.

Olympia, WA

360-357-5905

Dear City Council Members ~

I am in support of the proposal to establish a mandatory Alcohol Impact Area in Downtown Olympia. Implementing this proposal would contribute to a safer and healthier environment for the public who continue to support downtown merchants, restaurateurs, attractions and non-profit organizations.

Terry Teale

I have been part of downtown Olympia for over 30 years, and I have to say things have gotten much worse in terms of public drunkenness in the last 5 or 6 years. I think it would help all of the downtown businesses if these low cost high alcohol drinks were not sold here. Trust me, there is no way these few small businesses will do it voluntarily.

Thank you,

Rebecca Ehrlich, Office Manager
Ehrlich's Office Products
120 Olympia Avenue NE
Olympia, WA 98501
360-943-8344

As a lifelong resident and business owner in our Downtown, I believe that the adoption of the Alcohol Impact Area is a good first step at solving some of our issues in downtown Olympia.

With the Washington Street Market directly across from my office, I have seen countless individuals come out of the store, guzzle their cheap single serve alcohol beverages then drop the can on the sidewalk and walk away. It creates huge problems in terms of trying to clean up our town, as well as trying to market to customers to come downtown and shop. I also see about the same 6-8 chronic inebriates stumbling along our streets on a regular basis between the hours of 8AM and 5PM while I am at my office. Again, these are not individuals that are purchasing a six pack of beer, but rather a cheap, quick to consume, easy High. It is pretty easy to draw the logical conclusion that removing a single serve drink that can be obtained for less than \$2.00 is a great way to begin to deal with this problem.

I fully support the adoption of the Alcohol Impact Area in downtown Olympia.

Craig S Holt
The Other Guys Inc
120 Olympia Ave NE
Olympia Wa 98501
360-943-5118

We totally support this action. We have operated our business in downtown Olympia for three generations and recently the CPI problem has gotten out of hand.

Daily we find empty cans of the high alcohol product in our delivery area, often accompanied by garbage and human feces in this area. This is a well-lit, open area; I can only imagine the problems in less conspicuous areas.

Please affirm the AIA for downtown Olympia; it is desperately needed to preserve what is left of a wonderful downtown district.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Ehrlich

Ehrlich's Office Products
360 943 8344
360 943 8437 fax
www.pencilplanet.com

To whom it may concern:

I am a small business owner in Downtown Olympia as well as an Olympia Downtown Association Board member. I have been in support of this ordinance since its inception. We have enough challenges in downtown without the availability of high alcohol content beverages. This ordinance is very importunate to our downtown.

Jeanne Carras
Bonaventure
116 5th Ave SE, Suite A
Olympia WA 98501
360-943-4899

I have owned a business downtown Olympia for the past four years. My ability to make a living is drastically impeded by the number of inebriated people on the street on any given day. I walk two blocks to my car every evening and often walk in the middle of the street to avoid a congregation of people who are nowhere near lucid. I arrive in the morning to find vomit and feces on the sidewalks. Shoppers are scared away and choose to spend their money at the mall or in Tacoma or Seattle. I've invested my life savings in this shop and would appreciate the opportunity to allow that investment to grow, rather than having to shut down as many of my colleagues have done. I am in full support of the mandatory Alcohol Impact Area.

Sincerely,

Jo Gallagher
Matter! Gallery
www.mattergallery.com
www.facebook.com/matteroly

422 Washington St SE
Olympia WA 98501
gallery 360-943-1760
mobile 360-628-0466

Dear Liquor Control Board,

I am writing to give my support to the petition to establish a mandatory alcohol area in downtown Olympia. As building owners and former operators of a business next to the Artesian Well I can attest to the impact of these high alcohol drinks. Except for extreme inclement weather there was continual fighting, litter, urination on our building and intimidation or panhandling to our customers and employees. We had inebriated persons breaking off branches by either trying to hang from or climb our trees. And most disturbing was drinking by an underage population. There are two main stores providing these drinks in downtown Olympia and both are within blocks of the Artesian Well, Sylvester Park, Heritage Park, and the East Bay Marina area-all places that families would typically congregate were not they filled with the homeless, the inebriated, or druggies.

Please help us clean up our Capitol City's downtown by establishing this Alcohol Impact Area.

Sincerely,

Barb LaForge 605 Eastside St. Olympia, WA 98506

Dear Washington State Liquor Control Board (WSLCB):

I am writing to urge you to approve an Alcohol Impact Area (AIA) in Downtown Olympia.

I have been a downtown Olympia business owner for over 13 years, and in that time I have seen many changes in the immediate surroundings. Some of these changes are good, but many are not. While many changes in the latter category are not in your purview, one definitely is -- the sale of single-serve, high alcohol content (ABV > 5.7%) beverages. As you know, these items allow people to consume unreasonably large amounts of alcohol for less than \$3, which not only enables addiction that is horribly destructive to those individuals, but also greatly affects both the downtown and the greater community. I will address that, but first wanted to provide some additional context.

My business is on the same block as a "corner store" and there are at least two other such stores within five blocks southeast or southwest.

In short, our small downtown core is blanketed by a triangle of businesses that sell high alcohol content beverages. As someone who walks around downtown daily, I routinely see on our sidewalks, in alcoves and in alleyways, either individuals passed out or very nearly so as well as their myriad garbage, often containers from the beverages in question. From my discussions with City officials, I understand that a significant number of emergency service calls and resources are used to deal with the chronic inebriation of a very small handful of people.

This means wasting highly-trained police and medical staff and burning untold dollars on the processing and storing of chronic offenders. Our communities are making very real and severe cuts to services because of budget shortfalls, and it's a travesty that we are permitting the sale of a beverage that so obviously contributes to the negative impact on our communities fiscally, and otherwise. This pulls our police out of neighborhoods and schools, diverts money from after school programs and affects other public services that low income people rely on. This is a safety issue, this is a social justice issue, a budgetary efficiency issue, and this is an issue of local jurisdictional control where our cities and towns seek to enact a vision of what kind of community they want to be.

Establishing an AIA for Olympia is not a panacea for the many challenges that present our community. However, from the research I have seen about other localities that have such zones, I believe it would be a discrete and positive step to address a specific set of issues that have become a significant problem in my community. Voluntary compliance by sellers of high-alcohol content beverages has proven ineffective, to nobody's surprise. The time has come to cut off access to such products, by forbidding their sale in our downtown. These products are designed specifically to target lower-functioning people and maximize profit regardless of the cost to both those addicted individuals as well as society as a whole. It is unconscionable and must stop.

Please support an Alcohol Impact Area (AIA) in Downtown Olympia. Thank you for your consideration.

--

Larry Leveen
OlyBikes Locally-Owned Bike Shop
"Bikes, Parts, Repairs and GREAT Customer Service"

124 State Avenue NE
Olympia, WA 98501
Phone: 360-753-7525

Website: <http://www.olybikes.com>
(FREE bike safety & advocacy materials)

I am the building owner of Capitol Theatre Building in down town Olympia and would like to comment on this matter. My building is often vandalized and the businesses that are in my building are frequently impacted by groups impaired people in the downtown area. I specifically invest in buildings in down town regions like DT Olympia to help try to better the community and to hold high quality investments. When people vomit, commit crimes or vandalize in our downtowns it lowers the safety and quality of the environment. People stop shopping in these lower quality areas and thus reduce the value of the land and the livelihood of the businesses.

These areas are critical to the success of a community and the city! I fully support mandatory Alcohol Impact Area.

Sincerely,

Tim Shoultz

Shoultz Asset Management, LLC

timsh@shoultzam.com | (425) 417-2228

I'm an artist who depends on a gallery in downtown Olympia to sell my woodworking. i have been downtown on many occasions with my family and have been accosted by people who are obviously inebriated. even called the oly police when one of these individuals, camped out in front of a vacant store with some fellow drunks, sexually harassed my wife, while holding a pint bottle of whiskey. this seems like a law that would be of obvious benefit to the people of Olympia.

thank you in advance for enacting this Alcohol Impact Area in our town.

ray forrester

please ban high octane liquor from being served in downtown oly. keep oly safe. we love it. thank you.

mc

Greetings:

I am writing in support of a ban on high octane single serve alcoholic beverages in downtown Olympia. I am a member of a committee that holds evening meetings near Capitol Way and 4th Avenue. Many evenings after the meeting is over we escort each other to our cars as it does not feel safe to walk alone on the streets at 9:00 P.M. I believe that there would be fewer inebriated people on the streets if access to alcohol were more restricted.

I support the Olympia City Council in their request to establish an Alcohol Impact Area in downtown Olympia.

Sincerely, Linda Whitcher

7512 Cooper Point Road NW Olympia, WA 98502

Hello. As a long-time resident and business owner in Downtown Olympia and current chair of the Downtown Clean and Safe Committee of the Parking and Business Improvement Area Board, I urge you to ban high-octane single serve beverages in downtown Olympia. The low-income and transient people with addiction problems in addition to the weekend warriors who come downtown to celebrate have created an untenable levels of public inebriation resulting in a lack of awareness and courtesy in our community. I do not kid myself that this ban alone will make much difference to that culture of abuse, but it can be an important part of the work that needs doing.

Thank you,
Sarah Adams
Psychic Sister

On Thu, May 23, 2013 at 5:37 PM, cynthia salazar <capitolflorist@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello,

I am writing in support of a mandatory AIA.

As a business owner in downtown Olympia, I meet lots of folks who spend their days on the streets. For the people who are struggling with addiction, mental health issues or just plain hard luck the downtown area is a place to maybe get a few bucks or other resources. My heart goes out to them and I recognize everyone's right to be here. However, I think that things could improve substantially in my neighborhood if the city were to make the Alcohol Impact Area restrictions mandatory.

I am two doors down from the Capital Lake Grocery store, and let me tell you they are my business' greatest challenge. Some of the people they serve are not only annoying~ urinating and defecating at our back porch area, leaving cans, bottles and cigarette butts ~ they are also sometimes dangerous. There have been many times when I could not leave my shop in the care of my 23 year old employee because of the people hanging around. I feel like the restrictions on the type of alcohol available will help to keep people who are unsafe away from our door and I hope that the AIA restrictions will become mandatory.

Cynthia Salazar

Hi,

I completely support the mandatory Alcohol Impact Area.

Downtown Olympia was once a thriving independent business city where one could walk any block, safely, freely and proudly. Not Anymore.

Downtown Olympia is turning into an undesirable place due to the drunks and drug addicts that dirty up the streets with trash, vomit and human excrement.

Downtown Olympia needs some cleaning up, and the mandatory Alcohol Impact Area will help Olympia be the cool indie coffee house, green art city it once was.

Thank you,
Skie Bender
Artist and Wildlife Educator

I am in support of tougher restrictions on drunken behavior downtown. Single-serving alcoholic beverages sold at convenience stores are more likely to be consumed on the sidewalk downtown than any other kind of alcoholic beverage because of their price and their compactness. Drinkers in bars are at least somewhat regulated by their bartenders. Drinkers at home are none of our business. But drunken behavior on the sidewalk affects innocent bystanders all the time, and the cops just can't be everywhere all the time.

George Kurzman, 1517 San Francisco Ave. N.E., Olympia, Wa. 98506

To whom it may concern,

Thank you for considering an Alcohol Impact Area for downtown Olympia. I am a founder of the Olympia Downtown Association (ODA), we have been working to provide a positive environment for our citizens and families to enjoy the urban area for Thurston County. Three years ago we embarked on "The Downtown Project" this effort includes enhancement of public gathering spaces, PBIA sponsored downtown cleanup team and ambassador program to maintain an inviting downtown environment. We worked closely with the Olympia Police department and the public works group to inventory and document the debris left behind by our sidewalk and street population. The last minute effort by liquor distributors to begin a limited ban on the proposed beverages is not adequate to meet the goals for our downtown environment. The three establishments that have been in compliance with the voluntary ban were in compliance prior to the beginning of our efforts. We consulted with other Washington cities to measure the success of their AIA zones, we believe this will be a positive addition to our efforts to create and maintain a welcoming downtown for Thurston County.

Thank you for considering Olympia's AIA petition.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey I Trinin

I have been working on the issue of single can abuse in our downtown area for the last 10 years. I believe this is the best solution to many of the problems facing the development and growth of downtown Olympia. It is the only downtown for the three cities and needs the support of the state in making Olympia the capitol city. Pleas approve the Alcohol Improvement Area.

*Thanks,
Paul Seabert*

To whom it may concern;

I am writing to express my support of BANNING the sale of high alcohol content single serve beverages in bars and corner stores in downtown Olympia. I own a building and a business in downtown Olympia, right in the heart of where there are many instances of public drunkenness, fights, 911 calls and bodily fluids to clean up due to over-use of alcohol. Our business closes by 10 or 11pm but we usually have to clean up in the morning after people who were not our customers. I think this ban would be a smart thing to try for Olympia considering it's worked in other cities. I grew up in the bar/alcohol business. My dad worked for the Olympia Brewing Company for 20 years and has owned a bar in Tumwater for 30 years. I understand some people will see this as penalizing private property owners but for those of us who do not serve these drinks, we are tired of the negative impact over-use of alcohol is having on downtown's safety and enjoyability.

Thanks so much,
Connie Phegley

My husband and I have out-of-town and out-of-state guests visit us quite often. We always look forward to evening walks around downtown Olympia, going to plays and movies or having breakfast at a restaurant and then walking to the waterfront. However, that is changing. On any given morning or evening, inebriated people, feces or vomit on the sidewalks and in doorways disgust us to the point where we cannot enjoy the downtown area any more.

Olympia is a very small town compared to other larger cities. Because it is small, there are no places for drunks and drugs to go except in the heart of our city where tourists and Olympia's families want to enjoy cultural events, and evening walks. Olympia's reputation is drastically going downhill for a nice place to visit.

Sincerely,

Nancy Thorne

nancyleethorne@gmail.com

Dear WSLCB,

Downtown Olympia has suffered from the behavior of drunk and drug-addled street people for many years, and it's getting worse. Olympia business-people struggle to attract people downtown and to stay in business, while intoxicated street dwellers outside their door shout, panhandle, sleep or urinate in the street, and damage or deface public and private property. The police can't keep up with it, even in broad daylight. I believe that removing cheap, readily-available alcohol from stores in downtown Olympia would be a great first step in changing the general behavior of people on the streets. Please grant the City of Olympia the ability to establish an AIA for its own survival.

Jay Elder

As a citizen of Olympia, I am joining action to vote for ban of high octane single serve beverages.

thank you.

Larissa Jording

Greetings,

I am aware that this note will be late - that it was due yesterday- but I am sending it just the same because I am in support of creating an Alcohol Impact Area in downtown Olympia and wish to have my views known. I think it is important for the quality of our city that people - citizens and visitors alike - feel safe when visiting the downtown area. The chronically inebriated, using high-alcohol content, low cost liquor gather in an undisciplined manner and dissuade people not only from exploring the downtown area with their children, but also shopping at our local merchants. Change is needed, and this is a good step to take.

Thank you,

Ellen O'Brien Saunders

Olympia, WA

Dear Liquor Control Board:

As a citizen and a business owner in Olympia, I am in favor of a ban on the sales of high octane single serve beverages in the downtown core of the City of Olympia. Please vote for this. Thank you. Rhonda Olrick Score Used Sports Gear, LLC