City of Olympia | Capital of Washington State
P.O. Box 1967, Olympia, WA 98507-1967
olympiawa.gov

March 3, 2015

Dear Washington State Liquor Control Board Members:

As members of the Olympia City Council, we care deeply about the current state and future of our unique downtown area. One of our Council priorities is to "Champion Downtown" and to strive for a clean, safe, and welcoming downtown for all to enjoy. As our Downtown grows, we face the same challenges other communities experience as they become regional urban destinations. In an effort to achieve our goal, we created the Downtown Project, a multi-pronged effort to increase safety and cleanliness in downtown. The Alcohol Impact Area is a key piece of our plan.

City of Olympia staff recently submitted a proposal to amend the Downtown Olympia Alcohol Impact Area banned products list. As demonstrated in the City's petition, we have experienced a limited amount of success with our existing list of banned products. Unfortunately, we have also noticed that the off-premises retailers have restocked their shelves with different low-cost, high-alcohol content beverages.

We encourage the Board to accept the City's petition to amend the banned products list which will bring our AIA to a level comparable to Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane. We look forward to experiencing the same success these communities have witnessed as a result of reduced chronic public inebriate behavior.

Sincerely,

Mayor Stephen Buxbaum

Mayor Pro Tem Nathaniel Jones

Councilmember Steve Langer

Councilmember Jim Cooper

Councilmember Jeannine Roe

Councilmember Julie Hankins

Councilmember Cheryl Selby

MAYOR: Stephen H. Buxbaum, **MAYOR PRO TEM:** Nathaniel Jones, **CITY MANAGER:** Steven R. Hall
COUNCILMEMBERS: Jim Cooper, Julie Hankins, Steve Langer, Jeannine Roe, Cheryl Selby