

Joint Proclamation

Of the Capital Community Historic and Heritage Commissions

WHEREAS, the falls of the Deschutes River has been an important meeting place for the Native American peoples of Southern Puget Sound,

WHEREAS, the City of Tumwater grew from the roots of the "New Market" settlement located along the Deschutes River and Tumwater Falls,

WHEREAS, Leopold Schmidt began a brewery at the foot of Tumwater Falls in 1895,

WHEREAS, the Olympia Brewing Company constructed what is now called the "Old Brewhouse" in 1906,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse is six-stories tall of red brick, elegant arches, a copper roof with Tenino sandstone trim,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse served as the proud centerpiece of the Schmidt family brewing operation until Prohibition,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse has been associated with the Olympia Brewery which was the Capital Community's largest private employer for a significant part of the past century,

WHEREAS, the importance of the Old Brewhouse was recognized in 1978 when the property was placed on the National Register of Historic Places,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse is seen by tens of thousands of people every day from Interstate 5,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse is one of the Capital community's most iconic structures, having influenced the design of dozens of new buildings including Tumwater's City Hall, Library and Fire Station complex along Israel Road,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse has fallen into disrepair, and has not been maintained for the past few decades,

WHEREAS, the Old Brewhouse has been listed as one of "Washington State's Ten Most Endangered Historic Properties" by the Washington Trust for Historic Preservation,


WHEREAS, the City of Tumwater has adopted Comprehensive Plan goals and policies to "protect designated ... national landmarks" and "encourage the development of the Tumwater Historic Commercial Zoning District,"

WHEREAS, the City of Tumwater adopted special zoning and shoreline designation for the Old Brewhouse in the mid-1990's to encourage its redevelopment, and

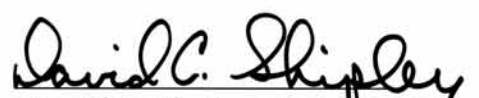
WHEREAS, the City of Tumwater commissioned four studies to help determine the redevelopment potential of the Old Brewhouse site since 1993 with the most recent study completed in 2005.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Historic and Heritage Commissions of Thurston County on this 6th Day of May 2006 that:

- 1. The Old Brewhouse is one of the Capital Community's most beloved and iconic historic resources,*
- 2. Its preservation for future generations is essential for our collective quality of life, and*
- 3. Full restoration of the Old Brewhouse is warranted so that it can serve as a functioning part of the Capital Community for the next 100 years.*


Nancy Stevenson, Chair
Tumwater Historic
Preservation Commission


Jennifer Minner, Chair
Olympia Heritage Commission


David C. Shipley, Chair
Thurston County Historic
Commission


Diane Dean, Chair
Lacey Historic Commission