

UB, April 16, 2019

If you don't like plan for land, buy that property

Letter to the editor

I appreciate the Union-Bulletin for providing in the article "Potential development worries neighbors" an example of how, as John Adams said, "[democracy] soon wastes, exhausts, and murders itself."

Private property is the only institution that can provide a solution amenable to all, but instead, some residents of Table Rock — feeling inexcusably entitled to the Bachtold property — believe that conveying their concerns to the Walla Walla City Council will somehow bring about a satisfactory resolution.

Have we already forgotten Nov. 1, 2017, when the Council members, saturated with hubris, decided it was their right to deny homeowners the ability to lease their property for short-term vacation rentals without the city's permission?

Thomas Jefferson said, "Democracy is nothing more than mob rule, where fifty-one-percent of the people may take away the rights of the other forty-nine," which is similar to how Hans-Hermann Hoppe describes democracy: "Nothing else but mob rule parading as justice." If it is justice you seek, and if you are worried about the Hayden Homes' development, find others like yourself, pool your money together, and purchase the property.

Another way to assuage your concerns is to sell your property and "go rural" in an area that you believe embodies that charming "rural character." Before the Table Rock neighborhood existed, how did the surrounding residents feel about the impending development?

Once erected, did Table Rock "break with the rest of the area's character?" Are "property values" and "tourism" just cheap buzzwords employed as a scare tactic?

Inviting any level of government to solve a social problem seems "out of character" for Eastern Washington, and believing that any politician has your best interests at heart is hopelessly delusional. Ninety-two years ago, Ludwig von Mises wrote in *Liberalism*, "The preservation of [private property]," not collectivism, "is in the interest of all strata of society."

Heed his words.

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Walla Walla