

Two things are wrong with the Wharf plans. Water and vacancies.

Water: Haines point has flooded. The Washington Harbor, just up the Potomac in Georgetown, had flooding this spring. Their 1936 flood marker is much higher than the level this spring. The flood cost millions of dollars and more than a week without electricity. They have flood gates, but, as usual with these things, they either were not put in place, they leaked, or for some other reason, they didn't work. The Potomac is one of the wildest rivers there is. The necessary political will was not present to install dams, due to the development that had taken place. Water levels will be rising, with global warming.

Vacancies: The building on the block between D and E on 7th St. SW is still virtually vacant after being finished for use more than a year. There are vacancies in the new buildings around the Waterfront station and other, older buildings there that are vacant.

A much more modest, smaller development, if any, at the Wharf would be appropriate now. Also, the businesses that have been there recently have not succeeded. If the buildings were under 95 feet, they would not block my view. At least, the development should be done in stages, to see how things go.

Another thing has developed, noise. The tennis tournament is about as loud as fire trucks going by my apartment, but it goes on for hours.

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