

Think it's about a park?

Think again.

**The unique charm
of our beautiful city is under attack.**

Disguised as community do-gooders, developers, big businessmen, trial lawyers and architects are bankrolling a campaign asking you to vote to close Albert Whitted Airport and replace up to half of it with what they claim will be a waterfront park. Now, what do *you* think the developers have planned for the remaining half?

A sudden change of heart?

They claim development is not the issue. Yet just last year, the very same special interests pushing the “park” initiative, brought massive condo plans to the City Council and, once meeting resistance, went on to form and fund the new waterfront “park” group. Are we to really believe it's just a coincidence?

Get ready for high-rise city.

With Albert Whitted Airport gone, the restrictions on high-rise buildings that have kept our charming downtown intact for so many years would also be gone, eventually creating a wall of condos and high-rise buildings that would rival Miami Beach. Look what's already sprouting up to the north. Close the airport and we open Pandora's box.

And guess who foots the bill?

Now, how much would this “park” cost you? A LOT. Because, if their devious plan succeeds, city taxpayers – not the developers – will face enormous costs to fund the decommissioning of the airport, the relocation of the sewer plant, environmental clean-up – all of that before we even get the bill for the actual “park.” The city's own studies say this will likely cost taxpayers upwards of \$100-million.

Then there are more hurdles. Under an iron-clad agreement signed with the FAA in 2001, the airport must stay open for 20 years. But the “park” charter amendment states that the airport must be replaced in 8 years. The FAA has already said that they won't budge on the contract so guess what? Now we face a nasty, lengthy and expensive court battle all paid for by – yes, that's right – your taxes.

Destroying our city history.

Albert Whitted holds a significant place in our local and national history as the birthplace of both scheduled and commercial flight. What's more, 300 families who directly or indirectly earn their livelihood from the airport would lose their jobs. And that doesn't include the multitude of businesses and individuals who benefit otherwise by a general aviation airport.

Don't believe the lies.

St. Petersburg has 137 parks but only one airport. Don't let them take our only airport away forever. If you love St. Petersburg, we can't let the special interests take control. Study the facts and it's clear: The only “green” they're interested in is money.

We can't do it alone.

The big developers are outspending our true citizen's group by more than 10-to-1. If you care about Saving Our City call us at 727-823-5200 to ask how you can help or drop a note to us at P.O. Box 488, St. Petersburg, FL 33731. Then, be sure to vote “NO” to Charter Amendment 3 and “YES” to all the rest on Tuesday, November 4th.

This paid political advertisement was proudly paid for by the Albert Whitted Airport PAC.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4th **VOTE**

