

To: Members of the Mayor's Select Committee on land usage near Queen Mary

From: Dennis Kelly, 1923 Molino Ave. #305, Signal Hill, 90755 (562) 375-0098

Subject: Proposal for a 9-11 Memorial Tower (Stairway to Heaven)

The basic concept is the construction of four massive size elevators (able to accommodate several dozen people each) placed at four corners of a perfect square rising at least 605 feet, the height of the Seattle Space Needle. These four elevators will be encased in Plexiglas so that those inside will be able to see everything as they are taken to the top of the tower, where each elevator will break through the surface of a viewing platform to off load passenger. The further these elevators are spaced from each other, the more viewing space; thus the higher it will be able to go and allow more people to mingle on a large cantilevered viewing platform.

The feature of this design is to surround the four elevators on the outside with a metal staircase that will serpentine upward around the entire structure until it breaks through the viewing platform and continues upward for another 50 to 100 feet. Going up this stairway will be ghost like statues of first responders, (12 to 24 similar to the ones made out of stainless steel in the Korean War Memorial in DC) all marching upward to the top. At the very top of the stairway will be a last statue reaching out his hand, as an Angel high above him will be reaching down to take his hand. Thus the name of the memorial is played out. Architects will have to decide how to suspend this Angel out in space on cables or trusses. At the center of the viewing platform will be a souvenir shop and tourist center (or even a restaurant). At night this tower can be designed to have lights placed in spectacular fashion surrounding it and a spotlight focused dramatically on the Angel to be seen for miles in every direction.

This tower has the potential of becoming the "Statue of Liberty" of the west coast and serving as a highlight experience for visitors. The Eiffel Tower is 1,063 ft. or 81 stories, the Statue of Liberty is 305 ft. and the Seattle Space Needle is 605 ft., in elevation. As stated, the higher this tower is the more extraordinary it will be. Funding of construction can be offset with the prospect of this attraction becoming an extremely prodigious revenue producer when you consider the thousands of people who will flock to take the elevators to the top of the **Stairway to Heaven Memorial**. Admission for the elevators should be comparable to the Eiffel Tower (\$20), the Statue of Liberty and boat shuttle (\$27) and the Space Needle (\$12 to \$15). The only question then is how many visitors could the area accommodate on a given day and evening.

I believe this is a special opportunity to further enhance the Queen Mary and harbor area a must see destination for tourists and world travelers. Firefighters from around the country and the people of New York will be inspired to see this moving tribute to the memory of those who perished on 9-11. I hope you agree. I personally seek no financial compensation for this idea whatsoever. I would just love to see it built.





