

Juneau City and Borough Mayor's Visitor Industry Task Force  
Public Hearing 1/11/20 in City Hall Chambers

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It feels wonderful to have an opportunity to share my ideas about the cruise ship situation in Juneau. Thank you.

The iceberg above the water for me:

- Too many tourists downtown: every day, morning to night, May to early October. We don't go down unless we have to. (Having to put up stanchions on Franklin for safety should give us a clue.)
- Basin Rd. traffic, both locals and tourism vehicles, has increased in quantity, speed and dust. The Unplugged Jeep tours were a surprise unwelcome addition.
- Still getting caught behind slow moving tour vans and trollies, especially on Calhoun.

But it's the iceberg BELOW the water that really concerns me:

YEAR-ROUND LOCAL RESIDENTS NEED REAL AND MEANINGFUL REPRESENTATION AT THIS TABLE. FOR TOURISM TO BE SUSTAINABLE IN THE LONG-RUN (and by this I mean that Juneau remains an environmentally beautiful and socially and culturally polite, intact place) THE IDEAS AND SUPPORT OF YEAR ROUND LOCAL RESIDENTS ARE ESSENTIAL. WE ARE THE ONES MAKING THE FULL INVESTMENTS, NOT JUST THE MONETARY ONES.

Many years ago, my husband and I attended the Waterfront Plan Presentation down at Centennial Hall, showcasing final waterfront design options. A woman who had attended all the waterfront meetings stood up and asked, "What about the option of no more cruise ship growth? You promised that option was going to be represented here!" They shrugged their shoulders, said nothing, and went on with the meeting. Wow, I thought, is this really how our town is?

And now we have an outside interest that purchased a local dock for \$20 million dollars? Wow---is that still shocking you like it's shocking me? What will this mean?

I used to enjoy meeting the hardy tourists who climbed up Franklin St. Now there are so many, I find myself averting my eyes and hoping they don't come into our yard to ask---one more time---where the Russian Church is. I don't like feeling like that. It's not who I am or who I want to be. I'm here today hoping you hear me asking for some relief and real representation.