

From: [Terry Hoskinson](#)
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: Tourism Task Force Testimony
Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2020 12:34:23 PM

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Cruise Industry Task Force

Concern: First and most importantly, I implore the assembly to direct the **legal department** to research methods by which the number of cruise ship visitors could be limited.

Suggestion: In research conducted decades ago (exploring how other U.S. ports managed the industry), we learned that restrictions were allowed if they were based on **infrastructure limitations**.

Juneau's infrastructure (road system) is limited.

All our visitors, whether walking, bussing, taxi-ing, vanning, use one road. This road is a **major artery for all of Juneau**.

South Franklin/Thane is the route between fuel docks, barge delivery docks, sewage treatment, not to mention an entire neighborhood, and the rest of the borough.

If there is a political will to tackle this issue, it seems the legal argument would make itself.

Concern: Delays in action by the assembly favor the cruise industry's growth.

Suggestion: Grant **no further waivers** to cruise industry growth until the Task Force is finished with their work.

Concern: Off season "ghost town" effect on South Franklin.

Suggestion: Explore methods of requiring landlords to either pay a vacancy tax or provide some type of activity in their valuable downtown spaces.

Concern: Financial – With the **changes in the court defined uses of our head tax** and the assembly's **exemption of sales tax** for the cruise ships, how will we pay for all the additional employees, services, repairs, etc. that are currently provided (e.g., itinerant emergency room doctors, additional EMT services, increased hospital services, additional CBJ employees,..)

Suggestion: Evaluation of the borough wide **cost vs income** of the industry.

Concern: CBJ's watershed-The Alaska Travel Adventures gold panning is taking place in our watershed. The sign downstream of the operation reads "NO SHOOTING, HIKING, DOGWALKING, CAMPING, TRESPASSING OF ANY KIND", yet upstream we have thousands of people stomping around in Gold Creek with the accompanying porta potties and vehicles for transportation.

Suggestion: Discontinue the allowance of gold panning operations or any other threat to the borough's watershed in Gold Creek.

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