

**From:** [Laura Stats](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for Visitor Task Force Pls fwd.  
**Date:** Saturday, February 1, 2020 9:19:05 PM

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Dear CBJ Members to the Task Force on Tourism,

Thank you for the work and attention to this project.

Any policy moving forward should have the climate crisis in the forefront. As the status quo has the strong power of inertia, I strongly urge you to look through a different lens when making policy for the future. Renewable energies are advancing at a surprising rate in a broader spectrum than just solar panels on roofs.

<https://e360.yale.edu/features/europe-takes-first-steps-in-electrifying-worlds-shipping-fleets>

<http://www.cruisetotravel.com/2019/09/03/aida-cruises-pioneers-in-electrification-of-the-cruise-industry/>

Ask Renewable Juneau their ideas on how to leverage and incentivize the cruise ship industry to do better. <https://renewablejuneau.org/about/>

Here are a few specific requests in other areas regarding the cruise ship industry:

- As summer is the season every Alaskan waits for, let us have one day of the week that is cruise ship free.
- Let us have areas that are designated tourist free or have a quota of permits or zoning for different trails.
- Set up a much needed emergency call system for the Thane area. A systematic method of notifying crossing guards of an emergency situation to make the right of way available.
- Create an education campaign for citizens of Juneau on TMBP and who to call when there is an inconvenience or a violation of practice.
- Protection of whales with consistent monitoring of whale watching businesses via the Coast Guard, DEC or Fish and Game.
- Ask the Cruise Line industry to be good neighbors as they cruise up from Marmion Island. Ask cruise ships to slow down to decrease dangerous wake, to avoid announcements on the PA on the ship as sound is carried long distances by the water to the Thane and residents and residents of Lucky Me on southern Douglas Island. Ask the cruise ships while in town to turn off the huge light source of the monstrous TV type monitors on the top decks. Community members with water views from town see this annoying light source.
- Before permitting an additional floating dock, let's see if it is really needed.
- If Alaska State Ranger Program is being discontinued by this administration, use head tax monies to cover the cost when entering the Gastineau Channel.
- Look into a Juneau Port tax to raise more money to be used in Juneau for mitigating the impact of tourism. Set long term goals and saving the money.

Here are some big ticket items to use the money on. Electric busses to take tourists to the glacier. Later, a light rail to the Glacier Visitor Center.

- Cap the number of visitors that cannot be exceeded.
- Keep the gate on Basin Road closed on a year round basis instead of opening it in April. There is no reason public vehicles need to go past that gate. If there are a number of tourism ventures (gold panning) wanting to past the gate, it first should be negotiated with the neighborhood association and CBJ to determine how many “permits” for this venture would be available.

Lastly, the Norwegian Cruise Line recently bought the Mental Health Trust Land for a sizable price tag for the purpose of a dock. Keep everything about this very transparent. I am not for allowing a dock. The public is under the impression that dock permits have been turned down in that area in the past.

Thank you again for working on this important issue.

Kind regards,  
Laura Stats