## **Brenwynne Grigg**

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: Brent Bitterman Tuesday, October 6, 2020 9:53 AM Economic Stabilization Borough Assembly Covid-19 Impact in 2020

To whom it may concern,

As you know, 2020 has been disastrous for the tourism industry worldwide. I would argue that Juneau and the businesses that serve the cruise ship industry in particular have been disproportionately harmed. As the COO of Alaska Luxury Tours based in Juneau, I'm qualified to state that the lack of cruise ships and independent tourism has crushed our company. We experienced a 90% drop in revenue in 2020 from 2019. This loss forced us to lay off 80% of our workforce...and we feel fortunate compared to others.

Alaska Luxury Tours is a seasonal business that hires 15-20 employees from April-October each year and makes 100% of revenue from May 1 - November 1. We are only one of hundreds of companies and employees in Juneau that have had to deal 18 months without revenue. To make matters worse, without ships currently running, we potentially face a slower 2021 season if any at all. Please consider creating an Extreme Hardship Grant Program, Juneau businesses need your help.

All the best,

Brent Bitterman | Chief Operations Officer Alaska Luxury Tours o. 971.770.2675 | m. 480.886.9100 | e. <u>Brent@alaskaluxurytours.com</u> Luxury is the difference. Take a look at <u>this.</u>

