

FW: For the VITF !

From: Susan Schrader
Sent: Friday, May 15, 2026 10:51 AM
To: City Clerk <city.clerk@juneau.org>
Cc: Alexandra Pierce <Alexandra.Pierce@juneau.gov>
Subject: For the VITF !

EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Hello City Clerk:

Please ensure that this email AND the article attached below as a PDF is provided to the members of the VITF and posted at the VITF website under public comments.

My message to the VITF:

- Thank you, members of the VITF, for your time to serve on this task force
- As a community advocate working to minimize cruise-ship related impacts to my Juneau community, I am providing you with an insightful opinion piece that appeared in the Otago Daily News on May 13, 2026. I very much encourage you to read it **prior** to your ongoing discussions.

- Otago is a region on the southern half of the South Island of New Zealand
- Dunedin, its main urban area, has 104,000 population; Otago received 110,000 pax and 47,000 crew in the 2025-2026 cruise ship season. (See Otago Daily Times Online News)
- James Higham, the writer of the piece, is a professor at two universities; see his byline at the end of the article

Many community advocates, myself included, have asked, for years, that an INDEPENDENT cost-benefit analysis be done to truly evaluate the purported economic benefits that +/- 1.6 million cruise ship PAX a season provide our borough. Obviously, despite 1.6 million cruise ship PAX, the budget shortfalls CBJ is currently facing will preclude any such analysis being conducted in the near term - an unfortunate situation for all of us.

I hope you find this attached opinion piece as insightful and thought-provoking as I have.

PLEASE NOTE: the highlighting in the article is mine.

Susan Schrader
West Juneau

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Sue Schrader