11/4/26

To: City Clerk

Please forward these comments to the Visitor Industry Task Force.

I submitted comments to the VITF (along with many others) in June regarding noise impacts of helicopters and floatplanes serving cruise ship tourists. As I live directly across the channel, about a mile from the cruise ship docks, I continue to be disturbed throughout the day by noise from aircraft serving cruise ship tourists. The current VITF recommendations make no attempt to address this concern. Nor do the VITF recommendations address helicopter noise in any meaningful way.

Perhaps the VITF feels that the problem of floatplane noise has been solved by the change to turbine engines on the downtown floatplanes. While initially this may have resulted in a decrease in noise from individual aircraft, since then the number of visitors has increased substantially and as a result there is far more floatplane traffic compared to 10 or 20 years ago. Now, the noise is as bad as ever! The VITF can't give themselves a pat on the back for "problem solved". Floatplane noise needs to be addressed.

I am also affected by the excessive helicopter noise, particularly near the Mendenhall Glacier. I can no longer enjoy hiking the West Glacier Trail and Montana Creek Trail for example, because of the constant din of helicopters. I can find no meaningful recommendations from the VITF to address helicopter noise.

The current volume of cruise ship tourism is simply not manageable, and meaningful limits need to be considered.

In general, I find the current VITF recommendations though numerous, fail to address the substantive issues. Quantity isn't the same thing as quality!

**Please consider the problem of excessive floatplane and helicopter noise in a substantive way! And don't keep dodging the need to put effective limits on the number of cruise ship passengers in Juneau.**

Thanks,

Carl Schrader
[redacted]