From: Dante Reyes
To: City Clerk
Subject: Comments/Statement on VITF Priority #7
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Dear City & Borough of Juneau City Clerk and Visitor Industry Task Force.

Juneau Resident's Statement on VITF Priority #7

As a Juneau resident, I strongly support VITF Priority #7 regarding the Department of Transportation's ongoing, DOT-funded restructuring of the roundabout outside the Red Dog Saloon. I commend the efforts to improve traffic flow, enhance pedestrian safety, and make this important downtown area more attractive and welcoming to residents and visitors alike.

I would also like to express my strong support and appreciation for the proposal to **relocate the Dr. Jose P. Rizal Monument to the center of the roundabout.** I believe this would be a meaningful and fitting tribute to Dr. Jose Rizal, the national hero of the Philippines, whose ideals of freedom, education, patriotism, and service continue to inspire generations.

Placing the monument at the center of the roundabout would give it greater visibility and prominence, making it a significant landmark in downtown Juneau. It would also recognize and celebrate the contributions of Filipino Americans to the Juneau community and strengthen the cultural connection between the Philippines and Alaska.

While supporting the necessary improvements to traffic circulation and pedestrian safety, I respectfully encourage DOT and the project stakeholders to preserve and incorporate the existing flowers and landscaping into the redesigned roundabout. The beautiful flowers and greenery add color, character, and charm to our downtown, making Juneau a more inviting place for everyone.

I commend VITF, DOT, and everyone involved in this initiative for their efforts to improve our community. With thoughtful planning, the roundabout can become more than a traffic improvement project—it can be a beautiful, safe, and meaningful public space that honors our cultural heritage while enhancing the appearance of downtown Juneau.

Thank you for considering the voices of Juneau residents and for supporting improvements that benefit our entire community.

Thank you.

Dante Reyes
Finance Officer, Filipino Community, Inc.

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