From: Todd Miller
To: City Clerk
Cc: Borough Assembly
Subject: comment on VITF 2026 Draft Recommendations
Date: Thursday, November 5, 2026 11:27:44 AM

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Dear CBJ Visitor Industry Task Force and Assembly Members,

I am writing as a Juneau resident about VITF Priority #7: "Support DOT's restructuring of the roundabout outside the Red Dog Saloon (already underway and DOT-funded) for traffic flow and pedestrian safety; advocate for keeping the flowers/landscaping."

I support efforts to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety downtown. However, I am concerned that this priority does not consider the potential impacts to Manila Square and the Dr. José Rizal Monument, which are centrally located between the current roundabout and the Red Dog Saloon. Dedicated in 2002 through a partnership between the CBJ Assembly and Juneau's Filipino community, this space is of great cultural significance to our community and to the many tourists and cruise ship workers who visit it.

I support keeping and expanding the greenery in this area. Vehicle and pedestrian traffic should not dominate the character of this space. Juneau residents live here year-round, and this area should be shaped first by beauty and culture, with tourism managed within that framework. With this in mind, the reconstruction of the area is a fantastic opportunity to highlight Juneau's unique culture and heritage, including the history of the Filipino community, for residents and visitors alike.

If the roundabout is redesigned, I offer the following suggestions:

- Incorporate Manila Square and the Rizal Monument as the center of the roundabout, developing a small park with seating and possibly covered areas.
- Use planters and trees around the circle to guide pedestrians to safe crossings and keep them out of traffic, with the monument at the center.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Todd Miller
Twin Lakes