



Juneau Commission on Sustainability

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To: Carole Triem, Chair, Visitor Industry Task Force
Committee Members, Visitor Industry Task Force

CC: Alicia Hughes-Skandjis, Assembly Liaison, JCOS

From: Duff Mitchell, Chair Juneau Commission on Sustainability

Subject: Visitor Industry Impacts-Dock Electrification Background Information

Date: November 18, 2019

Dear Chair Carole Triem and Visitor Industry Task Force members

The Juneau Commission on Sustainability (JCOS) discussed the Visitor Industry Task Force at our November 3rd meeting and requested that I provide your task force with the JCOS Dock Electrification backgrounder report along with our ship visit report of the Royal Princess this past summer. Further, we would like to highlight for the Task Force that both the Juneau Climate Action and Implementation Plan and our Juneau Renewable Energy Strategy call for actions to electrify our Juneau docks to reduce emissions and move toward renewable energy sources to fuel our local industries.

Our purpose in sharing this information is that many West Coast communities, including Juneau, have and continue to look at the impacts of tourism on their communities and emission reduction along with renewable energy transformation and use to help avoid and mitigate the impacts of growing tourism numbers as a means to develop an economically viable tourism industry in Juneau with decreased local impacts.

Additionally, we want Task Force members to be aware that our Juneau Docks and Harbors was issued \$250,000 last year to determine what actions are required to electrify the Juneau 16B docks as a means to decrease cruise ship emissions while at CBJ owned facilities.

Another piece of information that we would like to bring to the Task Force attention is that the representatives of the Norwegian Cruise Lines that recently made a substantial land investment in our community are also on the public record of supporting dock electrification. From the October 19, 2019 edition of the Juneau Empire quoting Howard Sherman, EVP- *“Sustainability is important at Norwegian. We have very strict environmental guidelines,” Sherman said. He said that the ability to connect to shore power, something not available at the current cruise ship dock, was something the company wanted.*

In addition to advising the Assembly, JCOS is charged with identifying and seeking funding sources for sustainability initiatives. Our initial research and analysis indicate that there could be federal funding sources (with a unified and concerted effort by CBJ, Docks and Harbors and industry) to build dock electrification and electrical infrastructure required to move Juneau to a leading shore power port and set an example for community/industry cooperation.

JCOS believes that dock electrification is an important community-supported value and action item to be addressed by your task force in its important visitor industry analysis. We appreciate your efforts that all members of this task force have taken to date. We humbly submit for review and consideration of the information we are providing as you analyze and make visitor industry recommendations to move our community forward in a collaborative and mutually supportive manner.

Sincerely submitted on behalf of the entire Juneau Commission on Sustainability,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Duff Mitchell', written in a cursive style.

Duff Mitchell
Chair

Attachments:

JCOS Dock Electrification Backgrounder

JCOS Royal Princess visit report on Princess Cruises sustainability operations