

**From:** [Brian Flory](#)  
**To:** [City Clerk](#); [Borough Assembly](#)  
**Subject:** Comments concerning Dec 3rd Task Force meeting  
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One of the problems with the Task Force is that residents who are concerned about the excesses of the cruise industry are poorly represented and we are not allowed to make comments. Industry lobbyist like Mr. Day, who are paid to be there, have a place at the table yet residents are only going to grudgingly be given 3 minutes to speak at the upcoming public comment meetings. He are some counterpoints that should have been said at the meeting to help the debate on ideas:

1. You are too much focused on downtown only. I appreciate the review of the waterfront situation, but you need to expand consideration to address problems area-wide. Just as the City Manager's presentation was meant to show a view of the cruise industry on the whole coast, so the Task Force needs to consider the wide-ranging problems caused by the industry throughout CBJ. Yes, you can still meet plenty of people who say "Oh, I just don't go downtown", but there are plenty of others who are deeply concerned by flightseeing noise all around the valley, Auke Bay and all our alpine ridge trails on the mainland; pollution belching buses jamming all the main roads, plugging up the round-a-bout in Auke Bay and blocking the highway as they try to turn in at Allen Marine; crowds at the Glacier; trail use and meeting 5 commercial groups in about 7 minutes on East Glacier; you have already mentioned the problems of the explosive growth in whale watching boats. There are more problems than just downtown congestion.
2. Mr. Day: No, we do not need to reopen the waterfront plan just so you can lobby for an NCL dock. At present there are no circumstances under which CBJ should lease any tidelands to NCL. WE DO NOT WANT ANY MORE DOCKS.
3. Mr. Bryson: You over emphasize the contribution of the cruise industry and you focus only on economy. This is the reason we are having such problems right now. The public discussion is always driven only by economic values, while the very definition of "quality of life" suggests other considerations. Cruise tourism has huge impacts on the people living in Juneau and comes at a great cost at the present numbers of passengers. Year-around residents contribute to and are the heart of our community, yet all I get for it is the opportunity to listen to helicopters all day every day, 6 months a year.
4. Cruise ships have no where else to go and it is ridiculous to constantly threaten us that they will leave. The dock construction in Icy Strait is evidence of this desperation on the part of the industry to find more docks. They will never abandon a port like Juneau. Remember you spent the October meeting openly discussing how highly rated Juneau is as a destination. That desirability will not go away just because we stand up for our rights for once.
5. Mr. Dahl: Visitor dissatisfaction will not limit the excesses we are already experiencing and things will only get worse. By nature, those of us who made a choice to live here, usually have values of space, outdoor recreation and a desire for some tranquility and nearby wilderness solitude that the average visitors from crowded locations do not have. Our

threshold is different, not to mention we live here every day of the year, not just one day to visit.

6. Mr. Blanchard: Thank you for introducing yourself before the meeting. I appreciate meeting you. The idea of balancing the busy days with the less busy is not helpful because the industry will achieve this by shoe-horning in more people on the less busy days, not reducing those on the busy Tuesdays. In fact, from a look at the 2020 schedule, it looks like this is already happening. WE NEED TIME OFF during the week WITH NO SHIPS. The past model of ships 7 days a week is one of the biggest problems. We need a break. The slow days gave us a slight one in the past but they are no more. WE NEED A DAY OFF EACH WEEK. No ships. The past Monday morning without ships for example gave us just a few hours of breathing space. We could hike without helicopters overhead, we could go to the glacier without mobs of tourists.

7. As Ms. Terrel said, the industry is certainly NOT self limiting. They have run amok from day one here and we have plenty of evidence of that in the recent unregulated growth. NCL didn't pay 20 million so they could limit themselves. We must push back hard now, and stand up for our community, limit passenger numbers and stop any further dock builds. The industry will kill the very goose that laid the golden egg if we stand by and wait for them to limit themselves, or for passenger "dissatisfaction" to limit them once everything has been trashed here and half our current residents leave.

8. There are two main problems with the cruise industry: 1. No end in sight, and 2. Every single day of the season, which has grown to be from late April to early October. In 2001 Mr. Day wrote a letter to the editor criticizing concerned residents as "not wanting to share Alaska with visitors". It was clear then and still is now, that Mr. Day and the cruise industry will always put their passengers ahead of us, and they will never share Alaska with residents who ask for some moderation. The role of our elected government then, is to see that residents rights are respected and that we who live here have our share of the summer too.

Thank you,

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