

January 11, 2020

Dear CBJ Staff and Tourism Task Force Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to share my concerns regarding the impact of industrial tourism in our community. I am not opposed to tourism and I am a frequent tourist myself.

I previously submitted some of these concerns to you in a December email.

1. During the 2019 Cruise Ship season, May through October, ships offloaded 3,057,170 pounds of garbage into our Juneau landfill. This includes the usual suspects as well as jugs and barrels previously containing chemicals, 100's of mattresses, bedding, 200 chairs in September, furniture, slot machines with electronics removed, worn ship line and much more.

Why do they choose to dump here? Why are they allowed to dump this volume of garbage when we have limited space and few options for a landfill?

Can they barge their garbage to their homeport instead or invest in an incinerator?

2. Have you ever noticed during tourism season how the shelves at Fred Myers are often empty of common items? I asked a long time FM employee about it one day and she said they have a hard time keeping up with stock as the cruise ship people come in and clean an entire item from a shelf. Not that I resent the crew trying to take care of family needs abroad however it is an impact to those of us who live here.

3. We are being pushed out of our most accessible recreation areas. Sharing an outdoor experience with crowds of people is not why we live here. I am very saddened to learn that CBJ has decided Eaglecrest now needs to cover costs with increased revenue. Eaglecrest management and the board have worked diligently to find ways to meet that demand. I listened to a presentation of proposals and know in my heart if this comes to pass we will be pushed out of yet another accessible recreation area in the summer season.

4. We must limit the number of ships and passengers and give Juneau back at least one free cruise ship day as we had in the past. We have been willing to share and I feel our hospitality has been taken advantage by a cruise ship industry with seemingly no self-regulation and a lack of local governance.

The notion that if we limit port visits, "they will not come", is a false concept. There are seven different countries I am aware of who have already set limits because of the impact of industrial tourism and even with the limits tourism is alive and well.

5. In the maritime profession it is common knowledge that the cruise ship industry is the worst violator of environmental marine law and yet state and local leadership is willing to limit oversight.

I look forward to your meaningful proposed solutions to this out of control tourism growth negatively impacting our daily lives.

Thank you.

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