My name is Bruce Weeks. I've lived in Thane for 4-5 years, prior to that Auke Bay area for 10-11 years. A key there is Thane. If I didn't live in Thane I'm not sure I'd be here testifying, which I didn't decide to do until I walked through these doors.

Though I have many concerns about cruise tourist growth, let me focus on congestion for a moment. I am frustrated by the congestion on South Franklin that I drive through daily, sometimes multiple times a day. During tourist season I lose the equivalent of two 8-hour work days driving through that traffic. The congestion increases the number of fender-benders.

Cap. The tourism industry already abides by a cap. They don't allow 30,000 people on a ship. Why? For safety reasons primarily, but also because of quality-of-experience reasons. For the same reasons I argue for the city regulating and limiting this growth. The

congestion on South Franklin is a safety issue. An emergency vehicle cannot get through in a timely manner. Anecdotes from Thane residents can attest to that. And the explosion of cruise-ship tourists is a quality-of-life issue, at least for me and some other speakers.

I am interested in ways to mitigate the problems caused by cruise ship tourism. However, I am skeptical of some of these solutions. Example, one potential solution I hear is to create a bus pull out closer to the bridge, and to circulate passengers there. Without regulating growth, here's how I expect that will go. The haul-out may temporarily relieve congestion. If that occurs, it will be viewed by some that the problem has been solved, more ships and tourists will then come, and ultimately you will have the same congestion, except then instead of it extending about the current 400 yards it will extend over a mile.

So, regarding some of the items on the screen regarding charging questions:

<u>Management</u> - I too do not doubt the integrity of the task force. However, I do question whether it accurately represents the sentiment of this community.

<u>Restriction</u> - No more cruise ship docks. I see this as a flash point.

<u>Public Opinion</u> - I'm in favor of a survey. However, I am skeptical about how that will play out given we're dealing with a litigious industry that will outspend the opposition 40:1, if history of these types of surveys or ballot initiatives is a guide.

~~In the words of a previous~~

I suppose these remarks put me among those with a "pitchfork", if we're going to use the words of a previous speaker. I recognize the livelihoods of many in this community rely on the tourism industry. However, let's keep in mind that virtually nobody is talking

about reducing or eliminating what is already here. We've talking about what to do going forward. I'm in favor of both working with and accomodating the industry, but also restricting growth in some form.

Thank you.

Bruce Weeks