

February 4, 2020

Visitor Industry Task Force  
155 S. Seward Street  
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Later this month, there will be discussion with the Assembly of a proposed tidelands lease application for transfer of ownership from the State to the City and a concurrent tidelands lease application from the owner of the Franklin (Princess) Dock, Franklin Dock Enterprises (FDE) to the Harbor Board. Both applications involve some additional tidelands adjacent to existing CBJ and private tidelands surrounding the Franklin Dock.

FDE is seeking some additional tidelands needed to add a floating dock structure to its existing fixed dock. At the time the Franklin Dock was constructed in 1996, it became the third fixed cruise ship dock in Juneau, joining the two wood piling city docks. Today, there are four cruise ship docks of which Franklin remains the only fixed dock.

The purposes of the proposed project are threefold:

1. To increase the efficiency and safety of embarking and disembarking passengers at the dock. The current dock can already handle the largest of Princess' ships but a floating structure allows people to get on and off the ship more easily, regardless of the tide levels without having to move gangways 5-6 times on some days.
2. To make the approach and departure from the dock safer for the ships as it would allow a shallower approach to the dock by bringing the dock face further out into the harbor, closer in alignment to the two city docks.

3. To allow ships to dock in either direction which could provide for increased use of the existing Princess shore power system by other ships on non-Princess ship days. Currently we can accommodate shore power on ships with port side connections but not starboard side. This floating berth could promote the use of a mobile shore power jib which would allow for both portside and starboardside connections and ships would simply be using shore power not being used on non-Princess days. This could increase shore power use by upwards of 20 ship calls in 2021.

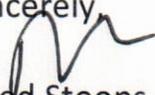
This effort would not preclude the CBJ from continuing their work towards electrifying the city docks.

The new proposed float would be similar to the two new city floating berths. It would be designed for both passenger and vehicle access which would permit emergency vehicle access to the float.

The proposed dock would not increase the number of cruise ships coming to Juneau and it would not add a berth to our current port infrastructure. In 2019, Princess' largest ship, the Royal Princess successfully docked at Franklin Dock. A floating dock would simply mean quicker and safer movement of passengers and would be particularly helpful to passengers with mobility challenges. It was for those same reasons that the CBJ converted its fixed docks to floating berths.

We look forward to sharing our plan with City leaders and the community going forward.

Sincerely,



Reed Stoops

Franklin Dock Enterprises