

From: njdavis@gci.net
To: [City Clerk](#)
Subject: CBJ - VITF
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EXTERNAL E-MAIL: BE CAUTIOUS WHEN OPENING FILES OR FOLLOWING LINKS

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. As a 40 year resident of North Douglas, I am questioning if I can continue to live here. Last summer, Juneau was intolerable. Juneau has become a place I would not visit as a tourist - rows of cruise ships, thousands of people and tacky souvenir shops dominate our town. Howard Sherman of NCL compared Juneau to Cozumel or Miami. Really?? Is that our vision of Juneau?

My suggestions:

1. Reduce the number of cruise ship calls. There are too many people. All the other problems start with this. Juneau is a town of 30 thousand, not 2 million.
2. No new docks. No more 'hot berthing'.
3. Move the flight seeing helicopters out of town. The icefields are 1500 sq. miles. Helicopters do not need to fly over residential areas.
4. Reduce the number of buses on our roads. Mandate electric buses by 2022.
5. Rein in the whale watching boats. They are a safety hazard to other boaters and will drive the whales away. How soon before the only whale in Juneau is a concrete one?

A few more points:

A noise pollution study needs to be done for Bonnie Brae, Twin Lakes, North Douglas area. The helicopter noise is intolerable. Why is a helicopter pad in a residential area? If grandfathered in, then reduce flights to the original level.

Cruise ships totally dominate multiple areas of Juneau 5 months of the year restricting or eliminating use by residents. The industry uses our city as a "private island". I feel the cruise ship industry should pay for "renting Juneau" for 5 months. Equitably they should be paying 42% (5\12) of our city budget instead of 24%.

I would also like to point out that the rise of the cruise ship industry as been in lock step with the decline of the Alaska Marine Highway System. My first trips to Juneau in the 60's and 70's were on a ferry. I think we can thank the cruise ship industry with millions spent on 'sexy' advertising and poor decisions by AMHS for where we are now. Like so many things, there is no going back and it is going to cost us.

Finally the cruise ships take a tremendous toll (power, heat, noise, smog, waste) on our environment at a time when we are undergoing significant environmental change. Can this small, enclosed eco-system withstand the addition of 1.5 million (and growing) more people? What will be left for us who live here?

Thank you for this opportunity to comment,

Nancy Davis and Joe Newman
North Douglas