



# Port of Juneau

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City & Borough of Juneau • Docks & Harbors  
155 S. Seward Street • Juneau, AK 99801  
(907) 586-0292 Phone • (907) 586-0295 Fax

**From:** Visitor Industry Task Force DRAFT Recommendation Review Special Committee  
**To:** Docks & Harbors Board  
**Via:** Docks & Harbors Operations & Planning Committee  
**Date:** November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
**Re:** VISITOR INDUSTRY TASK FORCE DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

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1. The Mayor's Visitor Industry Task Force completed their draft report on April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 after months of public meetings, public input, and deliberations from a ten member panel. Although the Port Director, Docks & Harbor staff, or Board Members attended most of the meetings, Docks & Harbors was not officially represented on the Task Force. As many of the recommendations clearly pertain to operational or infrastructure management, in the purview of Docks & Harbors, it is appropriate for the Board to communicate to the Assembly on topics which Board members have expertise. When and whether the Task Force will reconvene is currently unknown. The Chair of the VITF, at the Docks & Harbors Special Committee meeting of August 27<sup>th</sup>, suggested the Board provide comments directly to the Assembly.
2. The Docks & Harbors Special Committee to review the DRAFT recommendations thoroughly discussed the process and examined appropriate responses at public meetings on August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 21<sup>th</sup>, October 13<sup>th</sup> and October 30<sup>th</sup>. The Special Committee was in general agreement, despite the pandemic and uncertainty whether the cruise industry will return to 2019 passenger numbers in Juneau, that providing guidance and insight to the DRAFT recommendations was a beneficial exercise to undertake.
3. The Special Committee discussed the tone of the DRAFT recommendations and whether it sends the appropriate message. It has been pointed out, that some could interpret the DRAFT recommendations as a laundry list of everything wrong with tourism in Juneau without the counter balance of the importance of tourism to many Juneauites, including many harbor patrons. Docks & Harbors has prided itself on advocating infrastructure and management of facilities, which enable all user groups to thrive, including privately owned vessels as well as international conglomerates.
4. The attached enclosure provides comments and consensus from the working Special Committee to review the DRAFT recommendations. The Special Committee focused its efforts on the "recommendations" of the document and provided comment in appropriate areas.

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Encl (1) VITF DRAFT Recommendations with Board Comments