



ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Jul 6, 2022

Assembly of Skagway
Municipality of Skagway
PO Box 415
Skagway, AK 99840

Dear Mayor Cremata and Members of the Skagway Assembly,

The Skagway Development Corporation (SDC) would like to express our support for Ordinance No. 22-05. As well as thank Mayor Cremata and Assembly Woman Potter for their swift effort to prevent the use of programs like the Prince Cruise Medallion Class program/ Princess OceanMedallion within the Borough of Skagway.

SDC is a local non-profit that, in combination with its sister organization SDC-Community Development Services, aims to help Skagway achieve a sustainable economy and resilient community. To accomplish this goal, we not only support the growth and development of new industries within Skagway, but we also work to support existing industries, pursue initiatives that support a better quality of life for our residents and work with small businesses to help them start and/or grow within the community. While the Medallion program may be voluntary for businesses to participate in, SDC feels that, in general, programs such as these should not be allowed. The existence of these programs poses a greater risk to our businesses, industry and community by presenting ports as unsafe and owned by the cruise lines to our visitors while also making business owners feel pressured into participating in such a program that takes a large percentage of the business's sale revenue while also retaining guest purchasing information, and thus, a business's proprietary information.

As the business community has expressed through their collaborative June 15th, 2022 letter, a program like the OceanMedallion would be detrimental to our business community. SDC appreciates your swift action to address this program and the concerns of our local, small businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kaitlyn Jared". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kaitlyn Jared
Executive Director
Skagway Development Corporation