10/05/22

Assembly and Mayor,

Due to the rock slide and other issues, I am writing some quick suggestions. In case you aren't aware, I am a professional civil engineer by trade, with experience in design, construction inspection, and inspection of several of the port structures here in Skagway.

- -I suggest putting a pause on the current KPFF design with the RORO dock. Work out the issues AML, Petro, and others have voiced, and come to a better understanding there first before moving forward.
- -I suggest re-considering the rock slide mitigation work. My concern is this: from reading the Shannon & Wilson 'RAILROAD DOCK LANDSLIDE, INITIAL SITE VISIT TRIP REPORT' (dated 7/13/22, and included in the 7/21/22 Assembly packet), trying to mitigate the potential rock slides there sounds very daunting. Here are a few excerpts from their report: From page 7 in regards to the South Rock Slide: 'The timing and frequency of similar future events is difficult to predict, but there is little question that similar events could occur in the future along the entire length of the dock with little to no warning. [Italics added]' Again on page 8 in discussing the South rock slide, 'we believe that the slide highlights an unpredictable rockfall hazard that exists along the entire length of the dock. [Italics added]' I am concerned that the City may not be able to reasonably mitigate the rock slides, which leads me to my next suggestion:
- -Obtain control of the ferry peninsula, and build a double berth cruise ship dock there, further out of harms way from the rock slides. Use the rock slide state of emergency funds towards this new dock. Placing the cruise ships as close to the East side of our Port as safely possible will help in those gnarly windy days, as this part of our port is the most protected from the south wind.
- -Please consider and quickly evaluate the possibly of two cruise ship berths at Ore Dock as a temporary stop-gap measure for the 2023 season. I think this idea merits further investigation.
- -Please do not approve the concept of moving the Ferry Terminal to the Ore Peninsula. Since our state ferries have difficulty docking during windy days at its current position, think of the increased difficulty they would have at the Ore Peninsula. Ore Peninsula is more exposed to wind from the south than the Ferry Peninsula. Worse wind there could mean more ferry cancellations due to weather. I think a new double berth cruise ship dock and ferry dock/terminal can fit at the ferry peninsula please consider this.

Thank you for your time in serving our community and your consideration of these items,

Lisa M. Mandeville