



City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska Historic Resources Advisory Committee

Chair, Gary Gillette, Architect
Vice Chair, Dorene Lorenz, At Large
Jerrick Hope-Lang, Knowledgeable of Tlingit and Haida Culture
Cheryl Jebe, At Large
Recorder, Shannon Crossley, Architectural Historian
Steve Winker, At Large
Robin Brenner, At Large

December 17, 2024

To: Mayor Weldon and CBJ Assembly

Through: Alexandra Pierce, Tourism Manager

Subject: FY2026 CBJ Marine Passenger Fee Projects

Over the past several years Juneau has hosted over a million cruise ship visitors to the Capital City each season. Tourism surveys have long identified top attractions in Alaska and Juneau are its natural wonders and historical/cultural experiences. Upon arrival visitors are barraged by vendors enticing them to leave the downtown area seeking a variety of sightseeing adventures which are predominately oriented to natural beauty experiences. Some visitors become confused or lost as they explore our community for historical/cultural experiences.

The Juneau Historic Resources Advisory Committee (HRAC) is pleased to submit two projects for funding consideration through the Marine Passenger Fee Program. These projects would benefit cruise ship visitors by offering them clear direction to local indigenous places within areas of the city close to the ship docks and to the Downtown Historic District which is the historic core of the original townsite.

HRAC recommends the following projects in no order of preference:

- Indigenous Places Walking Tour Map
 - Description: Research and produce a walking tour of noteworthy Indigenous spaces and places in Downtown Juneau to include important moments in Native Alaskan history, homes of indigenous civil rights leaders, and properties linked to fight for civil rights. Places might include home of founding father Richard Harris and his native wife at Telephone Hill and home William Paul rented as the first Tlingit state representative. This project would include consulting with elders, community members, and Sealaska Heritage.

The project is proposed in two phases. Phase I would be for research, content development to include text and photos, and cost estimates. Phase II would include production of a walking tour map and other media.

- Estimated Cost: Phase I: \$50,000
- Downtown Historic District Gateways
 - Project Description: Development and installation of wayfinding gateways that direct locals and visitors to the Downtown Historic District. A gateway structure would span the

roadway at two primary entries to the district: one at South Franklin Street near the Red Dog Saloon and one at Ferry Way across from Marine Park. The gateway structures might feature lights, symbols, and text identifying the historic downtown district. The project is proposed in two phases. Phase I would be for planning, design, and cost estimating. Phase II would be for construction.

- Estimated Cost: Phase I: \$50,000

HRAC appreciates your thoughtful consideration of our proposed projects.

Sincerely, for the Juneau Historic Resources Advisory Committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Gillette", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gary Gillette, HRAC Chair