



September 28, 2023

Carl Uchytel
Port Director
City & Borough of Juneau
76 Egan Drive
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Carl,

As the Docks and Harbors Board considers its proposal to increase all fees, Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) would like to offer comments, specifically on the port maintenance fee.

The port maintenance fee was established with the intent to build and expand Juneau's port infrastructure to service cruise vessels. With larger tonnage vessels docking in Juneau, the Net Registered Ton (NRT) fees have grown substantially. An increase to the NRT/port maintenance fee may therefore be unnecessary as passenger fees are available to fund dock infrastructure. At the same time, we acknowledge there are projects that would benefit from repairs, enhancements, and safety improvements.

In the past, industry and the City & Borough of Juneau (CBJ) have worked together to identify projects related to infrastructure and port development that, by agreement, could be funded with port maintenance fees. These have included covering uplands voids with deckovers, constructing moorings, repairing tender floats, and adding bridge sections. We respectfully request the same opportunity to annually review port projects and make recommendations that benefit cruise vessels calling in Juneau. This was the practice following the establishment of the NRT, and it would be advantageous to collaborate again on these important issues.

Additionally, we would like to discuss the original purpose of the port maintenance fee and whether that purpose still has validity. Among other concerns, we question the overlapping and seemingly duplicate purpose between the port development fee, the marine passenger fee and state excise tax.

Thank you for your kind consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ree", with a long, sweeping underline.

Renée Limoge Reeve
Vice President of Government and Community Relations
Cruise Lines International Association