

From: [Jordan Van Voast](#)
To: [Commission-Public-Records](#)
Cc: [stacy](#); [Elizabeth Burton](#); [Iris Antman](#); [Peggy J. Printz](#); [David Kipnis](#); [Miranda Marti](#); [Tom Barnard](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] attached public comment for Jan 12 Commission meeting
Date: Monday, January 11, 2021 10:58:18 AM
Attachments: [Letter to Port Commissioners Jan. 12 2021.docx](#)

WARNING: External email. Links or attachments may be unsafe.

Dear Commission-Public-Records,

Please find attached a public comment for the Jan 12, 2021 Port of Seattle Commissioners meeting,

Thank you,

Jordan Van Voast, M.Ac.

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Every single act of kindness makes all the difference in the world.

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Good afternoon Executive Director Metruck and Port Commissioners,

I regret not being able to attend today's meeting online, but as a health professional, I'd like to add that in these chaotic times we are living through, it's critically important that we all take mental health days on a regular basis, allowing mind, body, and spirit to come into greater balance and thus meet our professional responsibilities with greater wisdom and compassion for the long term benefit of all.

I write to urge you to permanently cancel the T46 cruise ship terminal project, and to seriously consider all possibilities for immediately reducing the Port's reliance on the cruise business revenue stream. Most people are not aware of the concept of climate feedback loops, let alone the fact that the existence of feedback loops are not factored into the much publicized target of limiting climate warming to 1.5 degrees C, or the fact that the reductions proposed by the Paris agreements only give us a 50% chance of meeting those targets, or that global emissions are still increasing, not decreasing.

Recently, a glimmer of good news has appeared, as climate scientist Michael Mann has stated that the current scientific consensus is that global temperatures can rapidly stabilize within a few years, once the world reaches net zero carbon emissions. It was previously thought that this would take centuries. However, as many ecologists have recently pointed out, it is fallacious to think that the 6th Great extinction currently underway, is merely an issue of global warming. Biodiversity losses, soil, water, and air degradation, toxicity issues, and so forth, represent a much fuller accounting of humanity's dire predicament, and although nothing is certain, the accelerating pace of ecological breakdown signals we may not have much time to prevent a rapid and chaotic unraveling of our current human civilization.

I and many others have repeatedly pointed out the massive harmful impacts that cruise ships have on the environment and marginalized communities and the reality that regardless of whatever improvements to shore side infrastructure, or reducing plastic utensils on ships, etc. these impacts will continue unabated given the limitations of fossil fuel combustion engines (including LNG), and the massive impacts from millions of people taking elective travel holidays. We ignore these impacts at our peril.

Please reflect carefully and act appropriately,

Respectfully,

Jordan Van Voast, M.Ac.