

**From:** [Alexa Fay](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Written Testimony for the August 10 Port Meeting  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 7:35:51 PM

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

Greetings,

My name is Alexa Fay and I am writing to comment on the return of cruise ships to the Port of Seattle. I am a registered nurse and am terrified of the health impacts the cruise industry and the resulting climate crisis have on my patients. We have had two heat waves in the Pacific Northwest, and will be dealing with warmer, dryer, and more dangerous summers in the years to come. Cruise ships are terrible for the planet, for our ecosystems, and for the health of our communities. They create massive amounts of carbon dioxide which we have no feasible way of managing, and create respiratory problems for those who live nearby. I am incredibly concerned for the health and safety of my patients as well as for the children who will be growing up in this changing climate.

The Port has the opportunity to take action on climate change by halting the return of cruise ships, both temporarily and permanently, as well as stopping any plans for expansion to the airport and the cruise landings. We do not have time to make promises for decarbonization. We must start the process now, and that process should start with luxury items that do not contribute to our overall societal wellbeing, such as cruise ships. The Port must put a halt to the return of cruising in Seattle and stop any plans for Port expansion, for the benefit of our climate, our environment, and Seattle citizens.

Thank you,  
Alexa Fay

**From:** [laura gibbons](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Comments for the Port Commission meeting 8/10/21  
**Date:** Friday, August 6, 2021 3:31:57 PM

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Here is my testimony (written only) for Tuesday's meeting. I hope you have time to read the whole thing (minus the specific website links), but if not, please read the first and paragraphs, and mention that I cite studies that show impacts on school achievement and cardiovascular disease, as well as King County Department of Health findings that these noise effects are causal, not just associations. Thank you!

Commissioners,

I am pleased to see that you are implementing your plans to speed up the noise abatement process. As you probably know, aircraft noise is not just a nuisance, but a real health risk. This has been demonstrated in studies that included SEATAC-impacted communities.

A study of 46 US airports and surrounding schools, including five Beacon Hill schools found Airport noise was associated with lower reading and math scores (<http://www.trb.org/main/blurbs/170328.aspx>).

A second study of six million older people and 89 airports in the US, including SEATAC Airport and Seattle's King County International Airport found that, a zip code with 10 dB higher noise exposure had a 3.5% higher cardiovascular hospital admission rate, after controlling for other factors (<https://www.bmj.com/content/347/bmj.f5561>).

Our King County Department of Health has summarized the impact of noise pollution, and classified the impact as causal (rather than associational) for cardiovascular disease and sleep disturbance, and likely causal for school performance ([King County Board of Health meeting on March 18, 2021 - King County](#); Table 18).

Thank you for your efforts to protect our health.

Sincerely,

Laura Gibbons

Seattle

Links in the message (1)

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King County Board of Health  
meeting on ...

**From:** [Shaun R](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Parking expansion plans without park destruction  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:08:54 AM

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Would like the committee to discuss and share plans they have for creating multi story parking and shifting seatac and the community away from ground level surface lot only parking.

Seatac is inundated with surface only lots that cover most of the city. There are limited park options in seatac and destroying one of the only parks in the city would make seatac synonymous with a surface level parking lot city. Please share with us how you will reign in surface level parking.

Thanks,  
Shaun

**From:** [Earnest Thompson](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Landscape Masterplan  
**Date:** Thursday, August 5, 2021 2:37:21 PM

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Commissioners,

It would be good to see the Landscape Masterplan document what percentage of plants are true Native plant species. They could use the Washington Native Plant Society lists as authoritative.

Sincerely,

Earnest Thompson

Normandy Park City Council

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Jordan Van Voast](#)  
**To:** [Commission-Public-Records](#)  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] public comment for August 10 special session  
**Date:** Sunday, August 8, 2021 1:39:51 PM  
**Attachments:** [public comment 8.10.21.docx](#)

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Understood. Okay, thanks anyways. Here is a copy of my testimony. I may try to join the Teams meeting on my laptop, but if that fails, I'll call in.

Thank you,

Jordan Van Voast

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Good afternoon Commissioners,

Over the last 2 weeks, the Dixie Fire has become the 3<sup>rd</sup> largest in California history.<sup>i</sup> Wildfire plumes cover much of the West, with summer camps for kids closed due to air quality.<sup>ii</sup> Smoke is now our 5<sup>th</sup> season. Only a change in wind direction prevents a return of last September's smoke 'pocalypse. Wheat yields in eastern Washington are at one of their lowest levels ever, as are reservoirs on the Colorado river.<sup>iii iv</sup>

Southern Europe, Greece and Turkey are currently enduring record heat, with at least 8 dead from wildfire.<sup>v</sup> On Thursday, the journal Nature published a study concluding that the Gulf Stream current, a major climate tipping point, is on the verge of shutting down, with "unimaginable consequences".<sup>vi</sup> Three billion people in South Asia face increasing water shortages due to rapidly melting glaciers on the Tibetan plateau.<sup>vii</sup>

Our modern capitalist society which privileges the wealthy<sup>viii</sup> and focuses on short term happiness, while ignoring the survival needs of billions of people around the globe and the ecological web of which we are a part, is disintegrating. The longer we deny that the deeper our world will collapse into ecological disaster and social violence. Our economic system is antiquated...we need not only a Green New Deal, but a new vision and mission which prioritizes the well being of all life, instead of the narrow interests of a few.<sup>ix</sup> Instead of measuring the success of the Port in terms of passengers boarding fossil fuel guzzling, carbon emitting planes and cruise ships, what if instead you measured the impact of Port business in terms of gross national happiness?

Commissioner Felleman recently stated "there is an insatiable appetite for cruise, we (the Port) didn't create it. It exists." But the public record clearly demonstrates that the Port has a long history of promoting cruising and flying.<sup>x</sup> Please listen to the science, embrace the wisdom of indigenous leaders working to protect the earth and rethink your business model so that we can transition as rapidly as possible to a cruise free Salish Sea.

Thank you,

Jordan Van Voast, M.Ac.

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<sup>i</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2021/08/06/1025495042/dixie-fire-california-wildfire-greenville>

<sup>ii</sup> <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/08/05/us/air-quality-alert.html>

<sup>iii</sup> <https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2021/jul/08/farmers-and-experts-anticipate-worst-wheat-harvest/>

<sup>iv</sup> <https://www.cpr.org/2021/07/24/lake-powell-lowest-water-level-on-record-heres-what-that-means-for-colorado-and-states-that-rely-on-it/>

<sup>v</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/aug/05/people-dead-as-wildfires-continue-to-rage-across-southern-europe>

<sup>vi</sup> <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41558-021-01097-4>

<sup>vii</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-glaciers/tibetan-glacial-shrink-to-cut-water-supply-by-2050-idUSTRE50F76420090116>

<sup>viii</sup> <https://sites.manchester.ac.uk/global-social-challenges/2017/05/08/are-capitalism-and-inequality-linked/>

<sup>ix</sup> <https://www.rwjf.org/en/library/research/2020/05/well-being--expanding-the-definition-of-progress.html>

<sup>x</sup> <https://twitter.com/SeaCruiseCntrl/status/1421980738702823424/photo/1>