



City and Borough of Wrangell
EDC 3-21-23
AGENDA

Tuesday, March 21, 2023
5:30 PM

Location: City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Approve the Minutes of January 11, 2023

PERSONS TO BE HEARD

- a. Economic Development Director Department Report March 14, 2023
- b. Resolution 12-22-1733 Priority Projects for FY 24nterTextHere
- c. Wrangell Visitor Economy, March 2023 by Rain Coast Data

ITEM(S) OF BUSINESS

- a. Review of the EDC Bylaws and Committee History
- b. Project Updates
- c. Review of the 2023-2025 Workplan

ADJOURN

City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Economic Development Committee

January 11, 2023

6:30pm

MINUTES

1. Call to order

2. Roll Call

Present: John DeRuyter; Bob Dalrymple, Caitlin Cardinell, Anne Morrison, Brian Ashton

3. Amendments to the Agenda updates by Dalrymple under new business A
Discussion with Ben Florschutz new business B

4. Conflicts of Interest

5. Election of Chair and Vice-chair

AM moves BDalrymple to serve as Chair

BA 2nd

Approved

AM moves for BAShton to serve as Vice Chair

JD 2nd

Approved

6. Approval of Minutes: October 19, 2022 AM moves, JD 2nd, approved

7. Persons to be Heard

8. Correspondence:

9. New Business

A. Updates:

Cabin EA is starting over. Borough made comments. Meeting next Wed. Blind slough cabin may have caused controversy so starts the process over again.

- 1) Blueberry: a contract will go out for thinning to occur next year
- 2) Ben Florshutz made a presentation to Staff and Mayor regarding biotechnology and the potential for a start up to occur at the mill site.
- 3) Carol will have short overlap with Kate for support of the Committee.
- 4) Assembly approved new position of Marketing and Community Development coordinator and position is being advertised til mid Feb.
- 5) Administrator announced about restrooms for the dock.. but found some that are being surplusd so trying for those before purchasing

B) Presentation regarding potential development opportunity for the old hospital property

Jim Freeman and Eric Freeman: started coming to Wrangell in 1980. Commercial fishing. Jim Boys Tacos, now offers franchise. 70yr old company. Own house on Case Ave. Kid commercial fishes. Looking for opportunities, ways to make things happen here. Have associates. Connected with Cisco. Kevin Jones. Wrangell has a product that can be shipped from here. changes happening. Huge cost getting product here. Fuel. Aging population. No mill. Fishing struggling. Huge opportunity. Greenhouses, kelp, fish product to fertilizer. What is missing child care, auto mechanics, . realestate is too expenisve for entry level families. Hard to find place to stay. Hospital is one piece of a larger plan.. more interested in keepin Wrangell spirit but new opportunities for new generation

Eric has finance background worked with franchises. Still investingating the numbers of this project... partially on hospital, but very serious about the larger picture

Independent sr. living center, land behind hospital convert to townhouses, grene house development, seafood export to lower 48. Most seafood for restaurants comes fro asia an most of our seafood goes to Asia
Fertilizer processing for farm use

Independent living.
Not assisted living. They need assistance with aspects of their daily life.
Still active but brings out more community involvement, but not depending on medical care

See the chart for differences. Appealing to nationwide srs. Not just locals
May or may not be able to drive on own.

One of the roles I had was business development. We have done studies. lots looking for a mayberry. Alaska has a magic to it. Looking at something.. 2 minutes from anything. Impact is improving services.. transportation. Opportunities.

Some people may have a place elsewhere and come here. But brings in family

See p. 6
stilllooking at the numbers. Expect 11-15 new jobs 3-4 full time

Proposal will be \$350,000. looking at deferred maintenance probably up to 250k
 Building out 1.35million
 Start up marketing will be appealing to the compatible

JD: Taking what is there, bring up to code and building up and remodel?
 Some foundation areas, roof, asbestos. Walls to make room sizes configuration.

AM have you done remodeling and rebuilding in Alaska... I think deferred maintenance is very low

Jim: We are aware of the cost and time. Two issues face - contractors are over burdened, and hard to meet schedules. Will offer to anyone who will help but may bring in outside crews. Will barge up full units thus costs less in bulk. Have crawled building and know how can be fixed. Getting things up to code is part of our due diligence. We will have to adjust if things are more complicated than we anticipate.
 Food service could have varying options.. opt in or provide as contract service.

Slide 8 revenues.. might seem steep prices.. covers mortgage/utilities and food
 All inclusive. Not a buy in.

4 Full time equivalents and 7-9 : includes cooks, cleaning, on staff 24 hrs, administrative front desk, exec. Mgr. event planning and manage. 105k/yr

They recognize they need their team to do the serious due diligence. And some of these items could likely change.

Would follow whatever guidelines required, without having liability
 Remediate or completely remove; covering if don't disturb; disclosure. Boilers are biggest issue. They will have to go for eco friendly and work better.

Disclosure releases liability. Believe we can get through the asbestos okay.
 No contract and no such thing as no liability.

Want to help Wrangell grow.

Phase 2: not near as much dollars. Trying to keep under 300k. Cost per sq.ft.. could be 3-500\$ but not what we are targeting.

A lot depends on cost of land and that is where the negotiations come in.

Zoning development for height and townhouses will have to be addressed.

Looking at 5-7 years but would like to be sooner. Payback for investors is usually under 5 yrs.

Greenhouse would likely be less.. 12 month time period. Doable and possible. Costs of barging increasing... row produce, provide to grocery stores,
Not hydroponic.. leaning toward other avenues. Would be 1 FT year round

Phase 4 seafood export want Wrangell shrimp.. for our own tacos/burritos. Premier food product. Want to get on shelves. Seasonal which works great. Challenge is getting to Seattle in cost effective way. How to get Seafood down to Seattle.

Phase 5 Fertilizer processing. Huge opportunity of waste. Put toward fertilizer.

JD fish processing waste is primary nitrogen. . must have the other phosphorus and micronutrients.

Kelp can also throw in there.. ash..

JD will be a primarily nitrogen based product that can then be added to other stuff.

It will be an enhancement.

Looking to provide the path to get Wrangell seafood product to the restaurants .. not just to the cannery.

Want the opportunity to pencil it all out

Phases 3-5 are not necessarily dependent on 1 and 2
Talk to Kake about their fertilizer plant and why it didn't work.
Trident doing oil extraction
USDA Palmer office

10. Old Business

a) Economic Forum for the deep water industrial site (former mill property)
If AML is interested, then we need it in 3 years

BD worry about paralysis of planning... but don't want to shoot ourselves in foot
Barge is a huge need. Anchor and priority

Not just whether to lease or sell (but what is the infrastructure development plan... the improvements to make it developable.

BD: Use out there with the scrapper. Nothing wrong for allowing a short term use.

Discussion... great. But what we don't know. Mine what options are out there.. What other kind of anchor tenants are out there that we have never thought of.

Two Alaska business journals. Should we take out an advert. Should we do a community engagement.

CC starting conversation with Univ. of Alaska?

BA: Blue Economy. Centered around Ocean communitys. Univ. of AK Fairbanks

PG: EDC drive Assembly, provide ideas, information.

BD: Main Access... maps.. of key things that are out there.. locations of buildings...

Plan on having some meetings to get the public involved... good to get the community to just start talking... what about focus groups... or meetings with public ...survey... theme based... what are the action items what is the outcome.. have to produce an action item.

b) Economic Development Strategies/ Work Plan add next time.
Areas of focus are very broad, need to prioritize,

Mariculture: do we have any interest in this. Could Julie be there?
Eastern Passage Emergency Access road

March 15 tentative next meet 5:30pm

Read the 2016 plan Waterfront plan

11. Adjourn 8:42

MEMORANDUM

TO: JEFF GOOD, BOROUGH MANAGER

**FROM: MS. CAROL RUSHMORE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR**

SUBJECT: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT REPORT

DATE: March 14, 2023

Alder Top Village Subdivision: (WCA provided historical place name for the area)
The Corps of Engineers (COE) issued the permit for wetland fill within the roadways within Alder Top Village on February 17, 2023. The permit is active for 5 years. The conditions include fulfilling mitigation requirements prior to construction and provide archaeological monitoring of the utility and road construction, both requirements were anticipated from previous discussion. Mitigation requirements include the purchase of 24.53 palustrine wetland credits from a mitigation bank, which will cost \$148,406.50. Staff met with R&M Engineering and True North Designs who are putting together the archaeology monitoring plan based on our preferred construction plans. This plan will need to be approved by the COE and State Historic Preservation Office which we hope will be approved by May 2023.

CAPIS: State of Alaska Legislative project database for potential state funding closed on February 14, 2023. Staff entered a total of 18 projects guided by the priority list approved by the Assembly by Resolution in December. A list of the projects is attached for reference.

Planning and Zoning Codes: Staff met with the attorneys while in Anchorage to discuss a number of zoning issues. The Commission has developed some new zoning codes for the former Institute Property as well as to allow additional development options. The attorneys provided comments and the Commission reviewed at their January meeting. The codes will go to public hearings at the Commission's March 9 meeting.

Alaska DOT Community Transportation Projects/Transportation Alternative Projects (CTP/TAP): Staff completed the Notice of Intent to Apply (NOIA) for six projects:

- Alder Top Village Subdivision Phase I Road Development \$1.5M
- Sidewalk Rehabilitation (Case Avenue and McKinnon Street) \$650K
- Sidewalk Construction (Second Avenue) \$250K
- Commercial Business Road Resurfacing and Improvements (McKinnon, St Michaels, Campbell, Stikine Ave) \$15M
- Residential Roads Resurfacing and Improvements (Third Street, First Avenue, Mission, Second Avenue with sidewalks) \$15M
- Non-Motorized Transportation System, Phase II (Mt Dewey Spur to Evergreen Avenue) \$1.2M

This is a two-phase program with the NOIA being the first phase. The final selection of projects is based on DOT's review and program funding options. The second phase requires a full project application and identification of the required matching funds (9.03%) plus contingency. Projects

submitted for the final application, after their initial review, includes Second Street Sidewalks and Commercial Business Road Resurfacing Improvements. AKDOT is working on the cost estimates then staff will complete the applications by Feb 28, 2023.

Seattle Boat Show: Members of the CVB and Port Commission and Staff attended the Seattle Boat Show in early February. The show attendances was 34,242 closer to pre pandemic attendance levels at over 42,600. Weekends were very busy with lots of interest by yachters and fishermen. Weekdays a bit slower.

Visitor Industry by the Numbers Report: Rain Coast Data has begun work on this report now that all the numbers needed have been released by the State. An initial draft should be available later this month.

RAISE: Staff submitted a US Department of Transportation Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity Grant for the complete engineering design and construction of the Wrangell Harbor Basin which includes Inner Harbor Float, Reliance Float and Standard Oil Float. Estimated project cost was \$24.8 million (maximum grant award is \$25million). There is no match required because we are a rural community. The only funding required would be any additional costs over the \$24.8 grant request. It is expected that awards will be announced the end of June.

US Department of Transportation Thriving Community Grant: In December, the Borough put in an application to the USDOT Thriving Community grant. This is a technical assistance grant to assist with transportation planning projects. We submitted and application for the planning of the former mill property due to the extreme complexities of infrastructure, land development and site planning issues. We were notified this week that we need to submit a Commitment letter, as well as Commitment letters from our partners in this project – WCA and Wrangell Chamber. Hopefully this is a good sign that we will be a recipient of the grant.

Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau: The WCVB has been working on Tourism Best Management Practices to minimize potential conflicts that could arise between the public and cruise lines or tours or other visitor related activities. This is a voluntary program, but outlines best practices and provides residents a means to offer a complaint (or a positive recognition) and a process to mitigate the concern. This is a proactive opportunity. With the increase in cruise ship passenger numbers, the CVB is attempting to put in place a process to address potential conflicts – it does not mean there are problems now. This is a standard process that was created by Juneau over 20 years ago and being adopted by most Southeast communities. A draft plan is attached. The CVB will be having a public meeting on the process and TBMP document on March 23, 2023.

Transition: The transition of Kate to the Economic Development Director position is slowly starting as she is still completing the transition of her Parks and Rec Director position with Lucy Robinson. Kate is currently being looped in to a variety of projects and issues that she will be overseeing. She hopes to transition full time to City Hall by March 20.

Below issues/projects are on-going with no additional updates

Economic Condition Report: The final economic conditions report of the economy through 2021 is available online at <https://www.wrangell.com/economicdevelopment/economic-conditions-report-2022> . This report will allow us to look at the impacts from the pandemic and compare it to pre-pandemic conditions. A Visitor Industry by the Numbers will be completed next spring once all 2022 numbers have been received.

Comprehensive Plan: Staff has been working with various committees on individual chapters of the 2010 Comp Plan to outline issues that need to be addressed in an update. The EDC suggested that with all the economic opportunity the Borough has with the former mill site, the old hospital site and the former Institute Property, that a strong proposal should be submitted to the Assembly to fund a comprehensive plan update. The document serves multiple purposes as a direction for community development, investment, and critical for grant applications as well.

Wrangell Convention and Visitor Bureau: Has begun work on a Tourism Plan that can identify organizational structure for a staff person and/or department, infrastructure needs for improving tourism opportunities and marketing elements to promote the community.

Wrangell

Legislative Capital Budget Account Summary

Priority	Project	State Funding Requested	Total Project Cost	TPS Number	Viewable By District
1.	Wrangell - Upper Reservoir Bypass Connection to Water Treatment Plant	\$1,433,000	\$4,128,000	65884	1, A
2.	Wrangell - Public Safety Building Rehabilitation	\$16,000,000	\$16,223,500	65170	1, A
3.	Wrangell - Alder Top Village Subdivision, Phase II Roads and Utilities Development	\$3,022,877	\$5,346,000	67592	1, A
4.	Wrangell - Wastewater Treatment Upgrades for Effluent Disinfection	\$5,000,000	\$5,040,000	67643	1, A
5.	Wrangell - Drinking Water Dams Stabilization and Improvements	\$1,600,000	\$1,795,000	65663	1, A
6.	Wrangell - Roads Resurfacing Phase I (Downtown and Commercial Corridors)	\$8,876,000	\$8,876,000	66668	1, A
7.	Wrangell - Barge Ramp and Facility Relocation	\$18,130,069	\$18,130,069	66665	1, A
8.	Wrangell - Meyers Chuck Harbor Replacement	\$1,896,240	\$2,541,240	66666	1, A
9.	Wrangell - Diesel Generation Power Plant Replacement	\$15,000,000	\$15,102,000	65171	1, A
10.	Wrangell - Wrangell Harbor Basin Replacement	\$2,955,824	\$2,955,824	65174	1, A
11.	Wrangell - 6 Mile Deep Water Industrial Site Development	\$5,200,000	\$5,200,000	68199	1, A
12.	Wrangell - Non-Motorized Transportation System, Phase II	\$1,207,000	\$1,207,000	67918	1, A
13.	Wrangell - Second Avenue Sidewalk for Pedestrian Safety	\$420,000	\$420,000	68217	1, A
14.	Wrangell - Community Street Addressing	\$350,000	\$350,000	68220	1, A
15.	Wrangell - Life Safety Alternative Transportation Access	\$1,750,000	\$1,750,000	66672	1, A
16.	Wrangell - Low Pressure Water Main Replacement	\$1,200,000	\$1,200,000	65169	1, A
17.	Wrangell - Recreation and Pool Facility Siding and Roofing Replacement	\$500,000	\$570,000	66667	1, A

18.	Wrangell - Heritage Harbor Boat Launch Ramp	\$1,002,000	\$1,044,635	67863	1, A
-----	---	-------------	-------------	-------	------

Item a.

CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA

RESOLUTION NO. 12-22-1733A RESOLUTION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL,
ALASKA ESTABLISHING THE PRIORITY CAPITAL PROJECTS FOR FY 2024

WHEREAS, the City and Borough of Wrangell has agreed to prioritize the Borough's FY 2024 capital projects priorities; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Wrangell Borough Assembly to give priority consideration to projects that preserve and protect the health and safety of the community, are mandated by the state and/or federal government, and provide for improvements of existing facilities resulting in a preservation of the community's prior investment or in improvements to the environmental quality of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA, that:

Section 1: the City and Borough of Wrangell establishes the Capital Project priorities for FY 2024 as follows:

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Project Name</u>
1	Upper Reservoir Bypass
2	Public Safety Building Rehabilitation
3	Alder Top Village Subdivision, Ph I Development: Roads and Utilities
4	Wastewater Treatment Upgrades to Address 301(H) Waiver for Secondary Treatment
5	Dams Stabilization and Improvements
6	Wrangell Road Resurfacing Phase I (Downtown Corridors)
7	Barge Ramp Replacement
8	Meyers Chuck Harbor Replacement
9	Diesel Generation Power Plant Replacement
10	Zimovia Highway and Shoemaker Loop Sewer System Upgrades
11	Wrangell Harbor Basin Replacement
12	6-Mile (Former Mill) Property Development
13	Wrangell Road Resurfacing Phase II (Residential Corridors)
14	Non-Motorized Trail Expansion, Phase II
15	Second Avenue Sidewalk for Pedestrian Safety
16	Community Addressing
17	Life Safety Alternative Transportation Access
18	Low Pressure Water Main Replacement (Ash/Zimovia Ave/Lemeuix)
19	Swimming Pool EPDM Flat Roof Replacement
20	Wrangell School Facilities Improvements

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF WRANGELL,
ALASKA this 20th day of December, 2022.

CITY & BOROUGH OF WRANGELL, ALASKA

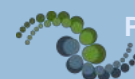
Patricia Gilbert, Borough Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Kim Lane, MMC, Borough Clerk



2023 Wrangell Visitor Economy

Wrangell Convention and
Visitors Bureau



Prepared by
Rain Coast Data
March 2023

Table of Contents

WRANGELL VISITOR ECONOMY SUMMARY	1
VISITOR OVERVIEW	2
VISITOR EMPLOYMENT	3
ANNUAL VISITOR INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT 2013-2021	4
2022 QUARTERS 2&3 EMPLOYMENT FIGURES	5
CHANGE IN THE VISITOR INDUSTRY	6
TOTAL PASSENGER ARRIVALS	6
TOTAL TOURIST (ONLY) ARRIVALS	7
Summer Tourists by Mode of Arrival	8
SUMMER VISITATION AND SPENDING ANALYSIS	9
TAX REVENUE	10
CRUISE PASSENGERS	11
SMALL CRUISE SHIPS	12
MID-SIZED CRUISE SHIPS	13
LARGE CRUISE SHIPS	13
AIR PASSENGERS.....	14
FERRY PASSENGERS.....	15
HOTELS AND BED AND BREAKFASTS.....	17
ANAN, STIKINE, LECONTE TOURS ANALYSIS.....	18
ANAN WILDLIFE OBSERVATORY	18
STIKINE RIVER, LECONTE GLACIER TOUR ANALYSIS	18
ANAN BEAR VIEWING ECONOMIC IMPACT 2017 ANALYSIS.....	19



R.E. JOHNSON

Wrangell Visitor Economy Summary

Despite the pandemic's devastating impact on Wrangell's tourism economy, the 2022 summer season showed a strong recovery, although it still fell short of the visitor trends seen in 2019. Looking ahead, the 2023 tourism season is expected to be the most successful since 2005 in terms of attracting visitors.

Tourism Employment and Earnings Trends: Despite changes to the number and types of annual tourists, the Wrangell visitors sector has a relatively stable average of 100 annualized jobs. On an annual basis, the visitor sector is responsible for 10% of all local jobs, and seven percent of workforce earnings. In 2021, the sector accounted for 103 annual average jobs with associated workforce earnings of \$3.2 million. Preliminary 2022 figures show that wages are back to 2019 levels, while jobs continue to lag slightly.

100
Annual average
Wrangell tourism
jobs

Cruise Projections: In 2023 Wrangell will receive 135 port calls from 19 ships. Wrangell's cruise sector is changing as a growing number of mid-sized ships visit Wrangell, and large cruise ships are scheduled to visit for the first time since 2005. Wrangell welcomed an estimated 16,126 cruise passengers in 2022, and that number is projected to grow by 83% to 29,510 in 2023. While the calendar is still being set for 2024, large cruise ships are scheduled to make at least three visits to the community that year. Cruise passengers are expected to make up 90% of the community's tourists in 2023.

83%
Projected
increase in cruise
ship passengers
in 2023

Total Tourist Arrival and Spending: In 2023, current projections are for 44,680 total passenger arrivals in Wrangell via airplane, cruise ship, and ferry — of which 32,930 are expected to be tourists. Visitors are likely to spend \$7.1 million in Wrangell during the summer of 2023, as long as local businesses are able to develop excursions with sufficient capacity to meet the needs of higher passenger capacity ships.

**\$7.1
million**
expected tourist
spending in
Wrangell in
2023

Visitors by Ferry: The number of ferry passengers traveling to Wrangell has been on the decline since the 1990s, but recent drops have been remarkably steep, falling from more than seven thousand disembarking passengers in 2013 to just over 1,500 in 2022. While once a focus of Wrangell's tourism sector, ferry traffic has fallen to a point that it is no longer a significant part of the local visitor economy. Federal funding could improve Wrangell's ferry service in upcoming years; however, the Alaska Marine Highway System reported it lacks sufficient crew to provide the service originally scheduled for Wrangell in the summer of 2023. Summer passenger service is expected to drop 22% in 2023.

-22%
Projected
decrease in ferry
passengers in
2023

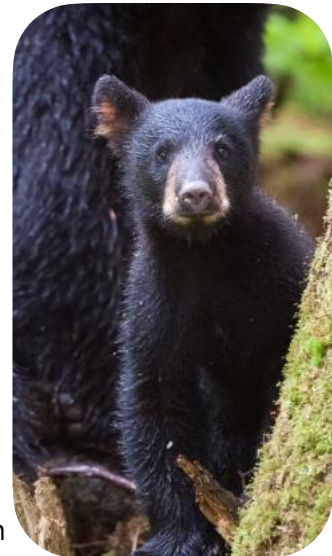
Overall, strong tourism seasons are projected for Wrangell for 2023 and 2024.

Visitor Overview

Wrangell is a distinct and attractive visitor destination that, unlike other Southeast Alaska communities with a more mature visitor industry, includes a “working waterfront” district rather than souvenir and diamond-focused shops. Located at the tip of Wrangell Island across from the mouth of the Stikine River, the community is rich in wildlife, culture and history.

While Wrangell briefly attracted large cruise ships in the early-2000’s, the tourism sector has primarily focused on ferry, small cruise passenger, and independent travelers over the last two decades. This model is changing. Small cruise visitation remains strong; but mid-size cruise ship visitation is showing growth; large cruise ships are returning to the community; and changes to ferry service in recent years has curtailed ferry-based tourism. In 2023, port calls from mid-sized ships are expected to nearly double over 2019 levels, and in 2024 Wrangell is scheduled to receive three visits from large cruise ships.¹

Wrangell has unique opportunities for nature-based tours and wildlife viewing. The most popular visitor destination is Anan Creek, known for its world-class bear viewing. Anan is a popular place to watch the grizzly and black bears that congregate. A third of all summer tourism-related spending in Wrangell is from travelers visiting Anan. However, admission to the site is carefully managed by the Forest Service, and the number of visitors is limited to 60 per day.



Other popular visitor activities in Wrangell include visits to the Stikine-Leconte Wilderness, Chief Shakes Island, and Petroglyph Beach State Historic Park, which has the highest concentration of rock engravings in Southeast Alaska.

The focus of Wrangell tourism on higher-end, limited-entry boutique tours will need to expand and new types of shore excursions must be developed for the community to take full advantage of ships with higher passenger numbers scheduled to visit Wrangell in 2023 and 2024.

In the summer of 2022, nearly 20,000 tourists visited Wrangell. In 2023, cruise passengers are expected to increase by 83%, with an additional 27% increase already scheduled for 2024.

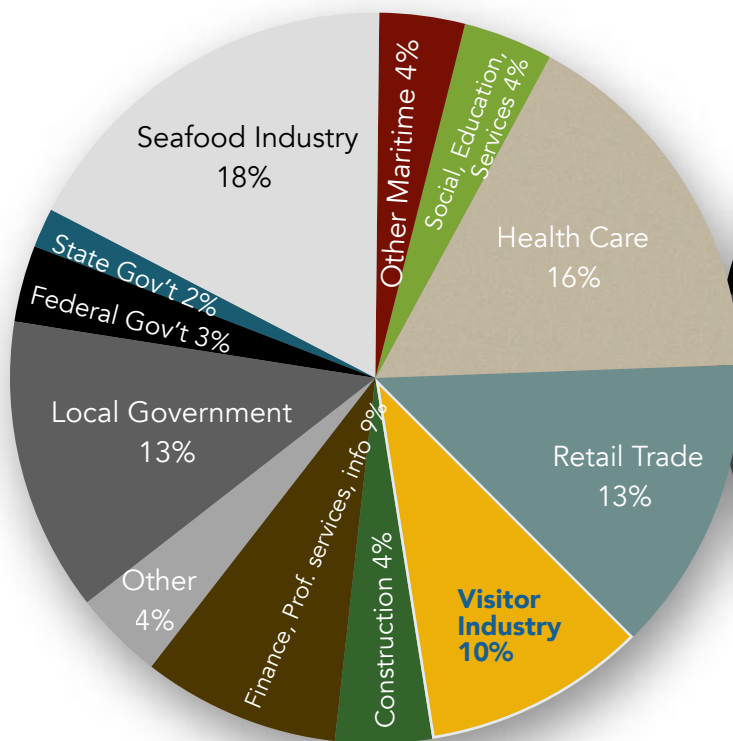
¹ For the purposes of this analysis, small cruise ships include those with 30 to 199 passengers per vessel; mid-sized cruise ships includes those with 200 to 1,299 passengers per vessel; and large cruise ships are 1,300 and over.

Visitor Employment

All four quarters of 2022 data is not yet available. In 2021, visitor industry employment made up 10% of all private sector employment in Wrangell, accounting for 103 annual average jobs with associated workforce earnings of \$3.2 million.² The visitor industry accounted for 7% of total Wrangell workforce earnings in 2018. Wrangell Alaska had 1,031 year-round equivalent jobs and nearly \$50 million in workforce earnings in 2021.

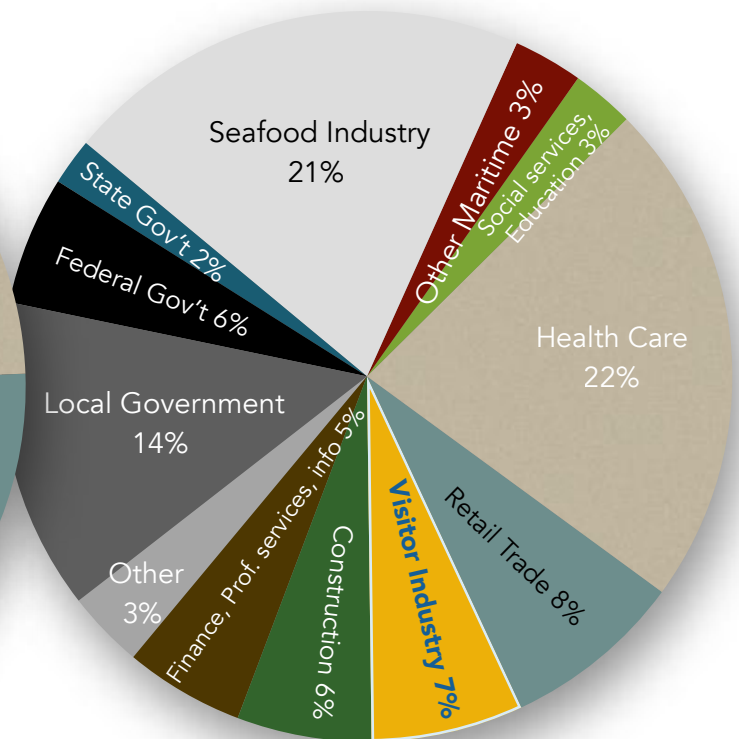
Annualized **Jobs**

103 Visitor Sector Jobs



Employment **Earnings**

Visitor Sector \$3.19 million



This sector is smaller in Wrangell than the region as a whole; the Southeast Alaska visitor industry represented 15% of all jobs and 9% of all employment earnings in 2021.

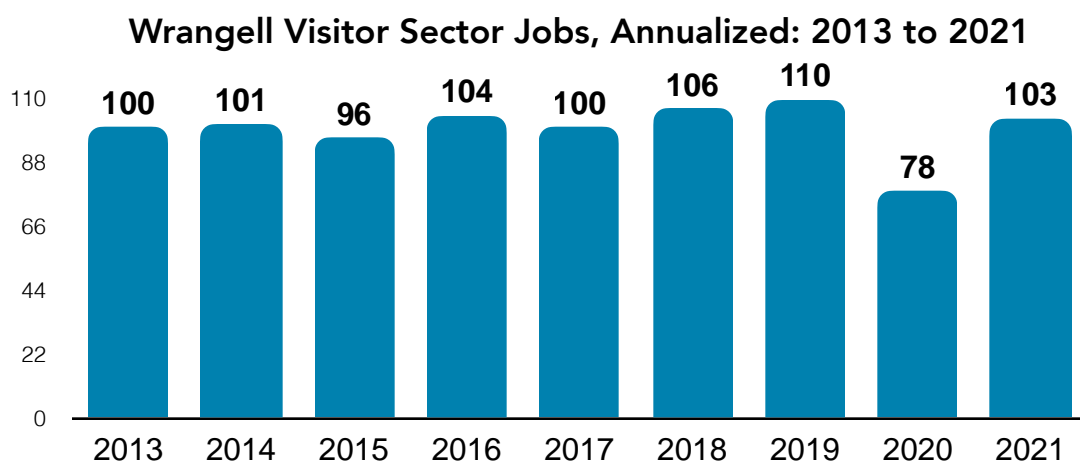
² **Sources:** Alaska Department of Labor Employment & Wage data; US Census Nonemployer (self-employment) Statistics. **Notes:** Due to data confidentiality, some figures are estimates by Rain Coast Data, based on all available inputs. Since annual average employment measures monthly jobs on an annual basis, a visitor industry job that lasts three months counts as one-quarter of an annual average job. Therefore total people employed by the visitor industry last year is a much higher number. 2022 data is not yet fully available.

Annual Visitor Industry Employment 2013-2021

With the exception of 2020, when no cruise ships arrived in Wrangell due to the pandemic, annualized visitor sector employment in the community is remarkably steady, at just around 100 annualized jobs since 2013. While peak worker count is significantly higher, using an annualized count (year-round equivalent job analysis) allows tourism jobs to be compared across sectors, and is a better way of making annual comparisons.

Total workforce earnings, on the other hand, have increased over time. The average visitor sector wage increased by 49% between 2014 and 2021, while total workforce earnings in that sector increased by 42%. While 2021 visitor sector earnings were below 2019 earnings levels, early data for 2022 show the sector has fully recovered from pandemic losses.

	Year 2014	Year 2017	Year 2018	Year 2019	Year 2021	% Change 2014-2021
Average Visitor Industry Wage	\$22,227	\$24,066	\$27,259	\$31,955	\$30,961	39%
Total Visitor Industry Employment	101	100	106	110	103	2%
Total Visitor Industry Workforce Earnings	\$2.24 million	\$2.40 million	\$2.89 million	\$3.52 million	\$3.19 million	42%



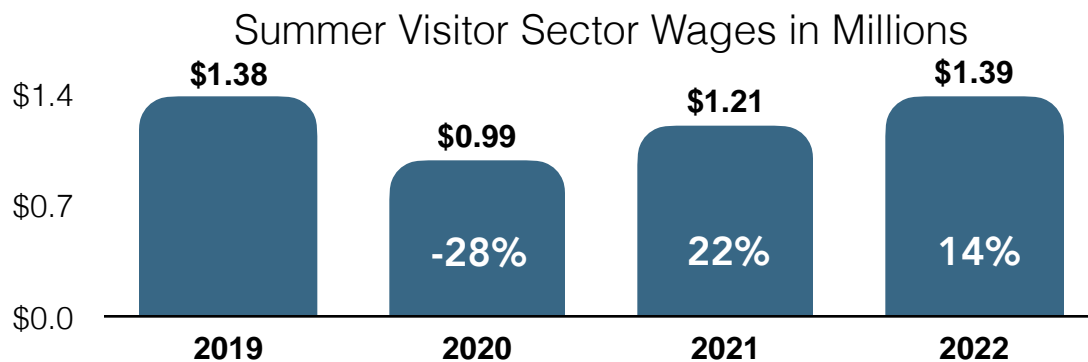
Note: Annualized employment (or year-round employment) tracks total workers each month of the year, sums the monthly total, and divides that number by twelve. **Source:** Alaska Department of Labor and US Census Nonemployer (self-employment).

2022 Quarters 2&3 Employment Figures

While 2022 data from the Alaska Department of Labor has only been released through the 3rd quarter, comparing April through September numbers (2nd and 3rd quarter data) for the last four years provides interesting information regarding how the Wrangell tourism sector weathered the pandemic. Total summer visitor sector wages fell by 28% in 2020, increased by 22% in 2021. In 2022, wages increased again by 14%. Generally these figures tell the same data story as the rest of the analysis: employment is not yet back to 2019 levels, although workforce earnings surpassed 2019. Self-employment is excluded from the numbers below.

Wrangell Jobs and Wages Visitors Sector April-September

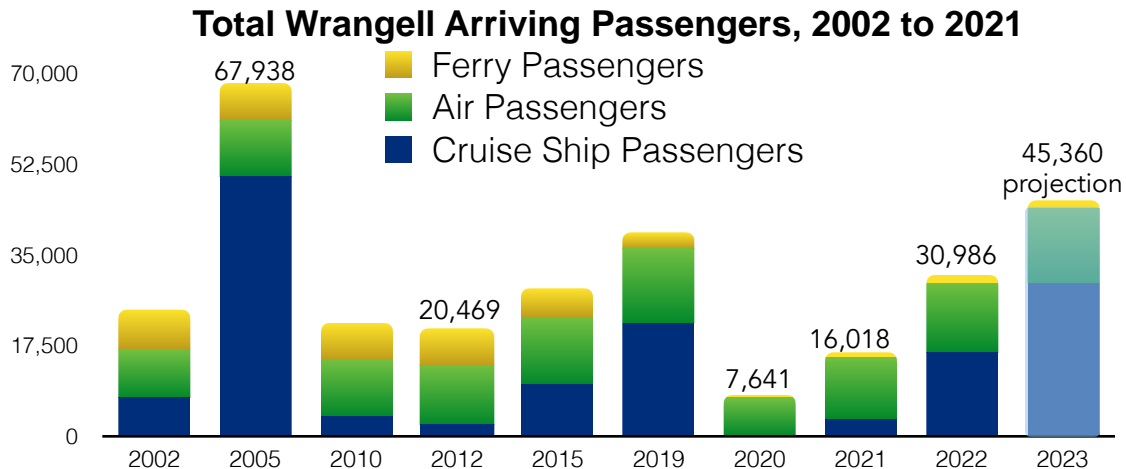
Total Air, Cruise, Ferry Passenger Arrivals	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change 2021-2022	Change 2019-2022
Tourism Retail Jobs	5	5	6	6	0%	10%
Tourism Retail Wages	\$35,279	\$29,897	\$38,529	\$49,641	29%	41%
Transportation Jobs (primarily scenic and sightseeing)	36	23	27	31	15%	-15%
Transportation Wages	\$578,754	\$424,818	\$501,262	\$569,059	14%	-2%
Food and Beverage Jobs	19	16	18	17	-6%	-11%
Food and Beverage Wages	\$187,747	\$158,162	\$141,728	\$154,959	9%	-17%
Other Visitors Sector jobs (includes accommodation, recreation, tours, etc)	37	23	30	40	33%	8%
Other Visitors Sector wages	\$580,099	\$378,467	\$530,691	\$613,151	16%	6%
Total April-Sept Jobs	97	67	81	94	16%	-3%
Total April-Sept Wages	\$1.38 million	\$0.99 million	\$1.21 million	\$1.39 million	14%	0%



Change in the Visitor Industry

Total Passenger Arrivals

In 2023, 45,360 passengers of all types are expected to arrive in Wrangell. The visitors sector primarily serves tourists, but also serves all travelers, and thus encompasses all hotels, restaurants, travel industry workers, and all arriving passengers.

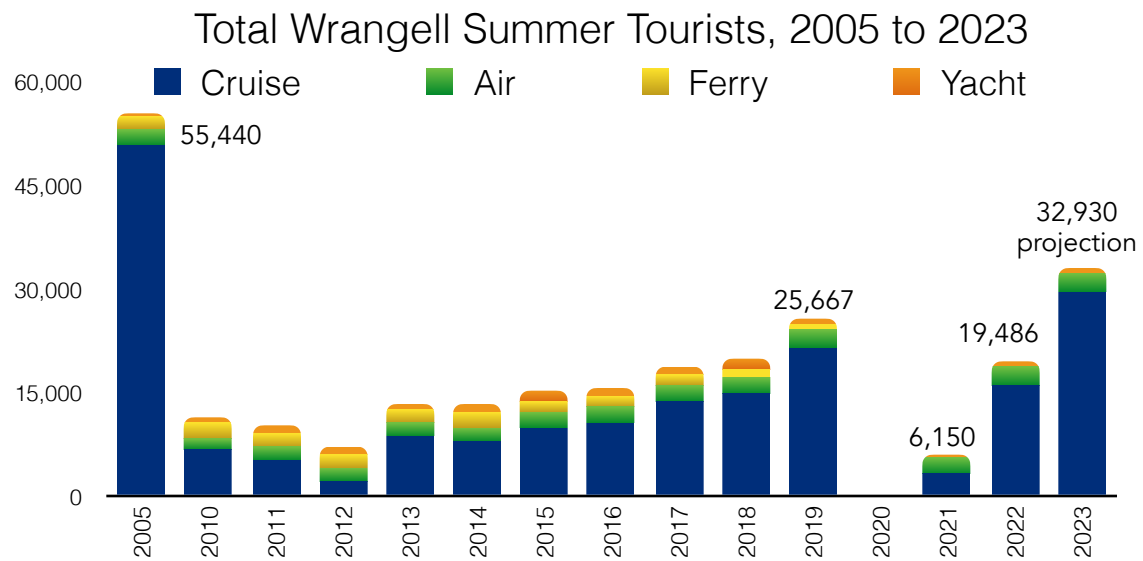


Total passenger arrivals peaked in 2004 and 2005 with nearly 70,000 passenger arrivals when large cruise ships visited the community; falling to just over 20,000 in 2012. Between 2013 and 2019, total visitation gradually increased, before dropping due to the pandemic. In 2020, passenger arrivals fell by 80% to less than 8,000 total arriving. In 2021, arriving passenger numbers more than doubled. Numbers nearly doubled again between 2021 and 2022. Cruise passenger arrivals for 2023 are expected surpass 2019 levels by 37%.

Wrangell Passenger Arrivals

Total Air, Cruise, Ferry Passenger Arrivals	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023 projection	Projected Change 2022-2023
Cruise Ship Passengers	21,540	-	3,350	16,126	29,510	83%
Air Passengers	14,637	7,367	11,897	13,347	14,670	10%
Alaska Marine Highway System	2,907	274	771	1,513	1,180	-22%
Total Passenger Arrivals in Wrangell (via Air, Cruise, Ferry)	39,084	7,641	16,018	30,986	45,360	46%

Total Tourist (only) Arrivals



In 2023, Wrangell is projected to host 32,930 tourists in the community.

Wrangell receives tourists from small and mid-sized cruise ships, airplanes, ferries, and yachts.³ In 2005, more than 55,000 tourists visited Wrangell, which was the last year Wrangell was visited by a large cruise ship. Wrangell would not see another large ship scheduled for 19 years.⁴

In the intervening years Wrangell developed a boutique tourism sector, with approximately 100 annualized jobs. A primary reason for the lack of tourism industry growth is a cap on the number of people allowed to visit Anan each year, and limited accommodation during July and August, Anan's prime time for visitation. Anan represents the crown jewel of Wrangell's draw as a tourist destination. With constraints on this visitor attraction it is difficult to grow the visitor sector as a whole. The community had focused on ferry tourism—visitors who would spend multiple days and nights in the community, taking several high-end tours—but reduced and unattractive ferry schedules due to budget cuts have all but eliminated ferry tourism.

Wrangell's current challenge is how to monetize growth once the boutique tours are fully booked.

³ Due to non-uniform counting, a more in-depth yacht analysis was excluded from this edition of the Wrangell Visitor Economy. Since Heritage Harbor was completed, there has been an increase of yachters to the community.

⁴ While in September 2022 the 1,918-passenger Holland America Noordam made a single visit to Wrangell, it was not on the original schedule.

Summer Tourists to Wrangell 2010-2023

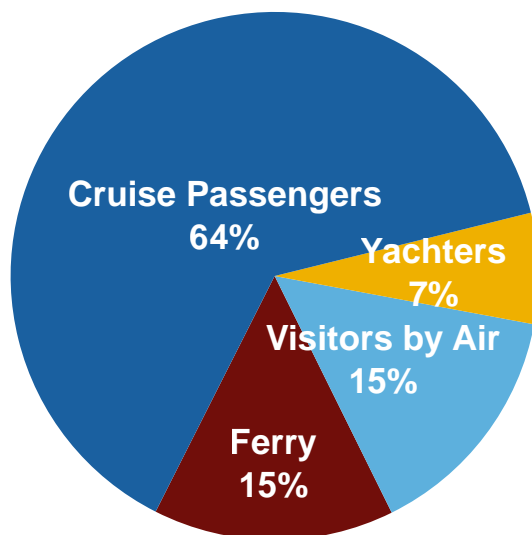
Summer Visitors to Wrangell	2010	2014	2022	2023 est.	% Change 2010-2023	% Change 2022-2023
Total Visitors	11,907	13,256	19,486	32,930	177%	69%
Cruise	6,779	8,096	16,126	29,510	335%	83%
Yachters*	960	1,052	462	500	-48%	8%
Air	1,768	2,008	2,618	2,700	53%	3%
Ferry	2,000	2,100	280	220	-89%	-21%

Air: US Bureau of Transportation Statistics RITA arriving passengers. **Cruise Passengers:** Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. Small cruise ship schedules with research regarding total capacity. **Alaska Marine Highway System:** Annual Traffic Volume Reports and direct data request. ***Yacht** counts provided by City and Borough of Wrangell. "Summer tourists" are calculated in a variety of ways. All yacht and cruise passengers are considered "tourists." Air and ferry passengers are calculated by subtracting October to April average passenger arrivals from monthly summer passenger arrivals. From this number total seafood processing workers in Wrangell per summer is subtracted.

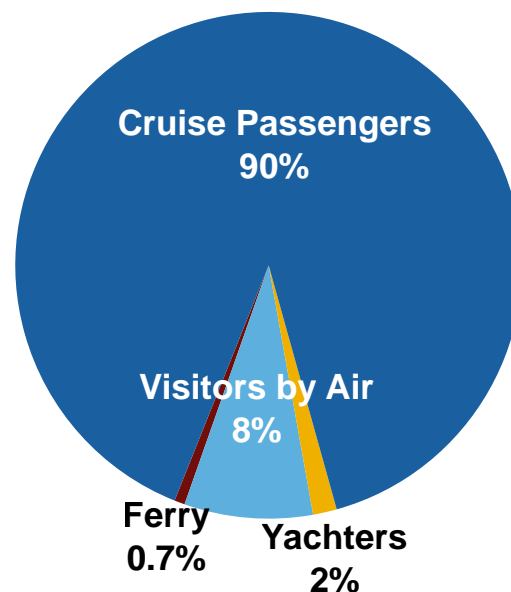
Summer Tourists by Mode of Arrival

In 2023, 90% of all tourists are expected to arrive via cruise ship, while 8% will arrive by air. Yachter arrivals may be higher than the 2% projected, due to data limitations. Based on current ferry schedules, less than one-percent of all tourists will arrive via ferry. In 2013, two-thirds of all tourists were off cruise ships.

Summer Tourists by Mode of Arrival in Wrangell 2013



Summer Tourists by Mode of Arrival in Wrangell 2023



Summer Visitation and Spending Analysis

Since 2021 and 2022 were still unusual cruise ship years, due to cruise ships not being full, the robust 2018-analysis was used to forecast 2023 visitor spending. Using the 2018 analysis, and increasing dollar values for inflations, and multiplying by the projected total of tourists by mode, Wrangell tourists are expected to spend \$7.1 million in the summer of 2023. However, there is a huge caveat in this assumption. Since more than half of 2018 spending was on excursions, the visitor sector will need to make sure it has the capacity to provide sufficient tours to visiting cruise ship passengers.

Summer Tourists by Mode of Arrival and Expenditures in Wrangell 2023 Projections

	2023	Total Estimated Summer Visitor Spending 2023	Total Estimated Spending Per Passenger
Total Tourist Projections	32,930	\$7,061,460	\$214
Cruise Passengers	29,510	\$5,252,780	\$178
Visitors by Air	2,700	\$1,533,600	\$568
Yachters	500	\$184,000	\$368
Ferry	220	\$91,080	\$414

Note that overall per passenger spending decreased from the 2018 analysis, due to the projected arrival of more cruise passengers.

In 2018 a full accounting of visitor spending was conducted. Total visitor spending per category was calculated in two ways. First it was developed using estimates of how many days each type of visitor stayed, depending on mode, and how much spending per person occurred per visit per spending category. Those figures were then cross-referenced with City and Borough of Wrangell sales tax receipts for businesses serving visitors. Total sales tax receipts for winter months were subtracted from summer months to determine "visitor spending." Summer hotel spending was determined by bed tax records for May to September. Rooms paid for with a government rate were subtracted, save for six percent that participated in local excursions. Total campground and RV payments were estimated.

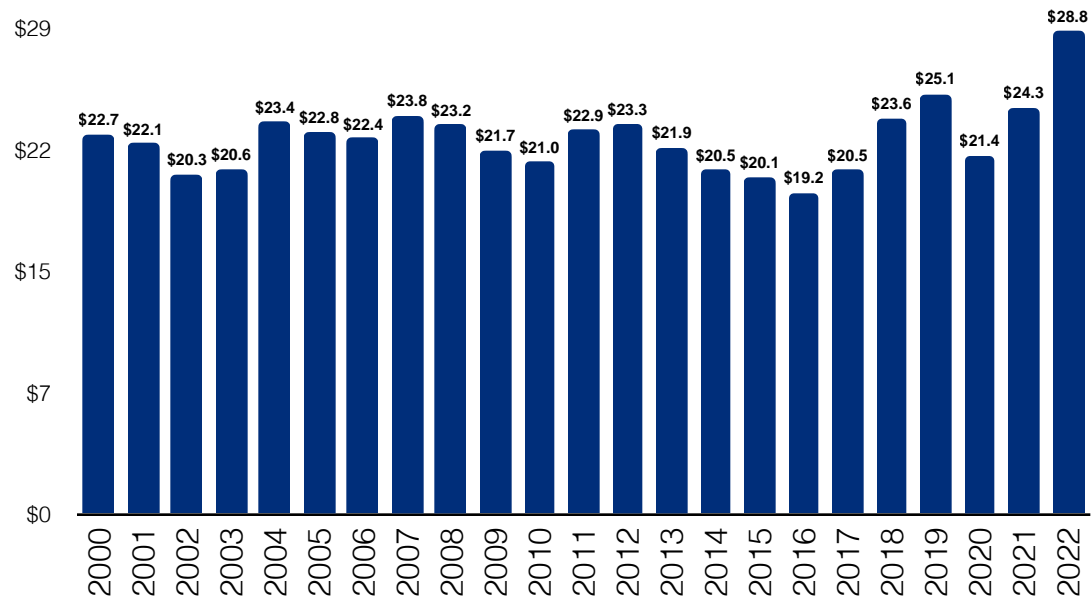
Total Summer Tourist Spending, 2018

Summer Spending by Visitors by Category	2018
Total estimated summer tourist spending	\$5,116,591
Excursions	\$2,694,747
Food, Alcohol, Coffee	\$1,452,121
Retail Spending and Transportation	\$416,155
Hotel	\$553,568

Tax Revenue

Sales tax represents the largest source of annual revenue for the municipality of Wrangell, estimated at 40% for FY2023. The City and Borough of Wrangell's 7% sales tax generated revenues increased significantly in recent years due to the 2018 Supreme Court decision to collect tax from online retailers. In 2018, tourism spending represented 21.6% of total summer sales tax collections. Summer sales were up significantly in 2022.

Summer (Taxable) Spending in Wrangell 2000-2022
adjusted for inflation

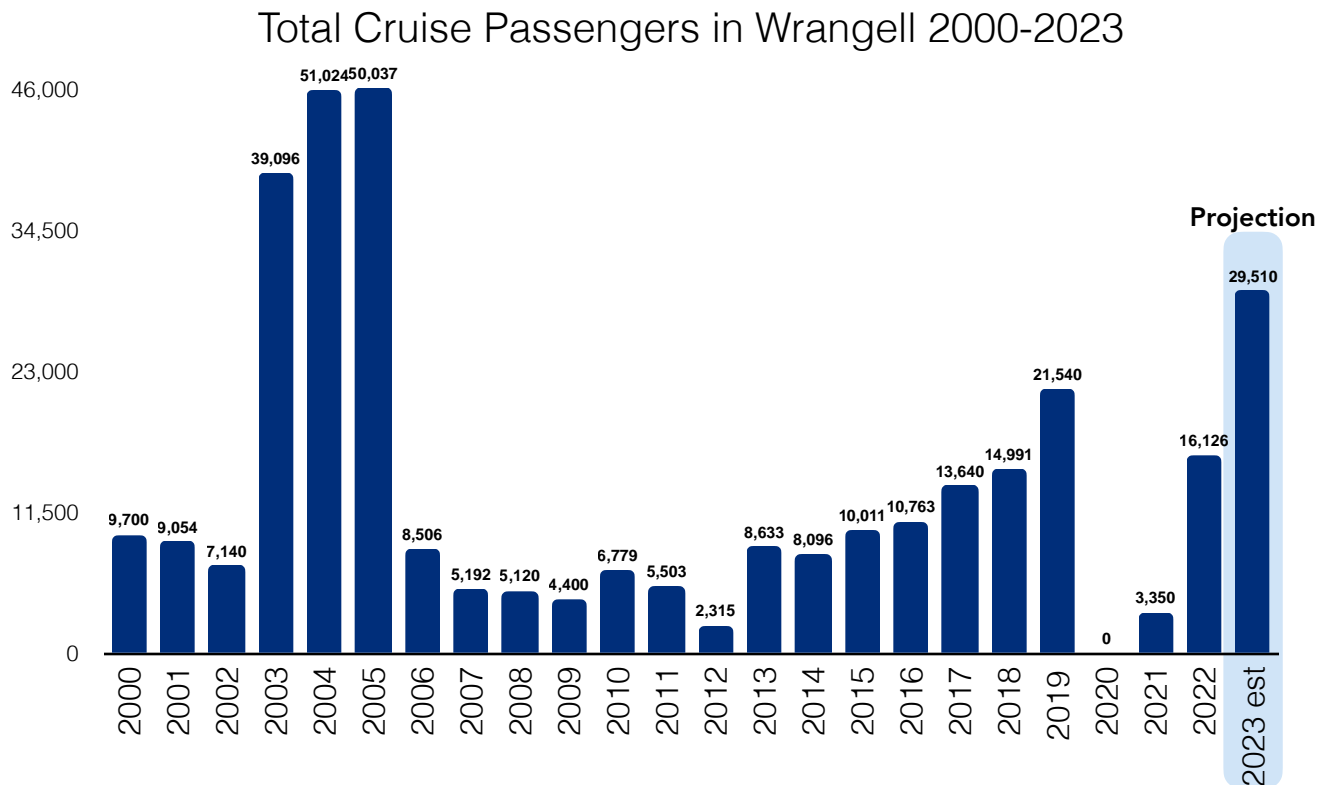


Cruise Passengers

As Alaska's popularity as a visitor destination grows, Southeast Alaska has become more attractive to cruise ship visitors. Cruise passenger arrivals hit a new regional record in 2019, and has recovered quickly following the 2020-2021 pandemic tourism seasons.

This trend is evident in Wrangell. The number of cruise passengers arriving saw more than a nine-fold increase — from a low point in 2012 of 2,315 cruise passengers to 21,540 passengers in 2019 — visiting Wrangell on small to mid-sized cruise ships.

For the purposes of this analysis, small cruise ships include those with 30 to 199 passengers per vessel; mid-sized cruise ships includes those with 200 to 1,299 passengers per vessel.⁵



Source: Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska; City and Borough of Wrangell. Projections are for 100% capacity. Ships in Southeast Alaska in 2021 and 2022 were not full, and vacancy percentages were applied to estimates for arriving vessels in Wrangell during those years for mid-sized vessels.

⁵ Mid-sized cruise passenger actuals were provided by Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska. All other cruise passenger data are estimated totals based on small cruise ship schedules and research regarding total capacity.

The schedules for cruise ships visiting Wrangell in 2023 includes the following:

Cruise Ship Projections 2023

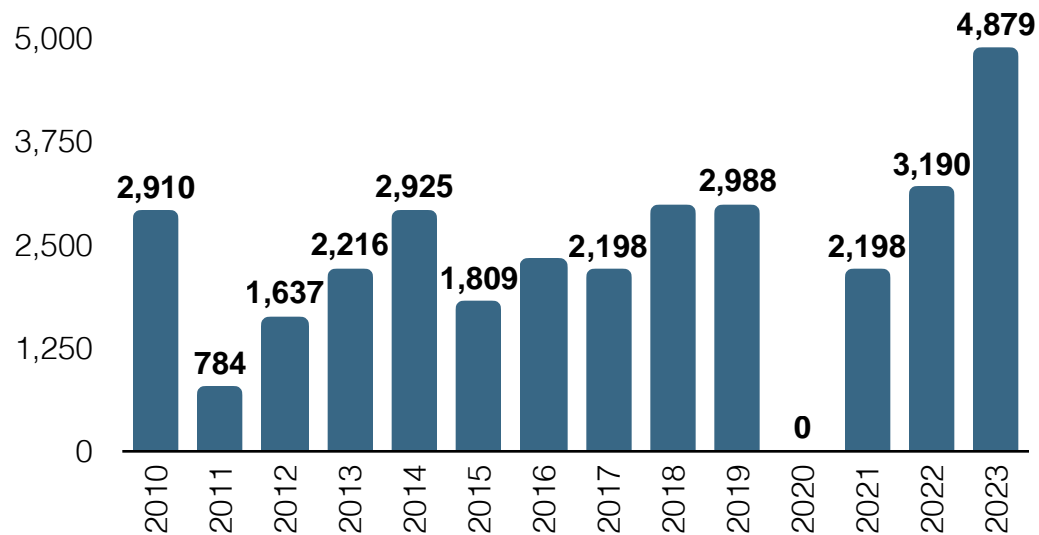
2023 Ships	Port Calls	Passenger Capacity	Total Visitors
Small Ships	74	523	4,879
Alaskan Dream	17	40	680
Baranof Dream	15	49	735
NG Sea Bird	9	62	558
NG Sea Lion	10	62	620
American Constellation	11	170	1,870
Kruzof Explorer	6	12	72
Admiralty Dream	5	54	270
Chichagof Dream	1	74	74
Mid-Sized Ships	61	5,093	24,631
Ocean Victory	14	200	2,800
Seabourn Odyssey	12	450	5,400
Silver Whisper	8	382	3,056
Star Breeze	8	312	2,496
Roald Amundsen	7	530	3,710
Regatta	6	684	4,104
Hanseatic Nature	2	530	1,060
Viking Orion	1	930	930
Fridtjof Nansen	1	530	530
Scenic Eclipse	1	228	228
Seabourn Venture	1	317	317
Grand Total	135	5,848	29,510

Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska; City and Borough of Wrangell.

Small Cruise Ships

In 2023, 8 small cruise ships with a combined capacity of 523 passengers are expected to make 74 port calls, potentially bringing 4,879 passengers to Wrangell if the ships are full. This represents a significant increase in the total number of visitors on small cruise ships.

Wrangell Small Cruise Capacity 2010 to 2023



Note: For consistency, 2021 capacity numbers are included for small cruise ships, although actual travelers were likely lower. For the purposes of this analysis, small cruise ships are defined as those with 30 to 199 passengers per vessel.

Wrangell's small cruise ship sector experienced disruptions in 2010 when Cruise West ceased operations at the end of the summer season, and again during the pandemic years of 2020 and 2021.

Mid-Sized Cruise Ships

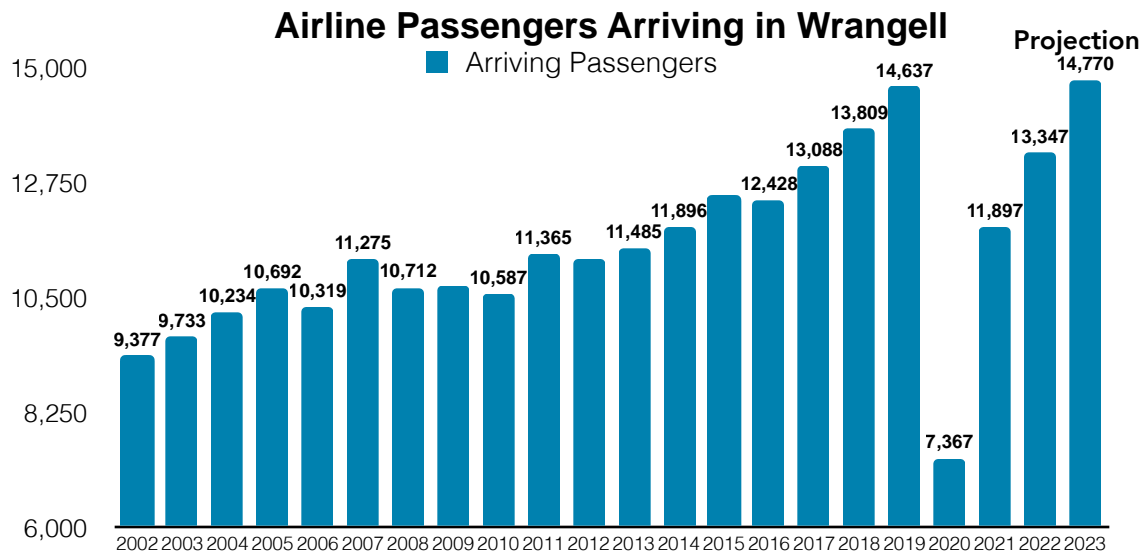
In 2023, 11 mid-sized cruise ships with a combined capacity of 5,093 passengers are expected to make 61 port calls, potentially bringing 24,631 passengers to Wrangell if the ships are full. For sake of comparison, in 2019 mid-sized ships visited just 36 times, with a total capacity of 18,552 visitors, so this represents a significant ramp up from previous years.

Large Cruise Ships

Norwegian visited Wrangell regularly in the early 2000's, but its final visit was in 2005. Analysis showed that the community did not have sufficient capacity at that time to provide visitor programming for a 2,000-passenger vessel. While the Noordam made a visit to Wrangell with 1,664 passengers in September 2022, it was not originally part of the schedule; the first scheduled large cruise ships since 2005 are on the calendar for 2024. The 2,092-passenger Queen Elizabeth will make two visits, while the 1,848-passenger Westerdam will visits once.

Air Passengers⁶

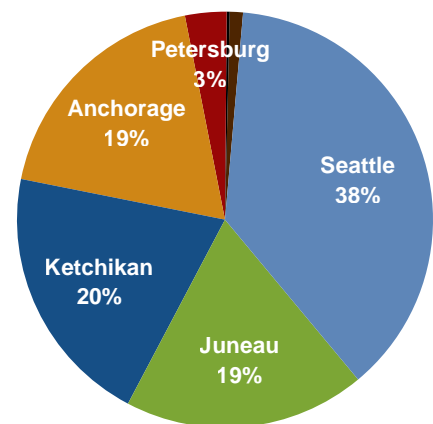
The number of air passengers arriving in Wrangell gradually increased through 2019. Passenger traffic fell steeply, and then rebounded strongly following the 2020 pandemic. Further growth is projected in 2023 as Trident Seafoods restarts local operations, and cruise tourism grows. In 2022, there were 13,347 air passengers arriving in Wrangell.



To estimate how many of these summer travelers were tourists (rather than locals traveling home or people traveling to work in Wrangell), average off-season monthly travel numbers were subtracted from high-season monthly travel numbers, along with summer labor estimates. Just over 2,600 summer air travelers are estimated to have visited Wrangell for the purpose of recreation in 2022.

Looking at a full year of passenger data, the greatest percentage of passengers arrived in Wrangell via Seattle (38%), while a fifth of passengers arrived from each of the following locations: Ketchikan, Juneau, and Anchorage. Since Wrangell's largest seafood processing plant will operate in 2023 for the first time since 2019, and tourism is on the rise, total air passenger numbers are projected to rise to just above 2019 levels in 2023, an 11% increase over 2022 air passenger numbers.

Passengers Disembarkments in Wrangell by City 2022



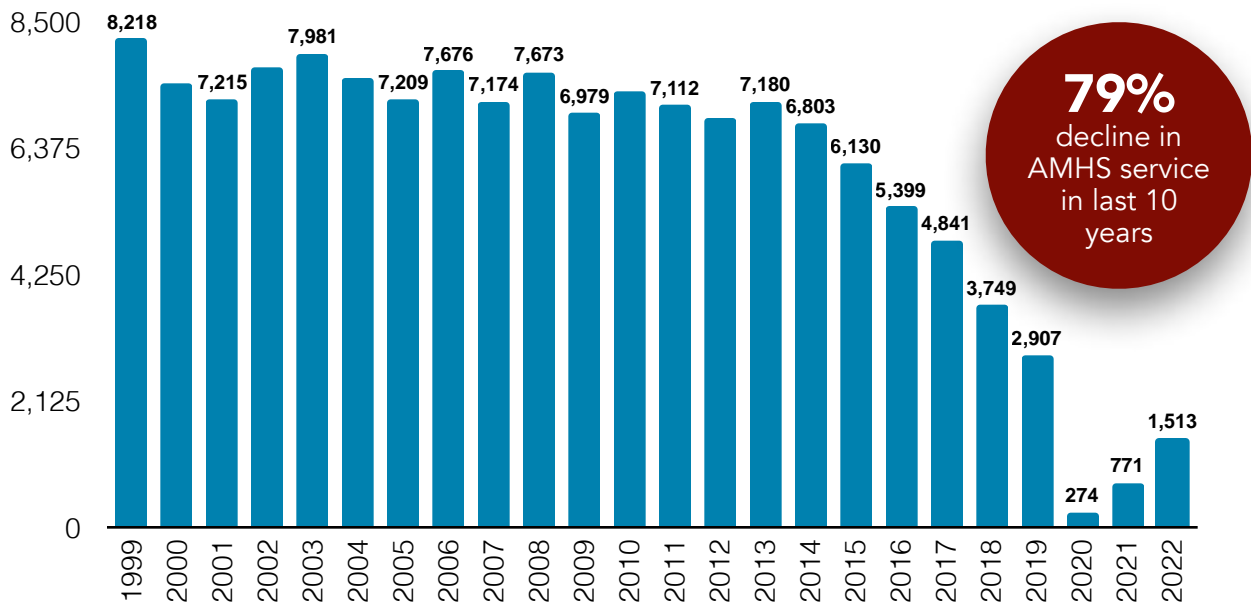
Year	Total Passengers	Total Estimated Tourists
2022	13,347	2,618

⁶ Bureau of Transportation Statistics T-100 Market data.

Ferry Passengers⁷

In 2022, just over 1,500 Alaska Marine Highway (AMHS) ferry passengers arrived in Wrangell; of these, 52%, about 800, arrived during the summer (May through September). Since 2013, the number of passengers disembarking in Wrangell has decreased significantly. Total arriving passengers are less than half of the levels of 20 years ago. Further cuts are expected in 2023.

Ferry Passengers Arriving in Wrangell 1999 to 2022



AMHS has been hit hard by state budget cuts. Service and port calls have been cut significantly, and Wrangell has been disproportionately impacted. The unreliability of the ferry scheduling and the increase in costs to travel have impacted ferry users and those who have built their businesses around serving ferry passengers.

The pandemic decimated already diminished ferry service, and while it had come back incrementally in 2021 and 2022, new staffing challenges appear poised to stymie further recovery. While the original 2023 summer schedule proposed by AMHS offered a similar level of service to 2022, the state reports that it lacks the crew needed to operate the Kennicott in 2023, leaving Wrangell with summer weekly service from a single vessel. For summer traffic this means reducing port calls by 22%, from 55 in 2022 to 43 in 2023, and reducing summer passenger traffic from nearly 800 in 2022 to a projected 620 in 2023. Tourist ferry traffic would fall to just over 200 in 2023.

⁷ Alaska Marine Highway System Annual Traffic Volume Reports. Direct data requests.

Ferry Passenger Arrivals

Year	Total Arriving Ferry Passengers	Summer Tourist Passengers (Estimated)
2022	1,513	280
2021	771	143
2020	274	NA
2019	2,907	815
2018	3,749	961
2017	4,841	1,364
2016	5,399	1,365
2014	6,803	2,094
2010	7,325	1,969
Change 2010-2022	-79%	-86%

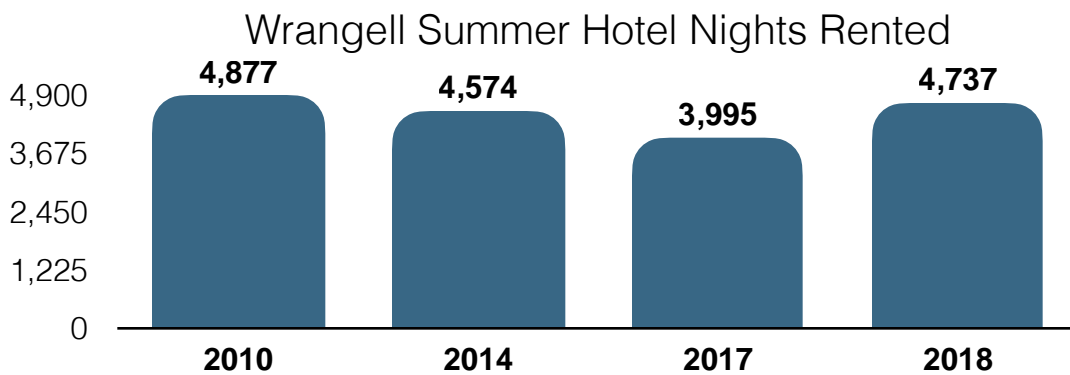
Projected Summer Ferry Passenger Arrivals 2023

Month	2022 AMHS Port Calls	2022 Disembarking Passengers	2023 Scheduled Port Calls	2023 Projected Disembarking Passengers
May	11	117	9	96
June	12	179	8	119
July	11	225	9	184
August	11	141	9	115
September	10	132	8	106
Total	55	794	43	620
Change 2022-2023			-22%	-22%

Hotels and Bed and Breakfasts

Wrangell summer visitors use an average of 4,500 hotel room nights, although room tracking is currently unavailable. In 2023, Wrangell has 13 overnight accommodation businesses, with 69 total rooms.

In 2018, Wrangell had 14 accommodation businesses also with 69 total rooms for rent, although 10 of those establishments that hosted travelers have closed, including Ava's B&B, Armstrong Rents, Little Bitty, Off the Hook, H14, Rooney's Roost, Tans Place, the Squawking Raven, and Zimovia B&B. Significantly, the Cedar House Inn, formally known as Alaskan Sourdough Lodge, both opened and closed in the last year. It is an 18-room facility, although just a portion of those had been available for rent. In 2012, Wrangell had 80 rooms available, including the Sourdough.



Wrangell Overnight Rentals Inventory by Rooms/Units

	2012		2018		2023
Ava's B & B	1	Ava's B & B	1	Apartment in Wrangell	3
Alaskan Sourdough Lodge	16	Armstrong Rents	3	A Suite Spot	5
Beaver Connections	2	Dockside Wrangell	1	ARED LLC	2
Benitz B&B	2	Grand View B & B	3	Forget Me Not	3
Diamond C Hotel/Thunderbird	6	Hertiage Harbor	3	Grand View B&B	3
Fennimore's B & B	6	Little Bitty Getaway,	1	Heritage Harbor	3
Grand View B & B	3	Off the Hook	2	Mt. Dewey Sunset B&B	2
John Taylor	1	H14	2	Northstar Reflections	1
Mt. Dewey Guesthouse	1	Rooney's Roost B & B	6	Reeves Guesthouse	2
Rooney's Roost B & B	6	Stikine Inn	34	Reliance Harbor Front	2
Stikine Inn	34	Tans Place	1	Stikine Inn	34
Zimovia B & B	2	Squawking Raven	2	Vacation Rental	1
	80	Extended Stay	8	Extended Stay	8
		Zimovia B & B	2		69
			69		

Anan, Stikine, LeConte Tours Analysis

Anan Wildlife Observatory

The most important visitor attraction in Wrangell is Anan. Anan Creek is a historic Tlingit Native fishing site located on the mainland on the south end of Wrangell Island. The area has the largest pink salmon run in Southeast Alaska, attracting large numbers of black and brown bears during July and August. The Anan Wildlife Observatory is managed by the Wrangell District of the Tongass National Forest and is only accessible by boat or plane. There is a half-mile trail leading to the observation deck, strategically allowing visitors to view bears while they fish for salmon in cascading waterfalls. During peak season, which is July 5 through August 25, visitors can only visit with a US Forest Service permit. There is a high demand for the daily passes. Admission to the site is carefully managed by the Forest Service, and the number of visitors is limited to 60 per day. Passes are not required outside of the peak season.

Stikine River, LeConte Glacier Tour Analysis

There are two additional water-based tours that are very popular in Wrangell. These are the Stikine River and the LeConte Glacier.

Stikine River: Wrangell is known for being the gateway to the Stikine River, a name that translates to “the great river” in Tlingit. The Stikine extends 400 miles from headwaters in British Columbia to its mouth near Wrangell and encompasses 27,200 acres of delta flats. Local operators provide jet boat tours, which are the most popular way to access the Stikine River. There is a wealth of history and unique geological elements, as well as spectacular scenery and wildlife opportunities. The Stikine River and tributaries comprise the Stikine-Leconte Wilderness area. For the more advanced adventurer, canoes, kayaks, and rafts are available locally.

LeConte Glacier: The LeConte Glacier is North America’s southernmost tidewater glacier and is part of a massive glacial system that stretches 120 miles. It resides in a 12-mile-long fjord at the head of LeConte Bay, approximately 20 miles from the mouth of the Stikine River. It is an active, advancing glacier with frequent calving. Shakes Glacier on the Stikine River is part of the same glacial icefield. Tours are generally via jet boat and take about four hours.

Anan Bear Viewing Economic Impact 2017 Analysis

Combining the total spending by independent visitors to Anan, as well as cruise visitors who partake in Anan bear viewing, the total estimated economic impact of Anan bear viewing in Wrangell was \$1.9 million in the summer of 2017, meaning that more than a third (36%) of all summer tourism-related spending in Wrangell was made by travelers who visited Anan on a guided trip. 84% of the total economic impact of Anan visitors in Wrangell was due to independent travelers, while cruise passengers contributed 16% of the larger economic value realized by the attraction.

One finding from the analysis is that the number of cruise ship visitors going to Anan has been increasing over time. Since the number of permits allotted for Anan are fixed and have not been increasing, this means that the overall economic benefit of Anan to Wrangell is actually decreasing.

City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Date: March 17, 2023

To: Economic Development Committee

From: Carol Rushmore, Economic Development Director

Re: EDC Bylaws

The Economic Development Committee was established by Mayor Doug Roberts in 1998 originally to help identify potential uses of the Steven's money that flowed to the community due to the closure of the APC Sawmill.

The focus of the EDC has varied over the years depending on the Mayor's request of the EDC or depending on projects and issues facing the community.

In the early 2000's, the EDC was instrumental with the Port Commission in the development of a Marine industries plan that included the Belt Freezer, the Cold Storage, the fish processing plant and the Marine Service Center and new Harbor.

When there were multiple regional Taskforces to deal with the roadless and future of the Tongass National Forest, regionally a timber products (and other industry) "Clusters" were established. The EDC developed a Timber Forest Product Plan specific to Wrangell to tie into the regional document as well as addressing some of the marine industry and tourism components.

The EDC also worked with Staff to put the Institute property out for development RFP twice, only to have no responses to the solicitations.

EDC Bylaws were developed in 2004 and last updated in 2016. The Committee was never established in the Code, although WMC 4 Economic Development establishes the Borough to have the powers of Economic Development. The 2016 update modified the number of members from 7 to 5 because all Boards and Committees were having a very difficult time finding individuals to volunteer to serve. A seven member board requires four to be present for a quorum, but a five member board only requires three.

BY-LAWS OF WRANGELL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 1

Purpose

The purpose of the Wrangell EDC is to act as a sounding board for and make recommendations to the Borough Assembly on development proposals, grant ideas, project proposals and other action items.

Mission

The EDC will work to create a healthy, diversified economy with a stable tax base that supports good streets, public facilities and infrastructure, and will preserve and capitalizes on its natural beauty, history and cultural diversity. New industries will be welcomed that create a diverse economic base while existing industries shall be supported to remain strong and viable. We support small businesses development.

Goals

1. ***Encourage Business Development in order Diversify the economy*** so that Wrangell is not dependent on a single employer or industry
2. Support and promote ***infrastructure development*** that enables economic growth.
3. Support our ***education*** system and opportunities.
4. Maintain communication with existing businesses and community.

ARTICLE 2

Committee Composition

The Economic Development Committee will consist of five members representing diverse interests appointed by the Mayor and the Borough Assembly. The terms for all Board seats are three years, staggered terms. Letters of continued interest to serve may be submitted after fulfilling a term seat and the Assembly may reappoint a member.

Officers and Duties

Chair and Vice-Chair will be elected annually at the first meeting after October election. Economic Development Director shall serve as support staff to the EDC.

Quorum

In order for business to be transacted and recommendations forwarded, a majority of the number of appointed members must be in attendance. For voting purposes, the vote of the majority of the quorum present shall be sufficient for a subject matter's determination.

Attendance

If a Committee member is absent for 50% of four consecutive meetings without a valid excuse submitted prior to the meeting and accepted by the Committee members present, the Committee member will be considered automatically resigned from the appointment and the Borough Clerk will advertise for a new appointment.

EDC Meetings

EDC Committee meetings will be held, at minimum, quarterly. Additional meetings may be scheduled based on need and with proper notification. Any Committee member may request an item be placed on the agenda.

SubCommittees

The EDC may create subcommittees as necessary to meet on their own time without the need of public notification. All work of the subcommittee must come forward to the full EDC for discussion and action.

Parliamentary Procedures

All meetings will be conducted using Roberts Rule of Order.

Compensation.

No member of the Economic Development Committee shall receive any compensation from the EDC or Borough in return for service on the Committee. Travel expenditures (transportation, lodging, per diem and registration fees) will be paid for any approved travel if the Committee recommends and the Borough Assembly authorizes expenditures.

ARTICLE 3

By-law Amendments

These By-laws may be amended or repealed by a simple majority of the members of the EDC Committee. Amendments or revisions must be presented to the EDC in writing at a regularly scheduled EDC meeting. Discussions of the proposed amendment or revision and vote can occur at that meeting. Amendments must be submitted to Borough Assembly for final approval. A copy of the by-laws will be maintained in the Borough Clerk's office for the public's review.

Approved by City Council April 27, 2004

Modifications approved by the Borough Assembly on December 8, 2009

Modifications approved by the Borough Assembly on November 8, 2016

Chapter 4.10 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Sections:

[4.10.005 Economic development authorized – Scope.](#)

4.10.005 Economic development authorized – Scope.

A. The City and Borough of Wrangell hereby exercises the power to provide for economic development as herein provided.

B. The borough, in order to promote, enhance, further and provide for economic development, may:

1. Levy and collect taxes and expend funds for such purposes.
2. Apply for, receive, dispense and administer grants, contributions and other moneys.
3. Enter into agreements, contracts and other arrangements with the state, municipalities, federal government, or other public and private agencies, corporations, associations, organizations or individuals.
4. Purchase, lease, exchange, or otherwise acquire an interest in real or personal property, and sell, lease, exchange or otherwise dispose of real or personal property, or an interest in real or personal property.
5. Initiate, undertake and participate in studies, programs and projects, and engage in and take such other actions, as are deemed necessary or appropriate to promote, enhance, further and provide for economic development.

C. The borough manager, subject to the direction of the assembly, shall be responsible for the administration and implementation of the economic development projects and programs provided for in this title. [Ord. 833 § 14, 2009; Ord. 635 § 4, 1997.]

City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Date: March 17, 2023

To: Economic Development Committee

From: Carol Rushmore, Economic Development Director

Re: Project Update Discussion

Update on projects – some of these have a written update as found in my Department Report under Correspondence. Additional questions can be answered here.

- 1) Seattle Boat Show
- 2) Alder Top Village (former Institute property): Development schedule and Rezoning
- 3) Tourism Best Management Practices
- 4) USFS updates (Bob Dalrymple)
- 5) 6 Mile Deep Water Industrial Site (former Mill property): Thriving Community Grant; public outreach
- 6) Former Hospital site
- 7) Transition for Economic Development Director position and department.
- 8) Committee member updates

City and Borough of Wrangell, Alaska

Date: March 17, 2023

To: Economic Development Committee

From: Carol Rushmore, Economic Development Director

Re: Work Plan

Attached is the draft Work Plan updated through the January Meeting.

Economic Development Committee

2023-2025 Work Plan

Purpose

The purpose of the Wrangell EDC is to act as a sounding board for and make recommendations to the Borough Assembly on development proposals, grant ideas, project proposals and other action items.

Mission

The EDC will work to create a healthy, diversified economy with a stable tax base that supports good streets, public facilities and infrastructure, and will preserve and capitalize on its natural beauty, history and cultural diversity. New industries are welcomed that create a diverse economic base while existing industries shall be supported to remain strong and viable. We support small businesses development.

Goals

1. **Encourage Business Development in order to Diversify the economy** so that Wrangell is not dependent on a single employer or industry
2. Support and promote **infrastructure development** that enables economic growth.
3. Support our **education** system and opportunities.
4. Maintain communication with existing businesses and community.
5. Support increased transportation access to Wrangell

Areas of Focus for 2023-2025

- Workforce Development Issues: Housing; Job vacancies; Child Care
- Alder Top Village Subdivision: completion of Wetland Fill Permit; Construction of roads and utilities; working with WCA for their healing space
- Participate in USFS issues – Great American Outdoor Act, SASS, Cabin locations
- Identify transportation needs, issues and address long term access
- Borough Land Entitlement Selection: Finalize zoning in cooperation with Planning and Zoning Commission and begin survey of priority areas for potential opportunities
- 6 mile Zimovia deep water industrial site (former mill property): economic opportunities, master planning, marketing
- Former Wrangell Hospital property: disposal, marketing, economic opportunities
- Mariculture
- Wrangell Island East Emergency Access Road