



Port Director Update May 20, 2024

2024 Visitor Statistics: Based on data reported from Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska of ships arriving in Skagway through May 18, 2024.

Month	Ships	Passengers	% of Projections
April	4	8,985	97%
May	41	100,932	100%

As of May 18, three ships (8200 pax) have cancelled their calls in May

Ore Peninsula Redevelopment Update: The cruise float installation and ramp setup were completed on May 7. The contractor promptly began installing the final handrails, finishing the punch list, and demobilizing. The tugboat Marie H arrived in Skagway on Monday, May 13, and quickly departed with the crane and materials barge. We hosted our first cruise ship, the Koningsdam, on Tuesday, May 14. Pacific Pile and Marine are finalizing cleanup and closeout activities, with departure scheduled for the end of the week.

2024 Transportation Orientation: We hosted our annual transportation meeting on May 2, featuring speakers from the Port, Skagway Visitor Department, Police, Fire Department, US Customs and Border Patrol, Canadian Border Services Agency, Cruise Line Agencies of Alaska, SMART, and WP&YR. The presentations covered topics including safety, security, border requirements, shuttle services, loading and parking zones, permitting, and general dock operations. The event was well attended, indicating a potential need for a larger venue in the future. Feedback was positive, with attendees appreciating the valuable information shared. The meeting was attended by 59 individuals representing 31 businesses.

Inaugural Visits Silver Nova and Celebrity Edge: The Port of Skagway welcomed the Silver Nova on its inaugural call on May 13, 2024. We participated in a traditional plaque exchange and toured the ship. The Silver Nova is scheduled to make 19 calls, bringing an estimated 14,000 guests to Skagway in 2024. On Tuesday, May 21, 2024, we will similarly welcome the Celebrity Edge to recognize its inaugural season in Alaska.

FY24 Port Infrastructure Development Program (PIDP) Grant: On Friday, May 10, 2024, we submitted our PIDP Grant application. A special thank you to our Port Administrative Manager, Rebecca Kameika, for her exceptional effort. Rebecca led this project, collaborating with our team and partners such as KPFF and FCMC to develop a robust application. The FY23 PIDP award recipients were announced in November 2023, and we expect a similar timeline for 2024.

Rockslide Update: At the April 18th meeting, the Assembly approved a scope of work submitted by Shannon & Wilson to conduct a hazard evaluation of the slope risks above the WP&YR dock. This evaluation is expected to commence in mid-July.

Dock Changes & Cancellations: This season, we have experienced several dock changes, and for the most part, our notification system has been effective. These changes are typically due to weather, mechanical issues onboard ships, and other variables. We work closely with CLAA to make necessary adjustments and keep the community informed.

I would like to highlight a limitation of the Everbridge system. The character limit of 160 characters allows us to include only essential information. While it would be ideal to provide detailed explanations, this is not feasible within the given constraints. We have modified our messages to include a link for more details when available, but most users do not follow these links. Additionally, incorporating links further reduces our message limit to 140 characters. Although the system is not perfect, it is new, and we are continually finding better ways to utilize it.

AIDEA Visit: Representatives from AIDEA visited Skagway on May 7th. We toured the facility and discussed plans for the Ore terminal. We expressed our gratitude for the \$1 million allocation in the State of Alaska Budget intended for the terminal's demolition, and requested that they convey our thanks to the governor. Additionally, we explored the possibility of AIDEA providing financial support for the cleanup and removal of residual ore dust resulting from copper ore exports from the Minto Mine.