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First name: Mary

Last name: Stephenson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Good morning everyone... cc: Borough, City, USDA Forest Service bcc: Media and residents Why do I send this to you when its USDA Forest Service land that is sending out the press release today[hellip]because borough land surrounds it and egress to it. USDA Forest Service assessment link is below for public review and comments. Recapping USDA Forest Service is updating its land usage north of Ketchikan city limits after last years' public vetting. A lot is at stake here with Ward Cove Group, vowing to access North Tongass Highway public and private lands for their shore excursion experience. Buzz word "economic development" encourages business endeavors selfishly for the taxes governments earn from ticket sales and commercial property and for percentage of residents thinking it will be fun to experience. They may even purchase e-bikes online or locally from dealership for pleasure thereafter. E-bikes are a new trend and companies will have e-bikes (noise, emissions, reckless drivers, liability) for rent either from Ward Cove The Mill and home of Norwegian Cruise Lines or nearby properties. Be assured e-bikes will appear on city streets if tour company has permit use. 2 Currently, no enforcement/regulation codes prevent e-bikes from operating on this island. Yet be advised, other cities who do permit e-bikes are getting complaints from hikers who want a quiet walk through parkland, in this case owned by USDA Forest Service. NCL shore excursions are promoting paddle boarding, paddle cycling, hiking, day campground with fire and favorite s'mores in a serene eco-friendly environment with passive wildlife. Approved e-bike on back roads and trails nearby was not mentioned in sales promotion. Ketchikan and Borough prides itself for the trail network and protects them equally as they do residential usage on Third Avenue overpass with municipal ordinances. Both are sacred. The Industry of Tourism free enterprise is wanting to use e-bikes for transportation and recreational use. Not sure where the City and Borough Strategy Plan fits this into future development, however cities are always in a reactionary mode when competing with new trends that gains public support. Delaying discussion (first season or third year of operations) brings very angry investors heavily in debit with business plan and commitments to the podium. Politics stinks. USDA Forest Service sets their guidelines that could allow such business to operate makes it difficult for local municipalities to write and enforce with its left hand while collecting tax revenue with its right hand. Just saying[hellip]. MLS