

They have also initiated a proactive campaign to encourage the walkability to/from the Victoria Cruise Terminal to downtown via Fisherman's Wharf and James Bay. In 2019, close to 30% of passengers disembarking ships calling to the Victoria Cruise Terminal choose to walk to the heart of the city when visiting Victoria.

The ground transportation highway coach and shuttle service requirements are some of the strictest of any port of call worldwide. The bus age requirements ensure that buses must meet the highest EPA (USA) standard, or 2010 for bus engine age. As of 2019, all buses on the terminal are at this level or newer.

Despite the good efforts of the GVHA in the areas within their jurisdiction, throughout the summer, emissions from three cruise ships were more visible and caused concern over compliance among several residents and the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority. In addition, news reports this summer revealed that a large amount of waste from cruise ships is ending up in Hartland Landfill which is incommensurate with the amount of time that ships are spending in port. According to CRD reports, 150 tonnes per month of waste is dumped at Hartland Landfill during cruise season. While this is only 1% of all waste disposed in the landfill, it is a significant amount of offshore waste dumped in our local landfill.

The Greater Victoria Harbour Authority has been collaborating with cruise lines to address the situation and is currently working to quantify the environmental impact of cruise at Ogden Point, identify opportunities for impact reduction, and find potential funding for carbon reduction projects. Nevertheless the industry is challenged to address the limitations of current technology, e.g. when scrubbers are used to mitigate emissions from going into the air, the effluent, including the toxins, produced by open-loop scrubber systems goes into the water instead. And the industry has committed to reducing emissions 50% by 2050, far short of the Paris Agreement targets which the City has adopted.

In a climate emergency, the cruise ship industry must act to demonstrate its commitment to a sustainable environment if it is to capture the social licence needed to operate in our city.

In Council's Strategic Plan Objective #6 Climate Leadership and Environmental Stewardship, there is a 2021 Action "Work with the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority on options for shore power and lower emissions ground transportation."

In order to receive information to begin to bring this industry in line with the City's Climate Leadership plan and with the values of Victorians it is recommended that Council make a number of requests of the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority as outlined below.

In order to accelerate action, it is also recommended that Council direct staff to report back on regulations for the cruise ship industry, and on the potential of requiring shore power (electrical plug in for ships) by a particular date in order to significantly reduce and eventually eliminate the negative impact of carbon emissions and particulate matter from the ships while they are in port at the City of Victoria. It is not anticipated that the city or

provincial or federal taxpayers be asked to subsidize shore power through grants but rather that the shore power be installed the basis of the “producer pay” principle.

It is not recommended that staff hold up the work they are doing on buildings and transportation but that this work on the cruise industry be added on to that work as supplementary and done as resources become available. Staff can report to Council as part of the 2020 budgeting process as to whether this work will require extra resources. The legal work undertaken by staff on the other sections of the Climate Leadership Plan will hopefully have some bearing on this issue and it will hopefully not be large body of work in order to produce at least a preliminary report for Council on the City’s jurisdiction with respect to regulating cruise ship emissions while ships are in the city.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That Council direct staff to report back on the City’s jurisdiction on regulations for the cruise ship industry with respect to waste and emissions, and on the potential of requiring shore power by a particular date in order to significantly reduce and eventually eliminate the negative impact of waste, carbon emissions and particulate matter from the ships while they are in the City of Victoria.
2. That Council request that the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority publicly report to Council on the recent study it commissioned which outlines the impact of cruise operations on the environment.
3. That Council request that the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority work more aggressively with the cruise ship industry to install shore power at Ogden Point.
4. That Council request that the Greater Victoria Harbour Authority not increase the number of cruise ships coming to Victoria, sign any long-term contracts, or consider home-porting cruise ships until the emissions and waste issues are dealt with to the satisfaction of the City’s Director of Engineering and Public Works.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Helps



Councillor Alto



Councillor Isitt