



CITY AND BOROUGH OF SITKA

A COAST GUARD CITY

2023 Tourism Operations Plan

DRAFT

1. Lincoln Street Closures

- Planning Commission recommendation is to continue with Lincoln Street closures between Lake Street and Katlian Avenue on days with 5,000 or more cruise ship passengers based on ship capacity.
- In 2022, closure hours were 10 AM to 4 PM, with no parking beginning at 9 AM. While no strong recommendations were made on changing these hours, the Planning Commission recommended further discussion at the Assembly level to determine whether changes were necessary.

2. Temporary Restroom Locations for Consideration

- Lincoln Street parking lane near Barracks Street intersection (2022 location)
- Top of Maksoutoff Street (2022 location)
- Totem Square
- Harbor Way/Castle Hill (behind Harry Race building)
- Wells Fargo/FNBA parking lots
- Harrigan Centennial Hall
- College Drive/Crescent Harbor Playground

3. Safety Improvements

- Intersection changes/management for Lake/Lincoln
- Improved pedestrian crossings (potentially RFFB's) along Harbor Drive
- Signage
 - Update existing wayfinding signage
 - Address gaps in wayfinding
 - Relocate wayfinding signage currently near intersections/crosswalks
- Education and outreach for locals and visitors (through rental companies) on bike safety and related local ordinances

- Crossing guards
 - Along Harbor Drive (also assistance for bus ingress into Harrigan)
 - Lake/Lincoln intersection

4. Programs/Initiatives

- Continuation of Bathroom Grant Program
- Continuation of Walk/Bike Incentives Program
- Continuation of food cart permit opportunities in Lincoln Street closure area
- Beautification measures for downtown (benches, tables, planters, etc.)

5. Future Planning Needs/Considerations

- Traffic Management
 - Circulation optimization including shuttling pick-up and drop-off locations
 - Construction of a bike/pedestrian path on Halibut Point Road
- Downtown Beautification
 - Adoption of design standards for preservation/beautification of downtown area (potential lead: Historic Preservation Commission)
 - Grants/in-kind donations for paint, planters, etc.
- Bus electrification and other electric transportation alternatives (potential lead: Sustainability Commission)
- Public transit opportunities to reduce congestion and offer services to Airport
- Creation of a body dedicated to tourism planning/management