



MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 13, 2022

TO: Borough Assembly

FROM: Alexandra Pierce, Tourism Manager

SUBJECT: Green Corridor

This memo provides some context around the green corridor concept and the First Mover Commitment document attached.

What is a Green Corridor?

Green Corridors are defined by the U.S. State Department as *maritime routes that showcase low- and zero-emission lifecycle fuels and technologies with the ambition to achieve zero greenhouse gas emissions across all aspects of the corridor in support of sector-wide decarbonization no later than 2050*. In the shipping industry, this means developing alternative fuel ships and their supporting infrastructure as well as electrifying ports. Los Angeles to Shanghai will be the world's first green shipping corridor.

In 2021, twenty-four countries, including the United States and Canada, signed the Clydebank Declaration and in doing so, committed to support the establishment of at least six green corridors by 2025. Achieving a zero-emission shipping corridors and the necessary shore-side infrastructure is a monumental challenge and will require research, development, demonstration, and deployment of new fuels and technologies at a massive scale and policies that incentivize the shift to low- and zero-emission fuels and technologies.

The World's First Green Cruise Corridor

The green corridor concept is less straightforward for cruise than for shipping. While the cruise industry has made decarbonization commitments (zero carbon industry globally by 2050, all ships will be shore power enabled by 2035), cruise ships operate in dispersed and diverse areas, making the traditional green corridor model challenging in some areas and not feasible in others. Therefore it makes sense that someone, somewhere needs to develop a phased roadmap to meet those commitments.

Several months ago, CBJ staff was approached by the Port of Seattle with the idea of using our region as the feasibility study model for the world's first green cruise corridor. The region comprising Alaska, Washington, and British Columbia is a good testing ground for a number of reasons:

- Like other cruise regions around the world, we have ports with varied levels of development, infrastructure funding, and power availability. What works for Seattle won't work for Juneau and what works for Juneau won't work for Hoonah. This is true of cruise networks throughout the world and we need to establish a model for ports with varying levels of development.
- Unlike other cruise regions around the world, we have a relatively small number of national and state/provincial governments that need to collaborate on the green corridor.
- Washington and British Columbia already have progressive environmental regulations and the ports of Seattle and Vancouver continue to push for environmental commitments from the cruise industry.
- The federal governments of the United States and Canada have prioritized green infrastructure funding, specifically for maritime industries.

CBJ staff have been working with Port of Seattle as an early partner in this initiative and over the past two months, staff has met with other Alaska and British Columbia ports and with cruise lines to help establish the first mover commitment included in your packet.

The First Mover Commitment is supported by Carnival Corporation, Norwegian Cruise Line, and Cruise Lines International Association. These parties have committed to working together to establish a Green Corridor Roadmap that explores the feasibility of zero-emission ships and identifies an implementation plan for an industry transition to zero emissions.

Participation will leverage and support partners' decarbonization work already underway and bring shared resources and technology advancements to this focused and coordinated effort. Participants will also coordinate and collaborate on pursuing additional resources and partnerships vital to advance the work.

Next Steps

The First Mover Commitment will be announced on Tuesday at the IAPH World Ports Conference in Vancouver. Following agreement on the First Mover Commitment, partners will work together to define the scope of the feasibility study through a project charter.