

Notes from April 22, 2006 Stakeholder Meeting

Excerpt

Requested information: Where money comes from for visitor services and expenses (Visitor experience category)

Wendy presents on the public tax portion of this question, and has retrieved general fund information from the City. She tells the group that our tax money goes into the general fund, and the general fund supports the infrastructure, which in some ways is related to visitor services. She acknowledges that the report is not complete – to have a full understanding, the numbers need to be broken down into %s, and we should look at all the other areas that money comes from, but she chose the taxes to start with because that's public money. She indicates that she has all the line items from the City and it could be broken down into very specific expenditures.

Q: These numbers have to do with operation, not capital expenditure; did you look at money spent on new things, building?

A: no, did not go into that,

Q: did you look at cruise donations?

A: no. Money also comes from a lot of private memberships, I started with where it came from for all of us.

Does everyone understand? Yes.

Anything we need to strike? The 2nd Centennial Hall reference (it was included in the report twice)

Other questions/more info?

- Look at other sources beyond city
- Is there a simple math we could do to figure out the increase in infra expenses during heavy tour months, give us some idea of how much that costs – compare to sales tax between seasons if the taxes offset the extra expenses
- City of Sitka code – any other organizations under library, SCVB didn't want to give up info on other funds – public info?
- Also look at differences between revenue created and expenditures; i.e. does hospital make money in the summer?
- Capital investments – trends over last 5 years
- Value of exclusion of certain areas because of use by tourists (i.e. CH parking lot) – this is another identified piece of information that hasn't been picked up.

Topic goes back to committee