



NEWS RELEASE

Goldbelt Begins Conditional Use Permit Process for West Douglas Cruise Port

JUNEAU, Alaska – July 25, 2025 — Goldbelt Incorporated, Juneau’s urban Alaska Native corporation, has begun the permitting process for Goldbelt *Aani’*, its new West Douglas cruise port. To initiate the project, Goldbelt met with the City and Borough of Juneau’s Planning and Zoning Department to discuss the requirements for the construction of the municipality’s first cultural cruise destination.

The site for Goldbelt *Aani’*—Tlingit for “land”—sits on the corporation’s Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) lands on the west side of Douglas Island, approximately 12 minutes from downtown Juneau. The project is an expression of the company’s deep commitment to honoring Tlingit culture and history, with conceptual plans to replicate an 1800s Tlingit Native Village. Visitors will experience Indigenous art, foods, and cultural attractions that explore the history of Goldbelt’s ancestral people. Features shared during the Zoning Department’s initial consultation include plans for onsite crew housing and a childcare center. Infrastructure plans also include two single-berth cruise docks with tour boat loading areas and piers connecting to the shore via arching transfer spans that bring travelers to a 32,000-square-foot welcome center.

“This is not a new plan—we’re activating a vision developed with the City and Borough of Juneau more than 25 years ago,” said Goldbelt President & CEO McHugh Pierre. “Port facilities on the backside of Douglas have been a shared vision for decades. Today, we’re putting that plan into motion on Goldbelt’s ANCSA lands with a project that addresses key challenges in the cruise industry and brings long-term, sustainable solutions to Juneau. Goldbelt *Aani’* will strengthen infrastructure, disperse tourism in a balanced way, and create meaningful, lasting value for both Goldbelt shareholders and the community.”

City records dating back 30 years show that Goldbelt and the City and Borough of Juneau have been working together on plans to improve West Douglas. A series of memorandums of agreement and other documents were signed and updated between the two parties over the decades. In 1999, the city appropriated \$600,000 to hire an engineering firm to develop a master plan for the area.

Goldbelt’s current concepts align with many of the facilities proposed in the original plans, including a traditional Tlingit cultural village, tour boat harbor with float plane slips, a retail street named Goldbelt Way, a 28,000-square-foot restaurant, and a spa connecting a series of water-side bungalows and elevated treehouses. While the plan does not directly address Pioneer Road development, it does contemplate growth within its utility systems.

[Solstice Environmental of Anchorage](#) and [Northwind Architects of Juneau](#) are leading the permitting process. The project team and developer will host a series of public meetings with Juneau residents to share the project developments and its community benefits.

For more project images, visit Goldbelt’s homepage at Goldbelt.com or go directly to goldbeltaani.com.

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About Goldbelt

Goldbelt Incorporated is headquartered in Juneau, Alaska. As an Alaska Native Urban Corporation (ANC), we were established under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) of 1971. Today, we are owned by more than 4,300 Alaska Native shareholders, who are the direct descendants of Southeast Alaska's original Tlingit peoples. Goldbelt manages a diverse and growing portfolio of commercial businesses in Alaska and federal contracting companies across the U.S. Our work delivers economic and social benefit to the Juneau community and beyond while actively uplifting our shareholders.

For more information, visit Goldbelt.com.

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Note: [Images Provided Courtesy of Port of Tomorrow](#)