

RESOLUTION NO. 16-015

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT VACANT RENTAL HOUSING UNITS LOCATED WITHIN U.S. NAVY FACILITIES AT SIGSBEE PARK IN KEY WEST BE MADE AVAILABLE AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR MILITARY MEMBERS OR CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES; AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO WORK WITH NAVY PERSONNEL TO IDENTIFY FUNDING, DETERMINE CRITERIA, AND DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES TO PROVIDE WORKFORCE HOUSING AT SIGSBEE PARK; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City Commission has commissioned studies and passed numerous resolutions with the goal of increasing the availability of affordable and workforce housing in the City of Key West; and

WHEREAS, there are up to 166 units of vacant housing within U.S. Navy Facilities at Sigsbee Park in Key West, that could be put to use to ease the current affordable housing crisis in Key West and Monroe County; and

WHEREAS, Navy personnel, and civilians who are employed by the Navy, comprise a substantial segment of the population in Key West that occupy or require workforce housing; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that it would be mutually beneficial if vacant housing within Sigsbee Park is made available for rent to military and civilian workers within Key West; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the City Commission requests that the U.S. Navy work with the City to make available for military employee and civilian employee use up to 166 rental housing units within Sigsbee Park in Key West.

Section 2: The City Manager or his designee is authorized to work with the U.S. Navy to identify funding resources, and to determine acceptable criteria, policies and procedures for the lease of vacant housing at Sigsbee Park to families and individuals who meet specific criteria for workforce housing.

Section 3: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held  
this 5th day of January, 2016.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the  
Commission on 6th day of January, 2016.

Filed with the Clerk on January 6, 2016.

Mayor Craig Cates	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Sam Kaufman	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Richard Payne	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Margaret Romero	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	<u>Yes</u>
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	<u>Yes</u>

  
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CRAIG CATES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK



**Sam Kaufman**  
City Commissioner  
District 2

**THE CITY OF KEY WEST**  
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KEY WEST, FL 33041-1409

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December 8, 2015

The Honorable Carlos Curbelo  
United States House of Representatives  
1100 Simonton Street, Suite 1-213  
Key West, Florida 33040

Re: Sigsbee Park Vacant Housing Units Needed for Affordable Housing

Dear Mr. Curbelo,

As you may know Sigsbee Park is a land area within the City of Key West which is operated and controlled by the U.S. Naval Air Station. Sigsbee Park includes many facilities operated by the U.S. Military which greatly benefit local military personnel and retired military visitors to the island of Key West. The facilities include an RV park, child care centers, recreational facilities, and residential housing. During a recent tour, I observed a large section of over 160 vacant housing units with no known plans for the future.

When I inquired about making these units available to military members or military civilian employees, I was surprised that no clear plan to do so is in place. Unfortunately, Key West is suffering a severe crisis of a lack of affordable housing. I am attaching a memorandum produced by the City of Key West Planning Department documenting the crisis. The federal government can make a positive impact on our island by making these units available to military members and other civilian employees.

Hundreds of people would have affordable housing in the City of Key West if these units were made available. I am reaching out to you to ask you for your assistance on this most important subject. Please let me know when we can speak and devise a plan to move forward on this.

I truly appreciate your assistance.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sam Kaufman".

Sam Kaufman  
City of Key West  
City Commissioner, District 2

Cc City of Key West Commissioners  
Mayor Craig Cates, City of Key West  
Senator Dwight Bullard  
Representative Holly Raschein

*Key to the Caribbean - Average yearly temperature 77° F.*