

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, URGING THE CONTINUED INCLUSION OF THE KEY DEER ON THE ENDANGERED SPECIES LIST; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PROVIDE CERTIFIED COPIES OF THIS RESOLUTION TO LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL AGENCY AND LEGISLATIVE OFFICIALS; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Key Deer was placed on the Endangered Species List in 1967, and local organizations estimate that there are less than 650 Key Deer throughout the Florida Keys; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County, and other government agencies at the local, state and federal levels, in cooperation with preservationists, citizens and visitors to the Florida Keys have made extensive (and expensive) efforts to preserve and protect the Key Deer for decades, through environmental protection, legislative controls on development and traffic, and even elevating US 1; and

WHEREAS, challenges to natural habitat have not, and will not, diminish in the foreseeable future, and the deer are helpless to affect changes themselves to overdevelopment, sea level rise, hurricanes and the incidence of natural pests such as the screwworm; and

WHEREAS, the US Fish and Wildlife Service is in the process of studies and public hearings that could eventually result in delisting the Key Deer from the Endangered Species list; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that Key Deer are a wild and gentle symbol of the tenacity and the fragility of the Keys environment, a significant and very visible part of the Keys eco-system; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission finds that protecting the health, welfare and safety of Key Deer should remain a priority for the Federal government, as well as the residents and visitors of the Florida Keys; 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 urges the continued inclusion of the Key Deer on the Endangered Species list.

Section 2: That the City Clerk is hereby authorized to transmit a certified copy of this Resolution to Roxanna L. Hinzman (field supervisor with US Fish and Wildlife); Chief, Endangered Species, Region 4 - Southeast US Fish and Wildlife;

Sen. Marco Rubio, Sen. Rick Scott, Representative Debbie Mucarsel-Powell; and the Mayors of Monroe County, Key Colony Beach, the Village of Islamorada, Marathon, and Layton.

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 _____ day of _____, 2019.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2019.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2019.

Mayor Teri Johnston	_____
Vice Mayor Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Gregory Davila	_____
Commissioner Mary Lou Hoover	_____
Commissioner Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

TERI JOHNSTON, MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK