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THE CITY OF KEY WEST

1300 WHITE STREET
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January 27, 2023

To: The City Commission for the City of Key West
From: Ron Ramsingh, Interim City Attorney
RE: Revision to Independent Taxi Ordinance (Passenger Vehicle For Hire) Sec 78-64
Sponsor: Commissioner Jimmy Weekley

Background:

Since 1984, the Independent Passenger Vehicle For Hire ordinance has not been amended to increase the number of licenses that are issued in the city. For 39 years, the number has been limited to eight. This proposal seeks to increase that number to sixteen. There will be an application period of 5 business days from the effective date of the ordinance. If there are more applications than licenses available, the city will conduct a lottery to determine the license holders. Independent licenses are not transferrable and only one can be held by any given person. License holders must also demonstrate 1 year of continuous residency from Key West to Big Coppitt. Finally, the licenses are proposed to run to July 30th every year.

For 2nd reading, language was added to prohibit the holder of a regular PVH from also having an Independent PVH. Additionally, the residency requirement from Key West to MM10 will also be required for renewals and not just for initial application.

Options:

1. To pass the proposed ordinance thereby increasing the number of Independent taxi licenses from 8 to 16, with additional residency and application requirements described above;

2. To deny the proposed ordinance all of the existing regulations in place since 1984 will remain in place with 8 licenses.