From: Mangiamangia@aol.com

Date: May 16, 2016 at 2:59:34 PM EDT

To: csmith@cityofkeywest-fl.gov
Subject: Fwd: At Large voting

Dear Ms. Smith,

Please read the following letter into the record on Tuesday, May 17.

From: Mangiamangia@aol.com

Sent: 5/16/2016 2:55:01 P.M. Eastern Daylight Time

Subj: (no subject)

Dear Mayor Cates and Commissioners,

I want to thank the commission for their consideration to allow voters the decision on whether they want to return to at-large voting.

Single member districts are a solution to a problem that does not exist in Key West. In fact, the arguments against at-large voting pale when compared to the benefits

Voters used to have far greater involvement in the makeup of the commission and this move could help to restore that. Contrary to speculation that at-large voting would favor the wealthiest candidates, past history shows that grassroots candidates have been elected to office with citywide support.

Additionally, it is a mistake to confuse the separate geographical situations facing Monroe County and Key West with regards to distances. There is no hardship in campaigning from end of the island to the other, or with visiting constituents.

However, regardless of an individual commissioner's views on the subject, what the commission must decide is whether voters should be given a say in something so fundamental as the way they elect their representatives.

Please vote "Yes" on Agenda #19.

Respectfully,

Elliot Baron, 608 Griffin Lane