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**Sent:** Wednesday, November 09, 2016 8:37 AM

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**Subject:** Re: Uber Workshop

Dear Commissioners,

After significant consideration, I urge you to approve Uber and other ride sharing services in Key West.

Our tourist guests look at us like we are all crazy when we tell them we don't have Uber. And having used the service I can tell you they are right.

Commissioners you can see all see the tourist industry lining up behind ride sharing – and with good reason. It's a better service for their guests.

Cabs as a business and a transportation service have failed this island miserably.

- Most cabs in Key West are decrepit and have not been upgraded in many years. Uber and other ride sharing services have minimum standards for their vehicles.
- There is not a person in Key West who has not had a nasty encounter with cab that has been driven recklessly and aggressively. Uber allows riders to rate their drivers and urges them to report reckless driving.
- Many economic arguments will be made. When you hear that this is a big corporation coming in to steal small business – let's remember to look at this objectively. We basically have a monopoly in this business between three cab medallion owners. And with them charging \$150 plus a 12 hour shift for each cab, they are the only ones making any money on this. Certainly not the drivers.
- In June this commission passed the buck on any Uber decision saying you wanted to "look for leadership from the state." We all know it is ludicrous to look to the state of Florida for progressive leadership. We can't wait.
- We need additional transportation options on this island. Congestion and parking issues plague our home. Research has shown how ride sharing dramatically reduces both.

Give residents and our visitors alternate transportation options. We deserve them.

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