

## Kelly Perkins

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**From:** Enid <restoreet@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 22, 2018 4:46 PM  
**To:** Enid Torregrosa



322 Duval Street, Key West FL 33040

March 19, 2018

Ron Wampler, Chief Building Officer  
City of Key West  
PO Box 1409  
Key West, FL 33040  
RE: Unsafe Structures; 5 Buildings known as the KW Diesel Generating Plant

Dear Mr. Wampler,

Thank you for giving *Old Island Restoration Foundation* (OIRF) the opportunity to respond, pursuant to Key West City Ordinance 14-76, to this important issue. As you know, our foundation encourages and promotes historic preservation and we strongly encourage the City to explore all possibilities for "adaptive reuse" before resorting to demolition.

Other cities such as Austin, TX and Cleveland, OH have successfully researched, pursued and found the economic means to adapt and reuse their outdated power generation facilities. The result has been the conversion of dormant space into attractive and viable income producing property.

The redevelopment of the "Seaholm" Power Plant in downtown Austin began in 2013 and is now the home of restaurants, apartments and office space. Since the 1990s the Cleveland "Powerhouse" has been a venue for comedy clubs, restaurants and retailers. Most recently the facility is also home to the Cleveland Aquarium.

Milwaukee's Water tower has become a meeting space for small venues, and the Schiltz, Baltz and Pabst Brewery buildings have new lives as offices, boutique hotels, restaurants and retail. Of course, we have good examples of successful reuse projects right here in Key West with the Steamplant and the new City Hall. Many cities have discovered the importance of adapting the old and making it new.

Possibilities are limited only by the imagination. In this case, opportunities such as housing or museum space should be considered. Proximity to the new amphitheater might present new opportunities. Before resorting to the wrecking ball we sincerely hope other options are pursued and considered.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kelly Friend", is written over a horizontal line.

Kelly Friend, President  
Old Island Restoration Foundation

Sent from my iPhone