



# Schooner Western Union

PRESERVATION SOCIETY & MARITIME MUSEUM

OFFICIAL FLAGSHIP OF FLORIDA & THE CITY OF KEY WEST



Wednesday, 2 October 2019

Key West Bight Management District Board  
510 Greene Street  
Key West, FL 33040

Subj: 2019-09 KWBB Schooner Western Union Restoration Progress Report

As described in the letter previously forwarded to the Board restoration work on the Schooner Western Union has largely halted due to a lack of funding.

- A. The schooner remains in the water tied up against the pier in the Marpro boatyard in Tarpon Springs. Her keel and hull are strong and sound and there is only the very minor leakage that all wooden boats experience which is handled by pumps.
- B. We are waiting for the State of Florida to issue the final disbursement of \$125,000 from our original \$500,000 grant. The check is expected by the end of October.
- C. We are preparing to return the schooner to Key West. Preparations include having Marine Surveyor Reef Perkins prepare a Trip In Tow Survey, required by our insurance company, Tow Boat US, and the Coast Guard, arranging for boxing up and trucking SWU parts and materials back to Key West, strengthening the schooner's hull structure, attaching a steel towing structure, and planning for the tow to the 3D boatyard in Key West. The schedule will depend on logistics and weather windows and is expected to be before the end of October.
- D. We will also pursue additional opportunities for grants and other support more likely with the schooner in her home port.
- E. If you have questions or I can provide additional information, please let me know.

On behalf of the BOD,

John Dolan-Heitlinger

Copy: Melinda Stewart, CKW Deputy City Clerk  
Doug Bradshaw, CKW Port and Marina Services Director  
SWUPS Board of Directors

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