

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF
THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, NAMING
"LAKE MCKILLIP" AFTER JOHN LEIGH
MCKILLIP; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

WHEREAS, located at Section 33, Township 67, Range 25, and known by the Monroe County Property Appraiser's Map as Parcel #00065840, lies an idyllic 3.85-acre shallow salt pond, which scenic beauty gives the viewer a sense of peace and contentment very much enjoyed by the residents of the Lime Grove Subdivision, whose homes are in the 2700, 2800 and 2900 blocks of Staples, Seidenberg, Harris, Fogarty and Patterson Avenues, Sunset Drive, as well as 10th, 11th and 12th Streets, which dissect said avenues; and

WHEREAS, said salt pond to be named is bordered on all four sides by mangroves. Along its southern shore runs the Salt Run Channel, which flows eastward across the Island of Key West from Florida Bay to the Riviera Canal and waters of the Atlantic Ocean. The northern shore of said pond runs along the 10th Street roadway between Patterson, Fogarty and Harris Avenues adjacent to the home of John Leigh McKillip, at 2801 Fogarty Avenue; and

WHEREAS, the salt pond is owned by the City of Key West and is not named. It is the largest of three salt ponds which are connected to the Salt Run Channel, a shallow tidal stream which runs from the Gulf of Mexico on the west in an easterly direction through to the Riviera Canal and from there into the waters of the Atlantic Ocean; and

WHEREAS, the salt pond itself is a shallow pond (less than five feet deep) consisting of 3.85 acres of clear water and turtle grass and is the home to an ecological treasure trove of many species of fish: such as pin fish, shiners, mullet, snapper, grouper, shrimp and tarpon, as well as home to blue crabs along its shores and from time-to-time home to an occasional salt water crocodile known to frequent the pond. Many Lime Grove residents bordering the lake own small boats and use the lake to access deeper fishing waters by following the Salt Run Channel west to Key West Harbor and the Florida Bay; and

WHEREAS, since 1960, John McKillip and his wife Myrna and two children have lived alongside this salt pond in a home that John built, and in the 60-plus years of residence there he has at all times endeavored to preserve and foster

the use of this pond for fishermen and boaters like himself and neighborhood children and adults for recreation and enjoyment, and he has over the years become an unofficial ambassador and guardian of this salt pond, advising fishermen of the best places to fish and boat, and has been known to clean up around its shores the litter left by others and once when the State of Florida Department of Transportation placed large concrete road barriers all along 10th Street for storage purposes John took issue with this placement and demanded that the barriers be removed because they interfered with use of the pond by boaters and fishermen and neighborhood children who liked to play along its shores catching minnows. He believed that there should be no barriers to the public's use and enjoyment of this salt pond which bordered his home; and

WHEREAS, over the years, John and his son Alan, now a Senior Pilot for Delta Airlines, would build several pram and skiff type boats, which father and son would launch in this pond. Alan and his friends would swim and fish in the pond, catching snapper, grouper, pin fish, shiners, mullet and even tarpon. In the winter months they would catch 70 to 80 large brown shrimp each night from the Salt Run Channel. During the summer they would catch large blue crabs along the pond's shores; and

WHEREAS, John Leigh McKillip, a life-long carpenter by trade, has also brought honor and distinction to the City of Key West through his carpentry skills and passion for the water and boating. In 1963 he won the World Championship trophy in winning the International Offshore Powerboat Championship in the E-Pleasure-Craft Class, racing a boat that he had designed, built and piloted to victory. In the 1960's he would also go on to win many power boat and hydroplane racing championships in crafts that he himself had made.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the salt pond legally described in the first "Whereas" paragraph of this Resolution is hereby named "Lake McKillip," after native son John Leigh McKillip, for his steadfast work as a citizen ambassador, fostering, safeguarding and preserving for future generations one of Key West's most beautiful natural scenic and ecological treasures.

Section 2: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2018.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2018.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2018.

Mayor Craig Cates	_____
Vice Mayor Clayton Lopez	_____
Commissioner Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Richard Payne	_____
Commissioner Margaret Romero	_____
Commissioner Billy Wardlow	_____
Commissioner Jimmy Weekley	_____

CLAYTON LOPEZ, VICE MAYOR

ATTEST:

CHERYL SMITH, CITY CLERK