



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 4, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Brian L. Barroso, City Manager

CC: Marcus Davila, Director of Community Services

From: Kelli Funkhouser, Special Events Manager

Subject: **File ID: 26-5437 - Special Event Permit for “2027 Southernmost Youth Regatta” on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. (Breakdown on Monday, January 18, 2027)**

Introduction

The City Manager’s Office requests the approval of the “2027 Southernmost Youth Regatta” on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. (breakdown on Monday, January 18, 2027) at Truman Waterfront Park Quay Wall, the playground side of the boat ramp and the gravel lot.

Background

The City Manager’s Office has received an application from the “Key West Community Sailing Center” for the “2027 Southernmost Youth Regatta” on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Breakdown will be on Monday, January 18, 2027, if not completed on Sunday. This is a youth (ages 8-18 year old) sailing regatta which has a protected course located in the Naval Basin for 8-foot Optimist sailboats (8 feet: ages 8-15) and an ocean course located off Ft. Zachary Taylor State Park for more experienced sailors (ages 8-18) racing on Laser and 420 sailboats. All boats will launch from the ramp located at the Truman Waterfront.

Registration and setup occur on Friday, January 15 with racing on Saturday, January 16 and Sunday, January 17. An awards ceremony is scheduled for Sunday afternoon. Breakdown will occur on Sunday afternoon and on Monday, January 18, if needed.

Last year (2026) was the inaugural regatta which seven Optimist sailors, four laser sailors and twelve 420 sailors competed.

The Key West Community Sailing Center officially requested and received approval from the Commanding Officer of the Naval Station Key West (approval letter from the Navy included with the application). Approval for an “alternate” location at the eastern end of Smathers Beach is

requested in the event an “emergent need” occurs after approval which precludes the use of the Naval Basin.

All proceeds will go in direct support of scholarships and equipment for youth sailing education. The applicant has agreed to abide by City Codes and Ordinances, including providing insurance.

Procurement

There will be no additional expenses to the city as all service costs (Police/Fire/Community Services) are covered by the applicant, based on the Special Event Matrix.

Recommendation

The City Manager’s Office recommends the Mayor & City Commission approve the “2027 Southernmost Youth Regatta” on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (breakdown on Monday, January 18, 2027) at Truman Waterfront Park Quay Wall, the playground side of the boat ramp and the gravel lot.