

MEMORANDUM

Date: May 7th, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Brian L. Barroso
City Manager

From: Jim Singelyn
Senior Planner

Subject: **Request for an Easement Agreement at 905 Von Phister Street (RE# 00039900-000000). File # 26-5192**

Introduction

The purpose of the requested easement is to allow the property owner to maintain the portions of the concrete pavers, concrete driveway and portico that encroach into the City of Key West right of way, in the front of the property, within the Single-Family zoning district. The easement area is approximately 108.50 square feet and would be used for the purpose of ingress and egress to and from the property in accordance with its current use. The City Commission is authorized to consider the granting of an easement pursuant to Chapter 2 (Administration), Article VIII (City Property) Division 3 (Real Property Disposition).

Sec. 2-938 (Easements) states, in part, that the “*City may grant an easement over any lands or interest therein owned by the city or any city agency.*” According to Sec. 2-938 (b), “*If the City grants an applicant's request for easement over any lands owned by the city or any city agency, the applicant shall pay an annual fee to the city. The annual fee shall be prorated based on the effective date of the easement.*”

Background

The subject concrete pavers and concrete driveway and portico encroach approximately 108.50 square feet into the right of way in the front yard. As a structural improvement, the portico, pavers and driveway require approval of an easement from the City Commission.

The property received two (2) building permits, BLD 2014-00001719 which was for pavers and concrete and BLD 2014-00004866 which was approved to replace cracked concrete with pavers under a Right-of-Way permit. The permits from 2014 were both approved by the city Building Department.

This easement request was reviewed at a publicly held Development Review Committee hearing on March 26th, 2026.

DRC Comments

Multimodal Transportation Comments

Mr. Ryan Stachurski asked if the easement area depicted on the Legal Description Sketch matches the easement description submitted and asked if the pavers were included in the calculations. He would like to see the compliant pavers ADA or would agree to a concrete sidewalk.

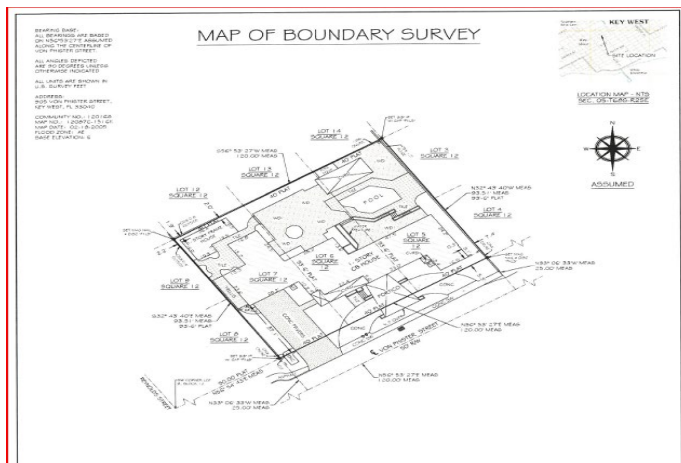
Engineering

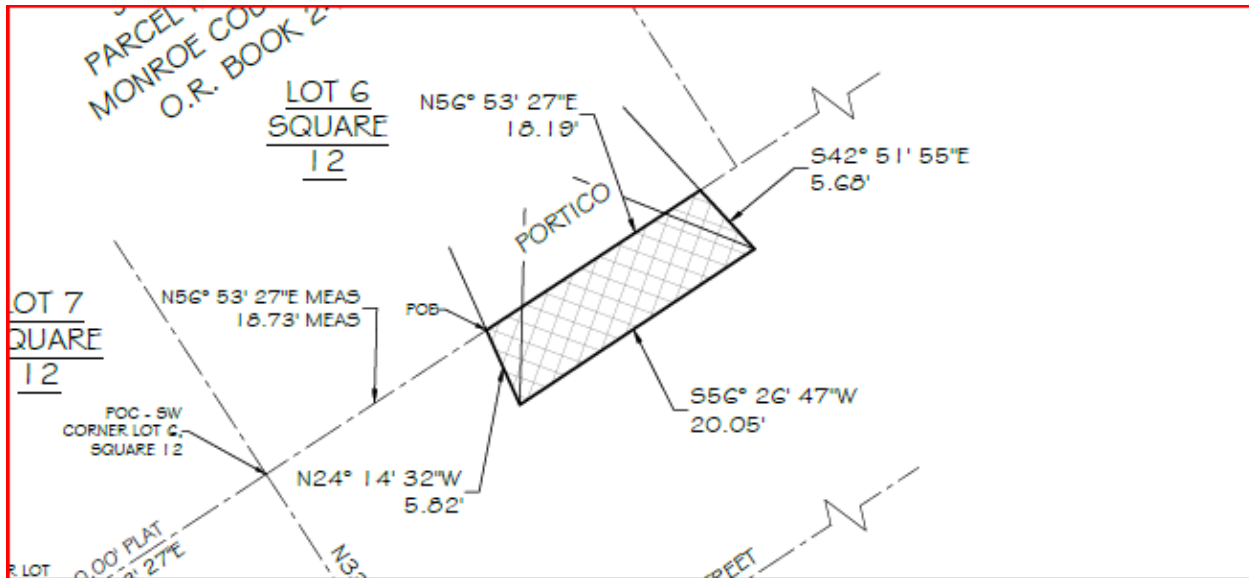
Mr. Doug Bradshaw would like to see the pavers removed in favor of a concrete sidewalk. Engineering believes this would eliminate any ADA issues and said the city would pay for the sidewalk.

Utilities

Mr. Matt Willman disagreed with the square footage and the resulting annual fee for the easement and believes all the improvements should be included in the easement. Mr. Willman questioned whether the owner or the City would be responsible for the sidewalk replacement (engineering indicated the cost would be minimal for the City and would not create any sort of issue time or money-wise).

Site Specific Survey





Property Image



Procurement

If the request for the easement over City-owned land is granted, the Grantee shall be required to pay an annual fee to the City consistent with the below provisions contained in Sec. 2-938:

If the city grants an applicant's request for easement over any lands owned by the city or any city agency, the applicant shall pay an annual fee to the city. The annual fee shall be prorated based on the effective date of the easement. The applicant shall pay the fee each subsequent year the easement is in effect, as follows:

- 1) Each easement granted by the city for the use of less than 20 square feet of city property, \$200.00.
- 2) Each easement granted by the city for the use of 20 square feet to 100 square feet of city property, \$300.00.
- 3) Each easement granted by the city for the use of more than 100 square feet of property, \$400.00.

Recommendation:

The Planning Department recommends **approval** of the proposed easement agreement with the following conditions:

General Conditions:

1. Ordinary repair and maintenance shall be permitted.
2. Grantee agrees that the improvements located on the Easement shall not be enlarged or expanded beyond what is approved herein.
3. The Easement shall allow for the existing encroachments as depicted on the survey prepared by Florida Keys Land Surveying, by Eric Isaac dated February 9th, 2026, and a total easement area of 108.50 square feet as depicted on the survey prepared by Eric Isaac of Florida Keys Land Surveying dated February 9th, 2026. Additional or future easement area shall require an amendment in accordance with Sec. 2-938 of the City Code.
4. The City may unilaterally terminate the easement, upon a finding of public purpose by vote of the Key West City Commission.
5. The Grantee shall pay the annual fee as specified in Section 2-938(b)(3) of the City Code.
6. Grantee shall irrevocably appoint the City Manager as its agent to permit the removal of the encroachment if the annual fee required by the Code of Ordinances is not paid.
7. Prior to the easement becoming effective, the Owners shall obtain Commercial General Liability insurance that extends coverage to the property that is governed by this easement with limits of no less than \$300,000.00. Coverage must be provided by an insurer authorized to conduct business in the State of Florida and with terms and conditions consistent with the latest version of the Insurance Service Office's (ISO) latest filed Commercial General Liability form. Grantees shall furnish an original Certificate of Insurance indicating, and such policy providing coverage to, City of Key West named as "Additional Insured" or "Additional Interest".
8. The easement areas shall not be used in site size calculations such as lot, yard, and bulk calculations for site development.
9. The City reserves the right to construct surface or sub-surface improvements within the City owned easement areas.
10. The City reserves the right of entry/re-entry for the easement areas for the purposes of inspection, maintenance, improvements, and operations in connection with City owned/leased property.
11. To the fullest extent permitted by law, the Grantee expressly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Key West, their respective officers, directors, agents, and employees (herein called the "indemnitees") from any and all liability for damages caused by or resulting from the Grantee's improvement in the easement area.