

Dear Commissioner Weekley:

On behalf of The Key West Garden Club, we are asking your help in returning the Blue Star Memorial marker to its original position along Truman Ave. (US 1) in Bayview Park.

In 1947 the Florida State Legislature designated US 1 as a Blue Star Memorial Highway to honor World War II veterans and in 1951 they expanded it to include all men and women, who had served, were serving or would serve in the United States armed forces.

The Key West marker is historically significant because it is Florida's first Blue Star Memorial sponsored by the Florida Federation of Garden Clubs. Dedication of the marker took place on May 30, 1949 in Bayview Park and the Key West Garden Club has refurbished and maintained the marker ever since.

Although initially placed in Bayview Park, the marker was moved 20 years ago to the entrance of Key West in the median on US 1. For safety purposes it was later moved across the road near Cow Key Channel Bridge. Because of the many trees planted in this area the marker has become virtually invisible to passers-by. Not only is it difficult to see, it is very hard for Garden Club members to get to and maintain properly.

The Garden Club believes that the appropriate place for the Blue Star Memorial is with the other War Memorials in Bayview and that a move back to its original location will provide important access for visitors to the City as well as our members.

Is there additional documentation or information you need from the Key West Garden Club to bring this request forward?

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours Sincerely,

Rosi Ware
Board Director
KWGC

Robin Robinson
Board Chair
KWGC