

1407 Rose St  
Key West, FL 33040  
April 18, 2012

Key West Planning Board  
Key West, FL 33040



**RECEIVED**  
April 19, 2012  
**KW Planning Dpt**

Dear Planning Board Members:

Parking boats, recreational vehicles and commercial vehicles in the City of Key West right of way, driveways and yards is a bad idea.

Safety. Boats, RV's and Commercial vehicles impede the line of sight at intersections and at driveways. Boats can catch and hold rain water which would create mosquito breeding grounds. Boats can attract children who climb in and then cannot get out. When a child falls, will the city be liable for injuries occurring in the right of way?

Not enough parking. Neighborhood parking is in short supply already. Many houses do not have driveways. Properties are being rented to multiple tenants having several cars. If boats and RV's are allowed in the right of way or driveways, more cars will be forced into the street. Most likely the person with his boat in front of his house will park his vehicles in front of his neighbor's house - after all it is the right of way – and push his neighbor's vehicle parking further down the street.

Annual fees to park in the right of way. It was suggested earlier by former City Commission Barry Gibson, that an annual fee could be charged for parking boats in the right of way. So if my neighbor can "lease" the space in front of his house for personal boat storage, I want the same right to "lease" the space in front of my house for vehicle storage. I expect the same rights afforded my neighbor. I would expect my friends in Old Town might want the same rights, too.

Unsightly. Boats, trailers, RVs and commercial vehicles will deteriorate the neighborhood much in the same way as graffiti does. It has been argued that cars are not all that attractive either. But boats and RV's are much larger and tend to stay in one place longer. The ugliness, and the crowded parking conditions, are illustrated by the attached pictures.

Reduced property values and tax receipts. Using my neighborhood as boat and RV storage will diminish my property value. Will I be compensated for this "taking?" Lower property values will result in decreased tax receipts.

Responsibility of Ownership. Ownership confers responsibilities. If I buy a boat, RV, airplane or helicopter, I know I am responsible for licensing, maintenance and storage when the purchase is made.

Local Business and Employment. The whole country is talking about jobs and small business owners. Why do we propose something which will take profits from boat storage businesses and cause job losses?

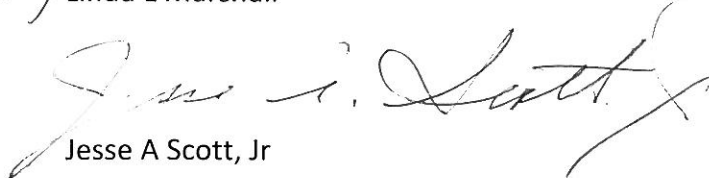
Enforcement Issues. After the boats and RVs line the street of New Town and Mid-Town, will we then need to monitor these vehicles to determine that the boats and RVs are not being used as residential units? I have often been approached by out-of-town RV owners to "rent" my driveway for parking. Will this be selectively enforced by complaint as well?

**Any member of the Key West Planning Board who currently stores or plans to store a boat, RV or commercial vehicle in the right of way or driveway at his or her home should recuse him or herself from this vote.**

To sum it up, if I wanted to live in a boatyard or an RV park, I would have purchased a home in a boatyard or RV park. I expect most potential buyers would agree. Let's work to keep Key West beautiful.

Respectfully,

  
Linda L Marshall

  
Jesse A Scott, Jr









