



MEMORANDUM

Date: October 9, 2025 City Commission Meeting

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Brian Barroso, City Manager

From: Kendal Harden, Interim City Attorney

Subject: Ratifying and Authorizing the Interlocal Agreement with the Utility Board of the City of Key West for the Use of City-Owned Property to Provide Needed Redundancy at the Key West International Airport

Introduction

Ratify and authorize the City Manager to enter into the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) with the Utility Board of the City of Key West, Florida, for the use of city-owned property for electrical services to install a 13.9kV line extension to provide needed redundancy at the Key West International Airport.

Background

Electricity to the airport is currently provided by a single 13.8kV feeder which originates at Kennedy Drive Substation (by the softball field) and feeds from the East. This leaves the airport's continued operations vulnerable – if that line is compromised in a hurricane or needs maintenance requiring de-energization, the airport has no alternative method for receiving electricity and can't support operations.

In June 2025, KEYS entered into an interlocal agreement ("I2_City of Key West Utility Board ILA", attached) with Monroe County where the parties are jointly financing, and KEYS is installing, a 13.8kV line extension to provide redundancy to the airport. The line extension will run from Key West by the Sea, over the "bridle path", and connect to the airport from the West.

The line extension consists of installation of approximately 20 45' ductile iron poles, spaced at approximately 250 feet apart. The poles will be installed on the Northern edge of the bridle path, where the scarified area meets the vegetation.

The installation area is North of the FDOT ROW, on private property. The eight parcels it will span are owned variously by Monroe County, the Monroe County Land Authority, the Crane Point Hammock Foundation, and the City of Key West. KEYS needs to obtain use rights for each of the parcels to install the poles.

The Westernmost parcel of the line extension (immediately East of Key West by the Sea) is owned by the

City and is the location of the joint City/FDOT Pump Station. On March 26, 2025, KEYS and the City entered into an Interlocal Agreement (“City-KEYS Pump St ILA”, attached) to give KEYS a right of use to install infrastructure on that parcel to serve the pump station. That right of use is sufficient for KEYS to install that portion of the new line extension as well.

The City owns one additional parcel further East on the bridle path (“City Parcel PR Card”, attached). KEYS is requesting a right of use to install the new line extension over this parcel. The area requested has a width of 300’ (the width of the property), and in order to install and access the poles from FDOT ROW, a depth of 22’ – 52’, for a total of about 11,000 square feet. A sketch and description is attached (“Sketch and Description City Parcel”).

Recommendation

Staff recommends ratifying and authorizing the City Manager to enter into the ILA with the Utility Board to assist KEYS and Monroe County in providing redundancy to the Key West International Airport.