



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

Post Office Box 1409 Key West, FL 33041 (305) 809-3883

MEMORANDUM

TO: Craig Cates, Mayor
FROM: Jim Scholl, City Manager
DATE: May 10, 2017
RE: Request Florida Department of Transportation Conduct a Comprehensive Study of US 1 Traffic Issues

ACTION STATEMENT:

A resolution requesting the Florida Department of Transportation conduct a comprehensive study to identify the distinct transportation user groups utilizing US 1 in Monroe County and evaluate potential solutions to alleviate their differing needs to continue to enhance the quality of life and ensure the safety of residents and visitors.

BACKGROUND AND REQUESTED ACTIONS:

The Florida Keys, within Monroe County, are a chain of islands connected by 112 miles of US Highway 1 (U.S. 1), extending from Key Largo to Key West, representing the most southerly point of the continental United States. The City of Key West has adopted policies and regulations in their Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Codes to maintain public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Key West and to strengthen our local government capability to manage land use and development. The City of Key West is totally dependent on U.S. 1 for intracommunity movement and U.S. 1 serves as the main conduit for movement of both residents, visitors, and the workforce, with automobile traffic constituting most of traffic on U.S. 1. Ideas to reduce traffic on U.S. 1 have been proposed in the past; however, there has been no comprehensive study performed that identifies the distinct transportation user groups and evaluates potential solutions to alleviate their differing needs.

PURPOSE AND JUSTIFICATION

The City is requesting the Florida Department of Transportation conduct a comprehensive study to identify the distinct transportation user groups utilizing US 1 in Monroe County and evaluate potential solutions to alleviate their differing needs to continue to enhance the quality of life and ensure the safety of residents and visitors.

Key to the Caribbean - Average yearly temperature 77°

The incidence of significant traffic delays has been increasing annually. The City of Key West and its residents are concerned that delays are reaching the point at which the workforce, including the tourism industry, will be seriously affected and the delays are seriously compromising the quality of both residents' lives and the tourist experience. Protecting the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Key West and maintaining the level of service of U. S. 1 is essential to the City.

Monroe County passed a similar resolution on May 17, 2017 requesting FDOT to conduct this study.

SUMMARY

The Florida Department of Transportation is requested to conduct a comprehensive study to identify the distinct transportation user groups utilizing US 1 in Monroe County and evaluate potential solutions to alleviate their differing needs.