

Keri O'Brien

From: Angela Tizzano <atizzano@spottswood.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2026 10:05 AM
To: Keri O'Brien
Subject: [EXTERNAL] URGENT: Support of ACL Cruise Line Contract Extension

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Good morning Commissioners,

My name is Angela Tizzano, and I serve as the Director of Operations for Spottswood Adventures. We are a locally owned, family-run company that has proudly been part of the Key West community for over 150 years. Our roots here run deep — not just in business, but in family, history, and community responsibility.

I am here today to express my strong support for the extension of the ACL cruise line contract.

ACL is not a high-volume, mega-ship operation. It is a small-ship cruise line that aligns beautifully with the character and charm of Key West. Their guests are typically mature travelers seeking cultural experiences, local history, and authentic connections — exactly what our island does best.

From a vendor perspective, ACL brings thousands of dollars per day directly into small, family-run businesses like ours. Those dollars do not leave the island. They go directly into:

- Paying local captains and crew
- Supporting dock staff and reservation agents
- Funding local vendors and suppliers
- Supporting families who live, work, and raise their children here

For many of our employees, the revenue generated from ACL excursions provides stability during shoulder seasons and slower tourism cycles. It allows us to offer consistent work and maintain year-round employment for local workers.

The economic impact of ACL is not abstract. It is tangible. It supports payroll. It supports health insurance. It supports rent and mortgages. It supports generational businesses that define the fabric of this community.

Spottswood has been here for almost two centuries because we believe in sustainable, responsible growth. ACL represents exactly that — measured tourism, manageable passenger numbers, and a partnership model that prioritizes local operators rather than outside corporations.

Extending this contract is not just about cruise ships. It is about protecting local livelihoods. It is about ensuring that small, family-run operations continue to thrive. And it is about choosing partnerships that reflect the scale and spirit of Key West.

I respectfully ask you to support the extension of the ACL cruise line contract so that businesses like ours — and the local families who depend on them — can continue contributing to the economic health and character of this island.

Thank you for your time and your service to our community.

Angela Tizzano
Director of Operations, Spottswood Adventures
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