

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA HEREBY AFFIRMING THE STEADFAST POSITION OF THE CITY COMMISSION THAT THE SOUTHERNMOST POINT BUOY ("BUOY") WILL BE RETURNED TO, AND PERMANENTLY REMAIN, AT ITS HISTORICAL LOCATION ON THE OCEANFRONT AT THE CORNER OF WHITEHEAD STREET AND SOUTH STREET (1400 WHITEHEAD STREET), KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS SOON AS FEASIBLE AND DEPENDENT UPON THE PROGRESS AND/OR COMPLETION OF THE SOUTHERNMOST POINT PLAZA CONSTRUCTION PROJECT; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DIRECT STAFF TO PAINT THE BUOY AS HISTORICALLY PAINTED TO RETAIN ITS AUTHENTICITY AND TO ENSURE THE BUOY IS PAINTED ON BOTH SIDES TO ACCOMMODATE TWO (2) LINES FOR TOURISTS TO TAKE PICTURES WITH THE BUOY; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DESIGNATE AND DIRECT STAFF TO MEET WITH AFFECTED RESIDENTS TO ADDRESS THEIR CONCERNS AND CONFIRM THE COMMISSION'S POSITION THAT THE BUOY WILL BE RETURNED TO AND PERMANENTLY REMAIN AT ITS HISTORICAL LOCATION; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Southernmost Point Buoy ("Buoy) in Key West, Florida marks the "Southernmost Point of the Continental United States of America" and is a well-known and extremely popular landmark drawing tourists from all over the country; and

WHEREAS, the Buoy was erected in 1983 by the City of Key West to symbolize that the southernmost point of City of Key West is only about ninety (90) miles from Cuba; and

WHEREAS, due to needed seawall and roadway repairs at its original site, the Buoy was temporarily relocated to the Duval Street Pocket Park located at 1499 Duval Street (between the

Southernmost Mansion and the Southernmost Resort); and

WHEREAS, this landmark buoy is famous worldwide and featured in many Key West tours and local boat charters and appears in numerous articles about the City of Key West; and

WHEREAS, at the City Commission meeting held May 7, 2025, proposed on-going construction related to the Southernmost Point Plaza Construction Project was presented for consideration which prompted public comment and expressed concerns by both affected residents residing in the area of the Southernmost Point and residents of the City, in general, concerned the Buoy was not going to be returned to its historical location; and

WHEREAS, following public comment and Commission discussion, it was the stated position of the Commission, along with direction to staff, that the Southernmost Point Buoy be returned to, and permanently remain at, its original historical location at the corner of Whitehead Street and South Street, dependent on the progress and/or upon completion of the ongoing construction; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to prevent any deterrence on this issues, it was the stated desire of the Commission to record its stated position, by resolution, on the permanent physical location of the Southernmost Point Buoy for the record; and

WHEREAS, it was also noted that the Southernmost Point Buoy was currently only painted on one (1) side of the Buoy, and not both, providing only one line for tourists to take pictures; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: The City Commission hereby affirms and records its official position that the Southernmost Point Buoy be returned to, and permanently remain at, its historical location on the oceanfront at the corner of Whitehead Street and South Street in Key West, Florida (1400 Whiteheads Street), as soon as feasible and dependent on the progress and/or completion of the Southernmost Point Plaza Construction Project unless otherwise approved and directed by resolution of the City Commission.

Section 2. The City Commission hereby directs the City Manager, upon return of the Buoy to its historical location, to ensure the Southernmost Point Buoy is painted as it has historically been painted to maintain the authenticity of the Buoy and ensure the Buoy is painted on both sides to provide two (2) lines for tourists to take pictures by the Buoy.

Section 3. The City Commission further directs the City Manager to ensure designated staff are directed to meet with affected residents to address their concerns and affirm the Commission's steadfast position that the Southernmost Point Buoy will be returned to and permanently remain at its historical location on the oceanfront at the corner of Whitehead Street and South Street.

Section 4. Given its historic significance to the City of Key West, the City Commission hereby directs the City Manager to ensure staff bring any future potential issues, projects and/or concerns that may arise concerning or affecting the location, maintenance or preservation of the historic Southernmost Point Buoy are brought to the Commission prior to any action being taken.

Section 5: That this resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and the authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Commission.

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Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held
this _____ day of _____, 2026.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the
Commission on the _____ day of _____, 2026.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2026.

Mayor Danise Henriquez	_____
Vice Mayor Donald "Donie" Lee	_____
Commissioner Lissette Carey	_____
Commissioner Aaron Castillo	_____
Commissioner Monica Haskell	_____
Commissioner Sam Kaufman	_____
Commissioner Greg Veliz	_____

DANISE HENRIQUEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

KERI O'BRIEN, CITY CLERK