

Keri O'Brien

From: Cheri Smith
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 8:40 AM
To: Commissioners
Cc: Keri O'Brien
Subject: FW: Monroe Holloway - Letter w/ Attachments
Attachments: FL Statute 421.22.pdf; KW Comprehensive Plan - 13.1.1.12.pdf; Resident Advisory Board - PHA Plan Requirement.pdf

Good Morning,

Please see the letter below from Monroe Holloway.

Best Regards,
Cheri Smith, MMC, CPM
City Clerk
csmith@cityofkeywest-fl.gov
305-809-3835



All government correspondence is subject to the public records law.

From: Portia Navarro <pnavarro@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 8:21 AM
To: Cheri Smith <csmith@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Mary Lou Hoover <mlhoover@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: FW: Monroe Holloway - Letter w/ Attachments

Good morning –

The attached is forwarded to you at the request of Monroe Holloway, Administrative Assistant for the Mayor and Commissioners.

Thanks.

Portia

From: Monroe Holloway <monroe.holloway33@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 31, 2021 7:57 AM
To: Portia Navarro <pnavarro@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: Fwd: Monroe Holloway - Letter w/ Attachments

Greetings Portia,

Could you please forward this email with attachments to Cheri and Commissioner Hoover ? My email addresses were either off or the email was not allowed to be sent from my personal address.

Kind regards,

Monroe Holloway III
419 Virginia St.
Key West, FL

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Monroe Holloway** <monroe.holloway33@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Mar 30, 2021 at 9:00 PM

Subject: Monroe Holloway - Letter w/ Attachments

To: Samuel Kaufman <skaufman@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, Teri Johnston <tjohnston@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <wardlow@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <clerk@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <clopez@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <gdavila@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <jweekley@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <mhoover@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I am writing in support of adding two additional commissioners to the housing authority board.

The status quo is no longer acceptable. Additional commissioners with backgrounds in public engagement, social services, housing, finance and management are needed to bring fresh perspectives, increase strategic and mission related transparency as well as *encourage* more stakeholder participation. Expansion of the commission would also provide an opportunity for appointments that better reflect the racial, cultural, gender, and age diversity of our community.

The citizen respondents to the recent 2021 Key West Community Survey placed a resounding emphasis on the affordable housing crisis in Key West. Not only was affordable housing listed as *the most* essential City service in need of improvement, it is also listed as the area of most concern to residents. Adding two Commissioners to the board would go a long way in showing the public that the City Commission is serious about tackling the #1 priority of their citizens.

Also, outside of the City Commission vote to add two additional board members to the Authority, I believe it is essential that there be a review conducted to ensure that there is a fluid flow of information and that the Key West Housing Authority has been and will continue to be in compliance with Key West Comprehensive Policy 3-1.1.12, Florida Statute 422.22, Section 511 of the United States Housing Act and the regulations in 24 CFR part 903 that require that PHA's establish one or more Resident Advisory Board(s) as a part of the PHA Plan process. Having the statutorily mandated annual report delivered to the public is vital to gain confidence in the City's ability to address the housing needs of its citizens. Likewise, a robust, tenant-elected Resident Advisory Board is key to a more transparent and inclusive picture of the Authority.

While it is understood that the Housing Authority is not in complete control of the housing problem and the current commissioners have had many successes during their tenure; Irma and the resulting shortage of housing, COVID-19 housing issues, lack of movement in renaming J.Y.Porter Place and Garden View Apartment delays increase the demand that the Authority and City Commission *must* work much closer than

ever before to be at the vanguard of the solution for both affordable housing and public housing initiatives. It is for these types of reasons that the City Commission has the authority to add members as the governing body in the first place. And, it is for these reasons that I am asking for your support of this agenda item at the March 31st City Commission meeting.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Monroe Holloway III
419 Virginia St.
Key West, FL 33040