

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AUTHORIZING THE ALLOCATION OF \$40,000.00 IN EMERGENCY RELIEF FUNDS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO ESTABLISHED LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES IN RESPONSE TO THE SHARP INCREASE IN FOOD INSECURITY IN THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO DESIGNATE APPROPRIATE STAFF TO IDENTIFY ELIGIBLE ESTABLISHED LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES AND FACILITATE EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION AND ACCOUNTING OF DISBURSED FUNDS; DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ANY NECESSARY RELATED DOCUMENTS AND BUDGET TRANSFERS/ADJUSTMENTS, UPON CONSENT OF THE CITY ATTORNEY; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the recent government shutdown created a sharp increase in food insecurity throughout our community; and

WHEREAS, recent updates from our local non-profit partners underscore the urgency. The local *Loaves and Fish Food Pantry* has reported a 30% increase in clients, with many new families seeking assistance for the first time. Their operating costs have also risen approximately \$5,000 per month, meaning that even modest City support could make a tremendous difference through the holidays and beyond; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the *Loaves and Fish Pantry*, other local partners such as *Cooking with Love*, *Star of the Sea Foundation* and the *Bahama Village Little Food Pantry* are also facing growing demand; and

WHEREAS, the allocation and equitable distribution of

emergency relief funds by the City to local established food pantries serves a public purpose by supporting and bolstering the admirable efforts of local worthy organizations to ensure City residents have consistent access to food during this challenging time; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Key West for the Commission to actively respond to the increased needs of our community in their time of need; and

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

Section 1: That the City Commission hereby finds the allocation of \$40,000.00 in City emergency relief funds to be distributed to established local food pantries within the City will help to ensure City residents have consistent access to food in their time of need and serves a public purpose in the best interest of the citizens of the City of Key West.

Section 2: That the City Commission hereby directs the City Manager to designate appropriate City staff to identify eligible established local food pantries located within the City and establish equitable distribution and accounting of disbursed emergency relief funds.

Section 3: That the Commission hereby directs the City

Manager to execute any necessary related documents and/or budget transfers/adjustments, upon consent of the City Attorney.

Section 4: 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.

Passed and adopted by the City Commission at a meeting held this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Authenticated by the Presiding Officer and Clerk of the Commission on _____ day of _____, 2025.

Filed with the Clerk on _____, 2025.

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

DANISE HENRIQUEZ, MAYOR

ATTEST:

KERI O'BRIEN, CITY CLERK