

From: <Rosi.Ware@kantar.com>

Date: Sat, Jan 4, 2014 at 11:12 AM

Subject: In support of the attached revised sound ordinance

To: ccates@keywestcity.com, jweekley@keywestcity.com, tjohnston@keywestcity.com, tyaniz@keywestcity.com, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, sdsmith@keywestcity.com, jjyoung@keywestcity.com, mrossi@keywestcity.com, csmith@keywestcity.com

Cc: claytonlopezkw@gmail.com

Dear Mayor & City Commissioners

I am in total support of the revised sound ordinance for the City and applaud those who wrote it.

Wishing you all a happy & peaceful 2014.

Yours,

Rosi Ware

1400 Olivia Street

Key West

From: <JGaddisKW@aol.com>

Date: Sat, Jan 4, 2014 at 11:25 AM

Subject: new noise ordinance

To: ccates@keywestcity.com, clopez@keywestcity.com, jweekley@keywestcity.com, tjohnsto@keywestcity.com, tyaniz@keywestcity.com, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, sdsmith@keywestcity.com, jyoung@keywestcity.com, mrossi@keywestcity.com, csmith@keywestcity.com

Dear Mayor and Commissioners.

In advance of the city Hall meeting on January 7

I want to inform you of my full support the revised noise ordinance.

There is far too much intrusive noise on Duval Street and now creeping into peaceful neighborhoods.

Please take note of the tax paying residents who live in Key West and appreciate the island's tranquility as well as the many visitors who may not return due to the highly amplified music blasting from shops, restaurants and cheap tee shirt shops.

I strongly believe that Key West's important history is slowly being lost due to lack of strong enforceable ordinances.

Thank you for listening to your constituents.

Judith Gaddis

From: Rita Troxel <ritatroxel@me.com>

Date: Sat, Jan 4, 2014 at 12:08 PM

Subject: revised noise ordinance

To: Mayor <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, Teri Johnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, mrossi@keywestcity.com, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Dear Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Key West,

Although I am now a resident of Monroe County, Sugarloaf Shores, I did live, for over 30 years, in the City of Key West. I have personally been visiting my friends, on Galveston Lane for much of those years.

Back in the day of Rev. Kee's church, Church of God of Prophecy, it was a pleasure when the congregation had unamplified singing and music. In fact we would go over to friend's homes to hear them.

Now however, it is miserable to be there when the church is holding services with a completely unnecessarily loud volume of sound. People have homes all around the church, they are trying to have lives and meals with family and friends, they are not wishing to be included in the service from a block away. It is truly invasive and disturbing folks personal lives.

I do not vote in Key West, but I certainly spend much of my time in Key West both working, entertaining and visiting with friends.

I am in complete support of the recent draft of the sound ordinance presented by Mr. Smith. Please do not allow the current level of church noise to destroy the life and joy of the surrounding neighborhoods.

Sincerely,
Rita Troxel

From: Melissa Watson <beachhg@bellsouth.net>

Date: Sat, Jan 4, 2014 at 6:21 PM

Subject: Revised Noise Ordinance

To: ccates@keywestcity.com, clopez@keywestcity.com, jweekley@keywestcity.com, tjohnsto@keywestcity.com, tyaniz@keywestcity.com, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, sdsmith@keywestcity.com, jjyoung@keywestcity.com, mrossi@keywestcity.com, csmith@keywestcity.com

As former Key West residents and now frequent visitors to our old home town, we strongly support the revised noise ordinance. Please - one of the most beautiful aspects of Key West is the quiet of the neighborhoods. Thanks for your consideration.

Melissa Watson
Tom Massaglia
St. Augustine, FL

From: **Janet Hinkle** <janetbhinkle@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 5, 2014 at 10:42 AM
Subject: Jimmy's Weekley's noise proposal
To: Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

I am writing in support of Commissioner Weekley's proposal. It is a balanced approach that allows for appropriate enforcement. It's unfortunate that we have to pass laws to make sure people are respectful of others but that's the world and the city we live in today. Key West will be a better place to live if this new ordinance is adopted. Thank you. Janet B. Hinkle 710 Windsor Lane, Key West, FL

From: <JLeslie87@aol.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 5, 2014 at 11:19 AM
Subject: noise ordinance
To: ccates@keywestcity.com
Cc: clopez@keywestcity.com

01/05/14

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I'm writing to ask you to give your attention to the revised noise ordinance. I believe that we can all agree that quality of life issues that can be controlled within our neighborhoods should be of paramount interest. I ask you to support the revised noise ordinance.

Thank you,

John Leslie
901 Georgia
Key West

From: **Dianne Zolotow** <diannezolotow@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jan 5, 2014 at 5:53 PM

Subject: Re:

To: darene cahill <darcahill@gmail.com>

Cc: Mayor <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, Teri Johnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, mrossi@keywestcity.com, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

To the Mayor and City Commissioners:

I have lived at 708 William Street, about a block and a half away from the Church of God of Prophecy, for the last 26 years. The amplified music reaches all the way to Butler Park and my section of William St. I support the sound ordinance drafted by the city attorney and request that this letter be included in the meeting minutes. Thank you for helping us preserve the quiet of our little neighborhood.

Dianne Zolotow
708 William St
Key West FL 33040
305 304 4295

From: **darene cahill** <darcahill@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, Jan 5, 2014 at 5:42 PM

Subject:

To: Mayor <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, Teri Johnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, mrossi@keywestcity.com, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

To The Mayor and City Commissioners;

I have lived at 812 Galveston Lane for the past 30 odd years directly behind Church of God of Prophecy. You have all heard of the recent difficulties our neighborhood has had with the amplified music and preaching fracturing the peace in our homes. I won't belabor the details. I support the the draft of the new sound ordinance as presented by the city attorney. Thanking you in advance for your time and consideration I remain

Darene Cahill

From: **Lincoln Perry** <vuillardjr@gmail.com>
Date: Sun, Jan 5, 2014 at 10:17 PM
Subject: noise
To: csmith@keywestcity.com

Dear Ms. Smith: John Martini is at the end of his rope, and I totally sympathize with him, as should you: imagine going out on a financial limb to renovate a property, only to have it become virtually worthless, un-sellable or even un-rentable, because right next door was an unbearable, constant din, a wall of endless noise. As I understand it, if I found a church of, say, Scientology, I won't have to pay taxes, nor obey any laws that apply to mere mortals: SWEET!!!! My wife and I live on Fleming Street, so I was unaware there *are* any noise ordinances in Key West; I've often called to complain about Harley Davidsons breaking the sound barrier at four in the morning when the bars close only to be told, in effect, to run down three flights in my PJ's in the dark and get the license plate number, to which I have replied that if an officer was waiting at Fleming and, say, Margaret they could clock these people going about 60 mph. I understand you can't do much about the jets that split the sky, the fire engines, ambulances and police cars that whine down the streets, the music coming from Duval Street, the leaf blowers, chain saws and drunks screaming, but I was born in New York City, and it is generally MUCH quieter than Key West. Please enforce whatever laws do exist, and pass one that will save hard-working, conscientious citizens like Mr. Martini from mental distress and financial ruin. Religion is not a blank check for horrible, aggressive un-neighborly behavior. Thank you, Lincoln Perry

From: **Josine** <josinehitchcock@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, Jan 6, 2014 at 10:47 AM

Subject: Sound Ordinance draft

To:

Cc: Mayor <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, TeriJohnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, "bwardlow@keywestcity.com" <bwardlow@keywestcity.com>, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, "mrossi@keywestcity.com" <mrossi@keywestcity.com>, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

To all concerned:

We support the new Sound Ordinance draft.

Walt and Josine Hitchcock
807 Elizabeth Street
KW 33040

[540 222 5708](tel:5402225708)

From: **JT Thompson** <jt@designkw.com>

Date: Mon, Jan 6, 2014 at 2:11 PM

Subject: Revised noise ordinance - please read to record

To: ccates@keywestcity.com

Cc: clopez@keywestcity.com, jweekley@keywestcity.com, tjohnsto@keywestcity.com, tyaniz@keywestcity.com, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, sdsmith@keywestcity.com, ijyoung@keywestcity.com, mrossi@keywestcity.com, csmith@keywestcity.com, John Martini <jm@johnmartini.com>

Dear Mr. Mayor and City Commissioners:

I was relieved to hear about revisions to bring back the City's Noise Ordinance. I live on Mickens Lane, between Thomas and Whitehead. Even with my doors and windows closed and the A/C running, I can barely hear my TV at times because of how outrageously loud the music is coming from Cowboy Bill's (more than a block away!). It even overpowers the music from the Green Parrot, which is only 1/2 block from me, that's how loud it is. No business needs that much volume, and it clearly disrupts the peace for all the many families that live in a 1.5 block radius of Cowboy Bill's.

PLEASE PASS THE NEW NOISE ORDINANCE. After 11PM we should be able to open our windows and not hear every note and every word blaring from there. If I wanted to hear Cowboy Bill's music acts all night long, every night, I'd go there!

THANK YOU for hearing our concerns and we anticipate you doing the right thing for residents who look to you for relief from the excessive volume polluting Old Town. All we are asking for is reasonable volume limits to be enforced again.

JT Thompson
Art Director

Design Group Key West
901 Fleming Street
Key West Florida
305-296-3080
jt@designkw.com

From: **Carol Munder** <carol@carolmunder.com>

Date: Mon, Jan 6, 2014 at 10:22 PM

Subject: sound ordinance

To: Mayor <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, Teri Johnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, mrossi@keywestcity.com, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

For thirty years my home away from home (Sugarloaf) has been 810 Galveston Lane. I spend many days and nights at this address and truly love my time in the "Big City". I love the activity on the lane and have watched children grow up so the life there is close to my heart. But in the last two years the charm of the lane has been impinged on. Noise from a very small church on Elizabeth Street has turned the living room of my friend into a room vibrating with the sound of electrified drums and guitars. This is not just on Sundays that this amplified music is played but what seems like most days of the week. I could almost understand if this was Duval Street but in a neighborhood where houses practically share walls? Key West has always been place where neighbors will live and let live, but the noise level coming from this building is just not acceptable.

Thank you for your time and consider how you would feel if your living room was no longer a place of refuge but a battle ground of noise,
Carol Munder

From: KWVC <keywestvacations@bellsouth.net>
Date: Tue, Jan 7, 2014 at 1:24 PM
Subject: for inclusion in tonights City Commission meeting
To: csmith@keywestcity.com

I write in support of Jimmy Weekley's proposed changes to the noise ordinance. I believe this is another step forward to preserving the quality of living in Key West for its residents while still enabling businesses to thrive and prosper. It also gives clearer guidelines to our police and code enforcement officials which should clear up the confusion that has been apparent for the last few years. The passing of this ordinance will certainly make Key West a better place to live and work. Thank you.

Babs Wade, 4 Aronovitz Lane, Key West FL

Babs Wade
Key West Vacation Center
www.keywestvacationcenter.com
Tel: [1-800-407-1522](tel:1-800-407-1522) (toll free)
Fax: [1-866 564 4154](tel:1-866-564-4154) (toll free)

From: **Vacation Key West - Reservations** <reservations@vacationkw.com>
Date: Tue, Jan 7, 2014 at 2:02 PM
Subject: For inclusion in tonight's City Commission Meeting
To: csmith@keywestcity.com

I am writing in support of Jimmy Weekley's proposed changes to the noise ordinance. I bought my residence in 1999, at #4 Aronovitz Lane, when I could sit peacefully in my back yard with friends and chat. Since the opening of Awful Arthurs, then Cowboy Bill's I have been plagued with unreasonably loud music to the point that I, can NO longer use my back yard in peace. I have needed to have my TV amplified in order to hear it. I need to not only wear ear plugs, have a fan blowing, a noise canceling machine in my bedroom but also need to take medication in order to sleep. Although I strongly believe businesses have the right to thrive and prosper. I also believe, that I have a right to thrive, prosper and live a healthier life in my own home. I have made various listed complaints to not only the police departments and code officials who have empathized with my situation. However, they have had no clear guidelines on how to protect my rights as a homeowner, who also needs to work. Therefore, again I strongly support the proposed changes to the noise ordinance.

Thank you,

Rebecca Black
4 Aronovitz Lane
Key West
305 304 3490

From: **Eric Jennings** <eric@foolcrow.com>

Date: Tue, Jan 7, 2014 at 2:49 PM

Subject: I support the revised noise ordinance!

To: ccates@keywestcity.com, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, Teri Johnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, mrossi@keywestcity.com, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>

My wife and I urge you to support the revised noise ordinance and remove the exemption for church services. Church bells and chimes are pleasant and agreeable but the lack of any meaningful description of what constitutes a "religious service or observation" denies the community any semblance of control or oversight in regards to what might be considered reasonable noise levels affecting residents.

Thank you,
Eric Jennings
Pamela Benvenue
823 Emma St, Key West FL

From: John Martini <jm@johnmartini.com>

Date: January 2, 2014 at 3:23:31 PM EST

To: Mayor <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "clopez@keywestcity.com Lopez" <clopez@keywestcity.com>, City Of Key West <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, Teri Johnston <tjohnsto@keywestcity.com>, Tony Yaniz <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, bwardlow@keywestcity.com, Shawn Smith <sdsmith@keywestcity.com>, Jim Young <jjyoung@keywestcity.com>, mrossi@keywestcity.com, Cheri Smith <csmith@keywestcity.com>
Cc: darene cahill <darcahill@gmail.com>, Cindy wynn wynn <cindywynn56@gmail.com>, David Govus <dgovus@ellijay.com>, Calvin <keepitclean1@yahoo.com>, Dave Horn <daviddhorn@gmail.com>, jackie <llamamama20@hotmail.com>, Ed Gore <kwgore@att.net>, Dianne Zolotow Zolotow <diannezolotow@gmail.com>, Josine <josinehitchcock@gmail.com>, carol Munder <carol@carolmunder.com>, Annie Dillard <annie4@mindspring.com>, bob richardson <rrichardson@gmail.com>, mark Hedden <mark@boneisland.com>, Nancy Klingener Klingener <nklingener@gmail.com>

Subject: City Clerk, please read at meeting if i do not attend, in reference to revised noise ordinance, thank you.

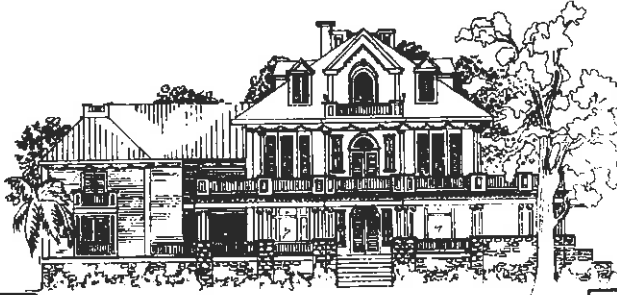
Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

One of the many attractions when I purchased my house at 810 Galveston Lane in 1978 was the proximity to than Rev. Kee's (later Bishop Kee's) Church of God Of Prophecy. Weekly services including unamplified music were an added feature to the neighborhood and no one in this tight knit neighborhood before air conditioners had any complaint.

After the death of the Bishop and Mr's Kee, another congregation took over the church. They brought a full drum set, amplified bass guitars, guitars and a microphone highly amplified for sermons. They created a schedule of services that include Sunday morning, Sunday evening between 7-9:30, Monday evening 7-9:30, Tues evening 7-9:30, Weds morning 8-12 and various other occasional surprise evening and days in our intensely populated neighborhood. Adjoining the church on 3 sides are 4 residences each between 5' and 10' away from the church. The neighborhood, partially out of respect for Bishop Kee tried to talk to the pastor on more than several occasions. Having no luck with our conversation 14 neighbors met with code compliance officer Peg Corbett and signed formal complaints under the noise ordinance. Peg was surprised as were the residents to discover that churches are exempt from the noise ordinance during services and no complaint could be filed. As you can imagine this has been a profound frustration and we have patiently been awaiting the promised revised sound ordinance. In talking to Mr. Young the other day he allowed that there was absolutely no limit to the noise that could be created, a church could not be cited. This is neither right nor just. Churches are the only institutions made exempt to the rules, I understand it was written that way to allow church bells, we love church bells.

I am in full support of the recent draft of the sound ordinance as presented by Mr. Smith. It is a gift to the residents of Key West. This is our home and the ordinances should reflect the need of the residents before the needs of visitors. I cannot describe the negative effects this situation has created in our lives, we now appreciate the suffering of other residents who have been burdened by an out of date noise ordinance. We suffer the lack of peace. Along with the disturbing noise I have suffered a very strong negative financial situation as I have spent a large amount of money restoring a house which had a fire next door to the church, winning the restoration star for the work. I have now had 2 tenants move out because of the noise, the present tenants had indicated a possible interest in buying the property before realizing what an untenable situation they have been living in.

Thank You and looking forward to a peaceful 2014 for all Key West,
John Martini



The Curry Mansion Inn

17 January 2014

Cheri Smith, City Clerk
City of Key West

Re: Violation of Sound Ordinance by Garden of Eden and Fat Tuesday

Dear Ms. Smith:

We are writing to request that you look into what we believe to be a violation of the City's Noise Ordinance by two establishments that are affecting the sleep quality of our guests at the Curry Mansion Inn - see reviews from Trip Adviser and Expedia.

Our specific complaints are with the Garden of Eden, located at 224 Duval Street for their use of a microphone for announcements and levels at which their music is played. Also, Fat Tuesday, located at 305 Duval Street for playing music in an open-air space with a bass speaker directed toward our rooms located in the James House. Our Maintenance/Security staff has repeatedly requested of Fat Tuesday's management that they redirect the speaker and lower the volume, but nothing has worked for more than an hour or two - see site locator.

We pride ourselves on being good neighbors, but we respectfully request that you look into the performance of outdoor amplified voices and music at 224 and 305 Duval Street on a nightly basis and grant us some relief or perhaps suggest what else we could possibly do to keep the peace and hopefully some quiet in the early morning hours.

Thank you,


Edith Amsterdam, Owner
By Sheila Sands-Devendorf
Office Administrator

(305) 294-5349 voice
(305) 294-4093 fax
Sheila@currymansion.com

Cc: Mayor Craig Cates, Commissioner Jimmy Weekley, District 1, Commissioner Mark Rossi, District 2
Commissioner Billy Wardlow, District 3, Commissioner Tony (Fat) Yaniz, District 4, Commissioner Teri Johnston, District 5, Commissioner Clayton Lopez, District 6, Bogdan Vitas, Jr., City Manager, Jim Young, Sr Manager Code Compliance

511 Caroline Street, Key West, Florida 33040 (305) 294-5349

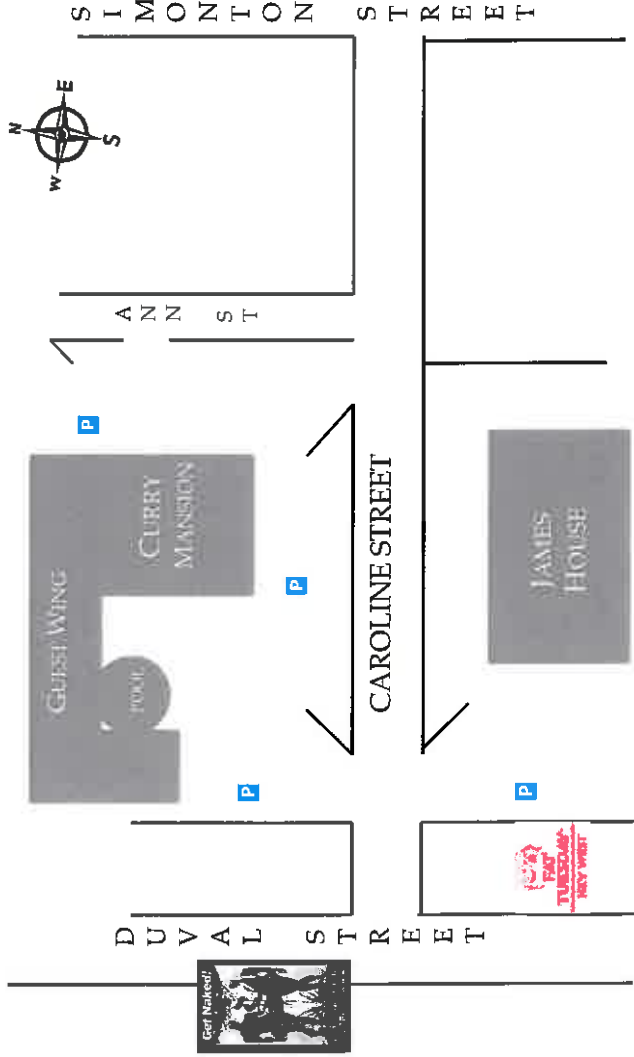
1-800-253-3466

Email: frontdesk@currymansion.com

Fax 1-305-294-4093

AMSTERDAM'S

Curry Mansion Inn



AMSTERDAM'S *Curry Mansion Inn* is comprised of 28 unique guest rooms in three different structures. The Mansion, built in 1869, is open for tours daily. Four guest rooms and the owner's residence are located on the second floor.

The Guest Wing wraps around the rear of house and the 16 rooms either overlook or open onto the pool and deck area where breakfast and cocktails are served daily.

The James House is located directly across Caroline Street. Each of the eight accommodations has either a porch or a balcony. Some have sitting rooms with daybeds and trundles which makes it perfect for families.

Whichever one you choose, remember that our house is your house when you visit Key West.

Garden of Eden & Fat Tuesday sited for location – not to scale

Expedia

“An AVERAGE B&B, not bad, not fantastic.”

Posted Apr 24, 2013

Pros: Location and having included breakfast. Fun to "self-tour" the B&B.

Cons: No personal welcome at door or interest in you by staff, stayed to themselves in office, had to seek them out. Not helpful with recommendations.

Location: Great location for walking to attractions or catching buses and trolleys. **However, very loud nearby bar noise heard until 3am on weekend.**

Rooms were clean, comfortable, and pretty. Mattress and chair need to be replaced, though.

Good breakfast quantity and quality. Great selection of drinks/beverages at Cocktail parties.

Disappointed in having the same hot breakfast (eggs) every day, same Hors d'oeuvres every day...stale chips, salsa & veggies, cheese & crackers. Other than pool area and our room, felt like a "do not touch" over-crowded museum, not a home where you could sit and relax anywhere.

Smokers on porch.

“Charming historic property near all the action”

Posted Feb 3, 2013

Pros: Location, happy hour, breakfast, pleasant staff.

Cons: Noisy due to wonderful location.

Location: In Old Town. Restaurants, bars, tourist sites close by.

Charming property with a wonderful staff. Pleasant happy hour where it is easy to meet people.

Good breakfast with, among other things, made-to-order omelets. **Location is about half a block off Duval, so it was pretty noisy until the wee hours of the morning. If you're a light sleeper, bring ear plugs and stay here anyway!** If you have any mobility problems, let them know in advance because some of the rooms are up steep outdoor stairways. Off-street parking is free.

Trip Advisor

“Great Location and Great Value”

Reviewed 1 week ago

Our first time to stay at a Bed & Breakfast. The breakfast by the pool with fresh made to order omelettes, was so nice. The two hour cocktail hour with premium liquors, beer, wine, mixers and hors d'oeuvres and live piano music was a nice extra value. Make sure you know in advance where you are staying. We stayed in a room by the pool, top of stairs on the left. If you are a light sleeper, the noise of getting the breakfast going will wake you up. That I could get past. The thing I couldn't get past was the very loud music that plays at the bars/restaurants outside of the windows. Our last night there (Thursday night) was terrible. Neither of us slept. The music continued past 3:00 am. I finally found a pair of earplugs to drown most of it out. I would stay again because the staff was so nice and the place was great, I will just book in a different area. I hear across the street is best and very quiet. This place is walking distance to everywhere we wanted to go. Parked the car and never got back in it until we left Key West.

Room Tip: Don't stay in the rooms by the pool and back up to the bars on Duval Street, especially if you a...

“Great Place!”

Reviewed November 5, 2013

My husband and I spent 5 nights at the Curry Mansion. The employees were all friendly. The "made to order" breakfast was awesome sitting by the pool. Complimentary appetizers and open bar from 5 to 7 was really nice to relax before going back out for the evening. The pool was small but definitely adequate for the place. We stayed upstairs in Room 108 with a nice balcony.

The only negative would be that the music from Duval Street continued till 3 AM. It kept me awake but not my husband.

All and all, we would stay there again.

- Stayed November 2013, traveled with friends

“Lovely Place but choose room carefully!”

Reviewed July 10, 2013

Beautifully decorated place with such a rich history! I especially loved the Widow's Walk and the beautiful view. The people working there were very nice and I especially appreciated Samura sharing a piece of cake with me and my sweet tooth! I love the decorating for the 4th of July and the hot dogs and hamburgers that went along with Happy Hour that night. Speaking of Happy Hour, my one complaint...I am a beer drinker and Budweiser--not even Bud Light, yuck! So unfortunately I could not enjoy that aspect of this B&B. Our room: Nice but...backs right onto Duval Street establishments which was a problem for two reasons. 1) construction right behind our room starting at 7:00 AM with saws, jackhammers etc.2) I kid you not, one night at 3:00 AM, someone from Fogarty's decided to blast music as loud as it could go! After

our third of four nights there, Stephen, who was very nice and helpful, happened to ask me how our room was and it was then I mentioned the construction. Not realizing they could do anything about it, he assured me he would--and he did! Unfortunately we weren't asked earlier about our room, because I would have been happy to tell if asked. Next time, I will come back but be clear about which room we want. One other suggestion, more hooks in bathroom (on back of door perhaps) and maybe another shelf to hold our stuff. Some things we loved: the refreshing, clean pool at the end of a hot day, the water machine, coffee all day, HH snacks and music. One suggestion to the people here, the bike rental across the street is expensive. Eaton Bikes down the road is a much better deal and will deliver and pick up. You ought to be suggesting them instead!

Room Tip: Ask for a room on the side street and if you don't like steep stairs, downstairs.

“Great Old Mansion”

Reviewed April 29, 2013

On our first trip to Key West about 10 years ago, we stayed at the Curry Mansion Inn and decided to return there on this trip. We were not disappointed. The Mansion has retained its historical persona and has been well-maintained over the years. The location is perfect - one block from Duval Street. Unfortunately, our room backed up to one of the bars on Duval Street, so we heard music until 3am. One of the amenities of the Curry Mansion Inn that we particularly enjoy is happy hour around the pool every evening (on the porch if it is raining). The free booze and food are a great treat.

- Stayed March 2013, traveled as a couple

“Wonderful Location, great staff.”

Reviewed March 14, 2013

A gem, can be a little noisy in the wee hours with Duval Street just a few yards away, but a wonderful place to stay, behind the Old Inn, rooms are very spacious and beautifully furnished and very clean. Great bathrooms. Breakfast and Happy hour around the pool makes it an amazing setting for chatting and making new acquaintances. Staff very friendly and helpful. Almost perfect...

- Stayed March 2013, traveled as a couple

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

From: **David Bentley** <dbentley209@att.net>

Date: Mon, Jan 20, 2014 at 11:57 AM

Subject: Proposed Noise Ordinance

To: "clopez@keywestcity.com" <clopez@keywestcity.com>

Cc: "jweekley@keywestcity.com" <jweekley@keywestcity.com>, "mrossi@keywestcity.com" <mrossi@keywestcity.com>, "bwardlow@keywestcity.com" <bwardlow@keywestcity.com>, "tyaniz@keywestcity.com" <tyaniz@keywestcity.com>, "tjohnston@keywestcity.com" <tjohnston@keywestcity.com>, "ccates@keywestcity.com" <ccates@keywestcity.com>, "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Dear Commissioner Lopez:

I am writing in support of proposals currently under consideration by the City Commission to improve controls on excessive noise in Key West. Excessive noise pollution in our city is one of the major detractors from the quality of life for Key West citizens. Reasonable and fair controls on the noise emitters in the city -- in particular the bars on Duval Street -- will benefit everyone and will not harm businesses in the city.

The music in most of the bars along Duval Street is excessively loud. Whether it is an open air bar or an indoor establishment (practically all of which keep their doors and windows open), the music emanating from those establishments is generally just too loud. Increased decibels does not equate to increased quality of the music or increased pleasure in listening to the music. When one is in a bar and cannot communicate with the person sitting next to them, the music is just too loud. And the problem is spreading. A seafood restaurant in the 700 block of Duval has now started adding live music to its outside bar, and that noise can be heard over a block away. Noise pollution is proliferating, and the Commission should take action to protect the interests of all Key West citizens -- not just those bar owners who think that excessively loud music will increase their profits.

Of course, there are other noise emitters that detract from our quality of life. The constant influx of unmuffled motorcycles into our city comes readily to mind. Aircraft and emergency vehicle noise are also intrusive, but a necessary part of life here. There are some things that cannot be easily controlled, but excessive noise from fixed, non-moving establishments can be controlled. If business owners would all dial down the volume a little bit, Key West residents would benefit and the tourists will still come and have fun. If certain churches in certain neighborhoods are also part of the problem, they should also be subject to noise ordinances. After all, they are just assemblies of local residents with like-minded religious interests, and that should not permit them any greater liberty in detracting from their neighbors' quality of life.

Thank you for consideration of my views on this important topic.

Best regards,

David Bentley
1075 Duval Street
Key West, FL

My name is Jane Lowe. My husband, Allen Lewis, and I own the Tropical Inn, in the 800-block of Duval Street. Our property, known for its calm ambience, extends back to Shavers Lane, which parallels Duval. Between the Main House on Duval and a cottage on Shavers Lane is our garden, where our guests seek quiet relaxation, but which often is disrupted by noise from the Bourbon Street Garden Bar, behind the Bourbon Street Pub, a half-block away.

Shavers Lane is block-long residential area zoned for medium-intensity commercial use on "our" side and medium-density residential on the other. It is occupied solely by single-family homes and transient-licensed tourist accommodations. The character of the neighborhood is one of a tranquility, where the residents are respectful and considerate of one another.

My Shavers Lane neighbors and another whose home is on the corner of Petronia and Duval, have a long-standing problem with Bourbon Street Pub's garden bar. It consistently disrupts the placid nature of our neighborhood. We are not objecting to noise projected onto Duval Street, but onto Petronia, the side street from which Shavers Lane is accessed. Amplified music and microphone from speakers mounted in the open-air garden area surrounding a pool behind the bar blast away, day and night, at levels that literally make our residences vibrate. Relaxing enjoyment of our properties, open windows to catch the breeze, and restful sleep are all but impossible.

The bar broadcasts amplified recorded music and live DJ over a microphone across the resonant surfaces of a pool, adjacent street pavement, and an gravel parking lot, surrounded on two sides by concrete buildings. The end result is an amphitheater effect, with Shavers Lane becoming a corridor for noise transmission and places our residential structures "front row, center" for receipt of the full range of frequencies, including invasive, thumping bass, that goes on some days from early afternoon until the wee hours of the morning.

The theory of diminishing impact as sound travels from its source does not hold, in this instance, as decibel readings taken on our property (well in excess of 100 feet from the sound source) and at the originating property line have actually returned matching results!

Repeated appeals to the owner for neighborly consideration have been met with reactions ranging from disdain to unfulfilled promises. However, in all fairness, I must note that the bar *manager* has reached out this week, actively investigated the problem, and expressed concern about resolving the issue. My neighbors and I fervently hope this is the beginning of a lasting solution.

I have attended a series of meetings of bar owners, musicians, and residents to discuss the proposed changes to the noise ordinance and been pleased to see that what began as a potentially hostile standoff, has actually been a show of

mutual respect and a genuine desire to reach common ground. In these meetings, the question of decibel readings has dominated the discussions.

Conditions affecting decibel readings have too many variables for a one-size-fits-all solution to be appropriate. Factors such as ambient sound levels can render the readings insupportable for court purposes. Noise generators within close proximity of one another may overlap, rendering exact determination of the offending source impossible. Even weather conditions can affect how sound behaves. So to set decibel readings (the "objective test") as conclusive proof in both the entertainment district and residential areas, while eliminating the "subjective test" (the human ear), is illogical and would effectively create a completely unenforceable noise ordinance.

The simple solution would be to require all noise to be confined to the property from which it emanates. Current technology is available to accomplish this. Furthermore, we already have legislation in place that allows amplified sound only from speakers placed a minimum of 15 feet from open windows or doors and directed to the interior of the space in which they are used. Enforce it.

There is a suggestion circulating that would actually increase the allowable decibel level. The ordinance is currently set to test at 75 dbA at the complaining site. This is described as that produced by a vacuum cleaner. This makes no sense to me at all. Normal conversational speech is rated as 60. Have you ever tried to talk normally – or sleep -- when a vacuum cleaner is being run in the room? This – and higher -- may be appropriate within our vibrant entertainment district, but certainly must be mitigated when it affects residential areas.

I believe I speak for my neighbors, as well as myself, in encouraging the Key West Mayor and City Commissioners to support changes to the existing noise ordinance as follows:

1. Change the location for measuring sound from the complaining property to the offending property's property line.
2. Empower the responding official to make a determination of a violation using his/her human ear rather than a decibel reader in residential areas. In mixed use areas, reduce the distance from 100' to 50' from the offending sound source for an enforcement officer to assess the sound and determine that the allowable decibel level of no more than 65db (a reduction from 75 dbA), to include both dbA and dbC ratings, is exceeded.
3. Impose time-of-day decibel limits to all artificially-created noise sources.
4. Eliminate the noise exemption for churches.
5. Modify the amount of time that an average reading above the allowed

threshold is permitted from 30 seconds to 10 seconds

6. Limit a noise offender to a maximum of one "warning" per year.

7. Reduce and make more difficult the number of "waivers".

8. Increase the penalties for repeat violations.

9. Most importantly, ENFORCE the ordinance!

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Lowe

Tropical Inn
812 Duval Street

Amber Stonik
8 Hunt's Lane
Key West, FL 33040

March 18, 2014

Key West City Commission
City Hall - Habana Plaza
3126 Flagler Ave
Key West, FL 33041

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to support the new noise law. Until a few months ago, I was a resident of an apartment complex on Duval Street. When moving into the apartment I was aware of potential noise of living on the "strip". However, the noise of some establishments is beyond reasonable. Residents in the area understand that some places will be loud and even give extra leeway for special events. All residents ask for is reasonable limits and to be able to enjoy their residences. When I lived at my former residence, my neighbors and I were forced many times to try to get through to the establishment that was disrupting our lives. Some times, they would listen, sometimes they would not and sometimes they would just not answer the phone. At the establishment, that was the worst for me and my neighbors blaring music would often start at 10:00am-11:00am on weekends. The noise was loud to the point the music went through a sound wall between the properties. Making any attempt to enjoy activities in the residential complex unpleasant. It was not uncommon for blaring music to continue until 3am and beyond. This is compounded by additional noise/ music from other establishments in the vicinity.

At times when the establishment would not listen to our requests, attempts were made periodically to get police officers to step in to make the request. I have been told that many businesses have police scanners to monitor this potential and turn the music down when officers are in the area. Only to start back up some time later. We, also, at times even had code inspectors step in with a noise meter. We were told that as currently written the noise reading had to be made beyond the central courtyard, beyond my whole apartment and in the parking lot behind the building to be in violation.

The downtown area is a mixture of businesses and residential dwellings. That is densely packed very close together. The limited number of long-term rentals in Key West and limited land area make downtown residential units a necessary part of Key West planning. The noise ordinance should take this into account. The present proposed ordinances are a start. Please take into account the needs of the residents of this City. Bar owners are not the only people living in Key West. People will not stop coming to Key West if bars turn the music down at reasonable times and make the level at other times not a nuisance to neighboring properties. Many residents work during the day. We need to be able to sleep and be to live our lives without constant excessive disruption/ nuisance from a few businesses. Please take into account the real estate owners who lose money because they had to decrease their rent/ or sales price to make up for the unpleasantness of living in this mixed-use area. Many of the Inns downtown area, also, affected. I have read reviews online recounting this fact and suggesting not to book at these businesses for that reason. Please support or strengthen the proposed noise laws.

Sincerely,

Amber Stonik

**Patricia Rogers
324 Margaret Street
305-395-8548**

17 March 2014

Key West City Commissioners

RE: Updated and improved NOISE ORDINANCE

Dear Commissioners,

Please vote for the new Noise Ordinance on the city commission agenda Tuesday 18 March 2014.

It has been 22 years since we have moved to Key West. There have been continuing and cumulative problems w/ loud noise and music drifting through our neighborhood. It does not get better, it gets louder w/the years. More bars and restaurants. More special events that don't even make an effort to try to be courteous to the surrounding residential neighborhoods. As the new businesses come in, they feel the need to be the loudest on the block to attract attention. At times the Key Bight sounds like the battle of the bands as they try to compete w/lower Duval.

To get anyone from the city to help, you have to get up in the middle of the night, get dressed, and track down which exact bar is making the loudest noise. I am tired of this and I know the neighborhood is tired. It never seems to improve.

Why do you want Key West to sound as noisy as Miami?

Please listen to your residents.

Please vote for the New Noise Ordinance.

Thank you, Patricia Rogers

The City Commission

City of Key West, FL

March 18, 2014

Dear Mr. Mayor and Commissioners:

This letter is written in support of the adoption of noise ordinances changes, sponsored by Commissioner Weekley and Mayor Cates, that are under consideration. My wife and I have lived in Old Town for the last 12 years, approximately one and one-half blocks from the Historic Seaport.

Each of the proposed changes is directed towards a reasonable compromise between the ability of bars, restaurants, and other entertainment establishments to continue to operate their businesses with music (and other noise creators) and the desire of residents to live (and sleep) peacefully within their homes/residences. All the proposed changes do is to enable the enforcement of a reasonable compromise related to noise between residents and neighboring businesses.

Much rhetoric has been proffered that such a compromise will adversely affect the earnings of employees in such businesses. No data or evidence supporting the rhetoric has been offered, quite simply because none exists – either from within the Keys, or from other resort/tourist-driven town economies throughout the United States or the world.

Within the last several years, some of our neighbors had issues with music from Turtle Kraals and Schooner Wharf. After face-to-face meetings, the Schooner Wharf music/noise issues were amicably resolved – the Worthington's showed responsible business ownership and sensitivity to their neighbors. Turtle Kraals ownership has changed so, for the time being, the issue no longer exists. To the best of my knowledge, neither suffered diminished business volume, or unhappy employees, by reducing the noise level.

I encourage each of you to vote for the proposed changes. It's the right thing to do.

Sincerely yours,

Christopher Kent

4 Gecko Lane

Key West, FL 33040

Contact all the commissioners asking them to support this ordinance

From: John Holder <jbhcpa@bellsouth.net>

Date: March 18, 2014 at 12:58:09 PM EDT

To: "csmith@keywestcity.com" <csmith@keywestcity.com>

Subject: Sound ordinance

Reply-To: John Holder <jbhcpa@bellsouth.net>

To the commission,

I support new noise ordinance. I live at 322 Margaret St, near the corner of Margaret and Eaton. I regularly hear sound coming from the waterfront area, usually Schooner Wharf. There are times I can hear it even with my windows closed. I moved into this neighborhood in 1979, which is long before many of the businesses with amplified sound. Why can't they respect the neighborhoods into which they move.

John B. Holder CPA

From: "Maureen Bramlage" <maureen.bramlage@comcast.net>
Date: March 18, 2014 at 1:45:25 PM EDT
To: "Cheryl Smith" <csmith@keywestcity.com>
Subject: **Please read into record tonight:**

Dear Mayor Cates and all Commissioners:

I am writing to BEG you to approve tonight as written the new, more than reasonable, noise ordinance. I'm afraid this issue has devolved to a most emotional one and the opponents can not be expected to be rational no matter what, so pass and enforce!

Thank you,
Maureen Bramlage

Please let this email serve my official notice that I support the proposed noise ordinance.

Quality of life for all residents should always supersede the greed of a few bar owners.

I believe all live music at the Bight has to stop by a certain time. This should be the case for Duval Street too, unless the building is not a open air bar.

I am a working homeowner in Bahama Village and at times I can hear music on Emma and Fort Streets coming from Duval. That is a few blocks away, not just one.

Please show continued respect for all residents and approve the ordinance and increase the penalties for habitual offenders, including but not limited to shutting the place down for a "cooling off period".

One final note, I would hope Commissioner Rossi will abstain from the vote as it is a direct conflict of interest for him.

Thank You.

J. Benner