

THE CITY OF KEY WEST

P.O. BOX 1409
KEY WEST, FL 33041-1409

525 Angela Street
(305) 809-3888
FAX 809-3886
jscholl@keywestcity.com

The Honorable Marco Rubio
B 40A Dirksen
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rubio:

On behalf of the Key West City Commission, I am writing to ask for your assistance in working with the City to create new jobs and generate economic development in our region, improve vital transportation and water infrastructure, and oppose burdensome federal regulations.

Below is a list of our Federal priorities. We would appreciate you working with our Washington consultants, Skip Bafalis and Jim Davenport at Alcalde & Fay, to explore funding assistance and legislative solutions to meet our objectives.

Florida Keys Water Quality Improvement Program

The City respectfully requests your assistance in obtaining federal support for the Florida Keys Water Quality Improvements (FKWQI) project. With congressional support, over \$43 million in federal funding has been appropriated for this project from Energy and Water Development appropriations legislation and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. As you know, this project is a joint endeavor and has the support of City of Marathon and the Key Largo Wastewater Treatment District.

Key West is an island community located within the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary, which includes a rare fragile coral reef ecosystem. Sheet flow runoff of stormwater has been a major portion of the City's stormwater discharge into near shore waters. Stormwater events discharge fecal coliform and other pollutants directly into Outstanding Florida Waters. Test data continues to link fecal and other contamination to stormwater.

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Surface Transportation Legislation

The City would appreciate your support of Federal Highway Administration programs in the fiscal year (FY) 2012 Transportation Appropriations Bill and the reauthorization of surface transportation legislation that would allocate federal gas-tax revenues to Florida's Department of Transportation and the State's high priority projects. This legislation is important to Key West's efforts to improve its roads, including the following projects:

- **Transit Facility**

Key West has partial funding for construction to build a new full scale transit facility which will replace the 36 year old building we currently utilize. However, due to limited available land parcels large enough to accommodate the new facility, delays in project start up due to a variety of situations beyond our control such as extreme hurricane activity during the 2004 through 2006 period, the construction estimates now exceed the original estimates and additional funding will be required to complete the much needed project.

The City is currently at 50% design on this project. We are involved in final needs assessment and review, engineering design, permitting and renewal of the NEPA Categorical Exclusion July 2006.

The total construction cost of this project is \$8.245 million and \$250,000 for capital equipment. \$3.8 million and \$3.445 million (\$7.245 million) has been awarded. The \$1.25 million shortfall for the Transit Facility and associated equipment is requested for funding.

Bus Apron Access Construction along US 1

The City also needs to construct bus apron access to as many as 44 (+/-) bus stops along US 1, which have been established as part of the JARC shuttle services in operation since August 2005, and located both west and east on

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the side or road shoulder of US 1, in the Florida Keys, between Key West and Marathon, Florida.

JARC service in the Lower Keys provide regional connectivity for all of the Florida Keys with transport service from MM 0 (Key West) to MM 50 (Marathon). Connections are available via Miami Dade Transit (MDT) bus service operated under WAGES or JARC funding between Florida City and Marathon. We are providing services to two (2) cities and one (1) County with the JARC bus service. However, due to ongoing deterioration of the road shoulder areas used to pull off and pick up/ drop off passengers along the route, both east and west on US Highway 1, the improvements have not been made by FDOT and the City.

It is the City's hope that FDOT/D6 will be a willing partner and be able to add these improvements into ongoing construction projects in the Keys. It is also the City's desire to work in coordination with the Overseas Heritage Trail Committee as trail improvements are put into action. Since this project has been delayed, buses continue to operate on deteriorated road shoulder areas (many of which are right turn lane accesses as well) and the City needs to immediately rectify the conditions and improve overall safety of operations for public transit in the Lower Keys service area.

The total cost of this project is \$4.6 million. \$1 million was awarded last year. The City request \$3.6 million this funding cycle.

- **Extension of Ferry Terminal Pier**

The Key West Bight Ferry Terminal Pier Extension Project will extend the existing 180' concrete pier approximately 100'. The project is included in the City's new bay bottom lease approved by the State and will allow the continued servicing of current and future domestic ferries as well as servicing of possible future international ferries.

The project includes the lengthening of the pier, the extension of utilities and fuel lines, and the extension of the passenger covering. The project will enable servicing of four vessels at the facility simultaneously. Currently only two vessels are able to fully berth at the pier, resulting in the need to shuffle vessels along the pier to load and unload passengers and provide water, pump out and fueling. The project includes pier extension \$415,000, fuel line

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Water Resources Development Act

The City would appreciate your support of the reauthorization of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), which authorizes projects allowing for federal assistance by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This legislation is critical to the City's efforts to widen the Key West Harbor channel to allow larger passenger cruise ships to call on Key West, which would increase tourism and have a positive impact on the local economy.

Recently, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers completed a reconnaissance report that identified a federal interest in the Key West Harbor channel deepening. The next step is to pursue a congressional authorization in the WRDA to certify the report allowing the Army Corps of Engineers to move forward on a feasibility study for the project.

Law Enforcement Technology – Wireless Network & Video Surveillance

The Police Department's objective is to cover the entire city with a wireless network and video surveillance within five years. The Police Department will purchase and install 25 cameras, software and servers for the first phase of the project. The cameras will be placed in various areas of the city to assist the Police Department with monitoring and responding to criminal activity. The cameras will be stationary but would record continuously. Recordings will be archived on police computer servers. Using the new system, the Police Department will be able cover more ground with the same amount of officers.

The estimated cost of the first phase of the project is approximately \$850,000. By the end of 2014, the City's goal is to have installed an additional 60 cameras that will feed into servers at the police station via a wireless network.

T-Pier Replacement

The City is currently in the process of replacing the main 464' cruise ship pier at Mallory Square. Attached to the pier is the main berthing structure know as the T-Pier. As part of Phase 2 of the Mallory Square Pier rehabilitation, the City will

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completely demolish the T-Pier and replace it with a structure that has an increased load capacity needed for today's larger cruise ships. Additionally, existing breasting dolphins will be replaced with larger capacity dolphins and additional mooring pilings.

The project includes initial site investigation \$35,000, geotechnical \$20,000, permitting \$15,000, coral relocation \$10,000 design \$150,000, T-Pier construction \$500,000, breasting dolphins \$450,000, and mooring pilings \$300,000.

Truman Waterfront Property Rehabilitation

The City received 33-acres of former military property under the Federal Government's BRAC process in November 2002. The City is seeking funding to begin the development of the property, known as the Truman Waterfront and integration of the property into the rest of the City.

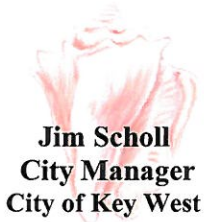
The development will include new roads, utilities, maintenance/restroom facilities, landscaping, and recreation areas. The total amount of funding to begin Phase 1 of the project or approximately 10-acres of the site is \$3,740,000. The project includes design \$340,000, roads \$900,000, recreation areas \$1,550,000, utilities \$450,000, landscaping \$200,000, and buildings \$300,000.

Thank you for your continued support of the City's efforts to obtain federal assistance for its projects. If you have any questions for us, please contact me or our Washington representatives, Skip Bafalis or Jim Davenport at 703-841-0626.

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The Honorable Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
2206 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen:

On behalf of the Key West City Commission, I am writing to ask for your assistance in working with the City to create new jobs and generate economic development in our region, improve vital transportation and water infrastructure, and oppose burdensome federal regulations.

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The Honorable Bill Nelson
716 Hart
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