



MEMORANDUM

Date: March 5, 2026

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

Via: Brian L. Barroso
City Manager

CC: Marcus Davila
Director of Community Services

From: Kelli Funkhouser
Special Events Manager

Subject: **[File ID: 26-5112] Recommendation to approve the “Rotary Club of Key West’s Annual July 4th Celebration” on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.**

Introduction

The City Manager’s Office requests the approval of the “Rotary Club of Key West, Florida Inc.’s Annual July 4th Celebration” on Saturday, July 4, 2026, starting at 5:00 p.m. and ending at 10:00 p.m. and fireworks on the Edward B. Knight Pier from 9:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Background

The City Manager’s Office has received an application from the Rotary Club of Key West, Florida Inc. for the annual July 4th Celebration. The fireworks display is being executed from the end of the Edward B. Knight Pier. A fundraiser will be held at Sonny McCoy Indigenous Park at the corner of White Street and Atlantic Boulevard where there will be food and beverage stations set up for sale. They are requesting the sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The applicant has agreed to abide by City Codes and Ordinances, including providing insurance.

Procurement

The City has historically sponsored the Rotary Club’s July 4th celebration, contributing \$5,000 towards the cost of the celebration up until the event held in 2016.

In 2017, the Rotary Club approached the City and requested that we begin to sponsor the cost of the entire Fireworks display in order to allow for the Club to provide more funding towards

scholarships for the City’s graduating high school seniors. Beginning in 2017, the City has provided the following amounts towards the July 4th fireworks celebration:

2017	\$36,750
2018	\$45,000
2019	\$38,500
2020	COVID
2021	\$39,150
2022	\$40,000
2023	\$49,089
2024	\$45,000

In Fiscal Year 2025, the City allocated \$45,000 to the fireworks display as well as approximately \$8,224.92 of in-kind services for Police and Fire personnel support, for a total of \$53,224.92.

In the City’s fiscal year 2026 budget, an allocation in the amount of \$45,000 has been authorized for this year’s fireworks presentation. Additionally, the City will provide in-kind services for Police and Fire personnel support related to the event.

Recommendation

The City Manager’s Office recommends the Mayor & City Commission approve the “Rotary Club of Key West, Florida Inc.’s Annual July 4th Celebration” on Saturday, July 4, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.