



## MEMORANDUM

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Date: May 7, 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: 26-5311 - Recommendation to Approve the “29th Annual Key West Half Marathon & RunFest” on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027**

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### **Introduction**

The City Manager's Office requests the approval of the "29th Annual Key West Half Marathon & RunFest" on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027. Events include a 5K and 10K beginning and ending at Higgs Beach, and an 8K and Half Marathon beginning and ending at Trumbo Road and Grinnell Street.

### **Background**

The City Manager's Office has received an application from Key West Half Marathon, LLC for the “29th Annual Half Marathon & RunFest” on Friday, January 15, 2027, through Sunday, January 17, 2027. These events are fundraisers for the Key West Sunrise Rotary Club that provides scholarships to Key West High School seniors. The event is expecting approximately four thousand participants from all over the world during the event.

On Friday, January 15, 2027, there will be a Runner’s Expo, Registration & Packet Pick-up for all events from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (set up to begin at 12:00 p.m.) at Half Shell Raw Bar, 231 Margaret Street.

On Saturday, January 16, 2027, set up will begin at 5:30 a.m. From 6:00 a.m. to 6:45 a.m. there will be a special race packet pick up for the 5K and 10K only. The 5K run begins at 7:00 a.m. and the 10K begins at 8:15 a.m. at Higgs Beach. The Runner’s Expo, Registration and Packet Pick up for the 8K and Half Marathon is from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Half Shell Raw Bar.

On Sunday, January 17, 2027, set up begins at 5:30 a.m. The Half Marathon starts at 7:00 a.m. and the 8K begins at 7:30 a.m. at Trumbo Road and Grinnell Street and the awards party follows from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Half Shell Raw Bar – 231 Margaret Street. The applicant has agreed to abide by City Codes and Ordinances, including providing insurance.

Due to having announcements at the start of the race and amplified noise, a noise exemption is requested. Notice of the City Commission's proposed action on a Noise Exemption was published in The Citizen and on KeysNews.com. Property owners within a 100-foot radius were mailed notice.

### **Procurement**

There will be no additional expenses to the city as all service costs (Police/Fire/Community Services) are covered by the applicant, based on the Special Event Matrix.

### **Recommendation**

The City Manager's Office recommends the Mayor & City Commission approve the "29th Annual Key West Half Marathon & RunFest" with registration taking place Friday, January 16, 2026, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at 231 Margaret Street, a 5K and 10K race on Saturday, January 16, 2027, starting at 7:00 a.m. and 8:15 a.m. from Higgs Beach and the Half Marathon and 8K on Sunday, January 17, 2027, starting at 7:00 a.m. and 7:30 a.m. from Trumbo Road and Grinnell Street.