



## CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA

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[www.ci.marathon.fl.us](http://www.ci.marathon.fl.us)

June 10, 2011

FDOT

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

The Old 7 Mile Bridge to Pigeon Key is one of the Florida Keys major tourist attractions.

This historic landmark drew over 100,000 visitors and tourists from all over the world last year, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is home to the only authentic museum documenting construction of Henry Flagler's Overseas Railroad. The bridge is also an important educational tool providing access to the historic, marine science, architectural and environmental learning opportunities on the island of Pigeon Key. Finally, the bridge represents one of the most popular recreational amenities in the State of Florida—tourists and locals alike flock to the 7 mile bridge for walking, running, bicycling, fishing and diving activities.

Failure to maintain this wonderful and historic asset would result in a direct blow to the local economy resulting in a significant loss of tourism as well as locally generated revenue and jobs.

The City Council of Marathon requests your support to preserve this vital treasure by providing funding to restore the historic 7 Mile Bridge from Marathon to Pigeon Key.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ginger Snead

cc: Governor Scott  
Marathon, Fl City Council  
Roger Hernstadt, City Manager