

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

The Key West Military Affairs Committee supports the efforts of the Vietnam Living Memorial Committee to create a memorial in Bayview Park to recognize the men and women from Key West who bravely served in the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War. This long overdue memorial will provide a place for those veterans to remember their fellow warriors who paid the ultimate price for their country.

Respectfully,

Jim Fitton  
President  
Key West Military Affairs Committee

# County of Monroe

## The Florida Keys



### BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Veterans Affairs Department  
Harvey Government Center  
1200 Truman Avenue #204  
Key West, FL 33040

305-295-5150 – Phone  
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27 February 2014

Honorable Mayor Craig Cates:

I am writing this letter in support of the establishment of the “Viet Nam Living Memorial” to recognize the Viet Nam veterans of Key West.

As the Director of the Monroe County Veterans Affairs, and a disabled veteran, I feel that this endeavor will provide recognition of, not only the Viet Nam veterans of Key West but also the deceased veterans of Key West AND Florida Keys!

Additionally, the committees plan to have a designated future space for veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars shows their total dedication to the local “heroes” of this city by providing this much deserved recognition for our veterans.

Your support of this project and our veterans is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

GEORGE R. BRETNALL, CTACS, USN, RET  
DIRECTOR



*City of Key West  
Art in Public Places Board*

*To the Key West City Commission:*

*Mayor Craig Cates*

*Commissioner Teri Johnston*

*Commissioner Clayton Lopez*

*Commissioner Mark Rossi*

*Commissioner Billy Wardlow*

*Commissioner Jimmy Weekly*

*Commissioner Tony Yanez*

*Key West City Manager Bogdan Vitas*

On the City Commission Agenda for March 4, is the item seeking approval for the proposed Vietnam Living Memorial Park, at Bayview Park.

The Key West Art in Public Places Board, on September 9, 2013, voted unanimously in support of the proposed project. We continue to monitor its progress and stand ready to assist where

I am more than glad to further express our support for the project. We feel this is an important recognition for our veterans, a fitting tribute to all who have served from our community and is being properly designed and planned. Congratulations are certainly in order for the leadership in this endeavor, garnering the needed support from a broad civic spectrum. The design by Bert Bender is a beautiful enhancement of Bayview Park, as well and we anticipate it will serve as a cornerstone at our most visible and used park on the island.

While this isn't perceived to be an "art project", per se, it is certainly within the province of the arts, for architecture is the preeminent art form as it shapes our world in every manner, and in the public domain it will cast a prominent place for the present and future generations.

I ask that you cast your support for this worthy and well-designed public project.

Michael Shields

Chairman

Key West Art in Public Places Board

1826 Fogarty Avenue

Key West

305-394-3804