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Monday January 10, 2022

Key West Planning Department Attn: Ms. Jordan Lachner

via email: jordan.lachner@cityofkeywest-fl.gov

RE: OBJECTION to application for alcohol sales at 1202, 1204, 1206 White Street

Dear Ms. Lachner.

Many thanks for your time on the telephone this morning. And thank your for providing me with a copy of the applicant's cover letter and application.

As I explained, my husband Bob Kruse and I live directly across the street from the subject property. We received the city's notice this weekend and naturally have some concerns about the adverse impact this special exception for alcohol sales would have on our home and neighborhood. After talking with you today, some of our concerns have been abated, however, several issues we discussed were not addressed in the application or the applicant's cover letter.

If on-premises consumption is prohibited and certain conditions are imposed to protect our property values and the peace and quality of life in this mixed-use neighborhood, we would be agreeable to sale of wine and beer at the butcher shop. We shop there, we want to help it succeed, and we appreciate the excellent meats and gourmet condiments it has brought to our neighborhood shopping choices.

Please accept this letter as our objection to this special exception application for the purpose of giving us an opportunity to discuss these issues directly with the applicant/owner under the "good neighbor policy" criteria and hopefully ironing out a few specifics, such as: interior space used for alcohol sales, exterior storage needs, estimated volume of truck deliveries, hours of operation, waste bin issues arising from increased cardboard case packaging, and the parking situation.

I would also like to schedule a meeting with you and City Planner Halloran at your earliest convenience to address the ongoing issue of the previous owner's non-compliance of the original minor development plan at this site, which the new owners have now inherited. According to (former) City Planner Donald Craig, the renovation of this property was deemed a minor development, as it involved a ground-up renovation (new roof, new facade, new windows), change of use, expansion and reconfiguration of 2500 sq feet of commercial space from three (3) to four (4) units, renovation of 2 upstairs residences, and installation of new and separate electrical and

bathroom systems for each of the four (4) new commercial units. The previous owner's minor development plan included (1) a landscape plan submitted to and approved by the planning department (copy of landscape plan attached); (2) HARC-required screening of the waste bins; (3) HARC-required common signage and exterior lighting and (4) redesign of the parking lot to create a designated handicap parking space and a parking pattern allowing vehicles entering the parking lot to exit without backing directly into oncoming traffic on White Street (copy of parking lot plan attached). A simple drive-by of the property today will show that NONE of these amenities or requirements were ever implemented. One commercial unit (1202 White) still does not have ADA access, and the parking lot remains an eyesore and safety issue (attached is a photo taken today of the parking lot).

I would hope that as part of the consideration of the proposed conditional use/special exception, a time-frame for completing these required improvements at this site could be discussed with the planning department and the current property owner.

If you need to reach me, I am (almost) always available by text or phone on my mobile (305-509-2145). If you would like to meet in person I will be glad to come to your office, or alternately, you and Ms. Halloran are most welcome to have a meeting outside on my front porch.

I look forward to working with you and thank you for your efforts on behalf of our city.

Best Regards, Linda Wheeler

cc: Kevin McChesney, Esq.







