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February 28,2022

Mayor Terri Johnston
Commissioners
Jimmy Weekley
Gregory Davila
Samuel Kaufman
Mary Lou Hoover
Billy Wardlow
Clayton Lopez

Re: Cruise Boats and Other Items

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Some days it seems you just can't catch a break.

I write you about the cruise boat efforts and related matters. The people of Key West voted; then the citizens of Florida spoke through their elected representatives and negated that vote. Now some want you to walk the plank even though there are sharks swimming all around in the water; i.e. regardless of what the state said, ignore it. It seems like the more you do for one group the bigger trouble you create for the city. It should be obvious that there is no solution here, only the endless expenditure of public funds.

The property owners need to get some closure here, as do their tenants, who commit to leases for five and ten years, or more and make commitments of money for years in the future. These citizens deserve some understanding of what the commercial environment will be and who, how many, and what type of customers they will have to provide for. I urge you to conclude these matters as promptly as possible.

In many locales the expenditure of public monies to favor the interests of one group of citizens as opposed to another group of citizens is illegal. As a sizable taxpayer I cringe when, as in this situation, public funds are used for pointless or useless endeavors. Major infrastructure, such as our roads, have collapsed with almost no hope that you will ever catch up with their repair. All citizens, full time, part time and tourists are entitled to roads that can be driven on without constantly swerving to avoid potholes and ruts.

There are so many things we can all agree upon that are needed. Please spend your time and resources in these areas.

Very truly yours,
Kenneth R Silverman