

Sarah Taggart

From: Cheri Smith
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 4:19 PM
To: Sarah Taggart
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: NO TO PIER B AGREEMENT

From: Jon Hynes <hynesjon@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 30, 2022 4:18 PM
To: Cheri Smith <csmith@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: NO TO PIER B AGREEMENT

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Please attach my letter to the commission to the agenda
Thank You

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Jon Hynes <hynesjon@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, Mar 30, 2022 at 3:15 PM
Subject: NO TO PIER B AGREEMENT
To: <tjohnston@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <jweekley@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <clopez@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <skaufman@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <mlhoover@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <gdavila@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>, <bwardlow@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>

Commissioners

I am writing to express my extreme disapproval with the proposed development agreement for Pier B that is on the agenda for the next city commission meeting.

The citizens followed all the rules of democracy to put the referendum on the ballot in November 2020. The vote was overwhelmingly in favor of Smaller Cleaner ships. The owner of Pier B bribed the governor with a \$1million dollar payment, and here we are now, with this new agreement that does exactly what the Pier B owner wants and does nothing that the citizens voted for.

I never paid much attention to what you do as a city commission. I see your photos in the paper giving out plaques, recognizing citizens achievement, recognizing birthdays and retirements and that's a big part of your job, but that's not why we voted for you. We need you to "read

the room”, to support the majority of voters who do not want more ships and bigger ships.

Here we have an issue where the rubber meets the road, and how you vote on this agreement will reverberate for decades to come. Key West sold its soul in the 80’s and 90’s. Pritam Singh and Jim Hendrick were the devil in sheep’s clothing.

Maybe it’s true that the affordable housing issue is already a lost cause, with no way to provide enough units of affordable housing for workers, and we can blame that on inaction by previous city commissions. Maybe a portion of the Island will be under water in 20 years due to sea level change. I don’t think you can do anything to solve those two issues, it is impossible to reverse climate change and the ROGO issue and the million-dollar real estate markets have put the nail in the coffin of affordable housing, those units are never coming back. But on this cruise ship issue you can take a stand, you can stop this foolish Pier B agreement and support the vote of the citizens.

How will this commission be remembered in 10 or 20 years? Will you be the commission that stood with the voters, or will you give Pier B away to big money for eternity.

Jon Hynes