

[www.facebook.com/friendsofcarfreekeywest](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofcarfreekeywest)

July 3, 2020

Dear (Candidate's Name):

[Friends of Car-Free Key West](#) is a popular Facebook page with 2,300+ Followers, most of whom are locals. The mission of the page is to support policies, services and facilities that make it easier and safer to get around Key West by walking, bicycling and transit and to remake some streets for people instead of cars. We are contacting you because we plan on sharing with our Followers what candidates for Mayor and City Commission think about these issues and respectfully ask for a little of your time to fill out our questionnaire by July 15.

*Friends of Car-Free Key West* is among the more popular groups in terms of online daily discussions and engagement of locals, which indicates these issues are important to voters. An example of the group's reach was during the Commission's consideration in May of instituting a fare for visitors on the then free Duval Loop. Due to an advertising campaign by *Friends*, a record 28 eComments were received by the Commission on the issue. We plan on putting on an even more vigorous campaign to share with Key West voters how the candidates are positioned on these issues. The campaign will consist of a number of blog posts and many boosted Facebook posts.

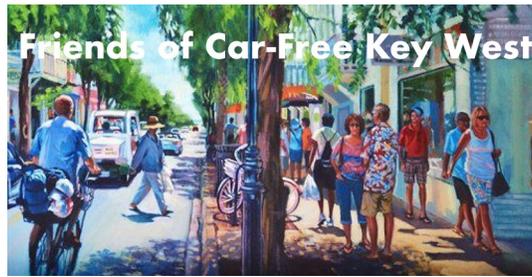
The questions are contained in this document on the following two pages. Please use this Word document to provide your responses and then send it back. If you would prefer to provide your answers in interview format we'll be happy to set up a time for a phone interview. We will share the answers you provide with our community by late July. Please return your response by July 15. We will reprint your full responses/explanations as long as you follow our simple guidelines. You may contact Chris with any questions at [chrishamilton170@gmail.com](mailto:chrishamilton170@gmail.com) or 305-340-9942 or Roger at [rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net](mailto:rogermcveigh@bellsouth.net) or 305-394-7555.

Thank you in advance for your help as we endeavor to make our little island easier and safer to get around by bike, walk and transit.

Sincerely,

Chris Hamilton  
1010 Grinnell Street, Apt 1

Roger McVeigh  
627 Simonton Street



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## Candidate's Questionnaire

### Duval Street and Downtown

1. Do you favor funding the Duval Street Revitalization Study in the fiscal year 2021 budget? Will you fund the recommended improvements in the next year? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

*RESPONSE:* If there is enough money in the budget and the community supports the study, yes. If the community is supportive of the recommended improvements, I will fund the improvements.

2. What are your ideas for interim projects (before the Study makes recommendations) on Duval or Downtown that would make it more pedestrian friendly and people oriented? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

*RESPONSE:* I would have to hear what ideas are proposed and then query the community and people that would benefit and be affected to be sure that it has the support and feasibility necessary to complete.

3. Do you think removing all parking on Duval Street would enhance the downtown environment? Would you support an ordinance that would allow parklets (benches or tables and chairs on a platform) to replace parking downtown? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

*RESPONSE:* I have not seen the plan for removing or the community's response to removing parking on Duval. I would be interested to see how they feel and then I could support it if the community does. Would love to see then plan for park benches and how it could be safely implemented with community support.

### Duval Loop and Public Transit

4. Do you favor returning to a free Duval Loop for visitors to our island? Do you favor fare free rides on other City routes for everyone? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

*RESPONSE:* I would favor returning to a free Duval loop for the community and residents. I am not sure what the city could afford as far as providing the loop and other routes for free. If there is a sustainable plan, I would be happy to review it.

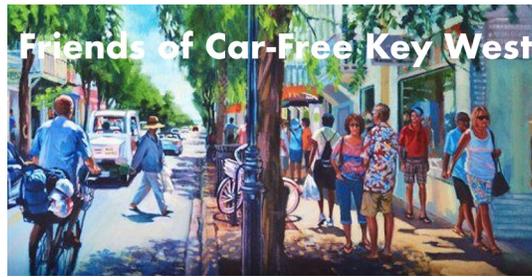
5. Do you believe a third-party consulting firm should be retained to assist the City with branding and marketing the Duval Loop, Key West Transit and Lower Keys Shuttle programs? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

*RESPONSE:* I am not sure that we can afford a 3rd party firm to assist with marketing the shuttle programs right now but would support any feasible, sustainable plan that had community support

6. Do you believe compensation of bus drivers should be increased to attract and retain a stable base of drivers? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

*RESPONSE:* I support compensation and benefits (including pensions that are already in place) for all city employees that coincides with the cost of living and is sustainable so that we can retain great employees in every part of the city.

### Bicycle and Pedestrian



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7. Please name a few bicycle and/or pedestrian projects (they can be from the Bike/Ped Plan) you would vote to fund in your term. *Answer limited to 100 words.*

RESPONSE:

8. How often do you ride a bicycle and for what purposes? How do you propose we get more people to bike and walk in Key West? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

I ride a bicycle primarily for exercise. More often since the onset of Covid-19

RESPONSE:

9. Do you believe increased traffic enforcement (speeding) will improve public safety for pedestrians and people on bicycles? Or do you believe that infrastructure improvements will improve safety? Or Education? Perhaps nothing more is needed or perhaps all 3? Explain how public safety should be accomplished. *Answer limited to 100 words.*

I believe that enforcement as a whole on many different issues will improve public safety in many different and necessary ways

RESPONSE:

## Parking Strategies

10. Do you favor raising the price on Residential Parking Permits to the \$35 proposed in the FY21 budget? And even more for 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> vehicles? Do you favor going incrementally higher in future years? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

RESPONSE: I am not in favor of raising any fees to any of our residents right now but certainly would consider it if that became the only option for maintaining the program and if it has community support. If the fee has to be raised, it cannot be made so that it is out of reach to the residents that need it the most

11. Do you favor instituting Residential Permit Parking by Zone so that the permit allows one to park near one's own home? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

RESPONSE: I believe that this would be difficult to enact and enforce but look forward to reviewing any plan that the affected parties could come up that would work.

12. Should the City hire more parking enforcement officers since it has been demonstrated that these positions are self-funding and that residents desire increased enforcement efforts. *Answer limited to 100 words.*

RESPONSE: I think that we should concentrate on enforcing the rules that we have now. I would defer to the experts to tell us if there is a need for more officers and how to pay for it.

## GENERAL/CATCH ALL

What do you think of when you think of Car-Free Key West and its mission and how do you propose to make it easier and safer for more people to bike, walk, take the bus and use streets and why do you think this is important? *Limit 300 words.*

RESPONSE: I believe that Key West is already on track becoming safer to bike, walk and bus and would again defer to the experts to provide us with a plan to improve anything that is not operating at the highest level.