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July 3, 2020

Dear Kimball Ingram

[*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 or 305-340-9942 or Roger at 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: I think a revitalized Duval street is both important to the continued viability of Key West but also for the comfort and enjoyment of those who live near, work on and visit Duval Street. I'm excited to see what the recommendations are for Duval Street and would expect to support the changes proposed.

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 think one of the easiest changes would be to make Duval Street 1 way and 1 lane. By decreasing the traffic AND increasing the space on either side of the travel lane, the possibility to create outdoor seating, dining, pocket parks etc. would be increased dramatically. The same could be done with the cross streets allowing wider sidewalks or bike only lanes and a traffic control system.

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 think this goes to my answer on question 2. The Duval corridor should be far more pedestrian and cycle friendly. The addition of bike lanes, parklets and bringing shops outdoors can only enhance the downtown experience. In addition, I would want to revisit the guidelines that make it difficult for businesses to enhance the areas around their shop fronts. That included additional seating, flowers and plants and anything that Code currently sites people for if they have not paid for the right to have seating outside their business.

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 think the Duval Loop was popular with visitors and residents alike. I would like to expand the concept to create a parking solution from midtown to help reduce the number of vehicles coming into downtown. Creating a traffic plan that help reduce the need to drive to Duval would allow greater space to be used for bikes and pedestrians.

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'm not sure that would be necessary; but I certainly believe that selling the idea of the change is important. Whether there is a 3rd party or the marketing is internal, I agree that a plan to win over the sceptics



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would be important.

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: Paying more is always an incentive to attract and retain talent. That being said, I need to better understand the pay scale of all city staff. Increasing a bus driver's salary would likely have a knock on affect. This isn't a problem in principal but would need to be part of a thorough HR review of wages.

Bicycle and Pedestrian

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: With the budget effects from Covid funding of many projects will be difficult. That being said, I would support the development of the pedestrian network and the short term network for cycling. Aspects of the vision network should be implemented as road works take place. As Key West begins to focus on the infrastructure, there is no reason many of the ideas within the vision plan couldn't be incorporated.

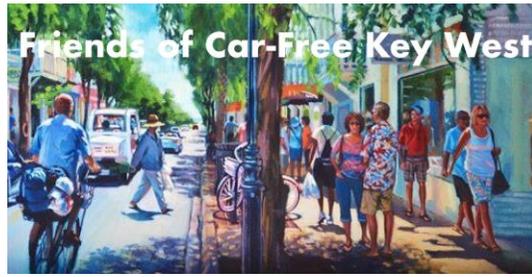
8. How often do you ride a bicycle and for what purposes? How do you propose we get more people to bike and walk in Key West? *Answer limited to 100 words.*

RESPONSE: I ride a bicycle with my wife and daughter (2yrs) on the weekends from new town to Duval st. In addition, I have participated in the Smart Ride the past two years and train for that by biking up to Baby's Coffee and beyond on a regular basis. My wife rides 10 miles per day with our daughter daily.

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.*

RESPONSE: I believe infrastructure and education are necessary. By designing roads with safe areas for bicycles, and ensuring adequate space for both cars and bikes, we could reduce tension between drivers and cyclists while also creating a bike culture in town. Educating locals on the rights of bicyclists is important but the sheer volume of tourists means we would always be trying to educate new people. This is labor intensive and costly without necessarily being effective. Creating a city where there are dedicated bike and pedestrian lanes with some protection would help encourage people onto their bikes or on foot.

Parking Strategies



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

RESPONSE: I don't have an issue with a permit system. I actually think permits should be by zone with a program for those key workers who need to drive into Key West, to be able to park and take a shuttle as previously discussed, at a reasonable price.

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: Yes. As above

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: In this instance, I don't support this. I think we could revamp our parking systems through permits, education, and shuttle programs. I'm an advocate of a carrot and stick approach. Key West has used a lot of stick and I think we could concentrate on the carrot in the years to come. If we provide reasonable alternative to having to drive and park downtown, I believe people would choose them. We have plenty of enforcement, I personally don't think it is managed all that well. I would advocate improving what we have before adding more.

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 think as a small island, getting people out of cars is always a noble undertaking. By incorporating independent lanes, improved signage and some bike boulevards the ease of use for pedestrians and cyclists would be enhanced. Tourists already would like to cycle to see the town, by increasing the opportunity for our visitors to get out of cars, we would be improving the destination. Especially in the areas of high pedestrian and cycle crashes, improvements to roadways and more exclusive lanes would protect our residents and visitors. The mission of decreasing pollution and enhancing the road experience for our residents and guests should absolutely be supported.