

MONROE COUNTY RESPONSE

From: Schemper-Emily
Sent: Tuesday, March 8, 2022 8:28 PM
To: chrishamilton170@gmail.comf
Cc: Livengood-Kristen <Livengood-Kristen@MonroeCounty-Fl.gov>; Gastesi-Roman <Gastesi-Roman@MonroeCounty-FL.Gov>; Cioffari-Cheryl <Cioffari-Cheryl@MonroeCounty-FL.gov>
Subject: FW: EMILY: Wreckers Cay/Garden View Traffic Mitigation Question BY TUESDAY PLEASE

Chris,
See responses below in red.

Emily Schemper, AICP, CFM
Senior Director of Planning & Environmental Resources
Monroe County | Planning & Environmental Resources Department
2798 Overseas Highway, Suite 400, Marathon, FL 33050
305.453.8772

On Mar 5, 2022, at 3:04 PM, Christopher Hamilton <chrishamilton170@gmail.com> wrote:

CAUTION

Hi Emily -

Thanks so much for the thorough response. I really appreciate your effort. I continue to be impressed by the folks I encounter at the County. Here's a story we wrote yesterday about your counterparts in the Resiliency Office <https://carfreecities.com/2022/03/04/streets-for-people-we-can-adapt-and-save-the-florida-keys-from-rising-seas/> and a link to the column for your information <https://carfreecities.com/konk/>

I had a couple follow-up questions, please, that I **hope you can respond to by COB Tuesday, March 8** for a story we are developing on more people more traffic crossing Cow Key Bridge is scheduled for Friday please.

1. The 100-unit Perry and 175-unit Ocean's Edge on Stock Island each have a seven day a week, 9 am to 11 pm hourly shuttle for their guests to the Seaport in Key West. Was something similar required of the recently approved 148-unit Key West Yacht Club on Maloney?

The conditional use permit for the 148 unit Key West Yacht Club proposal is currently under review and has not been approved (File 2021-195). The file is available here: [2021-195-FILE---website \(civicplus.com\)](#) (The Traffic Study begins on PDF Page 123).

2. Was a shuttle required for the 280-unit Wreckers Cay? Or a contribution to KW Transit?

No, this was not required. However, bus shelters at the existing two bus stops on Maloney Avenue near the 2nd Street intersection and the installation of bike lanes was required.

3. KW Transit Service via their South Line to Wreckers Cay currently runs every 80-95 minutes weekdays. The Lower Keys Shuttle runs every 95-120 minutes. Does the County have plans to help KW Transit increase the frequency to encourage ridership?

The County is party to an interlocal agreement with Key West, Marathon, and FDOT regarding cost sharing for bus services in the Lower Keys. Key West Transit would have more information, but one obstacle they have mentioned in the last several years is availability of bus drivers for these routes. They would have more information on the details of the service and what it would take to increase service.

4. I ride both sides of U.S. 1 to Stock Island a couple a times a week on my bike from Key West. The commercial side can often be problematic. Are there any County plans to upgrade the trails/sidewalks to encourage more bicycle travel between Key West and Stock Island?

BOCC Resolution 075-2022 approved on February 16, 2022 prioritized traffic flow improvement projects from the full list of potential solution projects within the approved U.S. 1 Transportation Master Plan. Below is an excerpt from the resolution that has two potential projects that are related to pedestrian and bicycle facilities.

Wed, Feb 23,
11:00 AM

Schemper-Emily <Schemper-Emily@monroecounty-fl.gov>

to Gastesi-Roman, Livengood-Kristen, Cioffari-Cheryl, Sclafani-Janene, Matthews-Kimberly, me, Pa

Hi Chris,

Please see the County's response below. We included some items in Key West that have crossover with the County, but Patti may have more to say from the City.

Monroe County understands the pressing issue of traffic congestion and safety and has completed a County Transportation Master Plan (TMP) which was a cooperative effort that included input from stakeholders, municipalities, and the public. The TMP contained a list of projects recently approved by the BOCC for recommendation to FDOT, these projects address traffic congestion and safety, and promote multimodal transportation. The recommended list included projects specific to Stock Island and Key West which address congestion and encourage multimodal transportation.

The City of Key West has initiated the Final Mile program which includes installation of bicycle fix-it stations, bike racks, and improvements to bus shelters. Through an interlocal Agreement between Key West and the County, fix-it stations and shelter improvements will be installed throughout the Keys which include sites in Key West and Stock Island. The City of Key West also continually works to improve the Lower Keys Shuttle which provides bus service between Stock Island and Key West.

In addition to the efforts stated above, multimodal transportation is encouraged through the Stock Island & Key Haven CommuniKeys Plan. Goal nine of the plan is to “Provide for all residents of the planning area a safe, efficient and viable transportation system for the movement of people and goods”. There are several strategies listed to assist in achieving this goal which encourage proposed development projects in Stock Island and Key Haven to provide and/or improve bus shelters, bicycle racks and lanes, and sidewalks.

TMP project recommendations for Key west and Stock Island:

Key West - Conduct a review to improve pedestrian and bicycle features at the US1/Roosevelt Boulevard intersection.

Key West - Conduct a feasibility study to widen sidewalks on the southside of North Roosevelt Blvd.

Stock Island - Conduct a planning study to evaluate the feasibility of a Park-n-Ride Hub, fixed route circulator, micro transit, bike sharing, and/or scooter-sharing services to provide first/last mile connections to complement public transit.

Stock Island - Modify signal timing (offsets) along US 1 between Roosevelt Boulevard and MacDonald Avenue to help improve traffic flow.

Fixit stations & Bus stop amenities in Key West and Stock Island

Public Area Fix-it Stations

- Site 05) Harvey Government Center
- Site 64) Gato Building

Bus Stop Amenities: All include a hailing light and bus map attached to existing signage pole, with a trash can and/or recycling bin.

- Site 23) 5th Street & 5th Avenue Eastbound
- Site 24) 5th Street & 5th Avenue Westbound
- Site 25) Maloney Avenue and MacDonald Avenue
- Site 26) Maloney Avenue and 1st Street
- Site 22) Cross Street and 5th Avenue - Also includes two (2) bike racks

Stock Island – Key Haven CommuniKeys Plan

Strategy 9.2

Improve amenities for transit users.

Action Item 9.2.2: Encourage developers to provide bus shelters.

Action Item 9.2.3: Post interchangeable schedule at bus stops which include drop off and pick up times.

Strategy 9.3

Encourage and increase bus ridership.

Action Item 9.3.2: Work with Key West Business Owners to provide incentives (transit pass) for employees that utilize mass transit.

Strategy 9.4

Promote bicycle and pedestrian friendly design.

Action Item 9.4.1: Require all new development and redevelopment along MacDonald, Maloney, Fourth and Fifth Avenues to provide public sidewalks.

Action Item 9.4.2: Create a continuous sidewalk network.

Action Item 9.4.3: Require the provision of bicycle facilities and parking in all new development and redevelopment.

Wrecker’s Cay

In order to encourage alternative modes of transportation, the Wrecker’s Cay development includes:

1. Designated bicycle lanes along 2nd Street and Laurel Avenue,
2. On-site scooter parking spaces,
3. On-site bicycle racks, and
4. Bus shelters at the existing two bus stops on Maloney Avenue near the 2nd Street intersection.

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CITY OF KEY WEST RESPONSE

Rod Delostrinos

Feb 7, 2022,
3:28 PM

to Rogelio, me

Good Afternoon Chris,

4. The 280-unit Wreckers Cay workforce housing on Stock Island is coming along nicely and will start to be occupied this summer. The 104-unit affordable housing on College Road will follow soon after. What plans does Key West Transit have to service these new communities?

Existing routes already service these areas.

Very Respectfully,

Rod Delostrinos
Director of Transportation

Feb 8, 2022,
4:40 PM

Christopher Hamilton <chrishamilton170@gmail.com>
to Rod, Rogelio

Hi Rod -

Thanks again for answering our questions. The response requires a few follow up questions and clarifications please so that we can get our explanations correct with our readers. The follow ups are:

4. Yes, existing North and South Line routes serve the Garden View Apartments and Wreckers Cay respectively. There's an opportunity with the addition of so many new people all at once to change habits and get people out of cars. 80-95 minute weekday service doesn't on its face seem like it would entice any choice riders to use the bus for work and play to go downtown, so I was throwing you a softball to ascertain how you'll get these people to choose transit. Anything else you'd like to add?

I'm wondering if any of you would like to say any more?

Thanks,
Chris

NOTHING MORE WAS RECEIVED FROM THE CITY OF KEY WEST

