RESOLUTION 17-06-37

A RESOLUTION OF THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, REQUESTING THAT THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY TO IDENTIFY THE DISTINCT TRANSPORTATION USER GROUPS UTILIZING US 1 WITHIN MONROE COUNTY; AND SPECIFICALLY ADDRESSING CONDITIONS ON PLANTATION KEY PROVIDING FOR TRANSMITTAL; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the Florida Keys, within Monroe County, are a chain of islands connected by 112 miles of US Highway 1 (US 1), extending from Key Largo to Key West, representing the most southerly point of the continental United States; and

WHEREAS, Monroe County (the “County”) and its municipalities, including Islamorada, Village of Islands (“Islamorada” or the “Village”), have adopted policies and regulations in its Comprehensive Plans and Land Development Regulations to maintain public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Florida Keys and to strengthen our local government capability of managing land use and development; and

WHEREAS, the County and its municipalities, including Islamorada, are totally dependent on US 1 for intra-community movement; and

WHEREAS, US 1 serves as the main traffic conduit for movement of residents, visitors and the workforce; and

WHEREAS, automobile traffic constitutes the majority of traffic on US 1; and

WHEREAS, while ideas to reduce traffic on US 1 have been proposed in the past, there has been no comprehensive study performed that identifies the distinct transportation user groups within Monroe County and evaluates potential solutions to alleviate their differing needs; and

WHEREAS, significant traffic delays have been increasing annually and the delays are seriously compromising the quality of both residents’ lives and the tourist experience; and

WHEREAS, the delays are reaching the point at which the workforce, including the tourism industry workers, will be seriously affected; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council of Islamorada, Village of Islands (the “Village Council”) has a substantial concern about the traffic on Plantation Key from approximately Mile Marker 90 to Mile Marker 86 where two (2) public schools, a Florida Department of Transportation (“FDOT”) weigh station directly across from the entrance to a large subdivision and the only remaining drawbridge in the Florida Keys all exist within a four-mile span of US 1; and
WHEREAS, protecting the public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the Florida Keys and maintaining the level of service of US 1 is a priority to the Village and its residents; and

WHEREAS, the Village Council finds that a comprehensive study by FDOT to identify the distinct transportation user groups utilizing US 1 within Monroe County and an evaluation of potential solutions to alleviate their differing needs, is in the best interest of the Village.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Recitals. The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by this reference.

Section 2. Request for Traffic Study by the Florida Department of Transportation.

The Village Council of Islamorada, Village of Islands hereby requests that the Florida Department of Transportation undertake the following areas of traffic study:

1. Identify and quantify the user groups on U.S. 1, including their distribution in different parts of the County;

2. Determine the proportion of traffic/trips that are long-haul transportation of visitors from outside of Monroe County, internal visitor circulation, worker commuters and commercial traffic, both from outside of the County and within, and normal resident circulation;

3. Utilize transportation user group information to evaluate potential transportation alternative solutions to address each group’s needs.

Section 3. Request for Special Attention to Plantation Key Conditions. The Village Council further requests that FDOT pay special attention to the evaluation of conditions and potential transportation solutions for Plantation Key wherein two (2) public schools, a FDOT weigh station directly across from the entrance to a large subdivision and the only remaining drawbridge in the Florida Keys all exist within a four-mile span of US 1.

Section 4. Transmittal. The Village Clerk is directed to mail a copy of this resolution to:

Ms. Rachel Cone, Secretary
Florida Department of Transportation
605 Suwannee Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0450

Mr. Jim Wolfe, Secretary, District 6
Florida Department of Transportation
1000 N.W. 111 Avenue
Miami, FL 33172

Section 5. Effective Date. This resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.
Motion to adopt by Councilwoman Deb Gillis, seconded by Vice Mayor Chris Sante.

FINAL VOTE AT ADOPTION

VILLAGE COUNCIL OF ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS

Mayor Jim Mooney YES
Vice Mayor Chris Sante YES
Councilman Mike Forster YES
Councilwoman Deb Gillis YES
Councilwoman Cheryl Meads YES

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 1ST DAY OF JUNE, 2017.

ATTEST:

JIM MOONEY, MAYOR

KELLY TOOTH, VILLAGE CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
FOR THE USE AND BENEFIT OF
ISLAMORADA, VILLAGE OF ISLANDS ONLY

ROGET V. BRYAN, VILLAGE ATTORNEY