

RESOLUTION NO. 01-03-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, OPPOSING THE PROPOSED MOVE OF THE MARATHON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND VISITOR CENTER TO THE FLORIDA KEYS MARATHON AIRPORT AND ENDORSING EFFORTS TO KEEP THE VISITOR CENTER AT ITS CURRENT LOCATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the economy of the City of Marathon is inextricably linked to tourism; and

WHEREAS, the Marathon Chamber of Commerce's Visitor Center, in its present location, attracts upwards of 60,000 visitors on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, Marathon residents and businesses benefit directly from Visitor Center tourist referrals; and

WHEREAS, it would be a significant loss to Marathon's tourist industry and economy if the Visitor Center lost its current location and moved to the Florida Keys Marathon Airport.

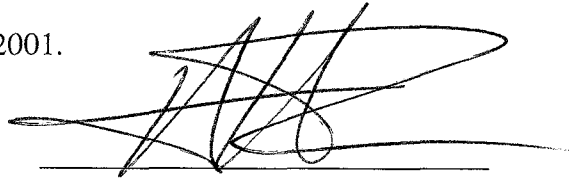
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MARATHON, FLORIDA, AS FOLLOWS:

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

Section 2. Statement of the City Council's Position. The Marathon City Council states their opposition to the proposed move of the Marathon Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center to the Florida Keys Marathon Airport, and endorses efforts of the Chamber and local residents to keep the Visitor Center in its current location at 12222 Overseas Highway.


Section 3. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Marathon, Monroe
County, Florida, this 13th day of MARCH, 2001.

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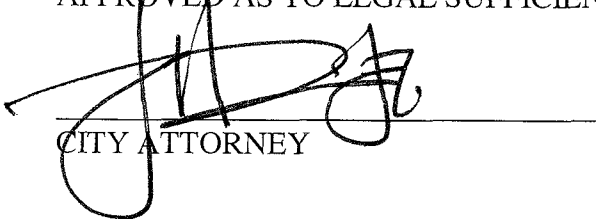
ROBERT MILLER, MAYOR

ATTEST:

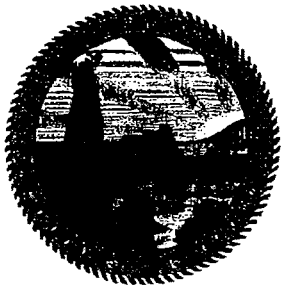
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Katherine V. Seelham", written in a cursive style.

CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and strokes, written over a horizontal line.

CITY ATTORNEY



Robert K. Miller
Mayor

John Bartus
Vice Mayor

Frank Greenman
Councilman

Jon Johnson
Councilman

Randy Mearns
Councilman

Craig Wrathell,
Moyer & Associates
City Manager

Weiss Scrota Helfman
Pastoriza & Guedes, P.A.
City Attorneys

March 6, 2001

Marathon Chamber of Commerce
12222 Overseas Hwy.
Marathon, FL 33050
ATTN: Ray Kitchener, Executive Director; Chamber Board of Directors

RE: Proposed move of Chamber and Visitor Center to Marathon Airport

Dear Mr. Kitchener and Chamber Board Members:

There has been a great deal of concern in the community about the Marathon Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center and the proposed move to the Florida Keys Marathon Airport. Many local residents, including numerous Chamber members, have approached me with their concerns about this controversial move. They feel that this move will not be in the best interests of the City and our local tourism-based economy — concerns I happen to share.

At the City's February 26, 2001 Tourism & Economy Committee meeting, the members voted unanimously to oppose the Chamber's proposed move to the Marathon Airport. Because of this vote, I am bringing this issue up at our next Marathon City Council meeting, Tuesday, March 13, 2001, 6:30 PM, at the Marathon Government Center. I will introduce a resolution of opposition to the relocation of the Visitor Center at the Airport.

Before we make our decision on this issue, I feel it is urgent and necessary that we hear from the Chamber Board and membership about possible reasons supporting the move, and possibly explore alternate solutions to this problem.

It is when we work together that we can achieve the best possible outcomes to any of our problems. I have extended this invitation in the past, and I will extend it once again: we will be happy to talk with you anytime about how the City might work with the Chamber on this issue. I look forward to seeing you at our meeting on the 13th.

Sincerely,

John Bartus, Vice Mayor
City of Marathon

cc: Craig Wrathell; Marathon City Council