

M E M O R A N D U M

Date: September 02, 2014

TO: Town Commission
FROM: Dave Bullock, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Request for Commission Support for Letter to City of Sarasota
Commission

Commissioner Gans requested a letter to City of Sarasota Commission be prepared for the Mayor's signature and presented at the September 8, 2014 Regular Meeting for Commission consideration.

The letter expresses support for the City's efforts to regulate events in St Armand's during season, seeks assistance with strategies to minimize traffic congestion from the islands to US 41, and requests a joint meeting between the City of Sarasota Commission, Florida Department of Transportation, and Longboat Key Town Commission.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.



TOWN OF LONGBOAT KEY

Incorporated November 14, 1955

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September 8, 2014

Mayor Willie Charles Shaw
City of Sarasota Commission
Sarasota City Hall
1565 1st Street
Sarasota, FL 34236

Dear Mayor Shaw,

The Town of Longboat Key Commission would like to express our appreciation and support for the City of Sarasota's efforts to define and codify a moratorium on events at St. Armand's Circle from February through April. Your recognition that activities at St Armand's have a ripple effect throughout the surrounding communities is sincerely appreciated.

The City's policies and actions that reduce traffic and parking problems attendant to events during high season are critical to movement of people and to life safety for Longboat Key. The roads through St. Armand's are the only southern route for traffic to and from Longboat Key. The Town Commission requests that the City continue to resist efforts to ease the restrictions that were put in place this past season.

On a related issue, the Longboat Key Town Commission urges the City of Sarasota to work to ease the seasonal congestion and lengthy backups that occur in the late afternoons at Sunset and Gulfstream as well as the intersection of US 41 and Gulfstream. These backups are not only time consuming, but could also present life safety issues. At the very least they do not provide a positive experience for visitors to Longboat Key, Lido Key, or St. Armand's.

The Town of Longboat Key Commission would appreciate a meeting between the affected communities, including the City of Sarasota, and FDOT to discuss these issues before the beginning of the tourist season. As partners, we hope to identify strategies to address common concerns and issues.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

My best regard,

James L Brown,
Mayor



End of Agenda Item