

**Teri Johnston
Mayor**



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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12/10/19

To: Val Marmillion, managing director, America's WETLAND Foundation
From: Teri Johnston, Mayor, City of Key West
Re: Sea Safe Community Certification

Having recently completed our Southeast Florida Climate Compact Summit here in Key West, we are fresh with information about the need for adapting to sea level rise. We enjoy a vibrant economy and wish to take advantage of all means available to our community to meet sea level rise projections from the Compact by addressing our challenges with the best science, innovation, and promising practices for equity, environment and our economy. To this end, we understand that one interesting opportunity is designed to recognize local adaptation efforts on behalf of our residents who live here and the broader public who invest and visit our island. I feel that Key West is making important strides to adapt to the future and we hope that the America's WETLAND Foundation might be able to include our community in the *Sea Safe Community Certification* demonstration projects that will help inform the ongoing dialogue about how America's coastal communities rise along with the tide to reach a future in which we can all live and prosper.

Thank you for the work you are doing to move this project along expeditiously, as the pressing issues we face require our immediate attention, along with the recognition of what we are and will be doing to adapt to the new normal of rising seas.

With warmest regards,

Teri Johnston
Mayor

Cc: G. Veliz, City Manager

Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.