

A RESOLUTION OF THE FKNMS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
Dec. 10, 2019

**Motion Passed Unanimously**

Whereas, the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary Act of 1990 established both the Sanctuary and its Advisory Council, and

Whereas, the Secretary of Commerce appoints members of the Advisory Council including (1) Sanctuary managers, (2) members of other government agencies with overlapping management responsibilities for the Florida Keys marine environment, and (3) representatives of local industries, commercial users, conservation groups, the marine scientific and educational community, recreational user groups, or the general public, and

Whereas, the Sanctuary is currently undergoing a regulatory review process and has released its “Restoration Blueprint” describing draft alternatives for new or modified boundaries, zoning and other regulations, and

Whereas, following over 70 public meetings throughout 2011-2014 to specifically engage the public in this process, the public comment period for the Restoration Blueprint closes on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020,

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the FKNMS Advisory Council that:

1. Public participation and public comments now, prior to the end of the public comment period on January 31<sup>st</sup>, are essential for improving the draft alternatives contained in the Restoration Blueprint, and
2. Members of the public are requested to review the Restoration Blueprint available online at <https://floridakeys.noaa.gov/blueprint/>, and
3. Members of the public are strongly encouraged to make the most specific, actionable public comments possible, either verbally, online by going to the Federal eRulemaking Portal, [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), use docket number NOAA-NOS-2019-0094, or by mailing or delivering written public comments to;

Sarah Fangman  
Sanctuary Superintendent  
Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary  
33 East Quay Road  
Key West, FL 33040, and

4. Once the public comment period is closed, Advisory Council members will receive copies of all public comments and utilize them in the formulation of recommendations to Sanctuary staff concerning the next steps in the review process.