

03-19-2026 Citizen Correspondence - Regular Meeting

The City Clerk's Office received the following correspondence:

February 20, 2026 – Sue Bartkus, KCB resident, wrote to the City Commission expressing objections to Wi-Fi and cameras in the park, a fishing pier at Sunset Park, license plate readers, the police boat, and general concerns regarding changes in the City over recent years.

February 23, 2026 – Patricia Evangelista, KCB resident, wrote to the City Commission in support of a public discussion regarding license plate readers and the agreement between the City and the U.S. Department of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

March 10, 2026 – Laurie Swanson, KCB resident, wrote to the City Commission requesting support for resident Dick Harper in completing renovations following Hurricane Irma and for consideration of reasonable fines.

March 11, 2026 – Stan Kid wrote to the City Commission requesting consideration of fines for Dick Harper and support for allowing completion of outstanding work on his residence.

March 11, 2026 – Dick Harper, KCB resident, wrote to each City Commissioner, submitting a proposal for consideration of fines and requesting authorization to resume work on his residence.

March 16, 2026 – Sandy Bachman, KCB resident, wrote to the City Commission requesting clarification from the Police Department regarding the scope of the agreement.

Correction:

I would like to correct an error in last month's report on citizen correspondence. I incorrectly stated that Roy Virost requested lowering the speed limit to 20 MPH. Mr. Virost's correspondence was, in fact, in opposition to lowering the speed limit. I apologize for this error and any confusion it may have caused.

All correspondence has been distributed to the City Commission and will be included in the official minutes for today's meeting.

Thank you,

Silvia Roussin

City Clerk

Silvia Roussin

From: Par Darnall <clerk2@keycolonybeach.net>
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 7:55 AM
To: Silvia Roussin
Subject: FW: wifi in park, surveillance cameras, fishing pier, city boat

From: Sue Bartkus <suebartkus@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 19, 2026 3:00 PM
To: Freddie Foster <kcbffoster@gmail.com>; KCB Mayor <Mayor@keycolonybeach.net>; Doug Colonell <doug.colonell@keycolonybeach.net>; Tom DiFransico <tom.difransico@keycolonybeach.net>; Par Darnall <clerk2@keycolonybeach.net>; Tom Harding <tom.harding@keycolonybeach.net>
Subject: RE: wifi in park, surveillance cameras, fishing pier, city boat

Please be advised that we are not in favor of wifi in the park nor cameras --so that the one person can have their own sunset view on their computer. So the rest of KCB has to pay for this? RIDICULOUS! If people need wifi let them provide their own hotspot--which most people have. Or use their computers at home. They can take pics of sunset or go to park when they are here. Or better yet, let them buy a place with a sunset view. The many should NOT have to pay for the WANTS of a few? Not realistic.

Putting in a fishing pier in at Sunset Park also invites people out of our community to use our facilities and puts us at risk for lawsuits. Why are we doing this? Why did we put grills in Sunset Park?. Key Colony residents have their own grills at their homes-- so why are we inviting people who don't live or rent here to utilize our park? We don't have enough parking as it is at Sunset Park

Why are we putting in cameras to capture license plates? Who gets this information? Our police officers do a nice job of watching the speed limit. I don't think they are so busy that this is necessary.

We still cannot figure out WHY we need a boat for the city? They don't give out tickets on the water so what good is it? If there was a problem in a canal--by the time they got in the boat and got there--the perpetrators would be gone. Waste of purchase price, yearly maintenance and insurance--waste of taxpayer money!!!

It seems like the city is spending a lot of money on things that are unnecessary. We the people, get to pay for them- with costs going up every year on items that we have lived without very nicely previously. What happened to the frugal, friendly city that existed when we moved here in 2002. People at city hall were friendly and helpful and neighbors looked out for each other. If there were problems, you called city hall or the police and made a complaint and they followed up on it . You didn't need a code enforcement officer to police the city. It is not like our police have a lot to do!! Then our past Mayor DeNeal implemented a hot line and encouraged people to turn their neighbors in for any infraction that they might notice. WOW!! Key Colony Beach certainly is NOT like it used to be.

It seems like we have become "a keep up with the Joneses" city. Why can't we just be the sleepy, friendly affordable place to live we used to be. We are headed in the wrong direction folks. Let's get back to basics and tighten our belts!! We don't need to provide everything for everyone!!

Thanks for listening to your taxpaying citizens who voted for you all to look out for us.

Jack and Sue Bartkus

*Patricia A. Evangelista
838 W Ocean Drive
Key Colony Beach FL 33051*

February 23, 2026

Key Colony Beach City Commission
Via Email
600 W. Ocean Drive
Key Colony Beach FL 33051

RE: Causeway Cameras and ICE Agreement

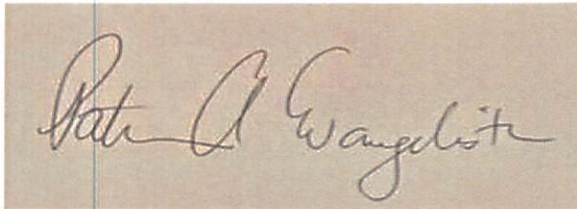
Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in support of Commissioner Tom Harding's proposal at the February 19, 2026 Commission Meeting for public discussion of the license plate reader camera implementation and the agreement between the City of Key Colony Beach Police Department and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). I share the concerns expressed by residents in letters and comments to the commission regarding privacy and transparency. In addition to those concerns, I have questions regarding who is authorized to commit our city to obligations in exchange for funds and the public disclosure requirements, if any, for such commitments.

I look forward to the opportunity to learn more about the plans for the causeway cameras, our city obligations to ICE arising from the previously executed agreement and how I, as a resident, can stay informed about future commitments made by city employees and/or elected officials.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink on a light brown rectangular background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Patricia A. Evangelista".

Patricia Evangelista
838 W Ocean Dr.

Cc: Silvia Roussin, City Clerk
Chief Kris DiGiovanni, KCB Police Department

Silvia Roussin

From: Laurie & Fred Swanson <swansonfj@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2026 2:25 PM
To: Doug Colonell; Kirk Diehl; Tom DiFransico; Tom Harding; Silvia Roussin; KCB Mayor
Subject: 620 11th Street-Dick Harper

Dear KCB City Commission,

Today I am writing a letter to the KCB City Commission. I have written many letters and spoken many times to the commission to try to bring transparency and sometimes closure to what is happening in our fair city. Today I am writing as the friend of Dick Harper and Anne Harper. I will try to bring some humanity into the situation regarding 680 11th Street, the Harper house.

First, who is Dick Harper? He is above all an asset to the community in many ways and could be an even greater asset if he was able to get out from under the oppression brought upon him by himself with the participation and poor decisions of the KCB city government i.e. code enforcement, building permit enforcement, commissioner enforcement, magistrate enforcement, lawyer enforcement, etc. Fred and I have been at every hearing, and we have seen that the city has misrepresented many of the points they have made-knowingly or unknowingly. Dick's major transgression is that he did not finish his house at the date that the city chose—end of December 2022. Nothing has been resolved other than in court since December 2022. We encouraged Dick to negotiate a settlement. Since then, he has been forced to live as a vagabond, care-taking KCB houses with his increasingly ill wife.

Dick, as a valuable citizen of KCB, heads up *Concerned in KCB*, the timely outreach letter to the community that is unavailable from our city government. He provides transparency and insight for the community as to what is happening in KCB. Originally started by Dick, Joe Schmidt and I, *Concerned in KCB*, mounted a petition and put pressure on the city commission to stop the building of an expensive eyesore right in the middle of our island. Without Dick's extensive input and support that project would never have been a success and we would be looking at the Taj M(KCB) Hall right on the Causeway and West Ocean. He has also been an invaluable member of the Board of Inch Beach.

Now Dick is in jeopardy of being evicted from his home, losing his home, and/or going bankrupt. I do not think that the grief he has caused the city deserves this treatment. Grief goes both ways in this case. By keeping Dick in limbo for 3 ½ years the city has foisted enough punishment on Dick. Under current Florida state law, the city must extend his building permit, and he can begin to work on the small city to-do list that would make 680 11th street compliant with city code. This will allow Dick and Anne to live out their days with the dream he has dreamt since hurricane Irma demolished his property. The fine he incurs should not break him.

I am sending this letter to you in the hopes that you too will support Dick in getting his house finished. I am asking our city commissioners to do the humane thing.

Sincerely,

Laurie Swanson
620 9th Street

Silvia Roussin

From: stanrkid <stanrkid@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 11:23 AM
To: KCB Mayor; Doug Colonell; Kirk Diehl; Tom DiFransico; Tom Harding; Silvia Roussin
Subject: Harper Homestead

Honorable Mayor and Commissioners:

Richard Harper owns the homestead at 680 11th St. This property has been owned by several generations of his family, beginning with his grandfather. After Hurricane Irma, the home required rebuilding.

Because of his deep pride of ownership and his limited financial resources, Dick undertook the task of rebuilding his home himself.

After a number of delays, the city ordered him to complete the rebuilding by December 30, 2022.

Leggett and Goldman claimed Harper did not meet the conditions and posted a stop work order. The city sent the case to the code board and then to the special magistrate almost a year after posting the stop work order.

Their stop work order alone has now been going on for over three years and has created a "Catch 22" dilemma for Dick by simultaneously ordering him to complete building his home and preventing him from doing so.

During this time, events have caused changes for all parties. Dick has spent tens of thousands of dollars for required permits and legal fees.

His wife suffers from Alzheimer's. A new housing location would devastate her.

Meanwhile, the city is engaged in the city hall rebuild and other major projects. And yet another hurricane season looms.

Dick agrees pay the city the \$6,000 fine and costs as ordered by the KCB code board as fees, penalties or fines and he will finish all the work on the city's outstanding work list as soon as the stop work order is lifted.

In consideration of the above, it's reasonable that the city would simply toll his permit and issue a CO for his home and call the case closed.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,
Stan R. Kid

RICHARD B. HARPER
680 11TH STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 510193
KEY COLONY BEACH, FL 33051
305 743 8829

March 11, 2026

Commissioner Kirk Diehl
CITY OF KEY COLONY BEACH
600 West Ocean Drive
Key Colony Beach, FL 33051

Dear Kirk:

I own my family home at 680 11th St. My grandfather bought this homestead more than 40 years ago. It has come down through the family to me.

My home required rebuilding after the substantial damage of Hurricane Irma. I love this home and this city but my financial resources are limited. I took on the task of rebuilding mostly on my own. There have been many, many delays. After a number of hearings, a final agreement was made with the city to complete the rebuilding by December 30, 2022.

Leggett and Goldman stopped all work on that date. Months later, the city sent the case to the code board and then to the special magistrate. Despite several attempts to appeal that ruling, each time the city prevailed.

Here's where we stand now. My lawyer pledged that having the law on our side meant we should go forward. It hasn't worked out and I've fired my lawyer.

This current stop work has been going on for three years and three months. During this time, I have spent over \$66,000 in legal fees. My wife has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's and another new housing location would devastate her. I would like this issue to be resolved so we can use my home.

Therefore, I am respectfully submitting this proposal for your consideration.

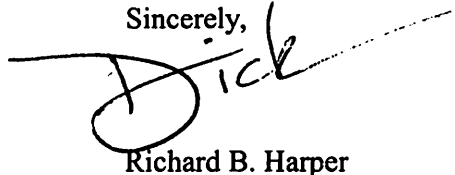
I will pay the \$6,163 in fine and costs as ordered by the KCB code board. I've also already paid \$17,300 in permit costs. And I will finish trimming out my home.

Now what I hope the commission will do. State law is on your side to toll the permit and simply to acknowledge my CO. That would let work restart immediately.

I've attached a list of the cosmetic tasks remaining on my home, along with the satisfaction of Leggett's list, and the log of all the inspections performed.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Richard B. Harper

Cosmetic Tasks Remaining

UPSTAIRS

Termite tenting completed 12/2025
Repair honeybee damage
Install permanent roof hatch
Install finished flooring
Trim out the interior (baseboards, doorways, etc)
Hang pocket doors
Install ceiling fans
Bathrooms: trim out, install new vanities
Balconies: trim out ceilings, arch, closet, hut
Railings: install remaining insect screens
Refinish and install 3x8 interior beams
Miscellaneous maintenance

DOWNSTAIRS and EXTERIOR

Reinstall water heater
Partial wall sheathing
Toilet sign/off
Install 5' sliding door to cabana room
Patch stucco A/R
Trim stairwell ceiling
Soffits: install, trim out, and paint remaining
Replace Fascia
Install maintenance brackets
Install outside shower and hosebib
Touch up exterior paint

Leggett's list in the "Dick Harper Building Letter SWO" is complete

Three of the seven items on Leggett's list required clarification of the engineering drawings by the engineer of record. Leggett accepted the required certification letters, elevation certificate, and updated engineering drawings (the as-built plans) in 2024.

1. Removing the plumbing was not a requirement of the permit nor of FEMA. The sink opening and the WC and bathtub rims are above the BFE and are shown on the engineering plans.
2. The staircase has a complete, properly designed handrail similar to the handrail on recently approved homes. All second floor railings are complete.
3. The kitchen's working sink, working appliances, countertops, and cabinets were all visible during Leggett's inspection.
4. The NEC requires blank junction boxes be accessible and covered for protection. All junction boxes follow code and were visible during Leggett's inspection.
5. Removal of the CBS storage closet on the ground floor was optional. The wall is not structural and is shown on the engineering drawings
6. The engineering drawings show the opening in the south wall.
7. The engineer of record certified that the openings in the north wall are acceptable under the Florida Fire Prevention Code and the Florida Building Code.

Inspection Log: 680 11th Street, KCB
Covering the period 11/8/2019-12/30/2022

<u>Date</u>	<u>Inspection</u>	<u>Inspector</u>	<u>Result</u>
11/8/2019	Pin pile inspection	Roussin	Passed
11/12/2019	Pile cap inspection	Roussin	Passed
11/23/2019	Reinforcing steel for columns	Roussin	Passed
12/4/2019	Concrete columns	Roussin	Passed
12/16/2019	Reinforcing steel	Roussin	Passed
12/19/2019	Trench for underground service	No I.D.	Passed
12/26/2019	Underground service conduit	No I.D.	Passed
1/15/2020	Concrete deck pour	No I.D.	Passed
2/4/2020	Floor joists	No I.D.	Passed
3/6/2020	CMU Shell with reinforcements, Flashing to 690 Roof, Window/door framing, Vertical cells/columns, and Lintel/tie beams	Roussin	Passed
3/18/2020	Concrete tie beams	No I.D.	Passed
4/26/2020	Roof framing, bracing fireblocking, and tiedowns		Passed
4/28/2020	All roof sheathing and fasteners	Roussin	Passed
5/5/2020	Roof/wall ice/water shield dry-in	No I.D.	Passed
5/29/2020	680/690 wall/roof leak test	Lawton & Roussin	Passed
6/4/2020	Windows	Lawton	Passed
7/26/2020	Interior framing	Lawton	Passed
8/21/2020	Standing seam roofing	Roussin by drone	Passed
2/22/2021	Sliding doors west balcony	Roussin	Passed
3/15/2021	Plumbing underground inspection	Lawton	Passed
6/22/2021	Electrical rough-in inspection	Roussin	Passed
10/12/2021	Plumbing rough	Roussin	Passed
12/7/2021	Power changeover	Lawton	Passed
1/5/2022	Roof insulation	Roussin	Passed
4/21/2022	Drywall screw	Leggett	Passed
9/9/2022	Shower pan	Leggett	Passed
11/23/2022	A/C Final	Leggett	Passed
12/22/2022	<i>Requested final inspection</i>	<i>Leggett</i>	
12/29/2022	Sliding doors east balcony	Leggett	Passed
12/29/2022	A/C Final	Leggett	Passed
12/29/2022	Flood vents	Leggett	Passed
12/29/2022	Final inspection	Leggett	

Silvia Roussin

From: Sandy Bachman <sandy.bachman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 4:51 PM
To: Silvia Roussin
Subject: KCB Police and ICE rumors

Lots of rumors and questions are being discussed across KCB regarding the agreement between ICE and KCB Police. I request that during Thursday's meeting that we hear from the police as to what they have agreed to do with/for ICE. Obviously if they give us a truck we have an obligation. Are all the officers obligated? What about their duties for the city? Aren't our police already stretched to cover the hours here? ICE was a hot topic in Key West and I am surprised that there wasn't a report during a commission meeting, as I would think the mayor and the commissioners would want to know what their police department is obligated to do.

Please pass this to the chief and the commissioners.



Virus-free. www.avast.com

Silvia Roussin

From: rsveets@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, February 5, 2026 3:58 PM
To: Silvia Roussin
Cc: KCB Mayor; Doug Colonell; Tom Harding; Tom DiFransico; Kirk Diehl
Subject: 25 MPH Speed Limit in Key Colony Beach

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Sylvia - hello my name is Roy Virost and I reside at 80 7th Street in the winter. I have copied the Commissioners on this email as well and ask that you include it in the information for the next commissioners meeting. I am not sure of the procedure to make that happen so if I need to take further action please advise.

Thanks Roy Virost

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing about the request by someone to lower the speed limit on the island from 25 mph to 20 mph.

In a nutshell, the accepted norm in the U.S for residential city streets is 25 mph. The problem here is not the speed limit but rather the problem here is the lack of enforcement of the limit. The cited statistics to justify the decrease simply does not apply to Key Colony Beach nor does the comparison to Key West. This reduction is uncalled for and in a word is just plain dumb.

Simply enforce the existing limit and the problem is solved. Do not change the speed limit in Key Colony Beach.

Sincerely,

Roy Virost

80 7th Street

419-376-2238

rsveets@aol.com