

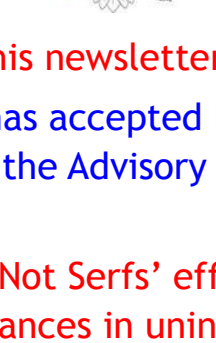
# Citizens Not Serfs

“Together We Can Save the Keys”



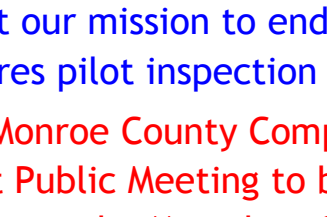
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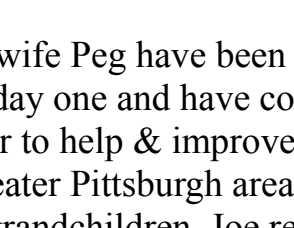
## Included in the body of this newsletter:

- **Member Joe Chernay has accepted his appointment as the Inaugural Chairman of the Advisory Board of Citizens Not Serfs.**
- **An update on Citizens Not Serfs' efforts to strengthen the maximum height ordinances in unincorporated Monroe County to prevent high rise condos and hotels from being built in the Florida Keys in the future.**



## Announcements:

- **It is very important that our members attend the Monroe County Commissioner's meeting to be held at the Harvey Government Center (1200 Truman Ave Key West) on July 21st at 1:30pm to provide support for Citizens Not Serfs efforts to stop high rise condos and hotels in the Florida Keys and to support our mission to end the devastating downstairs enclosures pilot inspection program.**
- **Please attend the Monroe County Comprehensive Plan Compilation Report Public Meeting to be held Wednesday July 14th at 6:30 pm at the Marathon Government Center (2798 Overseas Highway). It is extremely important that our membership comment on the proposed major issues included in the report to ensure that the report reflects Keys' citizens opposition to high rise condos and hotels and the conviction to retain the Area of Critical State Concern Designation which prevents the construction of high rise condos and hotels in the Florida Keys. Visit [keyscomplanning.com](http://keyscomplanning.com) for more information.**

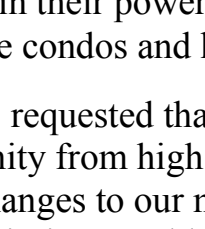


### Member Joe Chernay Accepts Appointment as Inaugural Chairman of Citizens Not Serfs Advisory Board

It is a great honor and privilege to announce the appointment of Joe Chernay as the Inaugural Chairman of our Advisory Board!

Joe and his lovely wife Peg have been active members with Citizens Not Serfs since day one and have consistently dedicated their time volunteering in order to help & improve the organization. Joe & Peg emanate from the greater Pittsburgh area where they continue to summer and enjoy their grandchildren. Joe retired from the global chemical giant Bayer Corp where he had a distinguished career as a chemical engineer.

Joe is a good friend and has been a consistent source of wisdom in pursuing all of Citizens Not Serfs objectives now and in the past. We are most grateful that Joe has agreed to accept our Chairmanship and can assure you he will exceed your highest expectations.



### Strengthening Height Protections Will Benefit Community Character and the Natural Environment and Will Prevent the Construction of High Rise Condos and Hotels in the Future

Citizens Not Serfs has been working hard in its campaign to fortify the Florida Keys' protections against high rise condos and hotels. At the July 21st County Commissioner's meeting in Key West, the board will be providing direction as to how county staff will move forward with amending unincorporated Monroe County's maximum height ordinance.

It is incredibly important that our members contact our county commission to tell them that it is absolutely essential that the county commission do everything in their power to develop strong additional protections against high rise condos and hotels in the Florida Keys.

Our organization has requested that the county commission further protect our community from high rise condos and hotels by requiring that any future changes to our maximum height ordinance approved by a future commission would not be able to become final without the approval of the voters of Monroe County by referendum. This referendum would give the citizens of the Florida Keys the opportunity for a voice and a vote to stop any future proposed change that could lead to the construction of high rise condos and hotels in the Florida Keys.

Citizens Not Serfs has also suggested that the maximum height ordinance should only be able to be amended by a 4-1 supermajority vote by a future county commission. Both of these protections will make it much more difficult to construct high rise condos and hotels in the Florida Keys in the future.

Citizens Not Serfs asserts that the county commission must provide clear direction to county staff to move forward as quickly as possible with the staff report on the constitutionality of the "referendum" and also the "supermajority" additional protections that have been proposed by our organization. Monroe County's current Tourist Development Ordinance currently requires a supermajority vote to amend the Tourist Development Regulations (Sec. §23-203) and therefore it seems likely that the staff will report that the supermajority requirement concept is constitutional in Florida. Our organization is also confident that county staff's will report that the "referendum" concept is constitutional and enforceable in Florida.

Our organization also asserts that once county staff has established the constitutionality and enforceability of the proposed amendments, the staff report should include a draft of the proposed amending language and any other essential information so that the process of incorporating the amendments into Monroe County's Land Development Regulations can begin immediately following the August 17th County Commission Meeting.

The cities of Marathon and Layton have also been approached by our organization concerning the concept of incorporating their maximum height ordinances into their charters. This additional level of protection would make it much more difficult to construct high rise condos and hotels in the future. We need citizen support in both Marathon and in Layton, so please get in contact with John November if you are interested in assisting in our efforts in the next couple of weeks to strengthen the height protections in these two cities.

Each community has nothing to lose by adding these additional levels of protection to reflect the overwhelming popular support of Keys citizens who are vehemently opposed to High Rise Condos and Hotels. Please contact your local elected officials and ask them to take a stand and say "NO" to high rise condos and hotels.



For More Information go to: [CitizensNotSerfs.com](http://CitizensNotSerfs.com)  
or email John November at [john@citizensnotserfs.com](mailto:john@citizensnotserfs.com)  
or call 305-745-1715.

Thank You for Your Continued Support!