

STAFF REPORT

DATE: June 2, 2016

RE: **2902 Harris Avenue ROW (permit application # T16-7974)**

FROM: Karen DeMaria, City of Key West Urban Forestry Manager

An application was submitted requesting the removal of **(1) Strangler Fig tree** that is attaching itself to an existing Mahogany tree. A site inspection was done on May 17, 2016 and documented the following:

Tree Species: Strangler Fig (*Ficus aurea*)













Diameter: 22"

Location: 20% (growing attached to an existing mahogany tree, roots are a potential trip hazard in the right of way)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 50% (fair)

Total Average Value = 56%

Value x Diameter = 12.3 replacement caliper inches

Complaint received by a resident of the block complaining that the strangler fig will eventually take over and strangle the mahogany tree. One branch/trunk that was attaching itself to the side of the tree has been removed. City foreman in charge of the tree trimmer crew states the rest of the tree can be removed without causing harm to the mahogany.

Recommendation: Recommend approval of the removal of one (1) Strangler Fig tree at 2902 Harris Avenue in the right of way to be replaced with 12.3 caliper inches of dicot or fruit trees from approved list, FL#1, to be planted on City property.

Application



7974

Tree Permit Application

Date: 5.20.16

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 2902 Harn's Ave Row
Cross/Corner Street _____
List Tree Name(s) and Quantity 1- Strangler Fig
Species Type(s) check all that apply () Palm () Flowering () Fruit () Shade () Unsure
Reason(s) for Application:

☒ **REMOVE** () Tree Health () Safety ☒ Other/Explain below
() **TRANSPLANT** () New Location () Same Property () Other/Explain below
() **HEAVY MAINTENANCE** () Branch Removal () Crown Cleaning/Thinning () Crown Reduction

Additional Information and Explanation Strangler Fig tree is growing onto and around a mature mahogany tree. Want to protect the integrity of the mahogany tree. (Public complaint about strangler Fig)
City of Key West

Property Owner Name _____
Property Owner eMail Address _____
Property Owner Mailing Address PO Box 1409
Property Owner Mailing City Key West **State** FL **Zip** 33041
Property Owner Phone Number () _____
Property Owner Signature [Signature]

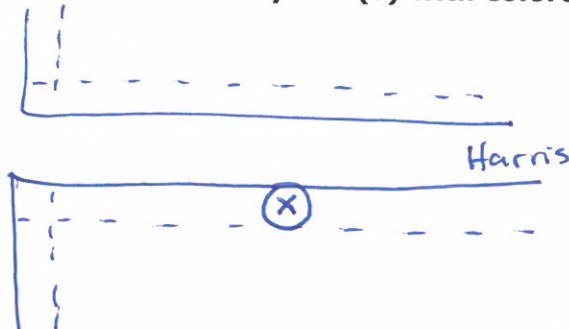
Representative Name Karen Lulliana / Bill Collins
Representative eMail Address _____
Representative Mailing Address _____
Representative Mailing City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____
Representative Phone Number (305) 809-3768

NOTE: A Tree Representation Authorization form must accompany this application if someone other than the owner will be representing the owner at a Tree Commission meeting or picking up an issued Tree Permit.

Tree Representation Authorization form attached ()

<<<<< Sketch location of tree in this area including cross/corner Street >>>>>

Please identify tree(s) with colored tape



If this process requires blocking of a City right-of-way, a separate ROW Permit is required. Please contact 305-809-3740.

5-10-16

Liz Lear
305 294 1490
2903 Ham's Cove

called in a complaint - magnificent
city tree across the street from
her house is being strangled by
figs. Please remove
figs.



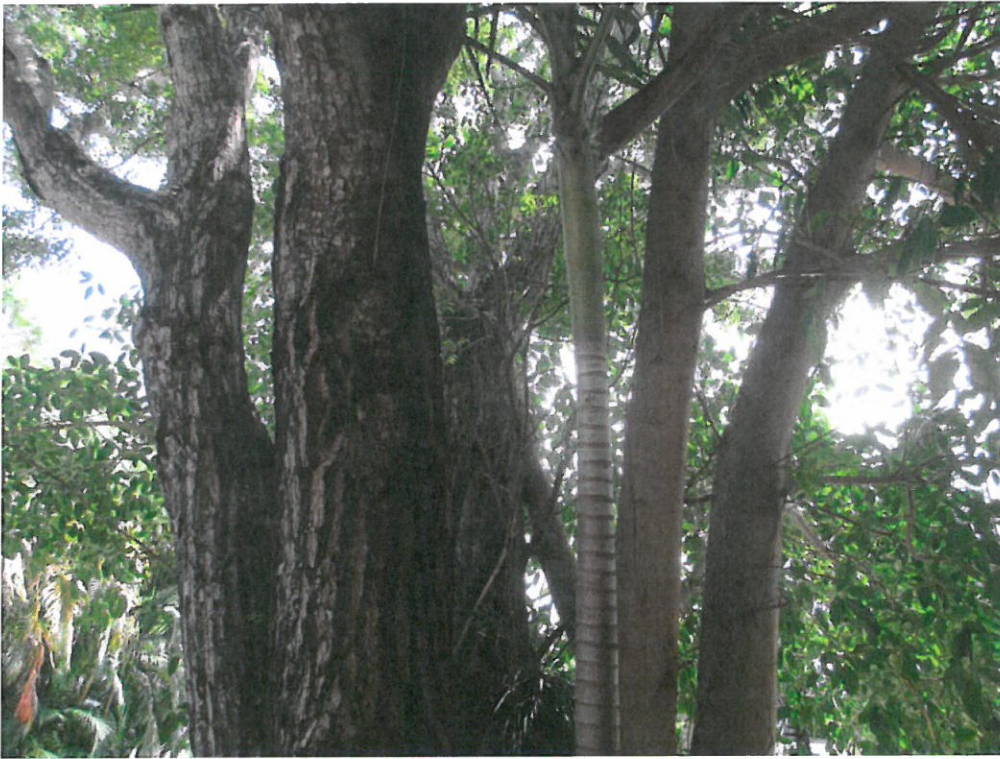
Strangler Fig
3 trunks total 22" dbh
(air layering tree also)



2011 photo date

2902? Harris Avenue tree trim request 5-12-16





Trim ficus tree no permit required) then evaluate whether to remove tree or keep trimmed.

Karen DeMaria

Karen DeMaria

From: Karen DeMaria
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 8:22 AM
To: William Collins
Cc: Marcus A. Davila; Richard Sarver
Subject: RE: 2902 tree trim--lets meet

Based on my conversation with Bill regarding this tree area, I will submit a tree removal permit application to the Tree Commission to remove the strangler fig. the next meeting is June 14, 2016.

Sincerely,

Karen

From: William Collins
Sent: Tuesday, May 17, 2016 6:16 AM
To: Karen DeMaria <kdemaria@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: Marcus A. Davila <madavila@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Richard Sarver <rsarver@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: RE: 2902 tree trim--lets meet

I have looked at this tree and await a permit

From: Karen DeMaria
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2016 3:08 PM
To: William Collins <wcollins@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Cc: Marcus A. Davila <madavila@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>; Richard Sarver <rsarver@cityofkeywest-fl.gov>
Subject: 2902 tree trim--lets meet

Bill:

A lady called me complaining that a strangler fig was enveloping a mahogany tree growing on the City right of way. She wants the fig tree removed.

I looked at the tree and am not sure about total removal of the fig tree as it has attached itself to the root system of the mahogany. I would appreciate your opinion. Removal of the fig tree will require a permit from the Tree Commission.

I think the next course of action will be to trim the fig tree, removing the trunks closest to Harris Ave including the one that is attaching itself to the mahogany trunk above the air orchid plant (protected species).

Sincerely,

Karen

Karen DeMaria
Urban Forestry Manager/Tree Commission
Certified Arborist
305-809-3768