STAFF REPORT

DATE: February 28, 2017

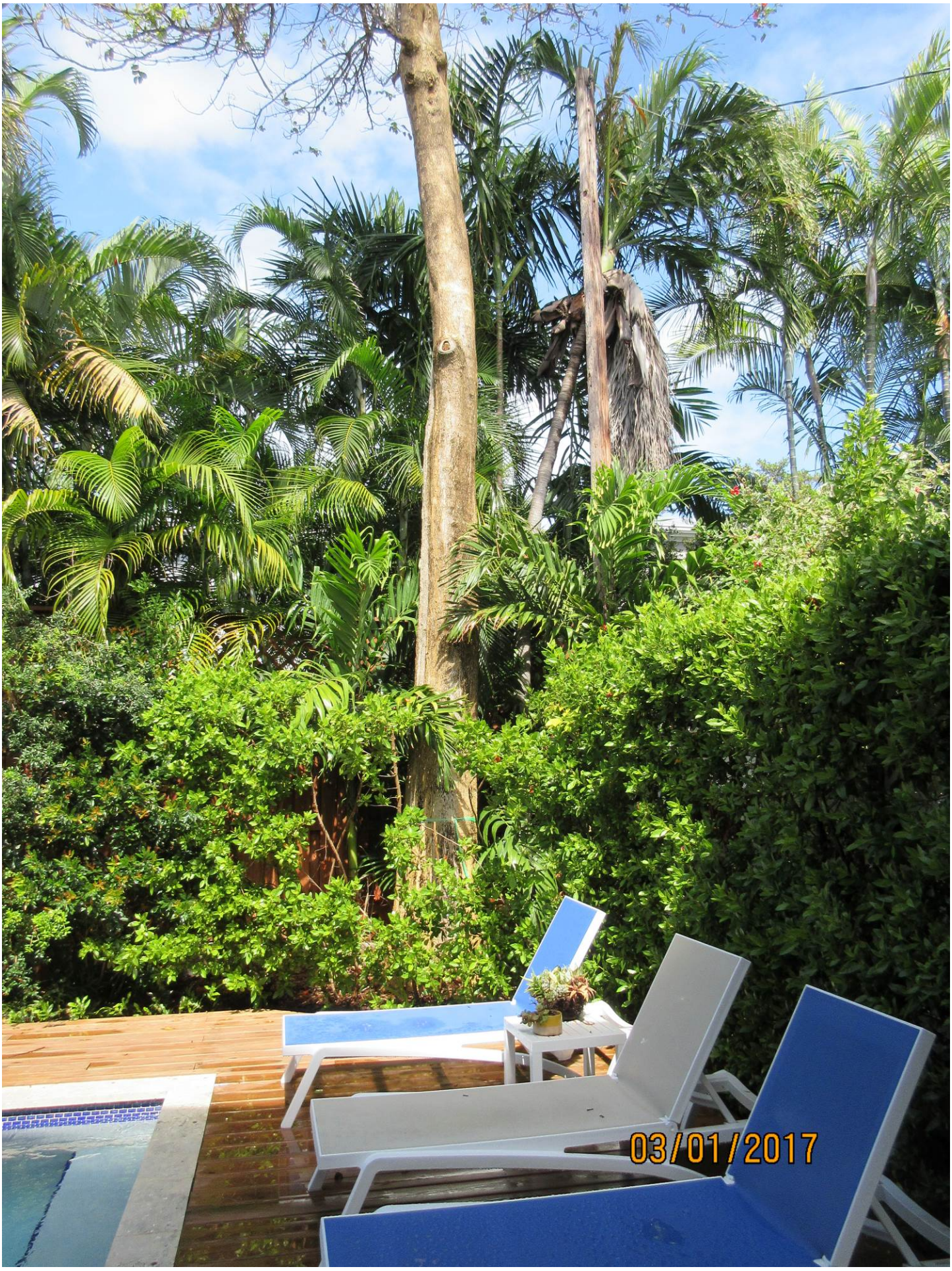
RE: **1223 Flagler Avenue** (**permit application # T17-8270)**

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

An application was received requesting the removal of **(1) African Tulip tree**. A site inspection was done on January 23, 2017 and documented the following:

Tree Species: African Tulip (Spathodea campanulata)


03/01/2017


03/01/2017


03/01/2017

Where latest limb tore off


03/01/2017


03/01/2017


03/01/2017


03/01/2017

Photo taken by property owner of latest limb that tore off the tree

Diameter: 23”
Location: 50% (located in rear back corner of property behind pool, near utility lines)
Species: 50% (not on protected or not protected tree list)
Condition: 50% (fair to poor, high branches-lifted canopy, tree species prone to having brittle branches)
Total Average Value = 50%
Value x Diameter = 11.5 replacement caliper inches

Recommendation: Recommend approval of the removal of one (1) African Tulip tree at 1223 Flagler Avenue to be replaced with 11.5 caliper inches of dicot or fruit trees from approved list, FL#1, to be planted on site.

Spathodea campanulata: African Tulip-Tree[1]

Edward F. Gilman and Dennis G. Watson[2]

Introduction

A native of tropical Africa, this large, upright, 50 to 60-foot tree has a dense, 40-foot-wide crown and one-and-one-half-foot-long, pinnately-compound, evergreen leaves composed of four-inch leaflets. Due to its size it is best located in large, open landscapes and is generally not suited for small residences unless your objective is deep shade. During winter and until late spring, African Tulip-Tree produces terminal clusters of beautiful blooms held above the foliage, a profusion of upwardly-facing, orange and yellow flowers which open several at a time from curved, two-inch-long, fuzzy brown flower buds filled with water. African Tulip-Tree is quite spectacular when in bloom. It is often used as a framing, shade, or specimen tree but must be used only in frost-free areas. Also, its soft, brittle wood is easily broken by high winds, and trees should be located either in sheltered locations or where falling branches will do no damage.

Figure 1. Young *Spathodea campanulata*: African Tulip-Tree.

Credit: R.A. Howard. ©Smithsonian Institution. Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution, Richard A. Howard Photograph Collection. Jamaica.

[Click thumbnail to enlarge.]

General Information

Scientific name: *Spathodea campanulata*

Pronunciation: spath-OH-dee-uh kam-pan-yoo-LAY-tuh

Common name(s): African Tulip-Tree

Family: *Bignoniaceae*

USDA hardiness zones: 10B through 11 (Figure 2)

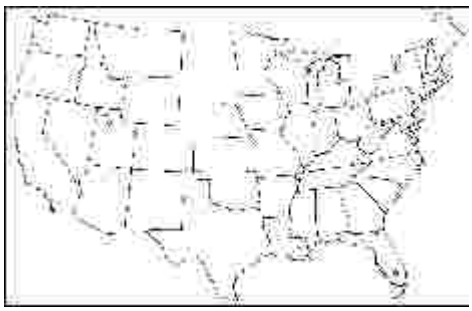


Figure 2. Range

[Click thumbnail to enlarge.]

Origin: not native to North America

Invasive potential: According to the IFAS Assessment of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas (IFAS Invasive Plant Working Group 2008), *Spathodea campanulata* should be treated with caution in the south zone in Florida, may be recommended but managed to prevent escape. It is not considered a problem species and may be recommended in the north and central zone in Florida (counties listed by zone at: http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment/pdfs/assess_counties.pdf)

Uses: specimen; shade

Availability: somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the tree

Description

Height: 50 to 60 feet

Spread: 35 to 50 feet

Crown uniformity: irregular

Crown shape: upright/erect, round, spreading

Crown density: moderate

Growth rate: fast

Texture: coarse

Foliage

Leaf arrangement: opposite/subopposite (Figure 3)

Leaf type: odd-pinnately compound

Leaf margin: entire

Leaf shape: elliptic (oval), oblong

Leaf venation: pinnate

Leaf type and persistence: evergreen, broadleaf evergreen

Leaf blade length: 2 to 4 inches

Leaf color: green

Fall color: no color change

Fall characteristic: not showy

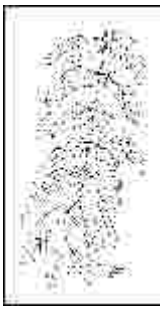


Figure 3. Foliage

[Click thumbnail to enlarge.]

Flower

Flower color: orange, yellow

Flower characteristics: very showy

Figure 4. Flower

[Click thumbnail to enlarge.]

Fruit

Fruit shape: pod or pod-like, elongated

Fruit length: 6 to 12 inches

Fruit covering: dry or hard

Fruit color: brown

Fruit characteristics: does not attract wildlife; not showy; fruit/leaves a litter problem

Figure 5. Fruit.

Credit: R.A. Howard. ©Smithsonian Institution. Courtesy of Smithsonian Institution, Richard A. Howard Photograph Collection. United States, HI, Kauai.

[Click thumbnail to enlarge.]

Trunk and Branches

Trunk/bark/branches: branches droop; not showy; typically one trunk; thorns

Pruning requirement: needed for strong structure

Breakage: susceptible to breakage

Current year twig color: brown

Current year twig thickness: medium

Wood specific gravity: unknown

Culture

Light requirement: full sun

Soil tolerances: clay; sand; loam; acidic; well-drained

Drought tolerance: moderate

Aerosol salt tolerance: low

Other

Roots: can form large surface roots

Winter interest: yes

Outstanding tree: no

Ozone sensitivity: unknown

Verticillium wilt susceptibility: unknown

Pest resistance: free of serious pests and diseases

Use and Management

Eliminate major branches that will form embedded bark as early as possible. Save those that are oriented more horizontally, with stonger attachments to the trunk. Keep them from growing larger than about half the trunk diameter by periodic thinning.

African Tulip-Trees will grow rapidly in full sun on any soil of reasonable drainage and fertility. Plants should be regularly watered until well-established and will then require little care.

Propagation is by seed, softwood cuttings, or root suckers.

Pests and Diseases

No pests or diseases of major concern.

Literature Cited

Fox, A.M., D.R. Gordon, J.A. Dusky, L. Tyson, and R.K. Stocker. 2008. IFAS Assessment of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas: Status Assessment. Cited from the Internet (November 16, 2012), http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment/pdfs/status_assessment.pdf

Footnotes

1. This document is ENH-758, one of a series of the Environmental Horticulture, UF/IFAS Extension. Original publication date November 1993. Revised February 2013. Reviewed June 2016. Visit the EDIS website at http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu.

2. Edward F. Gilman, professor, Environmental Horticulture Department; Dennis G. Watson, former associate professor, Agricultural Engineering Department, UF/IFAS Extension, Gainesville, FL 32611.

Application

RECEIVED
JAN 18 2017
BY: NCH

City of Key West Tree Commission

March TC

8270

Tree Permit Application

Date: 1/18/17

Please Clearly Print All Information unless indicated otherwise.

Tree Address 1223 FLAGLER AVE

Cross/Corner Street _____

List Tree Name(s) and Quantity 1 African tulip

Species Type(s) check all that apply ( ) Palm (✓) Flowering ( ) Fruit ( ) Shade (✓) Unsure

Reason(s) for Application:

(X) **REMOVE** ( ) Tree Health (✓) Safety ( ) Other/Explain below

( ) **TRANSPLANT** ( ) New Location ( ) Same Property ( ) Other/Explain below

( ) **HEAVY MAINTENANCE** ( ) Branch Removal ( ) Crown Cleaning/Thinning ( ) Crown Reduction

Other/Explain _____

Reason for Request LARGE LIMB FELL INTO DECK/POOL AREA

Property Owner Name JAMES LUDWIG D/B/A BOX CANYON TR. LLC

Property Owner eMail Address jamesludwig58@gmail.com

Property Owner Mailing Address 9820 BROOKS HALL PL

Property Owner Mailing City RICHMOND **State** VA **Zip** 23238

Property Owner Phone Number (908) 403-7663

Property Owner Signature James Ludwig

Representative Name _____

Representative eMail Address _____

Representative Mailing Address _____

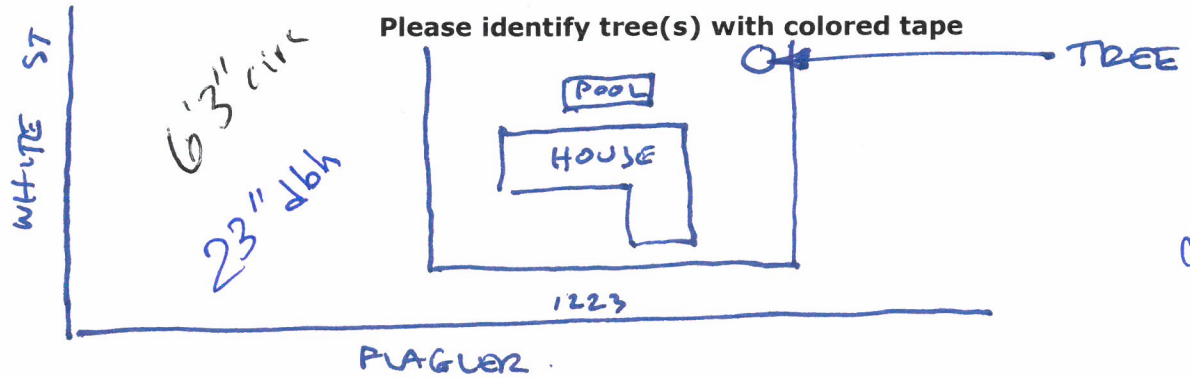
Representative Mailing City _____ **State** ____ **Zip** _____

Representative Phone Number (____) _____-_____

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 >>>>>



call after inspection 1-23-17 removal requested

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

PA ✓ $ ✓