

Whereas, Arbor Day is nationally recognized on the last Friday in April and is observed throughout the nation and world and is an annual observance that celebrates the role of trees in our lives and promotes tree planting and care; and

Whereas, the City of Key West Tree Commission was established in 1971 by State legislation recognizing that trees on public and private property are economic and aesthetic assets to the citizens if the city; and

Whereas, the City of Key West has been a member of Tree City USA for 6 years; and

Whereas, native trees conserve water and provide forage and shelter for wildlife, improve the health and beauty of the community and the philosophy of right tree, right place helps to ensure a future canopy of healthy trees that increase property values, enhance the economic vitality of business areas, and beautify our community; and

Whereas, the Tree Commission, the Urban Forester and the Community Services Department are responsible for the planting of trees along the sidewalks and parks of the City; and

Whereas, the City of Key West has received an award to purchase trees for Bayview Park through a partnership with Texas Roadhouse and the Arbor Day Foundation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Craig Cates, do hereby proclaim May 11, 2018 as

Texas Roadhouse Arbor Day

Volunteers are encouraged to help plant trees on May 11, 2018 from 9-Noon at Bayview Park in celebration of Arbor Day in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States."

WITNESS our hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 1th day of May 2018.

Craig Cates, Mayor