



THE CITY OF KEY WEST
Urban Forestry
1300 White Street
Key West, FL 33040

Tree Removal Report

PROPERTY: 308 Front St. ROW

APPLICATION NUMBER: T2026-0109

REQUEST: The applicant is requesting removal of (1) Cuban Mahogany.

TREE ASSESSMENT and PHOTOS



Key to the Caribbean – average yearly temperature 77 ° Fahrenheit.





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Key to the Caribbean – average yearly temperature 77 ° Fahrenheit.







Key to the Curriculum - average July temperature 77° Fahrenheit.









Key to the Caribbean – average yearly temperature 77 ° Fahrenheit.



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Diameter: 50"

Location: 30%

Species: 100%

Condition: 60%

Value: 63.3%

Recommended Mitigation: 31.7 Caliper Inches

The subject tree is a mature Cuban Mahogany (*Swietenia mahagoni*) measuring approximately 50 inches DBH and is estimated to be several decades old. The tree is located within a constrained right-of-way planter surrounded by asphalt and concrete, conditions that have likely subjected the root system to prolonged soil compaction and restricted rooting volume. Despite these site limitations, the tree has developed a substantial trunk and canopy. The trunk is divided into two primary codominant leaders approximately eight feet above grade. One leader extends over an adjacent restaurant balcony and continues above the restaurant roof. While the balcony appears to have been constructed to accommodate the tree, direct contact currently exists between the leader and portions of the roof structure below the balcony railing.

The second leader extends over the adjacent street and exhibits a large area of exposed wood associated with a significant trunk wound estimated at approximately eight square feet in size. The location and characteristics of the wound are consistent with repeated mechanical impacts, likely from commercial delivery vehicles operating beneath the canopy. Additional defects were observed throughout the tree, including a pronounced longitudinal crack within the leader extending over the restaurant, visible from the balcony at eye level. Several large historic pruning wounds are present, including one substantial branch removal site exhibiting evidence consistent with wood decay and insect activity. Additional areas of missing bark, exposed wood, and suspected decay pockets were observed throughout the trunk and scaffold structure.

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Although the canopy remains relatively balanced due to the similar size of the two primary leaders, the tree exhibits numerous structural and biological defects that warrant concern. The combination of codominant stem architecture, extensive wounding, visible cracking, suspected decay, repeated mechanical damage, and the advanced age and size of the tree increases the likelihood of partial or whole-tree failure. Equally significant is the presence of high-value targets beneath and adjacent to the tree, including a heavily utilized public street, pedestrian traffic, restaurant patrons, and nearby structures. Based on the observed defects and target occupancy, this tree should be considered a significant risk concern and warrants further evaluation, risk mitigation measures, or removal consideration by the Tree Commission.

PREPARED BY:

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