



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

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## Tree Removal Report

**PROPERTY:** 1004 Thomas St.

**APPLICATION NUMBER:** T2026-0130

**REQUEST:** The applicant is requesting removal of (1) Spanish Lime Tree.

**TREE ASSESSMENT and PHOTOS**



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



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**Diameter: 32"**

**Location: 40%**

**Species: 100%**

**Condition: 70%**

**Value: 70%**

**Recommended Mitigation: 22.4 Caliper Inches**

The subject tree is a mature Spanish Lime (*Melicoccus bijugatus*) growing less than 2 feet from a single-family residence. The tree possesses large buttressing roots. At the time of this Level 2 visual assessment, there is no evidence that the root system has caused structural damage to the residence; however, the size and proximity of the tree to the structure warrant continued consideration, as the available growing space is not compatible with a tree of this size.

The most significant structural concern is the presence of a large codominant stem originating immediately above the root flare. The tree effectively consists of two major stems arising from a common root system, with approximately 3 to 4 linear feet of included bark extending vertically through the codominant union. This configuration represents a notable structural defect, as included bark reduces the strength of the attachment between the stems and increases the potential for separation under loading.

The canopy extends substantially over the roof of the subject residence. Additionally, a neighboring two-story single-family home is located less than 10 feet from the base of the tree, and portions of the canopy also overhang that structure, increasing the number of potential targets should a significant branch or stem failure occur.

A moderate amount of dieback is present throughout the upper canopy, and the overall canopy condition is best described as fair. While no other significant structural defects were observed during this visual assessment, the combination of the tree's mature size, its extremely close proximity to two residential structures, and the extensive codominant stem with included bark at the base of the trunk represents the primary concern.

Based on this Level 2 assessment, the subject tree exhibits a significant structural defect at its primary union, and its location provides little separation from nearby structures. These factors should be carefully considered when evaluating the tree's long-term management and associated risk.

**PREPARED BY:**

***Zach Bentley* Asst. Urban Forestry Manager**

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