

# STAFF REPORT

DATE: October 1, 2018

RE: **21 Quay Road-Truman Waterfront Park; PAL Building, Horse Stables and Athletic Field**  
**(permit application # T2018-0025 and T2018-0026)**

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

An application was received requesting the removal of trees at Truman Waterfront Park in association with the redevelopment of the PAL gym and horse stable area and the creation of a new athletic field.

In December 2014, the Truman Waterfront Park project received a final landscape plan approval for the disposition (removal, transplanting, and preservation) of all the trees and palms for the entire project area (T14-7167). At the time it was understood that work on the project would be done in phases. Initially, at the time of approval, the PAL gym building was to be demolished and a new community center and horse stable area were to be created.

The changes requested to the tree disposition in this phase reflect damage done to the trees and palms due to Hurricane Irma, growth of the palms and trees the past 4 years making transplanting more difficult and costly, and the decision to have the PAL gym building remain which causes the location of the athletic field to be changed and reconfigured.

Trees that were originally approved to be transplanted but now are requesting removal-based on the new number system: 4-Gumbo Limbo (#79, #81, #83, and #Q), and 2- Sea Grape (#70 and #82). One tree was originally approved to remain but now is requesting removal: 1-Mahogany tree (#100).

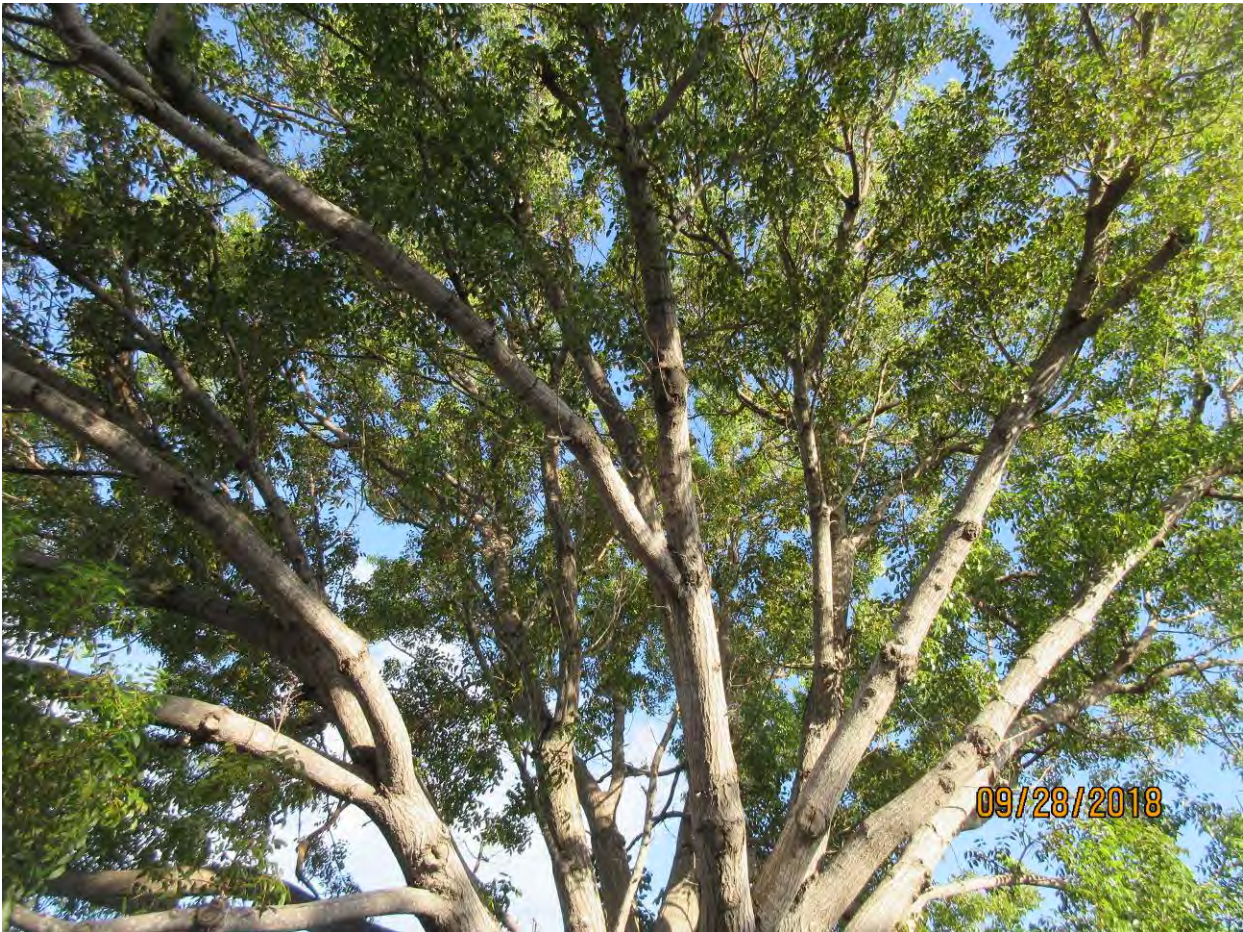
Palms that were originally approved to be transplanted but now are requesting removal: 6-Coconut Palms (#57, #58, #59, #86, #87, and #90) and 1-Sabal Palm (#95).

Trees to be transplanted, no change from original approval: 5-Gumbo Limbo (#68, #69, #94, #101, and #108), 1-Mahogany tree (#3) 2-Sabal Palms (#13 and #109), and 1-Thatch Palm (#18).

**Tree #100 (old #10): Mahogany (Swietenia mahagoni)**



09/07/2018





Diameter: 27"

Location: 80%

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 70% (fair to good, codominant trunks and branches)

Total Average Value = 83%

**Value x Diameter = 22.4 replacement caliper inches**

Tree originally was to be preserved. Due to the change in plans to keep the PAL gym, the athletic field needed to be reconfigured and the tree now is located within the field area. The cost to transplant the tree is not reasonable.

## Tree Species: Gumbo Limbo (*Bursera simaruba*)

Tree #Q (old #S): Gumbo Limbo



Diameter: 3"

Location: 60% (in sea grape rootball and close to fence)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 60% (fair)

Total Average Value = 73%

**Value x Diameter = 2.1 replacement caliper inches**

Trees #79, #81, and #83: Gumbo Limbo





Tree # 83 (old #P), #81 (old #U), and #79 (old #V)



09/28/2018





Tree #83 (old #P): Gumbo Limbo

Diameter: 6.6"

Location: 50% (close to fence, utility lines and other canopy trees)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 60% (fair)

Total Average Value = 70%

**Value x Diameter = 4.6 replacement caliper inches**

Tree #81 (old #U): Gumbo Limbo

Diameter: 9.2"

Location: 50% (close to fence, utility lines and other canopy trees)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 60% (fair)

Total Average Value = 70%

**Value x Diameter = 6.4 replacement caliper inches**

Tree #79 (old #V): Gumbo Limbo

Diameter: 8.9"

Location: 50% (close to fence, utility lines and other canopy trees)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 50 % (fair to poor-root system partially exposed and lifted)

Total Average Value = 66%

**Value x Diameter = 5.8 replacement caliper inches**

**Tree Species: Sea Grape (Coccoloba uvifera)**

Tree #70 (old #NN)



Diameter: 24"

Location: 60% (very sprawling tree, roots intermixed with other trees-difficult to transplant)

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 50% (fair to poor-poor structure, heavy lean)

Total Average Value = 70%

**Value x Diameter = 16.8 replacement caliper inches**

Tree #82 (old #89) Sea Grape





Diameter: 26"

Location: 60%

Species: 100% (on protected tree list)

Condition: 40% (poor, poor structure, sprawling tree, roots uplifted)

Total Average Value = 66%

**Value x Diameter = 17.1 replacement caliper inches**

**Total required replacement inches: 75.2 caliper inches**

**Palm Removals:**



**#59 (old #27 ) and #58 (old #26)**



**Tree #59 (old #27 ) and #58 (old #26)**



Tree #57 (old #30)





**Tree #90  
(old #13)**



**Tree #86 and #87 (old #17A and #17B)**



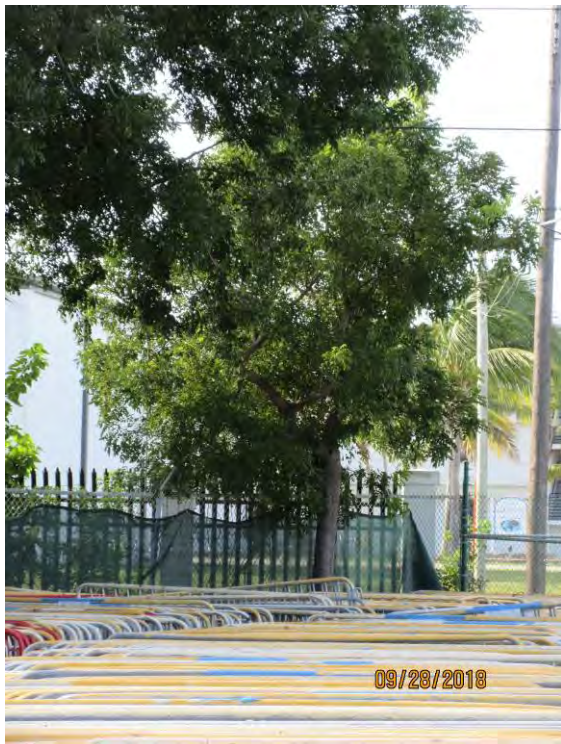


**Tree #86 and #87**



**Tree #95 (old #Y)**

**Trees and Palms to be Transplanted:**



**Tree  
#3 (old  
#AA4)**



**Tree #13  
(old #H)**



Tree #108 & #109  
(old #CC1 & #DD2)

09/28/2018



Tree #94 & #101  
(Old ##FF)



Tree #18 (old #C)



Tree #68 & #69 (Old #NN1 & # NN2)

A total of 75.2 caliper inches and 7 native palms are required to be planted within the Park area in order to be in compliance with tree permitting replacement regulations.

The proposed landscaping for this phase includes 25-Green Buttonwood trees, 11-Gumbo Limbos, 9-Mahogany, 3-Royal Poinciana trees for a total of 48 new approved shade trees to be planted in this area. It also includes the planting of 23-Buccanneer Palms, 9-Sabal Palms, and 3-Thatch Palms for a total of 35 approved native palms to be planted in this area. Therefore, the landscape plan appears to meet the tree removal replacement requirements.

It should also be noted that the City has already planted in excess of 499 caliper inches of trees and 80 native palms in the completed phases at Truman Park which would qualify as replacement credits toward this phase of the project. This excess covers all the approved tree removals from the original landscape plan approval for this area. Trees approved for removal in 2014 that are part of this project phase include (22) Gumbo limbo, (13) Mahogany, (1) Sea Grape, (1) Cocoplum, (1) Jamaican Dogwood, (1) Black Olive tree, (2) Sabal Palms, and (1) Coconut palm for a total of 268.6 required caliper replacement inches and (3) native palms, minimum 4 ft tall.

This plan is a modification of the originally approved development plan and landscape plan reviewed in 2014 and input was received by the engineering and community services departments in its design.

Recommend approval of the Final Landscape Plan with Tree removal, as presented.