

I will have Clifton share these details with the board during the upcoming meeting.

Best regards,



## **Beija Lopez**

**Administrative Assistant & Landscape Designer**

Shorty's Tree & Lawn Care LLC

Serving The Lower FL Keys

305-647-9261

Ralph Waldo Emerson “*The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.*”

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Debbie Thielen** <[dmthielen@gmail.com](mailto:dmthielen@gmail.com)>

Date: Fri, Apr 17, 2026, 7:16 PM

Subject: Re: Request for Your Statement Regarding Tree Removal Concerns

To: Shorty's Tree & Lawn Care LLC <[shortystreeandlawncare@gmail.com](mailto:shortystreeandlawncare@gmail.com)>

To whom it may concern.

Our concerns regarding the tree currently in the front yard at 67 Golf Club Drive:

The public sidewalk has had to be replaced in front of the house by the tree due to the root system. It now has raised and broken again creating a trip hazard and needs to be replaced;

Our private walkway from the public sidewalk to our home has already been replaced and is needing to be replaced a third time due to roots from the tree causing a trip hazard;

The walkway to the side yard has been removed and cannot be replaced because the tree roots continue to grow and upheave any smooth walking surface that we try;

The front yard has had to have dirt/rock added to cover the roots and remove trip hazards.

Since the front yard has been elevated around the tree, rainwater is now flowing toward the house because of the raised slope of the yard;

The tree roots are dangerously close to the pilings of the house which creates concern about the foundation being moved;

The canopy of the tree covers not only our house but both neighbors' houses and is interfering with the neighbor's trees;

In my opinion, to trim the tree properly so that it is not dangerously over the homes, it would have to be trimmed so severely that it will probably kill the tree. Also, trimming the tree roots to alleviate the slope of the yard and avoid foundation damage, would probably kill the tree as well;

There is more than a sufficient amount of tree canopy in our area without this tree;

Because of the large amount of space the tree consumes, there is not enough area left to plant appropriate sized trees;

We feel this tree de-values our property and is a major liability.

We are at our wits' end in dealing with the effects of a tree too large for the space it occupies. At some point this tree is going to have to be removed due to the size and the property damage it's causing. If it is removed now, it will give way to large trees around it that can replace the canopy.

In conclusion, we have spent thousands of dollars to keep this tree, only to have to spend more money again and again.

Sincerely,  
Mark & Debbie Thielen

On Wed, Apr 8, 2026 at 10:05 AM Shorty's Tree & Lawn Care LLC  
<[shortystreeandlawnca@gmail.com](mailto:shortystreeandlawnca@gmail.com)> wrote:

Hi,

When you get a moment, it would be very helpful if you could send over a brief statement outlining your concerns about the tree and why you're requesting its removal. As the homeowner, your explanation is an important part of the permit review process.

Please include any issues you've experienced over the years—such as repairs you've had to make due to the large root system, damage caused by its proximity to your home, or any other impacts the tree has had on your property. These details help demonstrate why removal is necessary.

You can email your concerns to my email and I will forward it to the urban forestry department.

Thank you!

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