



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

Tree Removal Report

PROPERTY: 2600 Patterson Ave.

APPLICATION NUMBER: T2026-0132

REQUEST: The applicant is requesting removal of (1) Strangler Fig .

TREE ASSESSMENT and PHOTOS



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





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Diameter: 24"

Location: 20%

Species: 100%

Condition: 60%

Value: 60%

Recommended Mitigation: 14.4 Caliper Inches

The subject tree is a Strangler Fig (*Ficus aurea*) with an approximate diameter at breast height (DBH) of 24 inches. The tree is in fair overall condition and is growing within approximately 5 feet of a utility pole carrying high-voltage electrical distribution lines. The canopy has grown into numerous communication lines, and the uppermost portions of the canopy are beginning to encroach upon the transformer and primary power lines. Additionally, a guy wire associated with the utility pole extends through the tree's growing space and will continue to interfere with the tree's future development.

The upper canopy exhibits a moderate amount of dieback, and the tree has been subjected to repeated utility clearance pruning. While these pruning operations are necessary to maintain safe electrical clearances, they are not conducive to the long-term health, structure, or natural form of the tree. Given the tree's continued growth toward critical utility infrastructure, additional utility pruning will likely be required on a recurring basis.

Numerous Green Buttonwood trees located in front of the subject tree limit photographic documentation and partially obscure the canopy. However, the overall context of the site clearly demonstrates the close proximity and ongoing conflict between the tree and the utility infrastructure.

Based on this Level 2 visual assessment, the primary concern is not an inherent structural defect within the tree itself, but rather the incompatibility of the tree's location with the adjacent utility infrastructure. The subject tree occupies a constrained growing space where future canopy development will continue to conflict with communication lines, the transformer, primary conductors, and the utility guy wire. The long-term compatibility of this tree at its current location is poor, and the ongoing need for utility clearance pruning is expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

PREPARED BY:

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**City of Key West
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