



THE CITY OF KEY WEST

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MEMORANDUM

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

TO: Key West Bight Board
Caroline St. Redevelopment Agency

CC: Bob Vitas
David Fernandez
Marilyn Wilbarger

FROM: John Paul Castro, Key West Bight Operations Manager

DATE: March 13, 2013

SUBJECT: Ratify Funds for Tree Relocation

ACTION STATEMENT:

Attached is the Emergency Declaration signed by City Manager Bob Vitas to release funds in the amount of \$33,002.25 to Ecoscapes for the relocation of 61 palm trees from Conch Harbor to Key West Bight.

BACKGROUND:

Conch Harbor has recently received approval to build a new structure on the South side of its property for retail use. Within the aforementioned area exists a large landscaped water retention swale containing many large and expensive palm trees.

PURPOSE & JUSTIFICATION:

The City Manager signed an Emergency Declaration for the funds of the relocation after getting permission to extract the trees from Key West Bight's neighboring property. The timeline due to construction given from Conch Harbor did not leave enough time for formal bidding and approval processes. The palms were to otherwise be cut down to make way for grade work.

The costs of the transplanted trees, if purchased new, have been estimated in the \$80,000 range. Within Key West Bights common area plan are expectations of landscaping throughout the Bight to ease hardscapes and create shade. The size and availability of the palms from Conch Harbor were a perfect match and ideal location for their movement due to size.

Two prices were received for the relocation of the palm trees:

1. Ecoscapes - \$33,002.25
2. Mama's Rock and Sand - \$63,200.00

Key to the Caribbean – Average yearly temperature 77° F.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The \$33,002.25 will be taken out of the Common Area Enhancement plan money that was budgeted at \$333,000 for 3 years equaling \$1,000,000. The current balance is \$837,718.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the ratification of funds in the amount of \$33,002.25 for the relocation of 61 palm trees from Conch Harbor to the Key West Bight property.

ATTACHMENTS:

Emergency Declaration

Mamas Rock and Sand Bid

Ecoscapes Bid

Landscape Approval Memo