

**TREE COMMISSION TREE REMOVAL REPORT  
CITY of KEY WEST**

**PROPERTY: 1100 Varela St.**

**APPLICATION NUMBER: T2026-0093**

**REQUEST: The applicant is requesting removal of (2) Green Buttonwood trees.**

**TREE ASSESSMENT and PHOTOS**













**Three like trees**

**Diameter: 8" 9" 7"**

**Location: 60%**

**Species: 100%**

**Condition: 80%**

**Value: 80%**

**Recommended Mitigation: 19.2 Caliper Inches**

**(3) green buttonwood trees (*Conocarpus erectus*) measuring approximately 7, 8, and 9 inches DBH, respectively. All three trees are currently in generally good physiological condition; however, the overall site placement is considered questionable due to the confined and conflicting surroundings. The trees are situated directly adjacent to a dual-layer wooden fence system on one side and a large flex-pave children's playground on the other, significantly limiting available rooting space and creating direct conflicts with surrounding infrastructure.**

**The root systems of the trees have caused substantial undulations and surface displacement within the flex-pave playground area. These irregularities have created unacceptable trip and fall hazards, particularly for children utilizing the playground for running and recreational activities. The ongoing root expansion associated with these trees is expected to continue worsening the disturbance over time, increasing maintenance demands and safety concerns within the play area.**

**Although the trees themselves remain in fair to good condition, the existing site constraints and direct conflict with the playground infrastructure make long-term compatibility impractical. The applicant is therefore seeking removal of the trees due to the documented surface disruption and associated safety hazards. Mitigation for canopy loss can be reasonably achieved through replacement with more site-appropriate tree species that possess less aggressive surface rooting characteristics and are better suited for installation adjacent to flex-pave recreational surfaces.**

**PREPARED BY:**

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**&**

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