



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

Purpose

The purpose of this proposal is to obtain authorization to allocate up to \$10,000 from the Tree Fund to implement a public tree giveaway program that promotes urban canopy expansion, community engagement, and environmental stewardship. This initiative is designed to increase awareness of the ecological, economic, and cultural value of trees within the City of Key West.

Background and Justification

The Key lime tree is deeply embedded in the heritage and identity of Key West and the Florida Keys. As a culturally significant and locally recognized species, it serves as an ideal focal point for a public outreach initiative. Providing residents with Key lime trees encourages participation in urban greening efforts while reinforcing the connection between the community and its natural environment.

This program also supports the City's continued participation in the Tree City USA program, reflecting our commitment to sustainable urban forestry practices, public education, and responsible tree management.

Program Description

Urban Forestry proposes to organize and implement a Key lime tree giveaway event for Key West residents. The event will include distribution of trees along with educational materials on proper planting, maintenance, and long-term care to help ensure survivability and maximize environmental benefits.

The giveaway is planned to coincide with a community holiday or seasonal event in June or July to increase public participation and outreach effectiveness.

Funding Request

Urban Forestry is requesting approval to utilize up to \$10,000 from the Tree Fund. These funds will be used for:

- Procurement of healthy, nursery-grown Key lime trees
- Materials and supplies necessary for distribution
- Educational and outreach materials
- Event coordination and logistics

Benefits to the Community

- Enhances urban tree canopy and associated environmental benefits
- Promotes community involvement in urban forestry initiatives
- Strengthens public awareness of tree care and sustainability
- Celebrates and preserves a culturally significant tree species

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

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