

RESOLUTION NO. TC Resolution 24-01

A RESOLUTION OF THE TREE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA, RECOMMENDING THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING TO CREATE ONE FULL-TIME POSITION WITH THE JOB TITLE OF "ASSISTANT URBAN FORESTER," THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR TRAINING AND CREDENTIALING FOR UP TO TWO ARBORISTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY SERVICE DEPARTMENT, THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR AN INSULATED AERIAL VEHICLE FOR PROPER VEGETATION MAINTENANCE, THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR ROUTINE VEGETATION MAINTENANCE, THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR THE HIRING OF OUTSIDE VEGETATION MAINTENANCE CREWS, AND THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR ANNUAL TRAINING FOR PROPER INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE OF LOCAL VEGETATION, AND THE FINALIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EVERGREEN STUDY FOR FISCAL YEAR 24-25; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, City Code Section 90-182 assigns power and duty to the Tree Commission to protect and enhance the health, growth, and planting of trees in the city; and

WHEREAS, at its meeting of April 2, 2024, the Tree Commission discussed future actions and investments that could improve tree protection and support strategic plan goals for environmental protection in the City of Key West; and

WHEREAS, the Tree Commission determined to request that the City Commission and City staff consider for Fiscal Year 24-25 the creation of a full-time position of Assistant Urban

Forester, to allocate sufficient funding for two members of the community service department to be trained as certified arborists, to allocate sufficient funding for an insulated aerial vehicle for proper vegetation management, to allocate sufficient funding for routine vegetation maintenance, to allocate sufficient funding for the hiring of outside vegetation maintenance crews, and to further allocate sufficient funding for annual training for proper installation and maintenance of vegetation, and to finalize and implement the Evergreen study for the Urban Forester and all associated positions, to further the mission of the tree commission; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE KEY WEST TREE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF KEY WEST, FLORIDA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: That the Tree Commission recommends that during the budget process for FY 24-25, that City Staff and Commissioners create a full-time position for "Assistant Urban Forester";

Section 2: That the Tree Commission recommends that City Staff and Commissioners budget funds for the Urban Forestry and Community Services Department to obtain arborists training and certification from the International Society of Arboriculture ("ISA");

Section 3: That the Tree Commission recommends that City Staff and Commissioners budget funds for an insulated aerial vehicle for proper vegetation management;

Section 4: That the Tree Commission recommends that City Staff and Commissioners budget funds for annual training for proper installation and maintenance of local vegetation;

Section 5: That the Tree Commission recommends that City Staff and Commissioners budget funds for routine zoned vegetation maintenance;

Section 6: That the Tree Commission recommends that City Staff and Commissioners budget funds for the hiring of outside vegetation maintenance crews, if necessary;

Section 7: That the Tree Commission recommends that City Staff and Commissioners finalize and implement the Evergreen study for the Urban Forester position and all associated positions;

Section 7 8: That the Tree Commission requests City staff to determine and allocate the exact funding required to fulfill these requests, and to recommend such funding for City Commission approval in the FY 24-25 budget.

Section 8: That this Resolution shall go into effect immediately upon its passage and adoption and authentication by the signature of the Presiding Officer and the Clerk of the Tree Commission.

Passed and adopted by the Key West Tree Commission at a meeting held this 2nd day of April, 2024.

Filed with the Clerk on April 2, 2024.


MISHA McRAE, CHAIR

ATTEST:


KERI O'BRIEN, CLERK