

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

PROPERTY: 1317 Ashby St.

APPLICATION NUMBER: T2026-0084

REQUEST: The applicant is requesting removal of (2) Gumbo Limbo trees.

TREE ASSESSMENT and PHOTOS



TREE #2



TREE #2



TREE #2





TREE #1



TREE #1



TREE #1



TREE #1



TREE #1





TREE #1



TREE #1



TREE #2



TREE #2

Tree #1

Diameter: 18"

Location: 60%

Species: 100%

Condition: 70%

Value: 76.6%

Recommended Mitigation: 13.8 Caliper Inches

Tree #2

Diameter: 22"

Location: 70%

Species: 100%

Condition: 60%

Value: 76.6%

Recommended Mitigation: 16.9 Caliper Inches

The subject trees consist of two mature Gumbo Limbo trees (*Bursera simaruba*), measuring approximately 18 inches and 22 inches DBH respectively. Both trees are estimated to have an overall value rating of approximately 76%, however each tree exhibits significant site and structural limitations. Both specimens are located in close proximity to residential fence lines, severely restricting their long-term compatibility within the site. Tree number two has caused substantial damage to an adjacent fence, displacing it significantly from its original vertical alignment to the extent that the fence can no longer be considered structurally acceptable.

Both trees exhibit evidence of chronic neglect and/or improper pruning practices. Tree number one possesses codominant stems with included bark at the primary union, creating a structurally compromised attachment point that reduces the overall integrity of the tree. Additionally, Tree number one is growing directly beneath overhead communication and power service lines. Repeated pruning necessary to maintain utility clearance has resulted in improper pruning cuts, canopy imbalance, and poor branch architecture. The cumulative effects of these conditions have negatively impacted the structural form and health of the tree.

The overall architecture and growth habit of both trees are not considered ideal for a residential setting. Based upon their positioning and development patterns, it is likely that both trees are volunteer specimens rather than intentionally planted landscape trees. Due to the extent of the structural defects, site conflicts, and poor canopy form, it is not believed that major corrective pruning would successfully mitigate these issues or allow the trees to function appropriately within their current locations over the long term. Mitigation and removal therefore warrant serious consideration.

PREPARED BY:

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&

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