

STAFF REPORT

DATE: September 6, 2022

RE: **Administrative Hearing for Truesdale Court (TC2022-00008)**

FROM: Karen DeMaria, City of Key West Urban Forestry Manager

On February 10, 2021, I received a call regarding the removal of trees at Truesdale Court. A subsequent site inspection documented the removal and improper trimming of regulated trees all without benefit of a permit from the Tree Commission. Large piles of vegetative debris were observed in the public parking areas. Based on the trunks and leaves in the debris piles closest to the stumps, at least (2) Jamaican Dogwood trees were removed, a protected tree species, and a madras thorn tree was removed/heavily trimmed/removed, a regulated tree species.

Information received from people on site indicated that personnel from FKOC were the people responsible for the vegetative debris. Subsequently, a phone call was made to the organization. On February 11, 2021, a conversation with Jeanette McLernon indicated that personnel with FKOC did cut the trees. Please note that the person responsible for removal and trimming of the regulated trees no longer works with FKOC.

Additional site visits and documentation indicates that the (2) Jamaican Dogwood trees removed were each approximately 15 inches caliper. The third stump seen in the photos below appears to actually be a trunk that grew from the root system of the adjacent Madras Thorn tree and therefore would be considered a heavy trimming of the tree. The Madras Thorn tree still standing was improperly trimmed with large stub cuts. A permit would have been required for the trimming work (more than 30% of canopy removed, cuts made 6 inches diameter or larger).

A recent site meeting with a representative from FKOC indicates their willingness to replant. They have requested that any required replanting be done in a nearby park area as the Truesdale Court area will be a construction site in the next year.

Untitled Map

Write a description for your map.

Legend

Truesdell Ct

removal
area

Proposed replanting
area

Truesdell Ct

DUCK



100 ft



Two photos
of the area
taken on
February
10, 2021.



Photos taken on
February 10, 2021



Photo of debris
pile.

Madras Thorn
tree



Photo of Jamaican Dogwood stump #1



Photo of Jamaican Dogwood stump #2 and Madras
Thorn stump.



Photo showing tree, stumps, and vegetative debris pile, February 10, 2021.



Two photos of
area dated
June 15, 2021.
Stumps have
become
“stands” for
potted plants,
view 1 and 2.





Photo of area
dated June
15, 2021,
view 3.



Photo of area
dated June 6,
2022, view 1.



Photo of area dated June 6, 2022, view 2.