

# Biscayne Environmental, Inc.

Environmental and Land Development Consultants ♦ Mitigation Design and Contracting

May 25, 2017

Via email

Christopher Cawley, RLA  
780 NE 69<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1108  
Miami, FL 33138

RE: 421 E. San Marino Drive, Miami Beach  
Evaluation of Existing Tree Resources  
BEI Project No. 2017-11

Dear Mr. Cawley,

Pursuant to your request and authorization, I conducted a field inspection of the subject property on May 16, 2017. The purpose of the inspection was to identify and evaluate the existing tree resources to determine whether any of the existing trees are significant and warrant preservation or on-site relocation. The findings from the inspection follow.


The on-site inspection revealed that the existing tree resources include non-native ornamental trees that were planted originally as landscape material, fruit trees, exotic nuisance trees, and a native strangler fig tree and banyan tree that appear to have volunteered on the property. Trees observed in the front yard include 3 Bismarck palms, 1 Canary Island date palm, 1 mango, 1 gumbo limbo, 2 garcinia trees, a cluster of solitaire palms, and a cluster of cabada palms. Trees along the north property line include 2 royal palms and a banyan tree; and a cluster of solitaire palms and reclining date palms are found in the rear of the property adjacent to the swimming pool. A large strangler fig, royal palm, latania palm, and bottlebrush tree occur along the south property line.

Except for the large strangler fig on the south property line and the banyan tree along the north property line, the trees have been generally well maintained and are in good condition. The large ficus tree has a number of rotten trunks and structural damage to major canopy branches from prior storm damage and recent pruning that occurred (see attached photographs). Therefore, it is recommended that this strangler fig be removed and replaced with desirable native shade trees. The banyan tree on the north property line is growing in a very limited area between the two houses which has resulted in the canopy being cut back significantly (see attached photographs). The banyan tree also shows evidence of previous storm damage and the root system is running along the surface due to its close proximity to a CBS wall and the house. For these reasons, the banyan tree should be removed.

Because of their location along the north property line, the royal palms should be able to remain in place. All of the other palms could either remain in place (Canary Island date palm in particular), or be relocated on-site, or replaced by other desirable trees. The bottlebrush at the southeast corner of the property by the seawall should be removed and the 2 garcinia trees at the entrance of the house could either be removed or replaced.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the findings in this report.

Sincerely,  
BISCAYNE ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.



David Ettman, Senior Biologist  
President

DE/ cs  
Attachments



**Photo 1** Bismarck palms in center of circular driveway.



**Photo 2** Canary Island date palm at southwest corner of property.



**Photo 3** Mango tree at southwest corner of property.



**Photo 4** Cabada cluster at front entryway of house.

**Biscayne Environmental, Inc.**

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Project: 421 E San Marino Drive

Sheet Name: Site Photographs

Prepared For: Chris Cawley

Address: 421 E San Marino Drive

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Scale: NTS

**Sheet 1**





**Photo 5** Garcinas at front entrance of house.



**Photo 6** Gumbo limbo in front yard.



**Photo 7** Reclining date palm cluster in side yard.



**Photo 8** Strangler fig along south property line.

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**Sheet 2**





**Photo 9** Rotten trunk on west face of strangler fig.



**Photo 10** Structural damage to canopy branches of strangler fig.



**Photo 11** Close-up of structural branch damage.



**Photo 12** Branch cluster on right half of photo resulting from storm damage regrowth.

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**Sheet 3**





**Photo 13** Banyan tree along north property line growing in confined space.



**Photo 14** Close-up of banyan canopy showing shaving off of canopy on north side.



**Photo 15** Exposed roots of banyan tree.



**Photo 16** Royal palms along north property line.

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