

Biscayne Environmental, Inc.

Environmental and Land Development Consultants ♦ Mitigation Design and Contracting

September 7, 2016

Via email

Christopher Cawley, RLA
780 NE 69th Street
Miami, FL 33138

RE: 790 Lakeview Drive, Miami Beach
Evaluation of Existing Tree Resources
BEI Project No. 2016-26

Dear Mr. Cawley,

Pursuant to your request and authorization, I conducted a field inspection of the subject property on September 6, 2016. The purpose of the inspection was to 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 trees on the property are predominately non-native ornamental trees that were planted as landscape material in the yard area of the house and adjoining public Right-of-Way. Trees observed in the Right-of-Way include *Ficus benjamina*, yellow elder, umbrella tree and thatch palm (see Photos 1 & 2). Trees noted in the front yard include yellow tabebuia, Christmas palm, Chinese fan palm, pygmy date palm, ponytail palm, bamboo palm and numerous thatch palms (see Photos 3 & 4). Trees in the west side yard include umbrella tree, pandanus, tamarind, an unidentified tropical fruit tree, and mahoe, while a stand of pandanus occurs in the east side yard along with coconut palms, Alexander palms, and a large black olive. The backyard includes a stand of Norfolk Island pines, seaside hibiscus (*Thespesia populnea*), pencil tree (a cactus), and a large black olive.

The majority of the trees are less than 8" DBH, and are exempt from having to obtain permits or approval for removal, although the two black olives exceed 12" DBH and are therefore considered specimen trees requiring a permit for removal. The large umbrella trees, seaside hibiscus, mahoe and Norfolk Island pines are prohibited species and are exempt from having to obtain permits.

Many of the trees on the property are in poor condition due to previous storm damage and lack of maintenance. In particular, both of the large black olives are in poor condition; the black olive in the back yard next to the seawall has a number of decaying canopy branches and also appears to have lightening damage, and the black olive in the side yard has 3 co-dominant main trunks at breast height and also has decaying canopy branches and was covered with pothos vine at the time of the inspection (see Photos 6-10). The stand of pandanus in the east side yard is in fairly good condition and has a well-

developed adventitious root system which is aesthetically pleasing (see Photo 11). The thatch palms in the front yard and court yard are in good condition and could easily be transplanted or relocated on site (see Photo 3).

Based on the above findings, the only trees present on the property which are worth incorporating into the landscape plan for the proposed house are the thatch palms and pandanus cluster along the east property line. Since the pandanus cluster is growing along the east property line it should not be in conflict with new construction and could be preserved in place. Since it is likely that the thatch palms will be in conflict with new construction, it is recommended that they be relocated to the setback area of the west property line where they should not be in conflict with new construction. The remainder of the trees on site are either in poor condition or are exempt or prohibited trees and should be removed after a permit has been obtained from the City of Miami Beach.

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

Attachment

cc: Todd Glaser
Robert Moehring



Photo 1 Ficus and thatch palm on west half of ROW and thatch palms in front yard.



Photo 2 Umbrella tree and yellow elder on east half of ROW and pandanus along east property line in background to left.



Photo 3 View west of thatch palms in front yard with yellow tabebuia canopy visible above thatch palms.



Photo 4 View of Christmas palm cluster and pygmy date palm on east side of front yard.

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		Date:	9/8/2016
		Scale:	NTS
			Sheet 1



Photo 5 Large black olive in backyard next to seawall.



Photo 6 Close-up of decaying/damaged trunk on black olive in backyard.



Photo 7 Close-up of trunk damage to black olive in backyard.



Photo 8 Additional close-up of trunk damage to black olive in backyard.

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				Sheet 2



Photo 9 Black olive in east side yard covered with pothos vine.

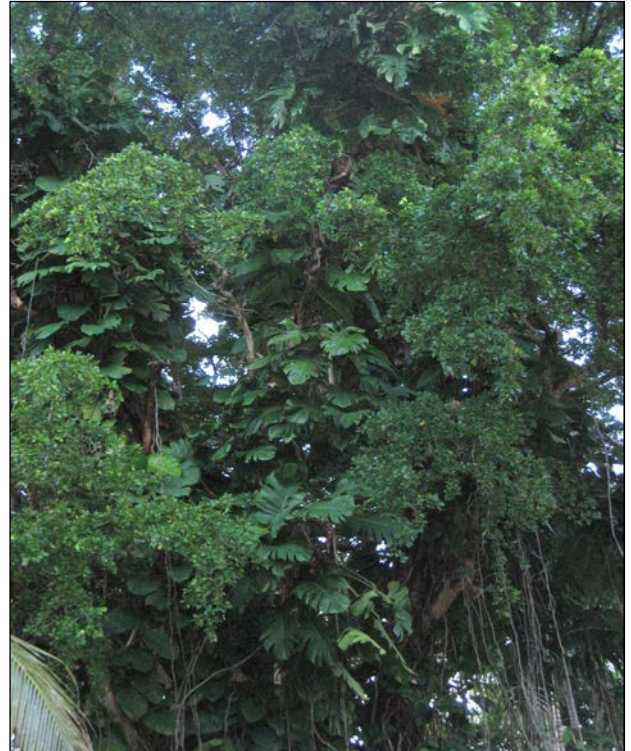


Photo 10 Close-up of pothos vine covering black olive in east side yard.



Photo 11 Pandanus cluster growing along east property line. Note adventitious root mass.

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