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LETTER TO COMMISSION
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

TO: Mayor Philip Levine and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jimmy Morales, City Manager

DATE: December 24, 2014

SUBJECT: Emergency Removal of Pine Trees in the Median on Pine Tree Drive

This letter will provide you with information regarding the current status of the Australian Pine Trees in the medians and Right of Way (ROW) along the Pine Tree Drive corridor.

A Tree Risk Assessment Report was provided by ISA Board Certified Master Arborist Chuck Lippi. The report evaluated the current conditions of all the Australian pine trees along Pine Tree Drive from 30th Street to 46th Streets and included professional recommendations to assist with risk mitigation. In accordance with the report, thirteen (13) Australian pine trees #'s 3381, 3393, 3394, 3406, 3407, 3447, 3458, 3486, 3487, 3500, 3502, 3521, 3810 were classified as Priority 2 & 3 removals. The Priority 2 removal designation is defined as follows: "Trees that should be removed but do not pose a liability as great as the first priority is in this group. This category would need attention as soon as "Priority 1" trees are removed". The Priority 3 removal designation is as follows: "Trees in this category are those that should be removed, but pose minimal liability to persons or property." The Priority 1 tree removals were completed the week of March 24, 2014.

Miami Dade County Right of Way Aesthetic and Assets Management has advised that they will be performing the emergency removal of all Australian pine trees with a Priority 2 & 3 removal designation thirteen (13) trees in total.

The required tree removals are located on the medians adjacent to 3122, 3510, 3540, 3710, 3773, 4101, 4385, 4395 and 4430 Pine Tree Drive including the swale adjacent to 3122 Pine Tree Drive. The anticipated time frame for the work will be two weeks starting on January 5, 2015, with week one concentrating on the Southern segment between 31st and 41st Street and week two moving to the Northern segment between 41st and 45th Street. This schedule may be updated depending on the contractor's progress. The County shall be providing standard Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) while the tree removals are occurring.

Should you have additional questions, please contact Mark Williams, Urban Forester, (305) 673-7080.

JM/MT/EC/JR/PN/MW

CC. Historic Preservation Board