

Introduction: I was notified of an issue at this residence on 10.29.2025 in afternoon via email from Officer Pedro Gonzalez from Code Enforcement. He asked me to inspect site for tree damages. It was verified by Code Enforcement that no Permit for tree work or ROW improvements were applied for or approved at this site.

I arrived at site 10.30.2025 approx. 9:30 a.m. with our city vendor (ISA Arborist as well) to do a ground-based inspection of ROW trees. 4 in total, to be referenced as #s 1-4 here forward and referenced in picture/survey.

We had 3 arborists (2 City employees, 1 vendor) inspect/review pictures and/or site visit and concur on findings stated below. The City is now tasked with immediate major crown reduction to mitigate risk of whole tree failure as soon as possible. The City vendor has been notified to commence this work and will be providing invoicing for this necessary and unexpected remediation work for reimbursement through Code Enforcement action. The resident must also provide a tree appraisal report prepared by an ISA certified arborist to document the value of the City tree assets lost.

Trees # 1,2,3 : (Southern most 3 trees) “Effectively Destroyed” and should be removed and mitigated in full as per Chapter 82 of City Code : 1 new tree, 16’ minimum overall planted height, or \$ 2,500 for each 500 square feet of tree canopy lost. The resident must submit an ISA certified arborist’s report that calculates the square footage of canopy loss to be confirmed by City arborists.

Trees have had MAJOR structural roots ground or broken from basal areas and the critical root zone destroyed, as this is what is integral to structurally supporting/balancing the crown. Making trees a major risk to retain. All or most absorption roots were removed and trees already showing wilting of leaves. Severed roots in this close of proximity to trunk and the methods to “cut” roots make trees more susceptible to fungal pathogens and death or decline in coming 3-5 years, even if trees theoretically could be retained without risk of whole tree failure from lack of roots. Tree # 3 had soil rubbed into large area where bark was damaged in attempt to conceal wound.

Tree listed as # 4 (Tree resides on neighboring property to north) could POSSIBLY be retained but should have an independent arborist inspect and render assessment on retention and stability via air spade root inspection in quadrant affected by ROW. It is apparent that some structural roots were ground away, but not on same scope as the other 3 trees. Tree has poor trunk beyond current issue created.

NOTE: Public works should inspect edge of roadway, to see if was compromised from close excavation to roadbed.

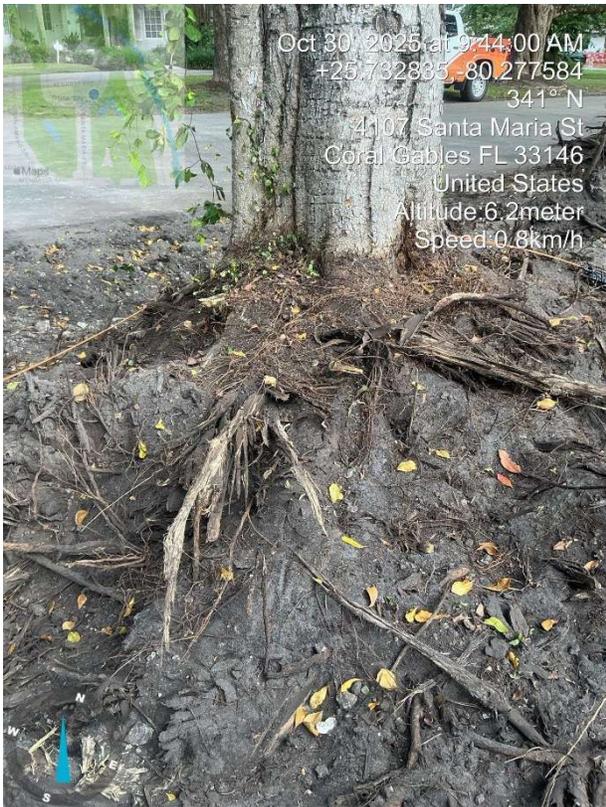
More pictures are available if needed.



Tree 3 Ground away CRZ Roots



Tree 3 Ground away CRZ Roots



Tree 1 Broken CRZ roots



Oct 30, 2025 at 9:44:08 AM
+25 732835 -80 277389
342° N
4107 Santa Maria St
Coral Gables FL 33146
United States
Altitude: 6.2meter
Speed: 0.8km/h

Tree 1 Broken CRZ roots



Trees 1 &2 with fill

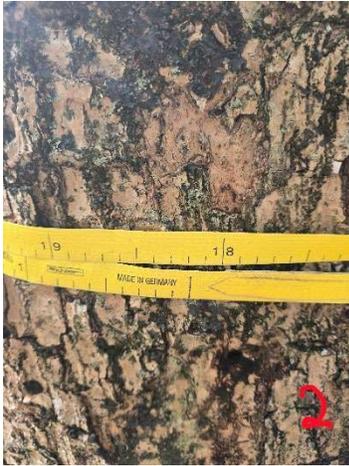


Trees 1 &2 with fill and damaged

roots



Tree #1 **27.5" DBH** Black Olive (*Terminalia buceras*)



Tree #2 **18.25" DBH** Black olive (*Terminalia buceras*)



Tree #3 **20.25" DBH** Black olive (*Terminalia buceras*)



Tree #4 **25.25" DBH** Black olive (*Terminalia buceras*)

Conclusion:

- We/I recommend removal of trees 1, 2, 3 with crown reduction (safe up) immediately. (Any cost incurred by city to be reimbursed).
- Tree #4 to have independent ISA certified arborist's inspection report and plan created thereafter in coordination with the City urban forester.
- Any fines for tree damage and or working in ROW without permits as per.
- Cost of economic loss TBD and mitigation resolved thereafter.
- Public Works should inspect roadbed.

Note: In my opinion, I cannot imagine any certified arborist would write an inspection report/ Tree Risk Assessment, to retain trees 1-3 and assume liability for risk of whole tree failure.

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