# Update on Red Road Landscape Improvements

CITY COMMISSION MEETING

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13<sup>TH</sup>, 2020





## Project Overview



#### **Project:**

This project is part of the City's ongoing tree planting program that is being implemented by the Landscape Services Division of the Public Works Department.

The City's Public Works Department has planted over 4,000 trees in the last six years.

#### **Public Meeting:**

Red Road is a State Road (SR-959), and is designated a State Historic Highway.

Tree plantings along Red Road require a Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) landscape permit and must comply with FDOT design criteria.

The City received FDOT comments for the FDOT landscape permit (2019-L-690-00008) requiring a public meeting be held in accordance with State laws (Chapter 89-383 and Chapter 2007-196, Laws of Florida) regarding State Historic Highways.



# Project Overview



#### Why Palms and Not Larger Trees?

The FDOT design criteria does not allow for new trees to be planted in the grass swale areas along Red Road.

The City submitted and received approval for a design variation for lateral offset, clear sight triangles and stopping sight distances in order to allow for the Solitaire Palms to be planted.

Solitaire Palms meet the FDOT frangible or breakaway requirements for a maximum 4-inch trunk diameter as well as the 8.5-foot height clearance to the bottom of the palm canopy for visibility.

These proposed plantings are subject to FDOT approval of the submitted landscape permit, and the final Solitaire Palm locations and quantities may vary somewhat from the proposed plans.



## Proposed Scope of Work



Red Road (East side)
from SW 8<sup>th</sup> Street to US1

- About 3.5 miles of Red Road

227 Solitaire Palms

Ptychosperma elegans

**3** Planting Beds of Green Island Ficus Shrubs

Ficus microcarpa 'Green Island'

# Project Update



**160 palms** have been planted to date from US1 to Catalonia Ave.

70 remaining palms will be planted this week which includes 16 palms that are being planted in the Ponce de Leon Blvd. median to replace missing palms.

Shrub plantings will be completed in 2-3 weeks after killing existing weeds and grass with ecofriendly herbicide and air spading the areas to decompact the soil and prepare the soil for shrub plantings.



# Red = Palms Planted Orange = Palms Not Yet Planted

#### US 1 to Bird Rd



107 Palms

Bird Rd to Coral Way



103 Palms

Coral Way to 8th Street



17 Palms





**Progress of Palm Plantings** 







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