



## Town of Lake Park, Florida

### Tree Board Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Town Hall Commission Chamber, 535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, FL 33403

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<b>Brady Drew</b>	—	<b>Chair</b>
<b>Gillian Kennedy Wright</b>	—	<b>Vice-Chair</b>
<b>Shana Phelan</b>	—	<b>Board Member</b>
<b>Lauren Paxton</b>	—	<b>Board Member</b>

***PLEASE TAKE NOTICE AND BE ADVISED, that if any interested person desires to appeal any decision of the Tree Board, with respect to any matter considered at this meeting, such interested person will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in the meeting should contact the Town Clerk's office by calling 881-3311 at least 48 hours in advance to request accommodations.***

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#### CIVILITY AND DECORUM

The Town of Lake Park is committed to civility and decorum to be applied and observed by its elected officials, advisory board members, employees and members of the public who attend Town meetings. The following rules are hereby established to govern the decorum to be observed by all persons attending public meetings of the Commission and its advisory boards:

- Those persons addressing the Commission or its advisory boards who wish to speak shall first be recognized by the presiding officer. No person shall interrupt a speaker once the speaker has been recognized by the presiding officer. Those persons addressing the Commission or its advisory boards shall be respectful and shall obey all directions from the presiding officer.
  - Public comment shall be addressed to the Commission or its advisory board and not to the audience or to any individual member on the dais.
  - Displays of disorderly conduct or personal derogatory or slanderous attacks of anyone in the assembly is discouraged. Any individual who does so may be removed from the meeting.
  - Unauthorized remarks from the audience, stomping of feet, clapping, whistles, yells or any other type of demonstrations are discouraged.
  - A member of the public who engages in debate with an individual member of the Commission or an advisory board is discouraged. Those individuals who do so may be removed from the meeting.
  - All cell phones and/or other electronic devices shall be turned off or silenced prior to the start of the public meeting. An individual who fails to do so may be removed from the meeting.
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#### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### PRESENTATIONS:

- [1.](#) Selection of a Chair
- [2.](#) Selection of a Vice-Chair

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

3. September 12, 2023 Tree Board Minutes

**NEW BUSINESS:**

4. Tree Replacement Proposal for the West Side Swale of Lake Shore Drive Corridor

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*This time is provided for addressing items that do not appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Agency Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember comments are limited to a TOTAL of three minutes.*

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**FUTURE MEETING DATE:** The next scheduled Tree Board Meeting will be conducted on January 14, 2025.

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**Sec. 2-111. Election of board and committee officers.**

- (a) *Chair.* Each board and committee of the town shall annually elect from its membership a chair, who shall preside at all meetings of such board or committee, and a vice-chair, who shall preside at all meetings of such board or committee in the absence or disability of the chair, at a regular meeting to be conducted in January, or if there is no meeting in January then at the first meeting of the board or committee in the new year.
- (b) *Administrative support.* The town manager shall assign town employees to each board or committee, including a recording secretary who shall be responsible for recording the meetings and producing minutes of the board or committee meetings.

(Code 1978, § 2-56; Ord. No. 17-1991, § 1, 11-6-1991; Ord. No. 05-2015, § 2, 5-6-2015)

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## Town of Lake Park, Florida

### Tree Board Meeting Minutes

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Town Hall Mirror Ballroom, 535 Park Avenue, Lake Park, FL 33403

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#### CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

6:04 pm

Present:

Chair Drew

Vice-Chair Kennedy Wright

Board Member Paxton

Board Member Phelan

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A moment of silence was observed in lieu of the pledge.

#### PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation and Project Update Associated with the Planned Hardscape and Landscape Improvements Along the 700, 800, and 900 blocks of Park Avenue.

Project Manager John Wille spoke about the project and provided a presentation (Exhibit A).

Chair Drew stated he didn't see any large canopy trees on the plant list but wasn't sure how necessary it was as there are some existing large canopy trees. Project Manager Wille advised that there are a few down the swale area and few in the landscape islands in the parking lot.

Chair Drew also mentioned that only about half of the plantings on the list were native. Project Manager Wille stated that one of the consultant's main goals was to introduce more color to the area but he will bring it back to the consultant to see if they can add some more native items. The Board was given an update about the Park Avenue Road Diet Project that will now eliminate the center swale, but there would still be small islands in the intersections. Project Manager Wille answered questions from the Board about a Seacoast Utility project that will be piggybacked off of the Towns Projects for Park Avenue. He advised that the Town will attempt to save the large growth trees that are there. Chair Drew asked about the overhead power lines and street lights. Project Manager Wille advised that the Town is wanting to replace the lights.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Motion to approve consent agenda item made by Board Member Phelan,  
Seconded by Board Member Paxton.

Voting Aye: All

2. April 11 2023 Tree Board Meeting Minutes

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

*This time is provided for addressing items that do not appear on the Agenda. Please complete a comment card and provide it to the Agency Clerk so speakers may be announced. Please remember comments are limited to a TOTAL of three minutes.*

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:** None

**STAFF MEMBER COMMENTS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Meeting adjourned 6:28 pm

**FUTURE MEETING DATE:** The next scheduled Tree Board Meeting will be conducted on October 10, 2023.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Town Seal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk, Vivian Mendez, MMC

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy Town Clerk, Laura Weidgans

Approved on this \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_, 2024



## Town of Lake Park Town Commission

### Agenda Request Form

**Meeting Date:** December 10, 2024  
**Originating Department:** Public Works  
Tree Replacement Proposal for the West Side Swale of Lake Shore  
**Agenda Title:** Drive Corridor

**Approved by Town Manager:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Cost of Item:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Funding Source:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Account Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Finance Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Advertised:**  
**Date:** N/A **Newspaper:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Attachments:** Presentation  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please initial one:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I have notified everyone.  
 JM \_\_\_\_\_ Not applicable in this case.

**Summary Explanation/Background:**

The current trees planted along the west side swale of Lake Shore Drive Corridor, specifically Silver Buttonwood, have proven to be unsuitable for this location due to the area's soil moisture retention. The swale is designed to retain water, creating an environment incompatible with the well-drained soil requirements of Silver Buttonwood. Despite several replacements at a cost of \$1,575 (excluding labor), many trees have died or are close to dying. The staff has researched alternative species that are more suitable for the swale's condition and has presented several palm tree species options for consideration. These species were selected based on their tolerance to moisture, medium-drain soil, and, where necessary, salt conditions.

**Recommended Motion:**

Staff recommends that the Tree Board review the proposed palm tree species options and provide guidance on which species to pursue for replanting.



# Department of Public Works

## Lake Shore Drive – Swale Trees Challenge



# Current Situation Overview

- **Location:** West side swale of Lake Shore Drive Corridor
- **Design:** The swale is designed to retain water for prolonged periods, helping manage stormwater runoff.
- **Current Tree Species:** Silver Buttonwood (original design).
- **Issues:** The Silver Buttonwood requires well-drained soil, but the swale area has medium-drain soil, which retains more moisture than is suitable for this species.
- **Cost:** Replacing nine Silver Buttonwood trees costs \$1,575 (excluding labor).
- **Current Condition:** Some Silver Buttonwood trees have already died; others are in poor health and unlikely to survive in this environment.



# Silver Buttonwood – Unsuitable for Swale Environment

**Native Habitat:** Coastal environments where soil drains quickly.

**Soil Preference:** Well-drained, sandy soils.

**Moisture Tolerance:** Poor adaptation to prolonged moisture or saturated soils.

**Salt Tolerance:** High, ideal for coastal regions but not suited to swale-like, moisture-retaining environments.

**Why It's Failing in the Swale:**

**Soil Type:** Medium-drain soil retains more moisture than Silver Buttonwood can tolerate.

**Moisture Retention:** The swale's function to retain water causes prolonged exposure to moisture, leading to root rot and poor tree health.



# Palm Tree Substitution Plan

We have researched palm species that are more suitable for this specific swale environment and present the following options. These palms can better tolerate moisture, medium-drain soils, and, where necessary, salt tolerance.



# Palm Tree Options

## **Dypsis Lutescens (Areca Palm)**

Moisture Tolerance: Moderate.

Soil Texture: Prefers well-drained but adaptable to medium-drain soils.

Salt Tolerance: Low.



## **Saw Cabbage Palm (Sabal minor)**

Moisture Tolerance: High tolerance to wet soils.

Soil Texture: Adaptable to various soil types, including medium-





# Palm Tree Options

## **Carpentaria Palm (*Carpentaria acuminata*)**

Moisture Tolerance: Prefers moist conditions.

Soil Texture: Thrives in loamy, moist soils.

Salt Tolerance: Low.



## **Yellow Butterfly Palm (*Chrysalidocarpus lutescens*)**

Moisture Tolerance: Moderate to high.





# Palm Tree Options

## **Date Palm (*Phoenix dactylifera*)**

Moisture Tolerance: Low to moderate.

Soil Texture: Prefers well-drained soil.

Salt Tolerance: High.



## **Solitaire Palm (*Ptychosperma elegans*)**

Moisture Tolerance: Moderate.

Soil Texture: Adapts to loamy or medium-drain soils.





# Palm Tree Options

**Royal Palm (Roystonea regia)** Moisture Tolerance: High; can tolerate wet soils.  
Soil Texture: Thrives in moist, fertile soils.  
Salt Tolerance: Moderate.



**Cabbage Palmetto (Sabal palmetto)**  
Moisture Tolerance: High tolerance to moisture.  
Soil Texture: Grows well in moist, sandy, or loamy soils.





# Palm Tree Options

## **Key Thatch Palm (*Thrinax morrisii*)**

Moisture Tolerance: Moderate.

Soil Texture: Prefers sandy soils but tolerates various types.

Salt Tolerance: High.





# Proposed Next Steps

- Request the Commission's guidance on selecting the appropriate palm species for replanting in this swale.
- Evaluate the acquisition and implementation cost for the recommended Palm tree.