

# TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Information for Town Council Meeting on: December 14, 2021

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TO: Mayor and Town Council

VIA: Kirk. W. Blouin, Town Manager

FROM: H. Paul Brazil, P.E., Director of Public Works

RE: Historic or Specimen Tree Designation/De-designation at 174 Via Del Lago  
**Resolution No. 157-2021**

DATE: November 30, 2021

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## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Town staff requests that Town Council approve Resolution No. 157-2021 and the de-designation/designation assignment of a Historic/Specimen (H/S) tree as described below.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

There are one hundred-eighteen (118) trees on the island that have been designated as H/S trees. These trees are inspected annually by the Town arborist. During the inspection, the trees are evaluated to determine if they are of suitable quality and condition to remain as an H/S tree, and an inspection report is provided to the owner. The Town ordinance allows for relocation of trees and adding trees that are deemed to be of H/S quality.

In the course of that inspection, the Town's Arborist found tree number 26, a Caracas Fig (*Ficus Nymphaeolia*), at 174 Via Del Lago to be in fair condition, but structurally compromised due to tissue rotting fungi, and no longer of specimen quality, by no fault of the property owner, and recommends de-designation. Additionally, de-designation was also requested by the property owner that this tree be removed from the list of the Town's historic/specimen trees.

The property owner is aware of the Town's Historic or Specimen Tree Ordinance and delights being a part of the Garden Clubs H/S program. The property owner has offered to plant another Caracas Fig elsewhere on the property.

The Town's arborist will work with the property owner to locate and install a suitable replacement Caracas fig. By request of the owner and the Town's arborist, the newly planted Caracas Fig will be added to the Historic or Specimen Tree list and program utilizing the same tree number (26).

### **174 Via Del Lago**

Damaged Tree - Caracas Fig

Replacement - Caracas Fig

## **FUNDING/FISCAL IMPACT:**

There would be no impact to the budget unless the property owners participate in the voluntary maintenance program and fee as described in the Town Ordinance.

cc: Eric B. Brown, P.E., Assistant Director of Public Works/Operations  
Paul Colby, Facilities Maintenance Division Manager  
Mary Pressly, President, Garden Club of Palm Beach  
Richard Maxwell, King Tree Service, Town Arborist