

IFB No.
18-R067753GE
TREE TRIMMING SERVICES (988-88)
FEBRUARY 28, 2018

Manatee County BCC
Procurement Division
1112 Manatee Avenue West Ste 803
Bradenton, FL 34205
purchasing@mymanatee.org



**ADVERTISEMENT
INVITATION FOR BID
NO. 18R067753GE
TREE TRIMMING SERVICES**

Manatee County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (hereinafter referred to as County), will receive sealed bids from individuals, corporations, partnerships, and other legal entities authorized to do business in the State of Florida, to provide Tree Trimming Services, as specified in this Invitation for Bid.

DATE, TIME AND PLACE DUE:

The Due Date and Time for submission of Bids in response to this IFB is **March 23, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. ET.** Bids must be delivered to the following location: Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Ave. W., Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205 prior to the Due Date and Time. Bids will be opened immediately following the Due Date and Time at the Manatee County Administration Building, Suite 803 and the Bidder's name and total bid amount will be read aloud. Interested parties may attend the opening.

SOLICITATION INFORMATION CONFERENCE:

In order to ensure all prospective Bidders have sufficient information and understanding of County's needs, a non-mandatory Information Conference will be held at: 9:00 AM on March 12, 2018 at the Manatee Procurement Division, 1112 Manatee Ave West, Ste. 803, Bradenton, FL 34205. Attendance is not mandatory, but is strongly encouraged.

DEADLINE FOR QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATION REQUESTS:

The deadline to submit all questions, inquiries, or requests concerning interpretation, clarification or additional information pertaining to this Invitation for Bid to the Manatee County Procurement Division is March 16, 2018 at 3:00 P.M.. Questions and inquiries should be submitted via email to the Designated Procurement Contact shown below.

Important: A prohibition of lobbying is in place. Review Section A.15 carefully to avoid violation and possible sanctions.

DESIGNATED PROCUREMENT CONTACT: George Earnest, Buyer
(941) 749-3044, Fax (941) 749-3034
Email: george.earnest@mymanatee.org
Manatee County Financial Management Department
Procurement Division

AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE: 

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SECTION A
INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

To receive consideration, entities who submit a response to this Invitation for Bid (Bidders) must meet the minimum qualification requirements and comply with the following instructions. Bid responses (Bids) will be accepted from single business entities, joint ventures, partnerships or corporations.

A.01 BID DUE DATE

The Due Date and Time for submission of Bids in response to this Invitation for Bid (IFB) is **March 23, 2018 at 3:00 P.M. ET**. Bids must be delivered to the following location: Manatee County Administration Building, 1112 Manatee Ave. W., Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205 and time stamped by a Procurement Representative prior to the Due Date and Time.

Bids received after the Due Date and Time will not be considered. It will be the sole responsibility of the Bidder to deliver its bid to the Manatee County Procurement Division for receipt on or before the Due Date and Time. If a bid is sent by U.S. Mail, courier or other delivery services, the Bidder will be responsible for its timely delivery to the Procurement Division. Bids delayed in delivery will not be considered, will not be opened at the public opening, and arrangements will be made for their return at the Bidder's request and expense.

A.02 PUBLIC OPENING OF BIDS

Sealed Bids will be publicly opened at Manatee County Administration Procurement Division, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, 8th Floor, Suite 803, Bradenton, Florida 34205, in the presence of County officials immediately upon expiration of the Due Date and Time. Bidders or their representatives may attend the Bid opening.

Manatee County will make public at the opening the names of the business entities which submitted a Bid, the city and state in which they reside, and the total bid price. No review or analysis of the Bids will be conducted at the bid opening.

A.03 SUBMISSION OF BIDS

The contents of the Bid sealed package must include:

- One (1) bound original clearly identifying Bidder and marked "ORIGINAL".
- One (1) bound copy clearly identifying Bidder and marked "COPY" with all required information and identical to the original.
- One (1) electronic format copies clearly identifying Bidder and identical to the original.

Electronic format copy should be submitted on a Universal Serial Bus (USB) portable flash memory drive or compact disc (CD) in MicroSoft Office® or Adobe Acrobat® portable document format (PDF) in one continuous file. Do not password protect or otherwise encrypt electronic Bid copies. Electronic copies must be searchable and contain an identical Bid to the original.

Submit the Bid package in a sealed container with the following information clearly marked on the outside of the package: IFB No. 18-R067753GE, Tree Trimming Services, Bidder's name, and Bidder's address. Bids must be delivered to the Manatee County Procurement Division prior to the Due Date and Time at the following address:

Manatee County
Procurement Division
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803
Bradenton, FL 34205

A.04 BID FORMS

Bids must include the forms provided in this IFB. If needed, additional pages may be attached to a form. Bidders must fully complete and execute all Bid Forms. Bid Forms must be executed by an authorized official of the company who has the legal authority to bind the company.

A.05 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Bidder shall acknowledge in its Bid if Bidder has an environmental sustainability initiative. In addition, Bidder shall submit with its Bid a brief summary of its environmental sustainability initiative. This information will be used as a determining factor in the award decision when all other factors, including local preference, are otherwise equal.

A.06 STANDARDS FOR MATHEMATICAL ERRORS

1. Bid pricing forms without imbedded mathematical formulas: In the event of multiplication/extension error(s), the unit price shall prevail. In the event of addition error(s) the extension totals will prevail. In the event the dollar amount for contract contingency is omitted, it will be added to the total price of the Bid.
2. Bid pricing forms with imbedded mathematical formulas: Interactive bid pricing forms that contain mathematical formulas may be provided to automate lengthy and complex bid forms. In the event bid pricing forms with imbedded formulas are used and a multiplication/extension error(s) is discovered in the formula, the unit price entered by the Bidder shall prevail.
3. Bidder shall assume the responsibility and accuracy of the information input in the bid pricing form and therefore shall verify that the calculations are correct before submitting its Bid.
4. Regardless of the type of bid pricing form used, all Bids shall be reviewed mathematically by the County using these standards.

A.07 DISTRIBUTION OF SOLICITATION DOCUMENTS

All documents issued pursuant to this IFB are distributed electronically and available for download at no charge at www.myanatee.org > *Online Services, Bids and Proposals*. This link is located on the left side of the County website home page. Documents may be viewed and downloaded for printing using Adobe Reader® software.

At its sole discretion, the County may utilize a third-party provider, such as DemandStar by Onvia® (DemandStar) to distribute Bids. Visit the DemandStar website at www.Demandstar.com for more information regarding this service. Participation in the DemandStar system is not a requirement for doing business with Manatee County.

Additionally, the IFB and all related documents are available for public inspection at the Manatee County Procurement Division, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205. Call

(941) 749-3014 to schedule an appointment. Documents are available between the hours of 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, with the exception of County holidays.

As a courtesy, Manatee County notifies the Manatee County Chamber of Commerce and the Manatee County Black Chamber of Commerce of all active solicitations, who then distributes the information to its members.

A.08 ADDENDA

Any interpretations, corrections or changes to this IFB will be made by addendua. Addenda will be posted on the Procurement Division's web page of the County website at <http://www.mymanatee.org/purchasing> > *Bids and Proposals*. For those solicitations that are advertised on DemandStar, addenda will also be posted on the DemandStar distribution system on the 'Planholders' link.

All addenda are a part of the IFB and each Bidder will be bound by such addenda. It is the responsibility of each Bidder to read and comprehend all addenda issued. Failure of any Bidder to acknowledge an issued addendum in its Bid will not relieve the Bidder from any obligation contained therein.

A.09 BID EXPENSES

All costs incurred by Bidder in responding to this IFB will be the sole responsibility of the Bidder.

A.10 QUESTION AND CLARIFICATION PERIOD

Each Bidder shall examine all terms, conditions and requirements in the IFB documents and will judge all matters relating to the adequacy and accuracy of such documents. Any questions or request for changes or interpretations, clarification or additional information pertaining to this IFB shall be made in writing via email to the Manatee County Procurement Division to the Designated Procurement Contact or to purchasing@mymanatee.org prior to the Deadline for Questions and Clarifications. Bidder shall furnish any data or information it deems necessary for the County to evaluate requests to modify the terms, conditions or requirements of this IFB. Any changes or modifications to the terms conditions and requirements of this IFB will be at the sole discretion of the County. All questions received and responses given will be provided to potential Bidders via an addendum to this IFB

Manatee County will not be responsible for oral interpretations given including from County staff, representative, or others. The issuance of a written addendum by the Procurement Division is the only official method whereby interpretation, clarification, modifications, or additional information will be given.

A.11 FALSE OR MISLEADING STATEMENTS

Bids which contain false or misleading statements or which provide references which do not support an attribute or condition claimed by the Bidder, may be rejected. If, in the opinion of the County, such information was intended to mislead the County in its evaluation of the Bid, and the attribute, condition or capability is a requirement of this IFB. Such Bidder will be disqualified from consideration for this IFB and may be disqualified from submitting a response on future solicitation opportunities with the County.

A.12 UNBALANCED BIDDING

County recognizes that large and/or complex projects will often result in a variety of methods, sources, and prices. However, where in the opinion of the County such variation does not appear to be justified given bid requirements and industry and market conditions, the Bid will be presumed to be unbalanced. Examples of unbalanced Bids will include:

1. Bids showing omissions, alterations of form, additions not specified, or required conditional or unauthorized alternate bids.
2. Bids quoting prices that substantially deviate, either higher or lower, from those included in the Bids of competitive Bidders for the same line item unit costs.
3. Bids where the unit costs offered are in excess of, or below reasonable cost analysis values.

In the event County determines that a Bid is presumed unbalanced, it will request the opportunity to and reserves the right to, review all source quotes, bids, price lists, letters of intent, and other supporting documentation which the Bidder obtained and upon which the Bidder relied upon to develop its Bid. County reserves the right to deem any presumptive unbalanced Bid where the Bidder is unable to demonstrate the validity and/or necessity of the unbalanced unit costs as non-responsive.

A.13 WITHDRAWAL OR REVISION OF BIDS

Bidders may withdraw Bids under the following circumstances:

- a. If Bidder discovers a mistake(s) prior to the Due Date and Time. Bidder may withdraw its Bid by submitting a written notice to the Procurement Division. The notice must be received in the Procurement Division prior to the Due Date and Time for receiving Bids. A copy of the request shall be retained and the unopened Bid returned to the Bidder; or
- b. After the Bids are opened but before a contract is signed, Bidder alleges a material mistake of fact if:
 1. The mistake is clearly evident in the solicitation document; or
 2. Bidder submits evidence which clearly and convincingly demonstrates that a mistake was made in the Bid. Request to withdraw a Bid must be in writing and approved by the Procurement Official.

A.14 JOINT VENTURES

Bidders intending to submit a bid as a joint venture with another entity are required to have filed proper documents with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation and all other State or local licensing agencies as required by Florida Statute Section 489.119, prior to the Due Date and Time.

A.15 LOBBYING

After the issuance of any solicitation or during renegotiations, prospective Bidders, or their agents, representatives or persons acting on behalf of such Bidder, shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to the solicitation with any officer, agent or employee of Manatee County other than the Procurement Official or designee. This prohibition includes copying such persons on written communication, including email correspondence. This requirement begins at the time of advertisement of the IFB and ends upon

final execution of the contract or at the time the solicitation is cancelled or the renegotiation efforts are terminated. The prohibition does not apply to presentations made to the evaluation committee or at a County Commission meeting where the Commission is considering approval of a proposed contract. Violators of this prohibition will be subject to sanctions as provided in the Manatee County Code of Ordinances Section 2-26-31 and 2-26-32. Sanctions may include (a) written warning; (b) termination of contracts; and (c) debarment or suspension.

A.16 IRREVOCABLE OFFER

Any Bid may be withdrawn up until the Due Date and Time. Any Bid not so withdrawn shall, upon opening, constitute an irrevocable offer for a period of ninety (90) days to provide the goods or services set forth in this IFB or until one or more of the Bids have been duly accepted by County, whichever occurs first.

A.17 ERRORS OR OMISSIONS

Once a Bid is opened, the County will not accept any request by Bidder to correct errors or omissions in the Bid other than as identified in paragraph A.12.

A.18 DETERMINATION OF RESPONSIBLENESS AND RESPONSIVENESS

The County will conduct a due diligence review of all Bids received to determine if the Bidder is responsible and responsive.

To be responsive a Bidder must submit a Bid that conforms in all material respects to the requirements of this IFB and contains all the information, fully completed attachments and forms, and other documentation required. Bids that are deemed non-responsive will not be considered.

To be responsible, a Bidder must meet the minimum qualification requirements and have the capability to perform the Scope of Services contained in this IFB. Bids submitted by Bidders that are deemed non-responsible will not be considered.

A.19 SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES FORM

Pursuant to Florida Statute Section 287.135, as of July 1, 2012, a company that, at the time of submitting a response for a new contract or renewal of an existing contract, is on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, created pursuant to Florida Statute Section 215.473, is ineligible for, and may not submit a response for or enter into or renew a contract with an agency or local governmental entity for goods or services of \$1 million or more. To the extent certification is required, it shall be provided on Attachment E, *Vendor Certification Regarding Scrutinized Companies Lists*.

A.20 LOCAL PREFERENCE FORM

To qualify for local preference, a local business, as defined in Section B, Terms and Conditions, must provide certification to County by completing an 'Affidavit as to Local Business' form which is available for download at www.mymanatee.org/vendor. Click on 'Affidavit for Local Business' to access and print the form. Complete, notarize, and return the original with Bidder's Bid. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to ensure accuracy of the affidavit and notify County of any changes affecting its local business status.

A.21 COLLUSION

Bidder certifies that its Bid is made without prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any other corporation, firm or person submitting a Bid for the same materials, services, supplies, or equipment and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud.

Any such violation may result in contract cancellation, return of materials or discontinuation of services and the possible removal of Bidder from participation in future County solicitations for a specified period.

The County reserves the right to disqualify a Bidder during any phase of the solicitation process and terminate for cause any resulting contract upon evidence of collusion with intent to defraud on the part of the Bidder.

A.22 PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES

In accordance with Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, a person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a bid on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a bid on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit bids on leases or real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 for Category Two for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

In addition, Manatee County Code of Laws Chapter 2-26 Article V prohibits the award of County contracts to any person or entity who/which has, within the past five years, been convicted of, or admitted to in court or sworn to under oath, a public entity crime or of any environmental law that, in the reasonable opinion of the Purchasing Official, establishes reasonable grounds to believe the person or business entity will not conduct business in a reasonable manner.

To ensure compliance with the foregoing, Manatee County Code of Laws requires all persons or entities desiring to contract with Manatee County to execute and file with the Purchasing Official an affidavit, executed under the pain and penalties of perjury, confirming that person, entity, and any person(s) affiliated with the entity, does not have such a record and is therefore eligible to seek and be awarded business with Manatee County. Bidder must submit a completed *Public Contracting and Environmental Crimes Certification* with its Bid.

A.23 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Bidders are encouraged to use as many environmentally preferable "green" products, materials, supplies, etc. as possible to promote a safe and healthy environment. Environmentally preferable are products or services that have a reduced adverse effect on the environment.

Bidders shall acknowledge in their Bid if their firm has an environmental sustainability initiative. In addition, the bidder shall submit a summary of their environmental sustainability initiative along with their bid. This information will be used as a determining factor in the award decision when all other evaluative factors, including local preference policies are otherwise equal.

A person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime, as that term is defined in Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, may not submit a bid to provide any goods or services to a public entity; may not submit a bid with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work; may not submit bids on leases of real property to a public entity; may not be awarded or perform Work as a contractor, supplier, Subcontractor, or consultant under an agreement with any public entity; and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, Florida Statutes, for CATEGORY TWO for a period of thirty-six (36) months following the date of being placed on the convicted list.

In addition, the Manatee County Code of Laws prohibits the award of any bid to any person or entity who/which has, within the past five (5) years, been convicted of, or admitted to in court or sworn to under oath, a public entity crime or of any environmental law that, in the reasonable opinion of the Purchasing Official, establishes reasonable grounds to believe the person or business entity will not conduct business in a responsible matter.

To ensure compliance with the foregoing, the Code requires all persons or entities desiring to do business with County to execute and file with the Purchasing Official an affidavit, executed under the pain and penalties of perjury, confirming that person, entity and any person(s) affiliated with the entity, does not have such a record and is therefore eligible to seek and be awarded business with County. In the case of a business entity other than a partnership or a corporation, such affidavit shall be executed by an authorized agent of the entity. In the case of a partnership, such affidavit shall be executed by the general partner(s). A Public Contracting and Environmental Crimes Certification form is attached herein for this purpose.

A.25 DISCOUNTS AND PRICING

All discounts must be incorporated in the prices contained in the bid and not shown separately. Unless otherwise specified in this IFB, pricing must be all inclusive, including delivery costs. The prices indicated on the Pricing Form shall be the prices used in determining award.

A.26 LICENSES AND PERMITS

The successful Bidder shall be solely responsible for obtaining all necessary license and permit fees, including, but not limited to, all license fees, permit fees, impact fees, or inspection fees, and responsible for the costs of such fees. Successful Bidder is solely responsible for ensuring all work complies with all Federal, State, local, and Manatee County ordinances, orders, codes, laws, rules, regulations, directives, and guidelines.

A.27 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Manatee County Code of Laws prohibits contracts where conflicts are found to exist. Bidder shall not be currently engaged in, or if awarded, will not become engaged in any obligations, undertakings or contracts that will require Bidder to maintain an adversarial role against the County or that will impair or influence the advice or recommendations it provides to the County.

A.28 SOLICITATION SCHEDULE

The following schedule has been established for this Solicitation process. Refer to the County's website (www.mymanatee.org > Online Services > *Bids & Bids*) for meeting locations and updated information pertaining to any revisions to this schedule.

Scheduled Item	Scheduled Date
Non-Mandatory Solicitation Information Conference at Manatee County Admn., Building, Procurement Conference Room, Suite 803, 1112 Manatee Ave West, Bradenton, FL 334205	March 12, 2018 at 9:00 AM
Question and Clarification Deadline	March 16, 2018
Final Addendum Posted	March 19, 2018
Bid Response Due Date and Time	March 23, 2018, no later than 3:00 p.m.
Projected Award	April 6, 2018

END OF SECTION A

SECTION B
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Bidders must submit the information and documentation requested that confirms Bidder meets the following minimum qualification requirement(s):

1. Must be registered with the State of Florida, Division of Corporations to do business in Florida.

No documentation is required. The County will verify registration.

2. Has provided aboreal services for at least five commercial clients since February 1, 2014.

Provide the following information for the five qualifying clients.

- a) Name of client
- b) Location (City/State)
- c) Client contact name
- d) Contact phone
- e) Contact email
- f) Service dates (Start/End)
- g) Brief description of services (2-3 sentences)

3. If Bidder is submitting as a joint venture they must file the required documents with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation as required by Florida Statute Section 489.119, prior to the Due Date and Time.

If Bidder is a joint venture, provide a copy of Bidder's approved filing with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation. If Bidder is not a joint venture, provide a statement to that effect.

4. Has no reported conflict of interests in relation to this IFB.

On Attachment F, disclose the name of any officer, director or agent who is also an employee of the County. Disclose the name of any County employee who owns, directly or indirectly, any interest in the Bidder's firm or any of its branches. If no conflicts of interests are present, Bidder must submit a statement to that affect.

5. Employ at least one individual who possesses a valid, current Arborist Certification issued by the International Society of Arboriculture and has been certified for a minimum of one year.

Provide a copy of the qualifying individual's Arborist Certification from the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) that confirms

6. Bidder or a minimum of one of Bidder's employees must possess a valid, current Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) certification issued by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT).

Provide a copy of the qualifying Intermediate MOT Contractor certification issued by FDOT.

END OF SECTION B

SECTION C

SCOPE OF WORK

C.01 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The County is requesting Bids from qualified Bidders for the provision of tree trimming services at various locations throughout the County for the Public Works Department. The work that is currently projected for fiscal year 2018 is in three groups; Group A, Group B and Group C as shown on Attachment H, Pricing Form. Any additional work and work for successive years will be scheduled and pricing will be negotiated, based upon the rates provided on Attachment H, with the successful Bidder at the time of need.

The Successful Bidder (hereinafter in this Scope of Work referred to as Contractor) shall furnish the services as detailed in this IFB. The bidder shall bid all items to be considered responsive and eligible for award. Maps for tree trimming projects that are scheduled for fiscal year 2018 are included in Exhibit 2, Maps.

C.02 SCOPE

Supplier shall furnish all equipment, labor, materials, supplies, licensing, transportation, and other components necessary provide the timely tree trimming services that meet the requirements of this IFB. Within five business days after the award, the Contractor shall submit to the Public Works Project Manager (PWPM) a written work schedule with proposed dates to begin each individual project. No work shall begin without the acceptance of this schedule by the PWPM.

C.03 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Contractor's tree trimming service provided shall meet the following requirements:

- A. All service personnel shall be uniformed, with the Supplier's name prominent on the uniform, and be trained and experienced in the type(s) of service each will provide to the County.
- B. Must have the company name on all vehicles used.
- C. Services predominately for hardwoods, but may include palm tree trimming.
- D. All permits, licenses and certifications necessary for the performance of the services shall be secured and paid for by the Contractor.
- E. The Contractor shall continuously shall protect all property, including adjacent property, from damage and loss in connection with the provision of services.
- F. comply with the Florida Department of Commerce Safety Regulations and any local safety regulations.
- G. Conduct all work to assure the least possible obstruction to traffic and inconvenience to the general public and the residents in the vicinity of the work. No road or street shall be closed to the public, except with prior approval by the County.
- H. Fire hydrants on or adjacent to the work shall be kept accessible at all times

- I. Conduct all work to insure the protection of persons and property, satisfactory to the County. .
- J. All work shall be performed during regular working hours, 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding County holidays. Saturday and Sunday work is not allowed. Overtime is NOT permitted and overtime charges will not be approved for payment.

C.04 WORK REQUIREMENTS

Contractor shall:

- A. Only utilize the services of an ISA Certified Arborist. All work must be supervised by an on-site Certified Arborist.
- B. Trim all trees growing in the County Right of Way, including those trees on private property of which branches or limbs are growing over the County Right of Way. No matter the source, the material growing too low over the Right of Way or sidewalk shall be trimmed as follows:
 - (1) Contractor shall trim trees at least to the minimum vertical clearance height over roadways will be 18 feet.
 - (2) Contractor shall trim trees to the minimum vertical clearance height over sidewalks of 10 feet with a maximum vertical clearance of 12 feet.
 - (3) The horizontal clearance shall be flush and even with the back (residential) side of the sidewalk when a sidewalk is present or to the back of the curb if no sidewalk is present.
- F. Trim around street signs, flashing signals, traffic signs and any other such signage to provide complete visibility.
- G. Trim around street lights to 3 feet above and behind the light and 5 feet on either side of the light from top of the light all the way to the ground.
- H. Provide management of traffic for the work zone, to include signage and flagging as needed. Contractor or an employee must hold a Certified FDOT Intermediate MOT Contractor certification.
- I. Ensure the quality of workmanship meets or exceeds ANSI A300, Part 1: Pruning Standards (attached as Exhibit 1).
- J. Remove dead wood with a diameter of two (2) or more inches if the wood has the potential to fall into or onto a roadway or sidewalk.

END OF SECTION C

SECTION D
TERMS AND CONDITIONS

D.01 CONTRACT

The agreement resulting from the acceptance of a bid shall be in the form of a contract and/or a purchase order. The term of the Agreement will be for two years with the option to renew for one additional year.

D.02 NON-EXCLUSIVE

Unless otherwise stated in this IFB, successful Bidder understands and agrees that any resulting contractual relationship is non-exclusive and the County reserves the right to contract with more than one Bidder or seek similar or identical goods and services elsewhere if deemed in the best interest of the County.

D.03 CONFIDENTIALITY OF SECURITY RELATED RECORDS

- a. Pursuant to Florida Statutes § 119.071(3), the following records (hereinafter referred to collectively as "the Confidential Security Records") are confidential and exempt from the disclosure requirements of Florida Statutes § 119.07(1):
 1. A Security System Plan or portion thereof for any property owned by or leased to County or any privately owned or leased property held by County.
 2. Building plans, blueprints, schematic drawings, and diagrams, including draft, preliminary, and final formats, which depict the internal layout and structural elements of a building, arena, stadium, water treatment facility, or other structure owned or operated by County.
 3. Building plans, blueprints, schematic drawings, and diagrams, including draft, preliminary, and final formats, which depict the internal layout or structural elements of an attractions and recreation facility, entertainment or resort complex, industrial complex, retail and service development, office development, or hotel or motel development in the possession of, submitted to County.
- b. Successful Bidder agrees that, as provided by Florida Statute, it shall not, as a result of a public records request, or for other reason disclose the contents of, or release or provide copies of the Confidential Security Records to any other party absent the express written authorization of County's Property Management Director or to comply with a court order requiring such release or disclosure. To the extent Successful Bidder receives a request for such records, it shall immediately contact the County's designated Contract administrator who shall coordinate County's response to the request.

D.04 PURCHASING COOPERATIVE

It is the intent of this IFB to include requirements and to obtain bids on behalf of Manatee County and reserve the right to authorize entities belonging to the Sarasota Bay Area Chapter of NIGP to obtain purchases utilizing the terms, conditions and pricing of this IFB. This opportunity is also made available to all local and county governments and agencies, public educational institutions, non-profits, and State of Florida agencies, pursuant to their own governing laws, and subject to the agreement of the supplier. Manatee County will not be financially responsible for the purchases of other entities utilizing this IFB and any resulting contract or purchase order.

D.05 LOCAL PREFERENCE

Local business is defined as a business legally authorized to engage in the sale of the goods and/or services, and which certifies within its Bid that for at least six (6) full months prior to the advertisement of this IFB it has maintained a physical place of business in Manatee, Desoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Pinellas or Sarasota County with at least one full-time employee at that location.

Local preference shall not apply to the following categories of agreements:

1. Purchases or agreements which are funded, in whole or in part, by a governmental or other funding entity, where the terms and conditions governing the funds prohibit the preference.
2. Any bid announcement which specifically provides that local preference, as set forth in this section, is suspended due to the unique nature of the goods or services sought, the existence of an emergency as found by either the County Commission or County Administrator, or where such suspension is, in the opinion of the County Attorney, required by law.
3. For a competitive solicitation for construction services in which fifty percent (50%) or more of the cost will be paid from state-appropriated funds which have been appropriated at the time of the competitive solicitation.
4. To qualify for local preference under this section, **a local business must certify to County** by completing an **"Affidavit as to Local Business Form,"** which is available for download at www.mymanatee.org/vendor. Click on "Affidavit for Local Business" to access and print the form. Complete, notarize, and mail the notarized original to the following address: Manatee County Procurement Division, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205.
5. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure accuracy of the Affidavit as to Local Business and notify County of any changes affecting same.

D.06 SUPPLIER REGISTRATION

Registering your business will provide Manatee County a sourcing opportunity to identify suppliers of needed goods and services and identify local businesses. To register as a supplier with the County go to www.mymanatee.org/vendor. For assistance with supplier registration, call the Procurement Division main number at (941) 749-3014. Office hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., excluding County holidays.

D.07 RESERVED RIGHTS

The County reserves the right to accept or reject any and all Bids, to waive irregularities and technicalities, to request additional information and documentation, and to cancel this solicitation at any time prior to execution of the contract. In the event only one bid is received, the County reserves the right to negotiate with the Bidder. The County reserves the right to award to the lowest responsive and responsible Bidder.

The County reserves the right to conduct an investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of any Bidder to perform the work or service requested. Upon request by the County, Bidder shall provide all such information to the County. Additional information may include, but will not be limited to, current financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practices and certified by an independent CPA or official of Bidder; verification of availability of equipment and personnel; and past performance records.

D.08 APPLICABLE LAWS

Bidder must be authorized to transact business in the State of Florida. All applicable laws and regulations of the State of Florida and ordinances and regulations of Manatee County will apply to any resulting contract. This solicitation process will be conducted in accordance with Manatee County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 2-26.

D.09 TAXES

Manatee County is exempt from Federal Excise and State Sales Taxes. (F.E.T. Cert. No. 59-78-0089K; Florida Sales Tax Exempt Cert. No. 85-8012622206C-6). Therefore, the Bidder is prohibited from delineating a separate line item in its bid for any sales or service taxes.

The Successful Bidder will be responsible for the payment of taxes of any kind, including but not limited to sales, consumer, use, and other similar taxes payable on account of the work performed and/or materials furnished under the award in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

D.10 CODE OF ETHICS

With respect to this and any bid, if a Bidder violates, directly or indirectly, the ethics provisions of the Manatee County Procurement Code and/or Florida criminal or civil laws related to public procurement, including but not limited to Florida Statutes Chapter 112, Part II, Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, such Bidder will be ineligible for award to perform the work described in this IFB, and may be disqualified from submitting on any future quote or bid requests to supply goods or services to Manatee County. By submitting a bid, the Bidder represents to County that all statements made and materials submitted are truthful, with no relevant facts withheld.

D.11 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES

Manatee County does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of County's functions including one's access to participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation for an information conference or bid opening should contact the person named on the cover page of this document at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of either activity.

D.12 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title 15, Part 8 of the Code of Federal Regulations and the Civil Rights Act of 1992, Manatee County hereby notifies all Bidders that it will affirmatively ensure minority business enterprises are afforded full opportunity to participate in response to this Request For Bid and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, handicap, or marital status in consideration of award.

D.13 MINORITY AND/OR DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISES

The State of Florida Office of Supplier Diversity provides the certification process and maintains the database of certified MBE/DBE firms. Additional information may be obtained at <http://www.osd.dms.state.fl.us/iframe.htm> or by calling (850) 487-0915.

D.14 QUALITY

Unless otherwise specifically provided in the IFBC documents, all goods provided shall be new, the latest make or model, of the best quality, of the highest grade of workmanship, and of the most suitable for the purpose intended.

Unless otherwise specifically provided in the IFBC documents, reference to any equipment, material, article or patented process, by trade name, brand name, make or catalog number, shall be regarded as establishing a standard of quality and shall not be construed as limiting competition.

D.15 DELIVERY

Unless otherwise specified, all prices shall include all delivery cost (FOB Destination).

D.16 AUTHORIZED PRODUCT REPRESENTATION

Bidder, by virtue of submitting the name and specifications of a manufacturer's product, will be required to furnish the named manufacturer's product. Failure to do so may, in the County's sole discretion, be deemed a material breach of the resulting agreement and shall constitute grounds for County's immediate termination of the resulting agreement.

D.17 ROYALTIES AND PATENTS

The successful Bidder shall pay all royalties and license fees for equipment or processes in conjunction with the equipment and/or services being furnished. Successful Bidder shall defend all suits or claims for infringement of any patent, trademark or copyright, and shall save County harmless from loss on account thereof, including costs and attorney's fees.

D.18 PUBLIC RECORDS

Upon receipt, all inquiries and responses to inquiries related to this Bid become "Public Records", and shall be subject to public disclosure consistent with Florida Statute, Chapter 119.

Bids become subject to disclosure thirty (30) days after the opening or when notice of intent to award is made, whichever occurs first, as provided by Florida Statutes § 119.071(1)(b).

If County rejects all Bids and concurrently notices its intent to reissue the solicitation, the rejected Bids are exempt from public disclosure until such time the County provides notice of an intended decision concerning the reissued solicitation or until County withdraws the reissued solicitation. A bid is not exempt for longer than twelve (12) months after the initial notice of rejection of all Bids.

Pursuant to Florida Statute 119.0701, to the extent Successful Bidder is performing services on behalf of County, Successful Bidder must:

1. Keep and maintain public records required by public agency to perform the service. That information and data it manages as part of the services may be public record in accordance with Chapter 119, Florida Statutes and Manatee County public record policies. Bidder agrees, prior to providing goods/services, it will implement policies and procedures, which are subject to approval by County, to maintain, produce, secure, and retain public records in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and County policies including but not limited to Section 119.0701, Florida Statutes.

2. Upon request from the public agency's custodian of public records, provide the public agency with a copy of the requested records or allow the records to be inspected or copied within a reasonable time at a cost that does not exceed the cost provided in Florida Statutes, Chapter 119, or as otherwise provided by law.
3. Ensure that public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements are not disclosed except as authorized by law for the duration of the contract term and following completion of the contract if the Successful Bidder does not transfer the records to the public agency.
4. Upon completion of the contract, transfer, at no cost, to the public agency all public records in possession of contractor or keep and maintain public records required by the public agency to perform the service. If the Successful Bidder transfers all public records to County upon completion of the contract, the Successful Bidder shall destroy any duplicate public records that are exempt or confidential and exempt from public records disclosure requirements. If the Successful Bidder keeps and maintains public records upon completion of the contract, the Successful Bidder shall meet all applicable requirements for retaining public records. All records stored electronically must be provided to County, upon request from County's custodian of public records, in a format that is compatible with the information technology systems of County.

IF THE SUCCESSFUL BIDDER HAS QUESTIONS REGARDING THE APPLICATION OF CHAPTER 119, FLORIDA STATUTES, TO ITS DUTY TO PROVIDE PUBLIC RECORDS RELATING TO ANY RESULTING CONTRACT, CONTACT COUNTY'S CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS AT: (941) 742-5845, DEBBIE.SCACCIANOCE@MYMANATEE.ORG, ATTN: RECORDS MANAGER, 1112 MANATEE AVENUE WEST, BRADENTON, FL 34205.

D.19 TRADE SECRETS

Manatee County is subject to Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Therefore, all documents, materials, and data submitted as part of a Bid in response to a Request for Bid are governed by the disclosure, exemption and confidentiality provisions relating to public records in Florida Statutes.

Except for materials that are 'trade secrets' as defined by Chapter 812, Florida Statutes, ownership of all documents, materials and data submitted as part of a Bid in response to the Request for Bid shall belong exclusively to County.

To the extent that Bidder desires to maintain the confidentiality of materials that constitute trade secrets pursuant to Florida law, trade secret material submitted must be segregated from the portions of the Bid that are not declared as trade secret. In addition, Bidder shall cite, for each trade secret claimed, the Florida Statute number which supports the designation. Further, Bidder shall offer a brief written explanation as to why the cited Statute is applicable to the information claimed as trade secret. Additionally, Bidder shall provide a hard copy of its Bid that redacts all information designated as trade secret.

In conjunction with trade secret designation, Bidder acknowledges and agrees that:

- a. Trade secret requests made after the opening will not be considered. However, County reserves the right to clarify the Bidders request for trade secret at any time; and
- b. County and its officials, employees, agents, and representatives are hereby granted full rights to access, view, consider, and discuss the information designated as trade secret throughout the evaluation process and until final execution of any awarded purchase order or contract; and
- c. That after notice from County that a public records request has been made pursuant to Bidder's bid, the Bidder at its sole expense, shall be responsible for defending its determination that submitted material is a trade secret and is not subject to disclosure. Action by Bidder in response to notice from the County shall be taken immediately, but no later than 10 calendar days from the date of notification or Bidder will be deemed to have waived the trade secret designation of the materials.

Notwithstanding any other provision in this solicitation, designation of the entire bid as 'trade secret', 'proprietary', or 'confidential' is not permitted and may result in a determination that the Bid is non-responsive.

D.20 ePAYABLES

Manatee County Board of County Commissioners and the Manatee County Clerk of the Circuit Court have partnered to offer the ePayables program, which allows payments to be made to vendors via credit cards.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court will issue a unique credit card number to vendor after goods are delivered or services rendered, vendors submit invoices to the remit to address on the purchase order. When payments are authorized, an email notification is sent to the vendor. The email notification includes the invoice number(s), invoice date(s), and amount of payment. There is no cost for vendors to participate in this program; however, there may be a charge by the company that processes your credit card transactions.

If Bidder is interested in participating in this program, complete the ePayables Application attached herein and return the completed form via email to lori.bryan@manateeclerk.com.

D.21 FUNDING

This IFB is subject to the appropriation of funds in an amount sufficient to allow continuation of the County's performance in accordance with the terms and conditions herein. The County shall provide prompt written notice to the successful Bidder that sufficient funds have not been appropriated to continue its full and faithful performance under the terms of this IFB, and shall, effective thirty (30) days after giving such notice or upon the expiration of the time for which funds were appropriated whichever occurs first, be thereafter released of all further obligations in any way related to this IFB.

D.22 CONDITIONS FOR EMERGENCY EVENTS

A critical challenge in emergency situations is to obtain essential supplies, goods and equipment in the affected areas. It is the County's priority that public property, life, safety, and health are protected during any emergency as declared by the State and/or the County. Therefore, before, during and after a disaster, hurricane, flood, act of terrorism, or other public emergency event, whether natural or man-made, successful Bidder shall make delivery to the County of the goods and services in this IFB its first-priority.

Successful Bidder will ensure that contract prices are billed to the County for deliveries as part of an emergency event. Upon award of a contract, successful Bidder shall furnish an email and phone number in which successful Bidder can be contacted twenty-four (24) hours per day, seven days per week for emergency services.

D.23 TERMINATION

The County, at its sole discretion, reserves the right to terminate any contract entered into pursuant to this IFB with or without cause immediately upon providing written notice to the successful Bidder. Upon receipt of such notice, the successful Bidder shall not incur any additional costs under the contract. The County shall be liable only for reasonable costs incurred by the successful Bidder prior to the date of the notice of termination.

The County reserves the right to terminate any contract entered into pursuant to this IFB, in part or in whole, or place the successful Bidder on probation in the event it fails to perform in accordance with the terms and conditions stated herein. Notification will be made by providing written notice of such failure or default and by specifying a reasonable time period within which the successful Bidder must cure any such failure to perform or default. If the successful Bidder fails to cure the default within the time specified, the County may then terminate the subject contract by providing written notice to the successful Bidder. The County further reserves the right to suspend or debar the successful Bidder in accordance with the appropriate County ordinances and/or policies. In the event of termination for default, the County may procure the required goods and/or services from any source and use any method deemed in its best interest.

D.25 PRECEDENCE

Statements contained in the Scope of Work or Bid Summary Sections of this IFB, which vary from the information contained in this Section D, shall have precedence.

D.26 E-VERIFY

Prior to the employment of any person under this contract, the Successful Bidder shall utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of (a) all persons employed during the contract term by the Successful Bidder to perform employment duties within Florida and (b) all persons, including subcontractors, assigned by the Successful Bidder to perform work pursuant to the contract with Manatee County. For more information on this process, please refer to United States Citizenship and Immigration Service site at: <http://www.uscis.gov/>.

Only those individuals determined eligible to work in the United States shall be employed under this contract.

By submission of a bid in response to this IFB, the successful Bidder commits that all employees and subcontractors will undergo e-verification before placement on this contract.

The successful Bidder shall maintain sole responsibility for the actions of its employees and subcontractors. For the life of the contract, all employees and new employees brought in after contract award shall be verified under the same requirement stated above.

D.27 SUBCONTRACTORS

There shall be no subcontractors allowed.

D.28 RECOMMENDATION FOR AWARD

Upon successful completion of negotiations, a recommendation for award to the successful Bidder(s) will be presented for approval per County ordinances, policies and procedures.

END SECTION D

Bid Forms

IFB No. 18-R067753GE
Tree Trimming Services
Manatee County BCC

ATTACHMENT A
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ADDENDA

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addenda:

Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____
Addendum No. _____	Date Received: _____

Print or type Bidder’s information below:

_____ Name of Bidder	_____ Telephone Number	
_____ Street Address	_____ City/State/Zip	
_____ Email Address	_____ Website Address	
_____ Print Name & Title of Authorized Officer	_____ Signature of Authorized Official	_____ Date

Bidder must fully execute and return this form with its Bid.

**ATTACHMENT B
BID SIGNATURE FORM**

The undersigned represents that:

- (1) By signing the bid, that he/she has the authority and approval of the legal entity purporting to submit the bid and any additional documentation which may be required such as the Joint Venture Agreement or Joint Venture Affidavit, if applicable;
- (2) All facts and responses set forth in the bid are true and correct;
- (3) If the Bidder is selected by County to negotiate an agreement, that Bidder's negotiators will negotiate in good faith to establish an agreement to provide the services described in this IFB;
- (4) By submitting a bid and signing below, the Bidder agrees to all terms and conditions in this IFB, which incorporates all addenda, appendices, exhibits, and attachments, in its entirety, and is prepared to sign the Contract as written. The Respondent understands that if it submits exceptions to the Contract in its Response, the Respondent's Response may be determined non-responsive; and
- (5) The Bidder, which includes all companies included in a partnership or joint venture, is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List.

Print or type Bidder's information below:

_____ Name of Bidder	_____ Telephone Number
_____ Street Address	_____ City/State/Zip
_____ Email Address	_____ Web Address
_____ Print Name & Title of Authorized Officer	_____ Signature of Authorized Officer Date

Bidder must fully execute and return this form with its Bid.

ATTACHMENT C
PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES CERTIFICATION

SWORN STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 2-26 ARTICLE V,
MANATEE COUNTY PROCUREMENT CODE

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND SWORN TO IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

This sworn statement is submitted to Manatee County by _____.
[print individual's name and title]

For _____
[name of entity submitting sworn statement]

whose business address is: _____

and (if applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is _____. If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement:

I understand that no person or entity shall be awarded or receive a county contract for public improvements, procurement of goods or services (including professional services) or a county lease, franchise, concession or management agreement, or shall receive a grant of county monies unless such person or entity has submitted a written certification to County that it has not:

(1) been convicted of bribery or attempting to bribe a public officer or employee of Manatee County, the State of Florida, or any other public entity, including, but not limited to the Government of the United States, any state, or any local government authority in the United States, in that officer's or employee's official capacity; or

(2) been convicted of an agreement or collusion among Bidders or prospective Bidders in restraint of freedom of competition, by agreement to bid a fixed price, or otherwise; or

(3) been convicted of a violation of an environmental law that, in the sole opinion of the County's Purchasing Director, reflects negatively upon the ability of the person or entity to conduct business in a responsible manner; or

(4) made an admission of guilt of such conduct described in items (1), (2) or (3) above, which is a matter of record, but has not been prosecuted for such conduct, or has made an admission of guilt of such conduct, which is a matter of record, pursuant to formal prosecution. An admission of guilt shall be construed to include a plea of nolo contendere; or

(5) where an officer, official, agent or employee of a business entity has been convicted of or has admitted guilt to any of the crimes set forth above on behalf of such and entity and pursuant to the direction or authorization of an official thereof (including the person committing the offense, if he is an official of the business entity), the business shall be chargeable with the conduct herein above set forth. A business entity shall be chargeable with the conduct of an affiliated entity, whether wholly owned, partially owned, or one which has common ownership or a common Board of Directors.

For purposes of this Form, business entities are affiliated if, directly or indirectly, one business entity controls or has the power to control another business entity, or if an individual or group of individuals controls or has the power to control both entities. Indicia of control shall include, without limitation, interlocking management or ownership, identity of interests amount family members, shared organization of a business entity following the ineligibility of a business entity under this Article, or using substantially the same management, ownership or principles as the ineligible entity.

Any person or entity who claims that this Article is inapplicable to him/her/it because a conviction or judgment has been reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall prove the same with documentation satisfactory to Manatee County's Purchasing Official. Upon presentation of such satisfactory proof, the person or entity shall be allowed to contract with Manatee County.

I UNDERSTAND THAT ANY CONTRACT OR BUSINESS TRANSACTION SHALL PROVIDE FOR SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS, OR TERMINATION, OR BOTH, IF THE PROCUREMENT DIVISION OR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DETERMINES THAT **SUCH PERSON OR ENTITY HAS MADE FALSE CERTIFICATION.**

[Signature]

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 201____ by_____.

Personally known _____ OR Produced identification_____

[Type of identification]

_____ My commission expires_____
Notary Public Signature

[Print, type or stamp Commissioned name of Notary Public]

Signatory Requirement - In the case of a business entity other than a partnership or a corporation, this affidavit shall be executed by an authorized agent of the entity. In the case of a partnership, this affidavit shall be executed by the general partner(s). In the case of a corporation, this affidavit shall be executed by the corporate president.

Bidder must fully execute and return this form with its Bid.

**ATTACHMENT D
INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Work under the resulting Agreement cannot commence until all insurance coverages indicated herein have been obtained. The cost for insurance coverages is the sole responsibility of successful Bidder. The Successful Bidder shall obtain and submit to the Procurement Division within ten (10) calendar days from the date of notice of intent to award, proof the minimum amounts of insurance identified below. Proof should be submitted on a standard ACORD form and be inclusive of any amounts provided by an umbrella or excess policy.

STANDARD INSURANCES	REQUIRED LIMITS
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Automobile Liability:	<p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form including coverage for all owned, hired and non-owned vehicles.</p> <p>\$ <u>1,000,000</u> combined single limit; OR</p> <p>\$ <u>500,000</u> bodily injury and \$ <u>500,000</u> property damage. \$10,000 Personal Injury Protection (No Fault)</p> <p>\$ _____ Hired, Non-Owned Liability</p> <p>\$10,000 Medical Payments.</p> <p><i>This policy shall contain severability of interests' provisions.</i></p>
2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial General Liability: (Occurrence Form - patterned after the current ISO form)	<p>Coverage shall be afforded under a per occurrence policy form.</p> <p>\$ <u>1,000,000</u> single limit per occurrence;</p> <p>\$ <u>2,000,000</u> aggregate</p> <p>\$ _____ Products/Completed Operations Aggregate</p> <p>\$ <u>1,000,000</u> Personal and Advertising Injury Liability</p> <p>\$ <u>100,000</u> Fire Damage Liability</p> <p>\$ <u>100,000</u> Medical Expense, and</p> <p>\$ _____ Third Party Property Damage.</p> <p>\$ _____ Project Specific Aggregate (Required on projects valued at over \$10,000,000)</p> <p><i>This policy shall contain severability of interests' provisions.</i></p>
3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employer's Liability	<p>\$<u>100,000</u> each accident</p> <p>\$ _____ disease each employee</p> <p>\$ _____ disease policy limit</p>
4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Worker's Compensation <input type="checkbox"/> US Longshoremen & Harbor Workers Act coverage <input type="checkbox"/> Jones Act coverage	<p>Statutory Limits of Chapter 440, Florida Statutes, and all Federal Government Statutory Limits & Requirements.</p> <p>If any operations are to be undertaken on or about navigable waters, coverage must be included for the US Longshoremen & Harbor Workers Act and Jones Act.</p>

	<p>Note: For 'leased employees' retained for any part of the project or service, the employee leasing agency shall provide evidence of workers' compensation coverage and employee liability coverage for all personnel on the worksite and in compliance with the above requirements.</p> <p>Note: Workers' compensation coverage is a firm requirement. Elective exemptions are considered on a case-by-case basis and are approved in a very limited number of instances.</p>
OTHER INSURANCES	REQUIRED LIMITS
<p>5. <input type="checkbox"/> Aircraft Liability</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> Installation Floater</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Pollution Liability</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> Professional Liability and/or Errors and Omissions (E&O) Liability</p> <p>9. <input type="checkbox"/> Builder's Risk Insurance</p>	<p>\$ _____ per occurrence</p> <p>Coverage shall be carried in limits of not less than \$5,000,000 each occurrence if applicable to the completion of the services under this Agreement.</p> <p>If the resulting Agreement does not include construction of or additions to above ground building or structures, but does involve the installation of machinery or equipment, Successful Bidder shall provide an "Installation Floater" with the minimum amount of insurance to be 100% of the value of such addition(s), building(s), or structure(s).</p> <p>\$ _____ per occurrence</p> <p>Professional (E&O) Liability shall be afforded for the Bodily Injury and Property Damage for not less than \$_____ Each Claim, \$1,000,000 Policy Aggregate.</p> <p>When this contract or agreement includes the construction of roadways and/or the addition of a permanent structure or building, including the installation of machinery and/or equipment, the following insurance coverage must be afforded:</p> <p>Coverage Form: Completed Value, All Risk (Roadways/Buildings and Machinery/Equipment) in an amount equal to 100% of the value upon completion or the value of the equipment to be installed.</p> <p>Coverage should include, but not be limited to, storage and transport of materials, equipment, supplies of any kind whatsoever to be used on or incidental to the project, theft</p>

	<p>coverage, and Waiver of Occupancy Clause Endorsement, where applicable.</p> <p>The policy shall not carry a self-insured retention/deductible greater than \$_____.</p>
<p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> Cyber Liability</p>	<p>Coverage must comply with Florida Statute 501.171 and must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than</p> <p>\$_____ Security Breach Liability</p> <p>\$_____ Security Breach Expense (each occurrence)</p> <p>\$_____ Security Breach Expense (aggregate)</p> <p>\$_____ Replacement or Restoration of Electronic Data</p> <p>\$_____ Extortion Threats</p> <p>\$_____ Business Income and Extra Expense</p> <p>\$_____ Public Relations Expense</p> <p>The policy must not carry a self-insured retention/deductible greater than \$_____.</p>
<p>11. <input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Materials Insurances (as noted)</p>	<p>Hazardous materials include all materials and substances that are currently designated or defined as hazardous by Florida or Federal law or rules of regulations.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Pollution Liability</i></p> <p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than the value of the contract, subject to a \$_____ minimum, for Bodily Injury and Property Damage to include sudden and gradual release, each claim and aggregate.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Asbestos Liability (If handling within scope of Contract)</i></p> <p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than the value of the contract, subject to a \$_____ minimum, for Bodily Injury and Property Damage to include sudden and gradual release, each claim and aggregate.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> <i>Disposal</i></p> <p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than the value of the contract, subject to a \$_____ minimum, for Liability for Sudden and Accidental Occurrences, each claim and an aggregate and not less than the value of the contract, subject to a \$_____ minimum, for</p>

	<p>Liability for Non-Sudden Occurrences, each claim and aggregate.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Waste Transportation Insurance</p> <p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than the value of the contract, subject to a \$_____ minimum, per accident.</p> <p>The Successful Bidder shall designate the hauler and have the hauler furnish a Certificate of Insurance for Automobile Liability Insurance with Endorsement MCS-90 for liability arising out of the transportation of hazardous materials.</p> <p>The Successful Bidder must also provide the EPA Identification Number.</p>
12. <input type="checkbox"/> Liquor Liability	<p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than</p> <p>\$_____ Each Occurrence and Aggregate.</p>
13. <input type="checkbox"/> Garage Keeper's Liability	<p>Coverage shall be required if the maintenance, servicing, cleaning or repairing of any County motor vehicles is inherent or implied within the provision of the contract.</p> <p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than equal to the full replacement value of the lot or garage</p>
14. <input type="checkbox"/> Bailee's Customer	<p>Coverage must be afforded under a per occurrence policy form for limits not less than equal to the full replacement value of the lot or garage.</p>
15. <input type="checkbox"/> Watercraft	<p>\$_____ per occurrence</p>

Approved by Risk: _____

Date: _____

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

I. THE POLICIES BELOW ARE TO CONTAIN, OR BE ENDORSED TO CONTAIN, THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS:

1. Commercial General Liability and Automobile Liability Coverages

- a. **"Manatee County, a Political Subdivision of the State of Florida," is to be named as an Additional Insured in respect to:** Liability arising out of activities performed by or on behalf of the Successful Bidder, his agents, representatives, and employees; products and completed operations of the Successful Bidder; or automobiles owned, leased, hired or borrowed by the Successful Bidder. The coverage shall contain no special limitation(s) on the scope of protection afforded to the County, its officials, employees or volunteers.

In addition to furnishing a Certificate of Insurance, the Successful Bidder shall provide the endorsement that evidences Manatee County being listed as an Additional Insured. This can be done in one of two ways: (1) an endorsement can be issued that specifically lists "Manatee County, a Political Subdivision of the State of Florida," as Additional Insured; or, (2) an endorsement can be issued that states that all Certificate Holders are Additional Insured with respect to the policy.

- b. The Successful Bidder's insurance coverage shall be primary insurance with respect to the County, its officials, employees and volunteers. Any insurance or self-insurance maintained by the County, its officials, employees or volunteers shall be excess of Successful Bidder's insurance and shall be non-contributory.
- c. The insurance policies must be on an occurrence form.

2. Workers' Compensation and Employers' Liability Coverages

The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against the County, its officials, employees and volunteers for losses arising from work performed by the Successful Bidder for the County.

II. GENERAL INSURANCE PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL POLICIES:

1. Prior to the execution of contract, or issuance of a Purchase Order, and then annually upon the anniversary date(s) of the insurance policy's renewal date(s) for as long as this contract remains in effect, Successful Bidder shall furnish the County with a Certificate(s) of Insurance (using an industry accepted certificate form, signed by the Issuer, with applicable endorsements, and containing the solicitation or contract number, and title or description) evidencing the coverage set forth above and naming "Manatee County, a Political Subdivision of the State of Florida" as an Additional Insured on the applicable coverage(s) set forth above.
2. If the policy contains an aggregate limit, confirmation is needed in writing (letter, email, etc.) that the aggregate limit has not been eroded to procurement representative when supplying Certificate of Insurance.

In addition, when requested in writing from the County, Successful Bidder will provide the County with a certified copy of all applicable policies. The address where such certificates and certified policies shall be sent or delivered is as follows:

Manatee County, a Political Subdivision of the State of Florida
Attn: Risk Management Division
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 969
Bradenton, FL 34205

3. The project's solicitation number and title shall be listed on each certificate.
 4. Successful Bidder shall provide thirty (30) days written notice to the Risk Manager of any cancellation, non-renewal, termination, material change, or reduction in coverage of any insurance policies to procurement representative including solicitation number and title with all notices.
 5. Successful Bidder agrees that should at any time Successful Bidder fail to meet or maintain the required insurance coverage(s) as set forth herein, the County may terminate this contract.
 6. The Successful Bidder waives all subrogation rights against Manatee County, a Political Subdivision of the State of Florida, for all losses or damages which occur during the contract and for any events occurring during the contract period, whether the suit is brought during the contract period or not.
 7. The Successful Bidder has sole responsibility for all insurance premiums and policy deductibles.
 8. It is the Successful Bidder's responsibility to ensure that his agents, representatives and subcontractors comply with the insurance requirements set forth herein. Successful Bidder shall include his agents, representatives, and subcontractors working on the project or at the worksite as insured under its policies, or Successful Bidder shall furnish separate certificates and endorsements for each agent, representative, and subcontractor working on the project or at the worksite. All coverages for agents, representatives, and subcontractors shall be subject to all the requirements set forth to the procurement representative.
 9. All required insurance policies must be written with a carrier having a minimum A.M. Best rating of A- FSC VII or better. In addition, the County has the right to review the Successful Bidder's deductible or self-insured retention and to require that it be reduced or eliminated.
- III. Successful Bidder understands and agrees that the stipulated limits of coverage listed herein in this insurance section shall not be construed as a limitation of any potential liability to the County, or to others, and the County's failure to request evidence of this insurance coverage shall not be construed as a waiver of Successful Bidder's obligation to provide and maintain the insurance coverage specified.

- IV. The enclosed Hold Harmless Agreement shall be signed by the Successful Bidder and shall become a part of the contract.
- V. Successful Bidder understands and agrees that the County does not waive its immunity and nothing herein shall be interpreted as a waiver of the County's rights, including the limitation of waiver of immunity, as set forth in Florida Statutes 768.28, or any other statutes, and the County expressly reserves these rights to the full extent allowed by law.
- VI. No award shall be made until the Procurement Division has received the Certificate of Insurance and Hold Harmless Agreement in accordance with this section.

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**ATTACHMENT E
INSURANCE STATEMENT**

THE UNDERSIGNED has read and understands the aforementioned insurance requirements applicable to any contract resulting from this solicitation and shall provide the insurances required by this Attachment within ten (10) days from the date of Notice of Intent to Award.

Bidder Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature
(Authorized
Official): _____

Printed Name/Title: _____

Insurance Agency: _____

Agent Name: _____ Agent Phone: _____

Return this fully executed form with your bid.

ATTACHMENT F
CONFLICT OF INTEREST AFFIDAVIT

The award of this contract is subject to the provisions of Manatee County Code of Laws. Bidder must disclose within its Bid: the name of any officer, director, or agent who is also an employee of Manatee County. Furthermore, all Bidders must disclose the name of any County employee who owns, directly or indirectly, an interest of more than five percent (5%) in the Bidder's firm or any of its branches.

By signing below, Bidder confirms that it is not currently engaged or will not become engaged in any obligations, undertakings or contracts that will require the firm to maintain an adversarial role against the County or that will impair or influence the advice or recommendations it provides to the County.

Please check one of the following statements and attach additional documentation if necessary:

- To the best of our knowledge, the undersigned firm has no potential conflict of interest for this IFB.
- The undersigned firm, by attachment to this form, submits information which may be a potential conflict of interest for this IFB.

Acknowledged and attested to by:

Firm Name

Signature

Name and Title (Print or Type)

Date

Return this fully executed form with your bid.

ATTACHMENT G
Scrutinized Company Certification

This certification is required pursuant to Florida State Statute Section 287.135.

As of July 1, 2011, a company that, at the time of bidding or submitting a proposal for a new contract or renewal of an existing contract, is on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List is ineligible for, and may not bid on, submit a proposal for, enter into, or renew a contract with an agency or local governmental entity for goods or services of **\$1 million or more**.

Bidder must fully complete and return this form with its Bid.

Company _____ FID or EIN No. _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I, _____, as a representative of _____
certify and affirm that this company is not on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List.

Signature

Title

Printed Name

Date

**ATTACHMENT H
PRICING FORM**

Bid Group A ¹			
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MILES	LUMP SUM PRICE
1	Palm View Road	6.09	\$
2	Braden Crossings and Gateway East Subdivisions	2.46	\$
3	West Bradenton, 51 st St. W to 59 th St. W	8.84	\$
TOTAL BID FOR GROUP A (sum of lump sum price for items 1 thru 3)		\$	

Bid Group B ²			
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MILES	LUMP SUM PRICE
1	Mill Creek Subdivision, east of Rye Road	4.47	\$
2	Windsor Park Subdivision	6.25	\$
3	Sanctuary at River Club	4.43	\$
TOTAL BID FOR GROUP B (sum of lump sum price for items 1 thru 3)		\$	

Bid Group C ³			
ITEM	DESCRIPTION	MILES	LUMP SUM PRICE
1	Manatee Palms	2.54	\$
2	39 th St. W (area south of Manatee Ave.)	8.25	\$
3	Vintage Creek, Glenbrooke, Whispering Pines and part of Country Oaks subdivisions	2.81	\$
4	Sylvan Woods, University Pines, Conservatory Estates and part of Country Oaks subdivisions	4.31	\$
TOTAL BID FOR GROUP C (sum of lump sum price for items 1 thru 4)		\$	

¹ Work in Bid Group A is currently scheduled to be completed during February and March, 2018.

² Work in Bid Group B is currently scheduled to be completed during April and May, 2018.

³ Work in Bid Group C is currently scheduled to be completed during June and July 2018.

NOTE: Work identified in this Attachment H, Pricing Form, is work that is currently projected for fiscal year 2018. Any additional work and work for successive years will be scheduled and pricing will be negotiated, based upon pricing submitted on this Attachment H, with the successful Bidder at the time of need.

EXHIBITS

IFB No.18-R067753GE
Tree Trimming Services
Manatee County BCC

American National Standard
for Tree Care Operations —

Tree, Shrub, and Other
Woody Plant
Maintenance —
Standard Practices
(Pruning)

1 ANSI A300 standards

1.1 Scope

ANSI A300 standards present performance standards for the care and management of trees, shrubs, and other woody plants.

1.2 Purpose

ANSI A300 performance standards are intended for use by federal, state, municipal and private entities including arborists, property owners, property managers, and utilities for developing written specifications.

1.3 Application

ANSI A300 performance standards shall apply to any person or entity engaged in the management of trees, shrubs, or other woody plants.

2 Part 1 — Pruning standards

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of Part 1 — *Pruning* is to provide performance standards for developing written specifications for pruning.

2.2 Reasons for pruning

The reasons for tree pruning may include, but are not limited to, reducing risk, managing tree health and structure, improving aesthetics, or achieving other specific objectives. Pruning practices for agricultural, horticultural production, or silvicultural purposes are exempt from this standard unless this standard, or a portion thereof, is expressly referenced in standards for these other related areas.

2.3 Implementation

2.3.1 Specifications for pruning should be written and administered by an arborist.

2.3.1.1 Specifications should include location of tree(s), objectives, methods (types), and extent of pruning (location, percentage, part size, etc).

2.3.2 Pruning specifications shall be adhered to.

2.4 Safety

2.4.1 Pruning shall be implemented by an arborist, familiar with the practices and hazards of pruning and the equipment used in such operations.

2.4.2 This performance standard shall not take precedence over applicable industry safe work practices.

2.4.3 Performance shall comply with applicable Federal and State Occupational Safety and Health standards, ANSI Z133.1, Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) and other Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, as well as state and local regulations.

3 Normative references

The following standards contain provisions, which, through reference in the text, constitute provisions of this American National Standard. All standards are subject to revision, and parties to agreements based on this American National Standard shall apply the most recent edition of the standards indicated below.

ANSI Z60.1, Nursery stock
ANSI Z133.1, Arboriculture — Safety requirements
29 CFR 1910, General industry ¹⁾
29 CFR 1910.268, Telecommunications ¹⁾
29 CFR 1910.269, Electric power generation, transmission, and distribution ¹⁾
29 CFR 1910.331 - 335, Electrical safety-related work practices ¹⁾

4 Definitions

4.1 arboriculture: The art, science, technology, and business of commercial, public, and utility tree care.

¹⁾ Available from U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210

4.2 arborist: An individual engaged in the profession of arboriculture who, through experience, education, and related training, possesses the competence to provide for or supervise the management of trees and other woody plants.

4.3 arborist trainee: An individual undergoing on-the-job training to obtain the experience and the competence required to provide for or supervise the management of trees and other woody plants. Such trainees shall be under the direct supervision of an arborist.

4.4 branch: A shoot or stem growing from a parent branch or stem (See Fig. 4.4).

4.4.1 codominant branches/codominant leaders: Branches or stems arising from a common junction, having nearly the same size diameter (See Fig. 4.4).

4.4.2 lateral branch: A shoot or stem growing from another branch (See Fig. 4.4).

4.4.3 parent branch or stem: A tree trunk or branch from which other branches or shoots grow (See Fig. 4.4).

4.4.4 scaffold branch: A primary branch that forms part of the main structure of the crown (See Fig. 4.4).

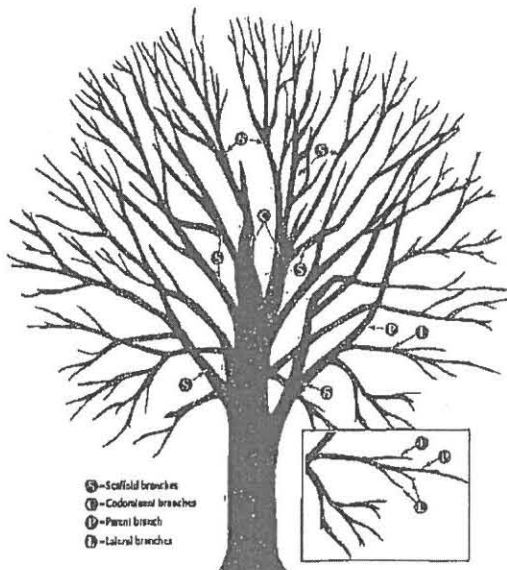


Figure 4.4 Standard branch definitions.

4.5 branch bark ridge: The raised area of bark in the branch crotch that marks where the branch and parent stem meet. (See Figs. 5.3.2 and 5.3.3).

4.6 branch collar: The swollen area at the base of a branch.

4.7 callus: Undifferentiated tissue formed by the cambium around a wound.

4.8 cambium: The dividing layer of cells that forms sapwood (xylem) to the inside and inner bark (phloem) to the outside.

4.9 clean: Selective pruning to remove one or more of the following non-beneficial parts: dead, diseased, and/or broken branches (7.2).

4.10 climbing spurs: Sharp, pointed devices strapped to a climber's lower legs used to assist in climbing trees. (syn.: gaffs, hooks, spurs, spikes, climbers)

4.11 closure: The process in a woody plant by which woundwood grows over a pruning out or injury.

4.12 crown: Upper part of a tree, measured from the lowest branch, including all the branches and foliage.

4.13 decay: The degradation of woody tissue caused by microorganisms.

4.14 espalier: The combination of pruning, supporting, and training branches to orient a plant in one plane (6.5).

4.15 establishment: The point after planting when a tree's root system has grown sufficiently into the surrounding soil to support growth and anchor the tree.

4.16 facility: A structure or equipment used to deliver or provide protection for the delivery of an essential service, such as electricity or communications.

4.17 frond: A leaf structure of a palm.

4.18 heading: The reduction of a shoot, stem, or branch back to a bud or to a lateral branch not large enough to assume the terminal role.

- 4.19 interfering branches:** Crossing, rubbing, or upright branches that have the potential to damage tree structure and/or health.
- 4.20 internode:** The area between lateral branches or buds.
- 4.21 job briefing:** The communication of at least the following subjects for arboricultural operations: work specifications, hazards associated with the job, work procedures involved, special precautions, electrical hazards, job assignments, and personal protective equipment.
- 4.22 leader:** A dominant, typically upright, stem – usually the main trunk. There can be several leaders in one tree.
- 4.23 lion's tailing:** The removal of an excessive number of inner and/or lower lateral branches from parent branches. Lion's tailing is not an acceptable pruning practice (8.1.7).
- 4.24 live crown ratio:** Crown height relative to overall plant height.
- 4.25 mechanical pruning:** A pruning technique where large-scale power equipment is used to cut back branches (9.3.2).
- 4.26 method:** A procedure or process for achieving an objective.
- 4.27 peeling:** The removal of dead frond bases without damaging living trunk tissue at the point they make contact with the trunk. (syn.: shaving)
- 4.28 petiole:** A stalk of a leaf or frond.
- 4.29 pollarding:** Pruning method in which tree branches are initially headed and then reduced on a regular basis without disturbing the callus knob (6.6).
- 4.30 pruning:** The selective removal of plant parts to meet specific goals and objectives.
- 4.31 qualified line-clearance arborist:** An individual who, through related training and on-the-job experience, is familiar with the equipment and hazards in line clearance and has demonstrated the ability to perform the special techniques involved. This individual may or may not be currently employed by a line-clearance contractor.
- 4.32 qualified line-clearance arborist trainee:** An individual undergoing line-clearance training under the direct supervision of a qualified line-clearance arborist. In the course of such training, the trainee becomes familiar with the equipment and hazards in line clearance and demonstrates ability in the performance of the special techniques involved.
- 4.33 raise:** Pruning to provide vertical clearance (7.3).
- 4.34 reduce:** Pruning to decrease height and/or spread (7.4).
- 4.35 remote area:** As used in the utility pruning section of this standard, an unpopulated area.
- 4.36 restoration:** Pruning to redevelop structure, form, and appearance of topped or damaged trees (6.3).
- 4.37 rural area:** As used in the utility pruning section of this standard, a sparsely populated place away from large cities, suburbs, or towns but distinct from remote areas.
- 4.38 shall:** As used in this standard, denotes a mandatory requirement.
- 4.39 shoot:** Stem or branch and its leaves, especially when young.
- 4.40 should:** As used in this standard, denotes an advisory recommendation.
- 4.41 specifications:** A document stating a detailed, measurable plan or proposal for provision of a product or service.
- 4.42 sprouts:** New shoots originating from epicormic or adventitious buds, not to be confused with suckers. (syn.: watersprouts, epicormic shoots)
- 4.43 standard, ANSI A300:** The performance parameters established by industry consensus as a rule for the measure of extent, quality, quantity, value or weight used to write specifications.
- 4.44 stem:** A woody structure bearing buds, foliage, and giving rise to other stems.
- 4.45 structural pruning:** Pruning to improve branch architecture (6.2).

4.46 stub: Portion of a branch or stem remaining after an internodal cut or branch breakage.

4.47 subordination: Pruning to reduce the size and ensuing growth rate of a branch or leader in relation to other branches or leaders.

4.48 sucker: Shoot arising from the roots.

4.49 thin: pruning to reduce density of live branches (7.5).

4.50 throw line: A small, lightweight line with a weighted end used to position a climber's rope in a tree.

4.51 topping: Reduction of tree size using internodal cuts without regard to tree health or structural integrity. Topping is not an acceptable pruning practice (6.1.7).

4.52 tracing: The removal of loose, damaged tissue from in and around the wound.

4.53 trunk: The main woody part of a tree beginning at and including the trunk flare and extending up into the crown from which scaffold branches grow.

4.54 trunk flare: 1. The area at the base of the plant's trunk where it broadens to form roots. 2. The area of transition between the root system and trunk (syn.: root flare).

4.55 urban/residential areas: Populated areas including public and private property that are normally associated with human activity.

4.56 utility: A public or private entity that delivers a public service, such as electricity or communications.

4.57 utility space: The physical area occupied by a utility's facilities and the additional space required to ensure its operation.

4.58 vista/view prune: Pruning to enhance a specific view without jeopardizing the health of the tree (6.4).

4.59 wound: An opening that is created when the bark of a live branch or stem is cut, penetrated, damaged, or removed.

4.60 woundwood: Partially differentiated tissue responsible for closing wounds. Woundwood develops from callus associated with wounds.

5 Pruning practices

5.1 Tree inspection

5.1.1 An arborist or arborist trainee shall visually inspect each tree before beginning work.

5.1.2 If a condition is observed requiring attention beyond the original scope of the work, the condition should be reported to an immediate supervisor, the owner, or the person responsible for authorizing the work.

5.1.3 Job briefings shall be performed as outlined in ANSI Z133.1, subclause 3.1.4.

5.2 Tools and equipment

5.2.1 Equipment, tools, and work practices that damage living tissue and bark beyond the scope of normal work practices shall be avoided.

5.2.2 Climbing spurs shall not be used when entering and climbing trees for the purpose of pruning.

Exceptions:

- when branches are more than throw-line distance apart and there is no other means of climbing the tree;
- when the outer bark is thick enough to prevent damage to the inner bark and cambium;
- in remote or rural utility rights-of-way.

5.3 Pruning cuts

5.3.1 Pruning tools used in making pruning cuts shall be sharp.

5.3.2 A pruning cut that removes a branch at its point of origin shall be made close to the trunk or parent branch without cutting into the branch bark ridge or branch collar or leaving a stub (see Figure 5.3.2).

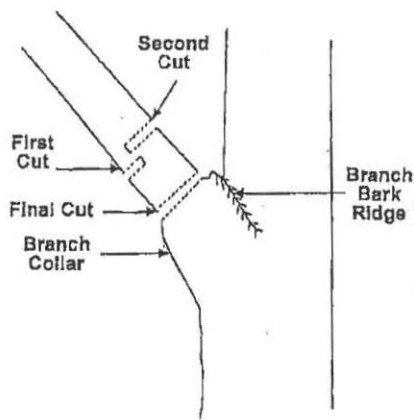


Figure 5.3.2. A cut that removes a branch at its point of origin. (See Annex A – Pruning cut guideline).

5.3.3 A pruning cut that reduces the length of a branch or parent stem shall be made at a slight downward angle relative to the remaining stem and not damage the remaining stem. Smaller cuts shall be preferred (see Fig. 5.3.3).

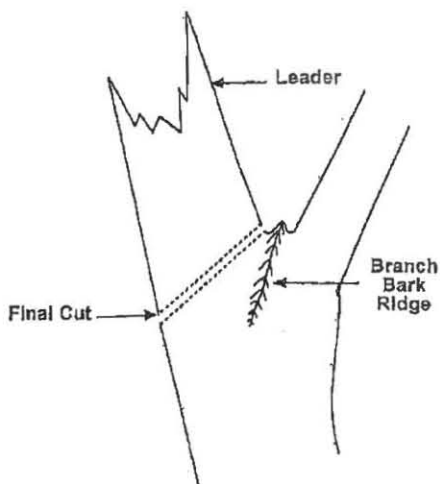


Figure 5.3.3. A cut that reduces the length of a branch or parent stem.

5.3.4 When pruning to a lateral, the remaining lateral branch should be large enough to assume the terminal role.

5.3.5 The final cut should result in a flat surface with adjacent bark firmly attached.

5.3.6 When removing a dead branch, the final cut shall be made just outside the collar of living tissue.

5.3.7 Tree branches shall be removed in such a manner so as to avoid damage to other parts of the tree or to other plants or property. Branches too large to support with one hand shall be pre-cut to avoid splitting of the wood or tearing of the bark (see Figure 5.3.2). Where necessary, ropes or other equipment shall be used to lower large branches or portions of branches to the ground.

5.3.8 A cut that removes a branch with a narrow angle of attachment should be made from the outside of the branch to prevent damage to the parent branch (see Figure 5.3.8).

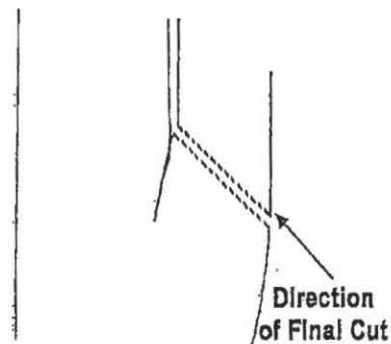


Figure 5.3.8. A cut that removes a branch with a narrow angle of attachment.

5.3.9 Severed branches shall be removed from the crown upon completion of the pruning, at times when the tree would be left unattended, or at the end of the workday.

5.4 Wound treatment

5.4.1 Wound treatments shall not be used to cover wounds or pruning cuts, except when necessary for disease, insect, mistletoe, or sprout control, or for cosmetic reasons.

5.4.2 Wound treatments that are damaging to tree tissues shall not be used.

5.4.3 When tracing wounds, only loose, damaged tissue shall be removed.

6 Pruning objectives

6.1 Pruning objectives shall be established prior to beginning any pruning operation.

6.1.1 Objectives should include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

- Risk reduction
- Manage health
- Clearance
- Structural improvement/correction
- View improvement/creation
- Aesthetic improvement
- Restoration

6.1.2 Established objectives should be specified in writing (See Annex B – *Specification writing guideline*).

6.1.3 To obtain the defined objective, the growth cycles, structure, species, and the extent of pruning to be performed shall be considered.

6.1.4 Not more than 25 percent of the foliage should be removed within an annual growing season. The percentage and distribution of foliage to be removed shall be adjusted according to the plant's species, age, health, and site.

6.1.5 When frequent excessive pruning is necessary for a tree to avoid conflicts with elements such as infrastructure, view, traffic, or utilities, removal or relocation of the tree shall be considered.

6.1.6 Pruning cuts should be made in accordance with section 5.3 *Pruning cuts*.

6.1.7 Toppling and lion's tailing shall be considered unacceptable pruning practices for trees.

6.2 **Structural:** Structural pruning shall consist of selective pruning to improve tree and branch architecture primarily on young- and medium-aged trees.

6.2.1 Size and location of leaders or branches to be subordinated or removed should be specified.

6.2.2 Dominant leader(s) should be selected for development as appropriate.

6.2.3 Strong, properly spaced scaffold branch structure should be selected and maintained by reducing or removing others.

6.2.4 Temporary branches should be retained or reduced as appropriate.

6.2.5 Interfering, overextended, defective, weak, and poorly attached branches should be removed or reduced.

6.2.6 At planting, pruning should be limited to cleaning (7.2).

6.3 **Restoration:** Restoration shall consist of selective pruning to redevelop structure, form, and appearance of severely pruned, vandalized, or damaged trees.

6.3.1 Location in tree, size range of parts, and percentage of sprouts to be removed should be specified.

6.4 **Vista/view:** Vista/view pruning shall consist of the use of one or more pruning methods (types) to enhance a specific line of sight. ✓ ○

6.4.1 Pruning methods (types) shall be specified.

6.4.2 Size range of parts, location in tree, and percentage of foliage to be removed should be specified.

6.5 Espaller

6.5.1 Branches that extend outside the desired plane of growth shall be pruned or tied back.

6.5.2 Ties should be replaced as needed to prevent girdling the branches at the attachment site.

6.6 Pollarding

6.6.1 Consideration shall be given to the ability of the individual tree to respond to pollarding.

6.6.2 Management plans shall be made prior to the start of the pollarding process for routine removal of sprouts. ○

6.6.3 Heading cuts shall be made at specific locations to start the pollarding process. After the initial cuts are made, no additional heading cuts shall be made.

6.6.4 Sprouts growing from the cut ends of branches (knuckles) should be removed annually during the dormant season.

7 Pruning methods (types)

7.1 One or more of the following methods (types) shall be specified to achieve the objective.

7.2 **Clean:** Cleaning shall consist of pruning to remove one or more of the following non-beneficial parts: dead, diseased, and/or broken branches.

7.2.1 Location of parts to be removed shall be specified.

7.2.2 Size range of parts to be removed shall be specified.

7.3 **Raise:** Raising shall consist of pruning to provide vertical clearance.

7.3.1 Clearance distance shall be specified.

7.3.2 Location and size range of parts to be removed should be specified.

7.3.3 Live crown ratio should not be reduced to less than 50 percent.

7.4 **Reduce:** Reducing shall consist of pruning to decrease height and/or spread.

7.4.1 Consideration shall be given to the ability of a species to tolerate this type of pruning.

7.4.2 Location of parts to be removed or clearance requirements shall be specified.

7.4.3 Size of parts should be specified.

7.5 **Thin:** Thinning shall consist of selective pruning to reduce density of live branches.

7.5.1 Thinning should result in an even distribution of branches on individual branches and throughout the crown.

7.5.2 Not more than 25 percent of the crown should be removed within an annual growing season.

7.5.3 Location of parts to be removed shall be specified.

7.5.4 Percentage of foliage and size range of parts to be removed shall be specified.

8 Palm pruning

8.1 Palm pruning should be performed when fronds, fruit, or loose petioles may create a dangerous condition.

8.2 Live healthy fronds should not be removed.

8.3 Live, healthy fronds above horizontal shall not be removed. Exception: Palms encroaching on electric supply lines (see Fig. 8.3a and 8.3b).

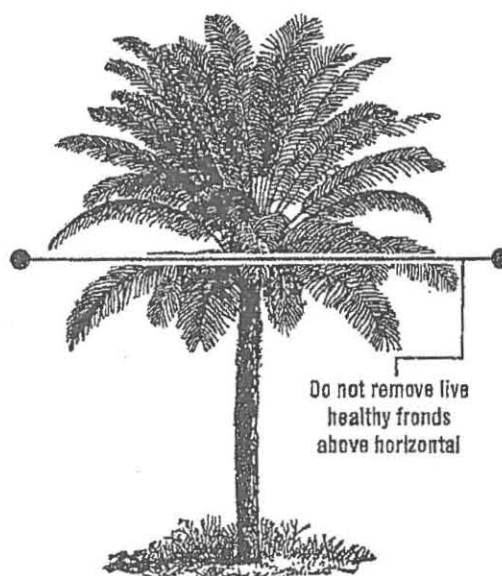


Figure 8.3a Frond removal location.

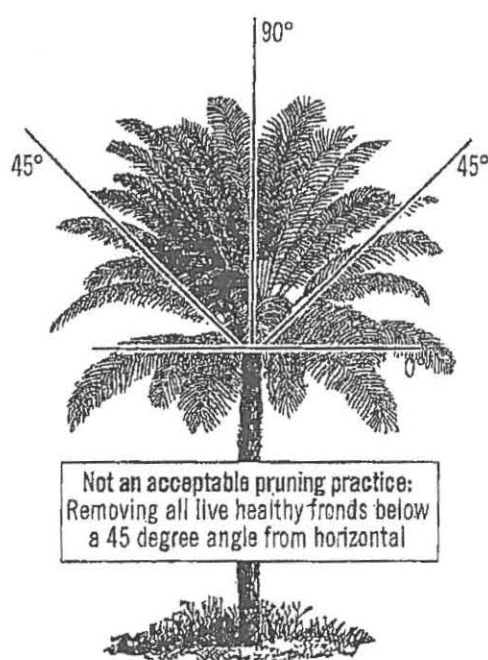


Figure 8.3b An overpruned palm (not an acceptable pruning practice).

8.4 Fronds removed should be severed close to the petiole base without damaging living trunk tissue.

8.5 Palm peeling (shaving) should consist of the removal of only the dead frond bases at the point they make contact with the trunk without damaging living trunk tissue.

9 Utility pruning

9.1 Purpose

The purpose of utility pruning is to prevent the loss of service, comply with mandated clearance laws, prevent damage to equipment, maintain access, and uphold the intended usage of the facility/utility space while adhering to accepted tree care performance standards.

9.2 General

9.2.1 Only a qualified line-clearance arborist or line-clearance arborist trainee shall be assigned to

line clearance work in accordance with ANSI Z133.1, 29 CFR 1910.331 – 335, 29 CFR 1910.268 or 29 CFR 1910.269.

9.2.2 Utility pruning operations are exempt from requirements in subclause 5.1, *Tree Inspection*, for conditions outside the utility pruning scope of work.

9.2.3 Job briefings shall be performed as outlined in ANSI Z133.1, subclause 3.1.4.

9.3 Utility crown reduction pruning

9.3.1 Urban/residential areas

9.3.1.1 Pruning cuts should be made in accordance with subclause 5.3, *Pruning cuts*. The following requirements and recommendations of 9.3.1.1 are repeated from subclause 5.3 *Pruning cuts*.

9.3.1.1.1 A pruning cut that removes a branch at its point of origin shall be made close to the trunk or parent branch, without cutting into the branch bark ridge or collar, or leaving a stub (see Figure 5.3.2).

9.3.1.1.2 A pruning cut that reduces the length of a branch or parent stem shall be made at a slight downward angle relative to the remaining stem and not damage the remaining stem. Smaller cuts shall be preferred (see Fig. 5.3.3).

9.3.1.1.3 The final cut shall result in a flat surface with adjacent bark firmly attached.

9.3.1.1.4 When removing a dead branch, the final cut shall be made just outside the collar of living tissue.

9.3.1.1.5 Tree branches shall be removed in such a manner so as not to cause damage to other parts of the tree or to other plants or property. Branches too large to support with one hand shall be pre-cut to avoid splitting of the wood or tearing of the bark (see Figure 5.3.2). Where necessary, ropes or other equipment shall be used to lower large branches or portions of branches to the ground.

9.3.1.1.6 A cut that removes a branch with a narrow angle of attachment should be made from the outside of the branch to prevent damage to the parent branch (see Figure 5.3.8).

9.3.1.2 A minimum number of pruning cuts should be made to accomplish the purpose of facility/utility pruning. The structure and growth habit of the tree should be considered.

9.3.1.3 Trees directly under and growing into facility/utility spaces should be removed or pruned. Such pruning should be done by removing entire branches or leaders or by removing branches that have laterals growing into (or once pruned, will grow into) the facility/utility space.

9.3.1.4 Trees growing next to, and into or toward, facility/utility spaces should be pruned by reducing branches to laterals (5.3.3) to direct growth away from the utility space or by removing entire branches. Branches that, when cut, will produce sprouts that would grow into facilities and/or utility space should be removed.

9.3.1.5 Branches should be cut to laterals or the parent branch and not at a pre-established clearing limit. If clearance limits are established, pruning cuts should be made at laterals or parent branches outside the specified clearance zone.

9.3.2 Rural/remote locations – mechanical pruning

Cuts should be made close to the main stem, outside of the branch bark ridge and branch collar. Precautions should be taken to avoid stripping or tearing of bark or excessive wounding.

9.4 Emergency service restoration

During a utility-declared emergency, service must be restored as quickly as possible in accordance with ANSI Z133.1, 29 CFR 1910.331 – 335, 29 CFR 1910.268, or 29 CFR 1910.269. At such times, it may be necessary, because of safety and the urgency of service restoration, to deviate from the use of proper pruning techniques as defined in this standard. Following the emergency, corrective pruning should be done as necessary.

Annex A

Pruning cut guideline

A-1 Three-cut method

Multiple cutting techniques exist for application of a three-cut method. A number of them may be used to implement an acceptable three-cut method.

A-1.1 The technique depicted in *Figure 5.3.2* demonstrates one example of a three-cut method that is common to hand-saw usage. It is not intended to depict all acceptable three-cut method techniques.

Annex B

Specification writing guideline

A300 (Part 1)-2008 *Pruning* standards are performance standards, and shall not be used as job specifications. Job specifications should be clearly detailed and contain measurable criteria.

The words "should" and "shall" are both used when writing standards. The word "shall" is used when writing specifications.

Writing specifications can be simple or complex and can be written in a format that suits your company/the job. The specifications consist of two sections.

I. General:

This section contains all aspects of the work to be performed that needs to be documented, yet does not need to be detailed.

Saying under the General section that "all work shall be completed in compliance with A300 Standards" means the clauses covering safety, inspections, cuts, etc. will be adhered to. There is no need to write each and every clause into every job specification.

Other items that may be covered in the General section could be: work hours and dates, traffic issues, disposal criteria, etc.

The second section under Job Specifications would be:

II. Details:

This section provides the clear and measurable criteria; the deliverables to the client.

This section, to be written in compliance with A300 standards, shall contain the following information:

1. Objective – Clause 6

These objectives originate from/with the tree owner or manager. The arborist shall clearly state what is going to be done to achieve the objective(s).

Objectives can be written for the entire job or individual trees. Rarely can one or two words clearly convey an objective so that all parties involved (client, sales, crew, etc.) can visualize the outcome.

2. Method – Clause 7

Here the method(s) to be used to achieve the objective are stated. Again, depending on the type of job, this can be stated for the individual tree or a group of trees.

3. Location – Clause 7.2.1, 7.3.2, 7.4.2, 7.5.3

This is the location in the tree(s) that the work methods are to take place.

4. Density – Clause 7.3.1, 7.3.3, 7.5.1, 7.5.2, 7.5.4

This is the amount or volume of parts that are to be removed and can be stated exactly or in ranges.

5. Size – Clause 7.2.2, 7.3.2, 7.4.3, 7.5.4

This is the size or range of sizes of cut(s) utilized to remove the volume specified.

NOTE: Items # 4 & 5 are directly related to resource allocation, staffing and dollars.

SAMPLE PRUNING SPECIFICATIONS

#1. Scope: Large live oak on west side of pool

Objectives: Increase light penetration through east side of tree. Reduce risk potential of 1-inch-diameter branches falling.

Specifications: All broken branches and 1-inch-plus diameter dead branches shall be removed from the crown.

The three lowest 8-inch-plus diameter branches on the east side shall be thinned 25 percent with 1-inch- to 3-inch-diameter cuts.

NOTE: All work shall be completed in compliance with ANSI A300 and Z133.1 Standards.

Annex B Specification writing guideline

#2. **Scope:** 1 Arizona ash

Objective: Enhance structure/structural development.

Specifications: General:

All pruning shall be completed in compliance with A300 Standards.

Detail:

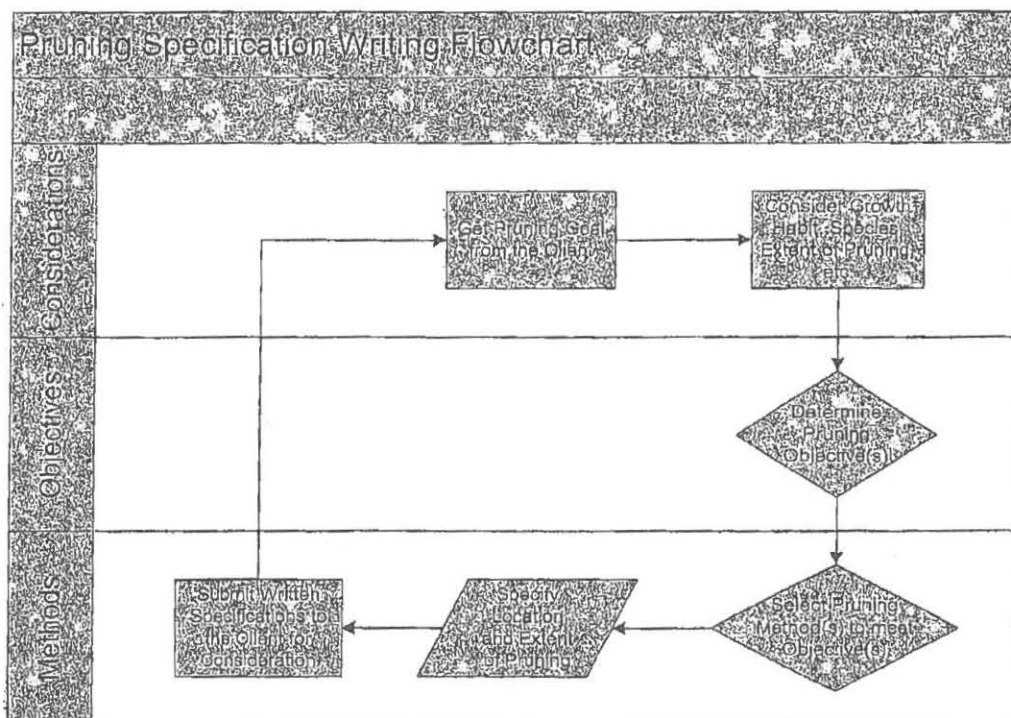
Thin crown 20-25 percent with 1-inch- to 4-inch-diameter cuts. Reduce west codominant leader by approximately 12 feet.

#3. **Scope:** Twenty-three newly installed evergreen elms

Objective: Maximize establishment – reduce nuisance while enhancing natural growth habit.

All work shall be completed in compliance with A300 Standards and the following specifications.

- Specifications:**
- Retain as much size as possible and 80-90 percent density of foliage.
 - Lowest permanent branch will be 6 feet above grade in four to five years.
 - Retain all sprout growth originating 18 inches above grade on trunk and 4 inches out from branch attachments throughout crown.
 - Remove weakest rubbing branches.
 - Remove dead branches.
 - Reduce broken branches or branches with dead ends back to live laterals or buds. Heading cuts can be used.
 - Maintain all growth originating between 1.5 feet (18 inches) and 6 feet 6 inches (78 inches) behind adjacent edge of walks. Heading cuts are OK.



Annex C
Applicable ANSI A300 interpretations

The following interpretations apply to Part 1 – *Pruning*:

C-1 Interpretation of "should" in ANSI A300 standards

"An advisory recommendation" is the common definition of "should" used in the standards development community and the common definition of "should" used in ANSI standards. An advisory notice is not a mandatory requirement. Advisory recommendations may not be followed when defensible reasons for non-compliance exist.

C-2 Interpretation of "shall" in ANSI A300 standards

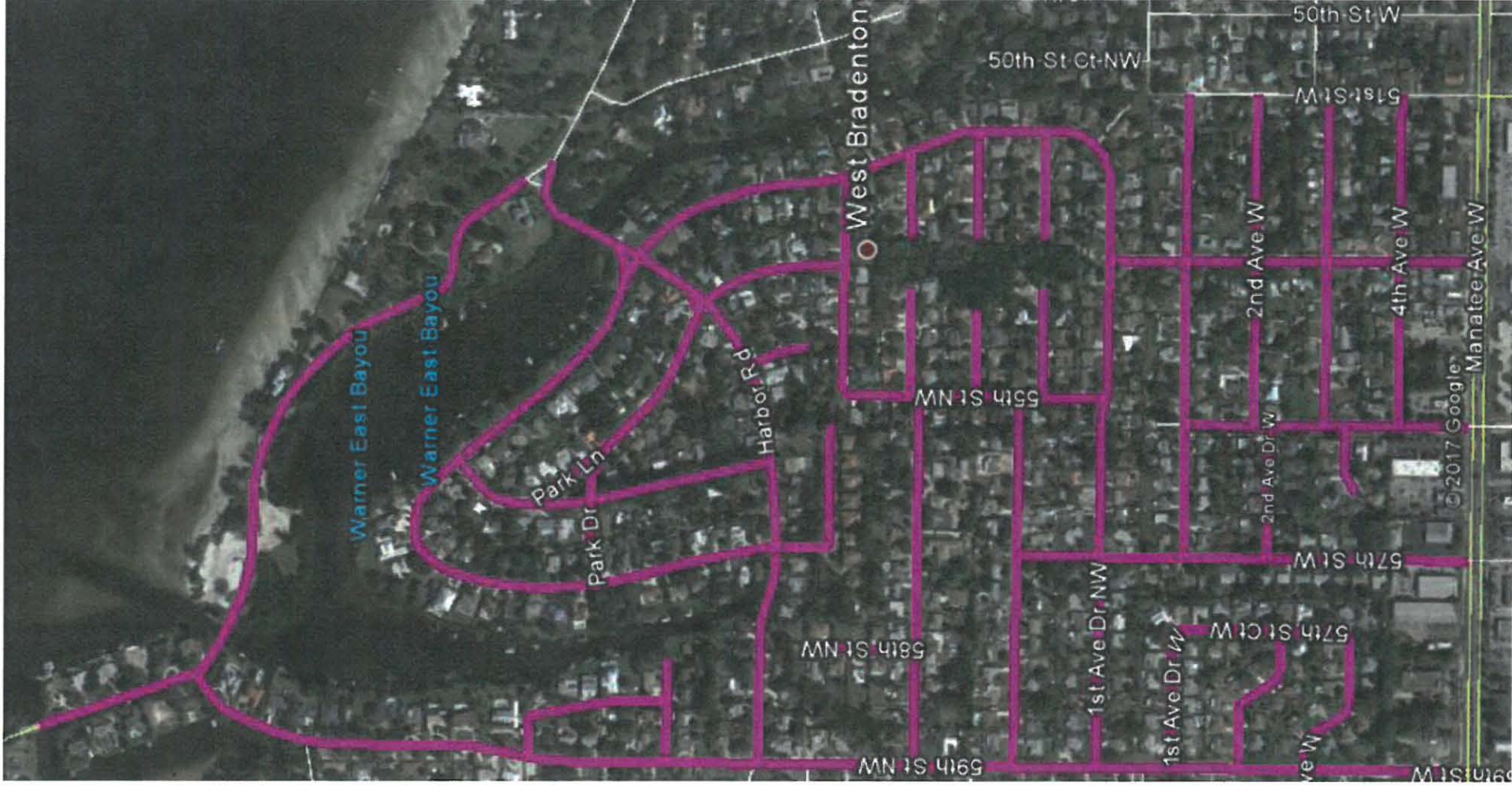
"A mandatory requirement" is the common definition of "shall" used in the standards development community and the common definition of "shall" used in ANSI standards. A mandatory requirement is not optional and must be followed for ANSI A300 compliance.



Subdivisions

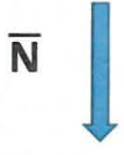
Gateway East and Braden Crossings





West Bradenton, 51st
St W to 59th St W

Mill Creek Subdivision – East of Rye Road



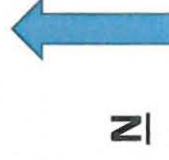
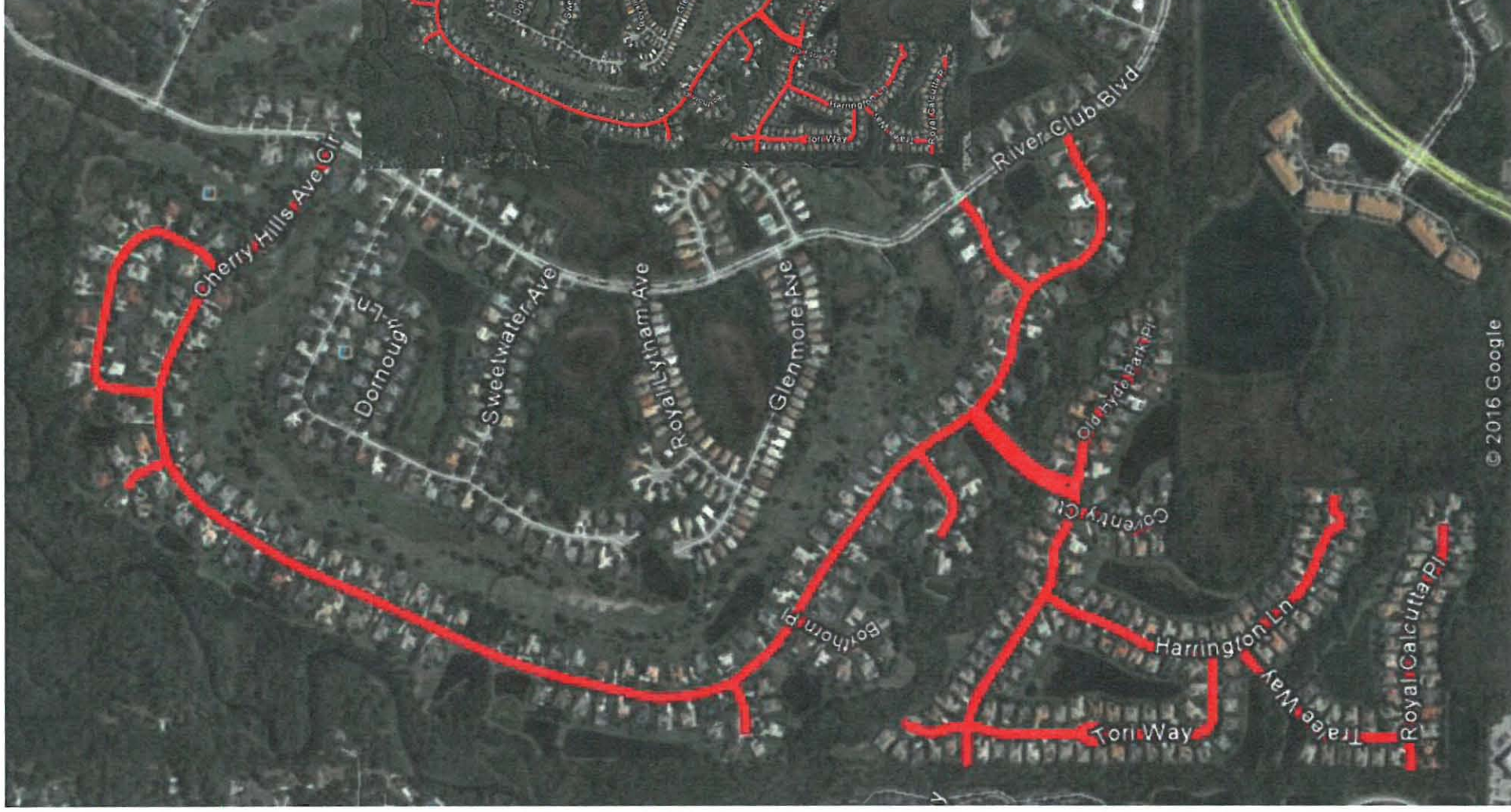
30th St W

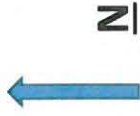
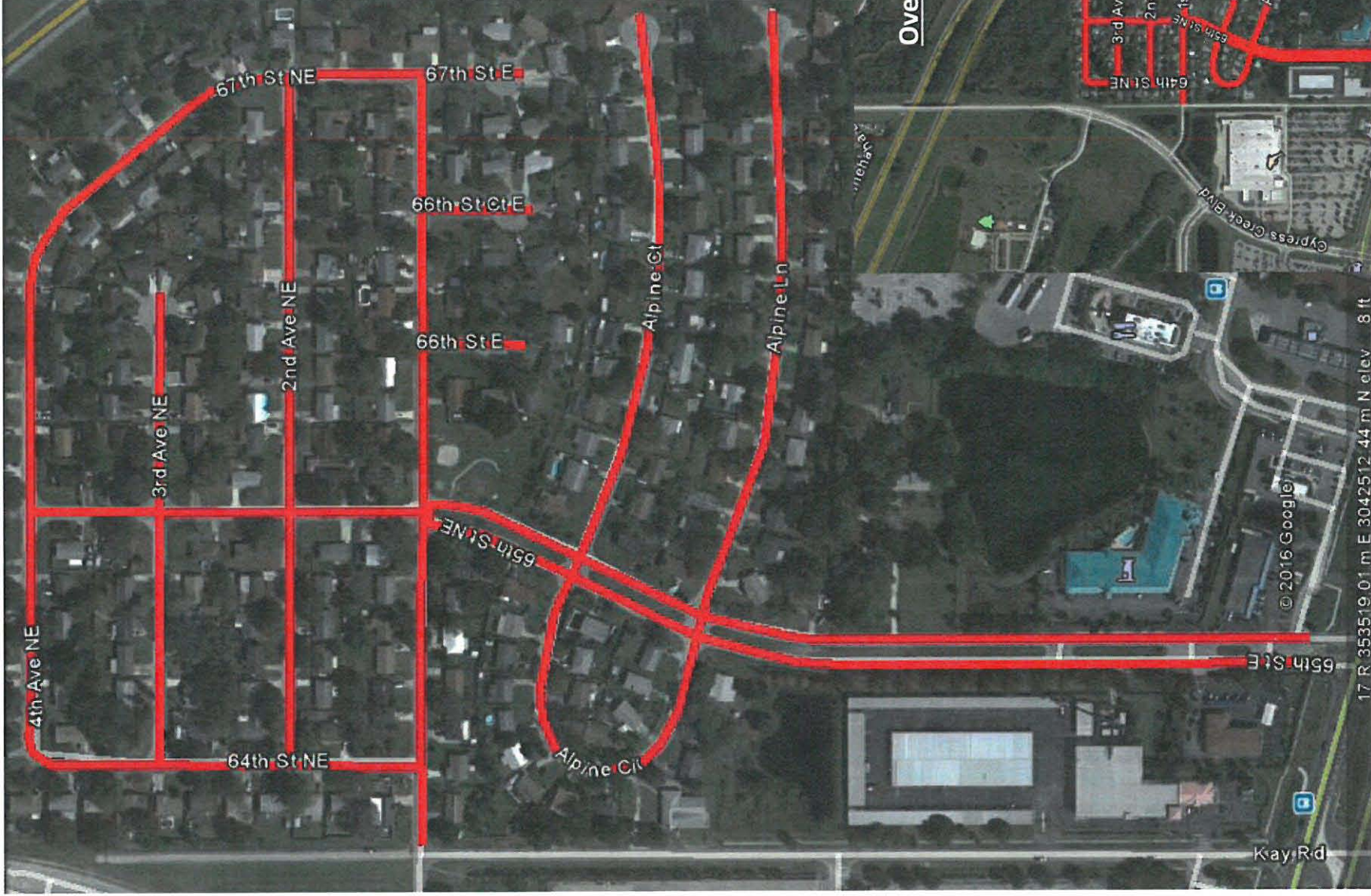


Windsor Park



Sanctuary at River Club

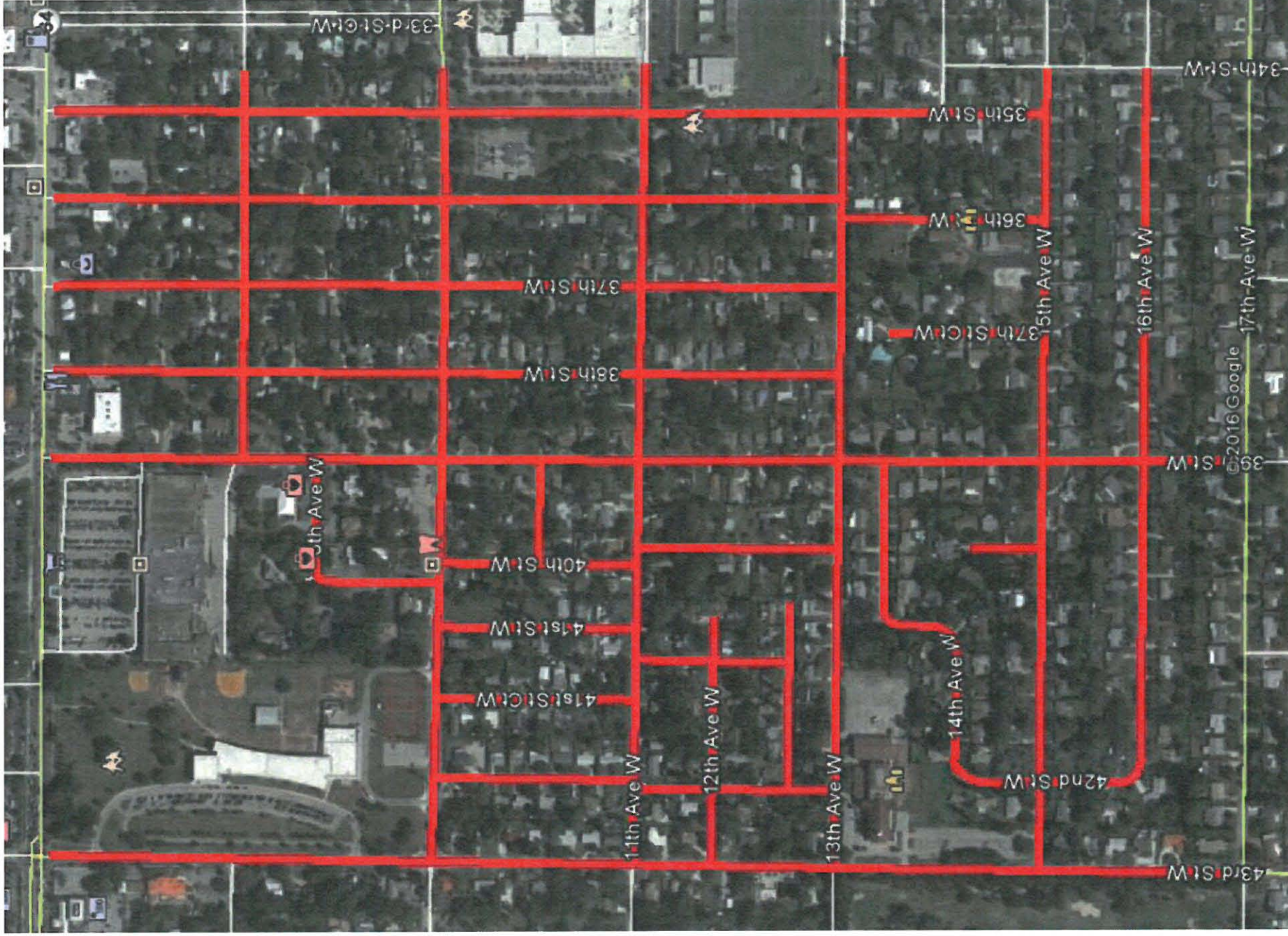


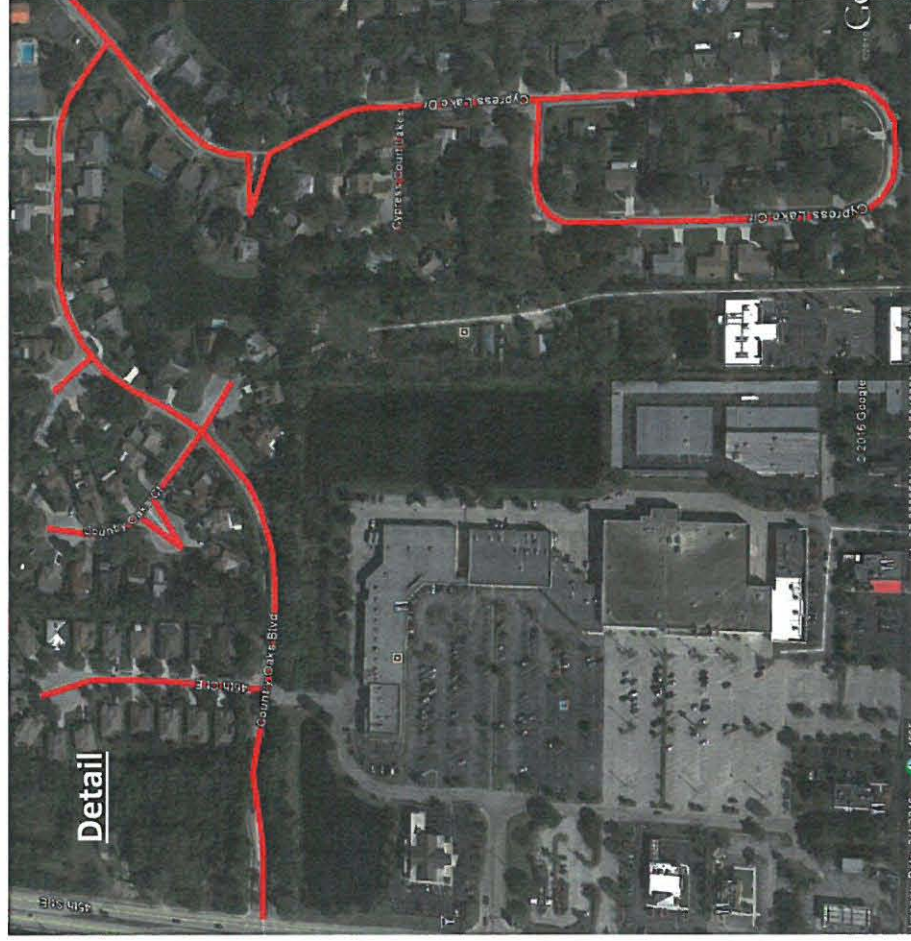


Manatee Palms

17 R 353519.01 m E 3042512.44 m N Elev 8 ft

39th St W area south of Manatee Avenue





**Vintage Creek,
Glenbrooke,
Whispering Oaks
and part of
Country Oaks
Subdivisions**



**Sylvan Woods,
University Pines,
Conservatory Estates
and part of Country
Oaks Subdivisions**