



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
May 13, 2014**

ITEM TITLE:

Resolution of the City of Coral Gables Commission proclaiming that it is the City's official policy to enforce the State of Florida Careless Driving Statute with relation to dangerous and unsafe driving conditions and urging the Florida Legislature to allow law enforcement officers to stop motor vehicles and issue citations as a primary offense to persons who are texting while driving.

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Approval.

BRIEF HISTORY:

Pursuant to Florida Statute Section 316.1925, it is a punishable moving violation for any person to operate a vehicle upon the streets or highways within the state of Florida without regard for the width, grade, curves, corners, traffic, and all other attendant circumstances, so as to endanger the life, limb, or property. The City of Coral Gables Commission recognizes that typically individuals engaged in texting while driving simultaneously operate a vehicle in violation of the Careless Driving statute. As such, the City of Coral Gables commission, in an effort to promote the health and wellbeing of its residents, encourages the City of Coral Gables Police to strictly enforce Florida Statute Section 316.1925, "Careless Driving" when officers perceive an individual conducting a vehicle without regard for the width, grade, curves, corners, traffic, and all other attendant circumstances, so as to endanger the life, limb, or property, specifically with respect to those individuals texting while driving. Moreover, the Commission strongly feels that the State of Florida Ban on Texting While Driving Law, enacted during the 2013 Legislative Session, and codified in Florida Statute Section 316.305, which allowed officers to issue citations, as a secondary offense, to drivers who were texting while driving, should be strengthened to promote safety and welfare, given the rise in vehicular accidents involving texting while driving. Accordingly, the City of Coral Gables Commission strongly supports passage of legislation that would strengthen the "Florida Ban on Texting While Driving" by making texting while driving a primary offense.

APPROVED BY:

City Attorney	City Manager
	

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Draft Resolution