

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item E-3
December 9, 2025
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Melissa Castro

Commissioner Ariel Fernandez

Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Planning and Zoning Director, Jennifer Garcia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item E-3 [Start: 11:19 a.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission providing for text amendments to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code, Article 5, "Architecture," Section 5-309, "Trellises;" Section 5-310, "Wood decks," and Section 5-311, "Pavers and walkways," to incorporate composite recycled materials as an approved material for trellises, decks, and walkways; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date. (11 19 25 PZB recommended approval with conditions, Vote: 7-0) (Sponsored by Vice Mayor Anderson)

Mayor Lago: Moving on to item E-3.

City Attorney Suarez: E3 is an ordinance of the City Commission providing for tax amendments to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code, Article 5, Architecture, Section 5-309, Trellises, Section 5-310, Wood Decks, and Section 5-311, Pavers and Walkways, to incorporate composite

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recycled materials as an approved material for trellises, decks, and walkways, providing for repeated provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date.

Planning and Zoning Director: Good morning. I'm Jennifer Garcia, Planning and Zoning Director. There's been some slight clarification since first reading. So, right now, in today's zoning code, the city architect can have the possibility to approve wood that's similar to the types of wood that are listed in the zoning code. That's being clarified as opposed to date, it only means solid wood. So, in other words, if you do composite wood, it has to be 60 percent recycled materials. This is discussed with the Board of Architects, as well as the Planning and Zoning Board, recommend approval 7-0.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Right. So, I know we discussed this before, but I think it's an important step for resiliency. Instead of having the wood that rots, now we have something that can last. We didn't have these types of innovations in the past, and so now we can have something that's both beautiful and resilient going forward, and some areas that are very difficult to prevent rotting and damage and termite damage. So, if there's no public comment, I'll just move it, and we can...

Mayor Lago: Do you have a motion?

Commissioner Fernandez: I'll second.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk, any public comment?

City Clerk Urquia: No, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: All right, we have a motion and a second.

Commissioner Lara: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes.

Commissioner Castro: Yes

Commissioner Fernandez: Yes.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Lago: Thank you.