

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item M – Discussion Items
September 11, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

City Commission

**Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Frank Quesada
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Vince Lago
Commissioner Michael Mena**

City Staff

**Interim City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman**

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item M – Discussion Items [10:40:00 a.m.]

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. Anything else to come before the meeting?

Commissioner Keon: Yes. I want to make sure that at the last meeting was approved to execute an agreement with Dover Cole for a planning study for the area north of 8th Street for that residential community, a planning study. I want to make sure that that gets executed.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: We have set up a meeting to finalize the scope and at that point it will be executed.

Commissioner Keon: OK – fine. Thank you very much.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright. Do you have a quick item?

Commissioner Keon: At what point will we talk about the process we will use for a new City Manager, to recruit a new City Manager.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Not today.

Commissioner Keon: I'm asking you at what point will we do that?

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Next time.

Commissioner Mena: I think at the next meeting.

Commissioner Keon: At the next meeting?

Commissioner Lago: That was my goal. I was going to talk to you individually at the next meeting.

Commissioner Keon: OK. I was just asking when that would come on.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Not today.

Commissioner Mena: If I could, just want to make a very simple pre-statement. Just to say to staff, I know there was a big change today. It's not lost on us that might cause some anxiety down the line. I just want you to know and I think we all want you to know that we value your work, we really appreciate all your hard work and your excellent work that you all do and we expect you to continue to do that and we need you to, and we hope that you'll cooperate obviously with our Interim City Manager Peter Iglesias and I know I speak for all of us when I say, our doors are always open and we are here with any questions or concerns you may have, but I just wanted to let everybody, reassure everybody that we understand that and that we are here and we are looking forward to doing great things going forward.

Commissioner Lago: And, in that same vein I wanted to mention something also and I was looking for it, I wish I had it here, but I couldn't find the actual memo. I know it's somewhere a few years ago when it was written. There was a memo that was put in place, which dealt with the employees of the City of Coral Gables and the fact that, kind of putting fewer layers between the employees and the City Commission in regards to having to be able to come and speak to us and speak about your concerns. I want you to understand and be very clear and I spoke to Miriam about that, that's not the case here, OK. I want you to come and speak to the Commission if you have any issues. Obviously, we'll never give you direction. We'll always be through the Interim City Manager, but I want to make sure that everybody understands, like Mike mentioned,

Commissioner Mena mentioned that our doors are always open. We appreciate your input, we appreciate your guidance and any advice that you may have that can make the City better, we are here today and we are going to be here in the future to listen to you and to hopefully implement the ideas that you have. So, there was a memo that was put in place a while back ago that dealt with having to speak, if you wanted to speak to the Commission you had to deal through your superiors. That is hopefully not in place anymore, but this Commission will never give you direction, I want to be very clear, will never give you direction. We will only speak through the Manager as we've done before, but I wanted to make sure that the doors are always open to speak to the Commission. You have no reason why not to come and speak with us if you have any ideas or concerns. We are here for you.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you very much. Meeting adjourned. Thank you.

Commissioner Keon: We are back here at what time?

City Attorney Ramos: We are back here at 2 o'clock for the workshop.

Commissioner Keon: Two o'clock for the workshop.

[End: 10:43:18 a.m.]