

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item G-3
October 8, 2019
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Vince Lago
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Michael Mena
Commissioner Jorge Fors

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Gary Resnick

Agenda Item G-3 [2:32:48 p.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, opposing preemption of City Authority regarding the deployment of small cell technology in City public rights-of-way and urging the Florida Legislature to repeal Section 337.401(7), Florida Statutes; providing for an effective date. (Sponsored by Vice Mayor Lago)

City Attorney Ramos: Mayor, G-3 is related to this issue its for 5G resolution. Mr. Resnick is here we should take advantage.

Vice Mayor Lago: It's pretty self-explanatory.

Mr. Resnick: [Inaudible]...what they just passed, but you know what's interesting about this, is the flavor in Tallahassee changed a little bit. In 2017 when the industry got through the first statute,
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the first Bill, there was a tremendous amount of momentum, they sold it based on 5G that this will allow the carriers to invest capital and implement 5G services for all of Florida, hasn't happened. Now they've got an amendment through saying, they don't like the way certain local governments have interpreted the statute, so they moved further amendments which they got in 2019. But now they are actually starting to deploy these facilities in the rights-of-way, and they are not for 5G, they are for densifying their existing wireless communication services, they are for 4G, in certain areas, not in every area, but very dense urban, wealthy areas, including Coral Gables. So, what's happening now though is, residents are actually seeing these facilities being built in front of their homes, and these are million-dollar-plus homes in various areas, so they are contacting their State Representatives and State Senators. So, there is a State Representative who wrote to the State Government Affairs person for Verizon saying, this isn't what you promised, and we'd like you to explain what you are actually building in our district, and so, there might be a little change of mentality in Tallahassee. I'm not saying that they are going to, yes, let's repeal this, but there might be a little change in their mentality in the thought process of some of the legislators that passed this in the first place. So, your resolution basically urges that they repeal the small cell statute.

Vice Mayor Lago: So moved.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Any second?

Commissioner Keon: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll please?

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 4-0)

(Commissioner Fors: Absent)

Mr. Resnick: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you sir, I appreciate it.

[End: 2:34:48 p.m.]

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[Date]

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