

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting**  
**Agenda Item G-2**  
**November 12, 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)**

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Agenda Item G-2 [11:27:26 a.m.]

Update regarding Trolley Expansion  
(Sponsored by Vice Mayor Lago)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Vice Mayor you are on – trolleys.

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you Mayor, I appreciate that. So first off, I want to thank the Commission for supporting my efforts to deliver on the trolley expansion for Saturday. I appreciate the vote and we were able to find the money, but after much further discussion as your TPO representative, I had a conversation at my last meeting with our Director, Ms. Boucle and I brought her into speak with staff about proposed demonstration projects that have to be submitted in the following months. Just like we were able to get the Freebie money using our demonstration projects. What I'm asking you to consider today, which I think is important, because I don't want to potentially jeopardize the demonstration project that we are going to be proposing for 2021, excuse me, 2020, is that we hold off on delivering trolleys for Saturdays, because what I'm going to be applying for is a demonstration project which would be three years, which would be for extended trolley

*City Commission Meeting*  
*November 12, 2019*

services on Saturdays and Sundays that will be paid for by this demonstration grant. I know that it's a little bit of – you voted on it, you support it, and I appreciate that and we found the money, but I'm asking us to ask the residents and the business community to be a little bit patient, because I've been able to find the money to deliver on the trolley accessibility for Saturdays and for Sundays, but not for one year like we talked about before, but for three years. I just wanted to give you an update on that.

City Attorney Ramos: So, this would be a resolution delaying implementation of Saturday service until?

Vice Mayor Lago: We are submitting...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Until you tell us.

City Attorney Ramos: For the time being.

Commissioner Keon: Until the demonstration project is available, is that what you are saying?

Vice Mayor Lago: Its available already, we are submitting it in the next few months. So, staff is working on it right now. I brought staff together with the TPO, Mr. City Manager was it like two weeks ago?

City Manager Iglesias: Two weeks ago.

Vice Mayor Lago: Two weeks ago, and its being worked on right now, and I'm hoping to bring that to the TPO when the demonstration projects are voted on in the next six months, and then we can hopefully get this for the next three years what we paid for in the demonstration project.

Parking Director Kinney: As Vice Mayor Lago said, there is a program that's coming open in the spring.

Vice Mayor Lago: Third iteration.

Parking Director Kinney: And in fact, we are proposing to have our proposal in by April and we should know by summer. There are some questions about the scope of that demonstration project and TPO is now getting answers from the State for us, but we should know by next summer, well we may know sooner whether we are allowed to use the project, but it looks like we will be in, we should know the answer by next summer.

*City Commission Meeting  
November 12, 2019*

Vice Mayor Lago: And the reason why, and I just – he said it wasn't very clear and I'm happy Kevin came up and talked about it. I don't want to jeopardize the demonstration project. This has to be new service. So, when we sat down with the Director of the TPO we were very clear that we had voted on it, so we are going to be implementing in 2020, early 2020 Saturday services. And I said listen, the last thing I want to do is implement a big grant like this which could pay for the next three years and would take a lot of stress off the City's coffers by just rushing to do this. So, I brought it back to the Commission to pump the brakes so that we could really deliver on this demonstration project.

City Manager Iglesias: This plan really works very well because our Freebie grant is phasing out.

Vice Mayor Lago: So, this is just about being patient and I apologize for a little bit of the confusion, but I just ask you to support me on this. So, I make the resolution, I make a motion.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Second?

Commissioner Mena: Second.

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

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you to staff, thank you to staff for working on this, this is really important, and I look forward to April. Thank you.

[End: 11:31:15 a.m.]