

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

ORDINANCE NO. 2025-__

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA PROVIDING FOR A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES OFFICIAL ZONING CODE, AMENDING ARTICLE 14 “PROCESS” TO REVISE ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD, THE BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT, THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION BOARD AND THE CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City of Coral Gables seeks to promote accountability and active participation from all members of its Planning and Zoning Board, Board of Adjustment, the Historic Preservation Board and the Code Enforcement Board; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission desires to revise attendance requirements to ensure that members fulfill their responsibilities and obligations to the community and clarify that excessive absences, as defined in Section 2-54 of the City Code, shall constitute grounds for removal by the City Manager; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission held a public hearing on June 10, 2025, at which hearing all interested persons were afforded an opportunity to be heard, and the item was approved on first reading (vote: 5 to 0); and,

WHEREAS, after notice was duly published, a public hearing was scheduled to be held before the Planning and Zoning Board on July 2, 2025, but was deferred; and

WHEREAS, after notice was duly published, a public hearing was held before the Planning and Zoning Board on August 13, 2025, at which hearing all interested parties were afforded the opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the Planning and Zoning Board was presented with text amendments to the Official Zoning Code, and after due consideration, recommended approval with changes (vote: 6 to 0) of the text amendment; and

WHEREAS, after notice duly published, a public hearing for Second Reading was held before the City Commission, at which hearing all interested parties were afforded the opportunity to be heard; and after due consideration and discussion, the amendment on Second Reading was approved.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES THAT:

SECTION 1. The foregoing “WHEREAS” clauses are hereby ratified and confirmed as being true and correct and are hereby made a specific part of this Ordinance upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. The Official Zoning Code of the City of Coral Gables is hereby amended to read as follows¹:

Article 14. Process

Section 14-102. Planning and Zoning Board

Section 14-102.2. Membership; Terms; Vacancies; Removal.

D. Removal. Any member of the Planning and Zoning Board may be removed with or without cause by a majority vote of the City Commission. ~~Board members shall be automatically terminated for three (3) unexcused absences in a two (2) year period.~~ A board member shall be automatically terminated if they fail to attend two of three successive meeting unless excused. Excused absences shall include jury duty, illness and absence from the City when a board member is unable to attend remotely. In addition, excessive absences, as defined in Section 2-54 of the City Code, shall constitute grounds for removal by the City Manager.

Section 14-104. Board of Adjustment

Section 14-104.2. Membership; Terms; Vacancies; Removal.

D. Removal. Any member of the Board of Adjustment may be removed with or without cause by a majority vote of the City Commission. ~~Board members shall be automatically terminated for three (3) unexcused absences in a two (2) year period.~~ A board member shall be automatically terminated if they fail to attend two of three successive meeting unless excused. Excused absences shall include jury duty, illness and absence from the City when a board member is unable to attend remotely. In addition, excessive absences, as defined in Section 2-54 of the City Code, shall constitute grounds for removal by the City Manager.

¹ Deletions are indicated by strikethrough. Insertions are indicated by underline.

Section 14-105. Historic Preservation Board

Section 14-105.2. Membership; Terms; Vacancies; Removal.

- D. Removal. Any member of the Historic Preservation Board may be removed with or without cause by a majority vote of the City Commission. ~~Board members shall be automatically terminated for three (3) unexcused absences in a two (2) year period.~~ A board member shall be automatically terminated if they fail to attend two of three successive meeting unless excused. Excused absences shall include jury duty, illness and absence from the City when a board member is unable to attend remotely. In addition, excessive absences, as defined in Section 2-54 of the City Code, shall constitute grounds for removal by the City Manager.

Section 14-106. Code Enforcement Board

Section 14-106.2. Membership; Terms; Vacancies; Removal.

- D. Removal. Any member of the Code Enforcement Board may be removed with or without cause by a majority vote of the City Commission. ~~Board members shall be automatically terminated for three (3) unexcused absences in a two (2) year period.~~ A board member shall be automatically terminated if they fail to attend two of three successive meeting unless excused. Excused absences shall include jury duty, illness and absence from the City when a board member is unable to attend remotely. In addition, excessive absences, as defined in Section 2-54 of the City Code, shall constitute grounds for removal by the City Manager.

SECTION 3. All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent or in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. If any section, part of section, paragraph, clause, phrase or word of this Ordinance is declared invalid, the remaining provisions of this Ordinance shall not be affected.

SECTION 5. It is the intention of the Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made part of the “City Code” and “Zoning Code” of the City of Coral Gables, Florida; and that the sections of this “ordinance” may be changed to “section”, “article”, or such other appropriate word or phrase in order to accomplish such intentions.

SECTION 7. If the Official Zoning Code or the Official City Code of the City of Coral Gables Tables of Contents or other reference portions is affected by these provisions, then changes are approved as a part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 8. This Ordinance shall become effective upon the date of its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, A.D., 2025.

(Moved: / Seconded:)

(Yeas:)

(; Vote)

APPROVED:

VINCE LAGO
MAYOR

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:

BILLY Y. URQUIA
CITY CLERK

CRISTINA M. SUAREZ
CITY ATTORNEY