



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
February 23, 2016**

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinance on First Reading. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, REGULATING THE TOWING AND BOOTING OF VEHICLES IN PRIVATELY-OWNED, METERED, SURFACE LOTS; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, REPEALER, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BRIEF HISTORY:

Numerous residents and visitors have parked in privately-owned lots under the impression that the lots are City-owned and, based on this belief they often pay at the City's parking stations, rather than of the private parking stations resulting in impound of their vehicle. Parking at the City's facilities without payment or with an expired payment results in a \$18.00 parking fine. No impound of a vehicle occurs unless the vehicle owner has 5 or more unpaid and past due citations, the vehicle is in a space specifically designated as a tow away zone or the vehicle is reported as a stolen vehicle.

In many cases, private lots open to the public will impound vehicles for non-payment or expired payment. Booting and towing often cause harm, stress and expense to patrons of these lots. Further, the amounts charged for the removal of boots or retrieval of vehicles from tow yards is often excessive and unjust, especially when the booting or towing is done as a result of parking for a short time in excess of time paid for or inadvertent payment to a City meter in close proximity to the private lot. The City wishes to insure that its residents and visitors are free from these types of abuses and well-informed as to whether they are parking on City-owned lots or privately-owned lots.

The Ordinance provides strict rules for private lot owners/operators and assesses penalties for violation for those rules.

REVIEWED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney	City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Draft Ordinance