

1 what I understand? So if it takes a motion to
 2 the Commission --
 3 MR. COLLER: Well, wait a minute. Let's
 4 clarify that. You've made a recommendation.
 5 Your transcript is seen by the Commission.
 6 They've seen the comments about preference for
 7 potentially 200 feet. So they're aware of it.
 8 MR. WITHERS: I always thought, and I could
 9 be totally wrong, because I am a lot of times,
 10 but if a Board made a specific motion of action
 11 to the Commission, they had to act on it. Is
 12 that not correct?
 13 MR. COLLER: Not correct. You're merely
 14 making a recommendation.
 15 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: We're just a
 16 recommending Board.
 17 MR. WITHERS: Okay. I'm wrong. I
 18 apologize for your time. But I would like to
 19 emphasize that to the Commission to look at.
 20 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: It's been noted.
 21 MR. PARDO: Now we have seven minutes.
 22 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Thank you.
 23 Next item, please.
 24 MR. WITHERS: I'll move it.
 25 MR. GRABIEL: Second.

1 MR. COLLER: I have to read it first.
 2 Item E-3, an Ordinance of the City
 3 Commission providing for text amendments to the
 4 City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code,
 5 Article 6, "Landscape," by amending the
 6 utilization of artificial turf on open joints
 7 of pavement; and Article 10, "Parking and
 8 Access," by providing review of materials in
 9 pavement joints; and providing for a repeater
 10 provision, severability clause, codification,
 11 and providing for an effective date.
 12 Item E-3, public hearing.
 13 MR. BEHAR: Motion to approve.
 14 MR. COLLER: Well, let's -- first of all, I
 15 think we need the record to reflect there is no
 16 one in the room to speak on this item. Do we
 17 have anybody in the --
 18 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Well, should we do the
 19 presentation by Staff?
 20 MS. GARCIA: It's very simple --
 21 MR. COLLER: Well, I wasn't sure where you
 22 were going with this, so I want to make sure
 23 that we have on the record that nobody is
 24 speaking on this.
 25 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: No. I'd like to go,

1 even if it's a quick process, Jennifer, is
 2 there --
 3 MS. GARCIA: So it's two points to this.
 4 One, we're removing the option to have
 5 artificial turf within the pavement joints. I
 6 don't need a PowerPoint. Thank you.
 7 And, then, the second point is to add
 8 alternatives, as far as what to put in between
 9 those pavements.
 10 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: So those alternatives
 11 are guided? You must do A, B, C or D?
 12 MS. GARCIA: River rock, Jersey shore
 13 gravel, marble chips -- these are consistent
 14 with what's allowed, as far as the swale
 15 package goes which is adjacent to these
 16 driveways --
 17 MR. SALMAN: I hate the swale package.
 18 MR. PARDO: This is only in front yards?
 19 MS. GARCIA: Yes, driveways.
 20 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Okay. That's your
 21 presentation?
 22 MS. GARCIA: Yes.
 23 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Okay. Do we have
 24 anybody for any comment, whether it's Zoom,
 25 phone or in Chambers -- in Chambers, there's no

1 one.
 2 THE SECRETARY: No.
 3 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Okay. I'm going to go
 4 ahead and close the public comment.
 5 Sue.
 6 MS. KAWALERSKI: You know, we're limiting a
 7 resident's ability to do things again; not
 8 developers. We're limiting residents'
 9 abilities to do things. So I'm totally against
 10 this. If they want artificial -- I mean, if
 11 we're discussing joints in a driveway, don't we
 12 have better things to discuss? Let them have
 13 artificial turf. It's not displeasing. Let
 14 them have it. That's my opinion.
 15 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Thank you, Sue.
 16 Chip.
 17 MR. WITHERS: I thought we gave them
 18 options to do so.
 19 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: We are. The only
 20 thing that they cannot do is artificial turf,
 21 according to this.
 22 MR. PARDO: In the front yard.
 23 MS. GARCIA: Yes.
 24 MS. KAWALERSKI: And just the joints,
 25 right? We're talking about joints in a

1 driveway.

2 MS. GARCIA: Yes.

3 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: You can't do
4 artificial turf --

5 MS. GARCIA: Currently you can have it in
6 the joint, that's it.

7 MR. SALMAN: And why are we taking this
8 right away from the residents?

9 MS. GARCIA: We don't like the look of it.

10 MR. SALMAN: You don't like it? Are there
11 complaints from anybody that it's loose or
12 comes loose, because I've seen it everywhere?

13 MS. GARCIA: No. I guess it's not wearing
14 very well in locations, as far as like heavy
15 traffic, with people driving into their
16 driveways a lot. It's not aging very well.

17 MR. SALMAN: I think part of the problem is
18 that people tried to use it in bigger areas. I
19 think you're better off when you limit it to
20 like three or four inches --

21 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Four inches --

22 MR. BEHAR: And the problem is, people are
23 doing it on the separation and then they're
24 going to continue it. And then it becomes
25 where is the cut-off point.

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1 MR. WITHERS: Disco lighting?

2 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Hold on. Let's say
3 you want to do very low tone packed tight
4 lighting that goes in there. Has anybody ever
5 presented that or anybody ever looked at that?
6 Does that exist?

7 MR. BEHAR: It does exist. In walkways,
8 I've seen it.

9 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: In walkways. I'm not
10 talking about bright lights. I'm looking at a
11 very subtle --

12 MR. BEHAR: That's a whole different --

13 MR. SALMAN: I advise the Chair to stick to
14 his comments, directly to the item before us.

15 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: I'm just asking if
16 that would be something -- and like I said, I'm
17 not talking about bright lights, just to
18 clarify. You know, I'm just talking about --

19 MR. BEHAR: And, Sue, I don't have a
20 problem with, if you keep, don't keep it. I
21 personally don't like it, but it doesn't mean
22 that we're going to take it away from people's
23 ability to do it. I just said it, just to move
24 it forward.

25 MS. KAWALERSKI: So you're a no?

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1 MR. PARDO: No, then you have the wear and
2 tear of the tire turning on the thing and
3 destroys it.

4 MS. GARCIA: So what's being used as an
5 alternative are more natural materials, that
6 will allow that percolation you don't really
7 get with turf that much.

8 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Chip, did you have
9 any --

10 MR. WITHERS: No. I'm good.

11 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Felix?

12 MR. PARDO: No.

13 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Javier?

14 MR. SALMAN: She answered my question.

15 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Julio?

16 MR. GRABIEL: No problem.

17 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Any comments, Robert?

18 I had a comment which I wanted to ask. Did
19 you -- has anybody ever presented to the Board
20 of Architects with anything to do with some
21 kind of lighting in those strips? Does
22 anything like that exist?

23 MS. GARCIA: The lighting?

24 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Yeah. Let's say you
25 want to go ahead and do a low --

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1 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Any other discussion?
2 Is there a motion? Anybody that would like to
3 make --

4 MR. PARDO: I'd like to make a motion to
5 disapprove the taking away of the artificial
6 turf, and I think it should be left up to the
7 Board of Architects on determining the width of
8 the strip.

9 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: And as a question,
10 would you go to a size vote?

11 MR. PARDO: No more than two inches.

12 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Two inches?

13 MS. KAWALERSKI: The Board of Architects --

14 MR. PARDO: Let the Board of Architects
15 decide.

16 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: Okay.

17 MS. KAWALERSKI: I would second that.

18 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: So we have a
19 disapprove by Felix and we have a second by
20 Sue, but not to approve -- to decline --

21 THE SECRETARY: Excuse me, so the motion is
22 to deny?

23 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: To deny.

24 MR. PARDO: To deny the limitation.

25 MR. BEHAR: Where did this come from? I

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1 mean, just to the point --
 2 MS. GARCIA: From a member of the
 3 Commission. It's a sponsored text amendment.
 4 MS. KAWALERSKI: Yeah, there's nothing
 5 better to do, right?
 6 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: So we have a motion to
 7 deny. We have a second. Any discussion? No?
 8 Call the roll, please.
 9 THE SECRETARY: Felix Pardo?
 10 MR. PARDO: Yes.
 11 THE SECRETARY: Javier Salman?
 12 MR. SALMAN: Yes, to deny.
 13 THE SECRETARY: Chip Withers?
 14 MR. WITHERS: No.
 15 THE SECRETARY: Robert Behar?
 16 MR. BEHAR: No.
 17 THE SECRETARY: Julio Grabiél?
 18 MR. GRABIEL: I just want to clarify, if I
 19 vote, yes, it means that we continue --
 20 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: That means you're
 21 denying.
 22 THE SECRETARY; Denying --
 23 MR. GRABIEL: To deny that --
 24 MR. PARDO: To be able to use artificial
 25 turf.

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1 MR. GRABIEL: Yes.
 2 THE SECRETARY: Sue Kawalerski?
 3 MS. KAWALERSKI: Yes.
 4 THE SECRETARY: Eibi Aizenstat?
 5 CHAIRMAN AIZENSTAT: No.
 6 So what do we have?
 7 THE SECRETARY: Four to three, the motion
 8 to deny was approved -- passed.
 9 MR. COLLER: Okay. Item E-4, an Ordinance
 10 of City Commission providing for text
 11 amendments to the City of Coral Gables Official
 12 Zoning Code, Article 2, "Zoning Districts,"
 13 Section 2-403, "Giralda Plaza District
 14 Overlay," by allowing a television screen on
 15 the inside of a window on the pedestrian street
 16 of Giralda Plaza; providing for severability
 17 clause, repeater provision, codification,
 18 providing for an effective date.
 19 Item E-4, public hearing.
 20 I just have one question on this, Jennifer.
 21 As I understand it, this is only permitted if
 22 you have outdoor dining, correct.
 23 MS. GARCIA: Correct. Yes.
 24 MR. COLLER: Okay. We may need to play
 25 with the title a little bit.

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1 MS. GARCIA: Okay. That's fine. Yeah.
 2 Yeah.

3 So, for the record, Jennifer Garcia, City
 4 Planner. So the pedestrian street of Giralda,
 5 as you know, is the 100 Block of Giralda.
 6 There's no cars allowed. It's just
 7 pedestrians. There's a lot of outdoor seating,
 8 a lot of sidewalk cafes that are taking
 9 advantage of this area. An idea of how to
 10 encourage that pedestrian activity in that part
 11 of the City more is to allow TV screens be
 12 facing the already allowed sidewalk cafe, as
 13 approved. It think it's worded as open air
 14 dining.

15 The screen will be limited to the width of
 16 the windows. So they can't be a large screen
 17 that's expanding beyond the width of the
 18 window, it has to be set with the window, and
 19 it cannot occupy more than 50 percent of the
 20 entire window size. I think that pretty much
 21 sums it up. Oh, and it's limited to one screen
 22 per 25 feet of frontage. You can't have
 23 screen, screen, screen, screen. It has to be
 24 within 25 feet of each other, or as approved by
 25 the Development Review Official, for some

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1 flexibility.

2 MR. BEHAR: And this TV is going to be
 3 inside the space?

4 MS. GARCIA: Yes, inside, facing out
 5 towards the --

6 MR. BEHAR: The window?

7 MS. GARCIA: Uh-huh. Correct.

8 MR. SALMAN: What about the sound?

9 MS. GARCIA: I'm sorry?

10 MR. SALMAN: What about the sound?

11 MS. GARCIA: The sound would have to follow
 12 the sound ordinance, a different part of that
 13 section, but they could have sound during
 14 certain hours.

15 MR. PARDO: If you're watching a baseball
 16 game while you're having dinner outside --

17 MR. BEHAR: That's the intent of this, a
 18 soccer game, to have a TV that people outside
 19 can see.

20 MS. KAWALERSKI: Just a question. Is there
 21 anything in the Code about any kind of active
 22 displays? So this would be an active display.
 23 Is there anything in the Code against VMS
 24 signs, variable message signs, tickers --

25 MS. GARCIA: Well, this wouldn't be a sign.

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