



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
February 9, 2016

ITEM TITLE:

SECOND READING: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES ADOPTING THE RESTATED CHARTER AS THE OFFICIAL CHARTER OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, AND PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, CODIFICATION, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE. (This proposal does not substantively amend the Charter. Instead, this proposal improves its readability and format, corrects the footnotes and legal history, complies with the Municipal Home Rule Powers Act, and includes a forward).

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Approval

BRIEF HISTORY:

On January 1, 1954, with the approval of the City Attorney, an unofficial compilation of the Charter (the "Compiled Charter") was issued. The Compiled Charter was a compilation of the Charter approved May 8, 1929 (Laws of Florida Chapter 13972) with all amendments thereto, and all the acts granting special powers or immunities to the City up to July 1, 1953. Subsequently, the Compiled Charter was modified by Commission action and City Attorney Opinion based on state law, including the Municipal Home Rule Powers Act.

Currently, the Compiled Charter has many numbering gaps and formatting errors that could be addressed to greatly improve readability and gender neutrality without substantive change. Given that the City last conducted a Charter Review, through a Charter Review Committee, in 2004, the City Commission, on May 12, 2015, convened a Charter Review Committee, tasked with reviewing the Compiled Charter to review areas of the Compiled Charter that should be amended.

The Charter Review Committee requested a Restated Charter be drafted and approved by the City Commission. This Restated Charter includes no substantive changes and is being adopted through a more formal process than the Compiled Charter. Any substantive changes to the Restated Charter must be done by referendum unless state law, County Charter, or City Charter stated otherwise.

APPROVED BY:

City Attorney	City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Ordinance to be approved.
2. Proposed Charter