

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-4
April 14, 2026
Public Safety Building, CMR
2151 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago
Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson
Commissioner Melissa Castro
Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez
City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-4

Discussion regarding boater safety
(Sponsored by Mayor Lago)

Mayor Lago: Item F-4, boater safety. In the last week we have had two fatalities here in South Florida. On March 25th there was a fatal hit and run boating accident and on March 28th there was another fatal, two weeks, I apologize, fatal boating accident on Biscayne Bay. As summer is approaching, what can the city do to prevent any more tragedies and keep the boating community safe. I know the Vice Mayor wanted to have this discussion. I'd like for my colleagues to please speak with the Manager, the DCM, the ACM, staff come up with ideas anything that we can, Police, if we can give more tools to Police, I'd like to do what we can. It's pretty interesting as we go into the summer you know there's a lot more people on the water and again, I don't own a boat, but I'm on the water spearfishing a lot and people are pretty reckless out there and it just took me by surprise that you had two major fatalities in a matter of two weeks and people lost their lives. So, think about it and we'll have a conversation about it. Madam Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Well, the only thing I'll add is, it's a lot like vehicles. You start combining alcohol and marijuana and other illegal substances, the synergy of those substances together is

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pretty profound, and I know our Police Department can give us even more information about that and maybe perhaps come up with some suggestions to when we should start monitoring people more out there on the water. So, you want to bring it back for the next meeting.

Mayor Lago: Yeah. I just want ideas. I don't have any. I'm trying to think outside the box to see what we can do for boater safety and educate people, because you're seeing a lot more people just be reckless out there and the summer's coming.

Commissioner Fernandez: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Fernandez: A suggestion would be to have our Waterway Advisory Board perhaps workshop this and come up with suggestions on things that we may be able to do specifically within our canals. I'm sure there are issues within our canals that might need to be addressed, but they're the advisory board that would really oversee this issue, so it might be good to get some suggestions from them.

Mayor Lago: Okay.