

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-14

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, CREATING SECTION 74-5 OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES CODE TO LOWER SPEED LIMITS TO 25 MILES PER HOUR ON LOCAL RESIDENTIAL ROADS MAINTAINED BY THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, PROVIDING FOR REPEALER, SEVERABILITY, CODIFICATION, ENFORCEABILITY AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, dating back to 2001, the City Commission has discussed lowering the speed limit in certain areas to 25 miles per hour (mph), in response to residential concerns; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2015, the City Commission directed staff to analyze whether objective data supported the lowering of the speed limit to 25 mph in certain areas; and

WHEREAS, on April 21, 2016, the City of Coral Gables submitted the analysis to Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (MDCDTPW), recommending a posted speed limit of 25 mph on all residential streets; and

WHEREAS, on July 8, 2016, Miami-Dade County approved the City's request to lower the posted speed limit to 25 mph only on residential local roads maintained by the City of Coral Gables; and

WHEREAS, on July 19, 2016 and October 18, 2016, the City's Transportation Advisory Board recommended lowering the speed limit; and

WHEREAS, as part of the City's Multi-modal Transportation Plan, the City asked for public input on various subjects, including regarding lowering speed limits to 25 mph, and data taken over seven (7) public meetings showed 80% of respondents to be in favor of reducing the speed limit on residential streets to 25 mph; and

WHEREAS, the installation and maintenance of signage indicating a lowered speed limit in certain areas will be processed through an Intergovernmental Agency Agreement with MDCDTPW; and

WHEREAS, lowering the speed limit on residential streets to 25 mph is reasonable, and is well aligned with the Strategic Plan objective "to attain world class performance levels in public safety" ; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Department of Public Works has set a goal of 10% reduction in injuries each year and slower speeds decreased the frequency and severity of injuries; and

WHEREAS, lowering the speed limit, combined with enhanced street design, education and enforcement policies will create a system and standard of behavior that will greatly lessen the consequences of traffic accidents caused by speeding; and

WHEREAS, the City Commission wishes to add Section 74-5 to lower the speed limits on residential local roads maintained by the City of Coral Gables to 25 mph as authorized by Section 316.189, Florida Statutes;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA:

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. Section 74-5 of the Code of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, is hereby created to read as follows:

Sec. 74-5. – Establishment of residential speed zones, posting, enforcement

- (a) *Residential Speed Limit.* The maximum speed on all local residential roads within the City of Coral Gables shall be twenty-five (25) miles per hour, unless otherwise posted.
- (b) *Posting of speed limits.* All speed zones shall be posted with clearly legible signs. All signs which limit or establish a twenty-five (25) mile per hour speed limit shall be so placed and so painted so as to be plainly visible and legible in daylight or in darkness when illuminated by headlights.
- (c) *Penalty.* Pursuant to section 316.189 of the Florida Statutes, violation of the speed limits established pursuant to this section shall be cited as a moving violation, punishable as provided in chapter 318 of the Florida Statutes.

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 City Commission that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made a part of the City Code, which provisions may be renumbered or re-lettered and the word ordinance be changed to “section”, “article”, or other

appropriate word to accomplish such intention.

SECTION 6. If the City Code's Tables of Contents, Supplemental History Table, or other reference portions are affected by these provisions, then changes are approved as a part of this Ordinance.

SECTION 7. Within 30 days of the adoption of this Ordinance, the City shall include the Ordinance's language and place an educational piece in eNews or another similar publication, educating the City's residents of the Ordinance. In addition the City shall begin an educational campaign to inform residents and visitors of the effect and implementation of the Ordinance.

SECTION 8. The City shall work with Miami-Dade County to insure that the City provides appropriate signage to indicate changes in speed limits as required by Miami-Dade County. Every effort shall be made to reduce the signage needed in order to prevent sign pollution in the City.

SECTION 9. This Ordinance shall become effective upon adoption. After the required signage is placed, enforcement in newly posted areas shall begin immediately. Coral Gables Police Officers should exercise discretion through a reasonable time period to allow drivers to adjust to the revised speeding limit. This provision does not create any claim or defense for a driver regarding the exercise of the Police Officer's discretion.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS NINTH DAY OF MAY, A.D., 2017.

(Moved: Quesada / Seconded: Keon)

(Yeas: Mena, Quesada, Keon, Lago, Valdes-Fauli)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Agenda Item: E-2)

APPROVED:



RAUL VALDÉS-FAULI
MAYOR

ATTEST:



WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY:



for CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY