

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Items F-3, F-4 and F-5 are related
March 23, 2021
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Vince Lago
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Michael Mena
Commissioner Jorge Fors

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Zoning Code Director, Ramon Trias

Public Speaker(s)

Maria Cruz

Agenda Items F-3, F-4 and F-5 are related [Start: 11:30 a.m.]

F-3: An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida amending the Future Land Use Map of the City of Coral Gables Comprehensive Plan pursuant to Zoning Code Article 14, "Process," Section 14-213 and Comprehensive Plan amendment procedures (ss. 163.3187, Florida Statutes), changing the land use designation for all lots in Block 36, Crafts Section, Coral Gables, Florida from either Single-Family High Density or Multi-Family Duplex Density to Residential Multi-Family Medium Density; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, and providing for an effective date.

F-4: An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida providing for a text amendment to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code by amending Appendix A, "Site Specific Zoning Regulations," Section A-36, "Crafts Section," by revising the height restriction for Block 36, Crafts Section, Coral Gables,

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Florida; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause and providing for an effective date.

F-5: An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida making zoning district boundary changes for all lots in Block 36, Crafts Section, Coral Gables, Florida from either Single-Family Residential (SFR) District or Multi-Family 1 Duplex (MF1) District to Multi-Family 2 (MF2) District; and making the appropriate zoning map amendments to effectuate these changes, pursuant to Zoning Code Article 14, "Process," Section 14-212 "Zoning Code Text and Map Amendments," providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: F-3, F-4 and F-5, Miriam we can consolidate the public hearing.

City Attorney Ramos: Yes Mayor, with your permission, I'll read all three items. Mr. Clerk, everyone needs to be sworn in for this item who will be testifying for the public hearing and then we'll take three separate votes. F-3 is an Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida amending the Future Land Use Map of the City of Coral Gables Comprehensive Plan pursuant to Zoning Code Article 14, "Process," Section 14-213 and Comprehensive Plan amendment procedures (ss. 163.3187, Florida Statutes), changing the land use designation for all lots in Block 36, Crafts Section, Coral Gables, Florida from either Single-Family High Density or Multi-Family Duplex Density to Residential Multi-Family Medium Density; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, and providing for an effective date. F-4 is an Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida providing for a text amendment to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code by amending Appendix A, "Site Specific Zoning Regulations," Section A-36, "Crafts Section," by revising the height restriction for Block 36, Crafts Section, Coral Gables, Florida; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause and providing for an effective date. And F-5 is an Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida making zoning district boundary changes for all lots in Block 36, Crafts Section, Coral Gables, Florida from either Single-Family Residential (SFR) District or Multi-Family 1 Duplex (MF1) District to Multi-Family 2 (MF2) District; and making the appropriate zoning map amendments to effectuate these changes, pursuant to Zoning Code Article 14, "Process," Section 14-212 "Zoning Code Text and Map Amendments," providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, and providing for an effective date. Mr. Trias.

Zoning Director Trias: No changes have been made.

City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Trias, please raise your right-hand sir. Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the testimony you will provide today will be the truth and nothing but the truth?

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Zoning Director Trias: I do.

City Clerk Urquia: Thank you.

Zoning Director Trias: No changes have been made sir.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No changes. Are there any comments?

City Clerk Urquia: Yes sir. We do have members of the public wishing to speak on this. The first speaker is Ms. Maria Cruz. Ms. Cruz, would you please raise your right hand. Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the testimony you will provide today will be the truth and nothing but the truth, ma'am?

Ms. Cruz: I do.

City Clerk Urquia: Thank you.

Ms. Cruz: Well here we go again. I'm sorry, but some of the people that have spoken have made it very clear. The Commission, the elected officials are not listening to what the residents want. This is a city, this is not a town, this is not a little village where each person on each block decides what they want. We have now, based on what you are doing today, open the door for anyone in this city that lives in any place where some developer would like to make, build some humungous buildings to be able to do it by buying the residences and convincing people I'm going to pay you way more than its worth, so you agree to it, and now we will have neighborhood by neighborhood turn into City of Miami, City of Hialeah, other places where the zoning is non-existent. This is shameful and I do hope somebody has the money and the knowledge to take the city to court to prove that we, the residents, have the decision to make, and the elected officials have to listen. Know what the pockets say, know what the developers are waiting in the darkness to give them, but what we, the residents want. And it's a very shameful day in the City of Coral Gables.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you Maria. Anybody else?

City Clerk Urquia: No one else has requested to speak, Mr. Mayor, but I do have a comment or a message to read into the record.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay, you will read into the record, but the public hearing, apart from this message is closed.

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City Attorney Ramos: Yes, and this should not be considered testimony as its being read by the City Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: It's from Ms. Rhonda Anderson and it say, in order to obtain the site lines of the San Sebastian Hotel be consistent with the height of the newly constructed two-story duplexes on the east end of the block, the maximum height should be two stories. That's it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Any other comments? Any motion?

Commissioner Keon: I'll move it.

City Attorney Ramos: We need three separate votes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Okay. A motion on F-3 has been made and seconded. Will you call the roll please?

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: F-4 – motion.

Commissioner Mena: I'll move it.

Commissioner Keon: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll please?

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

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Mayor Valdes-Fauli: F-5.

Commissioner Mena: I'll move it.

Commissioner Keon: Second.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Fors: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Thank you very, very much.