

CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-12

AN RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO INSTAL SIGNS ON THE CITY'S RIGHT-OF-WAY INFORMING THE PUBLIC OF ORDINANCE NO. 2015-27 GRANTING GUARDHOUSE OPERATORS THE AUTHORITY TO REQUEST INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS DRIVING INTO COMMUNITIES WHERE A GUARDHOUSE IS PRESENT DURING CERTAIN HOURS.

WHEREAS, the residents of gated communities in the City of Coral Gables are concerned about cars driving through the neighborhood late in the evening; and

WHEREAS, it is believed that the individuals in those vehicles may not have a legitimate purpose for driving around the neighborhood at these hours, posing a danger to the public; and

WHEREAS, guardhouses are presently allowed to have gates that temporarily delay access to a gated community so that a photograph may be taken of the vehicle's license plate; and

WHEREAS, the residents desire to deter those with criminal intentions from entering the community; and

WHEREAS, a public safety concern exists for these residents; and

WHEREAS, the residents desire for the City to establish an appropriate protocol for requesting destination information from individuals desiring to enter the community during certain hours; and

WHEREAS, an additional, temporary delay in opening the gate so that this information may be requested during late night hours in order to protect public safety is no different in kind than the temporary delay that is presently allowed for photographing the license plate to protect public safety; and

WHEREAS, on October 13, 2015, the City Commission passed Ordinance No. 2015-27 placing a duty on drivers to open their window and provide their destination to the guardhouse operator where a guardhouse is present during certain hours; and

WHEREAS, Gables Estates has successfully implemented the ordinance, reporting no incidents resulting from its implementation; and

WHEREAS, Miami-Dade County has Special Taxing Districts that have guardhouses and has prevented the Ordinance from being implemented in those districts; and

WHEREAS, the City expects drivers to comply with the Ordinance and encourages the County to change its policy to allow for the implementation of the Ordinance;

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

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 resolution upon adoption hereof.

SECTION 2. (a) The City of Coral Gables Commission directs city staff to place a sign in the City’s public right-of-way, near each guardhouse, informing drivers of City Ordinance 2015-27, including the specific requirements to roll down the window and provide information as to destination between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m.

(b) Removal of these signs is prohibited and will be considered interference with government property and prosecuted consistent with all applicable law.

SECTION 3. That this Resolution shall become effective upon the date of its passage and adoption herein.

PASSED AND ADOPTED THIS TWELFTH DAY OF JANUARY, A.D., 2016.

(Moved: Keon / Seconded: Lago)

(Yeas: Slesnick, Keon, Lago, Quesada, Cason)

(Unanimous: 5-0 Vote)

(Agenda Item: I-1)

APPROVED:


JIM CASON
MAYOR

ATTEST:


WALTER J. FOEMAN
CITY CLERK

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGAL SUFFICIENCY


CRAIG E. LEEN
CITY ATTORNEY