



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
August 25, 2009**

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinance on Second Reading. An ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida; relating to the provision of fire protection services, facilities, and programs throughout the incorporated areas of Coral Gables, Florida; authorizing the imposition and collection of fire protection assessments against property; providing certain definitions including a definition for the term "fire protection assessment"; establishing a procedure for imposing fire protection assessments; providing that fire protection assessments constitute a lien on assessed property upon adoption of assessment roll; providing that the lien for a fire protection assessment collected pursuant to sections 197.3632 and 197.3635, Florida Statutes, upon perfection shall attach to the property on the prior January 1, the lien date for ad valorem taxes; providing that a perfected lien shall be equal in rank and dignity with the liens of all state, county, district, or municipal taxes and assessments and superior in dignity to all other prior liens, mortgages, titles, and claims; authorizing the imposition of interim assessments; providing authorization for exemptions and hardship assistance; providing a procedure for the collection of fire protection assessments; providing a mechanism for the imposition of assessments on government property; providing for severability; and providing an effective date. (Passed on First Reading July 29, 2009).

RECOMMENDATION OF THE CITY MANAGER:

Approval.

BRIEF HISTORY:

On July 8, 2009, the City Commission held a workshop to discuss the imposition of fire protection assessments. On July 29, 2009, the Commission approved on first reading the adoption of the Fire Protection Assessment Ordinance (the "Ordinance").

The Ordinance is a procedural document that is necessary for the City to impose fire protection assessments under its constitutional home rule powers. Many of the procedures included within the Ordinance are those necessary to meet statutory requirements for collecting special assessments pursuant to ss. 197.3632 and 197.3635, Florida Statutes (the "Uniform Assessment Collection Act"). The Ordinance sets forth the annual process for imposing and collecting fire assessments and does not set the rates for the assessments or adopt the methodology used to calculate those rates.

Also at this current meeting, the Commission will consider approval of the Fire Protection Initial Assessment Resolution.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Date:	Resolution/Ordinance No.	Comments
July 29, 2009	Passed on First Reading	

ADVISORY BOARD/COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION(S):

Date	Board/Committee	Comments (if any)
	N/A	

FINANCIAL INFORMATION: (If Applicable)

No.	Amount	Account No.	Source of Funds
Total:	N/A	APPROVED BY:	

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION(S):

Date	Form of Notification
August 14, 2009	Daily Business Review

APPROVED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney (If Applicable)	City Manager
		