

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item E-4
August 26, 2025
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Melissa Castro

Commissioner Ariel Fernandez (Absent)

Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Assistant City Attorney, Gus Ceballos

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item E-4 [3:59 p.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission amending Chapter 86 of the City Code, entitled "Waterways" creating Section 86-62, entitled, "Coral Gables Overnight Anchoring Limitation Area"; and providing for repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored by Vice Mayor Anderson)

Mayor Lago: Moving onto items on first reading, E-4.

City Attorney Suarez: E-4 is an Ordinance of the City Commission amending Chapter 86 of the City Code, entitled "Waterways" creating Section 86-62, entitled, "Coral Gables Overnight Anchoring Limitation Area"; and providing for repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Lago: Mr. City Attorney.

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[Date]

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Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Good afternoon, Mr. Mayor, Vice Mayor, and Commissioners. Assistant City Attorney Gus Ceballos. This item basically gives us another arrow in our quiver to deal with any sort of issue that we have on the waterway. It allows us to address both overnight anchoring and derelict vessels. So, in essence, any time you have a vessel that's been stationed or anchored for more than 30 days in a six-month period, there'll be a process, a warning process, then an actual notice process. Then they'll basically face fines, and then they could face even towing and removal. There's also an appeal process. Basically, it's just another tool for Coral Gables Police Department and the Code Enforcement Department to use. If you have any questions, I'm here to answer.

Vice Mayor Anderson: So to my colleagues, I have to give all the credit to Miami Beach Commissioner David Suarez, who worked hard on this issue to resolve it in his city and sponsored the legislation or I should say lobbied for the legislation that occurred in the State Legislature this past year that provided this additional power for our cities. And he reached out to us because once they start enforcing it in Miami Beach, things tend to move into other municipalities. And graciously, he shared with us the hard work that he's done. And that's how this; that's the genesis of this item. So, I'm looking forward to your support and I'll move it.

Commissioner Castro: I'll second.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk, any public comment?

City Clerk Urquia: No, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: All right.

Commissioner Lara: Yes

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes

Commissioner Castro: Yes.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

(Commissioner Fernandez: Absent)

(Vote: 4-0)