

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-9
October 28, 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

Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-9 [Start: 5:19 p.m.]

Discussion regarding the 100 Block of Romano Avenue.
(Sponsored by Commissioner Castro)

Mayor Lago: Next item F-9.

Commissioner Castro: F-9 is discussion regarding the 100 Block of Romano Avenue. I had several residents reach out to me. There are safety concerns in this block. I know the Chief Hudak would probably want to mention that this is a delicate situation. I'll leave it up to him what he wants to disclose or not.

Chief Hudak: Thank you, Commissioner. This block is very familiar with the Police Department; it has been for a few years. It's been going on for a while. There are currently ongoing investigations, not just us with Code Enforcement, with other entities outside the city. The one thing I can say that has worked marvelously from this neighborhood is the use of our Safer Watch App. We have every time that they've noticed us on something, we have that documented and

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we've responded appropriately. That's really about all I can get into, but it is uh part of the Police Department plan. We are and have been over there. Over the course of the years, we have made several arrests out of that specific area.

Commissioner Castro: I appreciate your input and I'm going to go ahead and just drop it at that then. Thank you very much.

Mayor Lago: If I may, we all get phone calls from Romano. There's no need to put this on the agenda. This is under investigation. We should let the police do their job and hopefully everything works out. The residents are well aware. We all speak with them. I know that because they've all told me they've spoken to all of us, and we've all spoken to you about that. Moving on I don't think we should be talking about the issue.

Mayor Lago: Item F-10.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Through the Mayor though. I just have to make a respectful suggestion. Ask the Police Chief if he wants to put on the agenda next time because this does not help out the situation.

Commissioner Castro: Through the Mayor. Yes, my promise was to these residents that it would be on the agenda. Now I'm leaving it up to the Chief how much he wants to disclose. I did speak with him before, and he did understand where I was coming from. When I say I'm going to do something I'm going to do it, I'm going to follow my promise. I understand it was a delicate situation, therefore I did not pressure him to say anything else.

Vice Mayor Anderson: I'll just respond briefly. Yes, we've all been contacted. There are times we have to let our residents know that that is not a wise option. Period.

Mayor Lago: And I'd also like to add on something to the Chief. I don't think that the Chief would get pressured into making any statements at all. I don't think he's that, number one he's...

Chief Hudak: Pressured into what?

Mayor Lago: Because she said she wouldn't pressure you into making any statements. I go I don't think the Chief's going to get pressured into making any statements. So just the idea of pressuring the Chief of Police, I don't know, doesn't bode well with me.

Chief Hudak: The only pressure I truly feel is at home.

Mayor Lago: Yes. Thank you, Chief. I appreciate you.