

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item I-3
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

Assistant City Manager, Ed Santamaria

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Information Technology Director, Raimundo Rodulfo

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item I-3 [1:45 p.m.]

Information Technology Presentation of Coral Gables' New Smart City Pole.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Alright, Information Technology presentation on a Smart City pole.

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: Good afternoon...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Good afternoon.

City Commission Meeting

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Agenda Item I-3 - Information Technology Presentation of Coral Gables' New Smart City Pole.

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners. Thank you. We have a PowerPoint. I'm going to do a brief presentation on our new technology for urban infrastructure. As you may know, so we already have been implementing urban infrastructure for telecommunications and for sensors in multiple areas of our city. Some of that technology includes traffic safety sensors, environmental sensors, and also, public safety sensors, all that data is aggregated and provides a lot of value, value for first responders, for emergency management. During hurricanes, for example, we use this data. We use data from traffic. We use data from the environment, from levels in the water canals. So, this data is augmented with new technologies, as new smart city plans are executed. And recently, we are implementing a new pilot of the latest technology of the Internet of Things, which is basically those sensors that are smart, and they are connected. This is a smart pole that integrates multiple technologies into one system. So, this technology just won the innovation award at the Consumer Electronics Show this year. This will be the first of its kind in the United States. We are going to implement it in collaboration with this technology. This provider, they are aerospace engineers that they used to work designing the spacecraft, and now they have used some of that technology to integrate all those systems into one pole. So, what we used to have in multiple poles and multiple sensors, like Wi-Fi for public Wi-Fi, like public safety sensors, CCTV cameras, traffic safety sensors, all that technology -- and environmental sensors, like air quality and noise sensors, instead of having multiple devices in multiple places and having, of course, all the challenges by having those different systems in multiple places, now this technology integrates everything in one pole, but by the way, also looks better. So, it's a technology that we are also going to beautify and working together with other projects to also incorporate industrial design from the City to make it look even better. So, the first of its kind in the United States. I'm very proud of piloting this technology. The first place we're going to do this pilot is at the intersection of Alhambra circle and Ponce, and we have selected that place because we have a financial corridor with a lot of banks. We need public Wi-Fi coverage from that area, so we're going to take the opportunity to implement public Wi-Fi, and we will have traffic safety also on that intersection. That is very important. So, it's a great project, and we are very happy to be the first in the United States to pilot this innovative technology.

City Manager Iglesias: And if I may say, there are no hurricanes in Germany, but there are here, so we upgraded the design to make sure that it does meet hurricane criteria. So, I think they have a better product actually for working with us.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Very good.

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: Thank you, Mr. Mayor, and the City's leadership always for your support to our innovation and our smart city plans.

Commissioner Keon: When will this be installed?

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: So, we are -- at this moment, we are working on electrical and working with the contractor that is going to do the installation. The pole has to be customized and designed especially for Coral Gables. Actually, they call it the Coral Gables version -- improved version of this pole, and it's going to be shipped. We already got the base in our warehouse...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Very good.

Information Technology Director Rodulfo: So, in the next three months, we're going to start the installation process.

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

City Manager Iglesias: And this will certainly enhance our...

Commissioner Keon: During hurricane season.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: As always, good presentation.

City Manager Iglesias: This will certainly enhance our Community...

Commissioner Keon: During hurricane season.

City Manager Iglesias: Information Center, which this pole -- and will also help us hopefully in 5G.

Commissioner Keon: Yeah.

City Manager Iglesias: So, it has a lot of useful...