

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Items 2-2 & F-1 are related
January 27, 2026
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Melissa Castro (Absent)

Commissioner Ariel Fernandez

Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Addys Kuryla

Agenda Items 2-2 & F-1 are related [Start: 12:10 p.m.]

2-2: A Resolution of the Waterway Advisory Board requesting the City Commission, through the City Manager, to move forward with the Oasis Waterway Decontamination Pilot Program, further directing the Public Works Department to identify potential locations, and for the City to develop the criteria to be met and report its findings back to the board.

F-1: A Resolution of the City Commission approving a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the City of Coral Gables and Clean Rivers Foundation and Applied6 Engineering and for the Oasis Waterway Decontamination Pilot Program. (Sponsored by Mayor Lago)

Mayor Lago: Moving to item 2-2.

City Attorney Suarez: So, 2-2, Mayor, is related to item F-1. Would you like me to read F-1 into the record?

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Agenda Items 2-2 and F-1 are related – Resolution of the Waterway Advisory Board requesting the City Commission to move forward with the Oasis Waterway Decontamination Pilot Program

Mayor Lago: Yes.

City Attorney Suarez: F-1 is a resolution of the City Commission approving a Memorandum of Understanding between the City of Coral Gables and Clean Rivers Foundation and Applied Sixth Engineering and for the Oasis Waterway Decontamination Pilot Program.

Mayor Lago: So, I'm the sponsor of this item. I brought it before the Commission one day for consideration. This is a pilot program where we're just trying to find, again, other ways to clean up our waterways and be good stewards. It's a pretty good opportunity to test something brand new. And God willing, we continue to evolve in our efforts to keep our waterways as clean as possible. Remember, my understanding, and correct me if I'm wrong, Mr. Manager, that over 20 percent of our tax base, 20 something, I think it's like 27 percent or 26 percent, I forgot the number comes from the waterways. So, if our waterways are not clean, the values of the homes are going to fall. And I will entertain any serious, obvious, any serious technology where we could potentially just continue to add better water quality here in South Florida.

Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson: I'll move it. Great piece.

Commissioner Lara: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes, sir.

Commissioner Lara: So, I'm very excited about this. It was something that was, sounds and feels almost revolutionary or magical, you know, if it all ends up working out the way we're hoping it will. And you've gotten some interest in this initiative of yours from members of our residents, right? So, I've been contacted by Dr. Lee Swanger, who is an esteemed engineer with more degrees than I can recall, who's offered his services as an unpaid consultant to assist in this regard. He's very excited about it too. So perhaps you and I can speak about how that, if there's a, if there's a need that could be filled by the residents who want to help provide services on a volunteer basis, given their expertise, let me know so I can really relay that to him as well and encourage other residents who want to participate in that way as well.

Mayor Lago: I love it. Thank you. That's wonderful. Let's take advantage of a person with those credentials. Let's make sure we bring them on board. So, we have a motion and a second. Do we have any public comment?

City Clerk Urquia: No, Mr. Mayor.

Commissioner Lara: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes.

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Commissioner Fernandez: Yes.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

(Commissioner Castro: Absent)

Mayor Lago: Thank you. Looking forward to the results and hopefully we'll bring those results back to the Commission. It'll be favorable and we can really push forward.