

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting**  
**Agenda Item F-4**  
**May 20, 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**

**Acting City Manager, Joe L. Gomez**  
**City Attorney, Cristina Suárez**  
**City Clerk, Billy Urquia**  
**Parking Director, Monica Beltran**

**Public Speaker(s)**

---

Agenda Item F-4 [3:55 p.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission updating the City's policy regarding the issuance of Citywide Parking Permits to Elected City Officials. (Sponsored by Mayor Lago)

Mayor Lago: So, let's go to F-4, this is just a clean-up issue.

City Attorney Suarez: F-4 is a Resolution of the City Commission updating the City's policy regarding the issuance of Citywide Parking Permits to Elected City Officials.

Mayor Lago: This is just a clean-up issue. Mr. Clerk, do you have any public comment.

City Clerk Urquia: Yes, Mr. Mayor. Mrs. Maria Cruz.

Mrs. Cruz: Good afternoon again. Mrs. Maria Cruz, 1447 Miller Road. A concern was brought to me that when we say elected officials, we expect the elected official or maybe his spouse to be driving the car that has the parking permit, but it was brought to me by a resident that sometimes

*City Commission Meeting*

---

*May 20, 2025*

*Agenda Item F-4 – Resolution updating the city's policy regarding the issuance of citywide Parking permits to elected city officials*

[Date]

1

when elected officials or past elected officials have adult children that do not live with them, but drive the car titled to the elected official, they get free parking also. And I believe the policy has to do with the elected official and spouse, not adult children that do not even live in the same place. I would like you to look into that because I do not know who they were talking about, but somebody called me and said, there's a past official that has several permits and the grown children drive their car and use the parking at the same time.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk any further comment.

City Clerk Urquia: No, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Alright. We'll close the public comment. I need a motion and a second.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Move it.

Commissioner Fernandez: I'll second.

Commissioner Castro: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Before we do that, the person who made the motion is the person that has the floor first. Do you have any comment you have to make.

Vice Mayor Anderson: No. I think this is a great change.

Mayor Lago: Commissioner Lara anything you'd like to say.

Commissioner Lara: I think it's a great move.

Mayor Lago: Commissioner.

Commissioner Castro: Could you give me a little more background. What does the legislation actually say. I think its great. I'm not voting against it. I want some clarity, like what does the legislation really say about this. If you're saying elected official and spouse or – I'm a little confused.

City Attorney Suarez: So, it doesn't specify, and the Parking Director is here, but the way we manage these parking passes or exemptions is through a license plate registration system. So, this legislation will result in each elected official being able to submit two license plate registration information to the Parking Department and those two vehicles would be exempt from the parking fees.

Commissioner Castro: So, it doesn't matter who drives them or not.

Parking Director Beltran: Monica Beltran, Director of Parking and Mobility Services and Sustainability. So, good afternoon, Mayor, Vice Mayor, Commissioners. The intent, to me, is that these permits should be used very similarly to a disabled permit. Its issued to a person because of a qualification, which is they're either an elected official or an ex-elected official, and therefore, we do understand that many households have more than one car and that sometimes you might be driving your vehicle, your spouse's vehicle, your partner's vehicle, even your children's vehicle, but you should be the one using the vehicle and that's how we see it. Now, the enforcement – when I got here I did look at the exempt list and there were a couple of folks that had more than two vehicles and actually brought it up to the City Manager, but coincidentally, you folks had brought it up and this was coming up anyway, but this is actually very good legislation and it gives us the tool to enforce what should be enforced, because this is not meant to take the place of your residential permit if you live in a home and you have three children and whatever. Its not meant for that. It is really meant for your use in light of the position that you have or held. So, this is very good, and it gives us a tool that we can truly enforce.

Mayor Lago: Anything else.

Commissioner Castro: No. No. I only have one permit. I don't have an issue with it. I want some clarity, that's it. I wanted clarity.

Mayor Lago: Anyone else. So, in response to the Commissioner. This is nothing to do with you, has nothing to do with anybody on this Commission, has nothing to do with anyone. It has to do with the simple fact that for a while I have been receiving people tell me, how many tags do elected officials have, and there are two buckets, past and present, past and present. This is just basically making it uniform that the past and the present can only have two parking passes for life. You can't ask for additional ones to have in your collector car or in another car that you may have a third car. Its just about having two of them.

Parking Director Beltran: This does something very good as well, and that is, it requires you to reregister your vehicle every two years. Everybody should keep in mind that if you change vehicles, please give us the tag because that's how we enforce.

Mayor Lago: This is about accountability.

Parking Director Beltran: Absolutely.

Mayor Lago: This is about transparency. This is about doing things right. If you're going to park for free, you should not have four parking passes, five parking passes, because you say that you have five cars. If you are going to come to the City of Coral Gables, then you should park, you should use the car that has the pass on it. Its just about being as transparent as possible and making sure that taxpayers are being represented.

*City Commission Meeting*

Parking Director Beltran: And to be clear, if ever you have a situation in which your car broke down and you need to use, just advise us, we will temporarily modify the list and then return it when you advise us that its back. But it does give the responsibility to the user to keep us apprised of the information.

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Parking Director Beltran: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Do we have a motion and a second. Mr. Clerk, please call the roll.

Commissioner Lara: Yes

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes

Commissioner Castro: Yes

Commissioner Fernandez: Yes

Mayor Lago: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)