

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Items C-1, C-2 and C-3
November 12, 2019
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
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Billy Urquia**

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item C-1, C-2 and C-3 [10:00:52 a.m.]
Mayor's Comments

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: A discussion regarding the Dia de los Muertos Celebration on Giralda. Dia de los Muertos is one of the top dates in Mexico, the 5th of May, Independence Day, and it's a wonderful, wonderful party and they chose Giralda to celebrate it in, and another evidence that we are on, not only the local map, but also the international map. Would you roll the tape please?

[Video Presentation]

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Beautiful – beautiful, and we should be very, very proud that Mexico has chosen Giralda to have this festival, because its part of our international effort and I'm very proud of it.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The next item is regards to Santa Tecla, El Salvador, its s Sister City. We are going there, a delegation starting tomorrow, and we are very active with them. They sent a delegation to us to learn about our historic preservation, our fire efforts and our form of

*City Commission Meeting
November 12, 2019*

government; and we are helping them with medical, liver transplants for children, trying to get programs started with Columbia University. They came to visit us, and we are very, very active and we are very proud of that relationship, and its going to be a very favorable relationship to us.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The third item in the Mayor's Comments is discussion regarding sidewalks. And I wanted to say something about sidewalks, and this also applies to bicycle paths. We are a mature City, we've been here for 90-some years. We are set, our streets are set. We have homes that are historic, some 40,000 trees, and I'm not going to be part of our efforts to change the nature of our City. I'm just not going to be part of it. I am against forcing people to have sidewalks – Robert, I'm not going to recognize, this is part of the Mayor's comments and when this issue comes up, I will recognize you. I'm against changing the nature, the composition of our City, this is a historic City, and whoever wants to push for bicycle paths or sidewalks let them do it, because I'm not going to be a part of that. That's the end of it, my discussion.

[End: 10:07:00 a.m.]