



**City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
October 13, 2015**

ITEM TITLE:

A Resolution authorizing the waiver of City permit fees and assisting in the permit process for properties assessed as part of the Miracle Mile and Giralda Avenue Streetscape Project for any façade-related improvements and/or improvements to the sidewalk pavers within private property along storefronts made during the project construction; and further authorizing the City Manager or her designee to promulgate guidelines.

DEPARTMENT HEAD RECOMMENDATION:

Approval.

BRIEF HISTORY:

The Miracle Mile and Giralda Avenue Streetscape Project, approved by the City Commission on August 26, 2014, will transform the City's main street and a one-block stretch of Giralda Avenue known as "Restaurant Row" by widening sidewalks, installing gardens and landscaping, incorporating public art, providing decorative street lighting and wayfinding and improving drainage.

The properties paying assessments to help fund the \$24 million Project are those that front directly on Miracle Mile and Restaurant Row, as well as the adjacent properties that are within one half block of the directly fronting properties, pursuant to Resolution No. 2014-169 approved by the City Commission on August 26, 2014.

This resolution would encourage the assessed property owners to renovate their facades and participate in a program to modify the paving area within private property along storefronts during construction of the streetscape, from the start of construction to completion of the project, by waiving City permit fees and assisting them in the permitting process. The City Manager or her designee will promulgate guidelines, and the Economic Development Department will serve as a liaison to Development Services during the process.

The façade improvements would add value to the affected properties, thereby offsetting any lost revenues from permitting fees, and make Downtown's central core a more attractive destination that is better poised for economic success.

APPROVED BY:

Department Director	City Attorney	City Manager

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proposed Resolution