



City of Coral Gables
 CITY COMMISSION MEETING
 March 9, 2021

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinance on Second Reading. An Ordinance of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Chapter 54 - Solid Waste, of the City Code, to prevent uncollected garbage in the City and Section 1-7 entitled “Penalties” to include additional penalties for violations of Section 54-19; providing for severability, repealer, codification, and an effective date.

BRIEF HISTORY:

In the City of Coral Gables there are private waste contractors, also known as private collectors, that engage in the business of collecting and disposing of solid waste for properties and businesses that are not services by the City’s Public Works Department. A significant portion of work performed by private collectors is to service the commercial businesses located throughout the City.

There have been issues in the City where businesses close down and fail to close active waste collection accounts, or simply fail to pay for ongoing solid waste collection, and under the current City Code, and end-user contracts with private waste contractors, defaults for non-payment or failure to maintain a current waste collection account results in the City absorbing the ongoing waste collection responsibility, which then leads to the City acting in the place of a debt collector in order to get reimbursed for the waste collection expeditioners which are the responsibility of commercial property owners.

The City does not desire to continue to perform these functions, specifically of debt collectors, and desires to amend the code in order to shift the responsibility back to the appropriate parties, provide for additional enforcement mechanisms, and ensure that no uncollected garbage accumulates in the areas not services by the City.

The following changes have been made to the draft Ordinance since its first reading:

1. Added language about issuance of business tax receipts and revocation of certificate of uses.
2. Adding that existing customers who maintain active and current accounts will not be required to pay the two-month deposits or update their existing contract until their contract is expired or the completion of the current private waste collector RFP.
3. Enforcement of the \$500 daily fine for failure to maintain an active current waste collector will commence immediately, while the remaining provisions will not commence until April 1, 2021, in order to allow sufficient time for ongoing negotiations with the current RFP.

All changes made between first to second reading are in red on the draft ordinance.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. First Reading Draft Ordinance – July 14, 2020 City Commission
2. Second Reading Draft Ordinance