

Castro, Melissa

From: Melissa L. Mackiewicz <melissa.mackiewicz@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:28 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Melissa L. Mackiewicz
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO to Item E.-3 on 09/13/2023.

Thank you.

Melissa L. Mackiewicz
1025 Lisbon Street
Coral Gables, FL. 33134
melissa.mackiewicz@outlook.com
305.240.3303

135

Castro, Melissa

From: Jacqueline Joseph <jackiesojo@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:26 PM
To: Urquia, Billy
Cc: Lago, Vince; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Anderson, Rhonda
Subject: No to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

As a resident of Coral Gables, my vote is against Item E.-3. I do not want our local election date to be changed from April to November.

Thank you.

Castro, Melissa

From: Philadelphia Wonder <philadelphiawonder@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:20 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Keep the Coral Gables April election date in April.

Voters never requested that it be moved to November. Voters do not want it to be moved to November. The proposal to move it to November is clearly in the interests of some entity other than the voters.

The weak arguments put forth in favor of a November shift are transparently bogus and easily refuted.

My neighbors all stand united in agreement.

Keep the Coral Gables April election date in April.

Castro, Melissa

From: Wm. R Middelthon, Jr. <wrm@wrmlawoffice.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:19 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

PLEASE DO NOT CHANGE DATE FOR CITY ELECTIONS.

Wm. R. Middelthon, Jr.
1441 Baracoa Avenue
Coral Gables Florida 33146-1907
305 663 2343 (office)
305 663 3131 (facsimile)
305 586 8697 (cell)
wrm@wrmlawoffice.com (email)

Castro, Melissa

From: Elsasome <elsasome@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:11 PM
To: Lago, Vince
Cc: Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Coral Gables General Elections

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Coral Gables Commission:

I am a 15 year resident and homeowner of Coral Gables. I urge you to vote in favor of moving the Coral Gables general election to the same time as the general elections in November.

Thank you.

Castro, Melissa

From: e <fharrysto@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:38 PM
To: Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; kirkmenendez@coralgables.com
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Fw: Coral Gables General Election

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioners:

As a resident of Coral Gables for 28 years, I urge you to veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections:

- 1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.**
- 2. Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of very long and confusing ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.**

As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

**Jean Field
4706 Alhambra Circle**

To: Castro, Melissa <mcastro@coralgables.com>

Cc: Urquia, Billy <burquia@coralgables.com>

Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

I am hereby requesting that you please vote NO to changing the date of the Coral Gables election. I strongly believe that doing the voting the same date as the presidential election will take away importance to our city's election and our candidates will lose priority and importance, since many voters will be more preoccupied and concerned with the national elections. Please vote "No" to Item E.-3.

Regards,

Teresita Carmona

117 San Sebastián Ave.

Coral Gables, FL. 33134

Please Note: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from State and Local Officials regarding State or Local business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

Castro, Melissa

From: gordons360@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:59 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: timing of the Elections, from Gordon Sokoloff

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

You may recall, I spoke in front of the Commission at the August 22nd meeting. At that meeting I provided my reasons for wanting to keep the Coral Gables elections where they have been since our city's inception. I wanted to include a written "position letter" to be on record as well.

I will be attending the meeting on 9/12/23 to convey my position, in person, once again.

Thanks very much.

Gordon Sokoloff, DDS

Castro, Melissa

From: Nathalie Guedes <nathalie.guedes@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:51 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello Commissioner Castro,

Please vote NO on Item E-3, to NOT change the April date of our Coral Gables elections to coincide with the national elections in November.

Thank you,

--

Nathalie Marie Guedes, RA
Architect & Urban Designer
+13057611280

Castro, Melissa

From: stevenlittlehale@gmail.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:40 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Please do not move elections

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro:

I've been a resident of Coral Gables for a short time, since 2019. I request that you veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

Observing FL politics has been an eye-opening experience to say the least. I am grateful to live in The City Beautiful and have enjoyed creating a new community.

My concerns is that if the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, some negative consequences may result, namely:

1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.
2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.
3. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.

As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

Steven Littlehale
501 Alcazar Ave
617-515-5431

Castro, Melissa

From: mark riedmiller <markriedmiller@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:28 PM
To: vlago@coralgables.com;; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa; Quintana, Gabriela
Cc: Commission Aides
Subject: Change of City of Coral Gables Election dates discussion

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good day, my vote is to leave the dates as is....a unique date not associated with National elections.

Thank you,

Mark Riedmiller

Castro, Melissa

From: Maria Anillo <mariaanillo@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:13 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election Date Change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO on Item E-3. Don't change our Coral Gables April Election Date.

Coral Gables Resident since 1989.

MariaJulia Anillo

812 TRASCORO AVE.

(The FORGOTTEN STREET)

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: George Ortiz <george.f.ortiz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:05 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Gables Election Date Change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro:

Thank you for all your hard work and for standing for the residents of Coral Gables!

As a resident of Coral Gables for 34 years, I request that you veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, these negative consequences are likely:

- 1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.**
- 2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.**
- 3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.**
- 4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.**

As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

**George Ortiz
1222 Madrid Street
Coral Gables, FL 33134**

Castro, Melissa

From: Antonio Cavaco <avcavaco36@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:37 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Castro, Melissa

From: Gaston Fernandez <gafernandez4@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:35 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO on Item E.-3 proposing to change Coral Gables Elections to November. It would undermine the non-partisan nature of our elections in CG by connecting them with the highly partisan national elections. Let us keep our local elections independent and non-partisan. Voters understand what is at stake here.

Respectfully.

Gaston A Fernandez

817 Venetia Avenue

Castro, Melissa

From: Lori C. <lola0330@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:31 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote NO on item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I am against changing our election date.
Please vote NO on item E.-3.

Lorelys Calleja
6330 Cellini Street
Coral Gables, FL 33146

Castro, Melissa

From: linda fernandez <lfernandez44@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:19 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Vote NO on Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro:

Please vote NO on Item E.-3 that proposes to change CG elections to November (instead of April). Our elections are non-partisan and holding them in November would conflate them with highly partisan elections. CG needs to remain non-partisan and independent.

Respectfully,

**Linda H. Fernandez, J.D.
817 Venetia Ave.**

Castro, Melissa

From: Ana Frexes <afrexes@frexeslaw.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:15 PM
To: Urquia, Billy
Cc: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: NO to Item E.-3 Election Switch

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hi

I vote NO to change our Election Date.

Thank you,



Ana M. Frexes, Esq.

Ana M. Frexes & Associates, P.A.
2355 Salzedo Street, 204-B
Coral Gables, FL 33134
Tel: (305) 447-1911
Fax: (305) 447-1948
E-mail: afrexes@frexeslaw.com

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Castro, Melissa

From: Manuel Fernandez-Jacobs <marcamcat@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:12 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good afternoon
Please vote

Castro, Melissa

From: STEPHANIE KONTZAMANYS <stephanie@skalaconnections.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:07 PM
To: Lago, Vince
Cc: Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Please veto !

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

To our elected officials,

As a resident of Coral Gables for 24 years, I request that you veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, these negative consequences are likely:

1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.
2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.
3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.
4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.

As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Kontzamanys and Emilce Rlgarresta
2701 Columbus Blvd.
Coral Gables

Best regards,
Stephanie Kontzamanys
www.skalaconnections.com
305 202 0490
Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Malone Matson <malmatson@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:02 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please keep our April elections.

--

Malone Matson
Phyla Landscape Studio
305.877.0340

Castro, Melissa

From: Rogelio Baez <rogeliobaez187@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:58 PM
To: Castro, Melissa

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

No

Castro, Melissa

From: philip liu <sim1sim@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:46 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Philip & pat Liu, 319 Candia Ave, CG

Sent from Mail for Windows

Castro, Melissa

From: ekuncar@bellsouth.net
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:37 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vote No ItemE.-3

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Maria Bures <buresa@me.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:35 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro:

As a resident of Coral Gables for 40 years, I request that you VETO the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, these negative consequences are likely:

1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.
2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.
3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.
4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.

As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

Maria Bures
3610 Durango Street

Castro, Melissa

From: mal malukacs.com <mal@malukacs.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:19 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO on Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I vote NO to Item E.-3

MaryAnne Lukacs

3610 Durango Street

Coral Gables, Florida 33134

Castro, Melissa

From: cristina hernandez <thisiscristina@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:15 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: brquia@coralgables.com
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I am against moving the Coral Gables elections to November. Keep the elections in April.

**Thank you
Cristina Hernandez**

Castro, Melissa

From: Tiffany Otero <tiffanykoterogmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:04 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Voting no on election move

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO on election move.

Tiffany K. Otero Sent from my iPad

Castro, Melissa

From: jpsarmi <jpsarmi@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:15 AM
To: Castro, Melissa; Urquia, Billy
Subject: No to ITEM E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

To whom it may concern:

Don't change the April Date.
my vote is: NO
Regards

Juan Pablo Sarmiento
1421 Blue Road
Coral Gables FL 33146

Castro, Melissa

From: Carol Smith <miami_lorac@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:25 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: brquia@coralgables.com
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear City Commissioner Castro,
I am opposed to moving the elections in Coral Gables from April to November.
Please do what is right for the city and the residents of Coral Gables
and preserve the character of our great city.

Thank you.

Carol M. Smith
824 Galiano Street
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Castro, Melissa

From: Amin Gonzalez <amingonzalez@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:35 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Castro, Melissa

From: Roberto Gonzalez <robadriang@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:32 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

United Insurance Agency
Roberto A Gonzalez
Phone: 305 541 3810
Fax: 305 541 3811
Email: robadriang@hotmail.com

Castro, Melissa

From: Maricris Longo <maricrislongo@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:56 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: brquia@coralgables.com
Subject: Hello Melissa. Please do not change our April election date. Vote No item E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello Melissa.

Please do not change our April election date. Vote No on item E-3

Thank you

Maricris Longo

Global Sales Advisor | One Sotheby's International Realty
305.798.0156 | maricrislongo@gmail.com

Castro, Melissa

From: Gladymar Morales <gladymarmorales@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:54 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

NO to Item E.-3

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Sofia P. Larraz <sofiaplarraz@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:38 PM
To: Rhonda Anderson; Lago, Vince; arielfernandez@voteariel.com; Castro, Melissa; Menendez, Kirk
Subject: Supporting the change of voting to nov

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Sofia

Castro, Melissa

From: BEVERLY PARKER <sablep@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:12 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Do not change the April vote

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I as resident of Coral Gables
I am writing to ask to keep
the current voting schedule
in April. Do not change it to
November.

Thank you,

Beverly Parker

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Dan Gelfman <dgelfman@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 5:09 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Elections date change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

**I object to the change.
Daniel E. Gelfman
9401 Kerwood CT.
Coral Gables, 33156**

Castro, Melissa

From: Ellie Goldberg <mcduff3692001@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 5:39 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: April

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Don't change April elections date .

Ellie Goldberg
5860 Jasmine Ln
Coral Gables. 33156

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Tillett Jim <jimtillett@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 6:31 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to Item E.-3
Attachments: pastedGraphic.tiff

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,
I urge you to vote No to changing the date for Coral Gables elections.
Thank you



Jim Tillett
jimtillett@gmail.com
1243 Asturia Avenue, CG 33134
M: 305-773-1459

Castro, Melissa

From: Tharion Abtahi <persirl@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 5:04 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Keep April voting date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Let's not change what already works!!

Miami and Hiakeah are their own cities. We like voting in April. Let's keep a sensible month like April!

Tharion Abtahi

Sent from Tharion iPad

Castro, Melissa

From: Memo Saucedo <memo@memosauceda.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 4:13 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: April Election

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO on the item to change our Coral Gables April Election Date.

Guillermo Saucedo

memQ saucedo
ACTOR-VO
memo-rable.com
+1-305-607-1852
[Click to hear my DEMOS](#)

Castro, Melissa

From: Ernie Sardo <esardo303@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa; burguia@coralgables.com; kmenendez@coralgables.com; Anderson, Rhonda
Subject: Please vote NO On Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Thanks Ernie Sardo

Castro, Melissa

From: Victor Balestra <vbalestra@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:00 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Fw: NO TO ITEM E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

From: Ruth Balestra
To: Commissioner Melissa Castro
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 at 02:40:47 PM EDT
Subject: NO TO ITEM E.-3

Dear Commissioner Castro:

As a resident of Coral Gables for 42 years, I request that you vote NO on the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election. If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with national and state elections, these negative consequences are likely:

- 1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.**
- 2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for "independent" candidates to be elected.**
- 3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.**
- 4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.**

AS A CONCERNED CITIZEN AND VOTER, PLEASE DO NOT AMEND THE CORAL GABLES VOTING CALENDAR. VOTE NO ON E-3

Truly yours,

**Ruth S. Balestra
917 Paradiso Avenue
Coral Gables, Fl. 33146**

Castro, Melissa

From: Lizette Sigler <lsigler44@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:47 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Castro, Melissa

From: Mike Zeigen <mzeigen@me.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:39 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Mike Zeigen | +1 305-761-7574 | mzeigen@me.com

46

Castro, Melissa

From: gary schrodt <gary.schrodt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:58 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO on this issue.

Thank you,
Gary and Rebecca Schrodt
521 Aragon Avenue

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

**Please,
Let's maintain our voting dates**

No to E.-3

Sent from my iPad

Barbee

Please Note: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from State and Local Officials regarding State or Local business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

Castro, Melissa

From: Vera-Llano, Martha <mvera-llano@dadeschools.net>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 11:36 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO VOTE

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I ask that you VOTE NO to item3

Marty Vera-Llano, Ed.S, MBA,NBCT
Coral Reef Elementary
World Languages
EESAC Chair

Castro, Melissa

From: Ana Maria Lopez Ochoa <amlopez@netvg.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:42 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO CHANGES to the Coral Gables voting calendar

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner,

Please do not change our City elections date and let it continue to be held during the time-frame they've been conducted since the City's inception. I am NOT in favor of moving our City elections date to the state and federal elections date.

Such a change of City Elections date will have many negative consequences, among them:

- 1. Our elections would become more heavily financed with partisan money which will contribute more to the "mainstream", partisan candidates and hurt the chances of any other 'independent' or underdog candidates.**
- 2. Our local elections will turn into a highly partisan election. Partisan politics have become hyper-divisive and we do not want our local elections devolve further in that direction.**
- 3. Our CG City elections will be mixed-up with federal and state issues and candidates. Our issues are unique to our City Beautiful and will be further diluted by federal and state concerns, during both election periods "pre-election campaign" and the "general election" itself.**
- 4. Saving money by moving our local election to November should not supersede the integrity of our local interests and**

Castro, Melissa

From: Lourdes Wongden <roosterhen007@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:17 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Urquia, Billy
Subject: VOTE NO ON E-3 on 9/13!!!

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vote NO!

Good Morning,

We are writing to you today to please VOTE NO on Item E-3. We DO NOT want to have our April elections changed to November!

We do not want our elections to become a clown show! We have enough as it is!! NOT a good idea at all!

Sincerely,

Lourdes & Alfredo Wongden

Castro, Melissa

From: Allison Ford <afordphd@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 8:35 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote No to item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Castro, Melissa

From: Amanda Rich <rrich011@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 7:32 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

Please vote NO to changing Coral Gables' unique April election date.

Regards,
Stuart Rich
1222 Aduana Ave.

From: Clifford L Titus <cliffordtitus@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:42:57 AM
To: Castro, Melissa <mcastro@coralgables.com>
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Do not pass this

Please Note: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from State and Local Officials regarding State or Local business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

Castro, Melissa

From: Maria Elena Castle <grancastle@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:11 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: brquia@coralgables.com
Subject: Election change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

As a concerned voting citizen of the Coral Gables community, I would request that you vote:

No on Item E.-3

**Thank you,
Maria Elena Castle**

Castro, Melissa

From: gail Flanders <gail1992@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:39 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election date change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Thank you for the information and your vote. I'm so happy I voted for you.

Castro, Melissa

From: Didi Todd <didi331@att.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:28 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Fwd: Vote NO Ítem E

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commissioner Castro, FYI

I Email the Mayor and Vice Mayor.

D. Todd

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Didi Todd <didi331@att.net>
Date: September 10, 2023 at 2:06:44 PM EST
To: vlago@coralgables.com
Subject: Vote NO Ítem E -3

To Mayor Lago,

I am a long time resident of Coral Gables and am amazed how you and some, not ALL, commissioners forget you are in office for the good and to look out for the residents who ELECTED. YOU.

Once again, the question begs, who is behind wanting to change the local elections from April to November and WHY?

Special interests with deep pockets ?

I voted you on your platform . I don't want to come to the conclusion that I made a mistake.

D. Todd

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: migcer@bellsouth.net
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:04 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO TO ITEM E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Keep National Politics away from CG!

Miguel Cervoni
1426 Siena Avenue

Castro, Melissa

From: Rafael Feo <rafaeldfeo@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:55 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Change Election Day

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I stand to say NO.

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Dirk de Groen <ddegroen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:52 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Coral Gables election date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioners,

Please keep the elections for Coral Gables commissioners in the month of April. This way voters can concentrate on the issues at stake in our City Beautiful, without being distracted by what's hapening on state and federal levels.

Sincerely,

Dirk de Groen
Alexandra de Groen
1201 Manati Ave
Coral Gables.

Castro, Melissa

From: Gustavo Calleja <gus.rocks@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:41 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote no on item E. 3 so Coral Gables elections will not be ruined by party politics.

Gustavo Calleja

Castro, Melissa

From: Bernard Castell <bernatc@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:39 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: No to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello,

Please consider this my expression of rejection of Item E.-3.

Sincerely,

Bernard Castell
1020 Almeria Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Sent from my iPad

Castro, Melissa

From: Ibrahim Tansel <ibrahim.tansel@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:28 PM
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

We don't want the change of the election day.

Please vote NO.

--

Ibrahim Tansel
E-Mail: tanseli@fiu.edu
Cel Tel: 305-333-5180

Castro, Melissa

From: AOL Mail® <rortravel@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 1:09 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Election date change!

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

To the Coral Gables commission plus Mayor:

**Please do NOT change the election date! Leave as is,
Thanks,
Robert Ros
Long Time Gables resident
rortravel@aol.com**

Castro, Melissa

From: Tom <twhite4809@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 1:02 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote NO to Item E.-3.

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vote NO to Item E.-3.
Tom Whitehurst
CG resident

Castro, Melissa

From: Arthur Dunkelman <adunkelman@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 1:01 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No on item 3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

"NO"

on the item to change our unique

Coral Gables

April Election Date.

Castro, Melissa

From: Michael Mundy <michaelamundy@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 12:35 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commissioner Castro,

In the best interests of the residents of Coral Gables, City Beautiful, I herewith demand that - on agenda item E.-3 on September 13, 2023 - you **vote**

“NO”
on the item to change our unique
Coral Gables
April Election Date.

Castro, Melissa

From: Rogelio Baez <rogeliobaez187@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 12:23 PM
To: Castro, Melissa

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

No.

Castro, Melissa

From: sny04@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 12:09 PM
To: Fernandez, Ariel; Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa
Cc: brgula@coralgables.com
Subject: Election dates

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

My wife and I have voted in every Gables election since 1974 and are strongly against changing that to a November date. Although money may be saved(the cost of another dog park?) and participation greater there is every indication that the needs and preferences of the residents may not be honestly served . Better to have a low, informed and concerned vote in April than a larger vote tainted by lobbyist/special interests money representing partisan goals. The most moneyed candidates will win, Coral Gables will lose. You know that so please vote no against November option. Your yes vote is no vote for us the next time you are on the ballot. Our previous votes contributed to your status as commissioner.
Larry and Jeanne Snyder

Castro, Melissa

From: Byers, Patricia Marie, M.D. <pbyers@med.miami.edu>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:51 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote no and keep our elections in April.

Thank you,
Patty Byers, MD, FACS

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Maria Diazgranados <mdzghg@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:01 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

NO to Item E.-3

María Díaz Granados

Castro, Melissa

From: agace@bellsouth.net
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:32 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: burqia@coralgables.com
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

DEFINITE **NO** TO CHANGING ELECTION DATES TO NOVEMBER

Castro, Melissa

From: James F Russell <jfrussell@earthlink.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 11:40 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO TO ITEM E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commisioner Castro

Please vote NO TO ITEM E-3

Thank you.
Respectfully,

James Russell
1028 Asturia
Resident May 1, 1984

Castro, Melissa

From: Joan Titus <joantinfl@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:56 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Please vote no on E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Joan's iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: scott.bailey1@comcast.net
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:29 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Bailey

Castro, Melissa

From: blaudani@aol.com
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:55 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Castro, Melissa

From: Mercy Ballina <mercybal@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 10:20 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Do not change. Should stay as it is

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Charlene Mcalpin <charlenemcalpin@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:28 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Thank you for your email and action plan!
Do not change our Election date!!!

Charlene McAlpin
730 Tibidabo Ave

Castro, Melissa

From: Clifford L Titus <cliffordtitus@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:43 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Do not pass this

Castro, Melissa

From: Ellen Kellner <ejkellner1@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:57 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to vote change!

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Barbara FELDMAN <barbeern@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:29 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to voting change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please,
Let's maintain our voting dates

No to E.-3

Sent from my iPad

Barbee

Castro, Melissa

From: Christi Terpening <cmterps@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:32 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: brquia@coralgales.com
Subject: NO to Item E. - 3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

NO to Item E.-3

Sent from my iPad

Castro, Melissa

From: Leonela Rohaidy <rohaidy30@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Proposal

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

NO to Item E.-3

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Stephen Blythe <blythedrdiva@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:38 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote No

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro
We don't want our elected commissioners to change the April voting day. Vote No!
The City Beautiful deserves its own day.
Drs Donna and Stephen Blythe
1403 N. Greenway Dr
CG 33134

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Janet Nostro <nostro@comcast.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:08 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote NO on Item E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

Please vote NO to Item E-3. We certainly don't need our commission races to be influenced by outside forces and money.

Please vote NO to changing the dates of our elections.

**Thank you,
Janet Miller Nostro
728 Catalonia Ave
Coral Gables 33134**

Castro, Melissa

From: Jay Rosario <jayrosario00@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:29 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: brquia@coralgables.com
Subject: NO - Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO to Item E.-3

Best regards,

Jay Rosario

Castro, Melissa

From: M E Anderson <paraisobay604@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:27 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO TO ITEM E.3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

HONORABLE COMMISSIONER,

NO TO ITEM E.3

BEST,
MARY ANDERSON
935 PALERMO AVE
CORAL GABLES, FL 33134

Castro, Melissa

From: Jose Martin <jcmmd@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:57 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to changing election day

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

No to changing election day!

Best,
JCMMD

Castro, Melissa

From: Henry Pinera <hpinera1@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 5:30 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy; Your Neighbors
Subject: CG Elections: Support a compromise that Bolsters Democracy, Strengthens Federalism, and Saves Taxpayer Funds

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commissioner Castro,

I am deeply concerned about the proposed move of City elections to November. While I appreciate the potential cost-saving benefits, I firmly believe that this decision carries significant long-term consequences for the nature of politics in our city. I implore you to reconsider this action and, instead, consider tying our elections to earlier primaries.

Moving our elections to November will open the door to greater partisanship, drowning out the critical local issues that deserve our utmost attention. Candidates for the commission will emphasize larger societal matters, over which the Commission has no control, to secure more votes. This will invite divisive rhetoric and polarization, as firebrand candidates from both sides attract attention. It will also force candidates to build stronger alliances with state and national officials and donors for financial support that will compromise the integrity of our local politics.

Keeping the Coral Gables City Elections separate from the November general election is a defense of federalism – an essential pillar of our democratic system. It safeguards our ability to make decisions that are truly reflective of our community's needs.

While I am not opposed to moving the election to coincide with other elections to save money, the best option, if that is the primary goal, is to have it be tied to earlier primaries. Moving the election to coincide with the primaries would still have the following benefits:

- **Increased Voter Turnout:** Tying our elections to the primaries would still achieve the goal of increased voter turnout, especially among Independents, without sacrificing the integrity of our local issues.
- **Informed Electorate:** This approach would motivate more people to become better informed about the issues that directly impact our community, fostering a more engaged and responsible electorate.
- **Family Considerations:** Contrary to concerns about inconvenience for families with school-age children, aligning with primaries would still decrease the overall number of elections and would avoid peak vacation time for families with kids.

One of the attractions of Coral Gables, is that its politics seemed less divisive. That has slowly changed, and now with this change, I fear it will become like many of the other municipalities. *Most residents want Coral Gables to be different than the rest of South Florida, it's why we live here. Coral Gables can be a leader by taking a more moderate, sensible approach that saves taxpayer dollars, increases voter turnout while ensuring our elections remain focused on our local issues, values, and aspirations.*

Sincerely,

Henry Pinera

Castro, Melissa

From: Ellen Fox <ellenfox732@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 4:57 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: No to E 3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner,

As a resident of Coral Gables, I request that you veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election. If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, these negative consequences are likely:

1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.
2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.
3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.
4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city. As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

Ellen Fox
2825 Granada Blvd., 3B
Coral Gables, FL. 33134

Castro, Melissa

From: Amanda P <mandii1227@hotmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 4:54 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO to Item E.-3

-Coral Gables Resident since 1989

Castro, Melissa

From: Jane Mass <janemass@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 4:31 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Agenda item E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commissioner Castro—please vote NO on Agenda item E-3 at the 9/13/23 City of Coral Gables Commission Meeting.

The present and long established April election encourages a broad base of candidates to run for office on a less crowded ballot. One that allows a mix of candidates to meet the unique needs of our City. Thank you for your consideration .

Jane Mass
420 Hardee Road
Coral Gables

Sent from Mail for Windows

Castro, Melissa

From: Enrique Martinez <henry@mtzfamily.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 4:12 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Gables Election

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear commissioner Castro,

I am opposed to changing the date for our Coral Gables election and get lost and confused in the midst of state wide or national elections. Please defend our uniqueness and keep our Coral Gables City elections separate.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

Enrique R. Martinez
14501 Sailfish Drive
Coral Gables Fl. 33158

Castro, Melissa

From: James Feurtado <jamesfeurtado1@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:27 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Voting date Change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I am in agreement with you commissioner Castro I vote NO

James D. Feurtado
1407 Madrid
Coral Gables, Fl

Castro, Melissa

From: Karen CPA <karen@cpakaren.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 8:07 AM
To: Castro, Melissa; brquia@coralgables.com
Subject: NO TO ITEM E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

--

***** Please upload all personal information and tax documents using my secure platform under the "submit docs" tab on my website cpakaren.com.

KAREN E. LEE , CPA, CFE, CAMS

6501 Leonardo St

CORAL GABLES, FL 33146

305-815-1462

FAX 305-415-8334 OR 305-666-2620

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/cpakarenelee>

Venmo: @Karen-Lee-CPA

Zelle: karen@cpakaren.com

CashApp: \$kleecpa

Instagram @kleecpa

Castro, Melissa

From: Jane Moscowitz <jmoscowitz@moscowitz.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 3:10 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Castro, Melissa; Anderson, Rhonda; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk
Subject: please do not move the date of the Coral Gables elections

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioners,

Several negative consequences will occur if our elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections:

- 1) Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.**
- 2) Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will favor more “mainstream,” candidates and will damage ‘independent’ or underdog candidates.**
- 4) Federal and state ballots are often very lengthy and Coral Gables elections will be pushed to the back back-pages of these ballots. Voters may ignore or miss local elections.**
- 5) The money saved by moving our election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.**

I request that no changes be made to the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Yours truly,

Jane W. Moscowitz
Moscowitz & Moscowitz, P.A.
2525 Ponce de Leon Blvd. #1000
Coral Gables, FL 33134
305.333.7099
jmoscowitz@moscowitz.com
www.moscowitz.com



Castro, Melissa

From: Nancy B. Howard, CPA <nancy@nbhcpa.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 2:34 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: THANK YOU FOR VOTING NO ON CHANGING CORAL GABLES ELECTIONS

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hi Commissioner Castro,

I have to say I agree with you. I was all for it at first. But after careful consideration, I say the risks to having resident representation on the Commission rather than bought seats is simply too great.

Why do I say this . . . during a partisan election, the loudest voice usually wins. Who is the loudest voice, the one with the deepest pockets. And how do pockets get so deep?

That's my concern.

Having our election separate from the noise of the national elections will allow all candidate voices to be heard as there will not be the distraction of the national elections and the noise they bring.

I don't think our elections should be changed to facilitate lazy voters perhaps getting to the polls and voting for the most well-funded (loudest) candidate.

Please do NOT support the change in Coral Gables elections. Our City, we the resident taxpayers, can afford to make sure we are not overshadowed by deep pockets.

Best,

Nancy

Nancy B. Howard
Owner



NANCY B. HOWARD, CPA, PA

BY APPOINTMENT
CORAL GABLES, FL 33114

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/nancyhoward>

P: 305.790.2753

F: 305.675.7919

Bookkeeping Accounting Tax Business Consulting

103


Castro, Melissa

From: Clifford L Titus <cliffordtitus@live.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:42 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Re: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

And thank you for responding

Some color on what I said ...

Standalone elections, in general, are better focused on local issues.

Democracy is "not" what's at stake in most local elections ... local elections are based on hometown issues that are what's paramount

History and statistics will tell you that.

Let's face it ... beyond the local residents, no one cares what happens in Coral Gables

Wrapping them with large state / national elections tends to dilute what is needed locally as every voter gets wrapped up in the bigger issues / political aspects and ignores or forgets about local needs

Some people say ... you would get a higher voter turnout

Yes, there is a lower voter turnout in a stand-alone election but, just maybe, that is good as the ones who do turnout care

Do we really think looking at a ballot with dozens and dozens of state / national candidates / issues on the big piece of paper is going to make more voters read the fine print on some local issue ... I don't think so

Maybe Coral Gables could do a better job at getting voters out ... while keeping the residents local issues in the forefront

Anyway ... that's my view

Thanks

Cliff

On Sep 10, 2023, at 9:20 PM, Castro, Melissa <mcastro@coralgables.com> wrote:

Thank you for reaching out and sharing your concerns regarding the proposed date change for the Coral Gables General Election. Please rest



Castro, Melissa

From: ALBERTO MANRARA <almanrara@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 1:00 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Regarding the change of our election dates

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Sept. 11, 2023

Dear Commissioner Castro,

Recalling today the memory of 9-11, it is important to focus on details of what makes democracy work for the citizens.

As a Commissioner you are called upon to consider and decide the timing of elections for our City officials. The proposal is to have our City elections coincide with the presidential election cycle.

Although at first blush that may seem sensible, cost effective and an improvement, I believe it is not. Here's why.

National elections have a unique importance and should not be mixed with the most local of all our elections as citizens of Coral Gables. Having the City elections separate from other political races allows us to focus on the candidates



Castro, Melissa

From: terry carmona <tecar3@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:29 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

I am hereby requesting that you please vote NO to changing the date of the Coral Gables election. I strongly believe that doing the voting the same date as the presidential election will take away importance to our city's election and our candidates will lose priority and importance, since many voters will be more preoccupied and concerned with the national elections.

Please vote "No" to Item E.-3.

Regards,

Teresita Carmona
117 San Sebastián Ave.
Coral Gables, FL. 33134

lol



Castro, Melissa

From: oortrek@aol.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:48 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to election change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please allow OUR election to remain as OUR election. If we can spend 3 Million on a parking garage design, 100K on a police tesla, and keep millions in sidewalk bonds that have not been returned to residents, we can afford to keep having OUR OWN elections.

Thank you.

Gabriel de la Campa

Castro, Melissa

From: Sonia Kazazian Viertl <soniakazav@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 12:33 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; kmendez@coralgables.com; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello Everyone

Your proposal to change the election date is unreasonable, and unthoughtful. In November the entire nation is focused on the general elections throughout the country and yet you want the residents of Coral Gables to focus on local matters, no logic to your proposal.

I say NO to Item E.-3

Listen to the people, listen to the residents who placed you where you are today.)

Many of you during your election campaign promised to control the buildout in our City, that promise was soon forgotten. Somehow developers get to everyone, just look at the ostentatious project of the Village at Coral Gables, one huge block was destroyed with colonial looking private homes and small rental units. If the City officials felt that these properties were eyesores, which they were not, all that needed to be done is force the owners to upkeep their properties, but definitely not tear down a huge block.

The historical preservation group surely missed this one, it did not do its job adequately. People travel the world to visit historical sites and yet in this City everything is torn down and replaced with new, what a pity.

Thank you
Sonia Viertl

Castro, Melissa

9

From: Eddie Roca <roca3@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:30 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Voting in November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I do NOT support voting in November. If Coral Gables residents fail to vote in April when the weather is cool and lines are minimum , the message is that they could care less about who is elected. I have lived in the Gables most of my life and have never failed to vote in April as well as many of our friends.

Thank you,
Eddie Roca, Ph.D

Sent from my iPhone

109

Castro, Melissa

✱

From: Brett Gillis <brett.gillis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 2:29 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Thoughts on today's meeting

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good morning Commission,

Not sure if I can make it today, but here you have it.....

Vote NO to MX2.5. We recently had a Zoning Code update/rewrite and we need to see how it will shake out before more and more things are upzoned. (Commissioner Menendez, when you campaigned, you said you would not vote to increase height.... so if this does pass I hope it has a caveat that this item cannot be used to get any height above what is currently permitted.)

Vote NO to "parks" incentives in the Design & Ino District. That area needs a real park like what they are proposing to share at Gables High (10,000 sq ft or greater). These piddly "parks" we've been getting by developments like the one on Valencia just become places for people to let their dogs pee and poop and are not safe for kids to play or others to peacefully enjoy because of that. Just call it what it is - you're trying to get people with dogs a place to take them to do their business... don't call it a park.

Vote NO to changing the elections. Been there, done that!!! Talk to Raul Valdes-Fauli. I remember when that whole charter review went through..... it was to have a more informed local electorate voting so that people would have more time to focus on local issues and more time to make an informed decision on who they'd vote for to run our city. If you're looking to save money - consider seeing if the number of polling locations could be decreased, especially for runoffs when very few people vote (and many are by mail).

Vote NO to the "art" as currently proposed at The Village. Only the amount above the cost of standard lighting should be approved as public art as lighting should not be the responsibility of "art in public places." In other words, what would a standard street light cost? How much will these cost? Only the difference should be considered art.

And what was done to Claudia Miro is wrong. Don't reappoint somebody if there is an issue. I happen to like Alex Bucelo as a person, but his attendance and participation were not exemplary, and nobody on the Commission seemed to have an issue with it..... in fact, I believe all the sitting commissioners at the time that are still on the Commission supported him as a candidate! Now you want to remove someone who participated more...it doesn't add it... it's looks so political. Pick a standard and stick to it. Think if Claudia were your sister, mother, daughter, etc. and somebody did the same thing you did to her to one of your relatives.....


Castro, Melissa

From: Ally Easley <aaeasley@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:13 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Please Do NOT change Gables election calendar - and convince your colleagues

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

As a resident of Coral Gables for 50+ years (who voted for you), I appreciate your vocal support of retaining our election calendar. I'm confident you'll veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election. As you're aware, the main priority of the City's elections is the sanctity of our local concerns and candidates. There are plenty of other opportunities for the City to save money – not here! Adding Gables issues to state and national election ballots will have several negatives:

- The City's issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state questions and candidates.
- Federal elections bring more outside, heavily partisan financing that hamper opportunities for home grown independent candidates to be elected.
- Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.

As a long-time Gables citizen and voter, please implore your colleagues on the Commission NOT amend the City's voting calendar.

Thank you.

Ally Easley


Castro, Melissa

From: Marian Ancheta <marian.ancheta@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:46 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3 on the 9-13-2023 Commission Agenda

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioner Castro,

I am a resident of the City of Coral Gables and am writing to express my opposition to Item E-3 on the agenda of the Sept 13, 2023 Commission meeting which proposes an ordinance seeking to move all future City elections to coincide with partisan November congressional and presidential elections, moving the upcoming April 2025 election to November 2024, with a runoff election four weeks later, when applicable.

Our city's elections should be maintained as has been conducted and not changed to coincide with partisan federal elections in my opinion. Informed and active citizens will continue to vote as they have always done and it is up to the local candidates to make efforts to increase participation but linking it to the federal elections is not the way to accomplish this. The fact that any money will be saved is a minor issue relative to maintaining the integrity of the local elections. All this proposed ordinance would do is to make it easier for incumbent candidates with PAC money to get elected and I am GREATLY OPPOSED to this.

I not only live in Coral Gables, but I also have my business (law firm) in the City and am a graduate of Gables High and attended the University of Miami for undergrad and law school studies so I know and love the City Beautiful. As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

Marian Ancheta

Castro, Melissa



From: Lilly Paez <lilly.paez@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 4:33 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Tomorrow's Meeting

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Mayor Lago, Commissioners Anderson, Castro, Fernandez and Menendez

As a resident of Coral Gables for over 8 years, I request that you veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, there are negative consequences that will likely impact our community negatively:

1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.
2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.
3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.
4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.

As a concerned citizen and voter, please DO NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,

Lilly Paez
232 Majorca Ave
Coral Gables FL 33134

moving the Swearing-In date to five (5) weeks after the General Election; amending Section 3 "Election to Office; Commission As Judge of Qualifications, Requirements, Ballots, Canvassing, and Qualifying Periods" amending the qualifying period; adopting such Charter Amendments pursuant to Section 100.3605, 101.75, and 166.021(4), Florida Statutes; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date.
(Sponsored by Vice Mayor Anderson) (Co-Sponsored by Mayor Lago)



Dear Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commission Members,
Hope you are all well and will give E-3 your utmost attention.

First, why is item E-3 coming back on second reading so soon? The official record shows that at the August 22 meeting, Commissioner Menendez voted YES on item 23-6188 with the condition that the 2nd reading of 23-6188 not occur before the October meeting. This was the stipulation in exchange for his initial approval at the 1st reading of 23-6188 on August 22 so that there would be time for a sunshine meeting to discuss the issue with residents. However, the 2nd reading of 23-6188 is on the agenda for the September 13 meeting. Why was Commissioner Menendez's "stipulation" ignored?

Second, please consider my personal observations below.

Changing the election from April to November may save the city money but it will lose much more, its heritage. And why after 100 years, election after election, is this now an issue?

The two reasons given to justify changing the traditional election date are: money and voter turnout and both are weak arguments.

#1. Considering changing a time-proven historical tradition solely on the monetary cost is short-sighted and short-changes a priceless historical heritage. Why tinker with a 100-year old election cycle that goes back to the wisdom of the founding fathers. Coral Gables election history was initiated in April 1925 when the fledgling city was incorporated with Edward "Doc" Dammers elected as the first mayor of Coral Gables. He served a 3-year term from 1925 to 1928. Yes, money can be a driving force, however, historical heritage is priceless. Coral Gables has always taken pride in its historical uniqueness and independent spirit. *Please keep it that way.*

#2. Guaranteeing that changing the election date will increase voter turnout is flawed. In today's elections, time and date have become irrelevant. People can vote weeks ahead, by mail, by dropbox, and in-person. No one has to experience "voter fatigue" because people can vote at their convenience. People who choose not to exercise their right to vote, basically DO NOT WANT TO VOTE.

#3. Merging our local elections with the national schedule adversely affects us, Coral Gables citizens, by:

- [1] disenfranchising votes due to change in terms;
- [2] inserting partisan politics in the mix;
- [3] losing home rule
- [4] rejecting the city founder's purposeful plan; and most importantly,
- [5] giving elected officials the power to create their own election rules.

Please consider all of the above..

Respectfully submitted.
Karelia

Please Note: Florida has a very broad Public Records Law. Most written communications to or from State and Local Officials regarding State or Local business are public records available to the public and media upon request. Your email communications may therefore be subject to public disclosure.

Castro, Melissa

From: Ana Rubin <rubinana@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 3:02 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vote no

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Gerald Berton <jerry@theyachtgroup.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 7:43 AM
To: Castro, Melissa; Urquia, Billy
Subject: DONT CHANGE THE APRIL VOTING DATE!

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

--

My best regards,

Gerald Berton
President

www.theYachtGroup.com
www.ezDrivethrusters.com
www.BertonYachts.com

The Yacht Group Showroom 360 (Ft. Lauderdale)

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THEYACHTGROUP.COM / 305.667.5811

4545 Ponce De Leon Blvd. Coral Gables FL. 33146

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Castro, Melissa

From: John Seipp <John.Seipp@bowmanandbrooke.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 3:58 AM
To: Lago, Vince
Cc: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Moving voting date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vince,

I side with Maria Castro on this issue. 20% of the voter population who are well informed, motivated, or care enough to vote is better than 100% voter turnout of which the vast majority are not well informed, motivated or caring. If we align our elections with the general election the result will be voters who care enough about national candidates to vote, but know nothing or care nothing about local issues, simply casting random votes in the local election because the local elections are on the same ballot and they feel compelled to make a choice. Don't fix something that is not broken.

Finally, I question your true motivation. The last election signaled a voter revolt against the well financed candidates backed by special interests. The two grassroots candidates won, and so now you want to change the rules?
John Seipp

Sent from my iPad

Note: This electronic mail is intended to be received and read only by certain individuals. It may contain information that is attorney-client privileged or

protected from disclosure by law. If it has been misdirected, or if you suspect you have received this in error, please notify me by replying and then

delete both the message and reply. Thank you.

Castro, Melissa

From: alicia arner <aliciaarner@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 12:34 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commissioner Castro,

I am not in favor of changing Coral Gables elections from April to November. Please don't change the date.

Alicia Arner
1410 Siena Avenue
Coral Gables, FL

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Ana Rubin <rubinana@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 3:02 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vote no

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Grace <josslyn2022@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 7:40 PM
To: Lago, Vince; randers@coralgables.com; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

220

Castro, Melissa

From: Josefina Martinez <jmeg1420@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:50 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to Item E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

No to Item E-3. Keep elections in April.
Thank you.
Josefina Martinez

Castro, Melissa

From: Debra Register <rdeb@registerco.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 7:09 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: City Clerk; Debra Register
Subject: City Commission Meeting dated September 13, 2023 - objection to changing City of Coral Gables election date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners.

The topic I am writing about today relates to changing the election date in the City of Coral Gables agenda item E-3.

I am adamantly opposed to changing the date from April to November. The timing is not the problem with low turnout. Our residents have more than enough time to vote by mail or in person. The problem with the voters in the City of Coral Gables when there are just items effecting our community has become a matter of apathy and discuss with the mailings they are receiving.

Our elections have turned in to a disgrace with all the influence from developers, PACs, etc. The negative mailings that are being sent out is a sad representation of our city. The candidates have pledged to run clean a campaign, but some are not since donations that might have gone to their campaign accounts are being directed to various PAC accounts and at the direction of the candidates. Then these PACs are sending an avalanche of negative and misinformation mailers to the voters.

The candidates who are not financed by the developers and special interest groups would have their mailers lost in the mounts of mailers sent out by candidates backed by special interest groups along with all the mailers for the national, state, and county mailers. During the last elections, the same candidates were sending sometimes two flyers a day and multiple times a week. I won't go into the waste of money in a local election that could be put to a far better use.

November elections have UM students who vote and do not have any concern relating to the governing of Coral Gables but vote with a name recognition or on mailers that they might receive. These individuals are influenced by misinformation and will not take the time to truly vet a candidate. These student voters increase the voter counts but do not make the best judgement for our city.

Items to vote on for the City of Coral Gables will be shown at the end of the ballots and the voters have voter fatigue in making their selection. Examples of individuals voting for judges, do they really vet each judge on the ballot. How that judge has ruled in the past.

When it boils down to cost why have so many polling sites open when there are just a few that vote in most of the polling sites. Analyze the polling sites and consolidate so the cost is not so great. Cut down on the days of early voting to reduce cost.

The City needs to get more involved in promoting the April elections than they have in the past.

Let the people decide in the next April election.

Castro, Melissa

From: Sharon Langer <sharon@justdigit.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:59 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk
Cc: Sharon Langer; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Moving election to November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Mayor Lago and Commissionners:

As a resident of Coral Gables for 50 years, I request that you veto the proposed date change to the Coral Gables General Election.

If the Gables elections are moved to coincide with state and national elections, these negative consequences are likely:

1. Our unique issues will be overshadowed and diluted by federal and state issues and candidates.
2. Our elections will become more heavily financed with partisan money which will reduce the opportunity for 'independent' candidates to be elected.
3. Federal and state general election ballots are usually very lengthy and Coral Gables candidates will be pushed to the last page of these ballots, resulting in missed votes for Gables candidates.
4. Any funds saved by moving the Gables election to November will not compensate for the undermining of the issues, concerns, and candidates running for local office in our city.

As a concerned citizen and voter, please do NOT amend the Coral Gables voting calendar.

Sincerely,
Sharon Langer 720 Coral Way
Your Name Here
Your Address Here

Castro, Melissa

From: William Curtin <wcurtin001@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:53 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I oppose changing the election date. It will further corrupt our elections. Keep the current unique date.

I greatly appreciate your current representation

William Curtin
1235 Castile av

Castro, Melissa

From: John Cooper <cooptown45@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:52 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Commissioner Castro, we respectfully urge you to vote "NO" on above item.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

John and Lourdes Cooper

Castro, Melissa

From: Ellen Dyer <EThelma@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:50 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Urquia, Billy; EThelma@aol.com
Subject: Vote NO on Item E.- 3 on September 13, 2023

Importance: High

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VOTE NO to ITEM E.- 3 ON SEPTEMBER 13,2023

I firmly believe that keeping our elections in April, as is, by voting NO to Item E. - 3 will best serve the Coral Gables community.

There is a whole important list of reasons, financially, politically and historically, to Vote No On ITEM E.- 3 that have been presented throughout the Community and to the City Commission prior to the meeting date. There is no need to repeat the list here once again. That list is important though so please pay attention to it.

Do not let the appeal of convenience or the promise of saving money by consolidating elections lead you to surrender your voice and Ours, the Voices of City Residents. Remember, as our city leaders you are expected to truly and sincerely represent the residents' interests on all issues that come before you.

Respectfully,

Ellen Dyer
1406 Lisbon Street
Coral Gables, FL 33133

EThelma@aol.com
(305 778-9502)

Castro, Melissa

From: C. Sylvia Orozco <orozcosylvia@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:19 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO TO ITEM E. - 3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Thank you

Fernando Rubio
Sylvia Orozco
632 MADEIRA AVENUE
CORAL GABLES
305-490-8896

Castro, Melissa

From: Obie Smith <obiesmith@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:07 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote NO.

Obie

706 Palermo Avenue

Obie Thomas Smith

c: 305.389.4723

Castro, Melissa

From: jose tarafa <jtarafa13@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:47 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to item e-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Castro, Melissa

From: Josefina Martinez <jmeg1420@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:50 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: No to Item E-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

No to Item E-3. Keep elections in April.
Thank you.
Josefina Martinez

Castro, Melissa

From: Isa Borden <isa@tceinc.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:34 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: No to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good evening,

We would like to keep the April election date in Coral Gables, and help maintain the uniqueness of our city.

Thank you,

Isa B.

Castro, Melissa

From: William Glassford <whg1126@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:45 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: No to E3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

132

Castro, Melissa

From: jjp14@yahoo.com
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:46 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Vote NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I am AGAINST the commission proposal to change the unique APRIL date of our Coral Gables elections to coincide with national elections in November. Our city leaders must truly represent the residents' interests. It is your job to listen to the voices of YOUR CONSTITUENTS!

Vote NO to Item E.-3

Castro, Melissa

From: Marco Pravia <praviam@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:26 PM
To: Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa
Subject: Vote NO on changing 2024 election timing

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioners,

I am a Coral Gables resident, and I write to oppose the change in Coral Gables election timing. The reasons for this position are:

- o **Commissioners have a conflict of interest** in changing the length of their own term. Changing an ongoing term is or has the appearance of being a self-serving political move. Election timing is a common way for politicians to game the system (see for example parliamentary systems like in the UK), and it is no different in Coral Gables (see MIT Election Data and Science Lab study, which acknowledges election timing as a political tool)
- o **Voters elected commissioners to full terms**, not partial terms. Changing an ongoing term goes against the understanding and will of the voters at the time they voted
- o **The current process by-passes charter board review and direct voter decision**, both important elements of the democratic process
- o The only reason to rush the process without ample citizen engagement appears to be political

If there is a desire to move the election to gain benefits while also avoiding impropriety, conflicts of interest, and influence of political motivations, here are a few common sense recommendations:

- o **Vote no to changing the 2024 election** because voters already voted for terms at their current lengths

Castro, Melissa

From: Doreen Yamamoto <dyamamoto@mountainbase.me>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:22 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: NO to Item E.-3

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioners:

I am **AGAINST** the commission proposal to change the unique **APRIL** date of our Coral Gables elections to coincide with national elections in November. Why? Because our non-partisan elections would turn partisan and usher in money from political parties and special interest groups from outside our area and beyond Florida, all in the interest of gaining a foothold in the City Beautiful,

Sincerely,
Doreen Yamamoto
Concerned Coral Gables Resident

Castro, Melissa

From: Lina Samimy <lzsamimy@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:14 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: November election

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Sent from my iPhone

34

Castro, Melissa

From: Tomas N. Regalado (Corporate) <Tregalado@sbscorporate.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:55 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa; Granell, Chelsea; City Manager's Office; City Attorney; City Clerk
Subject: letter from the President / COO of Spanish Broadcasting System in support of elections to be held in November
Attachments: city of Coral Gables elections in November support letter.docx

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good afternoon.

Attached please find a letter from Albert Rodriguez, the President / COO of Spanish Broadcasting System in support of changing the date of the City of Coral Gables elections to be held in November.

Please make this letter to be public and on the record at the commission.

Thank you again,
Tomas

Tomas N. Regalado
Vice President of Corporate and Government Affairs
Senior Advisor to The Office of The President /COO
Spanish Broadcasting System
tregalado@sbscorporate.com
www.spanishbroadcasting.com
Office 786-470-1617 Ext. 1117
Cell [786-399-3528](tel:786-399-3528)



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This email has been scanned for viruses and malware.

2

Castro, Melissa

From: Andres Murai <amurai@muraigroup.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:45 PM
To: Vicente C. Lago; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; City Clerk
Subject: Election Date
Importance: High

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Dear Mayor and Commissioners:

For decades I have given my time to the City as a Member of City Boards and I am still doing it. I do it because I care for our City. I have no agenda.

I urge to consider and approve the change to have our Elections in November.

Elections are meant to be for the largest number of Voters to be involved in selecting their Representatives.

As you have seen over the years, that is not so in our City. Having our elections in April almost guarantees that a small section of our City can elect a Commissioner.

I am fully aware that this might be taken as a criticism of the 2 recent commissioners elected. Not so.

Do you really want to have a small group of residents get someone elected. Be careful. It worked this time, but it could very well work differently in other elections.

Let's all work together and do it for our City. Do the elections in November were at least you, as elected officials, can say that you have tried to get everyone involved and not a selected few.

Sincerely

Andy Murai

Castro, Melissa

From: Samuel <samuel67@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 2:01 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: VOTE YES E-3 - CGNA AUTHOR SLANDEROUS - FEDERAL CRIME - WHO's COMPLICIT?

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

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Mayor and other Commissioners,

1. We **MUST** move the vote to November to coincide with the normal election cycle, as per the op-ed of Mayor Lago in the Miami Herald.
2. It's very simple and what you want in a democracy: **MORE VOTERS.**
3. We need more voter turnout, particularly the professional population of Coral Gables, who pay the bills around here, and who missed the last vote, because of being too busy with **WORK** to be glued to local politics. We must move the vote to a timeframe that's on the radar of people with busy professional lives, the timeframe that aligns with the federal election cycle.
4. Unfortunately, the vocal minority had too much influence in the last Commissioner election, who were the propaganda targets of the CGNA author's manipulative, slanderous email.
5. Under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 It is a federal crime to "make and false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representations." Now while the First Amendment protects speech criticizing public officials against even civil defamation liability, it does **NOT** protect against a "actual malice" and knowingly making false public statements or recklessly disregarding that a made statement was false. The efforts by the CGNA authorship in their recent email distribution associating "dirty money" with the idea of moving the elections to November, and thus (hello) those who would promote it (Mayor Lago, as per his recent Miami Herald op-ed), is, in my opinion, a very clear, intentionally thought-out, though amaturely veiled, jab/attack directly against Mayor Lago, in effect, associating him and his team, supporters and constituency with "dirty money," that has reckless implications. Actually, on a second read of the email, it says, and I quote.. "This is nothing but a ploy by the already-dirty to stay in power and keep residents from having a voice." Hence, according to the CGNA, those who are "in power" (historically Lago, Anderson and Menendez) and who may vote YES for this pragmatic re-righting of democracy in Coral Gable are "already-dirty?" Based on the Mayor's op-ed, there is a very clear assertion by the CGNA authorship that the Mayor at the minimum, and a little less directly, Commissioner Anderson and Commissioner Menendez, are dirty. Again, there is also an indirect association and attack, though nevertheless an association, against those of us who have supported this leadership. I have heard the CGNA email distribution reaches over 15,000 Coral Gables citizens. The impact of these intentional, unfounded ("dirty"), slanderous representations, on that level, is therefore quite magnified and again reckless and dangerous to the community and it's perceptions (and thus vote) and also that much more legally responsible, in my opinion. Where is the proof that the Mayor and veteran Commissioners are "dirty?" Where has this been proven in a court and therefore not a complete, intentional public fabrication for coercive ends? This is not speech protected by the First Amendment in my opinion.
6. Please direct me to the proper legal representation associated with the City, for example, the City Attorney?, to brainstorm on what can be done about the CGNA authorship and their false representations and direct attacks against the City and it's current leadership and those of us who support it.
7. Also, if there are any Commissioners directly influencing or in any way coordinating with CGNA authorship, particularly in their last email, please come forward and share how you are connected with CGNA and what

Castro, Melissa

From: Jeanne @ Countach <jeanne@countachinc.co>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:09 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Elections

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello,
Quick note to share our support for moving Coral Gables elections to November.
Thanks,
The Conesa Family
635 San Antonio Ave

Sent from Jeanne's iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: jorge a Zamora <jazamora22@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:00 AM
To: Castro, Melissa

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Vote Yes to move city elections to Nov.

Castro, Melissa

From: Nelcida Chakoff <nelcidah@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 11:00 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Yes, please move the election to November is better. Res at 3807 Granada Blvd

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Sent from my iPhone

Nelcida Chakoff

Business Economics Financial Consultant Lic. Real Estate Broker FL & NY Lic Loan Officer FL Direct # 305-458-4900
nelcidah@gmail.com

Castro, Melissa

From: Rosa Estorino-Hills <rmehills1@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:49 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Support moving elections from April to November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Please vote Yes to move elections from April to November.

Thank you!

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Dona Spain <dmspain@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:48 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Iglesias, Peter
Subject: Moving Election Day

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I have voted in every local and national election since 1971 when 18 year olds were given the right to vote. I am absolutely in favor of changing the Election Day in Coral Gables to November. The more people at the polls the better.

Dona M. Spain
432 Valencia Ave.

Castro, Melissa

From: Ana Aroche <anaaroch@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 10:42 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Move City Election

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good morning,

I hope this email finds you well.

I wanted to express my strong support for the proposal to move the city elections to November during general election years, as opposed to holding them in April. I firmly believe that making this change would have a positive impact on our community.

Best regards,
Ana Aroche

Castro, Melissa

From: Sissy Shute <sissyshute@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 7:09 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Re: November please

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Correction on Commissioner Fernandez's email address.

Sent from my iPhone

> On Sep 11, 2023, at 9:15 PM, Sissy Shute <sissyshute@yahoo.com> wrote:
>

> Hi Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners,
>

> Hope you all are doing great.
>

> I'm emailing to ask you to vote on elections moving to November. This makes sense to me as the turn out is greater than in April.
>

> Thank you for your consideration.
>

> Sissy Shute
> 2412 Country Club Prado
> CG, 33134
>

> Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Barbara Capote <bcapote12@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 5:47 AM
To: Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Anderson, Rhonda; Lago, Vince
Subject: Request Coral Gables municipal voting date from April to November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Barbara H. Capote
439 Almeria Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134
September 12, 2023

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I hope this letter finds you in good health. My name is Barbara and I am a proud resident of Coral Gables. I am writing to express my concerns and propose a change that I believe would benefit our community.

As an engaged member of our city, I have observed that our municipal voting date in April may not be the most convenient time for many residents to participate in the democratic process. This scheduling can lead to lower voter turnout and potentially limit the representation of our diverse population in important local decisions.

I kindly request that you consider moving our municipal voting date from April to November. This change aligns with the general election schedule and has the potential to increase civic engagement and participation, ultimately resulting in a more inclusive and representative government.

I understand that such a change would require thorough consideration, including the assessment of logistical, legal, and financial aspects. However, I believe it is a step worth exploring for the betterment of our community.

Castro, Melissa

From: Wendy Cook <wcooklaw@outlook.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 10:13 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Menendez, Kirk; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Request to Change Municipal Election Date to Coincide with Federal, State, and County Elections

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Mayor and Commissioners,

I hope this message finds you well. I am writing as a concerned resident of Coral Gables to respectfully request that the date of our municipal elections be changed from April to November to align with Federal, State, and County elections.

This proposed change has several potential benefits for our community:

1. **Increased Voter Participation:** By scheduling our municipal elections on the same day as higher-profile Federal, State, and County elections, we have the opportunity to significantly increase voter turnout. Many residents are more likely to participate in the electoral process when multiple elections are held simultaneously, leading to a more representative and engaged electorate.
2. **Cost Efficiency:** Consolidating election dates can result in cost savings for our city. Shared election infrastructure and resources can lead to more efficient election administration.
3. **Streamlined Voting Process:** Voting in multiple elections on the same day simplifies the voting process for residents, making it more convenient and accessible.
4. **Enhanced Civic Engagement:** Holding municipal elections alongside larger elections can generate greater public awareness and discourse about local issues, fostering a stronger sense of community engagement.
5. **Consistency:** Aligning our municipal election date with Federal, State, and County elections can provide consistency in the electoral calendar, reducing confusion and ensuring that residents are aware of when elections occur.

I understand that changing the election date involves a thorough consideration of logistical and procedural factors. However, I believe that the potential benefits in terms of increased civic participation and cost-efficiency are worth exploring.

This change will have a positive and lasting impact on our city's democratic processes.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Wendy

Wendy Cook
424 Almeria Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33134

Castro, Melissa

From: Sissy Shute <sissyshute@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 9:15 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Alfred
Subject: November please

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hi Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners,

Hope you all are doing great.

I'm emailing to ask you to vote on elections moving to November. This makes sense to me as the turn out is greater than in April.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sissy Shute
2412 Country Club Prado
CG, 33134

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Irv Lustig <irvlustig@gmail.com> on behalf of Irv Lustig <irv@lustig.name>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 7:51 PM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Election date change

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

I received a note that included an article written by you about the proposal to change the date of Coral Gables elections.

I understand your arguments and your concerns about money changing the nature of the elections. You wrote:

"But here's the twist – running for these roles requires a substantial amount of money, more than you can imagine."

However, both you and Ariel Fernandez were elected (and I voted for both of you) without much monetary support. That indicates that candidates without substantial financial support CAN get elected. So I'm not fully agreeing with your arguments based on candidate financing. You and Ariel have demonstrated it's possible to win via good grassroots campaigning. So isn't this a counterargument to your position about the effects of campaign financing?

I think having more people vote in the election would be a good thing for Coral Gables. So why doesn't the benefits of increased voter participation outweigh your arguments about campaign financing?

-Irv Lustig
Coral Gables, FL

Castro, Melissa

From: Blanca Recio-Martinez <blanca.reciomartinez@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 11, 2023 3:33 PM
To: Lago, Vince
Cc: Menendez, Kirk; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Requesting the voting for Coral Gables be in November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Blanca Recio and I am a long time resident of Coral Gables (20yrs plus) . I love our City Beautiful and I would like it to continue being a great city.

For that reason, I think that voting is very important in keeping our city strong and beautiful. Therefore, instead of spreading it out into the month of April I request that the voting in Coral Gables be only in November. It is important that everyone gets to vote and statistically the April voting has a very low turnout, due to spring break, Easter vacations, etc. not to mention the cost to the city in having to set up twice.

I hope my request is taken into consideration when making your decision.

Blanca Recio
418 Vilabella Avenue
Coral Gables, FL 33146
305-812-6221

Castro, Melissa

From: Kate <kmswain@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 9:24 PM
To: Fernandez, Ariel; Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa
Cc: Urquia, Billy
Subject: Yes vote on E-3-as a trial run

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

To Whom it may Concern,

Thank you for considering a yes vote on E-3. At present there is proof that many of our residents do not come out to vote when it is a small "local" election. As long as a ballot is not too long, people who have studied candidates and know what proposals are, come in, vote, and leave. If we, as a community, see that there is no increase in voter participation during a "trial run" at a November date, as a community we can see which is more feasible once we have data to compare. Currently, as I understand there really is no data that shows one date would be better for us than another. Scientific Method-no politics or emotions other than a love and respect for the ideals our city was founded on.

Either way, our city needs some cleaning up. Too much is already done behind closed doors. Glad you are not voting yourselves or others in City Hall another raise since many of "us locals" can't do the same.

K. Swain

Castro, Melissa

From: Alicia A. Fernandez <ali_amfernandez@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 3:25 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Cc: Alicia A. - Fernandez
Subject: Coral Gables City Election

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I am in support of November election.

This will definitely save the city money, and will bring significant increase in voter turnout. With April elections, many residents are out of town with Spring break, it does not matter for absentee ballots or vote in person, many will NOT vote. It has been proven in past election, lower voter turn out.

Please change voting for NOVEMBER.

Respectfully,

**Alicia Amaya-Fernandez
6000 Granada Blvd
Coral Gables, FL. 33146**

**Gables resident since 1962.
Present address since 1984.**

Castro, Melissa

From: Michael Shepherd <michael.c.shep@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 10, 2023 12:48 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Item E.-3 Changing Election Date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good afternoon,

My name is Michael Shepherd. My wife and I live at 1210 Capri Street. First, I want to thank each of you for serving our community. I know public service is not easy, and your work is deeply appreciated. Before I became a lawyer, I served in the US Army and led a platoon of reconnaissance scouts on more than 220 combat missions in Logar Province, Afghanistan. Voting is something that is sacred, yet in some parts of the world, like Afghanistan, it is hard to come by. When I was there in 2013, we helped prepare the region for the upcoming presidential elections in 2014. I understand how important the elections process is to a healthy democracy because I have seen it. That is why I believe the election date should be changed to November. When more people vote, it provides a clearer picture of what the community wants. Once again, thank you all for your service to Coral Gables. I am blessed to live here.

Regards,

Michael C. Shepherd, Esq.
Cell: (786) 877-7572

Castro, Melissa

From: Tony Touhey <ttouhey@bellsouth.net>
Sent: Saturday, September 9, 2023 10:31 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk
Cc: 'Tony Touhey'; 'Terry Hansen'
Subject: General Election date from April 8th, 2025 to November 5th, 2024

Importance: High

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Mayor Lago, Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson, and Commissioners:

Please support the change of the General Election date from April 8th, 2025, to November 5th, 2024.
(Sponsored by Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson)

This will save the Coral Gables taxpayers \$120,000 per Vice Mayor Rhonda Andersons newsletter.
The Coral Gables registered voters will vote for the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Commissioners positions by merit and hard work!

23-6188 An Ordinance of the City Commission amending Section 1- "Creation, Composition, Election, Terms, Vacancies, Qualifications" and Section 1.1 "Run-Off Election" of Article 1 "City Commission and Mayor" of the City Charter to change the date of the General Election from April 08, 2025 to November 05, 2024 and to change the date of all subsequent elections; providing for a four (4) month reduction of existing terms of office; moving the Run-Off Election to four (4) weeks after the General Election and moving the Swearing-In date to five (5) weeks after the General Election; amending Section 3 "Election to Office; Commission As Judge of Qualifications, Requirements, Ballots, Canvassing, and Qualifying Periods" amending the qualifying period; adopting such Charter Amendments pursuant to Section 100.3605, 101.75, and 166.021(4), Florida Statutes; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date.

Sincerely,

Tony Touhey
444 Malaga Avenue
Coral Gables, Florida 33134
305-281-3064 Cell
844-718-0114 E-Fax
ttouhey@Bellsouth.net

Castro, Melissa

From: Meg Daly <mdaly@brincasoftware.com>
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 3:52 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Regan; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Alfred
Subject: re: City of Coral Gables elections moving to November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear City of Coral Gables Mayor Lago, Vice Mayor Anderson and Commissioners Castro, Fernandez and Menendez,

At the second reading to be voted on by the Coral Gables Commission regarding moving the City of Coral Gables elections to November, I ask you to please vote in favor of this ordinance because it will cost taxpayers less money while improving voter turnout.

Thank you so much for your consideration and for your service.

Coral Gables residents

John and Margaret (Meg) Daly

Castro, Melissa

From: Roberta Neway <robertajn@att.net>
Sent: Monday, September 4, 2023 2:50 PM
To: Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk
Cc: Urquia, Billy; Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda
Subject: Please Move Elections to November

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello Commissioners Castro, Fernandez, and Menendez,

I hope you all had great weekend!!

As per my email of August 21st, please support moving our elections to November.

I fully agree with Mayor Lago's Opinion Letter published in The Herald (August 27th) that November elections are best for the democratic process and will save money and resources.

I listened to the discussion on election dates during the August 22nd Commission meeting, and while I understand the concern about partisanship, I feel the change in dates will have little if any impact on this issue.

I admit, given today's political climate, I do look at a person's political affiliation; it has been a factor for me in April and it will be in a November election. Note, it is 'a' factor and not 'the' factor.

I look much more closely at a candidate's ability to follow through and work in an efficient and effective manner to adapt and deal with the challenges facing our city. I vote for the person whom I feel is most qualified to work towards lowering Coral Gables' climate footprint and providing a community that is safe and equitable for all who live here as well as those who visit or work here. I don't expect to agree with any candidate 100 percent, and I think most voters feel the same.

Moving elections to November will make our voting process easier (more equitable) and more efficient (conserving resources that can be better used elsewhere). To me, this is a very easy choice.

Thank you for your time!

Regards,
Roberta Neway
1236 South Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables, FL 33146
305.450.5324 (cell)
305.661.5661 (home)

Castro, Melissa

From: Raul Valdes-Fauli <rvaldes-fauli@rvf-law.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 3:43 PM
To: Commissioners
Cc: Stacy Perez; Iglesias, Peter; Pantin, Martha; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Election date

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Dear Commissioners,

As chairman of the latest Charter Review Committee which recommended an election date in April, and as a former 6 time mayor, I have reconsidered my position and now I fully support a November election date concurrent with the national and state elections.

The main reason is the much higher participation of the electorate promoting a truly representative election in Coral Gables.

Thank you for your consideration.

Raul Valdes-Fauli



Raúl Valdés-Fauli
Attorney
Raul Valdes-Fauli, P.A.
355 Alhambra Circle
Suite 1205
Coral Gables, Florida -33134
(786) 518-3011 - Direct
(786) 907-4006 - Fax
RValdes-Fauli@rvf-law.com

This email contains information that may be confidential and/or privileged. If you are not the intended recipient, or the employee or agent authorized to receive for the intended recipient, you may not copy, disclose or use any contents in this email. If you have received this email in error, please immediately notify the sender at Raul J. Valdes-Fauli, P.A. by replying to this email and delete the original and reply emails. Thank you.

Castro, Melissa

From: Julio M <mrjulio2316@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2023 8:13 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa
Subject: November Elections for Coral Gables

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello All,

I have been hearing and reading regarding possibly moving the Coral Gables elections to November to combine it with the general elections. I truly believe that this is a great idea which would involve savings for the city as well as a bigger voter turnout.

Having a separate election for the city results in a very small voter turnout as has been seen as well as an unnecessary added cost burden to residents.

I understand that this will shorten the term by 4 months, but it will be invaluable to consolidate the elections to have a bigger voter turnout and greater response from the residents of the City Beautiful.

I ask that this be taken into serious consideration to streamline the voting process and obtain a bigger response from residents during the November elections.

Regards,

Julio Modia
814 Capri Street Coral Gables, FL 33134

(Resident of Coral Gables for 38+ years)

Castro, Melissa

From: Greg Barnes <greg.barnes@mbcoralgables.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 29, 2023 2:12 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel
Subject: Election dates

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Good afternoon and thanks in advance for taking the time to read/consider this message.

While my wife Paige and I relocated to the City only 3+ years (2nd stint), we have lived in the City for a number of years previously. Paige grew up in the City (her mother Nancy Pankey served on a couple of City Committees) and both sets of grandparents were residents of the City dating back to the 1940's. Additionally, I have worked in the City of Coral Gables for 30+ years (Northern Trust Bank and Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables) and served on the Board of Directors for the Coral Community Foundation and Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce (2 different terms). Bottom line, we love the City.

In my 40+ year adult life, I can count the number of times on two hands I have written an elected official. However, I have rarely, if ever, missed an opportunity to vote in an election. There are a few issues I consider myself passionate about;

1. We need more people to actively engage in the election of all of our elected officials, and
2. I believe in some reasonable amount of time for an individual to serve (term limits).

Certainly there are pros and cons to every issue and I recognize there is no "perfect solution".

My ask is for each of you favorably consider the Ordinance that Commissioner Anderson has sponsored in moving City elections to November and was passed at first reading. In addition to the cost savings, more importantly, it is my humble opinion we are all better served the more people we have engaged in the election process.

Thanks to each of you for serving, and for the sacrifices you make each and every day for our City.

Best,

Greg Barnes
1215 Campo Sano Ave.
Coral Gables, Florida 33146
C: 305-216-3387

Castro, Melissa

From: Roberta Neway <robertajn@att.net>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 9:21 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Castro, Melissa; Fernandez, Ariel; Menendez, Kirk
Subject: Agenda Items E-8 and #-9 (Moving Election Dates)

CAUTION: External Sender. Please do not click on links or open attachments from senders you do not trust.

Hello Mayor Lago, Vice Mayor Anderson, and Commissioners,

I hope you all had nice weekends!

I think the City should move our election dates to November as I feel it would increase participation and save money. I know the City of South Miami recently moved its election dates from February to November.

Re the timing, I would much prefer people staying in office a bit longer, but 20 months seems excessive, so my preference is Item E-8 which would shorten existing terms by 4 months. (I wish there were another option here!)

Have a good week!!

Regards,
Roberta Neway
1236 South Alhambra Circle
Coral Gables, FL 33146
305.450.5324 (cell)
305.661.5661 (home)

Castro, Melissa

From: Lucy <alaslucy@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 7:48 AM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa
Subject: Move elections to November

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Moving the elections to November makes perfect sense. Not only will it streamline elections but it will boost voter turnout for our local elections while saving the City money. It's a win win for voters. You serve residents beyond North Gables. Do the right thing and make the change. Anything else will be viewed as self-serving.

Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: Nicolas Cabrera <nicolascabrera40@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2023 11:40 PM
Subject: Letter Regarding Items E-8 and E-9: Coral Gables Commission Meeting 8/22

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Good Evening, Mayor Lago, Vice-Mayor Anderson, Commissioner Menendez, Commissioner Castro, and Commissioner Fernandez,

Two items at the August 22nd Coral Gables Commission meeting are of immense importance to the future of our City Beautiful. I am writing to you this evening as a concerned resident and an active member of the City of Coral Gables. These items will undoubtedly determine the future of democracy in our community... For better or worse. For this reason, I am expressing my thoughts regarding the items as follows:

"E.-8. 23-6188 An Ordinance of the City Commission amending Section 1- "Creation, Composition, Election, Terms, Vacancies, Qualifications" and Section 1.1 "Run-Off Election" of Article 1 "City Commission and Mayor" of the City Charter to change the date of the General Election from April 08, 2025 to November 05, 2024 and to change the date of all subsequent elections; providing for a four (4) month reduction of existing terms of office; moving the Run-Off Election to four (4) weeks after the General Election and moving the Swearing-In date to five (5) weeks after the General Election; amending Section 3 "Election to Office; Commission As Judge of Qualifications, Requirements, Ballots, Canvassing, and Qualifying Periods" amending the qualifying period; adopting such Charter Amendments pursuant to Section 100.3605, 101.75, and 166.021(4), Florida Statutes; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored By Vice Mayor Anderson)"

And...

"E.-9. 23-6189 An Ordinance of the City Commission amending Section 1- "Creation, Composition, Election, Terms, Vacancies, Qualifications" and Section 1.1 "Run-Off Election" of Article 1 "City Commission and Mayor" of the City Charter to change the date of the General Election from April 08, 2025 to November 03, 2026 and to change the date of all subsequent elections; providing for a twenty (20) month extension of existing terms of office; moving the Run-Off Election to four (4) weeks after the General Election and moving the Swearing-In date to five (5) weeks after the General Election; amending Section 3 "Election to Office; Commission As Judge of Qualifications, Requirements, Ballots, Canvassing, and Qualifying Periods" amending the qualifying period; adopting such Charter Amendments pursuant to Section 100.3605, 101.75, and 166.021(4), Florida Statutes; providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored By Vice Mayor Anderson)"

that is self-serving. Instead, I encourage you to make a decision that is good for the betterment of our community. Your vote counts. As do the rest of ours.

**Regards,
Nicolas Rafael Cabrera**

Castro, Melissa

From: Maureen Gragg <mgragg@jemerika.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 7:31 AM
To: Castro, Melissa
Subject: Elections

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I read your column. I have no affiliation with any candidate (including you!) but am a registered Democrat who has lived and voted in Coral Gables since 1985.

I find the April elections to be annoying at best. I strongly support moving the elections to November.

Maureen Gragg
11015 Girasol Ave.
305-439-1380
Sent from my iPhone

Castro, Melissa

From: tony bello <tbello1054@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 7:23 PM
To: Anderson, Rhonda; Lago, Vince; kmenendes@coralgables.com; Castro, Melissa
Subject: Change voting to November

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From: Tony & Michelle Bello
521 San Antonio Ave
CG FI 33146

Castro, Melissa

From: Ed Santamaria <edsanta55@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:57 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa
Cc: Iglesias, Peter; Suarez, Cristina; Urquia, Billy
Subject: Agenda Item E-3

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Greetings Mayor and Commissioners,

At tomorrow's Commission Hearing, you will likely act on the subject agenda item regarding changing the date of the city's elections to align with the general elections held in November. I, along with many I have discussed this with, strongly support this measure. While it is true that the City will save approximately one hundred thousand dollars per election, which will add up over the years, this is just a bonus. The real benefit is increased civic engagement by way of greater participation and significantly increased voter turnout. The principles of our representative democracy hold the vote as sacrosanct. Clearly, when more of the electorate participates, the community benefits. Greater participation in our elections means greater community input into this fundamental process.

I have heard the arguments of those that stand in opposition. They say that the electorate will lose focus on issues germane to our City; that our city's political processes will degrade; that poorly informed voters will be given a voice; that monied special interests will dominate, etcetera. These beliefs are misplaced. The Coral Gables electorate is comprised of educated individuals that have the bandwidth to focus on election cycle issues, wherever they may be on the ballot. Our political processes will only strengthen with greater civic engagement. When you make any voter undesirable, be they well informed or uninformed, you raise the specter of voter suppression. Lastly, with greater voter participation, the potential influence of special interests is diluted.

In closing, I urge you to cast a vote in favor of November elections. It is the right thing to do because it will generate greater voter participation and promotes community engagement, which are undoubtedly in the best interests of our great city.

Respectfully,

Ed Santamaria

Castro, Melissa

From: Enrique Martinez <henry@mtzfamily.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 6:42 PM
To: Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa
Subject: Re: Gables Elections

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I support the move to November election please disregard my prior email.

Increased participation in elections and saving tax payer money is sensible!

Thanks,

Henry Martinez
14501 Sailfish Drive
C.G. Fl. 33158

> On Sep 10, 2023, at 4:13 PM, Enrique Martinez <henry@mtzfamily.com> wrote:

>

> Dear commissioner Ariel,

>

> I am opposed to changing the date for our Coral Gables election and get lost and confused in the midst of state wide or national elections. Please defend our uniqueness and keep our Coral Gables City elections separate.

>

> Thank you very much for your consideration,

>

> Enrique R. Martinez

> 14501 Sailfish Drive

> Coral Gables Fl. 33158

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Castro, Melissa

From: G. ED, II Williamson <ewill@wagmiami.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 9:03 PM
To: Fernandez, Ariel; Urquia, Billy; Menendez, Kirk; Castro, Melissa; Anderson, Rhonda; Lago, Vince
Cc: G. ED, II Williamson
Subject: City Election Date

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For two reasons, it seems to me that the obvious solution is to move the date to November. It will promote more participation and save the city money. The objections to this seem to be more political than practical.
Thanks and Good Luck. Ed

G. Ed Williamson, II
Chairman and CEO

WILLIAMSON AUTOMOTIVE GROUP
7815 S.W. 104 Street
Miami, FL 33156
(O) 305-670-7101
(F) 305-670-7329
(C) 305-794-9599



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Castro, Melissa

From: Pepi Cancio <pcancio@ccconcretepumping.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 8:41 PM
To: Lago, Vince; Anderson, Rhonda; Menendez, Kirk; Fernandez, Ariel; Castro, Melissa; Granell, Chelsea; Valladares, Gabriela; Quintana, Gabriela; Trochez, Nora
Subject: Vote to move elections with major elections

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Dear Commissioners and other important people that work and represent the interests of us residents of Coral Gables.

Please I urge to use common sense and vote to move the election date, if any of you feel that it is not the right thing for a better turn out, to save our hard earned tax dollars, to get a better representation from your residents, to make residents life simpler please let me know to educate me asap on why we should not, so I can learn.

Otherwise I as a resident and owner of various properties in coral gables, four voting age kids and many friends that reside in Coral Gables will make sure that I work against your re-election if you happen to run again in the future.

Sincerely,

Jose "Pepi" Cancio
198 Caoba ct, Cocoplum.

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