

**City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting**  
**Agenda Item F-7**  
**February 24, 2026**  
**City Commission Chambers**  
**405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL**

**City Commission**

**Mayor Vince Lago**  
**Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson**  
**Commissioner Melissa Castro**  
**Commissioner Ariel Fernandez**  
**Commissioner Richard D. Lara**

**City Staff**

**City Attorney, Cristina Suárez**  
**City Manager, Peter Iglesias**  
**City Clerk, Billy Urquia**  
**Assistant Director for Mobility and Sustainability, Matt Anderson**  
**Governmental Affairs Director, Chelsea Granell**

**Public Speaker(s)**

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Agenda Items F-7 [Start: 2:50 p.m.]

Discussion regarding a City compost station.  
(Sponsored by Vice Mayor Anderson)

Mayor Lago: Moving on to item F-7, also the Vice Mayor's.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Different topic. Compost.

Assistant Director for Mobility: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anderson: So, this is something we've been in discussions on for about six months at least.

Assistant Director for Mobility: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anderson: And when we did the unveiling of the Xavier Cordata art piece with the Garden Club at the library, we met with the library directors, identified a location to place a

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centralized composting collection facility, and we're coming forward on the next step. So, I wanted to bring you all up to date on that and have Matt Anderson, who's been working diligently on this item, provide us with an additional update as to when for Earth Month we're going to be able to debut this beauty.

Assistant Director for Mobility and Sustainability: So yes, thank you, Vice Mayor. So, we've been reaching out. What we did was my team and I, we met with the three companies that operate in the region and got basically pricing from them to see and proposals. And we have Renewable for the Earth and Compost for Life, and they all gave us a proposal. The two lower costs come in around \$6,000 a year for two 45-gallon bins to be placed at the Coral Gables Library. One proposer even has a container that we can put it in, design it in a way that has education on there for the residents. And what they're proposing is twice a week pickup in that location. So, I'm currently looking at, they just sent me over a template contract. So, we're looking at that right now, reviewing that. I'm going to put that through Legal, through Procurement, through Risk, and have everyone take a look at that. So, what we're anticipating is launching some, I don't have an exact date yet during Earth Month, but we are looking at an event potentially in Earth Month but also having them do the initial education and outreach of the program at the last Farmer's Market on March 28th. We have our Sustainability Village. We're going to have upwards of 12 sustainability vendors out at the Farmer's Market. And we are inviting the company to come out and kind of help educate the community on this is coming. And then we'll have, obviously at that time, we'll definitely have the date of when we're going to have that official launch over at the library. In addition, Chelsea and I are going to be meeting with the library just to go over final details and get that all ready. So, I'm going to invite Chelsea up to, she wants to provide an update on that.

Governmental Affairs Director: Yeah, so we've had conversations with County Commissioner Raquel Regalado, who fully supports the program as well. And I'd like to say that we've been in very active conversations with the Coral Gables Library. In fact, I spoke with the branch manager today who had invited us to meet with him on site to further work out the logistics of that. So, we're working with our partners, and we would provide those updates as they become available.

Assistant Director for Mobility and Sustainability: As far as funding goes, we've identified funding within our city sustainability funds to be able to fund it. But because we always want to make our programs go as far as we can with every city dollar, we've applied for two grants. One, Florida Beverage Association, we've been successful in that before in getting our reverse vending machine that was at the Youth Center. And we applied for a \$15,000 grant to start the composting program to see if we can get that funding. We've also recently, yesterday, submitted a \$5,000 grant to Keep America Beautiful in partnership with Coca-Cola to see if they would take that as well. So instead of using city funds, if we can then use grant funding to be able to start the program, that's what we're always looking to do. And a lot of the programs that we've started in the city through Keep

Coral Gables Beautiful, we've done at no cost to the city, just staff time. We try to get grants to be able to pursue these programs. So, it has a minimal impact on the city budget.

Mayor Lago: That's great.

Vice Mayor Anderson: I appreciate all your hard work on that. We'll also be out there on the last Farmer's Markets, refreshing everybody, because I've had a number of requests on recycling.

Assistant Director for Mobility and Sustainability: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anderson: That we have a basically show and tell on what to recycle and what not to recycle. So, we'll cover that topic as well. It's going to be a lot to cover that.

Assistant Director for Mobility and Sustainability: There will. And just as an update, I know Joe and Carolina and myself, we just toured the new waste management facility up in Pembroke Pines this past week. They had a great event. So, we were able to see the new technology and that. So, we'll be sharing that with the community as well, with the sustainability board. So, a lot to come on that as well.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you.