

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-6
October 11, 2022
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Michael Mena

Commissioner Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Jorge Fors

Commissioner Kirk Menendez

City Staff

City Attorney, Miriam Ramos

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Assistant City Attorney, Stephanie Throckmorton

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-6 [3:10 p.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission amending the City of Coral Gables Code, Chapter 2 “Administration”, Article VIII “Procurement Code”, Section 2-696 “Procedure to Provide Preference to Coral Gables-Based Vendors in Contracts for Goods and General Services” to add a preference for Miami-Dade County-Based Vendors, define principal place of business and expand and clarify the preference in competitive bids, providing for a repealer provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored by Mayor Lago)

Mayor Lago: Moving unto F-6.

City Attorney Ramos: An Ordinance of the City Commission amending the City of Coral Gables Code, Chapter 2 “Administration”, Article VIII “Procurement Code”, Section 2-696 “Procedure to Provide Preference to Coral Gables-Based Vendors in Contracts for Goods and General Services” to add a preference for Miami-Dade County-Based Vendors, define principal place of business and expand and clarify the preference in competitive bids, providing for a repealer

City Commission Meeting

provision, severability clause, codification, and providing for an effective date. This is a public hearing item, Ms. Throckmorton.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Good afternoon, everyone. This item is sponsored by the Mayor. This is an ordinance that clarifies and expands the preference for Miami-Dade County and Coral Gables based businesses in certain procurement matters. So there is a preference in the purchase of personal property and general services by means of a competitive bid and essentially it allows Miami-Dade County based businesses and Coral Gables based businesses who may not be the lowest bidder, an opportunity to come back with the best and final bid that is at least one percent lower than what that previous lowest bid was, so that we can keep business here in the city and county that's not sacrifice pricing on behalf of the city. It defines what primary place of business is, as the principal place of business, excuse me, as the nerve center of the business to make sure that the businesses are actually located within the City of Coral Gables or Miami-Dade County and those definitions bring us in line with the county and other municipalities in this process.

Mayor Lago: So, I think this is a breath of fresh air for entities that want to do business with the city, also for our local economy, keeps money locally, keeps the money in the pockets of the people who are working hard in this community; the money doesn't go to another state or another county; and I think also this benefits the city immensely, because you get that last look and the vendor has to lower their price, the local vendor has to lower their price by a minimum one percent to be able to be considered, as long as they meet all the other requirements to be considered for that RFQ or RFP.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Yes. As the Mayor mentioned, they of course have to be responsive and responsible providers and also, I just want to note that to the extent that there are state or federal requirements that don't allow us to use local preference. For instance, sometimes if we're receiving money back from FEMA, hurricanes, etc., we wouldn't use the local preference where its not allowed. So just to clarify that.

Vice Mayor Mena: I'll move it.

Commissioner Anderson: Second.

Vice Mayor Mena: Any public comment?

Mayor Lago: Any public comment?

City Clerk Urquia: No sir.

Vice Mayor Mena: Yes

Commissioner Menendez: Yes

Commissioner Anderson: Yes

Commissioner Fors: Yes

City Commission Meeting

Mayor Lago: Yes
(Vote: 5-0)

Mayor Lago: At a minimum, I think that this piece of legislation will save the city money, so that we can use it for a lot of other things that we need.

Assistant City Attorney Throckmorton: Thank you.