

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item E-6
January 27, 2026
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago

Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson

Commissioner Melissa Castro (Absent)

Commissioner Ariel Fernandez

Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez

City Manager, Peter Iglesias

City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item E-6

Mayor Lago: Item E-6, the last item before we go to lunch break.

City Attorney: E-6 is an ordinance of the City Commission amending Chapter 74, Traffic and Vehicles, Article 1, in general, Section 74-3, Riding of Bicycles upon Pedestrian Sidewalks Generally. And Chapter 74, Traffic and Vehicles, Article 4, Bicycles, Skateboards, Scooters, Shared Mobility Devices, and Other Similar Devices, Section 74-239, Definitions to Amend the City Code to Add Definition of Electric Bicycles and Prohibit the Riding of Electric Bicycles on City Sidewalks, Providing for Severability Cause, Repealer Provision, Codification, and Providing for an Effective Date.

Deputy City Attorney Throckmorton: Thank you, Mayor. This item is sponsored by the Vice Mayor. As you all are well aware, under state statutes, the city is allowed to regulate the use of bicycles and electric bicycles on our sidewalks. And those are our city sidewalks, not necessarily

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Agenda Item E-6 – Ordinance amending Chapter 74-Traffic and Vehicles, Article 1, “In General”
Section 74-3 “Riding of Bicycles upon Pedestrian Sidewalks Generally”

county or state sidewalks. What this ordinance does is it incorporate the current state definitions of electric bicycles into our code, which wasn't currently defined, and it prohibits electric bicycles on all city sidewalks within the city. So, right now, regular bicycles are permitted on sidewalks except for where posted. As you all know, we have those posted on Miracle Mile, on certain blocks of Ponce, and on certain narrower sidewalks. This would have a blanket prohibition on electric bicycles on city sidewalks. I know you all have been kept abreast by the Chief and by Chelsea on movement at the state legislature regarding electric bicycles. There is some movement to cap the speed limit of bicycles, electric bicycles, on sidewalks in the city that we're closely monitoring. And I'm happy to answer any specific questions. I know we have the experts, Chief Hanlon, over here too as well, to answer any questions about the details of that. But that's what this ordinance does. It incorporates that definition and is a blanket prohibition on electric bicycles on city sidewalks.

Mayor Lago: Madam Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Anderson: So, this is an item that we've had residents asking for some relief on for some time because the speed at which electric bicycles can go down city sidewalks is, frankly, dangerous. And the only objection that I've received in writing was that, well, we're lacking bicycle infrastructure. That's a separate problem that I intend to, at the conclusion, just make a separate motion on. I've been asking members of the Transportation Advisory Board to move forward on looking at our bicycle plan and revise it because areas need to be tweaked because buildings went up and now circumstances are different on Valencia than when it was originally planned. And as much as the state is moving forward on legislation, they've done that in the past. We, I think, taking action now will show Tallahassee that we're supportive of them taking action to help protect the pedestrians in our city from electric bikes on sidewalks. So, I would now like to move this forward. Move it.

Commissioner Lara: Second.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk, do you have any public comment?

City Clerk Urquia: No, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: All right. I have a motion and a second.

Commissioner Fernandez: Yes.

Commissioner Lara: Yes.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Yes.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

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Mayor Lago: We're going to do the City Manager items. There are four. We should just be able to go right through those. H-1.

Vice Mayor Anderson: So, before we do that, I'd like to move the next item to have the Transportation Advisory Board deliver to us within the next two to three of their meetings, okay, to review and make recommendations on the bicycle plan for the future so that by the summer we have something in front of us.

Deputy City Attorney Throckmorton: So, just to understand, to have the Transportation Advisory Board discuss with staff the Bicycle Master Plan and their proposed edits to that?

Vice Mayor Anderson: Correct.

Commissioner Fernandez: I'll second.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk, do we have a motion and a second?

City Clerk Urquia: All in favor?

All: Aye.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much.

Deputy City Attorney Throckmorton: Thank you.