

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item I-3
July 25, 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, Gus Ceballos
Police Chief, Ed Hudak
Fire Chief, Marcos De La Rosa

Public Speaker(s)

Javier Codeso
Frank Visconti
David Glauberman
Betsy Courshon
Lois Russell
Brian Powell
Jose Zarraluqui
Marvin Hollub
Paul Palmberg
Christine Nielson-Reynolds
Ana Escagedo
Adrryan Rotati

City Commission Meeting
July 25, 2022

Agenda Item I-3 - Resolution of the City Commission directing City staff to move forward with the remaining of street names within the neighborhood known as Pine Bay Estates and with the installation of new street signage as required.

Agenda Item I-3 [9:18 a.m.]

A Resolution of the City Commission directing City staff to move forward with the remaining of street names within the neighborhood known as Pine Bay Estates and with the installation of new street signage as required.

Mayor Lago: Moving on to time certain 9 A.M. agenda item I-3, a resolution to the City Commission directing City staff to move forward with the remaining of the street names within the neighborhood known as Pine Bay Estates and with the installation of new street signage as required. I-3.

Vice Mayor Mena: Mayor, I'm going to be stepping out and recusing myself on I-3.

Mayor Lago: Thank you. Mr. Assistant City Attorney, how are you, sir?

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Good morning, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Good morning.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Commissioners, Assistant City Attorney Gus Ceballos. So, this item's coming back before you. The petitioners had circulated a petition to get -- kind of gather the level of support in the community for this change. As I mentioned in the last time this item was discussed, this is something that normally is done through the normal course of business through the City. Typically, there is no public involvement for renaming streets. This is in line with the day-to-day process that gets taken care of by our Public Works team. But given the fact that this is kind of the largest of the areas that is pending, it is the only residential area that we are aware of that is pending this name change, we decided to move forward with a petition process that mirrors in most aspects our special taxing district amendment policy. Given the fact that there

is no financial impact on the residents, we don't adhere to the petition process 100 percent. It was just another -- an attempt to determine the level of support in the community. So, they went out. They brought back the petition with just over a 52 or 53 percent of the residents chiming in. But at the end of the day, it's well within the City's purview whether they want to move forward with this process or not. There's been some discussions about possibly dual designation. That's something that, you know, possibly our Public Works Director could chime in on as needed. It's something we'd have to discuss with Miami-Dade County. We have been -- we have received confirmation that both addresses will continue to function for a minimum of one year. Typically, with USPS, they have a very flexible system, so we're not concerned about that. And both signage would stay up for a minimum of one year, but after that, we'd probably remove the Miami-Dade County since it is a much higher sign and our monument signs are close to the floor, a little bit more aesthetically pleasing. I'm here to answer any questions. I believe there are some residents that'd like to speak, so I defer to them.

Mayor Lago: I think you covered all the bases, Mr. City Attorney. Thank you. Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Yes, sir.

Mayor Lago: Do we have any public comment?

City Clerk Urquia: We do.

Mayor Lago: How many do we have?

City Clerk Urquia: Thirteen.

Mayor Lago: Okay.

City Clerk Urquia: The first speaker is Javier Codeso.

Mayor Lago: Good morning, sir. Just to lay some of the groundwork -- because we have a 13-page agenda -- I'm doing this for everybody. This is one of the first times it happens in my year in public office. Can we just try to, you know, be as concise as possible? Maybe two minutes per person if possible.

Javier Codeso: Sure.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much, sir. Thank you for being here.

Mr. Codeso: Thank you. Good morning, Mr. Mayor. Good morning, Commissioners, City Attorney, City Manager. My name is Javier Codeso. I'm a homeowner of Coral Gables at 5820 Southwest 117th Street. With the proposed name change, that would be 5820 Las Palmas Drive, which would be consistent with the prestige and recognition of a Coral Gables address. I've been a proud resident of the City of Coral Gables for 30 plus years, a resident of Pine Bay Estates for 10 years, and I'm also a member of the board of the Pine Bay Homeowners Association, where I have served for the past nine years. I think it's important to point out that our homeowners' association is a voluntary association. Membership is completely voluntary as opposed to a mandatory association, which is regulated under Florida Statute. And I want to provide a little bit of background very briefly as to how we have come to this step in the street renaming initiative. Over the past two years, there's been renewed energy in our community to move some initiatives forward that have been in discussion for some time. For example, improved security, beautification of our neighborhood entrances, and overall aesthetics improvements to our community, which we feel are badly needed. To that end, the HOA openly encouraged all neighbors to join in several committees and board positions. I'm actually pleased to say that our committee involvement is at the highest level in 10 years. We've gone from a board of four members to eleven members, and we currently have five active committees working closely with

the City in some of these initiatives. One of the initiatives has been the street renaming. To that end, it's very important to point out that the City officials delineated the process and the steps for the community to follow, and the community has followed those steps to a tee, obtaining the majority required by the City, just as mentioned now by the Public Works Department. We achieved about 53 percent of the votes in favor of the renaming. In that process, we formed a committee which walked the neighborhood, spoke to many neighbors who received the committee members to express -- explain the process. And we actually posted the petition in front of the doorstep of one of our neighbors and informed the entire community that they could go over, read the petition, and sign if in favor. Really just here to say that we appreciate the collaboration with the City officials in this important initiative, which we believe will bring great benefit to our community by giving us the look and feel of the many prestigious neighborhoods that surround our neighborhood and make up our City Beautiful. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you for being here. Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Next speaker is Frank Visconti.

Mayor Lago: Sir, good morning.

Frank Visconti: Good morning.

Mayor Lago: Thank you for being here.

Mr. Visconti: Thank you. Mr. Mayor, Commissioners, my name is Frank Visconti. I'm a Coral Gables homeowner. My home address is 5800 Southwest 117th Street, Coral Gables, Florida. With the proposed name change, my address will become 5800 Las Palmas Drive, Coral Gables, far more suitable. At a recent Commission meeting, Chief Hudak discussed safety issues and the impact the current street name has on first responders and emergency 911 calls in general. In the

event an emergency, the idea of a call being routed to various municipalities before it finally finds its way to Coral Gables is a serious concern, as was expressed by Chief Hudak. The Chief's presentation in itself was incredibly impactful. A matter of a few seconds may very well make the difference in a paramedic's ability to save a life or a police officer's response time thwarting a violent home invasion. Fortunately, I've not had reason to experience a delayed 911 call, but certainly know that the post office often finds my mail on the other side of town at 117th Avenue as opposed to 117th Street. I have multiple events where deliveries are re-routed to the wrong place. And if it was Las Palmas, it's very unique and once in the whole Dade County community address. The single issue alone of safety as presented by Chief Hudak actually impacted several of our neighbors who like the idea of street renaming but were simply willing to go along with the majority of the vote. After seeing Chief Hudak's presentation, they too saw the value of conforming to the City's iconic street markers for the simple reason of improving the odds in the event of safety or medical emergency. As a Coral Gables homeowner, I ask you to consider renaming the streets. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, sir.

City Clerk Urquia: David Glauberman.

David Glauberman: Good morning, Mayor and Commissioners.

Mayor Lago: Good morning.

Mr. Glauberman: I actually had quite a bit more to say, but I'm going to chop it down because I know my time is limited. My name is David Glauberman. I have owned a home and resided in Pine Bay Estates since 2009, and I oppose the renaming of our streets. The renaming will impose various levels of inconvenience and hardship, which some of my friends will discuss later. The hardship can be extreme. I would like to get to the main point that I'm here to talk about, which

was just discussed, which is a very troubling claim which was wrong and amounted to scaremongering, which persuaded a lot of people to sign. That claim was that 911 emergency response calls made from Pine Bay would somehow be delayed because our numbered streets would not be recognized as coming from Coral Gables. Unfortunately, a statement made by the police chief at the May 31st Commission meeting may have unintentionally reinforced this claim. This claim could not be farther from the truth. Landline calls are automatically routed to Coral Gables, period. The routing of cell phone calls is computer-assisted and routed based upon the address given by the caller to the operator. Having a street with a name, not a number, will not change this process. There is no confusion. I have written confirmation from Miami-Dade and Pinecrest that their computer systems inform their operators of addresses within Coral Gables and that it is irrelevant whether the street has a name or a number. Renaming will not enhance emergency response. In our digitized world, it defies logic to believe otherwise. The operators do not guess when determining where to route a call. They are not throwing darts at maps. These fictitious claims call into serious question the validity of many of the signatures on the petition before you. Were some signers not misled by the petitioners, they may not have signed the petition in favor. We cannot know how many. Although I am certain the number is higher if only three signers were misled and did not sign, there would not be a majority. I am not here today to ask you to deny a petition to rename, although that would be my preference. What I am here is to ask that in interest of fairness and democracy, that you defer your decision until the question of renaming is properly brought before the homeowners at a special meeting of the association, followed by a balloted vote delivered to all homeowners and tallied in a fair and open manner. Finally, just in closing, I'd like to thank Commissioner Anderson and her staff for their thoughtfulness, efforts, and work -- hard work in looking into dual signage for the community that would resist going forward. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you. Mr. Clerk.

Ms. Glauberman: Can I just say (INAUDIBLE)?

City Clerk Urquia: Yes, ma'am.

Betsy Courshon: Okay. I'm David's wife. And just to be brief, I viewed the Commission meeting on the 31st multiple times last night, and there was one word that was repeated over and over and over again, and that word was confusion. And honestly, I can say that the Coral Gables Police Department, the Fire Department was not confused five months ago when David broke his femur and I called 911. They were at our house within two minutes. And as far as confusion is -- you know, when we talk about confusion, Dr. Palmberg will mention -- wait, hold on. Where do I have this? Dr. -- oh, when you talk about money and you say it's going to be no cost to us, but time is money. And Dr. Palmberg estimates that it'll cost him about 25 hours of his time. I'm not sure what his hourly rate is, but I'm certain that the attorneys in our neighborhood charge in excess of \$500, so you can do the math and figure out what the tax would be. So, again, thank you all for your time...

City Clerk Urquia: Ma'am, can...?

Ms. Courshon: And consideration.

City Clerk Urquia: Can you please state your name...

Ms. Courshon: Thank you.

City Clerk Urquia: And address for the record?

Ms. Courshon: Oh, my name is Betsy Courshon.

Mayor Lago: Thank you.

Ms. Courshon: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Luis Russell.

Mayor Lago: Good morning. Thank you for being here.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Mayor Lago: Wherever you'd like, ma'am.

Lois Russell: Hi. My name is Lois Russell, and I have lived in Pine Bay Estates for -- since 1972. I previously served on the homeowners' board for many years. We've always been a quiet, friendly, cooperative neighborhood, but it now seems to be a place where the spirit of cooperation no longer exists, and we are very divided. When we became part of Coral Gables, we all had a vote on naming the streets. We were told we would not have to change the numbered streets to names. Now, it seems we have no choice as the present board who has not held a general meeting since before COVID and filed the petition in April that only they knew about stating that Pine Bay residents want to live on flower streets. This is a shock to many. The first time we heard about the street name plan was in a letter from the City in May informing us that we'd made this decision. I called and spoke to the City Attorney after the meeting was held. He informed me if no one came to the meeting, that was taken as a sign we all agreed. We were never told that by the homeowners' board. And by the way, the board only sends out on WhatsApp. A lot of people aren't on that WhatsApp. When I served on the board, we had a yearly general meeting and three or four meetings during the year. Minutes were sent out after each meeting. We never received any notice that this petition was going to be filed nor given the opportunity to vote on it as we have done in

the past. It was always voted down because of the tremendous amount of paperwork involved to change every piece of paper with your name on it, and we were not moving, just creating a hardship for ourselves. For what? To say we live on a flower street? So, we'll have to change everything that has our name on it for 100 years. The board went door to door after the May event with the petition to sign if you want to change your street name with no place to sign if you objected. Some people were led to believe 911 would be faster and property values would go up as much as \$500,000, one person said. It will not change the great 911 service that I and my neighbors have had the good fortune to have. We hardly put down the phone before the emergency service is at the door. And don't forget, I have lived there 50 years. It will not raise the value of your house. And ask any real estate person, it will only make you crazy changing everything. No one was told about how much paperwork was involved and many now regret signing. I am therefore asking that each homeowner receives a ballot in the mail to vote as we did something as mundane as changing the garbage day. But to make a major change like this, we've had no voice, no vote. It was very cleverly planned during the summer when most people are traveling or out of town for the summer, so by the time the second meeting was scheduled, the rug would be pulled out from under our feet, and we would all be on a flower street without knowing what happened to us. It's very difficult to contact people when they're out of state or out of the country. A few things that would need to be changed, passport, driver's license, home insurance, life insurance, long-term care, car insurance, all doctors, all charities, all friends from lifetime, electric, TV, pool, lawn/yard people, water, Voter ID, Social Security, IRS, banks, investment accounts, checkbooks, letterheads, Amazon. I'm sure there are many more. I don't know one person that would like to all -- do all this simply to say we live on a flower street now. I'm not moving. I'm just going to have to change all my addresses. To me, it's very disturbing, and I would like a vote.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much.

Ms. Russell: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Brian Powell.

Brian Powell: Hi. Good morning, Mayor, City Commissioners.

Mayor Lago: Morning.

Mr. Powell: My name is Brian Powell, and I'm a proud Gables resident in Pine Bay Estates on 117th Street, soon to be Las Palmas. The majority of our neighbors have signed on and agreed to move forward with the street reflective of the City Beautiful names. For 11 years, I've lived in Coral Gables. We pay taxes to Coral Gables. Our licenses say Coral Gables. Our street names and signs though screen Unincorporated Dade. Names and signs matter. As a former High Pines Unincorporated Dade resident, these signs signify okay to bend and break traffic laws and slower response to crime, regardless of where 911 calls go. Gables street signs and names make individuals think differently. They signify law and order and the strength of a larger community, which is Coral Gables. It's also a subtle reminder of our Coral Gables Police to visit us and pull into our neighborhood a little more frequently, which I think is important as opposed to going south to Gables by the Sea, Deering Bay, and also King's Bay. Please strengthen our community and move forward with this initiative. It's important, and to Lois's point, I believe the IRS will find me regardless of wherever I live. Thanks.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, sir. Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Jose Zarraluqui.

Mayor Lago: Good morning, sir.

Jose Zarraluqui: Morning.

Mayor Lago: Thank you for being here.

Mr. Zarraluqui: How are you? How are you doing? My name is Jose Zarraluqui, and I live at 5740 Southwest 119th Street, hopefully soon to be 5740 Olivo Street. I am a homeowner in Pine Bay Estates now for three years. I have been a resident of Coral Gables now for 20 years, along with my wife and three beautiful children, all of whom have been born and raised as proud lifelong residents of Coral Gables. I choose to live in Coral Gables and understand the value of living here. It's within this context of pride that I stand here before you in support of this petition, which aims at allowing Pine Bay Estates to conform with our City standards. Those standards incorporated throughout the City promote both the aesthetic and design intent borne of George Merrick's vision, which now date back to a century ago. By our Commissioners moving this petition forward, we honor that guiding principle of Merrick's plan of having a world-class city. In particular, the stone markers and their unique names that will be placed at our street corners will act as gateways to ensure the historic characteristics of entering our Coral Gables neighborhood. The stone markers meant to mimic the coral or oolite found locally and the names to resemble those used in, and I quote Merrick, "exotic cities of antiquity" will bring those elements up to the Coral Gables standard. This builds on the heritage of the City and completes our city-wide system within Pine Bay Estates. We should guide ourselves by the City's framework as stated in our Zoning Code's general provisions to protect the distinctive historic and architectural character of the City, which is unique throughout South Florida and the world, to preserve the basic Comprehensive Plan and layout of the City by its forefathers, more specifically George Merrick, to enhance the image of the City by providing a visual linkage between contemporary development and the City's unique historic thematic appearance. I'll leave you with another quote by Merrick in hopes that our Commissioners vote today in favor of a unified vision, which will represent the same identity throughout the entire city. Merrick said, "Remember that what you are selling here is not just land. It is not just a piece of ground on which to put a house. What you are really selling is romance,

the stars, the moon, the wind off the blue water, and the perfume of flowers that never grew in northern climes.” As Arva Moore Parks expanded on Merrick’s sentiment, she said “He meant every single word of it.” Thank you for giving Pine Bay Estates the opportunity of achieving that uniform palette. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, sir.

City Clerk Urquia: Marvin Hollub.

Mayor Lago: Good morning, sir. Thank you for being here.

Marvin Hollub: My name is Marvin Hollub. I was the developer of Pine Bay Estates approximately 50 years ago. I was never made aware of the fact that they wanted to change the street signs. Approximately four weeks ago, a group of people came to see me and wanted me to sign a petition saying that I approved of the change that they were making. They gave me a sheet of paper that told me why it was important to make this change. Those reasons were false. The first reason that they gave me was that property values would increase because of the change in signs. Ever since Pine Bay Estates was started, it has been an amazing success. Houses have increased over the years in price. It never stopped. Just recently, one of the houses that I built was knocked down and a new house was built. It was sold for \$5,500,000. The values don't change because of the street sign. The people who want this change, why did they buy with the original street signs if they were so concerned that the value of their house would not increase? Another reason that was given to me was that the policemen and fire department people would not be confused any longer going to Pine Bay Estates. If you leave South Miami and drive south on 57th Avenue, every street is a numbered street. You can drive for miles, and every street is a numbered street. What would happen if you come to Pine Bay Estates and you have the name of a tree at the entrance? Would you not be confused? Would people not know what would happen? You know, I've lived at Pine Bay Estates for almost 50 years. Why change now? What is the reason? Pine

Bay is -- if you want to make a change and have a compromise with the people who want the sign changed and the people who don't, at the entrance of Pine Bay Estates, just put the name City of Coral Gables? That would take care of their concern that people don't know that they're living in Coral Gables. And it would take -- and the people who are opposed, I don't think will object. But making this change now after 50 years, why? I don't know if you realize the work that would have to be done by the individual homeowners if this change is made. The value of Pine Bay Estates is what it is now, what it was over the years. When houses were put up for sale, they sold immediately. Why? Because Pine Bay Estates was what it was. There is no reason to change it now. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much. I appreciate you being here. Thank you.

City Clerk Urquia: Paul Palmberg.

(APPLAUSE)

Paul Palmberg: Yes, I'm Dr. Paul Palmberg. I am a homeowner in Pine Bay Estates. And I sent to all of you previously a list of things that I wanted to bring up, but I will briefly go over them. We request that -- we appreciate what the homeowners' association has done for us in the past. They've done many things that we like. This is not one of them. And so, I'm here to speak against this because I don't believe the reasons offered for it or not mentioned that were against it were properly brought to the attention of the homeowner. This change requires -- that supposedly, this would require a change in 911 calls, that appears not to be true. It was an interesting supposition, but it's not supported. And when my fire alarm accidentally went off, the fire department was there in three minutes. It really startled me to see a fire truck in front of my house. A doubtful claim that it would increase home values. Mr. Hollub, my hero, who built the house that I'm in, that survived four hurricanes, says it's not going to increase home values, so I think that was wishful thinking. And the thing that I want to really talk about is quite importantly glossed over,

and perhaps, it didn't occur to the people who proposed this that it would cause considerable disruption and inconvenience to all of us. Now, I should mention that at the University of Miami Medical School, I am the person responsible for making sure that people asked to be in research at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute get a realistic assessment of the potential benefits of being in research and a discussion of the risks and harms that might occur. And that should happen for this to be considered too, and the homeowners ought to have knowledge of these things before they make a vote. I sent you a list. I'll hit some of the things. It's already been mentioned some. You'd have to get a new driver's license. You'd have to get a new voter ID. You'd have to tell if you have an absentee ballot, where it's to be sent. You'd have to notify Social Security, Medicare, IRS -- yes, the IRS will find you, but maybe you'll be delinquent by then. Coral Gables, Miami-Dade because of taxes and services, your employers, business partners. For me, state, local, and federal licenses, insurance companies for -- and many people may not even think of these things to make these unless they at least have discussed it. Your home, windstorm, FEMA, liability, life, health, car. You'd have to notify all of those people. Your bank. You may have to get new checks if you have your address on it. Retirement, investment companies, credit card companies, all going to want to know this. FP&L, Dade Water, the people that provide service for your house for lawns, pools, alarms, cleaning, and generators may at first not be able to find your house and be very confused about coming for their visit. Internet provider, cable, satellite, BellSouth, cellular service. All your doctors, lawyers, accountants, your newspapers, magazines, catalogs, professional journals, place of worship, charities. I donate to a lot of them. They send me things at the end of the year for my taxes. It may have problems getting there. Professional organizations, social/political organizations, dozens of friends, hundreds of former students and colleagues that I have at the University of Miami and around the world. They'd have -- you'd have to notify Amazon and other sellers that have online delivery. So, nobody's going to be able to find us at first, at least, unless they're fast using Google Maps and other online mapping. And during a transition, this would clearly be a mess. So, is that really worth doing? I think the homeowners should -- who have now seen a detailed critique of the proposal that I have personally and Dr. Glauber -- and Mr. Glauberman sent by email or letter to everyone in the area, they should now be

able to cast an informed vote. And taking a vote by the homeowners is the only way to show that this decision is determined fairly and really would help to avoid the rising tensions here because I think we'd all be willing to accept the decision of the majority. So, as a surgeon, I recommend that this surgery not be performed without a legitimate informed consent. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Christine Nielson-Reynolds.

Mayor Lago: Good morning. Thank you for being here.

Christine Nielson-Reynolds: My name is Christine Nielson-Reynolds. I'm at 5760 Southwest 116th Street. First of all, I want to say, thank you so much for everything you do. It was great hearing all the fantastic things that are happening in Coral Gables. Unfortunately, I am opposed to the naming of the streets. My biggest issue is, even though I value the opinions of all is the how in which it was done. I don't feel like there was proper notification and the homeowners coming to the board and the board accepting the changes without representation from the neighbors. I would love the opportunity to do an actual request. We've requested meetings from the homeowners' association. It is marked on the Whats [sic] chat. Several people and several neighbors have requested, as well as myself. No meetings were ever granted. So, I feel there's a lack of representation as a whole for the entire neighborhood. And I would love an opportunity to do a re-do. Thank you very much for your time.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much.

City Clerk Urquia: Ana...

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Ana Escagedo.

Mayor Lago: How many more names do we have?

City Clerk Urquia: Two more.

Mayor Lago: Okay. Can you close the public...?

City Clerk Urquia: Yes, sir.

Mayor Lago: Yes, ma'am. Good morning.

Ana Escagedo: Good morning, Mr. Mayor, Commissioners. Thank you so much for your time today. My name is Ana Escagedo. I've been a Coral Gables resident for almost 40 years and have lived in Pine Bay Estates since 1994. My address is 5745 Southwest 119th Street. And I bought in Pine Bay Estates precisely because Mr. Hollub had built the house, so we're excited to live in a Hollub home. I was on the board that spearheaded the annexation to Coral Gables, and I think that that history is important. We were -- I was very instrumental in accomplishing the annexation. It was a group of four or five of us, and we really wanted to be a part of Coral Gables. We were Miami-Dade County at the time. Pinecrest was an idea that Evelyn Greer had and had yet to come to fruition. As a result of the work that I did in the annexation process, I was appointed by the Coral Gables Commission to serve on the County's annexation committee and did so for about six years. As part of the annexation process, as a board, we chose not to pursue the name change at the time because there was enough contention within the neighborhood of being a part of Coral Gables, and that's normal. We live in a democracy. It is all about majority rule, right? Over the years, the name change was addressed. It came up. We would talk amongst the neighbors, and we've always had meetings -- annual meetings to appoint board members. We -- our last meeting,

I believe, was March of last year, where we appointed a new board. And the feedback we got -- and this was a Zoom meeting because we were in the middle of COVID. The feedback the board got at the time is let's revisit the name change because the community had changed enough that people wanted to be part of Coral Gables. And therefore, we took it up as a committee. A committee was selected, we took it up, and we brought it to the Gables. We brought it to the Commissioners. We brought it to Mr. Mayor, and we followed the guidelines that the City set out for us. Following those guidelines, everybody was -- you know, we reached out to people. We send out emails. We put out information on WhatsApp chat. There was a meeting that was held here where it was first taken up and a notice was provided to all the neighbors. We have since followed all the guidelines. We've obtained 50-plus percent of the approval of the neighborhood -- of the neighbors. And we also know that the board could sua sponte change our names because we are part of Coral Gables. So, I would ask that the Board and the Commission please pursue and continue with the street name change. Thank you very much.

Mayor Lago: Thank you for being here. Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: Adrryan Rotati.

Mayor Lago: Good morning. Thank you for being here.

Adrryan Rotati: Hello. Good morning. This is Adrryan Rotati. This is my mother, Audrey Rotati. Thank you, Commissioners for having us here today. It's an honor to speak before you. I have a simple question for you to answer if you would like to consider. If you were in the middle of summer, the first summer with your children after COVID, able to travel, able to go wherever you'd like, you have someone come to your house while you're traveling, and that person asks you to sign the petition which is already in majority support, and it's a done deal already, and therefore, you can sign the petition and there's no issue regarding any concerns of whether it should be affirmed or not, whether or not you think this is appropriate, would you think this is the way that

you would like to handle something serious done in your neighborhood? Simple question. If you think that it's maybe not the way you should handle it, then I'd urge the Commissioners to null and void, forfeit this petition, move forward with a ballot vote, and do a correct procedural process for this renaming. Whether or not we rename or not, I believe that's a very important thing, and it's certainly worth the time of everyone involved, certainly worth the time of every neighbor. And if the neighbors think that maybe perhaps they do not want to vote in favor of this, maybe they should have a chance to discuss this and have a conversation with each other. That conversation has yet to occur, therefore, the petition is really jumping the gun. We've yet to have a meeting as a community regarding such an important change, and that really needs to happen before any petition moves forward. I hope the community considers this very seriously, and I leave the rest of my time.

Mayor Lago: Ma'am.

Unidentified Speaker: Hello. Hi, Commissioners, Mayor. I'm actually here not as an opponent, as much as a pro-inclusion person. I'd like to have our whole community have the opportunity to actually understand everything about this proposal because it was really done through the association, deciding it would do it on its own, so we really don't have all the facts. We don't have everything we'd like to consider. There have been some points brought up about the inconveniences, which can be pretty bothersome. That's true. And a lot of it will take a lot of time, but I think the other issue is that we just need to let everybody feel included. We have a great neighborhood, and I like it that we all work together, we cooperate together. We don't just do things and say, "Okay, you're going to do it," and shove it down someone's throat. We just work together and make sure there is a vast majority. In fact, a two-thirds majority would be better. I'm not sure what the actual benefits are of doing this other than we'd have some stones on the ground and that's supposed to make us look better. I'm not sure what that would mean because we already love Coral Gables. We're part of Coral Gables. We have a history, 55 years or so, maybe 60, with the addresses the way they are. And I think we're all pretty proud of our neighborhood,

just the way we are. So, again, I'm saying that I'm here to hope that we can do something that's more inclusive with the whole neighborhood. And I would request that you give us the time to do that because normally, our plan-based estates, we do things in a way that includes everyone and gives everyone a chance to voice their concerns, and we haven't done that yet.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much.

Unidentified Speaker: I really appreciate your time. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk.

City Clerk Urquia: That's it, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Okay, perfect. Mr. Attorney, do you mind joining us? Please close the public comment.

City Clerk Urquia: Yes, sir.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

City Clerk Urquia: I'm sorry? This is not public comment, sir. This is a specific item.

Mayor Lago: So, let me just ask you a few questions. I think you mentioned it before, but I want to be very clear. The idea of a petition is not required for this process.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Correct. In terms of process, this is something that would typically be handled by Public Works as an internal process. Typically, notice may not even be sent. But we, as a City, I think for the most part, we always like to over-encourage, I guess, public

comment. We want to make sure everyone's aware of the changes and that they're incorporated as part of the process, so we used this petition process -- although not necessary, not required in any way -- just to make sure that we got a lot of public input in regards to the change. But no, you're correct that no vote is required. No vote of this Commission is even required. It's something that the Public Works team could do through the normal course of business.

Mayor Lago: So, with that being said, this is the only area in the City that you're aware of, that Public Works is aware of where this is an issue where we have Miami-Dade County signs instead of Coral Gables.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: I've been told that there are outlier streets, like an occasional random street, but no neighborhood or community in the City, with the exception of Pine Bay has this naming issue.

Mayor Lago: Okay. Mr. Chief, quick question. So, I heard -- both of the chiefs. So, we heard some comments about confusion. And I found that very interesting because when we visited the 911 call center, and we talked about a few different issues, for example, like High Pines/Ponce Davis. We had talked about the fact that certain times there were calls that were routed our way - - and I was there when we were talking about that -- that are not actual City of Coral Gables calls and Miami-Dade County, vice versa. So, I just want to make sure that I put that on the record because I was present when we had multiple conversations about that. We've talked about it on multiple different opportunities.

Police Chief Hudak: Correct. The problem is -- or the issue I would say that remains is depending on when someone calls from a cell phone tower...

Mayor Lago: Exactly.

Police Chief Hudak: Depending on what tower that hits, it could get routed to the Miam-Dade dispatch center, the Pinecrest dispatch center, or our dispatch center. Similarly, we had the same issues with West Miami, Southwest 8th Street in that area where depending on someone in our city calls and it hits that tower, it goes to Miami-Dade and there's a delay. I know what our system does. I can't speak for what the other systems do or depending on where it goes. We have these outlier issues on transfers all around our -- with the other five municipalities that we...

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Police Chief Hudak: Abut.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Chief. Do you have anything you want to add to that or no?

Fire Chief De La Rosa: Yes, I'd like to add that -- or to build on what Chief Hudak just described, the named streets do add a consistency to our jurisdiction, so we're not responding to a southwest address as we are in this neighborhood right now. We're always responding to one that has a named street. When we do have those border tower calls that it is transferred to another 911 center, having that named street verifies the fact that that call needs to be immediately transferred to our 911. So, it's not an impossibility, but adding the names does add an efficiency and a consistency to our response district zone.

Mayor Lago: So, let me ask you a question. Thank you for that, Chief. I think this is more of a question for the police chief. Some of the residents were concerned about issues of driver's licenses and passports. We have the best passport agency in South Florida, and I'm going to freely admit this because I'm so proud of our staff. I get calls from non-residents all over the county. I've even gotten calls in Broward. "Hey, can you help me out, Vince? I know you from school, you know. I got to get my passport. Can you help me?" Everybody knows that Coral Gables gets it the quickest and you guys are the most efficient. You guys are open on Saturdays. Obviously, I swing

everything through the Clerk and let the Clerk deal with it. But with the team that we have, we got to be able to do something for these residents if we go down this route, correct?

Police Chief Hudak: We already do. And to your point, and as the City Attorney talked about, this transition, if approved, takes a year, so you can use both addresses for a year. In that time, the other thing that we offer in partnership with the Department of Transportation is you don't have to go to get an appointment to get your driver's license changed. You can do it at the police department. Once a month, DHSMV comes to our station and puts it on for anybody that comes in. So, we can set appointments for all of those residents to come and get their driver's license changed, their passport changed, and within a year, you can transition over to those as we've done historically. I -- because I'm so old, I remember all the annexation issues, and we had the same things come up with some of the other annexations that came in. So, we are prepared to do that as well and will assist anybody with changing their addresses.

Mayor Lago: Yeah. You know, I think that the way that I see it -- the way that I see it -- and I'm happy that we have both of the chiefs here to talk about it. This is not about a fearmongering issue. This is just about what's your appetite, what do you prefer? As you can tell, I'm a person who likes to wear blue. I wear a lot of blue. That's just my favorite color. This is more about uniformity. This is a little bit about -- this is not a special taxing issue. This is not an issue about the board. This is about uniformity across the board, in my opinion. We are the City Beautiful. We are the City of Coral Gables. We have certain standards that sets us apart from everyone else. And I mean, I pretty made up -- I made up my decision after listening to the residents and understanding a little bit more about the issues. But my biggest concern was what the Police Chief and the Fire Chief were about to say, with all due respect to the City Attorney. But public safety trumps all issues in our book, and I wanted to make sure that I was very clear on that. So...

Commissioner Menendez: I just -- go ahead.

Mayor Lago: Commissioner Fors, go ahead.

Commissioner Fors: Yeah. I understand that changing the names or naming the streets poses inconveniences for the residents. I don't dispute that. I moved homes -- stayed in the same area, but moved homes in October, and I had to change all my addresses. It wasn't the end of the world, but it was an inconvenience. In my mind, you know, I feel for the residents that don't want it, but I do have to say that I'm philosophically 100 percent in agreement that if the area is located in Coral Gables, it needs to be named like every other Coral Gables street. Is it a bit of a pain in the butt or a pain in the butt? Yes, but the City of Coral Gables requires you to do a lot of things that are a bit inconvenient on a day-to-day basis for the purposes of maintaining the Coral Gables brand, City Beautiful, starting with the Board of Architects, one of the few cities -- I think only one of two who has a board of architects. Is it easier to get plans approved without a board of architects? Yes, but we have a board of architects because we're trying to protect a certain aesthetic and a certain plan. We could have a situation where a -- 98 percent of a certain neighborhood would like to be able to paint their houses neon green or hot pink. We have a certain brand and standard to protect, and that's why we have a code that applies uniformly across the entire city. And just philosophically, I mean, the fact that this is the only area that -- in Coral Gables that does not have street names, for me, it's not even a question. I don't view it as a change that we're making because somebody brought it to our attention. I really do view it as a problem and an issue that we simply had not gotten around to fixing. And for that reason, I sincerely do feel for the folks that have really gotten used to having street signs and traditional Miami-Dade directions. But now that they're part of Coral Gables, I must say that I very strongly believe that the streets must be named just like the rest of the county -- I mean, just like the rest of the City.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Commissioner.

Commissioner Menendez: I echo the sentiments and the thoughts of my colleagues, the Mayor and Commissioner Fors. I do have a -- just a follow-up question. With regards to the vote of

property owners, it's not only about this particular area, but across the city when it comes to street names. The Code or the Charter doesn't require that before we, as a Commission, can make a decision -- correct? -- across the board?

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: That is correct. That is -- as I stated before, typically, this wouldn't even come to Commission. The only reason why it's coming to Commission is because the boundaries of this particular area just so happens to coincide with a special taxing district, and since we have an amendment process, it gave us a great opportunity to get input from the entire community. But no, typically this wouldn't even come to the Commission for approval.

Commissioner Menendez: And I understand the headache of having to change your address because it's an ongoing process, and I think the gesture by the police and Chief is very helpful, I think. But in reality, I think I heard that this particular area is maybe 50 years old, 40, 50 years old, going back half a century, so I was giving some thought. And I figured, at some point, pretty much every property owner that lives in that area at some point moved there from another area, and when they moved into that area, they had to change their license and their credit cards just to get in there. So, people move, you know, some a lot, some little, but it's part of society. It's what we do. But I'm glad to hear that the City is going to do everything they can to help that transition.

Mayor Lago: You're going to be moving soon.

Commissioner Menendez: Yeah, to my mom's house, believe it or not.

Mayor Lago: Yeah.

Commissioner Menendez: So, yeah.

Commissioner Anderson: I have a few additional comments as well. Most of you were out on vacation the summer. I did have the opportunity to speak with and visit with a number of the residents in the area. And one thing I didn't hear from you all is a true spirited discussion about compromise, but I did have that opportunity while meeting face-to-face on a more less-pressure basis of a timeline to speak. There was a willingness to compromise, have dual signage at the entrance. You know, so that when the GPS doesn't work -- and believe me, it doesn't work all the time. When I was out at Camp Mahachie doing a clean-up for hours, we could not get GPS signal out there to be able to send pictures and text messages and so forth unless you went out to the street. And just things we forget, unless we're fresh off of a hurricane, that you cannot just rely upon GPS these days. And unless you've been out traveling in areas of our country that doesn't have good broadband access, which doesn't exist here, after a hurricane, there needs to be something more at the entrance in a way of something that's recognizable. So, I've noticed -- you know, because I looked here on the Google Maps -- it's a wonderful thing, works when we have internet -- that unlike Gables Estates and Cutler Bay and other -- Cocoplum, the entrance of this area does not have any designated marker as it being Coral Gables or being part of Pine Bay Estates. It doesn't recognize it itself as being part of Coral Gables, so I understand your desire to have the street renamings, but let's be realistic. It's a stone on the bottom. And unless you stop - - you have somebody as they're speeding along Cutler Bay stop and put their headlights towards it, they're not going to be able to see it so well. They're very difficult. I mean, you ever try to go find Davis Road while you're driving down at night? It's very difficult. We need to do -- have a spirit of compromise here and find a better solution. And remember, your neighbors are willing to compromise and that -- and spent hours with them. I didn't hear a spirit of compromise out of the group that's barely over 50 percent to have dual signage at the entrances, streets so it's easier for people to find it or to enhance your entrance too to recognize the fact that it is part of Coral Gables. And I realize what you're learning. I mean, when I was canvassing down there, I was like, "Is this part of Coral Gables? Should I canvass in this area?" when I was running for office. Is it Coral Gables or not? You lack a recognizable entrance. So, I don't know if there's any rush to deal with this thing now, but I think sitting down around the table and having an honest

discussion about dual signage at the entrances needs to be done and that recognizing that area as being part of Coral Gables, just like every other area, such as Gables Estates, needs to be done. So, I'll make a motion to defer this so that we can have that discussion.

Commissioner Fors: When you say dual signage, you mean permanently keeping a County sign, and then also having the monumental sign? I just want to be clear what we mean by dual signage.

Commissioner Anderson: Well, let's take, for instance, Old Cutler Road. You jump from the County -- you know, you have 117th Street, and then you suddenly get to -- let's see, 114th and then 117th Terrace. As you're driving along, it's much easier if you're clocking off numbers to anticipate where that next street's going to be. So, at these entrance points -- and you only have four -- the main ones are on Cutler Road and Red Road, where people would need to really slow down to see where the entrance is, and what number it's at, and whether or not that little cement marker is enough to know where you're going. We need to do something with the entranceways there. And we need to have something recognizable.

Mayor Lago: So...

Commissioner Anderson: And the numbers would help people when they're driving.

Mayor Lago: So, if I may, I think that this is something that, through the Manager, staff can take care of. Can we get a commitment from staff to address a marker entrance, working with the homeowners' association to figure out the proper placement on the right-of-way or on the property to ensure that there's -- that that addresses Commissioner Anderson's concerns about a proper marker?

City Manager Iglesias: Yes, Mayor. We can look at that with -- from -- with Public Works and provide a proper marker at the entrance.

Mayor Lago: Okay. Can you do us a favor? Can you give us an update after meeting with staff and provide an update in September to the Commission in regards to some sort of marker location so that we can address if there are any concerns about vagueness, especially at night, so that people understand that this is an actual community and that they're coming up on that community?

City Manager Iglesias: Yes, Mayor. We will do that. We will bring it back in the September meeting.

Mayor Lago: And any other concerns that Commissioner Anderson may have in regards to actual markers or locations of markers on the main street leading up to the actual community.

City Manager Iglesias: During hurricanes, we do that with the entire city based on names. So, I believe that our staff can deal with an additional subdivision based on names.

Mayor Lago: Yeah. I'm ready to take a vote on this issue today. It's been a long time coming. I think this is important. I think we need more uniformity. I think we need to get away from this - - you know, tarnishing or not having the appropriate look in the City of Coral Gables. That's why I continue to fight for issues like -- and we're addressing issues in different communities where we're asking them to get rid of their trash pits and they're leading the efforts on that front because they have a lot more flexibility in regards to the homeowner associations, and we're seeing that across the board. That's just one example of the many. I'm ready to take a vote on this because, obviously -- I don't know if anybody wants to make a motion. We have a motion on the floor. I apologize. Excuse me. We have a motion on the floor. Do I have a second to defer this, or do you want to move forward in a different direction? Seeing no motion -- seeing no second...

Commissioner Anderson: I move to move it to if we're going to approve, that we have to deal with the entranceways at this Pine Bay area to have it clearly marked as being part of Coral Gables, and to also include the street designation, such as 117th Terrace, so that if you're not Coral Gables

Police Department or EMS Department, it's also easier for people to find the street where to turn at, when you have people, you know, bumper to bumper behind you, wanting you to know where you're going...

Mayor Lago: So...

Commissioner Anderson: Without having to stop and put the headlights on a cement marker.

Mayor Lago: I think I can read where you're going.

Commissioner Menendez: Go ahead.

Mayor Lago: Go ahead. You go.

Commissioner Menendez: I was informed that during that transition period, there would be a time where the current County sign and the City sign will be at the same location at the same time to help in the transition, so that's already part of the process, correct?

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: So, my understanding from Miami-Dade County is that the signs will stay up for a minimum of one year to coexist with our signage. Our signage will take some time, so it's not like the Commission approves this today and staff will be installing it by the end of the week. We have to make the actual monuments. And from my understanding, it is time-consuming. We can only do two per week. It may be a few months before we even have all the monument signs ready to go with the proper naming and all that. So, it'll be some time before the Miami-Dade County signage comes down, but yes, you are correct. There will be a period of time -- I suspect no less than six months -- where they will coexist.

Mayor Lago: So, if I can kind of wrap this up and put a bow on it.

Mr. Palmberg: Can I get a clarification? Is this...?

Mayor Lago: Sir.

Mr. Palmberg: Is this...?

Mayor Lago: Sir, one second. We're trying to run an orderly meeting, just like you would run -- just like you run an orderly surgical room. If you'd like to ask another question, you had enough time in the public comment, but what is the comment that you would like to make? We're going to do something that we never do to allow you to do -- to have your voice heard.

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Mayor Lago: Why don't you --? But why do we do things the right way? Instead of speaking -- instead of screaming from the stands, why don't you come up here and be heard?

(COMMENTS MADE OFF THE RECORD)

Mayor Lago: No worries, please. Thank you, Chief, both of you.

Mr. Palmberg: Thank you for this privilege. Are they thought to change the street -- the house numbers as well as the street name, so we'd be like 6 Olivas...

Mayor Lago: Yes, sir.

Mr. Palmberg: Or something?

Mayor Lago: Yes, sir. Yes.

Mr. Palmberg: So, there -- and that's not done in a lot of areas of Coral Gables.

Mayor Lago: It is. My home is 5200 San Amaro Drive. That's where I live on. That's where I live. So...

Mr. Palmberg: Alright. That's what I wanted to know.

Mayor Lago: In every street -- and correct me if I'm wrong, Mr. Manager. You know, when you have your -- when you have a street here in Coral Gables, your addresses is...

City Manager Iglesias: Yes, number and name.

Mayor Lago: And the street, okay.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: And just to be clear, the numbering is not changing.

Mayor Lago: Which one?

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: So, I think the question may have been...

Commissioner Menendez: The house number.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: If the number would be changing, the actual house number.

Mayor Lago: No, no. The house numbers...

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: And it is not.

Mayor Lago: Will not be changing.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: That is not changing.

Mayor Lago: But the back end...

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: A hundred percent.

Mayor Lago: But the back end, yes. Excuse me, I misunderstood. I apologize. Excuse me. Okay, so we're going to move on, okay, because we have a very long agenda, and we've been on this item for some time. What I -- the way that I see a motion is very simple. I see Commissioner Anderson has a request for the main street leading into this community to have both a nameplate that addresses City standards and has a Miami-Dade County style address so that there could be some sort of uniformity and people could find it. But inside the community, inside the community, we will transition from Miami-Dade County addresses to City of Coral Gables addresses within one to one and a half years, depending on the timeframe that it takes for us to make the plaques and install them. Is that okay? Would anybody like to make that motion?

Commissioner Fors: I...

City Attorney Ramos: So, Commissioner Anderson had made a motion that's currently on the floor if somebody wants to second it. If not, it dies, then we can start over.

Mayor Lago: No, I did that already.

City Attorney Ramos: She made another motion.

Mayor Lago: Oh, she did? Okay, what was the motion?

City Attorney Ramos: With some edits.

Mayor Lago: I apologize.

City Attorney Ramos: You want to repeat it, Commissioner?

Commissioner Menendez: But she wanted the two to coexist, right?

Commissioner Anderson: At the entrances.

Mayor Lago: That's the same thing I...

Commissioner Anderson: We can do, you know, something beautiful.

Mayor Lago: So, you want...

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Mr...

Mayor Lago: A pole -- you want a pole and a nameplate on the floor at each end -- at the entrance of the...

Commissioner Anderson: I don't necessarily want a pole with it, but you know, if you have the number on there, you know, even if you're using a GPS program, et cetera, it's much easier for people to find it. But I mean, make this something that people can see as opposed to having to stop along Old Cutler Road and literally shine our lights down on a little cement marker.

Commissioner Fors: I understand how to make it easy for people to find, I do. My central position, my overarching position on the whole thing is that the point here is to make it exactly like the rest of Coral Gables. So, that's why I would not be in support of doing that, and I understand that that makes it harder to find the street sometimes, and people know that about Coral Gables. And obviously, we value aesthetics a little bit in the equation, not solely, you know, wayfinding. But my overarching continues to be to make it look all like Coral Gables and not add a number to it.

Mayor Lago: Would any of you like to make a motion?

Commissioner Fors: I mean, I don't know if we have to vote...

Commissioner Menendez: We have to vote on...

Commissioner Fors: On that motion but...

Commissioner Menendez: We have to second that one...

Mayor Lago: Is there a...?

Commissioner Menendez: Or amend it.

Mayor Lago: Is there a second to Commissioner Anderson's second motion? None? Okay. Can we have a new motion?

Commissioner Menendez: I'll make a motion to proceed with changing the current signs to the traditional Coral Gables signs, and at the same time, also create, as you described, Mayor, a marker

in the entrance to that neighborhood identifying it as part of Coral Gables and bringing, you know, a clarity as to -- that they are part of the greater part -- or the greater City of Coral Gables.

Commissioner Fors: I think that's what the traditional signs do.

Mayor Lago: Yeah, yep.

City Manager Iglesias: And I assume this is at the main entrance?

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Menendez: Main entrance.

Commissioner Anderson: No, we need an entrance feature there. There's nothing.

Commissioner Menendez: So, an entrance feature, add an entrance feature.

Commissioner Anderson: You know...

Commissioner Menendez: I'm supportive of that.

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Commissioner Anderson: We have Cutler Bay. I mean, you...

Commissioner Menendez: Yeah.

Commissioner Anderson: You've got Gables Estates. You've got Cocoplum. They all have markers, something at their entrances. There's nothing...

Mayor Lago: Add the...

Commissioner Anderson: Right now.

Mayor Lago: Add the -- that the City of Coral Gables doesn't pay for that. That would be the homeowner -- the homeowner association pays for that. Something simple, it doesn't have to be - it's up to their standards, whatever they like, just indicating that this is a beautiful community within the City of Coral Gables that we're very proud -- incredibly proud to have.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: So, just so that I can try to make sure that we have the motion correct, so the motion would be to proceed with the resolution as proposed...

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: But direct staff to encourage the HOA and the residents of the neighborhood to design, prepare, and also, probably pay for a monument or some sort of entrance feature that will let you know you're going into Pine Bay Estates, specifically on the major thoroughfare, which I believe is Old Cutler Road. Because there are four or five...

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: Smaller streets that go into what is Pine Bay, but I believe the intent is only on the major thoroughfare.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Anderson: There's two main entrances. You have one on Red Road that would be, you know, subject to the same considerations of your driving on a busy road trying to find it. And you have the one on the east side as well. You have a north and south one, so you have a total of four. Okay, so four entrances. The others are minor by comparison.

Mayor Lago: Commissioner Fors.

Commissioner Fors: Yeah, I think it's -- I have no problem with that at all. In fact, I would -- there's nothing wrong with it, and I would encourage the homeowners' association there to try to put a petition together. I think it's a bit odd to combine that concept with this motion. I don't have a problem with it.

Commissioner Menendez: Would it be a directive...?

Commissioner Fors: I think it's two separate things.

Commissioner Menendez: Would it be better as a directive for the Administration to work with homeowners regarding the entrance and keep...

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: That's how...

Commissioner Menendez: The two items apart?

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: That's how I was trying to frame it.

Commissioner Menendez: Okay.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: That we would move forward with...

Commissioner Menendez: Fine.

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: The resolution.

Commissioner Menendez: So, I'll restate...

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: With a recommendation...

Commissioner Menendez: I'll restate...

Assistant City Attorney Ceballos: (INAUDIBLE).

City Manager Iglesias: If I may say, there are already some entrance features. They don't necessarily say Coral Gables, but we can add that to it, or we can modify to it.

Commissioner Anderson: Yeah.

Commissioner Menendez: Leave that to the Administration...

Commissioner Anderson: There's a...

Commissioner Menendez: As a directive.

Commissioner Anderson: A brick wall on one entrance. It doesn't say anything.

Mayor Lago: Can I get a second?

Commissioner Fors: I'll second.

Mayor Lago: Mr. Clerk.

Commissioner Anderson: No.

Commissioner Fors: Yes.

Commissioner Menendez: Yes.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

(Vote: 4-0)

City Clerk Urquia: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much. Moving on, I have to defer -- I'm requesting for a deferral on Item F-14 and G-7. And I would like to continue the following items: G-6, the Business Improvement District item; I-1 and I-2, the FP&L items. We're continuing to work with FP&L, and we will be bringing that forward, hopefully, in the next Commission meeting.

City Attorney Ramos: Mayor, with I-2...

Unidentified Speaker: That was a very deep disrespect for democracy. Do you think it was a democratic process, you voting on a 52 percent petition for the neighborhood that annexed (INAUDIBLE) special privilege to your community, and then you disrespect us by not holding a ballot vote on this? Incredibly disrespectful. And you said you promised to respect democracy. That's not respecting democracy.