



City of Coral Gables  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
July 13, 2021

**ITEM TITLE:**

**Ordinance on Second Reading.** An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida, amending Chapter 34—Nuisances, Article VI “Noise,” Section 34-170 “Exemptions” of the City Code to create an exemption for outdoor live amplified music on private property in the Central Business District, subject to approval of a permit and conditions; providing for severability, repealer, and codification; and providing for an effective date. (Sponsored by Vice Mayor Mena)

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

Pursuant to City Code section 34-169, outdoor live amplified music generated on the private property of a restaurant establishment is likely to constitute a violation of the City’s noise ordinance, unless the outdoor live amplified music is at a sound level low enough not to constitute a prohibited act. While the special events process allows for higher sound levels (up to 75 dBA if adjacent to a residential area and up to 85 dBA if not adjacent to a residential area), the special events process may be burdensome and cost-prohibitive for restaurant establishments that would like to offer outdoor live amplified music on an ongoing basis.

The proposed ordinance creates an additional exemption to the City’s noise ordinance, such that outdoor live amplified music on private property in the Central Business District shall be allowed, if the establishment has an active outdoor dining permit and, subject to a permit approved by the City Manager or his or her designee and certain additional conditions, including hours of operation and maximum sound levels.

The following changes have been made to the draft ordinance since first reading:

1. Clarification that the revocation or amendment of an outdoor live amplified music permit may be appealed by the holder of the permit.
2. Adding a direction to staff to study and evaluate the effects of the Ordinance for a six-month period and to present a report to the City Commission in January 2022 providing feedback and describing the impact of this Ordinance on the neighboring areas so that the Commission can address any concerns and make any necessary changes to the Ordinance.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Draft Ordinance