



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
September 14, 2021

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinance on First Reading: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COMMISSION OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA, AMENDING SECTION 2-83(B) OF THE CITY CODE, TITLED, "CITIZEN INPUT; ADDRESSING THE CITY COMMISSION" TO ESTABLISH AN AFFIRMATIVE DUTY ON THE CITY CLERK TO INFORM THE CHAIR OF THE CITY COMMISSION WHEN THE ALLOTTED TIME HAS EXPIRED, AND ESTABLISHING A 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT FOR EXTENSIONS OF TIME; AND AMENDING SECTION 2-79(E)(2) OF THE CITY CODE, TITLED, "ORDER OF BUSINESS" TO ESTABLISH AN AFFIRMATIVE DUTY ON THE CITY CLERK TO INFORM THE CHAIR OF THE CITY COMMISSION WHEN THE ALLOTTED TIME HAS EXPIRED, TO ESTABLISH A 3 MINUTE TIME LIMIT FOR EXTENSIONS OF TIME, AND TO CLARIFY THAT ONCE THE PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION IS CLOSED, IT SHALL NOT BE REOPENED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; REPEALER, CODIFICATION; AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE (Sponsored by Commissioner Menendez)

BRIEF HISTORY:

The City Commission is committed to allowing for robust citizen input and recently added the "Open Public Comment" section to the City Code, in order to provide for a public comment period at the beginning of each Commission meeting. The establishment of the "Open Public Comment" section provides those wishing to address the Commission with a specific time during which they may do so without having to wait until the item is called. While hearing from the public is both valuable and necessary, it is also essential for the City Commission to be able to conduct its business in an efficient manner. This ordinance establishes clearer rules and brings greater order to the process surrounding public comments and provides the chairperson with greater tools to ensure efficient City Commission meetings.

1. Draft Ordinance