Mayor Vince Lago's 2023 - 2025 Strategic Priorities Plan

Overview: As part of Mayor Vince Lago's comprehensive targeted approach to govern with integrity and transparency, the following Strategic Priorities Plan outline his priorities as mayor for 2023-2025

The role of Mayor's Citizens Advisory Council is to ensure the fulfillment of the Mayor's Strategic Priorities Plan.

Priority #1 TRANSPARENCY

<u>Goal</u>: To create an open form of government where information is easily accessible, disclosed, and available to the community.

Actions:

- Explore ways to make city information and content easily accessible on the city website
- Disclosure of annual Mayor's Office expenditures and city reports on the city website
- Integrate City information on all technological platforms such as social media, website and mobile app

Priority #2 ACCOUNTABILITY

<u>Goal</u>: Pursue excellence by reviewing our current processes and making any necessary improvements.

Actions:

- Independent Financial Analysis- Request the support of the City Commission to conduct an independent financial analysis of the city's finances and review of departmental budgets and expenditures. Once the audit results are completed, the audit will be made available to the public on the city website
- Ensure that development projects adhere to the terms outlined in their Development Agreement contracts

Priority #3 ENGAGE EVERYONE WITH OUTREACH

<u>Goal</u>: Explore all opportunities to enhance civic engagement, listen to community concerns, and share information while remaining accessible and building on our residents' passion and the desire to shape the future of Coral Gables.

Actions:

- Biannual Town Hall meetings and neighborhood specific Town Hall meetings in different zones
- Weekly Office Hours sessions

- Distribution of informational newsletter
- Social media engagement
- Identify and incorporate new methodologies to ensure the city engages a broad audience.
- Work with community partners to increase participation in public meetings, city activities, and conversations about the future of Coral Gables
- Develop a council of city neighborhood associations
- Welcome letters to new residents with updated city information
- Utilizing the Coral Gables website and app to send communication notices
- Rebranding social media presence with the addition of a slogan and YouTube channel
- Explore the possibility of moving election dates to general election years to increase voter turnout

Priority #4 ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE, ENCOURAGE A THRIVING BUSINESS COMMUNITY, AND ENRICH OUR COMMUNITY WITH CULTURE.

Goal: Explore opportunities to make the city a more livable enjoyable destination.

Actions:

- Expansion of trolley service from residential areas to downtown and include Sunday service
- Work with staff to address traffic concerns, divert congestion, make streets safer for pedestrians and expedite traffic calming initiatives
- Assess opportunities to increase parks and green space inventory
- Implementation of sidewalks where missing
- Complete landscaping median on Ponce
- Park activations
- Completion of municipal parking garages 1 and 7
- Improve our existing larger parks (The Youth Center, Salvadore, Phillips, etc.) and re-allocate budget dollars to make this possible
- Strong assertion of Home Rule; engage with local and state government officials
- Integrate world-class art and cultural events
- Completion of the Coral Gables segment of The Underline
- Assess the City's existing Art in Public Places Program
- Parks: finalize acquisition of Lee Lincoln parcel and add 8-10 parks in downtown

Priority #5 ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

Goal: To create a more sustainable city, reduce our carbon footprint, reduce energy savings, and educate the community on the importance of caring for the environment.

Actions:

- Host coastal clean-up and environmental events to promote awareness
- Build partnerships and leverage relationship with environmental stakeholders, educational institutions, and organizations
- Explore and consider adopting additional sustainable policies
- Advance sustainable initiatives that aim to improve the environmental, social, and economic health of Coral Gables
- Explore and integrate technology to monitor and track environmental investments and consistently review our performance and costs savings
- Relocation and/or removal of invasive species
- Review the possibility to allowing metal roofs in the zoning code which will reduce energy costs (this will not be applicable to historic designated properties)
- Management of mangroves
- Identify funding strategies that would help fund environmental initiatives that fit within the scope our city's long-term sustainability efforts

Priority #6 KEEP THE CITY BEAUTIFUL AND MAINTAIN THE CITY'S HISTORIC INTEGRITY

Goal: Preserve the historic integrity of the City.

Actions:

- Undergrounding of FPL utility lines
- Adhere to the City of Coral Gables Zoning Code
- Educate the community on swale and trash pit rules and requirements
- Ensure city and county bridges are up to standard
- Support the city neighborhood association board (currently being established)

Priority #7 A SAFE AND HEALTHY CITY

Goal: Maintain a safe and healthy city for everyone.

Actions:

- Complete new fire station on Sunset
- Referendum of High Pines and Ponce Davis area to square off city's borders and improve public safety
- Collaborate with Miami-Dade County and neighboring municipalities on strategic public safety initiatives such as: anti-human trafficking and anti-prostitution joint police enforcement efforts and making city streets safer
- Educate community on safety tips
- Finalize Fire Station 4
- Add additional police and fire personnel

Priority #8 CUSTOMER-FOCUSED SERVICE

Goal: Provide exceptional services that meet or exceed the expectations of the community.

Actions:

- Improve Building Department's turnaround times and digitalizing permitting services
- Make city website more user friendly
- Reevaluate permit process

Priority #9 TRAILBLAZING WITH TECHNOLOGY

Goal: Enhance our city's technology infrastructure to support our city's smart initiatives and improve communication with the Coral Gables community.

Actions:

- Making City's Information Technology Initiatives easy to understand by all age groups with an effective communication campaign
- Support the development and launch of a mobile application to consistently send out information alerts to residents and make it accessible to a larger network of followers
- Investigate feasibility to add free internet for all residents