



City of Coral Gables  
CITY COMMISSION MEETING  
September 13, 2022

**ITEM TITLE:**

**Ordinance on Second Reading:** An Ordinance of the City Commission of the City of Coral Gables, Florida amending Chapter 62 “Streets, Sidewalks and Other Public Places, Article IV “Maintenance of Sidewalks and Swale Areas,” Section 62-153 “Removal of Obstructions” and Section 62-156 “Buttons and Other Encroachments Prohibited” of the City Code to clarify provisions regarding obstructions and/or encroachments on streets, sidewalks, or swale areas; providing for severability, repealer, codification, and an effective date.

**BRIEF HISTORY:**

Section 62-153 of the City Code sets forth the procedure for removal of obstructions upon any street, sidewalk, or swale area within the City and provides that violations are punishable as provided in Section 1-7 of the City Code. The proposed ordinance amends Section 62-153 to make it abundantly clear that placing, maintaining, or allowing an obstruction upon any street, sidewalk, or swale area within the City is prohibited and a code enforcement violation and clarifies that “obstruction” does not include any tree, shrub, swale treatment, or encroachment approved in writing by the city commission or city manager. Additionally, the proposed ordinance amends Sections 62-153 and Section 62-156 to specify the procedures for imposing a special assessment lien for removal of obstructions or encroachments by the City.

The proposed ordinance was approved on first reading at the August 24, 2022 City Commission meeting. The only change between first and second reading is the addition of “or as otherwise permitted by the City Code” to the exceptions to “obstructions.”

1. Draft Ordinance