

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item J-4
November 13, 2018
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Raul Valdes-Fauli
Vice Mayor Vince Lago
Commissioner Pat Keon
Commissioner Michael Mena
Commissioner Frank Quesada

City Staff

City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Attorney, Miriam Ramos
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia
Interim Public Works Director, Hermes Diaz

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item J-4 [6:25:55 p.m.]

A Resolution authorizing encroachments into the public right-of-way, consisting of the installation of water service backflow preventer, a carbon dioxide (Co2) canister and protective bollards located at the alley behind 5833 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables, Florida.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Last presentation of the evening, J-4.

City Attorney Ramos: J-4 A Resolution authorizing encroachments into the public right-of-way, consisting of the installation of water service backflow preventer, a carbon dioxide (Co2) canister and protective bollards located at the alley behind 5833 Ponce de Leon Boulevard, Coral Gables, Florida.

Interim Director Hermes Diaz: Good evening, this is Hermes Diaz, I'm the Interim Director of Public Works; and this specific item is for Miami's Best Pizza and they want to install backflow preventer, a gas meter, carbon dioxide canister and protective bollards. So, we recommend against the carbon dioxide canister for a couple of reasons. The size of the canister is 20 inches,

by the time you have the space between the wall and the bollards, you are losing about two and-a-half to three feet of a 20-foot alley; and we have some concerns that we'll also be setting a poor precedent, as far as people just putting stuff out into a public alley, supposed to be a working alley with utilities and deliveries.

Commissioner Quesada: There is no one here today representing them.

City Manager Iglesias: This canister is for soft drinks.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What?

City Manager Iglesias: Soft drinks.

Commissioner Quesada: It's comical to me we are talking about a soft drink canister.

Interim Director Diaz: Correct.

Commissioner Quesada: You don't have anyone here to sort of defend them.

City Manager Iglesias: The issue of Public Works is it projects too much into the alley.

Commissioner Quesada: I understand that. What I don't feel comfortable voting on this is they are not here to explain what the situation is.

Commissioner Keon: They can't put it within their building?

Interim Director Diaz: I think I saw someone here earlier, but I wasn't sure.

Vice Mayor Lago: But, is it a hazard by putting it in the alley. Is that the main issue?

Interim Director Diaz: Its being protected with bollards; it's about a 20-foot alley that now is going to have an affected width of 17 feet, basically the way it's being proposed right now, with the protective bollards.

Vice Mayor Lago: Why don't you put some signs in front of it?

Interim Director Diaz: Sure, maybe we could do that.

Commissioner Keon: Could it be placed within their property, within their building?

Interim Director Diaz: It is not uncommon – the gas meter and the backflow preventer, some of those areas that are really tight, this is not uncommon. We are not opposed to that. You could put the bollards maybe 18 inches...not ideal, but you've got power poles and things of that nature, we have no problem with the canister.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What is your recommendation?

Interim Director Diaz: Our recommendation is, we don't have an objection for the meter, the backflow, and the protective bollards, we do have an issue with the canister.

Commissioner Keon: So they'd like them to put the canister within their property, within their building?

Interim Director Diaz: Correct.

Commissioner Keon: OK. I'll move it.

Vice Mayor Lago: Its impossible.

Commissioner Keon: How do you know it's impossible?

Commissioner Quesada: I agree with staff's recommendation, but I move.

Commissioner Keon: I'll second it.

Vice Mayor Lago: They are stating that they can't, right?

Commissioner Keon: They are stating that they don't want to.

Interim Director Diaz: Probably the whole thing is that it isn't on the original plans that they submitted for review.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Wait a second. Motion has been made and seconded.

Commissioner Mena: What is the motion?

Commissioner Keon: To require them to put it inside their building.

Vice Mayor Lago: Thank you.

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes
Commissioner Mena: Yes
Commissioner Quesada: Yes
Commissioner Keon: Yes
Mayor Valdes-Fauli: No
(Vote: 4-1)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes, I change my vote.

[End: 6:29:00 p.m.]