

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item G-8
July 11, 2017
City Commission Chambers
405 Biltmore Way, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

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

City Staff

City Manager, Cathy Swanson-Rivenbark
City Attorney, Craig E. Leen
City Clerk, Walter J. Foeman
Deputy City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item G-8 [2:37:09 p.m.]

A discussion regarding the City's participation in Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayor's Challenge
(Sponsored by Commissioner Lago)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Next Commissioner Lago, City's participation in Bloomberg Philanthropies Mayor's Challenge.

Commissioner Lago: Briefly also, I was reached out by Mayor Manny Diaz from the City of Miami, and he gave me a great idea. Bloomberg has put together a challenge, Mayor Bloomberg from New York, and what they are going to choose is, and we've already signed up, took the liberty of signing up, and again, if you don't want to do it, we don't have to do it; and its 300 cities are going to be the cap and what the purpose of it is they are going to choose 35 cities and they are going to award them \$100,000 to basically start working on your idea; and those 35 cities are going to choose five cities and award \$5 million, OK. But what you need to do is, and this is a challenge to staff, the innovation board, the Commission, anybody who is listening, we need to come up with an idea which is groundbreaking and has never been done before in the City. Something that will make our City that will challenge our City, to deliver on a promise, to

deliver on what we do every day on behalf of the residents. If it's the environment, if its smart parking, if it's something that deals with water quality, but there are opportunities, and it has to have never been done.

Vice Mayor Keon: In the City?

Commissioner Lago: No, no.

Vice Mayor Keon: Ever – ever any place.

Commissioner Lago: Yes. Through the Mayor's challenge, cities are invited to define a clear problem, an answer with a solution that is as concrete as it is compelling. Once cities accept the challenge and apply, an independent selection committee reviews the proposal and selects the promising idea to move forward. Finalists receive a targeted coaching and attend idea camps; a two-day gathering or entrance stretch and strengthen and refine their ideas in collaboration with one another. So the idea is the opportunity is here, we've just got to challenge ourselves to find a deficiency that we have in the City or how can we refine our approach. We can get a lot of publicity in this and we could potentially tackle an issue that we don't have an answer for at the present moment. It could be a financial issue; it could be an issue with budgeting. Any city, it doesn't have to be about an environmental cost. Just wanted to bring that up and see what your interests were and maybe we can talk about it in a few months or I'll send some sort of – and sit down with the Manager and come up with some ideas.

Commissioner Mena: That's great.

[End: 2:39:30 p.m.]