

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Items H-18
May 19, 2026
Public Safety Building, CMR
2151 Salzedo Street, Coral Gables, FL

City Commission

Mayor Vince Lago
Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson
Commissioner Melissa Castro
Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Commissioner Richard D. Lara

City Staff

City Attorney, Cristina Suárez
City Manager, Peter Iglesias
City Clerk, Billy Urquia

Public Speaker(s)

Former Mayor Don Slesnick

Agenda Item H-18 [Start: 11:20 a.m.]

Coral Gables Street Lighting Infrastructure Update and FPL Lighting Catalog

Mayor Lago: We're going to take item, agenda item H-18, which is a time certain. I'd like to have our Mayor Don Slesnick, who's here with us, please join us for a moment. First and foremost, thank you, Mayor, for being here. And I apologize for not recognizing you earlier. Mayor, welcome.

Mayor Slesnick: Thank you, Mayor and Madam Vice Mayor and Commissioners. I appreciate the opportunity to come before you and to speak on the issue that is coming before you about the streetlamp post of Coral Gables. It's an item that you've heard from me before. And this is my last opportunity probably to speak on it. And Dr. Silverman impressed me today about saying that we should not be complaining. So please, I'm not here to complain. I am not even here to ask what Coral Gables can do for me, but what I can do for Coral Gables. So, I'm trying to keep that spirit alive. And a couple of my resident friends, my neighbors, and another few board members said, you know, don't waste your time. It's kind of a lost cause. But I felt like the students in Les Mis,

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you know, building the barricades to at least take my last stand and let you know how I feel about the issue. So, this is about the replacement of our fluted silver lamp post around the city. And first, FP&L. FP&L from the beginning has not acted as I consider, as a good corporate citizen. There used to be an expression that the customer is always right. Now I think FP&L takes the position that the customer's opinion doesn't matter. We're all FP&L customers. Like you, I have been since a child, not because of choice, but because FP&L is the only provider that I can use. And in many times, as I have spoken with FP&L and they know I have taken FP&L's position publicly when others did not. And I have stood up for FP&L, and I have worked with FP&L when I sat in one of the seats that you now sit in during post-hurricane seasons when FP&L provided incredible service to the community by resupplying us with electricity. So, I do not have a longstanding issue with FP&L, but in this particular case, I think that we have not been treated fairly. Seemingly in 2018, there was an agreement that FP&L proposed to the city to remove the fluted silver streetlamp post from their catalog. Those of us who live in Coral Gables, those of us who live on streets with the fluted silver streetlamp post, we're never told about this proposal. We're never asked about the proposal. We're never considered in the fact that they removed them from the catalog for future catalog use. While these are not the original Whiteway Lights that are sometimes talked about, which now line a small section of University and Riviera, these fluted lights that now line your streets of Alhambra Circle from LeJeune Road to Coral Way, Granada from Southwest 8th Street to Bird Road. They ring the Granada Golf Course. The Granada Golf Course ring is not as old. And on DeSoto Boulevard, while they're not the original Whiteway Lights, they have stood in your city for over half a century. Over half a century, they have been, in fact, probably a good deal longer than that because I know when I moved here half a century ago, they were here. And they are part of the look and the feel of Coral Gables, a look and a feel that, as you know, and you're sitting in the hot seats, and I know that what you go through every day to try to keep Coral Gables Coral Gables while seeing the advantage of progress and the bringing in of new developments, I mean, these are part of our look and our feel. And they make our city part of that, what we are, the City Beautiful. And then as the final foray of FP&L, there was what I call the midnight removal of the lights around the golf course, without notice to the neighbors, without notice to anybody. In fact, as you've heard before, I had to be told by a friend that there were new lights going in across the street from my house without my knowledge. And these are lights that we can find in Wynwood or other places. They are not Coral Gables lights. And then the refusal through long extended conversations. And I know the Manager has worked on this for probably over a year, Peter, to try to talk to FP&L about putting them back in or making some accommodation in their catalog, their refusal. Of course, it takes two, and as we now know, I guess there was a 2018 agreement between the city and FP&L to remove them from the catalog. Two of your committees have unanimously recommended that the City Commission and the city administration do what it can to work with FP&L to try to find a solution to keep our look as our City Beautiful. You know, in our commercial district, we spend a lot of time and effort putting in tree line medians to make the city look good and public art. And I know a lot of that money comes from development fees from the developers

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and impact fees. And I was thinking, I don't know why I didn't think about it, Mr. Mayor, when I was sitting in your seat, but we have so many new residential developments that come into the city, residential that are taking whole blocks like on Segovia and so forth. Impact fees for those developments, which would help us support the additional costs of the appropriate streetlights. And I know how important appropriate streetlights are. Go look at Codina's new building, the beautiful new streetlights that he has installed around his building at his expense, I'm sure. But I mean, I'm telling you, streetlamps can be a critical part of the look of a city. I got a call from the architect of the Segovia project, who was outraged that the city's told her that they couldn't have the streetlights they want unless they paid for them. But the reason I bring it up is because streetlamps were critical to her and her new development. And so, this is something that I think should not be overlooked as something important. And remember, we're talking about miles of streets. These lamps are on miles of streets. If you add up the mileage along the streets I named, it is something else. So, for my two positives, not complaints, but suggestions are that one, I would think maybe some type of impact fee for residential developments that might help us support the additional costs if there are additional costs. And secondly, Mr. Mayor, and I know that each of you are influential people in this community. You've each won elections. You've each seen that the residents of Coral Gables treasure your leadership. And I would only urge that before a final decision is made that Mr. Mayor, that maybe you can ask for a face-to-face meeting with the president of Florida Power and Light. As for now, we're dealing with local representatives of the area. And I know we've dealt with a vice president, but in your capacity as Mayor, a meeting with the President of FP&L I think is appropriate to see if we can't get them back in the catalog. And I can tell you that I have looked at this from several different sides. I know FP&L's arguments, and I think that they are arguments that can be countered and overcome, but that's my humble opinion. I come here to offer that to you, not as a complainer, but as a person standing for the last time on his barricade in front of his house, waiting for me to be taken down. So, thank you. Thank you for the time. I appreciate it.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Mayor. It's always a pleasure to have you.

Commissioner Castro: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: If I may.

Public Works Director Diaz: Good morning. Hermes Diaz, Public Works Director. Billy, if we could have the presentation up, please. Thank you. We have a brief presentation regarding the street light replacement, a little bit of the history behind it. So currently, the City of Coral Gables streetlight inventory includes approximately 3,100 streetlights, out of those, approximately 2,500 are maintained by FP&L, and about 600 are owned and maintained by the city. The city-owned streetlights are maintained by a single electrician and a competitively procured electrical contractor. In fiscal year 2025, the city paid FP&L approximately \$927,000 for electricity and

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maintenance for right-of-way streetlights, and we have approximately 280 concrete black Washington poles versus a little bit over 400 of those fiberglass silver poles. These don't include lights that may be located on state, county roads, some lights that are owned and maintained through HOA, special tax districts, et cetera. A little bit of the history behind it. The city entered into several what is called a premium lighting agreement with FP&L between 1990 and 2019 for over 400 streetlights, and those were intended to be for a term of 20 years. After those 20 years, the choice was for the city to either enter into a new agreement with FP&L, have those lights replaced, or the city do it on our own, at our own expense. Out of that total, and these are the ones in question, there's 137 fiberglass lights. These include 86 along North and South Greenway Drive, 19 lights along Harlano and Wood Street, and 32 lights along San Amaro and Camposano Avenues. The silver poles are no longer available through FP&L Catalog, and I just want to clarify that the city did not enter into an agreement with FP&L to remove the lights from the catalog. The city has no input in what is into the catalog. What we did enter into an agreement in June of 2022, because we were in an obligation to replace those lights that had expired under the original agreement, we executed an agreement for the replacement of those existing lights with black Washington concrete poles. And currently, there's approximately 13 fiberglass of those that still remain, mostly around South Greenway Drive. And that conversion was stopped by the City Commission on December 12th of 2023. On March 12th, 2026, FP&L denied the city's request to include the silver fiberglass or similar poles in their catalog. Now, the cost of replacement. So, if we were to replace the 137 fiberglass streetlights, poles, and fixtures with city-owned lights, the cost will be approximately \$2.6 million. This includes upgraded infrastructure, because the City of Coral Gables, we work on different codes. The city works on the National Electrical Code, while public utilities, they work on the National Electric Safety Code. So, we'll be required to replace the existing infrastructure. In addition to the fact that FP&L will charge us for what is called the present value costs of those units already being installed, we're looking about \$3.2 million dollars' worth of upfront costs, plus electricity plus maintenance, if the city were to replace those lights and take over, as opposed to the alternative, which is the path that we were previously on, which you're looking at \$518,000 in payments to FP&L over the following 20 years, which include electricity and maintenance costs. If we were to limit that replacement to only the 86 lights on North and South Greenway, you're looking at \$1.7 million for the infrastructure and \$291,000 in additional payments to FP&L. You're looking at approximately \$2 million of upfront costs, plus electricity and maintenance, versus \$325,000 in payments to FP&L over the following 20 years. And what follows is a photo of basically the fiberglass and the Washington pole, excuse me, the fiberglass silver pole is approximately 10-foot tall, mounting high. The Washington poles are a little bit taller, 15-foot mounting height. And our request is that the Commission rescinds resolution number 2023-360, so that FP&L is allowed to complete the transition into the black Washington poles, the 13 that are remaining. Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you very much. Mr. Clerk, do we have any public comment?

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City Clerk Urquia: Mr. Mayor, the Commission has not taken action.

Mayor Lago: Okay.

Commissioner Castro: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Castro: Mayor Don Slesnick, thank you so much for your words. Your words reflect the sentiment of many other residents, not only today, but in the past year and a half. Now, lighting, even for a simple house, lighting is so important, and it makes such a drastic difference in not only a building, in our common streets and in our residential homes. So, I completely share your sentiment as well. I was thinking about what you just said about the impact fees, right, and I don't know how feasible that is, but I would love to look into it, maybe put this on hold for a moment. And I would move to direct the City Manager to look at the feasibility of maybe funding these lights with impact fees or maybe changing legislation and make it part of maybe the art fund. Let's consider maybe these lights art, see if maybe there's a different way to fund this that won't affect the General Fund. Let's look into it before we make this permanent decision that I know is so important to our community. So, I would move to direct the City Manager to look into maybe incorporating this as part of impact fees or new development, surrounding development, obviously, or maybe begin to work in some new legislation to make this part of the art.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: So, if I may, we're not taking action on this item, number one, first and foremost. What the Commissioner is talking about is what we did with the Whiteway Lights in regard to taking Art in Public Places monies and using it for the Whiteway Lights. I wrote that legislation. The reason why that was possible is because those were historic, these are not historic. You can't do that. And the City Attorney will give you the guidance on that. I don't want to waste people's time. We have a long agenda today, and she can explain that. I don't want to give people false hope and go down a rabbit hole, it doesn't work. You want to go down impact fees and figure that out. That's perfectly fine. You can work with staff. This is not an action item. What we're doing is updating the Commission that we have to bring this item forward eventually and address it. We have lighting that is not complete, especially in certain areas around the golf course that need to be addressed. Mayor Slesnick asked me if I would meet with the President of FP&L. It wouldn't be the first time I met with the President of FP&L. That's how I was able 10 years ago to accomplish the undergrounding that is currently underway here in the City of Coral Gables. It was a long-drawn-out process, took years to get that done. And I worked on it, and I was a sponsor of that legislation. Now I have met with the leadership team of FP&L multiple times. They've been very clear since the beginning, since Commissioner Fernandez brought this out in 2023 and the project stalled. They are not moving. This is the way it's going to be. They have four items, four

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light poles for the entire state. They're not making exceptions. If you go back on the public record and I have it here, I was very clear to Commissioner Fernandez that I don't want to do political grandstanding. Trust me, I want to give the residents that view this as an issue what they want. There's no skin off my back, whether they're silver or they're black. I have no issues with it. On many occasions they were said that these are historic. They're not historic poles. They're fiberglass poles. I have these in my neighborhood right now. So, something needs to happen. What we're having today here is an update. I have no issues meeting with, asking and requesting to meet with the President of FP&L. We have sent them letters. My understanding, I can't even fully remember. We've been in contact with them. We've met with staff. They have said no repeatedly on this matter. Eventually we have to move forward or which I'm not willing to enter into a lawsuit. And I'm not willing to enter into a lawsuit with FP&L once again. I've been there and I inherited a lawsuit, which was the transformer, excuse me, the transmission lines. Thank you, Madam City Attorney. And that was a disaster of epic proportion costing millions of dollars. So, we need to move forward on this item. Not say moving forward today, but we need to finalize it, bring it in for a landing. No one wants to accept the reality, but FP&L has been unequivocal and clear since 2023. They are not going to give us what we want. And we have to make a decision.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Through the Mayor.

Commissioner Castro: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: If I may, we're going to go down. Everyone's going to get a chance to speak. Madam Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Anderson: So, it was roughly a year ago or more that we started this journey. And at that time, I asked the question of the City Attorney, and I received the answer that no, we cannot use Art in Public Places fees or replacement of these lights. In addition, the thoughts of doing additional impact fees are one of those things that resonate through Tallahassee, where impact fees are not an invited term and will instead invite for other preemption upon our city if we do additional impact fees. So, I'm going to come full circle for just a moment because the project that was spoken of on Segovia regarding lighting, I'd wanted to put in some red artistic poles. And because of the streetscape that we have on Segovia, those would have clashed drastically with what we currently have. So, I was a no vote on those because it lacks the thematic consistency that we need throughout our city. It's unfortunate that FP&L will not add these poles back into their catalog. But I do think we need to move forward because lighting is important. And if the lights aren't working and we're not able to maintain them and they get hit by cars and they get damaged, which we've had many instances of that happening, we need to move forward.

Commissioner Castro: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Well, everyone will have a chance to speak. Anyone else like to speak on this issue?

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Commissioner Fernandez: I would actually. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. So, Mayor Slesnick, you never turned down an opportunity to serve your city and we appreciate that. I know the amount of hours that you and Michael Maxwell have put into this effort doing research. Mr. Maxwell has incredible experience in this area from his time in other states on similar projects. And the reason that I passed that, that I moved that resolution in 2023 was because we weren't getting clear answers from FPL. It was just no, but there was no explanation as to why the other options were not being considered. And it's just, at the end of the day, it's a financial decision that FPL is making. This is what happens when you have a monopoly. Nobody gets an option. They will force whatever they want on the City of Coral Gables and that's the end of the line. It's unfortunate, it really is, because if there has been a city that has been a good partner to FPL, every opportunity it's been Coral Gables. And we're just getting the door slammed in our face because it's going to save them a few bucks. The Vice Mayor is 100 percent correct. We're going to have to make a decision as far as lighting at some point. Unfortunately, we're not in a financial position based on what we don't know still from Tallahassee, to make a decision to put in lights ourselves. The Manager has made the argument many times. We're not in the business of putting up lighting. I understand both sides of the argument, but I'm not there today to give up the fight. I would like to get some clarity from the City Attorney. I know the Vice Mayor said that Commissioner Castro's motion would not be possible. Would the City attorney be able to provide us some clarity on the question posed by Commissioner Castro regarding the possibility of either the impact fees or the Art in Public Places, just so that we have it on the record?

City Attorney Suarez: Yes. So, the zoning code provides a definition in the Art in Public Places section of the zoning code. And for what those monies can be used for, what the fund, the Art Acquisition Fund can be used for, general street lighting would not fall within the definition of that. And in terms of impact fees, we do not currently have an impact fee for street lighting. There is a process for developing and imposing additional impact fees in our city or under the State of Florida's rules. And it would have to fit into the criteria for imposing an impact fee, which is that it has to be directly related to the development and has to have a rational nexus to the development and so that's a process. And I don't know that it would fit squarely within that process.

Commissioner Fernandez: And I think you just hit the nail on the head. I think the biggest issue, Mayor Slesnick, is that it has to be in close proximity to a development project. And I think when we're talking about an area like North and South Greenway, we have very few development projects that are currently being either considered or underway in that area that would be, I think, close enough to have an impact fee that would apply to it. We can definitely put it out there to developers who are willing to work in this city. They've been very creative about projects that they've been taking on. And maybe this is a project that they'd be interested in taking on when they're doing proffers for their development projects. I mean, it's a very tough decision because we really have absolutely no control of it. And those who do, they just want to save their money.

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City Manager Iglesias: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes, sir.

City Manager Iglesias: Thank you, Mayor. Just to clarify everything that has been said. We do have impact fees for parks, mobility, police, and fire. Maybe mobility can be used for lighting because it's within the right of way. That would be, if it's not, it would be a fifth impact fee. The reason FP&L is not providing these lights under catalog, and by the way, we're using the premium catalog for Coral Gables. We're using the most premium lights that they have is because they deal with so many cities that the inventory they would have to carry would be tremendous. And that is a financial issue. The problem that we have with lighting is as I've mentioned before, and you know, we're not in the pole business. When we took over as the Whiteway Lights, as when we took over the Whiteway Lights from FP&L, is that we have to redo everything, infrastructure, the whole thing, because we're under a different code. They're under a National Safety Code. We're under a National Electrical Code, which means that we only have to take up the lights, but we have to do the whole electrical system new again. In addition to that, we're dealing with millions of dollars for the maintenance of our current system and for the replacement of our current system versus a 20-year payment, which is a brand-new tariff that occurred a few years ago under the Public Service Commission, which is very favorable to the city. So instead of paying millions of dollars up front, we may be paying hundreds of thousands of dollars over a 20-year period. So, it's a substantial difference from a monetary perspective. In addition to that, if we have a major storm, if we have something that damages these poles, then it would be under FP&L. If we have a hurricane, for instance, a coastal zone, you have a storm surge, wipes out all those poles, we have millions of dollars in pole replacement. We have a major hurricane, we would have millions of dollars, especially as some of these older poles deteriorate, we would have millions of dollars of liability in that. Now, under this new tariff, not only do we pay a small percentage of the cost, but also FP&L incurs maintenance and liability for those poles. We are not in the pole business. For us to do pole work is very expensive. And that's why we would like to proceed with it. It's something that is just exceedingly expensive. And with the uncertainties in the state legislature now and with our budget, I'm not sure if we can afford millions of dollars and the additional liability that that would cause.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Mr. Manager. Commissioner, do you have anything you'd like to add, or you want me to wrap it up?

Commissioner Lara: Well, yeah, I think that's probably the best way to put it. There's not much more to add. Everyone has already expressed robustly all the issues that need to be considered. I'm a big fan, obviously, of Mayor Slesnick, of your championing all the causes, especially those that are near and dear to us who believe in historic preservation. On this one, the scales tip, in my view, pretty heavily in a decision that is really not within our grasp. I personally think that the silver ones

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look better than the black ones, but I don't think the distinction could possibly justify, in all fairness, an expense that we just can't incur at this time in good conscience, given that the exorbitant amount of the cost associated with the maintenance and the repair and the service of them would be borne by FPL as opposed to Coral Gables at a time. But I do appreciate all of your words and your sentiments and your views. But like everyone has already said, it seems to me like it's a decision that's frankly outside of our hands, given everything that's on the scales.

Mayor Lago: Thank you. I'm going to just make a few points in regard to the Mayor and Commissioner Castro. First and foremost, in regards to the Mayor, Madam City Attorney, through the Manager together, let's try to schedule a meeting with FPL, with the President, and let's document that effort with the President and make sure that that individual's in town or I'll even fly to Tallahassee on my own dime if I have to fly to Tallahassee to meet with this individual. But we already have met with multiple higher ups and Addis has been front and center on this front. That's number one, we'll make the effort before we bring it back to make a decision at the next Commission meeting. That's number one. Number two, there's a lot of uncertainty right now with Tallahassee in regard to property tax reform. There isn't one person in this room that can tell you that they have a crystal ball where this is going to land. Nobody can tell you. How severe, how minimal is it going to be? We don't know. But we do know that you can't touch police and fire, which when you look at the budget, it's the largest part of the budget. Just think about it, how we're being handcuffed. By the way, I just want to be very clear, I am in favor of property tax reform, but not at the expense of services. When you talk about maintenance, the Manager hit the nail on the head. We're not in the pole business. This is not about just replacing poles, if there's a hurricane. You have to now buy trucks, boom trucks. You have to have personnel that understand this type of work. It's not like you can just use our incredibly dedicated and brilliant staff. It's a whole set of new individuals that need to be hired, that are on the pension, that need to be paid for, that need to be on the ready if a hurricane comes. We have hundreds of poles. That's why FP&L has the infrastructure to be able to do this. We don't have the infrastructure. So, it's not just the millions of dollars in poles, it's the millions of dollars in the backup that needs to be at the ready if a hurricane happens. The cost is exorbitant. When we make comments like, let's use Art in Public Places monies. We all know the answer to that already. I don't like to give people false hope, knowing that the answer is already there. We can't use it. It's not right. Because then we get emails and we have to respond and explain or get clips from the Clerk where the City Attorney says it once again that that money cannot be used for this type of infrastructure. Trust me, I wrote the law to use it for the Whiteway Lights. Taking it from Art in Public Places, two and a half, I think it was two and a half million dollars or something to that effect or so. And I'm a fan and an advocate of the arts, but I understand the importance and the historic significance of the Whiteway Lights. We got it done. You can't use that money here, okay. So, FP&L, I don't want to get into whether they're the good guys and we're the good guys and they're the bad guys. At the end of the day, we have to work hand in hand with them. And I want to move forward. We're not taking action today.

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There's no action item today. I will meet with the President. I've made that request. Addis is shaking her head. I will meet with the President, with Addis, our City Manager and our City Attorney. I was able to address multiple, through multiple negotiations, things like the Mark to bring the Mark back into the city. To address issues like Henry Torres' project years ago when we had issues with a trolley, I was also negotiated that issue and got us out of a multimillion-dollar legal battle that we were in. So, I'm more than willing, but I've already gone down this rabbit hole multiple times and they're entrenched in their opinion that they want to simplify the process, because of how many municipalities are dealing with. But I want to put it again, we are receiving the highest quality premier poles, whether you like it or not, like Commissioner Lara said, I'm a fan of the silver, not of the fiberglass. I would rather have a silver pole that's a little bit more durable, to be honest with you. But I do like the silver more than the black. As a matter of fact, Ms. Carrillo, I like to look at some of the poles in my neighborhood because I'm seeing them have some staining issues. And I want to see if maybe that's something to do with sprinklers or has to do with the black that's staining as a result of the sun, but we can look at those things when we have a little bit more time. So, moving forward, we have in front of us the answers that we had in 2023, nothing has changed. Nothing has changed. I want to make sure everybody's aware we have to move forward. We cannot make massive investments on poles where, let's say we do buy them for millions and millions and millions of dollars. I cannot sleep at night knowing that I'm responsible for all of the lighting in the City of Coral Gables if it goes out. That to me is a possible catastrophic situation when you talk about during a hurricane or a maintenance issue. So, I think what we should do is work in conjunction with the FP&L. I'll meet with the President. I'll work hand in hand with Mayor Slesnick on this issue like the Manager and I have been to Mayor Slesnick's house, have been there in front of those poles and have looked at the issue. We understand what the residents want. It's clear as day. Let me see what we can do with the President. Give it one final stab. I will always be willing to meet with anybody and see how we can advocate. I do not want to go the legal route, and I do not want to spend millions and millions and millions of dollars because it's not the investment in the poles, it's the investment in the lifelong maintenance of those poles. It will be potentially catastrophic for us. So, I don't want to make this a political issue. I think we need to move forward. We have a long agenda today and I really appreciate Mayor Slesnick being here along with FP&L. We have to take action at the next Commission meeting. Okay, Mr. Clerk, Mr. Manager, I'd like to see this item back on the agenda. And I would like to have a meeting with the President of FP&L. I will go to Palm Beach. I will go wherever is needed with you, and we'll have that meeting in an effort to see if we can negotiate something further. Yes.

Commissioner Castro: So, if this item is going to be back on the agenda for the next Commission meeting, this is not an action item, but you can definitely move, and it could become an action item. I'm going to ask the City Manager to please look into any other type of funding source to bring up with this item as well. That's my motion. If I have a second, that would be amazing.

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Mayor Lago: Excuse me for one second. Mr. Manager, have we already looked at every possible funding source in regard to paying for these polls?

City Manager Iglesias: That is correct, Mayor.

Mayor Lago: We can do it again for politics. We can do it again. Who would like to second that?

Commissioner Fernandez: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes. Before we make it, do you have us, you want to second this?

Commissioner Fernandez: Well, I would because the Manager did say we could consider mobility impact fees when he was speaking earlier. So, I just-

Vice Mayor Anderson: Through the Mayor.

Commissioner Castro: So, I just wanted clarity. Have we considered mobility already or have we not?

City Manager Iglesias: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

City Manager Iglesias: Mobility fees are not; we don't get millions of dollars in mobility fees. We use those for roadway improvements. We use those for resurfacing. We use those for that. So, we would have to cut out resurfacing and some of the other major things on roads to pay for a huge differential in lighting with FP&L. So that would cause a lot of maintenance, whatever from what we get in the mobility fee. It's much lower fee than the parks impact fee.

Mayor Lago: And if I may, Madam Vice Mayor, we've gone through all of this already. We're robbing Peter to pay Paul. So, whatever you do is going to hurt something else here in the city. Just like the gas fee. Gas fee that we get from the county is continuing to drop as a result of people using more and more electric cars. We're losing these fees. And the Vice Mayor made a very good point. We have to be very thoughtful and be very careful in regard to preemption, very careful. So, I'm more than willing to have a meeting and sit down and see what we can do. We've done this before on multiple occasions. We've been trying since 2023. The only thing that is suffering right now is the neighborhoods due to a lack of lighting in the neighborhoods. Those lights have not been installed and it's an issue. The conduits are there in many places, for example, in Mayor Slesnick's home. I was on site with the Mayor and the City Manager looking at the issue when these lights were removed in 2023. Yes, sir.

City Manager Iglesias: Through the Mayor. Commissioner, the reason I mentioned the mobility fee is because that's a right-of-way fee and it deals with mobility, all kinds of mobility. So, to add

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more impact fees to that, we would have to justify that. It would have to be through an impact fee study. And we'd have to justify an additional increase in that mobility fee, which is quite difficult to do and requires a complete study to do so.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Madam Vice Mayor.

Vice Mayor Anderson: Before we have a second and you regret it, I'm going to highlight for you the decades that individuals in the Biltmore Way area have been waiting for additional traffic calming. There was a resolution that I placed that was voted in by this Commission to prioritize funding from mobility impact fees in that area for traffic calming. A similar resolution was also done for the Flagler District to prioritize mobility impact fees to deal with the traffic calming and streetscape improvements in that area. These have been decades. Residents have been waiting for these things. It's very difficult to justify spending millions of dollars on light poles when we're still haven't taken care of these other matters first. And then we can get into the discussion of sidewalks and many other things that we need to prioritize.

Mayor Lago: We also need to be very, very thoughtful and careful when we talk about, for example, the Mark, where if they go down the route of the county, we would have lost \$7 million in impact fees.

City Manager Iglesias: \$7 million.

Mayor Lago: \$7 million dollars in impact fees that would have gone to the county. Just like if a project, for example, the one on 8th Street goes Live Local, we lose a lot of those impact fees also. So, we are being attacked on all corners and we're trying to have those fees stay here in the city so that we can service the community. So, I think we've been, we've belabored this for three years. Let's bring this in for a landing. I'm going to try to, you made a request that you want me to have a meeting with the President. I have no issues meeting with that. I know that Addis and I are in constant communication. We talk weekly and she's made multiple meetings for me and the Manager, and I'm more than willing to make that meeting happen, even if I have to go and drive up there.

Commissioner Fernandez: Through the Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Yes.

Commissioner Fernandez: Full trust in your ability to negotiate with FPL. You've done it before. You know how it works. I just want to make sure we don't leave any option on the table prior to us making a decision. So, what I ask is that, you know, staff tries to figure out if there's any other way that we can make this happen prior to us making a decision.

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Mayor Lago: If I may, there is no other way of making this happen. I've already tried everything. The Manager has tried everything. We've tried everything negotiating with FPL. I'm going to ask one more time just to make sure that we make everyone feel restful so that when they speak to the constituents, they understand that we have crossed every T and dotted every single I. Mr. Manager, have we exhausted every opportunity to get these polls in silver through FPL? Yes or no?

City Manager Iglesias: Yes, we have, Mayor.

Mayor Lago: Everything has been on, has been, okay. We have a very long agenda. I'd like to move on. Mr. Director, if you have anything else. Mayor, thank you for being here and I will keep you abreast of the meeting. And I will meet with you before I meet with the President if I'm honored to, to get your guidance and your input. Okay.

Mayor Slesnick: Thank you very much. I appreciate your consideration.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Slesnick: For your kind words. So, thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you.

Commissioner Lara: I also want to say that I think it's a very important road that we travel one more time, if need be, to meet with the President of FPL. I think that that suggestion makes the most sense to me. So, Mr. Mayor, if you're going to be taking that on to negotiate and meet with the President, I'd like to offer all of my services as well in connection with that. Because I think that's probably our best shot to get these polls back onto the catalog.

Mayor Lago: But I also think we need to come. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. I think we also need to come to terms after this meeting that we got to bring us in for a landing. We got lighting in neighborhoods. If we're worried about safety, if we say that we're a number one priority is safety in lighting, then we got to install the poles. They've been missing since three years in certain neighborhoods. Because I hear it, especially around the golf course. People are running around the golf course. There are cars coming around every angle and every corner and there's lighting that's missing.

Mayor Slesnick: On that point, because of the height of the pole that doesn't provide any more light on the running surface than the old poles did at the lower light. And that may be something to look at too. Maybe there's a different height to look at. If you're, I mean about safety. I'm jumping now to your agenda, safety.

Mayor Lago: We'll take that into account. Mr. Manager, let's discuss that later, okay.

City Manager Iglesias: Yes, Mayor. We look at photometrics and it's done through proper photometrics throughout the site. So, we do take that into account.

Mayor Lago: Please make those photometrics public and give them to the Mayor and anyone who has any questions in regard to those photometrics, so they rest easy. Okay.

Mayor Slesnick: Thank you.

Mayor Lago: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Okay. Next item that we have is time certain item F-2.