

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-2
March 12, 2019
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, Billy Urquia
Deputy City Attorney, Cristina Suarez

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-2 [9:35:54 a.m.]

An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, providing for a text amendment to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code, amending Article 3, “Development Review,” Division 21, “Art in Public Places Program,” and providing for repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: The next item is F-2, having to do with Art in Public Places.

City Attorney Ramos: F-2 is an Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, providing for a text amendment to the City of Coral Gables Official Zoning Code, amending Article 3, “Development Review,” Division 21, “Art in Public Places Program,” and providing for repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date, Ms. Suarez.

City Commission Meeting
March 12, 2019

[Date]

1

Deputy City Attorney Suarez: There has been one minor change since First Reading and that was announced on the floor at the last meeting and it was just to strike a reference to Historic Preservation Board in the accounting section, but otherwise there are no changes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Do I hear a motion?

Vice Mayor Lago: So moved.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: This is a public hearing.

City Attorney Ramos: That is correct sir.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Anybody in the public that wishes to speak on this matter? OK.

Commissioner Quesada: I'll second the motion.

Commissioner Keon: Can I ask one question about it before we go? I asked them and it seems to be an item that in our ordinance, I don't think it's in the County Ordinance, and it was here before, so it isn't a change, but we have a requirement on municipal construction projects, means any remodel project over \$100,000 or new construction projects to the extent whatever, but a remodel of \$100,000 is, I think a pretty low threshold for us to deal with, to contribute Art in Public Places. When you look at the building that's right next door where Planning and all is, you are going to spend well over \$100,000 and you are not going to change that building, the exterior, anything on the building. I think you should look at raising this remodel number as it relates to the City. I mean you are not substantially changing the project, I think you are going to clean it up and whatever, I think \$100,000 is low. I think it should be much higher.

Commissioner Mena: Is it a factor of that or is it a percentage?

City Attorney Ramos: It's a threshold.

Commissioner Keon: It's a threshold. I think a threshold.

Commissioner Mena: Once you hit that threshold then...

City Attorney Ramos: For municipal projects, that's for us, we are applying it to ourselves.

Commissioner Keon: Right. For municipal projects once you hit \$100,000 you have to contribute to the Art in Public Places Fund, granted it's only a City fund, but I think that – when we redo the building next door, it's going to be well over \$100,000. I think it's a very low threshold. I think the threshold should be higher.

Commissioner Keon: I don't disagree with you. I'm just asking the amount that would be contributed at that point would be a percentage of...

City Attorney Ramos: Correct. It's still the 1.5.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: So its \$1,500.

City Attorney Ramos: We cannot be less stringent on the county, but the county only applies it to new buildings. So this is a requirement at some point we impose on ourselves and of course it's subject to change if you wish to change, if you wish to change.

Commissioner Mena: Right. I guess my question for you Commissioner Keon is, OK, it's a low threshold. I don't necessarily disagree with you, but if the amount being contributed is a percentage of that number then what difference does it really make?

Commissioner Keon: It's not a big amount. I just think it's one more thing that we shouldn't bother with, I mean if you want to go to \$500,000 maybe. I think it should probably only apply to new construction and not remodel anyway.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Are there any projects remodeling or refurbishing projects that we have ongoing a part from this building next to us?

City Manager Iglesias: We have the Kerdyk Center and some other projects.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What?

City Manager Iglesias: The Kerdyk Center is...

Commissioner Keon: Like the tennis...if you were to redo the Youth Center.

City Manager Iglesias: 427.

Commissioner Keon: Yes. If you were to redo the Youth Center, if you were to do the activity, the Adult Activity Center. I mean if any of those things – all you are doing is remodeling and refurbishing them.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: But I don't think we should impose or allow a high criteria or a higher threshold for us and not our private developers which are really a lot of Coral Gables.

Commissioner Keon: But I think our private developers are what?

Deputy City Attorney Suarez: I think it's one million.

Commissioner Keon: They are at a million. That's right. They are at a million. We are at a million for new projects. To have this in here that there's a remodel – I'm sure it was well intended. I just think it's unnecessary.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: What's the pleasure of the Commission?

Commissioner Keon: I would ask to have it struck and apply it to...

City Attorney Ramos: Or you could raise the threshold.

Commissioner Keon: Or raise the threshold to \$500,000, but I mean for \$100,000. I mean we remodeled the...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Commissioner why don't you make a motion.

Commissioner Keon: I would like to make a motion to...

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: To be amended.

Commissioner Keon:...to raise the threshold on this to \$500,000.

City Attorney Ramos: It would be to adopt the ordinance.

Commissioner Keon: And just raise the threshold.

City Attorney Ramos: To \$500,000?

City Commission Meeting
March 12, 2019

Commissioner Keon: Yes.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Is there a second?

Commissioner Mena: I'll second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: OK – anymore discussion? Will you call the roll please?

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

Commissioner Keon: Thank you.

[End: 9:40:45 a.m.]