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To: [Lago, Vince](#); [Mena, Michael](#); [Jorge L. Fors, Jr.](#); [Anderson, Rhonda](#); [Menendez, Kirk](#)
Cc: [Iglesias, Peter](#); [Ramos, Miriam](#); [Ceballos, Gustavo](#); [Urquia, Billy](#)
Subject: Please allow Cocoplum Phase 1 lights Amendment election to occur - democracy trumps neighborly intimidation.
Date: Tuesday, November 9, 2021 8:29:10 AM
Attachments: [Cocoplum Phase 1 Amendment.pdf](#)

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Dear Fellow CG residents/Elected & Appointed Officials:

Today [11/9/2021], you will have a second hearing on the Cocoplum Phase 1 lighting Amendment. I plan to be there but thought having some facts in writing before I am allowed to speak to you at Commission meeting, would allow you to be better informed.

The first hearing[which I watched on You Tube as I could not attend]] had some incorrect statements:

1. This Amendment has NOTHING to do with City saving \$50,000/year in maintenance costs, as mentioned by Mayor Lago. The first 55 light election that was approved already provides for the City to save \$50,000/year & whether this Amendment is ever enacted/elected, City's \$50K/year benefit is already assured!!
2. There are not enough legal/correct signatures to reach 67%. Why? Because the 12 signature corrections from sprawls and the 4 Corporate resolutions mentioned by Mr Ceballos, forgot that there are 8 signatures being counted of Trust owned properties were the Trustee[s] never signed, the occupant did!
3. Further, the standard you are claiming to follow for signature verification is MiamiDade County's and they never rely on signatures for final approval & ALWAYS require an election, regardless of petition % achieved!
4. Equal taxes for all as requested by this Amendment, is not Fair or a precedent you as a City want to set. Why? There are 19 corner lots and 2 double-lot properties that would benefit while 128 other properties would have their annual special light district taxes more than doubled[from \$218.77 to \$448.97/year - how FAIR is that? Further the information you provided[attached below] was NEVER shared with property owners when petition was presented to them for signature. Should City want to change its property tax collection practices to divide equally among all 149 properties, I would save close to \$20,000/year in property taxes. Is that a precedent you want to set?? I think City Manager would want to change his statement of "Per Parcel" fairness from first reading meeting comments!!

All we are requesting is real democracy - an election!! Just like MiamiDade does!

That will allow all property owners now that they know what the real transfer of costs is to them, to vote with real knowledge. No intimidation from Cocoplum Civic Association as occurs with petitions and real knowledge that their annual costs for this tax will nearly DOUBLE before approval!!

Thanks for standing up for democracy and requiring an election for final approval by property owners!

Juan A Galan Jr
355 Cocoplum Road

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