

# CORAL GABLES

THE CITY BEAUTIFUL

## Economic Development Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday | March 4, 2026 | 8:00 a.m.  
Location: Zoom and Economic Development Department  
2506 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Coral Gables, FL 33134

EDB MEMBERS	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	APPOINTING ENTITY
	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	'26	
James Kohnstamm, Vice Chair	P	P	P										Mayor Vince Lago
Timothy Heffernan	E	P	P										Vice Mayor Rhonda Anderson
Ivette Arango O'Doski	P	E	P										Commissioner Richard D. Lara
Nguyen Castilla Cabanilla	A	P	P										Commissioner Melissa Castro
Scott Shuffield	P	P	P										Commissioner Ariel Fernandez
Aron Aizenstat	P	P	P										City Manager Peter J. Iglesias
Thad Adams, Chair	P	P	P										Chamber of Commerce

A=Absent    E=Excused Absence    P=Present    X=No Meeting    PZ=Present by Zoom    - =Former Board Member

### Staff and Guests:

Belkys Perez, Director, Economic Development Department  
Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department

Chairman Mr. Thad Adams brought the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

**1. Review and approval of February 4, 2026, Economic Development Board Meeting Minutes. Mr. Heffernan made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, and Mr. Kohnstamm seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.** There was no discussion regarding the minutes.

**2. Economic Development Updates**

**a) Giralda Plaza Updates**

Mrs. Perez informed the Board that the overhead art installation on Giralda Plaza project will be going to the City Commission for approval next Tuesday, March 10th. The project will run in the summer months for six months between May 2026 through October 2026. The first installation, Cielo Tejido, will take place between May through July. This project came to light while we were meeting and having introductions with the new Cultural Attache for the Consulate of Mexico. The palm trees lining the medians on Miracle Mile will also have a design to tie in our main street. The second installation, Giralda in Bloom consisting of floral umbrellas, will take place from August to October.

The department is also working with the Consulate of Uruguay to have an art exhibit in the Fink Studio with paintings from the artist Daniel Superville on June 5, 2026. While this will be a cultural event, the subject of the art is soccer, which will tie into the World Cup activities taking place in the area at that time.

**b) Parking Survey / Permitting Assistance Program**

Mrs. Perez informed the Board that last November the department started promoting parking, updated the parking map, promoting it on social media and channeling people to the website to bring more awareness regarding parking availability. The department has launched a parking survey which will close at the end of March. So far, there are 340 respondents. Once the survey concludes, the data will be analyzed and shared for next steps with leadership.

**c) Commercial Broker Luncheon**

Mrs. Perez informed the Board that the department was starting to engage with commercial brokers again. The first Commercial Broker Luncheon will take place on April 29, 2026, with Mayor Lago and the Economic Development team in attendance. Among the topics to be discussed are development zones, areas of the City that are right for development as approved through the strategic plan and the tools that are available to assist in bringing businesses to the Gables. This will be the first of a few broker events the department will have this year.

The Board had several questions that Mrs. Perez addressed.

**3. Business Tax License Report**

Mrs. Perez updated the Board on the new and soon-to-come businesses in Coral Gables.

**4. Open Discussion**

Mrs. Perez informed the Board that the pop-up program space on Miracle Mile is going to become available in July. She encouraged any retail business to apply for the 6-month pop-up space. It will be available to move in August.

With no further discussion, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Yenisis Gomez, Administrative Assistant, Economic Development Department.