

ITEM TITLE:

Ordinance on First Reading. An Ordinance of the City Commission of Coral Gables, Florida, establishing a voluntary Private Security Camera Registry and Providing Incentive Program for voluntary security camera installation, providing for repealer, severability, codification and providing for an effective date.

(Sponsored by Mayor Cason).

BRIEF HISTORY:

The purpose of this item is to augment the City's current efforts to increase public safety. As part of this effort, the City is currently installing Closed Caption Television (CCTV) cameras throughout the City in order to aid law enforcement in the apprehension of individuals who commit crimes. These CCTV cameras create a geofence around the City making it safer for residents and visitors. However, CCTV cameras are generally installed in the public right-of-way or on private property adjacent to the public right-of-way.

In addition, to the CCTV cameras, it is beneficial to law enforcement to have access to footage captured by security cameras located on private property as they serve to augment the benefit that CCTV cameras provide, by capturing additional footage that may be of use in solving a crime. The presence of security or surveillance cameras may also serve to deter individuals from committing crimes.

In order to aid law enforcement in this effort, the Ordinance encourages property owners to point at least one (1) security camera located on their property, toward the public right-of-way and creates a registry for private security cameras, encouraging individuals, who have operational security cameras on their property that are pointed toward the public right-of-way, to register the same with the City. In order to increase participation, the Ordinance provides incentives to encourage registration and the future installation of surveillance cameras by private property owners.

It is important to note that the existence of security cameras is a record or information revealing a security system and is therefore confidential and exempt from the public record, under Sections 119.071(3)(a) and 281.301(1), F.S.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Draft Ordinance