

City of Coral Gables City Commission Meeting
Agenda Item F-5
January 22, 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
Planning and Zoning Director, Ramos Trias

Public Speaker(s)

Agenda Item F-5 [9:58:26 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 by amending Article 5, "Development Standards," Division 11, "Landscaping," Section 5-1104, General requirements," limiting locations for artificial turf; providing for repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date. (01.09.18 PZB recommended approval with conditions; Vote 6-0)

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: F-5.

City Attorney Ramos: F-5 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 by amending Article 5, "Development Standards," Division 11, "Landscaping," Section 5-1104, General requirements," limiting locations for artificial turf; providing for repealer provision, severability clause, codification and providing for an effective date. This is an ordinance on first reading. Mr. Trias.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Mayor we prepared an ordinance based on your input and it went before the Planning and Zoning and it's here before you. The ordinance is fairly clear. It requires a permit, number one; it also separates the requirements from single family and commercial. Single family is allowed in the rear yard or in other places it need be. In commercial properties there is no allowance for a ground level. Any other use of the material will be in accordance to the landscape requirements. So, plans are recommended approval and staff recommends approval.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Is there a motion? This is a public hearing.

City Attorney Ramos: It is a public hearing.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Anybody from the public wishes to speak? Is there a motion?

Commissioner Keon: Yes. I just want to tell you that I'm very grateful to staff for coming up with this. It was long time in discussion, is this issue of artificial turf and I'm glad that it is finally very clear in the ordinance. The only thing I ask you is that you have this list that says, what does this do for the downtown?

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: It doesn't allow the artificial turf at the ground level for commercial properties, so generally in downtown most of the properties are commercial or all of them are commercial.

Commissioner Keon: So it applies to all commercial properties as well.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: So it's throughout the City, it's not just the residential.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Yes.

Commissioner Keon: I just wanted to make sure that everybody understands that.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Yes. And, the only time that it would be allowed in a commercial property would be somewhere else...on a ground level.

Commissioner Keon: On a deck of some sort.

Commissioner Quesada: The conversation we had was it two weeks ago or four weeks ago, I forget exactly when it was. We had discussed the situation that it would go to the Public Works Landscape Services Division, that's technically...

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Yes.

Commissioner Quesada:...Brooks area.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Yes.

Commissioner Quesada: OK. So the addition is single-family residential, multi-families zoning districts allowed within the rear yard with an acceptable buffer.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Single-family and duplex, MF-1 is duplex.

Commissioner Quesada: Yes, MF-1 is duplex, yes – with an acceptable buffer. What is an acceptable buffer?

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: That will be determined by the Public Works Department, the Landscape Services. It could be a wall; it could be some landscape.

Commissioner Quesada: Got it. As determined by the Public Works – OK – got it. All other locations may be approved only if site conditions limit landscape, OK, alright, that is exactly what we discussed.

City Attorney Ramos: Commissioner Quesada, also you all had asked for like a process, like an administrative order...

Commissioner Quesada: Oh yes.

City Attorney Ramos: That would go along with this with more specifics. I think they'll bring that at Second Reading.

Commissioner Quesada: OK. That was good, I'm sorry, I misread it the first time. This is exactly what we discussed. Thank you.

Planning and Zoning Director Trias: Thank you sir.

Commissioner Quesada: So moved or second. Did you make a motion?

Commissioner Keon: I move it.

Commissioner Quesada: Second.

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Will you call the roll please?

Commissioner Mena: Yes

Commissioner Quesada: Yes

Commissioner Keon: Yes

Vice Mayor Lago: Yes

Mayor Valdes-Fauli: Yes

(Vote: 5-0)

[End: 10:02:04 a.m.]