

February 2012
City of Coral Gables - Planning Department
Letters/Comments Received from Property Owners re: Trucks

	Date Received	Name and Address	Object	No Objection	Comments (Verbatim)
1.	01 23 12	Gloria Comas	X		<p>From: Gloria Comas [mailto:gmcgjc@att.net] Sent: Saturday, January 21, 2012 10:48 AM To: Higgins-Fallon, Maria Subject: Truck Ordinance</p> <p>Thanks Maria! Now I won't have to look at this on Sunday morning outside my kitchen window (picture)</p> 

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2.	01 22 12	Kathy and David Nateman			<p style="text-align: right;">FYE Janet</p> <hr/> <p>Higgins-Fallon, Maria</p> <p>From: David Nateman [davidnateman@gmail.com] Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2012 12:52 AM To: Higgins-Fallon, Maria Subject: Trucks</p> <p>Dear city Officials & Mayor Cason, I have not heard if there will be " variances " for the truck law?? As when I met with you mayor my guide dog was with me, and we have a new 2010 dodge 1500 truck for their kennel, and transport to and from the SEGD, inc (southeast guide dog school) You said there were also others who had special needs, I would like to know how this discussion is coming and your final decision re: Guidedogs. Thank you Kathy and David Nateman</p> <p>KJNateman"Guidedog puppy raiser" AKA " MOTHER MARGE"</p>
3.	01 23 12	Kathy and David Nateman			<p>From: David Nateman [mailto:davidnateman@gmail.com] Sent: Sunday, January 22, 2012 12:52 AM To: Higgins-Fallon, Maria Subject: Trucks</p> <p>Dear city Officials & Mayor Cason, I have not heard if there will be " variances " for the truck law?? As when I met with you mayor my guide dog was with me, and we have a new 2010 dodge 1500 truck for their kennel, and transport to and from the SEGD, inc (southeast guide dog school) You said there were also others who had special needs, I would like to know how this discussion is coming and your final decision re: Guidedogs.</p> <p>Thank you Kathy and David Nateman</p> <p>KJNateman"Guidedog puppy raiser" AKA " MOTHER MARGE"</p>
4.	01 20 12	Jorge Centurion		X	<p>From: Jorge Centurion [mailto:jrcent@bellsouth.net] Sent: Friday, January 20, 2012 4:58 PM To: ENEWS Subject: Re: City Extends Grace Period Until April 15th For Compliance With Truck Restrictions</p> <p>Your law is outdated and truly unjust. The law should be reviewed and amended to benefit all. If you want suggestions, feel free to contact me</p> <p>Jorge</p> <p>On Jan 20, 2012, at 4:48 PM, <ENews@coralgables.com> wrote: Coral Gables City News</p> <p>For Immediate Release</p>

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					<p>Date: January 20, 2012 Contact: Maria Rosa Higgins Fallon Public Affairs Manager City of Coral Gables mfallon@coralgables.com 305-460-5205</p> <p>City Extends Grace Period Until April 15th For Compliance With Truck Restrictions</p> <p>The City of Coral Gables has extended the grace period until April 15, 2012, for enforcement of the restrictions pertaining to trucks parked in residential and commercial areas. The City has granted this extension to provide more time for residents to come into compliance with the law. Enforcement would begin after expiration of the grace period if compliance has not been achieved. Fines are \$100 for the first violation, and up to \$500 for each subsequent violation.</p> <p>The City of Coral Gables has prevailed in the legal court case challenging the City's ordinances restricting the parking of trucks. The Third District Court of Appeal previously upheld the constitutionality of sections 4-411 and 4-412 of the Coral Gables Zoning Code pertaining to trucks parked in residential and commercial areas. The Florida Supreme Court has decided not to review this decision.</p> <p>Based on the provisions that have been upheld, the parking of trucks in residential areas is prohibited unless the truck is parked in an enclosed garage. Likewise, the parking of trucks upon the streets or other public places in the City is prohibited between the hours of 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. of the following day. The City's truck ordinances seek to preserve the integrity of residential areas and the unique aesthetic qualities of the City of Coral Gables. For more information, please contact Code Enforcement at 305-460-5226.</p> <p>### CORAL GABLES CITY HALL 405 BILTMORE WAY CORAL GABLES, FL 33134 WWW.CORALGABLES.COM</p>
5.	01 16 12	Ani Victoriano 510 Catalonia Coral Gables, FL		X	<p>From: Ani Victoriano [mailto:vicani2@aol.com] Sent: Monday, January 16, 2012 9:24 PM To: Tfigueras Cc: Cason, Jim; Kerdyk, William; Anderson, Maria; Quesada, Frank; Cabrera, Ralph; Salerno, Patrick; Leen, Craig; Planning; Miami Herald Letter To Editor Subject: Coral Gables Pickup Truck Ban</p> <p>Congratulations to the Coral Gables Commission! Two out of the three challenges looming, since the new commission convened last April, have been met with positive decisive action. The Biltmore debacle was finally settled, after numerous years, with the City of Coral Gables walking away with \$5 million dollars worth of checks in hand. The issue with the Summerset Academy was settled with compromise. What remains from the 2011 agenda is a courageous decision from the Commission modifying the "Pickup Truck Ban". Last summer this issue gained momentum once more. At the September Planning Board hearing, we saw a large outcry from our residents asking for modernization to an outdated law. We continue to insist this law needs to take into account our changing times and the active life styles of</p>

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					<p>our community. It's time to get together and come to a common sense solution. "Say No" to derelict and commercial vehicles! "Say Yes" to well maintained personal use vehicles! It's simple... "No Ladders, No Signs, No Cargo" should be the law!</p> <p>Ani Victoriano 510 Catalonia Coral Gables, Fl 305-798-3421</p>
6.	10 18 11	Victoria E. Brieant 1118 Ferdinand Street Coral Gables, FL 33134			<p>From: Brieant, Victoria E. [mailto:vbrieant@stroock.com] Sent: Tuesday, October 18, 2011 4:40 PM To: Riel, Eric Cc: Ani Victoriano (vicani2@aol.com); Menendez, Jill Subject: Proposed Revisions to the Truck Ordinance</p> <p>Dear Mr. Riel,</p> <p>Thank you for agreeing to take the time to meet with Ani Victoriano and me this Monday, October 24 at 9:30 at your offices to discuss issues related to the truck ordinance. I am forwarding to you a copy of my letter and attachment (a modified Version A) that I sent the Mayor, Commissioners and members of the Zoning and Planning Board last week and that I distributed at Wednesday's public hearing.</p> <p>I look forward to speaking with you.</p> <p>Very truly yours,</p> <p>Victoria E. Brieant 1118 Ferdinand Street Coral Gables, FL 33134 Please note new Cell: 786-413-9026</p> <p>From: Brieant, Victoria E. Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 2:35 PM To: 'Jeffrey@cwfpa.com'; 'Robert@beharfont.com'; 'jsalman@c3ts.com'; 'eibi@bellsouth.net'; 'juliograbiell@grapastudio.com'; 'vincelago@yahoo.com'; 'jimcason@coralgables.com'; 'wkerdyk@coralgables.com'; 'manderson@coralgables.com'; 'rcabrera@coralgables.com'; 'fquesada@coralgables.com'; 'lalfonsin@coralgables.com' Cc: Ani Victoriano (vicani2@aol.com) Subject: Proposed Revisions to the Truck Ordinance - For Consideration at the Public Hearing on October 12, 2011 at 6 p.m.</p> <p>To: Coral Gables Planning & Zoning Board: Mr. Jeffrey Flanagan – Jeffrey@cwfpa.com Mr. Robert Behar – Robert@beharfont.com Mr. Javier Salman – jsalman@c3ts.com</p>

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					<p>Mr. Eibi Aizenstate – eibi@bellsouth.net Mr. Grabiél Julio – juliograbiél@grapastudio.com Mr. Vince Lago – vincelago@yahoo.com Coral Gables City Commissioners and Mr. Mayor: Mayor Jim Cason -- jimcason@coralgables.com Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr. -- wkerdyk@coralgables.com Commissioner Maria Anderson – manderson@coralgables.com Commissioner Rafael "Ralph" Cabrera, Jr. – rcabrera@coralgables.com Commissioner Frank C. Quesada -- fquesada@coralgables.com Coral Gables City Attorney, Craig Leen, Esq. -- lalfonsin@coralgables.com</p> <p>Please see the attached letter and modified "Version A" relating to the Coral Gables Truck Ordinance, for your consideration, and in anticipation of Wednesday, October 12, 2011's public hearing.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Very truly yours, Victoria E. Brieant 1118 Ferdinand Street Coral Gables, FL 33134 Cell: 786-413-9026</p>

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					<p style="text-align: center;">VICTORIA E. BRIEANT 1118 FERDINAND STREET CORAL GABLES, FL 33134</p> <p>October 11, 2011</p> <p>Coral Gables Planning & Zoning Board: Mr. Jeffrey Flanagan – Jeffrey@cwfpa.com Mr. Robert Behar – Robert@beharfont.com Mr. Javier Salman – jsalman@c3ts.com Mr. Eibi Aizenstate – eibi@bellsouth.net Mr. Grabiél Julio – julio@grabiél.com Mr. Vince Lago – vince@lago.com</p> <p>Coral Gables City Commissioners and Mr. Mayor: Mayor Jim Cason -- jimcason@coralgables.com Vice-Mayor William H. Kerdyk, Jr. -- wkerdyk@coralgables.com Commissioner Maria Anderson – manderson@coralgables.com Commissioner Rafael “Ralph” Cabrera, Jr. – rcabrera@coralgables.com Commissioner Frank C. Quesada -- fquesada@coralgables.com Coral Gables City Attorney, Craig Leen, Esq. -- lalfonsin@coralgables.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Re: Proposed Truck Proposals</p> <p>Dear Members of the Zoning Board, City Commissioners and City Attorney:</p> <p>I respectfully submit my thoughts on the issue of modifying the truck ordinance, in advance of Wednesday’s public hearing.</p> <p>Coral Gables residents and property owners should be asking a different question. The question should not be whether to ban trucks or allow trucks. Even under the current ordinance, some trucks are allowed under certain conditions. The question should be what kinds of vehicles should be permitted on residential property overnight in Coral Gables?</p> <p>I believe the most appropriate answers are in the modified Version A, submitted with this letter. In summary, I submit that the City should modify the restrictions to allow overnight parking of vehicles in good repair that are not used for trade, services or commerce in general and limit overnight parking restrictions to trucks that are used for trade or services and commerce in general. (Modified Proposal A, attached to my letter) The noncommercial trucks should be able to be parked in driveways, in garages or shielded from view by the street on three sides (for example, two walls and a garage). This approach would preserve the restrictions on overnight parking on the swale or the street.</p> <p>I would like the Zoning Board to please consider these facts in formulating its recommendation to the City Commission.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MIA 31178363</p>

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					<p>In 2010, five (5) cities competed for the Most Beautiful City Award. They are: (1) Baker City, Oregon; (2) Coral Gables, Florida; (3) Franklin, Tennessee; (4) Marco Island, Florida, Pacifica, California; and (5) San Point, Idaho. Of those finalists, only Coral Gables has a limitation on parking trucks. Sand Point, Idaho won. What does Sand Point do that made it a winner over Coral Gables? I suggest the decision was not made because of trucks.</p> <p>Homeowners and renters are not most intent on observing the streets and homes between 7 p.m. and 7 a.m. and prospective buyers look at property during the day. The aesthetics of our neighborhoods is more important during daylight hours (7 a.m. to 7 p.m.), when people are out and about and there is no ban in effect on parking any kind of vehicle in your driveway or on the street or swale on a temporary basis. What do we see then? Manicured lawns and ubiquitous lawn trucks and trailers parked in our streets. (We need the lawn services and other contractors to help maintain our properties.) We also see well maintained homes with dirty roofs that in increasing numbers need to be power washed. We see streets with cracks, potholes and patches, trees in need of trimming, and sidewalks in need of repair. These are, correctly, the focus of the current City administration and they have much more of an effect on property values than whether the number-one and number-three selling vehicles in America and number-one selling luxury vehicles in our country are parked in our neighbors' or our driveways overnight. The Ford F-Series and the Chevrolet Silverado Trucks are two of the top three selling vehicles in America in 2010 and thus far in 2011. See www.cars.com.</p> <p>At night, we do not see trucks in garages, which are permitted under the current and our proposed ordinance. But even if we were to see vehicles in good repair that are not used for trade, services or commerce at night, how is that more offensive than seeing them during daylight hours or seeing commercial trucks during daylight hours? The aesthetic offense should come from vehicles outfitted with ladders, advertising signs and logos, and being in a junked condition that can be seen from the streets, regardless of the hour. For the residents on the tonier streets, the Greenways and Granada, for example, their neighbors are unlikely to buy and park a rundown vehicle, so their nighttime aesthetic views should be protected by their own affluence.</p> <p>I believe we should be wary of some of the proposals that have been discussed that are detailed in what would be permitted or not permitted that would require code enforcement officers to enter onto private property to peer into the beds of trucks to see whether they are covered or what they may contain, or to count wheels that cannot be seen from the street or check details of the vehicle and then compare it against checklists (make, model, coverings, etc.). Under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, code enforcement officers are required to make their observations from off private property, without entering private property to search for a possible or suspected violation. Code enforcement officers may not enter private property to search for a code violation without the consent of the owner or the operator or occupant of such premises, or without a duly issued search or administrative inspection warrant. If the enforcement officers cannot make a determination by their observations from the street, no aesthetic violation should be claimed. If an officer must leave the street and enter our private properties to determine whether a non-commercial truck has two or four doors, a covered bed, doolies or cargo, then I believe the proposed ordinance would be an intrusion on our Constitutional rights, and unrelated to the purpose of preserving the character of our community</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MIA 31178363</p>

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					<p>and we should be way of proceeding down that path. Aesthetics matter if they can be seen by public observation.</p> <p>In informal meetings I have attended in recent weeks, a few people has said they would consider moving away from Coral Gables if trucks are permitted to park overnight in driveways, even when these individuals have lived in Coral Gables for decades, or that they would never have bought here if they thought trucks would have been allowed. I regret they may feel that way, but where are they going to go? I could not find a truck ban the same as ours. And I doubt that we envisioned the transition from station wagons to SUVs and trucks. A more serious effect of compelling people to move away is that many sons and daughters of decades-long residents face the real hardship of having to move away from their parents' homes and the community they grew up in because their sole vehicle is a modern, well-maintained, non-commercial truck. These young adults are the present and the future of our community. I submit we should not want to drive them out because they are part of our cultural shift of having purchased pickup trucks.</p> <p>Coral Gables adapted when our society shifted to owning SUVs. Starting in 1991 with the introduction of the Ford Explorer, SUVs became popular. The City granted them an exception to the truck ban. How could it do otherwise? Does anyone really believe that our property values would be higher if we prohibited parking SUVs in our driveways? Pickup trucks are this decade's SUVs. To drive out our young adults because they are part of this trend, citing the need to uphold property values, is, at best, misguided.</p> <p>Just as the City is modernizing Miracle Mile, it's time to modernize the truck ban to recognize that the future of our City lies in recognizing that our current and future residents own noncommercial trucks. If we do not move forward, we will fall behind.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Very truly yours,  Victoria E. Briant</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">MIA 31178363</p>

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					<p>DRAFT OF A MODIFIED "VERSION A" – Submitted by Victoria E. Brieant on 10/11/2011</p> <p>Article 2, Definitions</p> <p>Carport. A roofed structure not more than seventy-five (75%) percent enclosed by walls and attached to the main building for the purpose of providing shelter for one or more motor vehicles. (Sec. 2-27)</p> <p>Trailer. Every vehicle without motor power, designed for carrying persons or property on its own structure and for being drawn by a motor vehicle. (Sec. 2-125)</p> <p>Truck Commercial. Any motor vehicle designed, used or maintained for transporting or delivering property or material used in trade or commerce in general. Trucks shall include any motor vehicle having space designed for and capable of carrying property, cargo, or bulk material and which space is not occupied by passenger seating. (2536) (Sec. 2-128)</p> <p>Vehicle. Every device, in, upon, or by which any person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a highway or street, except devices moved by human power. (Sec. 2-134)</p> <p>Vehicle, commercial. Any vehicle designed, used or maintained, as a means of transportation on land of people, goods or things used in trade, services, or</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-1-</p> <p>MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>

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					<p>commerce in general. For the purposes of this ordinance, buses, vans and other vehicles seating more than nine (9) persons used for transportation of people shall be considered commercial vehicles. (2536) (Sec. 2-135)</p> <p>(1) Any vehicle designed, used or maintained for the transportation of persons, goods, or things used in trade, services or commerce in general <i>or equipped on the outside with ladders or scaffolding</i> For the purposes of this ordinance, buses, vans and other vehicles seating more than nine (9) persons used for transportation of people shall be considered commercial vehicles.</p> <p>(2) Any vehicle which bears, displays, or has affixed to it any marking, sign, lettering, logo, picture, symbol, number, or the like, whether alone, or in combination, which identifies or advertises a business or similar commercial venture or use.</p> <p>(3) Any vehicle with a curb weight (vehicle only) exceeding 8,500 pounds.</p> <p>(4) Any vehicle having unenclosed space designed for and capable of carrying property, cargo, or bulk material and which unenclosed space is not occupied by passenger seating.</p> <p>Vehicle, motor. Every vehicle which is self propelled. (Sec. 2-136)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-2-</p> <p>MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>

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					<p><i>Vehicle, Personal. A vehicle in good repair that is not used for trade, services or commerce in general is NOT a commercial vehicle.</i></p> <p><i>Vehicle, Abandoned, Junked and Derelict Vehicles. Any inoperable vehicle, any vehicle partially dismantled or wrecked, any vehicle loaded with trash or refuse for more than 72 hours or is more than 10 years old and appears to be worth less than \$1000. Any vehicle in a condition that it can or does harbor diseases, furnish shelter and breeding places for mosquitos or other insects or become a breeding ground and harbor for rats and other pests.</i></p> <p>Vehicle, recreational. Any vehicle self propelled or capable of being towed and primarily designed, constructed or converted to provide recreational uses, or to provide temporary living quarters for camping, or recreational travel. The following shall be included as recreational vehicles, but not to the exclusion of any other types not mentioned; trailers; trailer coaches; camping trailers; and full-tent trailers; motor homes; pickup (slide-in) camper and mini-motor homes, <i>so called "Monster Trucks" consisting of a vehicle modified or purposely built with extremely large wheels and suspension.</i> Any van designed for and containing seating for the transportation of not more than nine (9) persons and containing rear and side windows shall not be considered a recreational vehicle. (2536) (Sec. 2-137)</p> <p><i>Truck, Pickup. A light truck with an open body and low sides or no sides, not used for trade, services or commerce in general.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-3-</p> <p>MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>

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					<p style="text-align: center;">* * *</p> <p>Sec. 8-11 - Parking in residential areas.</p> <p>(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to park any vehicle displaying advertising signs or any pickup truck, trailer, commercial vehicle, or recreational vehicle, in or upon any property, public or private, in any area of the city which is zoned residential. This prohibition, however shall not apply in the following cases: (2536)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vehicles which are entirely enclosed within the confines of an enclosed garage. 2. Vehicles, not being used or maintained as commercial vehicles, which are entirely enclosed on at least three sides by a carport or other structure (including walls, fences or hedges of more than four feet) so that the rear, driver and passenger sides of the vehicle are shielded from visibility from any adjacent street. Said carport or other structure shall be permitted only when placed in accordance with all applicable building and zoning codes. 3. Pickup trucks, not being used or maintained as commercial vehicles, that have the truck's cargo box fully covered by a rigid cover made specifically for the purpose of covering pickup truck cargo boxes. Such cargo box cover must be <p style="text-align: center;">-4-</p> <p>MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>

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					<p>no higher than the cargo box walls and does not include tarps.</p> <p>4. Pick-up trucks which contain no property, cargo or other material in the cargo box.</p> <p>2. 5. Vehicles used by licensed contractors or service establishments while actually doing work in such residential areas between the hours of 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. excluding Sundays and holidays, provided, however, that such vehicles shall contain written identification on both sides of the vehicle clearly indicating the name of the contractor or service establishment. Such identification shall be in conformance with the standards set forth in Section 8A-276(b), Commercial Vehicle Identification, of the Code of Metropolitan Dade County, Florida.</p> <p>3. 6. Loading or unloading of trucks, trailers or commercial vehicles provided that such loading or unloading takes no more than two (2) hours, and is not done between the hours of 7:00 p.m. of one day and 7:00 a.m. of the next day.</p> <p>4. 7. Automobiles carrying advertising signs on the top of such automobiles dealing with the candidacy of individuals for elected office. This exemption, however, shall cease seven (7) days after the date of the election in which the person was finally voted upon.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-5-</p> <p>MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>

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					<p>5: 8. Automobiles carrying advertising signs, advertising propositions to be submitted and voted upon by the people. This exemption, however, shall cease seven (7) days after the date of the election in which the proposition advertised was finally voted upon.</p> <p>6: 9. The loading or unloading of recreational vehicles as provided for under Section 8-11 herein.</p> <p>7: 10. Mobile cranes and other heavy equipment used during building construction.</p> <p>11. Vehicles owned or operated by a physically impaired individual when a medical doctor has certified that the vehicle is necessary due to physical impairment.</p> <p>12. Passenger automobiles which require governmental identification, markings or insignias of a local, state or federal government agency.</p> <p>(b) The Building and Zoning Director and its designees shall be charged with the responsibility of determining compliance with the regulations governing the parking of such trucks, trailers, commercial vehicles and recreational vehicles in residential areas as provided herein, however, in case of dispute, direct application</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-6-</p> <p>MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>

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					<p>may be made to the City Commission.</p> <p>Sec. 8-12 - Trucks, Trailers, commercial vehicles, and recreational vehicles—</p> <p>Parking upon streets and public places.</p> <p>Except as provided for herein no trucks, trailers, commercial vehicles, or recreational vehicles, shall be parked upon the streets or other public places of the City between the hours of 7:00 p.m. on one day and 7:00 a.m. of the next day. This prohibition is in addition to the total prohibition covering residential areas dealt with in Section 8-11 hereof. (2536) <u>The prohibition of this Section shall not apply to pickup trucks which are not being used or maintained as commercial vehicles as defined in this Code.</u></p> <p style="text-align: right;">-7-</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">MIA 31178364v1 10/11/11</p>
7.	10 16 11	Deborah Brownell Dsb1027@gmail.com	X		<p>From: Deborah Brownell [mailto:dsb1027@gmail.com] Sent: Sunday, October 16, 2011 9:33 AM To: Planning Subject: Ban on Trucks</p> <p>To Whom It May Concern:</p>

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					<p>When we have so many more important issues at hand why are we even discussing this.</p> <p>There is absolutely no need to have trucks in our neighborhoods overnight. Please keep the ban as it is.</p> <p>How about addressing the corruption in your own commission?? I am sure that is not a favorite subject.</p> <p>Sincerely Deborah Brownell</p>
8.	10 14 11	Andrea Cole 1009 Hardee Road Coral Gables, FL 33146	X		<p>From: andrea443@aol.com [mailto:andrea443@aol.com] Sent: Friday, October 14, 2011 1:43 PM To: Riel, Eric Subject: Fwd: pick-up trucks</p> <p>Eric, Would you please send my email on to each member of the Planning and Zoning Board, including Mr. Eibi Aizenstat. I am urgent about preserving the beauty of our city.</p> <p>Andrea Lynch Cole 1009 Hardee Road Coral Gables, Florida 33146 -----Original Message-----</p> <p>From: andrea443 <andrea443@aol.com> To: planning <planning@coralgables.com>; jimcason <jimcason@coralgable.com>; mandesn <mandesn@coralgables.com>; rcabrera <rcabrera@coralgables.com>; wkerdyk <wkerdyk@coralgables.com>; psalerno <psalerno@coralgables.com> Sent: Wed, Oct 12, 2011 2:36 pm Subject: re pick-up trucks</p> <p>am writing to urge you to uphold the ban on pick-up trucks in the Gables residential areas that was recently upheld by the courts. The great beauty of the City of Coral Gables derives in large part from the restrictions that keep out unsightly things such as trucks, pick-up trucks, boat trailers, boats, etc. in our residential neighborhoods. The City's rules also help citizens to avoid issues with neighbors who, if free to do so, might park whatever comes into their minds on property next to or near ours.</p> <p>Why would the City fight - with taxpayer money - to preserve our restrictions on trucks, recreational vehicles, boats and boat trailers etc. and then turn around after winning to do just the opposite?</p> <p>We live in Coral Gables and DO NOT want to see unsightly vehicles parked around our homes and neighborhoods at anytime, but especially during evenings and weekends. It is difficult to maintain the beauty of our residential areas when our neighbors are free to park whatever next to, across the street from, or behind our homes. There are many reasons for the restriction on what can be parked in our residential areas and the prohibition helps significantly to maintain the elegance and enjoyment of our homes and our residential neighborhoods.</p>

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					<p>I do not want to suddenly have my neighborhood transformed into a Hialeah or other similar areas where there are no agreed upon restrictions that provide for the beauty and enjoyment of our homes and neighborhoods in peace. It is difficult to think of Coral Gables as the City Beautiful or the Garden City if the City permits citizens to fill our residential neighborhoods with all kinds of commercial and other unsightly vehicles, recreational vehicles, boats, trailers, etc.</p> <p>We chose to live in Coral Gables for the very reason that it had rules that provide protection against such unsightly things in our neighborhoods.</p> <p>Won't you please uphold the court's recent ruling on what may and may not be parked in certain parts of our city?</p> <p>Thank you. Andrea Cole 1009 Hardee Road Coral Gables, FL 33146</p>
9.	10 13 11	Antonio N Arroyo 1621 Lugo Ave Coral Gables, FL 33156	X		<p>From: Foeman, Walter Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 3:02 PM To: Dacosta, Susan Subject: FW: Trucks in Coral Gables -----</p> <p>From: Tony-EBS [mailto:tony@expertbusinessservices.com] Sent: Monday, September 12, 2011 7:00 PM To: jcason@coralgables.com; Kerdyk, William; 'Frank Quesada'; Cabrera, Ralph; Anderson, Maria Cc: Salerno, Patrick; Leen, Craig; Foeman, Walter; tvaldemoro@miamiherald.com; tvaldemoro-longest@miamiherald.com; jchrisos@MiamiHerald.com Subject: Trucks in Coral Gables</p> <p>To our city government:</p> <p>As a long-time proud resident of the city of Coral Gables I urge you to uphold the ban on the overnight parking of trucks in our City Beautiful. The removal of such ban will be a real detriment to our property values and create an environment unbecoming of our city.</p> <p>For many years, the residents of our city have supported this ban while a small minority of truck owners managed to conform to it. We shouldn't change this unless the majority of the city residents agree to it. What will be next? : Boats? , Trailers? , Chain link fences?</p> <p>I have invested a significant sum of money in my home and I am very concerned about the value of my property being diminished.</p> <p>Like you all like to say: "Let's keep our city beautiful"</p> <p>Thanks for your time.</p>

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					Antonio N Arroyo 1621 Lugo Ave Coral Gables, FL 33156
10.	10 13 11	Enrique Lopez	X		<p>From: Enrique Lopez [mailto:aklgrou@bellsouth.net] Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 2:30 PM To: Riel, Eric Cc: Leen, Craig; Salerno, Patrick; aklgrou@bellsouth.net Subject: Staff Meetings Notification - Pickup Truck Ordinance</p> <p>Mr. Riel, hope this communication finds you well. By way of this communication, I am requesting notification of any and all meetings by and between city staff that are planned as requested by the Planning and Zoning Board during yesterday's hearing.</p> <p>I found it interesting that no one has brought up the issue of higher emissions produced by trucks, especially from your office, one that should be well aware of environment as an issue in your planning capacity.</p> <p>For a city that is a Tree City USA and that has recently tasked a Green Task Force, it does not bode well for it to promote and/or entice increase use of vehicles that increase the amount of contaminants normally found in vehicle emissions. I expect that as part of the many a parameter that your office has been tasked to identify and objectively compare during the coming months, that you will ensure and include emissions as part of the comparison. As a member of the Green Task Force, I intend to present the issue to the task force for their input on the same.</p> <p>It is obvious that we are about to embark into a black hole with no end. To attempt to quantify and qualify any and all present "exception parameters" for presently built trucks to appease a handful, exclusive of any and all changes that the automotive industry can bring in the future is another example of the waste of time and resources of limited governmental resources.</p> <p>Further, after years and thousands of dollars of defending our right to govern the city as desired, to come now and attempt to modify the ordinance to be "politically correct" and appease the minority, is ridiculous and dishonest. I heard many of you speak of updating to change our outdated mode. The same updating has occurred in society wherein the rights of the majority are being trampled by a minority who believes they must be recognized.</p> <p>Rest assured, this will not be the case here. Whether in the form of a referendum or any legal action that will ensure the majority of our residents' desires are honored, we will continue the battle until the minority is silenced. Enough is enough and I look to your office to not waffle or cave as it has done in the past under pressure from interested third parties, including our present elected officials, if they can be called so.</p> <p>I look to your response as to the meetings as it is our intention to attend and monitor and keep the actions of staff on a very short leash.</p>

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					Best wishes and regards. Enrique
11.	10 13 11	Todd W. Preston 1429 Messina Ave Coral Gables, FL 33134	X		<p>From: Todd Preston <toddpreston@hotmail.com> Date: October 13, 2011 12:04:19 PM GMT-04:00 To: <eriel@coralgables.com> Subject: Planning and Zoning Hearing Follow-up Dear Mr. Riel,</p> <p>Thank you for allowing me to speak at last night's hearing. Although I mentioned that for those residents who want to repeal the pick-up truck ordinance constituted the philosophy that it is better to ask for forgiveness than permission, I did not elaborate. To support my supposition, no one who spoke in support of repealing the ban bought their home prior to 1960. That being the case, these Gables homeowners deliberately ignored the ordinance. Now they want the City to bend because they chose to ignore the ordinance? An ordinance that has been common knowledge for all concerned for the past 51 years? They have it backwards. They should conform to the policy and not ask for special consideration as if this ordinance was suddenly thrust upon them without warning. I heard many selfish justifications last night; a lot of "I" like to go fishing, "I" have kayaks and sporting equipment, "I" was a hero during a hurricane for two days six years ago because I could drive my pick-up truck and rescue neighbors, etc. Surely such part-time usage cannot support the argument to repeal and elevate such small percentages of utility usage to justify an increase to an additional 12 hours of overnight parking, seven days per week.</p> <p>As parents, we would not let our children get away with behavior such as breaking known rules then ask for a free pass to get their way. This is a solution in search of a problem: The ordinance is and has been in place; yet people chose to violate it. That is not the City's problem. Some homeowners traded in their pick-up trucks for SUV's in order to comply, should they be punished for following the rules if the ordinance is repealed?</p> <p>As I stated last night, when I need a pick-up truck, I rent one from U-Haul for \$19.99 a day. Residents who spend a lot of money on their aforementioned hobbies can spend an extra \$19.99 to transport their gear, house plants, etc.</p> <p>In conclusion, my concern is that repeal of this ordinance will embolden the next group of homeowners who will want to park their boats (that they tow with their pick-up trucks) in their driveways to repeal that ordinance. Then the people who want to paint their house purple will go after the City followed by those who want chain-link fences. I also alluded to the criminological theory known as "The Broken Windows Theory". This speaks to the norm setting and signaling effects of urban disorder and vandalism. The theory states that monitoring and maintaining urban environments in a well-ordered condition may stop further vandalism as well as an escalation into more serious crime. Although we are not talking about the crime of vandalism, the issue of repealing the ordinance has obvious parallels and demonstrates the need to "monitor and maintain" our environment within the City Beautiful.</p> <p>The Board should not bend and contribute towards the unintended consequences that will lead us to becoming known as "The City No So Beautiful" in the future. I heard my neighbors say that this ordinance is old, archaic, and outdated because pick-up truck designs have evolved over the years. This is irrelevant as the City should not be forced to form a style to committee to discern what new style is acceptable and which is not. A pick-up truck is still a pick-up truck. I trust the vision our leader's of 1960 had when they passed this ordinance. They knew unregulated pick-up trucks would serve as a precursor to other things that would chip away at the ambiance of the Gables little by little. Just because</p>

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					<p>the ordinance is old, does not mean it is bad or no longer valid. On its face, this issue appears trite and petty but it is not, because repealing the ordinance will be the first salvo launched in an assault on all things that make the Gables different and distinct; we will eventually lose our identity and become just another typical Dade County municipality.</p> <p>I implore the Board not to bend on this issue. Thank you for your attention and please feel free to share this correspondence with your colleagues.</p> <p>Very Respectfully, Todd W. Preston 1429 Messina Ave Coral Gables, FL 33134</p>
12.	10 13 11	Willy A. Bermello	X		<p>From: Willy A. Bermello [mailto:WBermello@bapdevelopment.com] Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 11:44 AM To: Planning Cc: Cason, Jim; Kerdyk, William; Anderson, Maria; Cabrera, Ralph; Quesada, Frank Subject: Ban on Pick-Up Trucks</p> <p>Dear Planning and Zoning Board Members,</p> <p>I encourage to preserve and enforce the “pick-up” truck ordinance; it is as much a part of our legal landscape as our pink sidewalks and Spanish street names. Those that seek a change, have a choice, they have plenty of places to move to in Dade County where they can park their pick-up trucks. Some things in life need changing and others you fight to preserve. Leaders know the difference between the two.</p> <p>Sincerely, Willy A. Bermello</p>
13.	10 13 11	Olga Chao 1139 Campo Sano Avenue Coral Gables FL 33146	X		<p>From: Olga chao [mailto:olganodarsechao@gmail.com] Sent: Thursday, October 13, 2011 9:33 AM To: Planning Subject: URGENT! For hearing on 10/12</p> <p>Dear City Planning Commission:</p> <p>Abandoning the pick-up truck ordinance in Coral Gables is the same as allowing any sign, color or advertising to be displayed publicly in the city! From an exquisite, treed, lovely residential city, where the beauty and elegance of its street is paramount, Coral Gables would become a veritable truck yard! Any efforts from this Commission to lower our standards is NOT appreciated.</p> <p>Right now, in Campo Sano, across from our homes (all high-paying, highly taxed, homes) there is a permanently parked orange crane (not in use for over 3 weeks), and a real truck yard (every morning, there are in excess of 5 or 6 trucks parked alongside Campo Sano, supposedly for construction purposes at the Hospital) from University Drive to the edge of the UM campus. Why is this allowed? Could it be that the commission has a plan to de-beautify Coral Gables? Or is it that certain streets--like Campo Sano--has become a kind of Sunset Blvd., or Okeechobee-in-the-Gables? They do not merit the</p>

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					<p>attention of other, fancier, streets?</p> <p>I am disgusted: after 25 years of being a resident, moving 7 years ago close to the Hospital and UM has been a huge mistake. University Drive, canalfront, where I lived for 18 years, was evidently a Chosen Street; Campo Sano Avenue is not. Perhaps we should pay much less in taxes...?</p> <p>I oppose changing the regulations on trucks in the City, and will continue to lobby for this position with great vigor.</p> <p>Respectfully, Olga Chao 1139 Campo Sano Avenue Coral Gables FL 33146</p>
14.	10 12 11	Gay Bondurant 446 Alcazar Ave.	X		<p>From: janebond@comcast.net [mailto:janebond@comcast.net] Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 5:29 PM To: Planning Subject: Trucks</p> <p>Please keep ban on trucks. I don't know how the ordinance reads, but specific descriptions of what constitutes a pick up truck and what does not is necessary to avoid ambiguity and loop holes. We are "The City Beautiful" not the "Commercial truck and van parking lot of Miami-Dade County."</p> <p>Gay Bondurant 446 Alcazar Ave.</p>
15.	10 12 11	Julie & Jim Berlin 6018 San Vicente St Coral Gables 33146	X		<p>From: MRayBerlin@aol.com [mailto:MRayBerlin@aol.com] Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 4:13 PM To: Planning Subject: Keep Truck Ban</p> <p>Coral Gables Zoning Board,</p> <p>As over 35 year residences of the Gables, we very much support continuing the ban on overnight pickup truck parking in the city. Regulations like these are an essential part of the Gables strength and uniqueness. We desire a clean green community for a quality life style and to maintain property value.</p> <p>Please keep this city ordinance.</p> <p>Sincerely, Julie & Jim Berlin 6018 San Vicente St Coral Gables 33146 305-666-3022</p>
16.	10 12 11	Mildred Kirsner 500 Almarin	X		<p>From: Mildred Kirsner [mailto:mildred@kirsner.biz] Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 4:03 PM To: Riel, Eric</p>

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					<p>Subject: truck parking</p> <p>Please keep trucks out of sight overnight. Coral gables has kept its distinct beautiful look by having some unusual living conditions, such as no trucks overnight, garbage out of sight, paint color on houses approved of, and some other things that some people either don't like or think it is unimportant; but they do admit that Coral Gables is beautiful and a desirable place to live.</p> <p>PLEASE keep Coral Gables beautiful and distinct.</p> <p>Mildred Kirsner 500 Alminar 305 274 6314</p>
17.	10 12 11	Erbi Blanco-True & Alex True 611 San Antonio Avenue Coral Gables, FL 33146	X		<p>From: Erbi Blanco-True [mailto:ebancotrue@GREATFLORIDABANK.COM] Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 3:42 PM To: Cason, Jim; Anderson, Maria; Cabrera, Ralph; Kerdyk, William; Quesada, Frank; Salerno, Patrick; Planning Cc: slesnickj@hotmail.com Subject: Keep the Ban on Trucks</p> <p>The reason we all live in Coral Gables is because it's a beautiful place to live...let's not change it! The more restrictions we have to maintain our property values and our quality of life here, the better!</p> <p>Thank you, Erbi Blanco-True & Alex True 611 San Antonio Avenue Coral Gables, FL 33146 (305) 668-3332</p>

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