



MEMORANDUM

Date: June 6, 2024 City Commission Meeting

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

From: Ronald Ramsingh, City Attorney

Subject: An Ordinance to Amend the Definitions of Sightseeing Vehicles to include GPS and to delete reference to the City Manager and Chief of Police to make Recommendations to changes to the sightseeing ordinances.

Sponsors: Commissioner Weekley

Background:

Sightseeing vehicles are divided into two categories; those that are granted by franchise agreement and those that are permitted by business license. During a recent Planning Board meeting, there was concern expressed that rental vehicles could be converted into self-guided GPS enabled sightseeing vehicles that are operating in other cities in the U.S. In order to be proactive on the issue, this ordinance amendment is proposed to clarify the definition of the two categories of sightseeing vehicles to include live or pre-recorded narration, as well as GPS tours.

Additionally, Se. 78-232 mandates that the Chief of Police and the City Manager must make recommendations to the sightseeing vehicle ordinances. The Chief and Manager do not wish to have this provision.

Options:

1. Approve the proposed change, thereby including GPS enabled tours and eliminating the requirement for the City Manager and the Chief of Police to make recommendations on changes to the sightseeing ordinances.
2. Deny the proposed change, thereby creating the possibility of unregulated GPS enabled tours in the city.

Procurement:

This measure does not have any direct impact on procurement.

Recommendation:

To approve the proposed change to make the definition of sightseeing tours more consistent with modern technology such as GPS guided tours, and to eliminate the requirement for the City Manager and the Chief of Police to make recommendations on changes to the sightseeing ordinances.