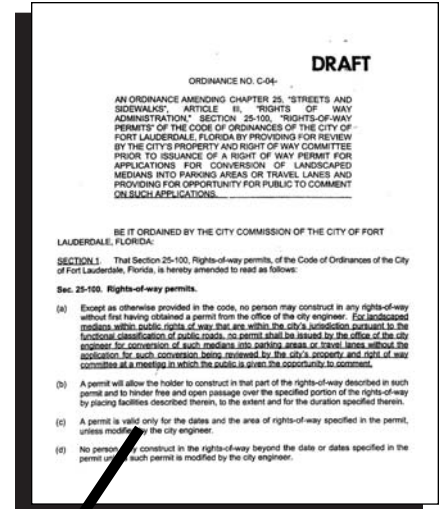


WARNING!

Ordinance change would lower standards, make it easier to put parking lots on our green medians



**2ND READING
JAN. 18!!**

Sec. 25-100. Rights-of-way permits.

(a) Except as otherwise provided in the code, no person may construct in any rights-of-way without first having obtained a permit from the office of the city engineer. For landscaped medians within public rights of way that are within the city's jurisdiction pursuant to the functional classification of public roads, no permit shall be issued by the office of the city engineer for conversion of such medians into parking areas or travel lanes without the application for such conversion being reviewed by the city's property and right of way committee at a meeting in which the public is given the opportunity to comment.

The complete text of the new language is underscored

URGE YOUR COMMISSIONER TO VOTE NO!

According to this proposed amendment to our Rights of Way Administration code, applications for parking lots in medians would go to the toothless Property and Right-of-Way Committee — an advisory group mostly made up of city staff. That committee has zero power; the only thing it does is advise the City Commission.

There is no requirement for City Commission review! A PRow Committee vote will be absolutely meaningless if the Commission doesn't have to hear the issue. The City Engineer could issue a permit regardless of how the PRow Committee votes.

There are claims that a Commissioner could "call up" the

matter ... but what Commissioner is going to call up a hot-button issue without being forced to do so? Not one Commissioner has brought up the SE 13th Street median for action, and it's been a matter of controversy since August. This change would enable them to duck the issue the way Cindi Hutchinson is ducking it now.

Our City Code requires City Commission review for everything that goes into medians: shrubs, sprinklers, etc. This would be a dramatic lowering of our standards.

PROTECT OUR PUBLIC GREEN SPACE! Please tell your Commissioner to vote "no" on this terrible amendment January 18. — Cal Deal