



CITY OF CORAL GABLES
Office of the Chief of Police

2151 SALZEDO STREET
CORAL GABLES, FL 33134

☎ 305.460.5418
✉ policechief@coralgables.com

June 10, 2026

HAND DELIVERED

DR. OSCAR FERNANDO MARMOLEJO ROLDÁN
Consul General of Colombia in Miami

Honorable Consul General,

The Coral Gables Police Department is advising residents, eligible Colombian voters who intended to vote at the consulate, and the general public that the City of Coral Gables is unable to approve the required special event permit for the Colombian presidential runoff election to be held at the facilities of the Consulate General of Colombia in Coral Gables.

This decision follows a thorough assessment of the public safety, traffic, crowd management, emergency access and operational conditions observed during the first round of voting, as well as participation projections for the electoral period scheduled from June 15 through June 21, 2026.

This decision is based on the following considerations:

1. **Zoning, Land Use and Permit Requirements:** City of Coral Gables regulations require review and approval for activities that exceed the safe occupancy capacity of a facility or significantly affect pedestrian, vehicular or emergency access in surrounding commercial and business districts.
2. **Operational Impact Observed During the First Round:** During the previous election period, extensive lines and large voter gatherings occurred on public streets adjacent to the consulate. Video and field observations from May 25 through May 31 documented significant occupying public areas of the city. These conditions resulted in traffic disruptions, pedestrian safety concerns and operational impacts that exceeded what can be safely accommodated at this location.
3. **Public Safety and Emergency Access Concerns:** The anticipated turnout for the runoff election would create additional challenges related to crowd control, traffic management, emergency response, pedestrian safety and access for surrounding businesses and residents.





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4.

Concurrent FIFA World Cup-Related Events: The City is currently implementing special security and traffic management plans associated with multiple high-attendance events related to the FIFA World Cup. The overlap of another large-scale public gathering in a constrained urban area would significantly increase public safety, traffic management, and emergency response challenges.

For these reasons, and solely for the purpose of protecting voters, preserving public order, maintaining emergency access and ensuring the effective operation of public safety services, the Coral Gables Police Department has determined that the facilities of the Consulate General of Colombia are not an appropriate venue for the presidential runoff election.

Accordingly, and in coordination with Colombian consular authorities, voting activities for the presidential runoff election may take place at the Watsco Center at the University of Miami from June 15 through June 21, 2026, between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m.

The University of Miami provides adequate facilities, parking circulation, security infrastructure and logistical capacity to accommodate an event of this magnitude in a safe, orderly, and efficient manner.

This decision was officially communicated to the Consulate General of Colombia in Miami on the morning of Wednesday, June 10, 2026, to allow sufficient time for the implementation of the logistical and operational measures necessary to ensure the continuity of the electoral process at a venue that meets appropriate safety, mobility, and public service standards.

The Coral Gables Police Department arrived at this determination based exclusively on public safety considerations, the protection of voters and attendees, and the preservation of public order. The Department appreciates the cooperation and understanding of the Colombian community, consular officials, city residents and surrounding businesses.

Respectfully,



Edward Hudak
Chief of Police

Cc: Peter J. Iglesias, City Manager