

Canada bans cruises through Feb. 2022 in latest blow to industry paralyzed by COVID-19

BY TAYLOR DOLVEN
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Canada announced Thursday it is banning cruises until Feb. 28, 2022.

The announcement by the country's transportation ministry is a blow to the already beleaguered cruise industry, which has been paralyzed since mid-March when COVID-19 outbreaks on many ships forced the industry to shut down passenger operations. In addition to banning cruises for the next year, the Canadian ministry warned citizens not to take cruises outside the country's waters either. "As Canadians continue

to do their part to reduce the spread of COVID-19, our government continues to work hard to ensure Canada's transportation system remains safe," said Minister of Transportation Omar Alghabra in a statement. "Temporary prohibitions to cruise vessels and pleasure craft are essential to continue to protect the most vulnerable among our communities and avoid overwhelming our health care systems. This is the right and responsible thing to do."

The ban will eliminate cruises to Alaska, which stop in Canadian ports to comply with U.S. shipping laws.

A spokesperson for Miami-based Royal Caribbean

Group said the company is getting in touch with affected passengers.

"We understand and appreciate the Canadian government's focus on combatting COVID-19," Jonathon Fishman said via email. "The health and safety of our guests, crew and communities we visit is our top priority. Royal Caribbean Group is ready to

work with health and transportation officials on a path forward to address the impact on multiple sectors of the Canadian economy."

Miami-based Carnival Corporation, the largest cruise company in the world, owns several Alaska hotels. Spokesperson Roger Frizzell said in a statement the company plans to continue to operate its hotels in

Denali, Fairbanks and Kenai for the summer season and hopes the Canadian government will rescind the cruising ban if pandemic conditions improve.

"Given the unexpected length of the order, it will take us some time to assess whether there are any options to preserve a portion of the 2021 Alaska season," the statement said. "We will be consulting authorities in both the U.S. and Canada before we take any additional action."

The U.S. Centers for Dis-

ease Control and Prevention lifted its ban on cruises in October and replaced it with a long list of conditions that cruise companies must meet in order to resume passenger operations. On Tuesday, Michael Rubin, Florida Ports Council vice president of governmental affairs, told members of the Florida Senate Transportation Committee that it could take companies more than a year to comply.

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OPC

14 and allow the legislative committee to appoint his successor. He did not comment for this story but told the South Florida Sun Sentinel that "it was clear that the Legislature's preference was that someone not serve more than 12 years."

Four people applied to replace Kelly, but three withdrew their applications. On Thursday, Michael Barry, a staff lawyer in the Florida House of Representatives, was the last to withdraw. He had been recommended by PSC Commissioner Michael La Rosa, a former legislator appointed to the PSC by Gov. Ron DeSantis with the backing of the utility industry.

La Rosa's relationship with Barry, and a letter that he wrote criticizing the Office of Public Counsel last year has raised questions about whether La Rosa supports the independent

analysis of the OPC and its staff.

Now, consumer advocates and legislators are raising questions about whether the office will remain independent enough to push for lower rates in the face of industry pressure.

"This is a result of the direct relationship to the political power of the investor-owned utilities in Florida," said Layne Smith, associate state director of AARP Florida, which has represented customers before the PSC.

In the last election cycle, FPL was among the largest contributors to legislative campaigns with \$3.1 million in donations, according to reports filed with the Florida Division of Elections. Included in the 2020 contributions was \$1.5 million to the Florida Republican Senatorial Leadership Committee, headed by Senate President Wilton Simpson, R-Tribli, who was tasked with securing the Republican majority in the Senate.

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2021 MIAMI Residential President
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Florida Realtors® Seeks Student Scholarship Winners

The Student Scholarship Program offered through Florida Realtors' Education Foundation Inc., a not-for-profit corporation that provides real estate-related educational scholarships, is taking applications. But act fast: The application deadline for this year's program is March 11, 2021, at noon.

This year is the 12th year for Florida Realtors' Student Scholarships Program, which continues to be a strong and successful outreach program. Since it began, Florida Realtors has awarded more than \$1.7 million to help young people across Florida realize their college dreams. It's a privilege to be able to provide much-needed financial support to so many young people and to invest in their futures. This is one way that the state association and our Realtor members give back to our communities.

Since its inception, Florida Realtors has awarded a total of \$1,739,400 in scholarship funding, which has helped 1,189 students go to a college or university.

This student scholarship program is open and available to students whose parents are Realtors or licensed real estate practitioners, or whose parents are employed by any local Realtor board/association or by Florida Realtors, as well as any Florida student currently enrolled at a school (including home-schooled students or those attending a charter school.) It is based on an application form, which can be found on Florida Realtors' website.

Who can apply for the scholarships? Any Florida high school senior who will be attending an undergraduate college or university; any student currently enrolled in an undergraduate college or university (any major); or any student pursuing a graduate degree is eligible. There are no limitations as to location of the college or university attended, as long as the applicant indicates the intent to return to work in Florida after graduation. Proof of the student's legal Florida residency is required, however.

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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY REDLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL (14) CDMP PUBLIC HEARING

**6:00 PM, February 22, 2021, Redland Community Council (14)
Goulds Park – in the Gym - 11350 SW 216 St, Miami, FL 33170**

This Will Be an In-Person/Virtual Meeting. You are invited to participate in the meeting below:

The Redland Community Council (14) is holding an in-person/virtual public hearing to address an application requesting amendment to the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The October 2020 CDMP Amendment Cycle Application No. 20200013 is summarized as follows:

Application No. 20200013 (Lennar Homes, LLC.)
Proposed amendment to the CDMP for ±35.8 gross acres of land (with staff recommended addition of ±4.7 acres, for a total of ±40.5 acres) located on the side of SW 288 Street, between SW 162 and SW 164 Avenues.

Requested Amendment to the CDMP:
Redesignate the application site on the Land Use Plan map:
From: "Low Density Residential (2.5 to 6 dwelling units per gross acre)"
To: "Low-Medium Density Residential (6 to 13 dwelling units per gross acre)"

The Council may adopt recommendations to the Planning Advisory Board and the Board of County Commissioners at the conclusion of the hearing. Multiple members of individual community councils may be present. This meeting is free and open to the public.

Interested parties may:

- (1) Attend the meeting and speak on the application via Zoom™ from a device located in a different room than the Community Council board members, at the gym of Gould's Park - 11350 SW 216 St, Miami, FL 33170
- (2) join the meeting via Zoom™ to view a live broadcast of the meeting or speak on the application, where permissible, by registering in advance of the meeting at: https://miamidadecounty.com/webinar/register/WN_X7kSO0CYRxaTSj8remEuFQ (Webinar ID: 958 6468 5694)
- (3) join the meeting by phone by calling 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247
- (4) or call the Meeting Call Center at on the day of the hearing at 786-414-2600 for assistance in joining the meeting

Members of the public physically in attendance shall wear facial coverings and observe social distancing requirements in accordance with applicable law. **Any person wishing to present or use documents or photographic materials during their testimony must submit them in advance, in accordance with the instructions below.**

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ZOOM™ PARTICIPATION
Interested parties who wish to speak on the application via Zoom™ must register by 1:00 pm on February 22, 2021 through the Zoom link or Webinar ID provided above. Zoom online registration will be available beginning at 8:00 am, February 5, 2021. **Participants who are physically present at the meeting location do not need to register.**

SPEAKING DURING THE MEETING IF PARTICIPATING THROUGH ZOOM™:
On the day of the meeting registered speakers can speak on the application by joining the Zoom™ virtual meeting as provided in their meeting registration confirmation emails. Participants must join the meeting in the same manner they registered. If you registered online through Zoom, you must log in with the same profile you used to register.

ADVANCE SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS OR PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS
Interested parties who wish to introduce documents or photographic materials when speaking on the application must submit such materials in advance to CCMeetings@miamidadecounty.com. The deadline to submit such documents and materials is **February 17, 2021 at Noon**. Each submitted document must: i) Clearly reference the applicable CDMP Application number (e.g. CDMP20200013) that it addresses; ii) Be of a file size no greater than 50MB and in PDF format (files exceeding 50MB must be divided into two or more files, 50MB each or less). Submitted documents and materials will be included in the public record for the referenced application but will only be shown upon request during the meeting when the submitting party is speaking. Note that documents or photographic materials may be submitted in person at the hearing for subsequent inclusion in the official application records. You may review the Application and the Initial Recommendations reports at the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department's website at <http://www.miamidadecounty.com/planning/cdmp-amendment-cycles.asp>

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the virtual meeting, please call and leave a voice message for the Planning Division of the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources at telephone number (305) 375-2835. Due to COVID-19, staff is currently working remotely but will respond within a reasonable time to voicemails received.

Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in its programs, services and activities and does not discriminate on the basis of disability. **You may request materials in accessible format, a sign language interpreter, Communication Access Real-time Translation (CART) services,** and/or any other accommodation to participate in any County-sponsored program or meeting. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service). **If you need a language interpreter** at the meeting, one can be provided for you at no charge. For any of these services, please contact Alain Donderiz at 305-372-6779 or 786-442-4778 or via email at Alain.Donderiz@miamidadecounty.com, at least five days in advance of the meeting to initiate your request

For legal ads online, go to <http://legalads.miamidadecounty.com>

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL (8) CDMP PUBLIC HEARING

**7:00 PM, February 18, 2021, North Central Community Council (8)
Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza –2nd Floor, Conference Rooms 3 and 4 - 2525 NW 62 Street, Miami, FL 33147**

This Will Be an In-Person/Virtual Meeting. You are invited to participate in the meeting below:

The North Central Community Council (8) is holding an in-person/virtual public hearing to address an application requesting amendment to the Miami-Dade County Comprehensive Development Master Plan (CDMP). The October 2020 CDMP Amendment Cycle Application No. 20200011 is summarized as follows:

Application No. 20200011 (Common Wealth Trust Services, LLC.)
Proposed amendment to the CDMP for ±7.1 gross acres of land located on the southeast corner of NW 7 Street and NW 71 Avenue.

Requested Amendment to the CDMP:
Redesignate the application site on the Land Use Plan map:
From: "Industrial and Office"
To: "Medium-High Density Residential (25 to 60 dwelling units per gross acre)"

The Community Council may adopt recommendations to the Planning Advisory Board and the Board of County Commissioners at the conclusion of the hearing. Multiple members of individual community councils may be present. This meeting is free and open to the public.

Interested parties may:

- (1) Attend the meeting and speak on the application via Zoom™ from a device located in a different room than the Community Council board members, at the Martin Luther King Jr. Plaza –2nd Floor, Conference Rooms 3 and 4 - 2525 NW 62 Street, Miami, FL 33147
- (2) join the meeting via Zoom™ to view a live broadcast of the meeting or speak on the application, where permissible, by registering in advance of the meeting at: https://miamidadecounty.com/webinar/register/WN_7AWiFBUyRBGxzFrVrYlpYQ (Webinar ID: 991 4893 3703)
- (3) join the meeting by phone by calling 888-788-0099 or 877-853-5247
- (4) or call the Meeting Call Center at on the day of the hearing at 786-414-2600 for assistance in joining the meeting

Members of the public physically in attendance shall wear facial coverings and observe social distancing requirements in accordance with applicable law. **Any person wishing to present or use documents or photographic materials during their testimony must submit them in advance, in accordance with the instructions below.**

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ZOOM™ PARTICIPATION
Interested parties who wish to speak on the application via Zoom™ must register by 1:00 pm on February 18, 2021 through the Zoom link or Webinar ID provided above. Zoom online registration will be available beginning at 8:00 am, February 5, 2021. **Participants who are physically present at the meeting location do not need to register.**

SPEAKING DURING THE MEETING IF PARTICIPATING THROUGH ZOOM™:
On the day of the meeting registered speakers can speak on the application by joining the Zoom™ virtual meeting as provided in their meeting registration confirmation emails. Participants must join the meeting in the same manner they registered. If you registered online through Zoom, you must log in with the same profile you used to register.

ADVANCE SUBMISSION OF DOCUMENTS OR PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS
Interested parties who wish to introduce documents or photographic materials when speaking on the application must submit such materials in advance to CCMeetings@miamidadecounty.com. The deadline to submit such documents and materials is **February 15, 2021 at Noon**. Each submitted document must: i) Clearly reference the applicable CDMP Application number (e.g. CDMP20200011) that it addresses; ii) Be of a file size no greater than 50MB and in PDF format (files exceeding 50MB must be divided into two or more files, 50MB each or less). Submitted documents and materials will be included in the public record for the referenced application but will only be shown upon request during the meeting when the submitting party is speaking. Note that documents or photographic materials may be submitted in person at the hearing for subsequent inclusion in the official application records.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding the virtual meeting, please call and leave a voice message for the Planning Division of the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources at telephone number (305) 375-2835. Due to COVID-19, staff is currently working remotely but will respond within a reasonable time to voicemails received.

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