

Section 301. - Composition; Eligibility; Election and Terms of Office.

- a. *Composition.* The City Commission of Coconut Creek is a five (5) member governing body, and may be referred to throughout the City's Charter and Code of Ordinances as the "City Commission" or "Commission," collectively, and "Commission member," singularly. Until its reorganization on March 13, 2029, the City Commission consists of five (5) District Commissioners, each primarily domiciled in the district in which he/she has filed his/her candidacy and is elected at large. After its reorganization on March 13, 2029, the City Commission will consist of an Elected Mayor (referred to as "Elected Mayor" or "Mayor," unless the context dictates otherwise) and four (4) District Commissioners (referred to as "District Commissioner(s)" or "Commissioner(s)," unless the context dictates otherwise), with all members elected at large. All members of the City Commission must meet residency requirements and be primarily domiciled at the time of filing for candidacy, and continuously throughout his/her term of office, in the City's corporate boundaries (for the Elected Mayor and District Commissioners) and additionally, within the district (for District Commissioners) in which he/she has filed his/her candidacy and has been duly elected; otherwise, said office(s) is automatically forfeited.
- b. *Eligibility.* For the office of Elected Mayor, resulting from the March 13, 2029 reorganization, only qualified voters who have been primarily domiciled in the City for a minimum of twelve (12) continuous months prior to filing as a candidate will be eligible to hold the office. Prior to and after the reorganization on March 13, 2029, for the office of District Commissioner, only qualified voters who have been primarily domiciled in the district in which he/she has filed his/her candidacy for a minimum of twelve (12) continuous months prior to filing as a candidate will be eligible to hold the office. Length of residency upon any land that is subsequently annexed into the City or land that has been re-designated within another district's boundaries due to redistricting by the City, within the preceding twelve (12)-month period, will count toward the minimum length of residency calculation. Each candidate must execute and deliver to the City Clerk an affidavit of primary domicile and length of residency within the City (and district, as applicable) at the time of filing for his/her candidacy. Each candidate must also provide two (2) proofs of identification showing the candidate's address of primary domicile, one (1) being a Florida Driver's License or Florida State Identification Card, plus an electric bill or water bill, or other evidence of address.
- c. *Election.* The regular election of the City Commission will be held biennially on the second Tuesday in March in odd-numbered years in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida, and as provided in the City's Charter and Code of Ordinances. All eligible electors in the City of Coconut Creek, without regard to their district of residency, may vote for only one (1) candidate for each office on the ballot. The candidate for each office who receives the greatest number of votes, among all the qualified candidates for a particular office, will be elected. When there is only one (1) qualified candidate for a given office, the candidate will be deemed to have voted for himself/herself and the person's name will not appear on the ballot. After an election and receipt of the certified election results, all newly elected and/or re-elected City Commission members will be sworn into office and seated at the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting or a special meeting organized for such purpose.
- d. *Terms.* It is the intent of the City Commission to reorganize its composition at the March 13, 2029 Municipal Election from five (5) District Commissioners to one (1) Elected Mayor (at large) and four (4) District Commissioners, and to provide for staggered terms of office and biennial elections thereafter. The City Commission is hereby authorized to adopt such other ordinances as are necessary to extend certain existing terms of office in order to have all offices simultaneously end upon the Municipal Election held on March 13, 2029, and provide

that terms of office are staggered thereafter; as well as adopt such ordinance(s) as are necessary to cancel the March 9, 2027 Municipal Election, in order to effectuate the above stated goals. The Municipal Election held on March 11, 2025 will be administered in the normal course, with the traditional four (4)-year term of office for the seats appearing on that ballot. It is the intent of the City to reorganize the composition of the City Commission with minimal impact upon City operations.

1. *Transition.* On March 13, 2029, all four (4) District Commissioner seats and the Elected Mayor will be on the ballot for election. The Mayor will serve for a four (4)-year term and such term will expire every four (4) years thereafter. No less than ninety (90) days prior to March 13, 2029, the City Clerk, at a public meeting of the City Commission, will draw lots to determine the two (2) District Commissioner seats that will have a four (4)-year term commencing on March 13, 2029, alongside the office of Mayor. The City Clerk will ensure that a lot for each of the four (4) commission districts is placed into the drawing. The two (2) commission districts drawn will carry a four (4)-year term, and such terms of office will expire every four (4) years thereafter. The two (2) districts not drawn will carry a two (2)-year term that expires on March 11, 2031. Starting from the March 11, 2031 Municipal Election, and thereafter, the two (2) District Commissioner seats on the ballot will each have a four (4)-year term, and such terms of office will expire every four (4) years thereafter.
- e. *Term Limits.* After the City Commission's reorganization on March 13, 2029, no person may appear on a ballot for election after serving three (3) consecutive elected terms. An elected term, as used in this subsection, will include any amount of time in office after being elected at a municipal election held in the City, including a full four (4)-year term or any part thereof. In addition, an elected term applies to any elected office, interchangeably. Elected terms served prior to March 13, 2029, will not be included in the term limit computation established herein. An individual who is ineligible for office pursuant to this subsection may subsequently appear on a ballot for reelection only after being out of office for at least one (1) election cycle, meaning a minimum of two (2) years.

(Ref. of 11-6-90; Ref. of 3-12-91; Ref. 3-9-93; Ref. of 3-12-96; Ref. of 3-13-01; Ref. of 3-14-06; Ref. of 11-2-10; Ref. of 11-06-16; Ord. No. [2020-015](#), 5-28-20; ratified by Ref. of 11-3-20; effective 11-4-20; Ord. No. [2024-019](#), § 2, 5-9-24; ratified by Ref. of 11-5-24; effective 11-6-24)