

# U.S. federal judge sentences alleged top member of Venezuela's Soles cartel to more than 20 years

BY ANTONIO MARIA DELGADO  
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A former Venezuelan general, Cliver Alcalá Cordones, was sentenced on Monday to 21 years and eight months in federal prison after pleading guilty in the United States to having supplied weapons and provided protection to Colombian guerrillas.

Alcalá Cordones, who admitted publicly to having conspired to overthrow Venezuelan leader Nicolás Maduro, received the long sentence despite agreeing with prosecutors to plead guilty to helping members of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia — known by its Spanish abbreviation, FARC — in exchange for favorable treatment.

Despite the deal, prosecutors asked the judge to impose a 30-year sentence, arguing that Alcalá Cordones was one of the top leaders of the drug-trafficking organization the Cartel de los Soles, allegedly controlled by the Venezuelan military and top leaders of Maduro's socialist regime.

Evidence given before sentencing showed the former general gained financially from an active role in drug trafficking, receiving at times \$150,000 per shipment. Alcalá Cordones denied having any direct role in the illegal drug trade.

"As a high-ranking

The country's courts and intelligence agencies were used to facilitate the shipment of tons of cocaine to the United States in partnership with the FARC, a guerrilla organization dedicated to the violent overthrow of the Colombian government, the prosecutor's office said.

"The Cartel de Los Soles sought not only to enrich its members and enhance their power but also to weaponize cocaine by inflicting the drug's harmful and addictive effects on users in the United States," the Justice Department said in the news release.

The Justice Department said Alcalá's role in the drug trade was tracked back to the start of 2006, when he took advantage of his role in the Venezuelan military to support the FARC as that organization shipped tons of drugs to the United States.

Among his alleged activities, Alcalá Cordones protected FARC members from being arrested by Venezuelan law enforcement or from being confronted by the Venezuelan military. Those protected by the former general include top guerrilla leaders Luciano Marín Arango and Rodrigo Londoño Echeverri, prosecutors alleged.

In addition, Alcalá Cordones participated in meetings with some of the largest drug traffickers in South America, during which they discussed how he and other members of the cartel could assist them in cocaine distribution, prosecutors said.

Alcalá Cordones also personally intervened to ensure that law enforcement in Venezuela did not intercept large cocaine shipments. In exchange, Alcalá Cordones received millions of dollars in cocaine-fueled bribes, the news release said.

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Cliver Alcalá Cordones

member of the Venezuelan military and the Cartel de Los Soles, Cliver Antonio Alcalá Cordones and his co-conspirators sought to weaponize cocaine as they helped the FARC arm its members and ship tons of drugs to the United States," said U.S. Attorney Damian Williams of the Southern District of New York.

"Alcalá Cordones corrupted the vital institutions of his own country as he helped the FARC flood this country with cocaine — but no longer. Instead, he will now spend more than two decades in a United States prison," Williams said in a news release.

According to U.S. officials, Alcalá Cordones and other high-ranking Venezuelan officials served as leaders and administrators of the Soles cartel, using their power and influence within the country's security apparatus to consolidate control of the drug trade inside the South American country.

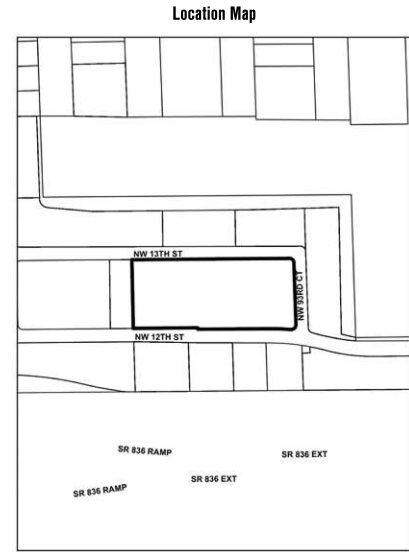


## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF ZONING WORKSHOP

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a Zoning Workshop on **Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** The Meeting will take place at the City of Doral, Government Center, 1st Floor Multipurpose Room located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166.

The following application will be presented:

**HEARING NO.:** 24-04-DOR-02  
**APPLICANT:** Lithia Motors, Inc. c/o Golden Property Development LLC (the "Applicant")  
**PROJECT NAME:** Subaru Dealership  
**PROPERTY OWNER:** FL Doral-S LLC  
**LOCATION:** 9300 NW 13 Street, Doral, FL  
**FOLIO NUMBER:** 35-3033-003-0010  
**SIZE OF PROPERTY:** ±8.38 acres  
**FUTURE LAND USE MAP CATEGORY:** Industrial  
**ZONING DISTRICT:** Industrial (I)  
**REQUEST:** The Applicant is proposing a 53,481 square foot Subaru Dealership consisting of a large double story showroom, a three lane service drive, and a service shop.



**ZONING WORKSHOP PROCESS:** The zoning workshop consists of two sessions:

- First Session.** The first session of a zoning workshop shall provide a forum for members of the public to learn about proposed developments within the city. Developments may be presented to the public simultaneously, in several locations within the meeting site. During this session, members of the public are encouraged to ask questions and to provide feedback to the applicant about the proposed development. The applicant shall provide visual depictions, such as renderings, drawings, pictures, and the location of the proposed development. In addition, representatives of the applicant shall be available to answer questions that members of the public may have about the proposed development. The members of the City Council shall not be present during the first session of the zoning workshop.
- Second Session.** The second session of a zoning workshop shall provide a forum for the City Council to learn about the proposed developments discussed at the first session of the zoning workshop. No quorum requirement shall apply. Developments shall be presented by the applicants sequentially, one at a time, for the City Council's review and comment. The applicant shall again present visual depictions of the proposed development. In addition, the applicant shall be available to answer any questions that members of the City Council may have about the proposed development.

**No quorum requirement shall apply nor will any vote on any project be taken, but roll call will be taken, as it is a publicly noticed meeting.**

Information relating to this request is on file and may be examined in the City of Doral, Planning and Zoning Department located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, FL 33166. Maps and other data pertaining to these applications are available for public inspection during normal business hours in City Hall. Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, all persons who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

**NOTE:** If you are not able to communicate, or are not comfortable expressing yourself, in the English language, it is your responsibility to bring with you an English-speaking interpreter when conducting business at the City of Doral during the zoning application process up to, and including, appearance at a hearing. This person may be a friend, relative or someone else. A minor cannot serve as a valid interpreter. The City of Doral DOES NOT provide translation services during the zoning application process or during any quasi-judicial proceeding.

**NOTA:** Si usted no está en capacidad de comunicarse, o no se siente cómodo al expresarse en inglés, es de su responsabilidad traer un intérprete del idioma inglés cuando trate asuntos públicos o de negocios con la Ciudad de Doral durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación, incluyendo su comparecencia a una audiencia. Esta persona puede ser un amigo, familiar o alguien que le haga la traducción durante su comparecencia a la audiencia. Un menor de edad no puede ser intérprete. La Ciudad de Doral NO suministra servicio de traducción durante ningún procedimiento o durante el proceso de solicitudes de zonificación.

Connie Diaz, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Doral



## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE LITHIA MOTORS GREEN REUSE AREA

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **City Council Zoning Hearing** on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 6:00 PM**, to consider the adoption of the following resolution designating the Lithia Motors Green Reuse Area, located at 9300 NW 13th Street, Doral, FL 33172. The City Council will consider this item for **FIRST READING**. This meeting will be held at the **City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53 Terrace, Doral, Florida 33166**. The proposed resolution applies to the following property shown on the map below.

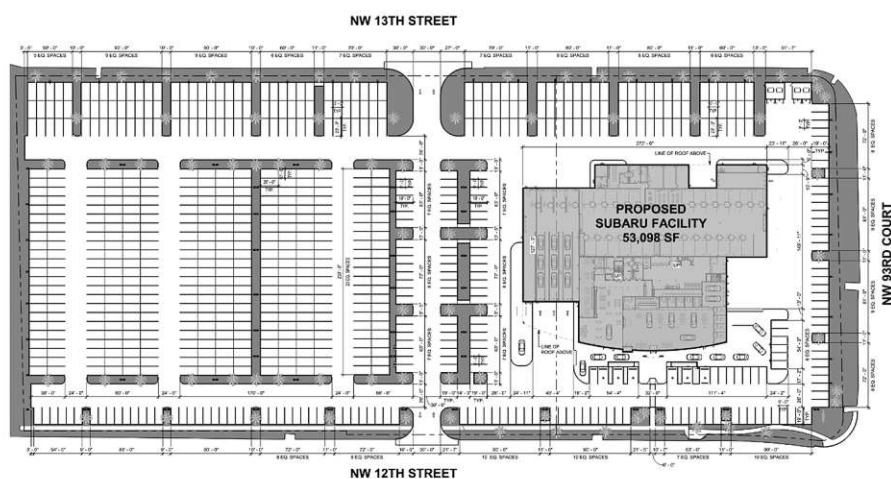
The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Resolution:

### RESOLUTION No. 24-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, MAKING CERTAIN FINDINGS AND DESIGNATING THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9300 NW 13 STREET, IDENTIFIED BY MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FOLIO No. 35-3033-003-0010, AS THE LITHIA MOTORS GREEN REUSE AREA PURSUANT TO SECTION 376.80(2)(C) FLORIDA STATUTES, OF FLORIDA'S BROWNFIELD REDEVELOPMENT ACT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF REHABILITATION, JOB CREATION AND PROMOTING ECONOMIC REDEVELOPMENT; AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO NOTIFY THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION OF SAID DESIGNATION; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE AND FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES**

**HEARING NO.:** 24-04-DOR-05  
**APPLICANT:** FL Doral-S, LLC  
**PROJECT NAME:** Lithia Motors Green Reuse Area.  
**LOCATION:** The Lithia Motors Green Reuse Area is located at 9300 NW 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Doral, FL 33172.  
**SIZE OF PROPERTY:** 8.392± acres  
**REQUEST:** The intent of this Resolution is to designate the Lithia Motors Green Reuse Area, located at 9300 NW 13th Street, Doral, FL 33172, as identified in the map below pursuant to Sec. 376.80, Florida Statutes, of Florida's Brownfields Redevelopment Act for the purpose of environmental remediation and redevelopment, job creation and promoting economic development and revitalization.

Location Map



Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

Connie Diaz, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Doral



## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **COUNCIL ZONING MEETING** on **April 24, 2024 beginning at 6:00 PM** to consider site plan approval. The meeting will be held at the **City of Doral, Government Center, Council Chambers located at 8401 NW 53rd Terrace, Doral, Florida, 33166**.

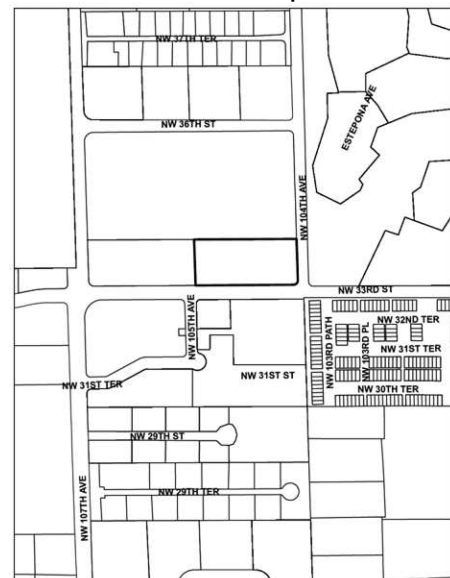
The City of Doral proposes to adopt the following Resolution:

### RESOLUTION No. 24-

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING THE SITE PLAN FOR BOHLER ENGINEERING FL, LLC, FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 10451 NW 33 STREET, DORAL, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 53-184(F) OF THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

**HEARING NO.:** 24-04-DOR-03  
**APPLICANT:** Bohler Engineering FL, LLC (the "Applicant")  
**PROJECT NAME:** SmartStop Storage  
**PROPERTY OWNER:** SST II 10451 NW 33RD ST LLC  
**LOCATION:** 10451 NW 33 Street, Doral, FL  
**FOLIO NUMBER:** 35-3029-001-0250  
**SIZE OF PROPERTY:** ±4.19 acres  
**FUTURE LAND USE MAP CATEGORY:** Industrial  
**ZONING DISTRICT:** Industrial (I)  
**REQUEST:** The Applicant is proposing upgrades to the existing self-storage facility, including an expansion of the existing building.

Location Map



Inquiries regarding the item may be directed to the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL. The application file may be examined at the City of Doral Planning and Zoning Department located at 8401 NW 53 Terrace, Doral, FL 33166.

Pursuant to Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes, if a person decides to appeal any decisions made by the City Council with respect to any matter considered at such meeting or hearing, they will need a record of the proceedings and, for such purpose, may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. This notice does not constitute consent by the City for introduction or admission of otherwise inadmissible or irrelevant evidence, nor does it authorize challenges or appeals not otherwise allowed by law. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, any person who are disabled and who need special accommodations to participate in this meeting because of that disability should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at 305-59-DORAL no later than three (3) business days prior to the proceeding.

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