

# SpaceX Crew-9 duo arrive at Kennedy Space Center; 3 astronauts return to Earth

BY RICHARD TRIBOU  
Orlando Sentinel

Only two of the original four members of SpaceX Crew-9's mission to the International Space Station arrived to Kennedy Space Center on Saturday, making room on their future ride home next year for the pair of NASA astronauts left behind by Boeing's Starliner.

NASA astronaut and Space Force Col. Nick Hague and Roscosmos cosmonaut Aleksandr Gorbunov flew into KSC landing at the former space-shuttle landing facility. They're gearing up for a launch in the Crew Dragon Freedom atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Cape

Canaveral Space Force Station's Space Launch Complex 40 as early as Thursday — targeting liftoff at 2:05 p.m. with backup dates available Friday and Saturday.

The duo will remain in quarantine at the Neil A. Armstrong Operations and Checkout Building until launch.

The launch from Canaveral will be the first for SLC-40 as all previous SpaceX human spaceflights have been from Kennedy Space Center. SpaceX built a second crew access tower so it could use either pad, and KSC's Launch Pad 39-A is being prepped for NASA's Europa Clipper mission, which will fly on a Falcon Heavy in October.

NASA made the call to

send the Crew Dragon up with only two passengers so the Starliner Crew Flight Test mission's Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams, who arrived to the ISS on June 6, could make the return flight when the Crew-9 mission flies home in February.

NASA opted to send Boeing's spacecraft home uncrewed after safety concerns with its propulsion system. Starliner ended up making a safe return Sept. 7 minus its commander and pilot, who along with Hague and Gorbunov, will be part of the Expedition 72 crew on the station.

Williams will take over the ISS command once Crew-9 arrives and the Expedition 71 mission officially becomes Expedi-

tion 72. She and Wilmore spoke to reporters last week.

"What we look forward to is being here and being part of the crew that's here," Williams said. "You know, we've been part of Expedition 71 they're a great bunch of people, and we've tried to just jump in and do whatever we can."

Williams and Wilmore made the CFT flight as test pilots, but both had previously stayed on board the ISS as veterans of both space-shuttle and Soyuz missions.

On Monday, three astronauts from Russia and the U.S. returned to Earth after leaving the ISS.

Russians Oleg Kononenko and Nikolai Chub alongside American Tracy



CRAIG BAILEY / FLORIDA TODAY via USA TODAY NETWORK

Aleksandr Gorbunov and Nick Hague arrive at Kennedy Space Center on Saturday. They are scheduled to launch to the International Space Station on Thursday.

Dyson arrived in a capsule that touched down in the expansive Kazakhstan steppe approximately three and a half hours after undocking.

Kononenko and Chub launched to the ISS on Sept. 15, 2023, and on

Friday set the record for the longest continuous stay on the ISS. Dyson, on her third space mission, spent six months aboard the station.

*This report was supplemented with information from Newsweek.*

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## SEX

tion lessons plans for approval, per a new state law. Last September, the education department told school districts they had to send in their reproductive-health plans for review or use state-approved textbooks for those lessons.

Previously, local school boards oversaw the approval of their districts' sex-education materials.

But as the Sentinel reported in July, the state did not respond to the plans that a number of districts submitted as an alternative to the state-approved curriculum. So for the 2023-24 school year, some districts canceled the sex-education lessons typically taught in the spring.

Now, with the 2024-25 school year underway, they've been told their plans do not meet state

approval.

Castor Dentel, a former Orange County teacher, noted that sex-education lessons — which in Orange started in fifth grade — are voluntary, and parents can opt their children out if they do not like the topics covered. In her six years on the School Board, those lessons have never been an issue.

"No one has ever complained about their kid learning about reproductive health," she added.

The state education department did not respond to a request for comments Friday nor to email requests sent over the summer when the Sentinel asked why districts reproductive-health plans had not been approved.

But in the past, districts had been able to offer additional instruction. Orange schools, for example, started their lessons in fifth grade with a class on the physical changes of

puberty, and for high-schoolers, provided conversations about contraception and sexually transmitted diseases, among other topics.

Orange school leaders declined to discuss in detail their interaction with the state about the sex education curriculum. State officials called Broward educators on Aug. 21 to outline their concerns with its planned lessons, according to a memo that Broward educators put together about the call.

"Pictures of external sexual/reproductive anatomy should not be included in any grade level," the memo said, characterizing the concerns expressed orally by the state. "Contraceptives are not part of any health or science standard" but could be mentioned as "health resource," though "pictures, activities, or demonstrations that illustrate their use should not be included in instruction in

any grade level," it said.

"Different types of sex (i.e., anal, oral, and vaginal) cannot be part of instruction in any grade level," state officials added in the call, according to the Broward memo.

Elissa Barr, a professor of public health at the University of North Florida, said she has heard from educators who have been told by state officials to remove topics such as contraception and teach "abstinence only."

Decades of research have shown that strategy is not effective, she said.

"We in Florida, we're moving in the wrong direction," Barr said. "We should be making data-driven decisions, and we're just not."

Barr is part of the Florida Healthy Youth Alliance, a group that advocates for comprehensive sexual-health education in schools. The group wants teenagers taught the benefits of abstinence — "We

all want our kids to wait longer," she said — but also how to protect themselves from sexually transmitted diseases and unplanned pregnancies should they become sexually active.

That sort of program, she said, is the most effective in convincing teens to delay sexual activity and avoid its problematic consequences.

As district officials contact her, Barr has been keeping a list of words and phrases that they've been told to remove from their reproductive-health plans. They include abuse, consent, domestic violence, fluids, gender identity and LGBTQ information, she said.

Axing the word "fluids" will make it hard to accurately teach how HIV is transmitted because it is spread through blood, breast milk, semen and vaginal fluids, she said. "That's science."

All of the district offi-

cials whom Barr spoke with said they received phone calls, but no written communication, from the education department.

A state-authorized textbook used in Lake County high school classes last year preaches abstinence as the only effective way to prevent STDs and pregnancy and does not mention contraception. It also encourages students to go on group dates rather than spend one-on-one time with a partner.

"Our curriculum will emphasize abstinence and provide comprehensive health education to help students make informed, healthy decisions," Broward Schools said in its statement. "While advisory groups have expressed concerns about changes to the curriculum, we will adhere to state law and FLDOE rules."

*Miami Herald Education Reporter Clara-Sophia Daly contributed to this report.*



## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **COUNCIL MEETING** on **October 9, 2024 beginning at 6:00 PM** to consider a modification to the Doral Gateway Master Development Agreement (MDA) and Pattern Book. The City Council will consider this item for **FIRST READING**. 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 Ordinance:

### ORDINANCE No. 2024-28

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DORAL, FLORIDA, APPROVING A MODIFICATION TO THE DORAL GATEWAY MASTER DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AND PATTERN BOOK, TO INCREASE APPROVED RESIDENTIAL UNITS FROM 550 TO 880; REMOVE THE 150 HOTEL ROOMS; REDUCE RETAIL USE FROM 47,900 SQUARE FEET TO 30,452 SQUARE FEET, AND INCREASE OFFICE USE FROM 340,634 SQUARE FEET TO 346,000 SQUARE FEET; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

HEARING NO.: 24-10-DOR-02

APPLICANT: Centrum Doral Owner, LLC (the "Applicant") PROJECT NAME: Gateway DMU MDA & Pattern Book Modification PROPERTY OWNER: Centrum Doral Owner, LLC

LOCATION: 8750 NW 36 Street & 3750 NW 87 Avenue, Doral, FL

FOLIO NUMBER: 35-3028-010-0020; 35-3028-010-0030; 35-3028-010-0050

SIZE OF PROPERTY: ±13.2 acres

FUTURE LAND USE MAP CATEGORY: Downtown Mixed Use (DMU) and Urban Central Business District (UCBD) overlay.

ZONING DISTRICT: Downtown Mixed Use (DMU)

REQUEST: The Applicant is seeking approval of the previously approved Development Agreement to allow the approval of the proposed site plan for a new 330-unit multifamily residential building and the expansion of an existing parking garage.

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.

Connie Diaz, MMC  
City Clerk  
City of Doral

### Location Map



## CITY OF DORAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

All residents, property owners and other interested parties are hereby notified of a **COUNCIL MEETING** on **October 9, 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 LITHIA MOTORS, INC., FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 9300 NW 13 STREET, DORAL, FLORIDA, PURSUANT TO SECTION 53-184(F) OF THE CITY'S LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

HEARING NO.: 24-10-DOR-01

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.

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.

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