

**Miami River Commission**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**May 6, 2019**

The Miami River Commission (MRC) public meeting convened at noon, May 6, 2019, 1407 NW 7 ST.

**Miami River Commission (MRC) Policy Committee Members and/or Designees attending:**

Horacio Stuart Aguirre, MRC Chairman, Appointed by Governor Scott  
Eileen Higgins, Miami-Dade County Commissioner  
Maggie Fernandez, designee for Miami-Dade County Commissioner Higgins  
Patty Harris, designee for Governor  
John Michael Cornell, designee for Member at Large Appointed by the Governor  
Neal Schafers, Downtown Development Authority  
Philip Everingham, designee for the Marine Council  
Sandy O’Neil, designee for Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce  
Bruce Brown, President, Miami River Marine Group  
Sallye Jude, Appointed by Miami-Dade County  
Rosy Noguera, designee for Sara Babun  
Manny Prieguez, Member at Large Appointed by City of Miami  
Tom Kimen, designee for Neighborhood Representative appointed by City of Miami

**MRC Staff:**

Brett Bibeau, Managing Director

**Others attending interested in the River:**

Please see attached sign in sheets.

**I. Consideration of Pending Temporary Use Permit Application  
at 431-451 South Miami Ave**

Bill Riley, Greenspoon Marder, presented draft plans for “Riverside Miami, a family oriented open-air culinary experience”. The presented draft plans feature 7 local restaurants, tap room, event space for “movie nights”, art installations, \$200,000 of landscaping (90% native plants), and public Riverwalk. Mr. Riley stated there is an “off-site parking lease”, and the site will have many visitors from the adjacent 5<sup>TH</sup> ST Metro-Mover station, pedestrians and bicycles from the immediately surrounding densely populated Brickell and Central Business District areas. Mr. Riley stated the proposal is not a “party atmosphere”, and will not have late night events. Mr. Riley stated the draft plans include an enclosed structure which reduces noise, from “Event Star”, which is the same company that constructed the enclosed temporary structure at The Wharf. Mr. Riley explained the sound system will have localized speakers for ambient background music playing softer than a conversation, i.e. Disney Land. Mr. Riley stated the proposal requires the

majority of sales to be for food (annual audits for minimum of 51% food sales, and a maximum of 49% liquor sales). Mr. Riley stated the proposal is seeking a “Temporary Use Permit” with annual potential renewals for a maximum of a total 3-years, and then any additional time extensions for the pending “Temporary Use Permit” would have to be approved by the City Commission. Mr. Riley offered the MRC future annual reviews. Mr. Riley stated since the MRC subcommittee public meeting they have widened the proposed public Riverwalk to the full 25’-width required by code, and agree to widen the western side-yard to 5’ wide. Mr. Riley added the public Riverwalk maximized trees and landscaping and includes a public drinking fountains and public real restrooms. Mr. Riley stated they have now included an onsite location for Uber pickups and drop offs and delivery trucks, so that they don’t block vehicular lanes on SE 5 ST. Mr. Riley distributed copies of new “Proffered Operational Restrictions”. Mr. Riley stated the Principal is Antonio Primo, Concept ID. Mr. Riley stated there will be no boat access, and they are not applying for a marine operating permit at this time, but if they ever decide to apply for a Marine Operating Permit in the future they would come first back to the MRC. Mr. Riley stated the proposer will provide 24 hour roaming security. Mr. Riley complimented MRC Managing Director Bibeau’s negotiations which lead to the applicant agreeing to widen their proposed public Riverwalk in order come into compliance with the minimum requirements of the City of Miami’s code.

County Commissioner Eileen Higgins cautioned the presenters to be extremely careful about noise and consider the numerous neighbor’s quality of life in adjacent Brickell on the River, Ivy, Mint, Wind, etc. Commissioner Higgins recommended noise mitigation, was glad they had included a uber drop off area off of the street, recommended grass not artificial turf, and stated she generally likes the proposal. Mr. Riley stated they are happy to revisit using real grass instead of the planned artificial turf.

Neal Schafers, Downtown Development Authority noted the proposal connects to the east with existing public Riverwalk, and to the west with existing on road Miami River Greenway. Mr. Riley confirmed the proposed public Riverwalk and public greenspace is for families.

**The MRC adopted a unanimous resolution recommending approval of the Temporary Use Permit for Riverside Miami located at 431-451 South Miami Ave Urban with the following conditions:**

- 1) The public Riverwalk and public western side-yard connector between the existing on-road Greenway (along SE 5 ST) and the public Riverwalk, be 100% consistent with the minimum requirements in the code and charter**
- 2) Widen the western public bike / ped side yard connector**
- 3) Use real grass not artificial turf**

## **II. Consideration of Revised Plans and Pending Warrant Application for 1175 NW South River Drive, Naheem Khan Project**

Ms. Rosario Kennedy, Rosario Kennedy and Associates, emailed MRC Chairman Aguirre and Managing Director Bibeau requesting a deferral of their presentation to the MRC's June 3 public meeting, in order to first accept the invitation to present to the Spring Garden Civic Association.

## **III. Consideration of Florida Department of State Plans for Miami Circle Park, 401 Brickell Ave, and Pending Application to the City of Miami for a Ground Disturbing Activity Certificate**

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D., Division Director, State Historic Preservation Officer, Division of Historical Resources, Florida Department of State, presented draft plans to improve Miami Circle Park, a designated National Historic Landmark. The plans include planting 1,466 new plants, needed re-sodding, covering bare dirt areas along the public Riverwalk with crushed shells, a decorative fence around the actual Miami Circle where they will replant the original design of landscaping as when Miami Circle Park was originally opened, fix irrigation and drainage, and fill in where eroded. Dr. Parsons stated after the presented draft set of improvements are constructed, the Department of State hopes to conduct a subsequent set of improvements 1-2 years in the future, which will then include museum quality exhibits. Dr Parsons stated the additional 3 hardscape "Living Room" areas are no longer being proposed in this phase. Dr Parsons complimented MRC Director Bibeau for his assistance in Miami Circle Park, and thanked the Miami Parking Authority for purchasing soon to be installed bollards along the vehicular loop to try and stop frequent illegal parking from Uber and Lyft drivers, etc. Dr Parsons also noted the Miami Parking Authority's planned and funded future public paid parking lots on the vacant public right of way located beneath the adjacent Brickell Bridge, which will provide a legal parking option which is not located on the National Historic Landmark site. Dr Parsons stated in June he will present the plans to the City of Miami's Historic and Environmental Preservation Board (HEP) for a Ground Disturbing Activity Certificate, followed by commencing the project in July.

**The MRC adopted a unanimous resolution supporting the presented plans to improve Miami Circle Park, with a condition to postpone further consideration of constructing the additional 3 hardscape "Living Room" areas, until the next phase of site improvements to be designed in a public process featuring museum quality exhibits.**

#### **IV. Update Regarding Replacement of the 1 Street Bridge – Florida Department of Transportation**

Sergies Duarte, Art Perez, Kevin Carrera, Hector Fung, and Andres Berisartu, Florida Department of Transportation distributed and presented the following documents:

1. FDOT Fact Sheet
2. FDOT One Street Bridge Detour Map
3. FDOT SW One Street to Flagler St. Detour
4. FDOT One Street Bridge Little Havana shore rendition
5. FDOT One Street Bridge Downtown shore rendition

In addition, the MRC's June 1, 2015 Public Meeting Minutes were distributed with this item.

The project's detour will commence May 23. The estimated completion date is Summer of 2022, with a \$4,200,000 bonus to the contractor if they finish earlier.

Mr. Perez, FDOT, indicated they would be applying to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) for permission to close the Miami River's federal navigable channel at the 1 ST Bridge to all boats for 4 separate 3-day consecutive periods (12 total days). Mark Bailey, Miami River Marine Group, stated Port Miami River's job generating marine industrial businesses need to navigate vessels past the 1 ST Bridge location, and they will be meeting further with the FDOT and USCG about the proposed vessel closures in the Miami River.

#### **V. New Business**

The meeting adjourned.

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 Noon  
 1407 NW 7 ST  
 Miami, FL

<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE &amp; E-MAIL</u>
Sergies Duarte	FDOT-SW1stBridge	3/216/3617 Sergies.Duarte@dot.state.fl.us
Art Perez	FDOT/Pinnacle CEI	786 251 8059 aperez@pinnaclecei.com
Kevin Camara	FDOT-Quest SW 1st Bridge	786-859-1826 kevin.camara@OCAUSE.com
Hector Fung	FDOT	305-640-7400 hector.fung@dot.state.fl.us
Andres Berisiantu	FDOT	andres.berisiantu@dot.state.fl.us 305-640-7433
Maggie Fernandez	MDC-DS	305-375-5924 maggie.Fernandez@miamidade.gov
Nancy Jackson	MDC-DS	305-375-5924 nancy.jackson@miamidade.gov
Eileen Higgins	MDC-DS	305-375-5924 DISTRICTS@miamidade.gov
Jorge Cantero	EWM Realty	JorgeCanteroRE@qmail.com
Vince Sammarco		VSammarco@AUSSETS.COM
Rick WEBER	SGCA	786 858 2592 richardweber@yahoo.com
John C. Robbins	Miami Today	
Trinity Persons	FL Dept of state	trinity.persons@dos.nythwa.com
Karyn Boynton	Spring Garden Civic Assoc	305.205.2054
Mark Bailey	Miami River Marine Group	kboynton@gmail.com Distributors legal@miami.com/mailing/05/19/19

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<u>NAME</u>	<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>PHONE &amp; E-MAIL</u>
Manny Priego	MRC	305/345-4070
Eileen Higgins	BCC	305-373-5399
John Michael Cornell	MRC	530-214-1475
Sandy O'Neil	Gmcc	oneils@bellsouth.net
Neal Schufers	Miami DDA	Schufers@miamidda.com
Luis Fernandez	DERM / RER	fernandez@miamidade.gov
Horacio S. Aguirre	MRC	Horacio@hsaguirre.com
Phil Everingham	MRC/MARINE COUNCIL	pbemsdd@hotmail.com
Sallya Jude	MRC	sallyajude@adriana.com
Bruce L. Brown	Miami River Marine Club MRC	brucehlj@bellsouth.net 305/788-6441
Tom Kimen	MRC	TKimen3@aol.com
Patricia Harris	MRC	PATYKAK@GMAIL.COM
Roseline Noguera	MRC	rnoguera@entillan.com
JALEK SCHANDLER	SCHANDLER ARCHITECTS	(305) 5106323 JL@SCHANDLERARCHITECTS.COM
ROBERT DOBIECKI	POLISH PROJECT	305.854.4500 MSHX@ATT.NET

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Orin Black	5TH STREET MARINA	786-258-2292 / orin@5thstreetmarina.com