In 2019 evidence of the continuing revitalization of the Miami River District was found in construction of another 7 sections of the public Miami River Greenway at “River Landing” featuring 420,000 square feet of retail and 506 residential units, “Aston Martin Residences” featuring 384 residential units, “Miami River Walk” featuring 698 residential units, “Riverside Miami” featuring 7 restaurants, the 1st Street Bridge, “One River Point” featuring 402 residential units, 20 hotel rooms and rooftop restaurant and the “Gramps By the Bay” riverfront restaurant. In addition, renovations are under construction at RMK Merrill-Stevens Boatyard, including a new seawall, infrastructure and ship lift.

The Miami River Commission approved the following plans in 2019:

- “Riverside Miami” featuring 7 restaurants and the public riverwalk
- Expansion of Fern Isle Park featuring the public riverwalk
- 18 low-density townhomes in the historic Spring Garden neighborhood
- Marine industrial business headquarters and accessory riverfront restaurant in the lower river section of Little Havana
- Allowing freeboard to elevate houses
KEEPING THE BALANCE of uses along the historic mixed-use Miami River District is amongst the most important and challenging successes of the Miami River Commission. The proof is in the numbers. The Miami River’s shorelines feature public riverwalks, 9 major parks, over 9,410 new residential units (additional 6,665 approved units), 5 major hotels (additional 5 planned hotels with 1,200 new rooms), 23 operating restaurants (additional 31 planned restaurants), 16 historic sites, 25 boatyards and marinas, over a dozen International Shipping Terminals, and other job-generating marine industrial businesses operating along “Fort Miami River.” International Shipping Terminals provide vital international trade to our neighbors in the Caribbean and Central America. Recreational boatyards, marinas, commercial fishing and tug boat basins are highly active. The river is used daily by international shipping vessels, yachts, manatees, dolphins, marlins, and other marine life. This critical balance of uses makes the beautiful Miami River the ideal place to live, work and play in the heart of the City of Miami.

THE MIAMI RIVER DISTRICT features wonderful multi-cultural neighborhoods in Downtown, Little Havana, Spring Garden, Overtown, Grove Park, Allapattah, Durham Park, etc. The Miami River District’s nine major parks offer every type of recreation including a boat ramp, kayak and paddleboard launch, pools, new playgrounds, barbecues, picnic tables, basketball, tennis and racquetball courts, baseball diamonds, football stadium, track, weights, gym, community centers, riverwalks for running, walking, biking and fishing, and historic sites such as the 2,000 year old Miami Circle, 1844 Fort Dallas, and the oldest standing home in Miami-Dade County, the 1856 Wagner Homestead.

THE MRC THANKS THE FOLLOWING

**SUSTAINABLE SOUTH FLORIDA AWARDS, GREEN EDUCATION & OUTREACH AWARD** 2011

awarded to MRC Managing Director Brett Bibeau –*Miami Today*

**BEST OF MIAMI 2011–VISIONARY**

awarded to MRC Managing Director Brett Bibeau –*Miami Today*

**BEST OF MIAMI 2011–BUILDING INFRASTRUCTURE** awarded to Eric Buemann and Brett Bibeau –*Miami Today*, 2008

**EXCELLENT AWARD** awarded to the MRC for its Multimodal Transportation Plan – American Planning Association, 2007

**AWARD OF MERIT** awarded to the Miami River Commission – American Planning Association, 2007

**THE NEWSMAKER** awarded to MRC Chair Eric Buemann – Miami Today, 2007

**THE BEST PRACTICE** awarded to MRC, Managing Director Brett Bibeau who was then included in the “Book of Leaders” – Miami Today, 2007

**THE BEST PRACTICE** awarded to MRC, Managing Director Brett Bibeau – Real Estate Association of Greater Miami and the Beaches

**THE BEST PRACTICE** awarded to MRC, Managing Director Brett Bibeau – Real Estate Association of Greater Miami and the Beaches

**THE BEST PRACTICE** awarded to the Miami River Commission – Riverfront Master Assn.

**THE BEST PRACTICE** awarded to the Miami River Commission – Riverfront Master Assn.

**MIAMI IMAGE AWARD OF 2006**

**THE ACHIEVER** awarded to MRC Managing Director Brett Bibeau – Miami Today, 2006

**MIAMI IMAGE AWARD OF 2006** awarded to the Miami River Commission – Miami Today, 2006

**AWARD OF MERAIT** awarded to MRC’s Multimodal Transportation Plan – American Planning Association, 2007

**MIAMI RIVER DISTRICT**

*Chairman, Miami River Commission*

Horacio Stuart Aguirre

**MIAMI RIVER DISTRICT**

*Chairman, Miami River Commission*

I INVITE YOU TO BRING

your family and friends to the Miami River District and enjoy the experience. The Miami River Commission promises that regardless of your individual interests, age, gender, race, or income level, you will find something special to enjoy.

TESTIMONIALS

“Miami-Dade County is grateful for the partnership with the Miami River Commission, addressing resiliency in the critical Miami River Water Basin. The Miami River Commission’s public meetings bring together representatives from the public and private sectors to work towards implementing time sensitive resilient solutions.”

– James Murley, Chief Resilience Officer, Miami-Dade County

“The Florida Department of Transportation appreciates the Miami River Commission’s (MRC) continued assistance in communicating with Miami River residents and businesses regarding projects that affect navigation on the Miami River. The MRC is an important partner, helping the Department communicate the needs and benefits of these projects.”

– James Wolfe, P.E. FDOT District Six Secretary

“The Riverside Miami is 7 new restaurants and a tap room, featuring the pubic Riverwalk and greenspace, adjacent to the SE 5 ST Metro-Mover Station and across the street from Brickell City Center. I appreciate the Miami River Commission’s tremendous assistance in communicating with the community in public meetings, removing an obstacle to connect our new section of the public Riverwalk with a previous section to the east, positive press, etc.”

– Antonio Primo, Owner of Riverside Miami
MIAMI RIVER GREENWAY  
**Dr. Ernest Martin, Chair**

**IN 2019 THE MIAMI RIVER GREENWAY** continued construction, featuring a public pedestrian & bicycle pathway, landscaping, decorative lights, way-finding signage, historic markers, informational kiosks, benches, art installations, and other amenities. In 2019, another 7 sections of the public Riverwalk were under construction by the private and public sectors. Over 6.5 miles of the public Miami River Greenway has been constructed, with an additional planned 3.5 miles to complete.

The MRC appreciates the mutual efforts to implement the Miami River Greenway Action Plan, and the cost shares provided to date from multiple public and private funding sources including Congress, State of Florida, the Florida Department of Transportation, South Florida Water Management District, Florida Inland Navigation District, City of Miami, Miami-Dade County, Downtown District, Miami River Commission, the Florida Department of State, and numerous private sector developments. The MRC thanks the City of Miami and its residents for voting to include the Miami River Greenway in the approved Miami Forever Bond "Urban Infill Plan, Miami River Corridor Multi-Modal Transportation Plan, Miami River Greenway Action Plan" and others, available for downloading at www.miamirivercommission.org.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMERCE  
**Philip Everingham, Chair**

**IN 2019, CONSTRUCTION CONTINUED** at River Landing featuring 420,000 square feet of retail, 506 residential units and the public riverwalk, Aston Martin Residences featuring 384 residential units and the public riverwalk, Miami River Walk Apartments featuring 698 units and the public riverwalk, Riverside Miami featuring 7 restaurants and public riverwalk and renovations at RMK Merrill-Stevens shipyard, featuring a new seawall, infrastructure and ship lift. In addition, the MRC favorably received FDOT’s “Miami River Freight Improvement Plan”. Therefore the Miami River District is ripe with mixed-use economic development, commerce and jobs.

STORMWATER  
**Sallye Jude, Chair**

**THE STORMWATER SYSTEM** is the leading source of pollution into the Miami River. The Miami River water basin includes a 69-square-mile area of the most densely populated neighborhoods in the State of Florida. All stormwater from this area drains into the Miami River through over one hundred outfalls. The Miami River Commission appreciates Commissioner Eileen Higgins, Mayor Carlos Giménez and the Board of County Commissioners for renewing $140,000 for the Scavenger Water DeContamination vessel’s services in the Miami River. In addition to removing floating debris and hazards to navigation, the Scavenger Vessel significantly improves water quality by decontaminating 600,000 gallons of water per hour and injecting 150,000 liters of oxygen per hour into the Miami River.

URBAN INFILL  
**James Murley, Chair**

**THE MRC’S URBAN INFILL SUBCOMMITTEE** continued efforts to assist implementing various adopted and award-winning plans, including the Miami River Corridor Urban Infill Plan, Miami River Corridor Multi-Modal Transportation Plan, Miami River Greenway Action Plan and others, available for downloading at www.miamirivercommission.org.

Get Involved!

The Miami River Commission invites groups and individuals from the community to get involved in improving your Miami River District, and the private sector to help us as sponsors of events. To learn more about what you can do, visit our website at www.miamirivercommission.org for updates.

The Miami River Commission thanks all of the incredible volunteers of all ages and walks of life who planted, painted murals, picked up litter, removed invasive plants and spread recycled mulch along the riverwalk during 24 major volunteer beautification events in 2019. The MRC is thankful to our growing list of sponsors, partially listed at right, who contributed supplies, funding to the “greening” of the river, and removed an estimated 196,800 pounds of garbage.

The 24th Annual Miami Riverday festival is scheduled April 4th, 2020, in Lummus Park, 250 NW North River Drive. Just like the 23rd annual festival, held April 6, 2019, Miami Riverday features free river boat tours, live music, environmental education, marine expo, historic re-enactors, children’s activities and much more. All MRC and subcommittee meetings are publicly noticed. Public participation is encouraged. The full MRC usually meets on the first Monday of the month at noon, in the conference room at 1407 NW 7 Street.

Volunteers replanting the public riverwalk’s community vegetable and fruit garden.

MRC thanks volunteers and sponsors:

- Miami-Dade County
- City of Miami
- Florida Department of Transportation
- Florida Department of State
- One River Point
- Downtown Development Authority
- RMK Merrill-Stevens
- Epic Marina
- Sightseeing Cruises
- Miami Dolphins
- University of Miami
- Hands On Miami
- Florida International University
- Florida Drawbridge
- Carrollton School of the Sacred Heart

Subcommittee Reports

Left to right: Sewell Park, Terrazas, international shipping vessel under tow, Hurricane Cove Marina & Boatyard.

Scavenger 2000 Water De-Contamination Vessel keeping the Miami River clean.
MIAMI RIVER GREENWAY’S TIMELINE

MIDDLE RIVER
- 1897: Henry Flagler opens six-story Royal Palm Hotel, including first greenway
- 1910: Lummus Park created on Miami River
- 1972: Miami River Greenway section constructed along north shore from Biscayne Bay to NW 2 Avenue
- 1998: Florida Legislature creates Miami River Commission as a watchdog, advocate and clearinghouse for the river. Miami Circle site discovered
- 2000: With the Trust for Public Land, the MRC, City of Miami and Miami-Dade County unanimously approve Miami River Greenway Action Plan
- 2001: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed
- 2002: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed
- 2003: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed
- 2004: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed
- 2005: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed
- 2006: City of Miami adopts ‘A Vision for Miami’s 21st Century Parks & Public Spaces’ recommending completion of the Miami River Greenway
- 2007: Miami River Corridor Multi-Modal Transportation Plan created by Metropolitan Planning Organization and MRC recommending completion of the Miami River Greenway
- 2008: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed
- 2009: City Bicycle Master Plan adopted recommending completion of the Miami River Greenway
- 2010-2019: Sections of the Miami River Greenway constructed

UPPER RIVER
- Shipping and Marine Industrial Zone: Center of the river’s trade and industry. The Miami Intermodal Center links rail, air, freight, transit, pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

LOWER RIVER
- Downtown Zone: Urban, high-density residential, offices, commercial businesses. Riverwalks link historic landmarks and parks along river.

Downtown Miami under construction, featuring public riverwalk and 7 restaurants.

Riverside Miami under construction, featuring public riverwalk.

VOLUNTARY IMPROVEMENT PLAN
Frank Balzebre, Chair

THE MIAMI RIVER VOLUNTARY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (VIP) identifies and encourages public and private sector riverfront parcels to address various riverfront issues which are potentially detrimental to operations on the River, the environmental quality of the River, and the River’s attraction as a destination for residents, tourists and businesses. In 2019 alone, the Miami River “VIP” resulted in 24 major Miami River Greenway Beautification volunteer events featuring plantings, removal of illegal dumping, invasive species, and graffiti along several sections of the Miami River, removing derelict vessels, repairing Riverwalk lights, unblocking stormwater drains, removing a floating hazard to navigation and oil sheen, found and corrected sources of contamination etc. The MRC thanks Miami-Dade County, City of Miami, FIND, FDOT, private sector, and the fantastic volunteers for their hard work bringing these River improvements to fruition.

Riverside Miami under construction, featuring public riverwalk and 7 restaurants.

The Miami Intermodal Center links rail, air, freight, transit, pedestrian and vehicular traffic.

RUSSIAN IMPROVEMENT PLAN
Frank Balzebre, Chair

THE RUSSIAN RIVER VOLUNTARY IMPROVEMENT PLAN (VIP)

identifies and encourages public and private sector riverfront parcels to address various riverfront issues which are potentially detrimental to operations on the Russian River, the environmental quality of the Russian River, and the River’s attraction as a destination for residents, tourists and businesses. In 2019 alone, the Russian River “VIP” resulted in 24 major Russian River Greenway Beautification volunteer events featuring plantings, removal of illegal dumping, invasive species, and graffiti along several sections of the Russian River, removing derelict vessels, repairing Riverwalk lights, unblocking stormwater drains, removing a floating hazard to navigation and oil sheen, found and corrected sources of contamination etc. The MRC thanks Sonoma County, City of Russian River, FIND, FDOT, private sector, and the fantastic volunteers for their hard work bringing these River improvements to fruition.

Russian River under construction, featuring public riverwalk.
Miami River Commission

Members

Chair: HORACIO STUART AGUIRRE
Representative from environmental or civic organization appointed by the Governor

Vice Chair: Mr. FRANK BALZEBRE
Designee for Miami Dade Mayor: Mayor CARLOS GIMENEZ

Florida Governor: RON DeSANTIS
Designee: Ms. PATRICIA “PATTY” HARRIS

Mr. LUIS GARCIA
Member-at-Large Appointed by the Governor
Designee: Mr. JOHN MICHAEL CORNELL

SEN. OSCAR BRAYNON
Chair, Miami-Dade Delegation

Mayor FRANCIS SUAREZ
Mayor of the City of Miami

Commissioner EILEEN HIGGINS
Miami-Dade County Commissioner
Designee: Ms. MAGGIE FERNANDEZ

Commissioner WIFREDO “Willy” GORT
City of Miami Commissioner

KATHERINE FERNANDEZ-RUNDLE, Esq.
Miami-Dade State Attorney
Designee: Mr. DAVID MAER, Esq.

Mr. CHAUNCEY GOSS
Chair, South Florida Water Management District
Designee: Mr. SCOTT WAGNER, Esq.

Mr. BRUCE BROWN
Chair, Miami River Marine Group
Designee: Mr. RICHARD DUBIN

Ms. ALYCE ROBERTSON
Downtown Development Authority
Designee: Mr. NEAL SCHAFFERS

Mr. ALFRED SANCHEZ
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Designee: Ms. SANDY O’NEIL

Dr. ERNEST MARTIN
Neighborhood Representative appointed by the City of Miami Commission
Designee: Mr. THOMAS KIMEN III

Ms. SALLYE JUDE
Neighborhood Representative appointed by the Miami-Dade County Commission

Mr. PHILIP EVERINGHAM
Designee of: MICHAEL KARCHER, Chair of Marine Council

Ms. SARA C. BABUN
Member-at-Large appointed by the Miami-Dade County Commission

Mr. MANNY PRIEGUEZ
Member-at-Large appointed by the City of Miami Commission

Ex-Officio Members:

CONGRESSWOMAN DONNA SHALALA

CAPTAIN JO-ANN BURDIAN
United States Coast Guard
Captain of the Port of Miami

Managing Director:
Mr. BRETT BIBEAU

Designed by: Toni Kirkland LLC

MIAMI RIVER COMMISSION

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Learn more about the Miami River’s past, present and future, view reports, plans, public meeting minutes, agendas and more at the informative www.miamirivercommission.org