

**Miami River Commission  
Public Meeting Minutes  
December 2, 2024**

The Miami River Commission's (MRC) public meeting convened at noon, December 2, 2024, in the Downtown Library Auditorium, 101 W Flagler. Sign in sheets are attached.

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

Horacio Stuart Aguirre, Chairman, Appointed by the Governor  
James Murley, Vice-Chairman, designee for Miami-Dade County Daniela Levine Cava  
Eddie Marti Kring, designee for County Commissioner Eileen Higgins  
Betty Hermida, designee for City of Miami Commissioner Gabela  
Barrett Long, designee Neighborhood Representative appointed by Board of County Commissioners  
Eileen Broton, Neighborhood Representative Appointed by City of Miami Commission  
Alvaro Coradin, designee for Sara Babun appointed by Miami-Dade County  
Bruce Brown, Miami River Marine Group  
John Michael Cornell, designee for Luis Garcia  
Spencer Crowley, Member at Large Appointed by the City Commission  
Philip Everingham, designee for Marine Council  
William Gonzalez, designee for Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle  
Lorena Pucme, designee for Downtown Development Authority

**MRC Staff:**

Brett Bibeau, Managing Director

**I) Chair's Report and "Voluntary Improvement Plan" (VIP) Update**

The Miami River Commission unanimously adopted their November public meeting minutes.

MRC Chairman Aguirre provided the following report:

Copies of the MRC produced Miami River 2025 Calendar were distributed. Chairman Aguirre thanked all of the advertisers.

The free 26th Annual Miami Riverday will be held April 5, 2025, 1-6 PM, Lummus Park, 250 NW North River Drive, featuring free boat rides, live music, environmental education, historic reenactors, children's activities, food and drinks. Sponsorships are available with MRC Director Brett Bibeau

In addition, advertisements are available for the 22nd Annual Miami River Map and Guide.

MRC Vice Chairman Jim Murley provided the following Miami River Voluntary Improvement Plan (VIP) update:

The Miami River Commission has been actively assisting the efforts of the City, County, State, and private sector to clean up the Miami River District. The MRC pays professional maintenance companies every day to remove litter, invasive plant species, graffiti and provide landscaping, pressure washing, vacuum truck, and Scavenger Water Decontamination Vessel services along the Miami River. In addition, the MRC thanks the Hands-on Miami volunteers whom picked up garbage along the Miami River in Sewell Park on November 10, and in Curtis Park on November 17.

## **II. Presentation Regarding City of Miami's Planned and Funded Restorations of the 1844 Fort Dallas and the 1858 Wagner Homestead Located in Lummus Park**

Hector Badia, City of Miami Capital Improvements Department, stated the City of Miami is working towards conducting needed repairs of the 1856 Wagner Homestead (the oldest home in Miami-Dade County) which needs a new roof and wooded beam repairs due to termite damage, the 1844 Fort Dallas which has a crack in the wall with the fireplace, and the Community Center Buildings. Mr. Badia stated the Dade Heritage Trust received a grant which they have been offering the City of Miami to construct the needed repairs of the Wagner Homestead.

MRC Chairman Aguirre asked the MRC Urban Infill & Greenways Subcommittee to discuss future uses and increased activations of the historically designated Wagner Homestead, Fort Dallas, and Flagler Workers House, and the dock in FT Dallas Park following their restorations which are scheduled to be completed in 2025.

Spencer Crowley stated if the City of Miami applies for a Grant, FIND may fund 50% of the cost to repair the public dock in FT Dallas Park.

## **III. Update Regarding Urban Related / Miami Dade County "RiverParc" Development at 1401-1407 NW 7 ST**

Mr. Andrew Velo, Urban Related, presented a PowerPoint regarding the mixed-income redevelopment of the site, with restored affordable housing for senior citizens, affordable, work force and market rate residential units. Specific to the Miami River Mr. Velo stated they completed construction of 800 linear feet of new seawall, will include a public riverwalk consistent with City Code, and would like to extend the new seawall to the west and create a new riverfront public park space beneath 836. The upcoming riverfront phase will include 2 buildings 21-stories each, and an 8-story parking pedestal.

Kirk Lofgren, Ocean Consulting, stated they are applying for a maintenance dredging permit to allow 10 vessels which the permit will require be for use only by residents. Spencer Crowley stated the MRC should support the maintenance dredging and 10 vessels, but with expanded uses i.e. water transportation and the previously Board of County Commissioners approved ability for the adjacent RMK Merrill-Stevens to dock yachts. Mr. Velo, Mr. Lofgren, and Ms. Latte, Kimley Horn & Associates, agreed to present for further discussion regarding the large site's riverfront phase at an upcoming MRC Urban Infill and Greenways subcommittee's public meeting.

#### **IV. Discussion Regarding Reopening the Public Parking Lot at 474 NW 4 ST**

Eddie Marti Kring, designee for Commissioner Eileen Higgins, stated the Miami-Dade County Internal Services Department will reopen the County owned needed public parking lot adjacent to Lummus Park and several riverfront restaurants.

#### **IV. New Business**

The public meeting adjourned.

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December 2, 2024 - 12:00 PM

101 W Flagler, Miami FL - Main Library Auditorium

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JAMES MURLEY	SELF/representing MDC Mayor	305-968-4888	JAMESJeniMoreMurley@gmail.com

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