

**Miami River Commission's  
Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee  
February 16, 2024**

Miami River Commission's (MRC) Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee Chairman Jim Murley convened a public meeting on February 16, 2024, 1407 NW 7 ST, at 1 PM. The sign in sheet is attached.

**I) Review Updated "Miami Riverbridge" Plans**

Iris Escarra and Carlos Diaz, Greenberg Traurig, Allen Matis, HRM Owner, Ben Hutchens and Audrey Flynn presented plans, letter of intent, and Restrictive Covenant for Miami Riverbridge, 400 and 298 SE 2 Ave. The presented plans include a publicly accessible riverwalk with seamless connections to existing public Riverwalks to the west and east. Mr. Matis noted the site had a seawall upgrade in 2017, and they surveyed the current seawall, to which they will be adding an additional 1.5-foot seawall cap. The project will provide the City of Miami \$1.5 million for FT Dallas Park featuring the historic Flagler Workers House. That payment will be provided when the building permits are executed, which is estimated in a couple years. Attendees discussed the safe balance between bike and pedestrian users along the public Riverwalk.

**Miami River Commission's (MRC) Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee Chairman Jim Murley suggested the MRC recommend approval of the presented plans, letter of intent and restrictive covenant subject to the following 3 conditions:**

- 1) **Work with neighboring existing public Riverwalks to the west (City of Miami) and to the east (FDOT) and encourage them to improve their existing public Riverwalks at the same time as Miami Riverbridge is under construction, therefore simultaneously constructing an entirely new public Riverwalk starting at the western terminus of the public Riverwalk at Epic Residences, and ending at the public Riverwalk beneath the "Riverwalk" Metro Mover station.**
- 2) **Notify MRC of temporary closure dates of the existing public Riverwalk at the Hyatt in order to ensure public safety during construction of Miami Riverbridge.**
- 3) **Consider a marked "Bike Lane" within the 15' wide public Riverwalk's circulation zone.**

**II) Review Plans To Restore the Historically Designated Flagler Workers House in FT Dallas Park**

MRC Director Bibeau stated he had invited the City of Miami Parks and CIP Departments, along with their consultant Richard Heisenbottle, whom were unable to attend the MRC subcommittee meeting but will present to the full MRC on March 4, noon, 101 W Flagler, Downtown Library

Auditorium. MRC Director Bibeau provided the cover of the "City of Miami, Office of Capital Improvements, Flagler Workers House (Palm Cottage) Restoration – Construction Documentation Progress Set 12-10-23", created by Richard Heisenbottle, featuring a depiction of the restored historic structure, which is currently in need of restoration.

**Miami River Commission's (MRC) Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee Chairman Jim Murley stated the MRC continues to recommend the expedited restoration of the historically designated Flagler Workers House, followed by the reopening of FT Dallas Park.**

### **III) Review Plans to Restore the Historically Designated Wagner Homestead in Lummus Park**

MRC Director Bibeau stated he had invited the City of Miami Parks and CIP Departments, along with their consultant Richard Heisenbottle, whom were unable to attend the MRC subcommittee meeting but will present to the full MRC on March 4, noon, 101 W Flagler, Downtown Library Auditorium. MRC Director Bibeau provided a copy of Richard Heisenbottle's plans prepared for the City of Miami to restore the historically designated 1856 Wagner Homestead in Lummus Park, which is the oldest standing home in Miami-Dade County.

**Miami River Commission's (MRC) Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee Chairman Jim Murley suggested the MRC recommend approval of restorations to the historically designated Wagner Homestead in Lummus Park.**

### **IV) Review Plans to Create the New Riverfront Simon Bolivar Park**

MRC Director Bibeau stated he had invited the City of Miami Parks Department, which was unable to attend the MRC subcommittee meeting, and he will invite them to present to the full MRC on March 4, noon, 101 W Flagler, Downtown Library Auditorium. Director Bibeau distributed the City of Miami's current Plans for "Simon Bolivar Park" located at City owned 1 SW South River Drive and beneath the Flagler Bridge. The plans include a new dog park, and state, "Future Sea Wall and Riverwalk Improvements" and "Future Landscape Improvements". The City of Miami recently commenced improvements at Simon Bolivar Park with the installation of new sod and removal of the uprooted tree hanging into the Miami River.

**Miami River Commission's (MRC) Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee Chairman Jim Murley suggested the MRC recommend approval of the planned improvements to Simon Bolivar Park and encourage the "Future Sea Wall and Riverwalk Improvements" and "Future Landscape Improvements" be included ASAP.**

## V) New Business

Jim Murley presented a February 12, 2024 letter from the Florida Ocean Alliance to a ST Representative in support of HB 1311 regarding the Blue Economy.

MRC Director Bibeau shared his following recent email:

**From:** [brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org](mailto:brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org) <[brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org](mailto:brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 7, 2024 4:14 PM  
**To:** 'Frey, Andrew' <[AFrey@miamigov.com](mailto:AFrey@miamigov.com)>; 'Badia, Hector' <[hbadia@miamigov.com](mailto:hbadia@miamigov.com)>; 'Blondet, Lillian' <[LBlondet@miamigov.com](mailto:LBlondet@miamigov.com)>; 'James.Murley@miamidade.gov' <[James.Murley@miamidade.gov](mailto:James.Murley@miamidade.gov)>; 'Santana Jr., Juvenal' <[jsantana@miamigov.com](mailto:jsantana@miamigov.com)>; 'spencer.crowley@akerman.com' <[spencer.crowley@akerman.com](mailto:spencer.crowley@akerman.com)>; 'Cabrisas, Kathryn' <[KCabrisas@miamigov.com](mailto:KCabrisas@miamigov.com)>; 'brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org' <[brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org](mailto:brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org)>  
**Subject:** RE: MEETING INVITATION RE: 20 NW North River Drive Attached Awarded FIND Grant Report and Application

Dear Director Santana,

During your 2/1 "Sunshine Meeting" presentation aired on CH.77, you stated something along the lines of the City having sufficient funding appropriated to build seawalls with public Riverwalks / Baywalks at every appropriate street end in the City of Miami. Therefore does the City have sufficient funding for needed new seawalls and public Riverwalks at the following City owned locations?

- 1 SW South River Drive (Flagler dead-end into NW South River Drive)
- Flagler dead end into North River Drive
- Along Wagner Creek (various City owned street dead ends)
- Along NW South River Drive west of 27 Ave
- NW 25 Ave dead end into the Miami River's north shore

Thanks for your time and support of the Miami River

Sincerely,  
Brett"

The public meeting adjourned.

Miami River Commission Urban Infill and Greenways Subcommittee

Public Meeting

February 16, 2024 - 1:00 PM

1407 NW 7 ST, Arts and Crafts Boardroom (facing Miami River)

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Jim Murley			