

**Miami River Commission's Stormwater Subcommittee
Public Meeting Minutes
March 4, 2026**

The Miami River Commission (MRC) Stormwater Subcommittee's public meeting convened March 4, 2026, 10 AM, 1407 NW 7 ST. The attendance sheet is attached.

I. Discussion Regarding Miami River Walk the WBID to Search and Locate Sources of Contamination

The following emails were distributed and discussed:

“From: Muthiah, Mallika (DTPW) <Mallika.Muthiah@miamidade.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2026 11:17 AM
To: brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org
Subject: Miami River Walk-the-WBID Event

Good morning Brett,

The County's consultant, GHD, gathered information during the Miami River's Walk the WBID event. Based on the results of the event, further research, and other information, GHD will prepare a report. After the report is received and reviewed by the County and approved by FDEP, it will be made available. At this time, we can offer no further information about the event and results.

Best regards.

Mallika
Mallika Muthiah, P.E.
Senior Professional Engineer
Miami-Dade County
Right of Way and Stormwater Planning and Design Division
Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW)
111NW 1st Street, 15th Floor, Miami, FL 33128
Mallika.Muthiah@miamidade.gov
Telephone: 305-372-6921

From: brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org <
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 11:27 AM
To: 'Jingwei Li' <Jingwei.Li@ghd.com>; Muthiah, Mallika (DTPW) <muthim@miamidade.gov>; anita.stine@floridadep.gov; Estevez, Elyrosa <EEstevez@miamigov.com>; spencer.crowley@akerman.com; Murley, James <jamesfenimoremurley@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Miami River WTW Agenda

- 2 -

Good Afternoon Mallika and Jingwei,

Miami River Walk the WBID is on the attached MRC subcommittee's 3/4 public meeting agenda. Please reply update, and participate in the meeting

Thank you

Sincerely,
Brett"

Attendees asked MRC Director Bibeau to email the COUNTY and there consultants offering assistance in the creation of the Walk the Wbid report.

II. "Miami River Basin Water Quality Improvement Plan" Agency Quarterly Implementation Progress Reports – Mr Charles Groppe, Miami Dade County's Department of Environmental Resource Management's (DERM), distributed and presented a report covering October – December 2025. The most alarming water quality violations were detected in November 2025 at Wagner Creek testing station WC04 had E. coli Bacteria results of 9,804 (cfu/100ml) and station WC02 had E. coli bacteria results of 4,611, when the state's safe water quality standard is only 130 (cfu/100ml).

MRC Director Bibeau referenced the MRC Stormwater Subcommittee's 7/2/25 public meeting minutes which included a detailed proposal following a successful 1-year free pilot resulting in a 76% reduction of Enterococci Bacteria and an 82% reduction in E. Coli Bacteria, 5 oxygenators with online water quality samplers for 1 year spread out along Wagner Creek would cost only \$18,000 per month which will hopefully be funded by the public sector. Mr Bibeau stated the machine was turned off between May 2025 and Jan 2, 2026 therefore was not in operation during the recently reported results. MRC member Broton, whom is a Spring Garden resident, stated she hoped the public sector would commence paying the \$18,000 per month for 5 units to clean Wagner Creek.

- I) Discussion Regarding Collapsing Shoreline Along Both Wagner Creek's Shores, South of NW 20 ST
- II) Discussion Regarding Collapsing Shoreline at NW 25 Ave and the Miami River's North Shore
- III) Discussion Regarding 169 NW South River Drive
- IV) New Business

III. Discussion Regarding Collapsing Shoreline Along South River Drive West of 27 Ave

The MRC Stormwater Subcommittee's April 2025 public meeting minutes state:

"NW South River Drive from 27 Ave to 20 ST proceeds along a portion of the Miami River which has an unconsolidated shoreline, and several large and growing areas where the shoreline is collapsing into the River. When one of several large sink holes previously grew past the street's

steel safety barrier, the City of Miami placed temporary plastic barricades around the hole to keep pedestrians and cars from falling into the Miami River. As the shoreline sink hole(s) grew larger over time, the ground under one of the plastic barriers fell into the River, along with the temporary barricade. Now the large sink hole (one of several) is slightly into the actual street's paved asphalt, and erosion has hollowed out under a portion of the street, where there is no longer solid ground beneath a portion of the street's asphalt. School buses etc. drive on this street (which has no sidewalks, no drainage, no curb and gutter, etc.) On March 6, 2023 the MRC adopted a unanimous resolution stating in part, "encouraging the City of Miami to apply for a TAP (FDOT – TPO) grant or seek a State / Federal cost share / earmark to repair the additional 2 adjacent shoreline collapses, while constructing a public Riverwalk and new stretch of the riverfront portion of South River Drive from NW 20 ST to NW 27 Ave, featuring landscaping, decorative lighting, etc.

The eastern most section of the subject collapsed shoreline is around a broken stormwater outfall (owned by FDOT) which drains 27 Ave. During the MRC's March 6, 2023 public meeting FDOT representatives presented construction engineering documents to repair this collapsed area, while planning to reconstruct a small portion of NW South River Drive (still with no sidewalks, no drainage, no curb and gutter, etc.) The distributed MRC Urban Infill and Greenways subcommittee's September 23, 2024 public meeting minutes with this item on the agenda state, "The FDOT representatives stated the City of Miami indicated they maintain this portion of South River Drive, but do not own it, and the City granted a permit for the planned FDOT repair. The City of Miami clarified that the permit issued for the FDOT collapsed shoreline restoration project was issued for work and Maintenance of Traffic within the City right-of-way (25 feet from Southerly R/W line of the Miami Canal to the south).

Attendees reviewed and discussed several maps and plats previously emailed from the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County, and or SFWMD. For the eastern half of the subject riverfront portion of NW South River Drive (east of the stone bridge over tributary), the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County Representatives stated they believe South River Drive and the shoreline are part of the Miami River ROW, and therefore owned by SFWMD. Armando Vilaboy, SFWMD, provided numerous titles etc. supporting SFWMD's belief that they only own the water in the subject area, and no land. Mr. Vilaboy indicated if SFWMD is wrong, and the City and County are correct in that SFWMD indeed owns the shoreline and this portion of South River Drive, SFWMD does not own or reconstruct streets therefore would be unable to assist with the needed project, but SFWMD would be willing to provide ownership of the subject area to the City free of charge. Ms. Molina, Miami-Dade County, stated since the City has been maintaining the subject portion of South River Drive, therefore the City could claim ownership from SFWMD. The City clarified that the City only has maintenance responsibilities within its right of way. Ms. Molina agreed to research the amount of impact fees the County recently collected from the immediate areas 3 large developments which are currently under construction, and if those impact fees may be used for the subject project. City of Miami Public Works Director Santana indicated he will be discussing these issues in the future with the City Manager.

City of Miami Public Works Director Santana stated the City of Miami owns the western half of the subject riverfront portion of South River Drive (west of the stone bridge over the tributary) in addition to 4 City of Miami owned riverfront folios which are managed by the City of Miami Parks Department. Director Santana suggested the MRC contact City of Miami Assistant City Manager

Barbara Hernandez, whom oversees the Parks Department, as they are leading the City's efforts to repair the 2 large and growing collapsed portions of the shoreline in these City owned riverfront folios, and Public Works will coordinate with the Parks Department to include reconstructing this City owned portion of South River Drive in the subject future City of Miami project.

In addition to the TAP (FDOT / TPO) grant opportunity, attendees noted the subject project ("repair the additional 2 adjacent shoreline collapses, while constructing a public Riverwalk and new stretch of the riverfront portion of South River Drive from NW 20 ST to NW 27 Ave, featuring landscaping, decorative lighting, etc.") is a good fit for a large Federal grant."

Attendees reviewed and discussed an updated color-coded aerial exhibit prepared by the MRC, showing the subject area and noting ownership of the 4 connecting areas with the entire street owned by the City of Miami whom recently permitted improvements currently under construction by the adjacent development. Attendees noted since the City of Miami owns a 25' wide easement between the private properties and the street, therefore there is sufficient space to shift the street towards the upland, which increases the space for the public Riverwalk. Attendees noted there is a new residential development under construction in the subject area, with another planned development in planning, therefore the number of pedestrians and vehicles will be increasing. Jim Murley noted the following next four steps to bring this MRC recommendation to fruition:

- 1) Resolve Ownership
- 2) Design
- 3) Funding including City Applying for grants
- 4) Construction

The MRC continues to recommend enforcing the shoreline ordinance by making expedited emergency repairs to the collapsed shoreline and encouraging the City of Miami to apply for a TAP (FDOT – TPO) grant, Federal Grant, or seek a State / Federal cost share / earmark to construct a public Riverwalk featuring a new seawall, and a new stretch of the riverfront portion of South River Drive from NW 20 ST to NW 27 Ave, featuring landscaping, decorative lighting, drainage, curb and gutter, etc.

The MRC SSC's 10/1/25 public meeting minutes state in part, "Omar Suarez and Scott Riggs, Miami-Dade County, stated they found 2 plats, the most Northern part the River is 150 feet while in the more southern area the plat shows the River is 200 feet wide, therefore they believe the subject area is the SFWMD's." Armando Vilaboy stated the SFWMD still disagrees with this conclusion, but will pay for a survey to further investigate. Jim Murley noted considering the adjacent development is finishing construction the traffic on this dangerous street will significantly increase, therefore these needed repairs are time sensitive in order to provide public safety. Attendees thanked FDOT which completed construction of their 1 outfall and portion of collapsing shoreline close to 27 Ave.

IV. Discussion Regarding Collapsing Shoreline Along Wagner Creek South of NW 20 ST

The City of Miami emailed the following update:

Good afternoon, Mr. Bibeau. Please find below the current status update for the Wagner Creek Canal Project.

The project addresses severe embankment instability and active erosion conditions identified during multiple site visits conducted in 2024. During these inspections, existing articulating concrete block (ACB) stabilization systems were observed sliding into the canal, resulting in exposed geotextile fabric and unprotected subgrade soils. These conditions present a significant risk of accelerated bank failure and continued sediment migration into the canal.

The project reached the 30% design milestone for the overall corridor and received initial internal approval at that stage.

During the 30% plans review, the consultant documented substantial sediment deposition within the canal section attributable to progressive bank erosion. The accumulation of sediments has partially reduced the hydraulic capacity of the channel. Additionally, localized undermining was observed beneath the foundation of the Curtis Battery & Electric Corp. building located at 1500 NW 20 Street, indicating potential structural risk associated with continued erosion.

Based on these findings, the project has been strategically divided into two implementation phases:

Phase I – Emergency Stabilization

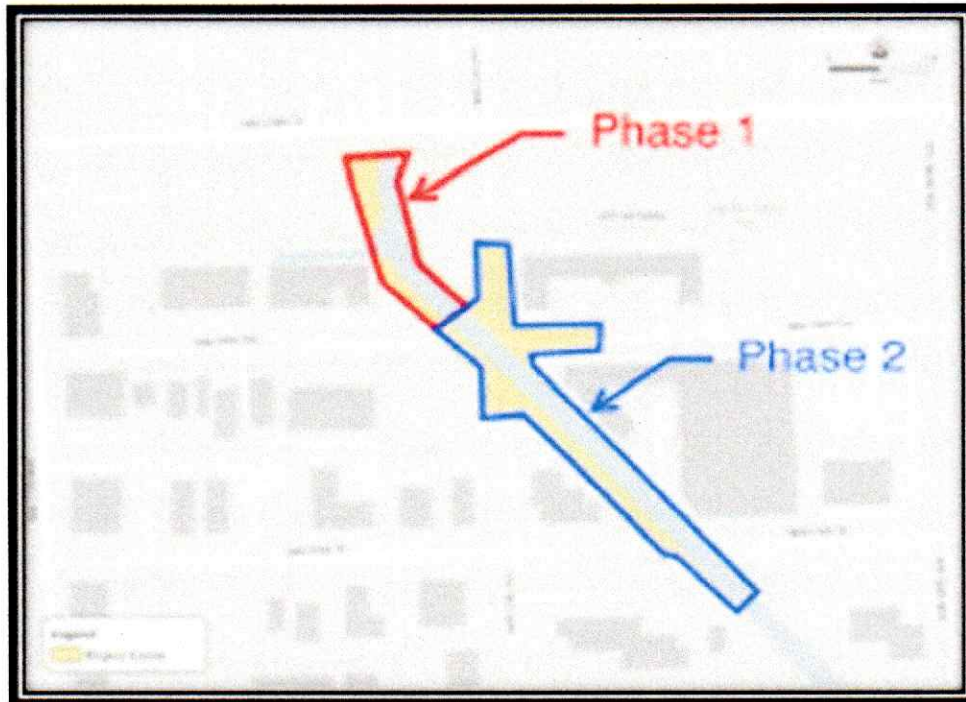
Limits: NW 20 Street to NW 15 Avenue / NW 19 Terrace

This phase addresses the immediate and critical stabilization needs associated with active erosion, embankment displacement, and foundation undermining.

Phase II – Future Improvements

Limits: NW 15 Avenue / NW 19 Terrace southbound to the pedestrian bridge

This phase will address the remaining long-term stabilization and restoration components of the corridor.



We are currently advancing Phase I (Emergency), which remains in the negotiation stage of the Scope of Services (SoS). The SoS will define the complete technical scope, deliverables, schedule, and associated design fees.

Current Status:

- SoS negotiations for Phase I (Emergency) commenced on January 16, 2026.
- Following several review cycles, the consultant is expected to resubmit the final revised SoS to conclude negotiations.

Upon completion and approval of the SoS, a Purchase Order will be issued, and the consultant will proceed with Phase I design development at the 60%, 90%, and 100% completion milestones.

Please let me know if you require any additional technical detail or clarification.

Thank you.



Jose Borrego, P.E., CGC
Project Manager

Department of Resilience & Public Works
Roadway Infrastructure
444 SW 2 Avenue, 8th Floor, Miami, FL 33130
Office: 305.416.1215
DRPW Main Line: (305) 416-1200
Email: JBorrego@Miami.Gov

MRC Vice Charman Murley and Director Bibeau noted Wagner Creek was recently dredged for \$20 million, therefore respectfully recommended removing that portion of the project. The project was never intended to include dredging, rather is simply a needed shoreline stabilization (either sea wall or rip-rap), with a landscaped and lighted bike / ped path on the west shore only to improve the City owned public waterfront greenspace at the 2 street dead ends. The County's recently completed sections of shoreline stabilization using rip rap on Wagner Creek south of NW 14 ST was cited as an example. Removing the dredging in an area which has no vessels and sufficient flood conveyance capacity will significantly reduce the unfunded \$16,000,000 estimated cost.

V. Discussion Regarding Collapsing Shoreline at NW North River Drive and NW 25 Ave

The City of Miami emailed the following update:

From: Zamora, Carolina <CZamora@miamigov.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 1:59 PM
To: brettbibeau <brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org>
Cc: Gomez, Humberto <HuGomez@miamigov.com>; Dubuisson, Fabiola <fdubuisson@miamigov.com>; Marquez, Giraldo <GMarquez@miamigov.com>; Alvarado, Pedro <palvarado@miamigov.com>; Santana Jr., Juvenal <jsantana@miamigov.com>; Gabela, Miguel Angel (Commissioner) <MAGabela@miamigov.com>; Castaneda, Francisco <FCastaneda@miamigov.com>; 'Murley, James [GMAIL]' <jamesfenimoremurley@gmail.com>; spencer.crowley@akerman.com; Cabrisas, Kathryn <KCabrisas@miamigov.com>; Badia, Hector <hbadia@miamigov.com>; Alfaro, Charles <CALfaro@miamigov.com>; tlugo@rovrddev.com
Subject: RE: 40-B253603 Shoreline at NW 25 Ave and the Miami River's North Shore (Guardrail damage and Major Erosion around the drainage structure)

Good afternoon Mr. Bibeau,

Please see the project update below as of **February 13, 2026**, for Project 40-B253603 – Shoreline Improvements at NW 25 Avenue and the Miami River's North Shore.

Project Update:

- The arborist tree survey is complete.
- The consultant is currently in the process of collecting survey data.
 - o The consultant anticipates having the survey available for review by the **end of February.**
- GHD/ADA has initiated the following:
 - o Utility coordination and data collection.
 - Data collection from MDC WASD is still ongoing.
- The consultant is organizing and developing the plan set and is working on collecting all necessary information to initiate the 60% Design Phase.

If you have any additional questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Respectfully,

Carolina Zamora



Carolina Zamora

Project Manager

Department of Resilience and Public Works

Roadway Infrastructure

444 SW 2nd Avenue, 8th Floor, Miami, FL 33130

Main Line: 305.416.1184

Email: CZamora@miamigov.com

Website: www.miami.gov/rpw

- VI. Discussion Regarding 169 NW South River Drive** – The City of Miami owns a crushed stormwater outfall, located beneath the County owned 169 NW South River Drive. The County riverfront parcel is a sanitary sewer easement where a sewer line tunnels beneath the Miami River to the sewage pump station on the opposite side of the River, there is often sanitary odor and sanitary manholes are clogged. The following email was distributed and discussed:

From: Santiago, Johnny S. (WASD) <Johnny.Santiago@miamidade.gov> **On Behalf Of** Lopez-Velandia, Catalina (WASD)
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 11:20 AM
To: brettbibeau <brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org>
Cc: Griner, Debbie (WASD) <Debbie.Griner@miamidade.gov>; Lopez-Velandia, Catalina (WASD) <Catalina.Lopez-Velandia@miamidade.gov>; Santiago, Johnny S. (WASD) <Johnny.Santiago@miamidade.gov>
Subject: Re: Miami River WTW Agenda

Good morning Mr. Bibeau,

I'd like to provide updates to the action items below and hope you find this information helpful.

1. We were able to complete two MH's rehabilitations and install one odor control system. There are 3 additional MH's in which we tried to install the remaining odor systems but, after evaluating the condition of the MH's rings and covers these are in need of repair due to corrosion. WO's have been created to perform and complete repairs to install the remaining odor control systems. The installation will take about an hour 1/2 per odor control system, as soon as the rings and covers are repair we'll install them and complete project on schedule.
2. We inspected the 48-inch line condition, located below the manhole at the intersection in response to the reported cracks. During the inspection, staff identified a detached liner within the pipe. The condition has since been repaired. Additionally, the referenced manholes in need of MH's covers and rings recondition have been repaired/replaced, as

- 9 -

necessary. We are scheduled to complete the remaining project components, including the odor control system installations, next week.

Please feel free to reach out if further information is needed.

Thank you!!

From: Griner, Debbie (WASD) <Debbie.Griner@miamidade.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 4:47 PM
To: brettbibeau<brettbibeau@miamirivercommission.org>
Cc: Lopez-Velandia, Catalina (WASD) <Catalina.Lopez-Velandia@miamidade.gov>
Subject: FW: Miami River WTW Agenda

Good afternoon, Mr. Bibeau,

As discussed during the last subcommittee meeting, WASD purchased four filter units to be installed in the manholes in the subject area. WASD is also going to inspect the condition of the 48-inch line in the same area.

I've copied Catalina Lopez-Velandia to see if she has any updates on the installation and inspection that you can share during your event tomorrow.

Cata, I pasted the action items we captured from their last meeting below for your reference:

1. Odor mitigation / filter unit installation
 - WASD to install the (4) filter units in manholes in the area (purchased for ~\$30K).
 - Notify the Miami River Commission (MRC) once the units are installed.
2. 48-inch line condition (reported cracks)
 - WASD Operations to inspect the 48-inch line below the manhole at the intersection.
 - Report findings back to the MRC.

Thanks so much,

Debbie Griner, ENV SP
Chief Resilience and Sustainability Officer
Miami-Dade Water & Sewer Department

Attendees thanked the WASD representatives.

VII. New Business

The public meeting adjourned.

Miami River Commission's Stormwater Subcommittee

Public Meeting

March 4, 2026 – 10:00 AM

1407 NW 7 ST, Miami, FL

Name	Organization	Telephone	Email
Eileen Broten	MRC/ Spring Garden	31790- 4284	onfile
Richard Murphy	MRC/Spring Garden	786.525.5353	on file
Charles Groppé	DERM	571-444-0859	charles.groppe@ miamidade.gov
Jim Murley	MRC	305-968-4881	Jamesfeinmurlemurley@gmail.com
Jose Borrugo	City of Miami - DDFW	305-416-1215	JBorrugo@ MIAMIgov.com
Brett Bibeau	MRC	3056440544	brettbibeau@miamiriver commission.org