

PORT OF MIAMI RIVER SUBELEMENT

Introduction

The Plan

In general, the purpose of the Port of Miami River Subelement is to protect and promote the continued maritime business and traditional marine-related shoreline uses up the Miami River as well as the protection of the environmental resources. The shipping facilities found along the Miami River serve shallow draft vessels. These shipping terminals were formally designated as the Port of Miami River to meet regulations of the U.S. Coast Guard. Improving the water quality of the Miami River continues to be priority of Miami River advocates including the County, the Miami River Commission and others. The objective of the Port of Miami River Subelement is expressed in the following goal, objectives and policies, and monitoring program.

GOAL

MAINTAIN AND ENHANCE THE WATER QUALITY, ATTRACTIVENESS AND ECONOMIC VIABILITY OF THE PORT OF MIAMI RIVER.

Objective PMR-1

Maintain and promote marine activity on the Miami River and protect these activities from encroachment or displacement by incompatible land uses.

Policies

- PMR-1A. Miami-Dade County shall promote actions to enhance marine industrial activities along the banks of the Miami River west of NW 27 Avenue and in other areas along the Miami River, where feasible.
- PMR-1B. In making recommendations relating to requested zoning changes and permits for development and redevelopment along the Miami River, Miami-Dade County agencies shall promote the protection or inclusion of uses which are water dependent and/or water related, such as cargo shipping terminals and boat repair yards.
- PMR-1C. Miami-Dade County shall work to improve the economic vitality of the Port of Miami River in cooperation with other concerned agencies and organizations.

Objective PMR-2

Actions shall be taken to improve linkages between the shipping terminals on the Miami River and surface transportation routes and modes.

Policies

- PMR-2A. Miami-Dade County and the Miami River Commission shall monitor the implementation of the Miami River Corridor Multimodal Transportation Plan with cooperation and assistance of all concerned agencies (i.e. County, City, MPO, FDOT, MDX, US Coast Guard, etc.)

- PMR-2B. In cooperation with other concerned agencies and organizations, Miami-Dade County shall investigate and implement ways of improving roadway access between the Port of Miami River shipping terminals and the adjacent surface transportation system.
- PMR-2C. Miami-Dade County shall work with the Miami River Commission, the Miami River Marine Group, and other concerned agencies and organizations to improve the vitality of the Port of Miami River and to minimize traffic conflicts on adjacent roadways.

Objective PMR-3

The Port of Miami River shall be operated in a manner which minimizes impacts to estuarine water quality and marine resources and adjacent land uses.

Policies

- PMR-3A. Miami-Dade County shall continue to place high priority on having the polluted sediments removed from the Miami River including all of its tributaries which impact water quality.
- PMR-3B. Miami-Dade County shall stabilize all eroding County-owned shoreline areas and rights-of-way along the Miami River consistent with available funding, and the County shall develop an ordinance requiring shoreline stabilization where necessary on public and private sites along the river.
- PMR-3C. The Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources, Division of Environmental Resources Management shall ensure that stormwater runoff from future industrial uses shall be contained on site and not discharged to the River. An on-site retention system combined with an overflow outfall may be considered as an alternative to full on-site retention in those cases where a higher degree of flood protection is desired and maintenance of water quality is assured.
- PMR-3D. Miami-Dade County through its program of stormwater outfall removal and retrofitting shall continue to eliminate detrimental stormwater outfalls along the Miami River.
- PMR-3E. Additional policies included in the Coastal Management Element regarding dockside pumpout facilities, bulkhead repair and construction and enforcement activities along the Miami River are hereby incorporated in the Subelement by reference.

Objective PMR-4

The Port of Miami River, through the owners and operators of its international shipping terminal facilities regulated by the Maritime Transportation Security Act, with assistance from the Miami River Commission (MRC) and Miami River Marine Group (MRMG), shall recognize local, State and Federal security needs in all port operations, expansion and new construction.

Policies

- PMR-4A. The Port of Miami River, through the owners and operators of its international shipping terminal facilities regulated by the Maritime Transportation Security Act, shall annually audit operations of the Port of Miami River in light of the Miami River Port Security Plan and any new local, State and Federal security requirements.
- PMR-4B. The County, MRC and MRMG shall seek funding from local, State and Federal sources to address domestic homeland security issues.
- PMR-4C. The Port of Miami River, through the owners and operators of its international shipping terminal facilities regulated by the Maritime Transportation Security Act, with assistance from the MRC and MRMG shall ensure that new projects are designed and constructed in accordance with the Miami River Port Security Plan, as approved by the Miami River Security Committee on June 8, 2004, and applicable local, State and Federal security laws.
- PMR-4D. In the event of an apparent conflict between the Miami River Port Security Plan, approved by the Miami River Security Committee on June 8, 2004, local, State and Federal law and/or agency directives, and other objectives in any Subelement, the Homeland Security-based requirements shall prevail.

Future Port of Miami River

The Port of Miami River is expected to retain its share of the growing international trade activity occurring in Miami-Dade County. The banks of the Miami River west of NW 27 Avenue and east of the salinity dam will remain the predominant area for shipping facilities serving the small ports of the Caribbean. This western section of the Port of Miami River is recommended to be used only for marine industrial and commercial activities. The role of Miami-Dade County in maintaining maritime facilities in this port area is limited to that of facilitator, as Miami-Dade operates its own seaport facilities on Dodge and Lummus Islands. Miami-Dade will continue to facilitate marine activity on the Miami River through its legislative function of establishing and implementing land use policy, and in its administrative functions in providing and maintaining roadway infrastructure which provides landside access to the area.

Future land use in the Miami River area is depicted on the Land Use Plan map in the Land Use Element. Figure 1, which follows, also highlights those sites along the banks of the unincorporated portion of Port of Miami River area which should be reserved for continued commercial marine activity. Figure 1 also identifies points of highway access to the area and rail lines. Future natural resources of the area are mapped in the future natural resources map series in the Land Use Element.

Facility improvements planned by Miami-Dade County that will impact this area are primarily roadway projects. These are listed in the County's Transportation Improvement Program and the Miami-Dade 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan. Overall, those projects will relieve congestion at points of access to the unincorporated Port of Miami River area and will enhance circulation through the area by replacing inadequate bridges and adding a new river crossing in the NW 32 Avenue corridor. Miami-Dade County will ensure that the new crossing provides for continued navigation upstream.

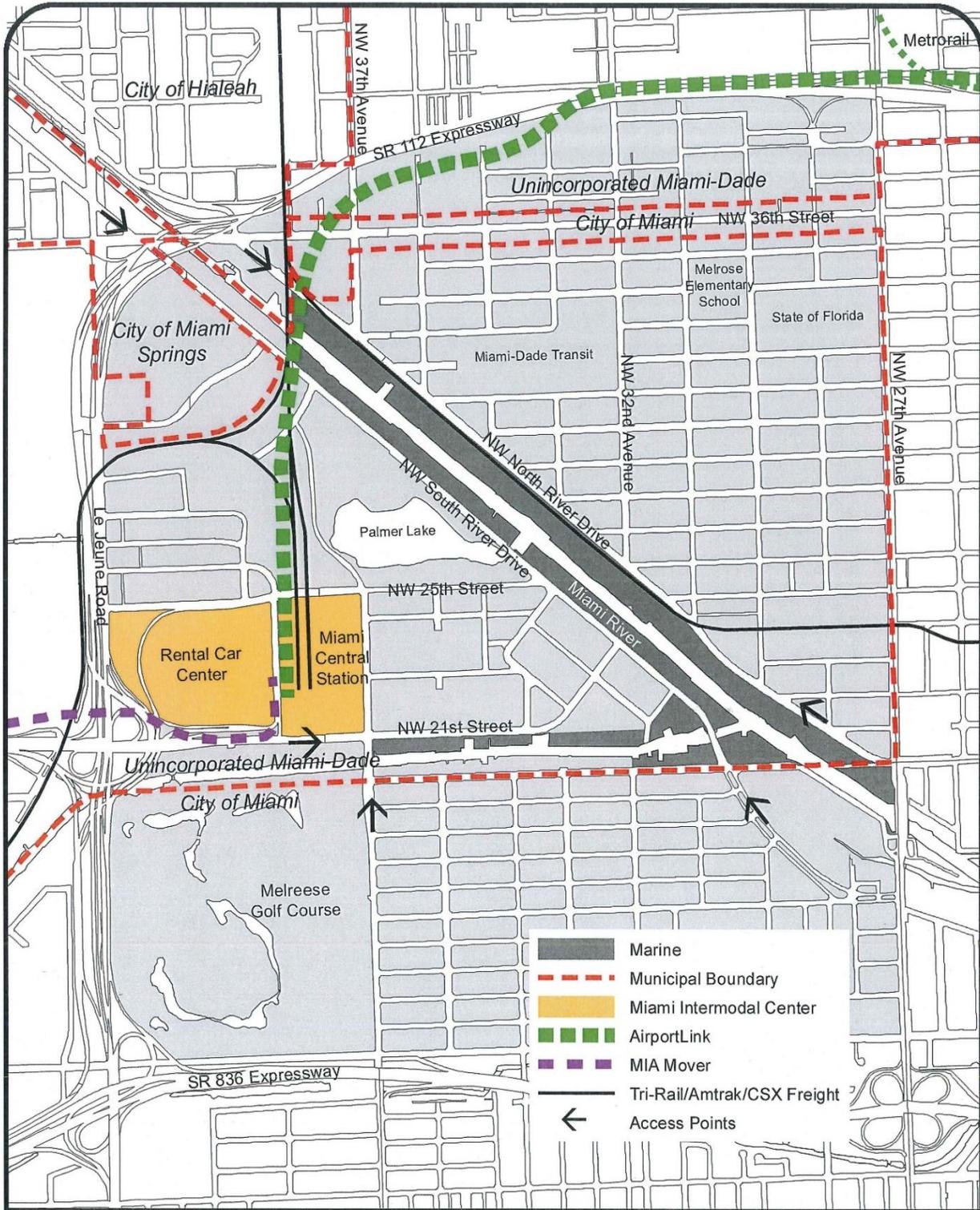
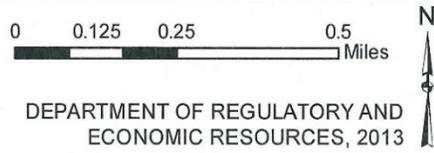


Figure 1

**FUTURE LAND USES
UNINCORPORATED PORT OF MIAMI RIVER AREA**



Port of Miami River Monitoring Program

The monitoring measures for the objectives of this Subelement are the following:

Objective PMR-1

- Indices showing the growth or shrinkage of the amount of river frontage devoted to marine related/dependent business activity shall be prepared biennially.
- Records of land use changes in the vicinity of the Miami River in unincorporated Miami-Dade County since 2010.
- Records of zoning changes in the vicinity of the Miami River in unincorporated Miami-Dade County since 2010.

Objective PMR-2

- The number of ships, tonnage, types of cargo, and the value of cargo handled shall be reported. Numbers of full-time and part time employment at the shipping terminals, and an estimate of the annual payroll for each category, shall also be reported. These data shall be sought from the Miami River Commission and the Miami River Marine Group.
- The Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (DRER) in conjunction with the Florida Department of Transportation, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, Public Works and Waste Management Department, The Miami River Commission and the Miami River Marine Group will prepare transportation improvements updates listing completed, underway, programmed and planned transportation improvements of significant repercussion to the Port of Miami River.

Objective PMR-3

- The County's DRER, Division of Environmental Resources Management (DERM) shall list progress on shoreline stabilization, stormwater runoff, outfall removal/refitting and overall water quality along the navigable portion of the Miami River and its tributaries.
- Additional monitoring measures included in the Coastal Management Element regarding water quality and protection of natural resources, as related to the Miami River west of NW 27 Avenue, are adopted by reference.

Objective PMR-4

- Compliance with applicable security requirements, Maritime Transportation Security Act and the Miami River Port Security Plan.