

THANK YOU FOR THAT INTRODUCTION, SKIP, AND FOR THE GREAT WORK YOU'RE DOING SO FAR FOR OUR RESIDENTS AS THE CEO OF THE SOUTH DADE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

I KNOW THAT YOU'RE RELATIVELY NEW TO THIS ROLE, SO WELCOME!

GOOD AFTERNOON, EVERYONE! HOW'S EVERYONE DOING TODAY?

I'M REALLY HAPPY TO BE IN FLORIDA CITY WITH YOU. SO, THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR INVITING ME TO YOUR LUNCHEON.

I HAVE A LOT OF GREAT NEWS TO SHARE ABOUT WHAT WE'RE DOING TO MAKE THIS COMMUNITY EVEN BETTER.

SPEAKING OF GREAT NEWS, I'M SURE BY NOW YOU'VE ALL HEARD THAT WE'VE BROUGHT THE 2020 SUPER BOWL HOME TO MIAMI.

AND I'M REALLY EXCITED ABOUT WHAT HOSTING THE SUPER BOWL WILL MEAN FOR US.

MORE THAN ONE BILLION VIEWERS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD ARE ANTICIPATED TO WATCH THE GAME. SO, THIS IS A GREAT RETURN ON INVESTMENT.

WITH THE \$500 MILLION STEPHEN ROSS PUT INTO DOLPHINS STADIUM, WE WILL RECEIVE \$100 MILLION OF FREE ADVERTISING FOR OUR COMMUNITY THROUGHOUT THE SUPER BOWL WEEK, AMONG MANY OTHER ECONOMIC BENEFITS.

I KNOW THAT MARKETING AND BRANDING ARE IMPORTANT TO YOU IN SOUTH DADE, AND I KNOW THAT YESTERDAY WAS THE PRE-PLANNING MEETING FOR THE SOUTH DADE SOLUTIONS SUMMIT.

I UNDERSTAND THAT COMMISSIONERS MOSS AND LEVINE CAVA WILL CREATE A MASTERPLAN THAT WILL FURTHER MARKET SOUTH DADE AS THE PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY.

WELL, I CAN TELL YOU THAT I'M COMMITTED TO THAT PLAN. AND I'M GOING TO WORK WITH BILL

TALBERT, AND ALL OF YOU AT THE SOUTH DADE CHAMBER TO SEE THAT PLAN THROUGH TO COMPLETION.

BECAUSE IT'S IMPORTANT FOR THE WORLD TO KNOW THAT SOUTH DADE IS THE NEXT GROWING SECTOR OF OUR COUNTY.

IN FACT, MIAMI-DADE KEEPS GROWING OVERALL AS A COMMUNITY BECAUSE OF THE GREAT WORK THAT WE'RE DOING TOGETHER. JOBS ARE A BIG PRIORITY FOR ALL OF US.

AND WE CAN BE PROUD THAT WE'VE CREATED MORE THAN 148,000 PRIVATE-SECTOR JOBS IN OUR COMMUNITY. WE CAN ALSO BE PROUD THAT OUR OVERALL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IS DOWN FROM AROUND 12 PERCENT WHEN I BECAME MAYOR, TO ABOUT 5.5 PERCENT TODAY.

WITH THE OPENING OF THE EXPANDED PANAMA CANAL NEXT MONTH, WE'LL BE BRINGING EVEN MORE BUSINESS AND JOBS TO MIAMI-DADE VIA PORTMIAMI.

AND WE'RE CONTINUING TO WORK TO DIVERSIFY OUR ECONOMY EVEN MORE BY INVESTING IN FIELDS RANGING FROM CLEAN ENERGY AND GROUND TRANSPORTATION TO ART, FILM AND ENTERTAINMENT.

THOSE INVESTMENTS ALONE ARE PROJECTED TO RESULT IN THOUSANDS OF NEW, WELL-PAYING JOBS IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY OVER THE NEXT FIVE YEARS.

WE'RE ALSO MAKING GREAT PROGRESS ON BETTER POSITIONING OUR RESIDENTS TO ADAPT IN THE FACE OF CURRENT AND FUTURE CHALLENGES. JUST YESTERDAY, MIAMI-DADE WAS NAMED TO THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION'S 100 RESILIENT CITIES GLOBAL NETWORK.

WE WERE SELECTED FROM HUNDREDS OF APPLICANTS, AND THIS PRESTIGIOUS DESIGNATION ALSO MEANS THAT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY WILL RECEIVE FUNDING TO DEVELOP AN ADAPTABLE RESILIENCE STRATEGY FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY THAT WILL HELP US SOLVE CHALLENGES RELATED TO SEA-LEVEL RISE AND INFRASTRUCTURE, AND OTHER IMPORTANT AREAS, LIKE TRANSPORTATION.

I KNOW THAT'S A KEY CONCERN IN SOUTH DADE, AND I CAN TELL YOU THAT WE'VE ALSO TAKEN A PROACTIVE APPROACH TO IMPROVING TRANSPORTATION IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA OF OUR COMMUNITY.

IN ADDITION TO SOME EARLY SUCCESSES, LIKE THE METRORAIL EXPRESS TO AND FROM DOWNTOWN, WE'RE WORKING WITH THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO IMPROVE SYNCHRONIZATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNALS ON SOME OF OUR MAJOR CORRIDORS, LIKE U.S. 1. WE'RE ALSO IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING THE "SMART" PLAN – WHICH WILL INCLUDE LIGHT RAIL AND OTHER SOLUTIONS TO FACILITATE MOBILITY FOR SOUTH DADE RESIDENTS AND HELP ALLEVIATE TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

AND THAT'S JUST SOME OF THE WORK WE'VE DONE TOGETHER, FOLKS. MY ADMINISTRATION AND I WILL CONTINUE WORKING HARD WITH YOU TO MAKE SOUTH DADE THE PLACE TO LIVE, WORK AND PLAY.

THAT'S WHY I'M HERE TODAY.

AS YOUR MAYOR, I WILL CONTINUE TO SERVE YOU, AND THIS COMMUNITY, ABOVE ALL ELSE.

**TOGETHER, WE WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE SOUTH
DADE FORWARD.**

**NOW I'D LIKE TO TURN IT OVER TO YOU. WHAT
QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE FOR ME?**

