

PRESENTED BY:
MIAMI-DADE PARK AND RECREATION

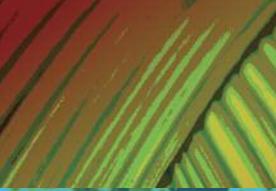
**PARKS AS CATALYSTS
FOR GREENER, HEALTHIER,
MORE ECONOMICALLY
VIBRANT COMMUNITIES**

P R O G R A M

Friday, March 14

Great Park Summit

2 0 0 8





OFFICE OF THE MAYOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CARLOS ALVAREZ
MAYOR



March 14, 2008

Dear Friend,

Welcome. Today is a great opportunity for all of us to participate in a vision for future park development and stewardship. You have been invited as one of the many park and public space leaders, elected officials, county and municipal professionals and community advocates who are key to moving forward the Park and Open Space System Master Plan vision for a sustainable, livable South Florida.

We all know that parks and public space are essential to the health, well-being and quality of life for everyone. They are an integral part of the economic and environmental health of a community and help to define the character of our community.

I am looking forward to hearing the speakers address the new and different ways community organizations, government agencies and private institutions can work together to conserve our open spaces for this and future generations. I am also looking forward to working with all of you to move our vision for a great park system forward.

Thank you for your participation and enjoy the day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos Alvarez".

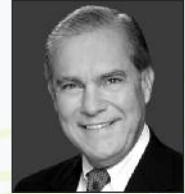
Carlos Alvarez
Mayor



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

March 14, 2008

Welcome to the Great Park Summit!



This is a day for us to acknowledge and discuss the importance of parks and public space to the success of our community. This is also the opportunity to begin to look at how we can make the Miami-Dade County's Park and Open Space Master Plan a reality. It will take all of us, working together to create a seamless network of parks, recreation and conservation open spaces for current and future generations.

The Great Park Summit brings us together in the spirit of collaboration and partnership to build a lasting coalition of park and public space advocates. We hope you will seize every opportunity to interact and share your ideas and insights on how we can work together to continue to improve quality of life in our community for everyone.

We look forward to meeting you at this very exciting event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruno Barreiro".

Bruno A. Barreiro
Commissioner, District 5
Chair of the Board of County Commissioners

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Javier Souto".

Javier Souto
Commissioner, District 10
Board of County Commissioners
Chair of Recreation and Cultural Affairs Committee



COUNTY EXECUTIVE OFFICE
COUNTY MANAGER
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

March 14, 2008

Dear Great Park Summit Participant:



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you today to celebrate our exciting new vision that will transform the future of Miami-Dade County. We began the Park and Open Space System Master Plan process two years ago. This master plan establishes an innovative way to think about the public realm.

Through the planning process, we realized we cannot afford to work in silos - whether of different departments or agencies or jurisdictions. We are connected and we need to celebrate these connections by embracing the shared guiding principles and goals that are expressed in the plan. We all believe residents deserve a beautiful, safe and comfortable community. The master plan proposes that the principles of equity, access, beauty, seamlessness, sustainability and multiple benefits guide public realm development in Miami-Dade County - including civic infrastructure such as parks, public space, natural and cultural areas, greenways and water trails, and streets.

Today we are going to hear from a range of distinguished speakers who have a lot to tell us about what has been done elsewhere and what is at stake. It will take us - working together - to make it happen here.

Currently, our community is facing serious fiscal constraints, however by bringing this vision to fruition, Miami-Dade County will benefit with an improved quality of life for residents and the economic reinvestment necessary to sustain these enhancements. This plan establishes the framework that will guide every decision we make - with whatever resources we have - to move towards becoming a model of delivering excellence as builders of a sustainable and beautiful public realm.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Burgess".

George Burgess
County Manager



MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

March 14, 2008

Dear Great Park Summit Participants:



Welcome to the Great Park Summit. Today we are celebrating the completion of Miami-Dade County's new Park and Open Space Master Plan, a policy framework and vision for a more livable, greener, healthier South Florida. One of the key findings is that every economically prosperous, livable city has a great park system. A great park system is critical to the economic, social and environmental sustainability of a community.

We all know the issues affecting our communities - urban redevelopment, childhood obesity, climate change, traffic congestion, decreasing opportunity for land acquisition and a need to stimulate economic growth and achieve environmental sustainability. We also acknowledge the region's inevitable growth and propose to greatly improve quality of life through a connected system of great parks, great public spaces, great natural and cultural places, great greenways and trails, and great streets. We can plan and design the principles of health, equity, accessibility, beauty, seamlessness and sustainability into our communities.

We hope you enjoy this event, come away from it with lots of good information and ideas, and we are really looking forward to working with all of you to build on all of our existing assets to create a system of parks and open spaces for the entire county that will leave a legacy for generations to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jack Kardys". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jack Kardys
Director

Great Park Summit

2 0 0 8

SCHEDULE

8:00 – 8:45 AM

Registration
Complimentary Continental Breakfast
Exhibitors

8:45 – 9:00 AM WELCOMING REMARKS:

Bruce Greer, President, Board of Trustees,
Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden

9:00 – 9:30 AM OPENING REMARKS:

Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor, Miami-Dade County
Honorable Javier D. Souto, District 10, Miami-Dade
County Commissioner, Chair of Recreation and
Cultural Affairs Committee
George M. Burgess, Miami-Dade County Manager
Jack Kardys, Director, Miami-Dade County Park and
Recreation Department

PRESIDING:

Harvey Ruvin, Clerk of Courts, Miami-Dade County;
Member, Florida Energy Commission

MORNING SESSION

9:30 – 10:30 AM

Enrique Peñalosa, London School of Economics' Urban Age
Program; Senior Fellow at the Institute for Transportation
and Development Policy (ITDP); Visiting Scholar at New
York University; Former Mayor of Bogotá, Colombia
TOPIC: *Public Pedestrian Spaces, Democracy
and Happiness.*

10:30 – 11:30 AM

Dave Barth, Vice President, Glatting, Jackson, Kercher,
Anglin, Inc., Consultant to Miami-Dade County Park and
Recreation Department
TOPIC: *Miami-Dade County Park and Open Space System
Master Plan*

11:30 AM – 12:45 PM

Complimentary Lunch
Exhibitors

PRESENTED BY:
MIAMI-DADE PARK AND RECREATION



FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN

March 14, 2008

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:00 – 2:00 PM

Robert Garcia, Executive Director and Council,
The City Project
TOPIC: *The Urban Park Movement: Equal Justice,
Democracy and Livability in Los Angeles, CA*

2:00 – 3:30 PM

PANEL DISCUSSION: *Parks as Catalysts for Economic,
Social and Environmental Sustainability*
Mary Eysenbach, Director of Conservatories,
Chicago Park District
Timothy J. Gilfoyle, Historian and Author of *Millenium Park:
Creating a Chicago Landmark*
Cynthia Girling, Landscape Architect and Author of *Skinny
Streets and Green Neighborhoods: Design for Environment
and Community*
Joseph Webb, Senior Planner, Glatting, Jackson, Kercher,
Anglin, Inc.; Consulting Project Manager, *Miami-Dade
County Park and Open Space Master Plan*

3:30 PM CLOSING REMARKS:

W. Howard Gregg, Assistant Director, Miami-Dade County
Park and Recreation Department

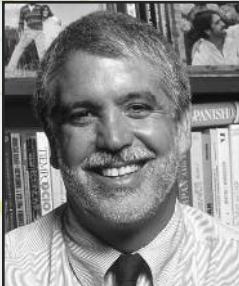
P R E S E N T E R S



HARVEY RUVIN - PRESIDING. Harvey Ruvin has 35 years of public service that includes 20 years as a Miami-Dade County Commissioner. Throughout his career, he has proven to be a successful advocate for the environment.

As a County Commissioner, Mr. Ruvin sponsored ordinances, referenda and projects that protected the environment, including a \$90 million tax levy for the purchase and maintenance of endangered lands, the re-nourishment of Haulover Beach and the restoration and enhancement of Biscayne Bay.

Serving on numerous civic organizations and councils, Mr. Ruvin has made an impact on national and international levels. He was a delegate to the United Nations World Congress for a Sustainable Future, a member of President Carter's Council on Energy Efficiency and President Clinton's Sustainable Communities Task Force of the President's Council on Sustainable Development, and most recently, member of the Board of Directors of the Florida Association of County Commissioners and its Environmental and Natural Resources Chairman.

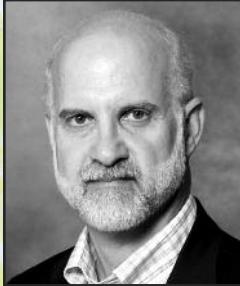


ENRIQUE PEÑALOSA is an international consultant and an influential thinker on urban challenges particularly those related to sustainability, mobility, equity, public space and well being. He has advised local and national governments in Asia, Australia, Africa, Latin America and North America on Urban Vision, Strategy and Policy. He is an international lecturer on environmental, urban design and policy issues. He is one of the experts of the London School of Economics' Urban Age Program. He is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy (ITDP), a Visiting Scholar at New York University.

Great Park
Summit

2 0 0 8

P R E S E N T E R S



DAVID BARTH is the Principal-in-Charge of the West Palm Beach office of Glattig Jackson, Kercher, Anglin, Inc., a 150 person Community Planning firm with additional offices in Orlando and Atlanta. He is a registered Landscape Architect, Certified Planner and Certified Parks and Recreation Professional with over twenty-five years of planning and design experience throughout Florida and the Southeast. He has technical expertise in the areas of Community Visioning and Strategic Planning; Parks and Natural Resource Planning; and Urban Design. He is the past President of the Florida Recreation and Park Association (FRPA) Foundation; a founding member of the Florida Public Officials Design Institute at Abacoa (FPODIA); a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and the American Planning Association (APA).



ROBERT GARCÍA is an attorney with extensive experience in public policy and legal advocacy, mediation, and litigation involving complex social justice, human health, environmental and criminal justice matters. He has influenced the investment of over \$18 billion in underserved communities, working at the intersection of social justice, sustainable regional planning, and smart growth. He is Executive Director and Counsel for The City Project: Equal Justice, Democracy, and Livability for All in Los Angeles, California.

P R E S E N T E R S



MARY EYSENBACH is currently the Director of Conservatories for the Chicago Park District where she leads both the Lincoln Park Conservatory and Garfield Park Conservatory, the nation's largest public glasshouse. She also serves as a parks and open space consultant, writing and speaking about green space planning. In 2004, she was awarded a Loeb Fellowship at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design, studying ways to better integrate green space and nature into people's daily experiences. Prior to her fellowship, she directed The City Parks Forum, where she produced publications, a grant program, and a series of symposia that convened twenty-five mayors, their private sector park partners, and expert faculty to help elected officials and park advocates maximize the potential of their parks in creating community vitality. Before launching The City Parks Forum, Mary was the assistant director of the McHenry County Conservation District, a Chicago metropolitan open space agency. There, she directed the organization's planning activities and helped to protect more than 4000 acres of natural areas and five countywide trail corridors in the rapidly developing region. Prior to that, she worked in a variety of park planning and management capacities in the greater Chicago area and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She is currently a founding board member of the City Parks Alliance, a national coalition of public and non-profit park leaders.



TIMOTHY J. GILFOYLE is Professor of History at Loyola University Chicago, where he teaches American Urban and Social History. He is the author of *Millennium Park: Creating a Chicago Landmark* (University of Chicago Press and the Chicago Historical Society, 2006) which was a finalist for the nonfiction prize of the Society of Midland Authors and was named one of the "Best Books of 2006" by the Chicago Tribune and a "Season's Selection" by the San Francisco Chronicle. He is an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Urban History* and a Co-editor of the Historical Studies in Urban America series of the University of Chicago Press. He has been a Minow Family Foundation Fellow (2001-02), a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellow (1998-99), a Senior Fellow at the Museum of American History, Smithsonian Institution (1997) and a N.E.H./Lloyd Lewis Fellow at the Newberry Library in Chicago (1993-94).

P R E S E N T E R S



CYNTHIA GIRLING is Professor and Chair of the Landscape Architecture Program at the University of British Columbia. Her research focuses on neighborhood scale planning and open space systems. She co-directs the NeighborhoodsLAB, in the University of British Columbia Design Centre for Sustainability, a research group which creates tools and processes to assist communities and professionals with designing green neighborhoods. She is co-author with Ronald Kellett of *Green Neighborhoods: Planning and Design Guidelines for Air Water and Urban Forest Quality* (2002) and *Skinny Streets and Green Neighborhoods; Design for Environment and Community*, (Island Press, 2005). With Kenneth Helphand, she co-authored *Yard Street Park the Design of Suburban Open Space*, in 1994.



JOSEPH WEBB is a Senior Planner and Project Manager with the Community Planning firm of Glattig Jackson, Kercher, Anglin Inc., a firm recognized for its excellence in livable communities design and innovative urban transportation planning and design services. He has over twenty years of experience in both the public and private sectors, with experience in numerous park design and construction projects. His career has evolved from detailed design to a greater interest in large scale systems planning and has focused on the planning and design of parks and public open spaces. Since 2001, he has worked within the Parks and Open Space Planning Group in the development of parks and open space master plans, with an emphasis on the integration of open space with transportation and urban form. Currently, he is working with multiple communities in the rapidly growing area of South Florida helping them to become more livable and sustainable through the development of effective open spaces and linkages.

PARK AND OPEN



SPACE SYSTEM



MASTER PLAN



VISION

PARK AND OPEN SPACE SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Miami-Dade County is facing the same population growth issues as many other metropolitan areas, a diminished quality of life, increased congestion, declining recreation and conservation open space, visual blight, limited transportation options and social inequities. With the population expected to increase by three million residents in the year 2025 and up to 4.5 million by 2060, additional pressure will be placed on an already stressed physical, social, and economic environment.

This Park and Open Space System Master Plan envisions that great parks, public spaces, natural and cultural areas, streets, greenways, blueways, and trails can form the framework for a more sustainable community. Such a plan for the public realm cannot be considered as an isolated system, but one that is integrated into the overall fabric of the community and one that will create the kind of place where residents want to live, employers want to do business, and tourists want to visit.

The goal of this Master Planning process is to “create a seamless, sustainable system of parks, recreation and conservation open spaces for this and future generations.”

VISION

GREAT PARKS are for everyone, and should provide a diverse and balanced system of active and passive recreational opportunities. The County's Vision is that residents of every neighborhood, urban, suburban, rural, incorporated and unincorporated, have equal access to places to walk, to exercise, to socialize and to engage in a healthy, active lifestyle.

GREAT PUBLIC SPACES often define the great cities of the world. As Miami-Dade County develops more densely, there will be a need for great, attractive, usable public spaces that provide an opportunity for meaningful recreation experiences. These can be anything from neighborhood plazas to great waterfront vistas and promenades.

There is especially great potential for new transit station parks/urban plazas that would serve as the central gathering places for transit oriented developments (TODs). These public spaces could have a small service area radius of about one quarter of a mile, and serve local residents' needs for walking, meeting, informal play, and special events. Not only would they provide another outlet for recreation and social interaction, transit-oriented parks would also act as a place-maker and a form-giver to TODs.

GREAT NATURAL AND CULTURAL PLACES can be celebrated in a system of Zones (clusters of Environmentally Endangered Lands and Cultural Resource Centers) that: provide a variety of education activities and programs; elevate the public's appreciation and understanding of the County's natural ecosystems and cultural amenities; engage the surrounding neighborhoods; and link the sites with the other elements of the open space system through streets, greenways, and water trails.

GREAT GREENWAYS TRAILS AND WATER TRAILS can form an interconnected system that: provides transportation alternatives and reduces traffic congestion; creates new recreational opportunities; increases property values; protects natural resources; and encourages tourism and business development. These trails strengthen connections across the County, from Broward to Monroe Counties, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Everglades.

GREAT STREETS can be created through the redevelopment of existing arterial and collector roads to: create urban form and identity; improve aesthetics; provide for bicycle/pedestrian safety and comfort; and to improve the social, physical and economic environment for land uses along the corridors. To facilitate the creation of great streets, Miami-Dade County must move beyond vehicular performance-based street design and instead design streets that are defined by their role in the community. While all streets should have a minimum level of accessibility to all modes of transportation, not all streets require the same details.

great places have great spaces

SEATTLE

Parks are accessible to everyone regardless of age or ability



Public spaces are designed to engage residents



Natural and cultural areas are planned and managed to balance access and resource protection



Greenways, blueways, and trails connect every resident to places throughout the community



Streets are designed as linear parks



CHICAGO



VANCOUVER



BOSTON



PRINCIPLES

EQUITY - Every resident should be able to enjoy the same quality of public facilities and services regardless of income, age, race, ability or geographic location.

ACCESS - Every resident should be able to safely and comfortably walk, bicycle, drive and/or ride transit from their home to work, school, parks, shopping and community facilities.

BEAUTY - Every public space, including streets, parks, plazas and civic buildings, should be designed to be as aesthetically pleasing as possible, and to complement the natural and cultural landscape.

MULTIPLE BENEFITS - Every single public action should generate multiple public benefits to maximize taxpayer dollars.

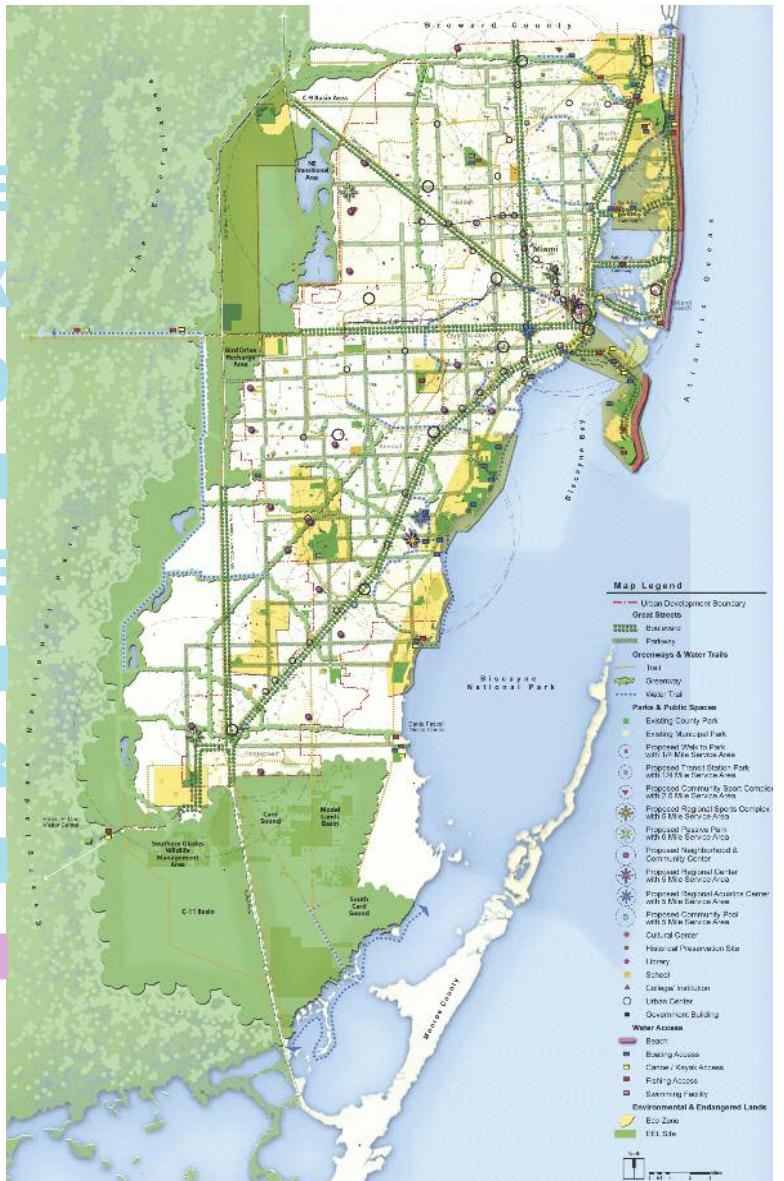
SEAMLESSNESS - Every element of the County, including neighborhoods, parks, natural areas, streets, civic centers and commercial areas, should be connected without regard to jurisdiction.

SUSTAINABILITY - Every action and improvement of the Park System, including facilities, programs, operations and management, should contribute to the economic, social and environmental prosperity of the County.

Following these principles, Miami-Dade County can expand its Parks and Open Space System to form the foundation and framework for a seamless, livable and sustainable community. Imagine a future Miami-Dade County where:

- Every resident in the County can walk (within 5 minutes) to a central neighborhood park and civic space for picnics, special events, informal play and socialization.
- Every resident can safely and comfortably walk, bicycle, or take transit to community parks, recreation centers and special use/sports facilities.
- Parks provide for a balance of active and passive uses.
- The County Parks Department works with every municipality and the School District to provide public access to schools, city parks, and County recreation areas.
- Equitable public access is provided to lakes, beaches, and other major natural features.
- Conservation areas and critical habitat are protected from over-use and negative impacts.
- An interconnected network of shaded and safe bikeways and trails connect to parks, neighborhoods, schools, employment centers, civic buildings, and other community destinations.
- Existing streets are transformed into tree-lined boulevards and parkways that define the County's urban form.
- Bus transit is provided to every park and civic site.
- Public art, signage and cultural/historical exhibits are integrated into every park and public realm/infrastructure project to "tell the County's story" and to create a sense of place.
- The County's significant cultural and historical sites are protected, maintained, and promoted.
- Park improvements are used as catalysts for neighborhood stabilization and/or redevelopment.
- Parks are designed to reduce energy and water consumption, and to serve as models for sustainable development County-wide.
- Parks are designed to be flexible in order to accommodate ever-changing recreation trends and demographics.
- Residents of surrounding neighborhoods are engaged in the planning and design of each park.

THE
PARK
AND
OPEN
SPACE
SYSTEM
MASTER
PLAN
VISION



PROUD SPONSORS OF THE

Great Park Summit

2008

SPECIAL THANKS to the **PARKS FOUNDATION OF MIAMI-DADE** for their generous contribution and continued support of this event and the Park And Open Space System Master Plan.

EMERALD

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden
Forbes Architects
Glattig, Jackson, Kercher, Anglin, Lopez, Rinehart
Marin and Sons
The Trust for Public Land



FOREST

URS Corporation



Health Foundation
of South Florida

CURTIS +
ROGERS
DESIGN
STUDIO
INC.

JADE

Bacardi
Curtis and Rogers Design Studio
Sonesta Bayfront Hotel, Coconut Grove
The Health Foundation of South Florida



SAGE

Bermello, Ajamil and Partners
EDAW
Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc.
Milian Swain and Associates, Inc.
Rowland Coffee
Savino Miller and Associates
South Florida Water Management District
University of Miami School of Architecture



MSA Milian, Swain & Associates, Inc.



ABOUT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

A three-time winner of the National Gold Medal for excellence in park and recreation administration, Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department serves a growing and diverse population, who use our parks, attend our events and participate in our programs.

Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department manages over 13,250 acres of land, half of which are environmentally sensitive or threatened natural areas requiring protection and conservation, and maintains over 250 parks, recreation facilities and greenway areas to provide essential quality of life services to a resident population of over 2 million people. Thousands each year enjoy our diverse and engaging programs including eco-tourism, performing arts, after-school and summer camps and activities for seniors.

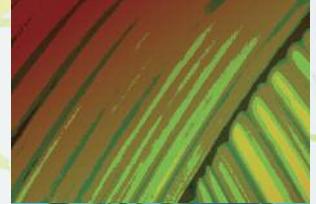
Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Department is a proven leader in its field and continues to be awarded National Accreditation from the Commission of Accreditation of Parks and Recreation Agencies.

ABOUT FAIRCHILD TROPICAL BOTANIC GARDEN

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden is dedicated to exploring, explaining and conserving the world of tropical plants. It is one of the premier conservation and education-based gardens in the world and a recognized international leader in both Florida and international conservation. Currently Fairchild has field programs in over 20 countries including support to protected areas in Madagascar and botanic garden development and renovation projects in South and Central America, the Caribbean and Middle East. Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden houses the National Palm Collection as recognized by the American Public Gardens Association (APGA); has the world's greatest living collection of palms and cycads; provides an education program reaching more than 30,000 school children per year; hosts popular events such as the International Mango Festival, International Chocolate Festival, the Orchid Festival, the Ramble, concerts, affiliated plant society shows and sales and more; and, is a not-for-profit organization relying on the support of its 40,000 members and benefactors. Fairchild also hosts major art events such as Botero, Chihuly and Lichtenstein at Fairchild this year and Chihuly at Fairchild in 2005 and 2006.

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE GREAT PARK SUMMIT 2008 STEERING COMMITTEE

JACK KARDYS	Director of Parks and Recreation
KEVIN KIRWIN	Assistant to the Director
HOWARD GREGG	Assistant Director for Planning and Development
MARIA NARDI	Park System Planner
ERIC HANSEN	Recreation Planner
DAVID LIVINGSTONE	Special Projects Administrator
DIANA CORNELY	Park System Planner
DORIS HOWE	Communications Manager
DONNA PEYTON	Manager of Park and Recreation Fundraising and Development
JUAN ARMAS	Training Manager



Call (305) 755-7848 or (305) 755-7980 (TDD) to request materials in accessible format, a sign language interpreter (seven days advance notice required) and for information on access for persons with disabilities.



We are proud to print on Sustainable Forestry Initiative certified paper and with vegetable-based inks. SFI certification ensures that the paper used contains fiber from well-managed and responsibly harvested forests that meet strict environmental and socioeconomic standards. Printed by acgraphics.com, SFI certified Chain-of-Custody #NSC-SFICOC-032.



Carlos Alvarez

Mayor

Board of County Commissioners

Bruno A. Barreiro, *Chairman*

Barbara J. Jordan, *Vice Chairwoman*

Barbara J. Jordan

District 1

Dorrin D. Rolle

District 2

Audrey M. Edmonson

District 3

Sally A. Heyman

District 4

Bruno A. Barreiro

District 5

Rebeca Sosa

District 6

Carlos A. Gimenez

District 7

Katy Sorenson

District 8

Dennis C. Moss

District 9

Sen. Javier D. Souto

District 10

Joe A. Martinez

District 11

José "Pepe" Diaz

District 12

Natacha Seijas

District 13

Harvey Ruvin

Clerk of Courts

George M. Burgess

County Manager

Robert A. Cuevas, Jr.

County Attorney

Miami-Dade County provides equal access and equal opportunity in employment and services and does not discriminate on the basis of disability.

"It is the policy of Miami-Dade County to comply with all of the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act."

Great Park Summit

2 0 0 8