

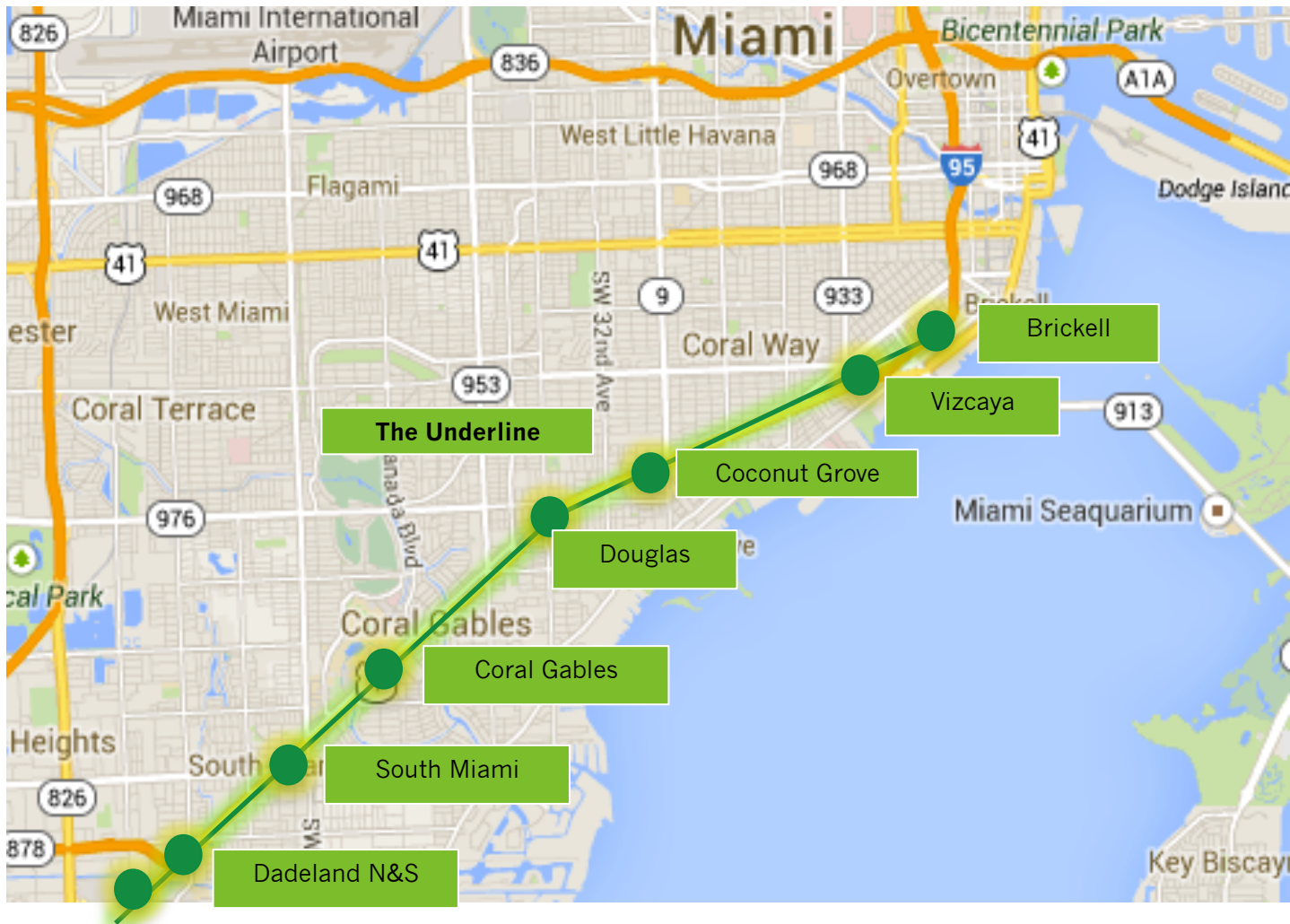
# The Underline

The country's longest under-rail world-class linear park and urban trail directly integrated into transit



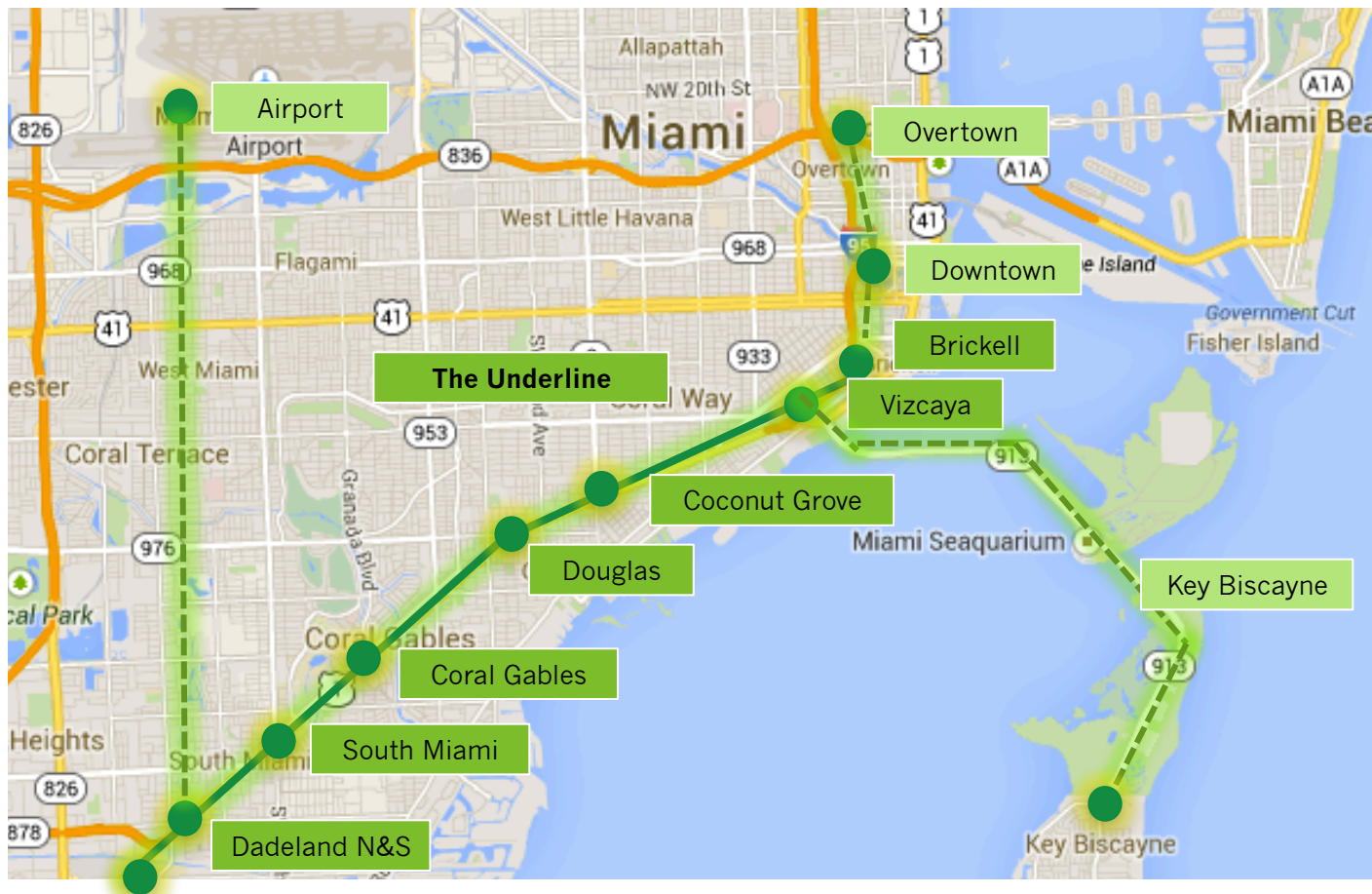
# Transformative Vision

Transform 10-miles of underutilized land below Metrorail into an iconic public space



# Transformative Vision

Spine for a connected safe bicycle/pedestrian network



# Current Condition



# Current Condition

10 miles long, 100' wide, Transit infrastructure & M-Path



# Current Condition

28 intersections pierce the path





# Current Condition

No lighting, seating, amenities, planned landscaping



# Current Condition

Unsafe, homes and businesses turn away





# The Vision

# Vision: Trail

Straighten, widen to 20 feet, split between pedestrians & cyclists



# Vision: Trail

Add lighting, seating and amenities





# Vision: Trail

Create protected bike/ped commuter highway and recreational corridor that integrates all modes of transit





# Vision: Park Nodes

Strategically planned parks to serve adjacent neighborhoods



# Benefits



# Benefits: Development

Rezone to attract mixed use redevelopment



# Benefits: Economic Driver

Linear Parks & Rails to Trails: High Line, Katy Trail, Beltline & 606





# Benefits: Economic Driver

## New York City High Line

- \$3 Billion in new real estate development
- \$1 Billion in new tax revenue
- 2<sup>nd</sup> most popular cultural NYC attraction

## Atlanta Beltline

- 22 mile perimeter path, 7 miles built, already has 3:1 ROI, connects outer perimeter communities with all modes of transit

## Chicago 606

- Connects 80,000 residents in 4 communities.



## Benefits: Zero Land Cost



# Benefits: Transit Development

## Open Transit Principles

- Create a mixed-use “neighborhood”
- Integrate all modes of transit, walking, biking, train, bus, etc.
- Provide safe access to Transit reduce usage barriers
- Oriented to development (zoning & inviting green space)
- Attract iconic architecture (i.e. High Line)
- Appeal to non-transit users (50%/50%) to become a community amenity
- Integrate cultural & civic engagement/programming

# Benefits: Alternative Mode of Transit

- Cost: Trail construction cost is 10% of the cost of building a road.
- Efficient: Walking, biking and transit are much more efficient in space use than a car.
- Sustainable: Bike has no CO2 emissions, decreases noise and air pollution.
- Bike/Transit combo: Combine short bike trips with longer rides on transit.
- 20 minute rule: Half of all trips are within 20 minutes by bike and 25% are within 20 minutes on foot, making them attractive for biking or walking.
- Infrastructure: Build infrastructure that attracts all types of bicyclists.
- Good for business: More bikes rather than cars in traffic can increase business by 5-8%.



# Benefits: Improve Ped/Bike Safety

4<sup>th</sup> most dangerous county in US for pedestrians

The most dangerous in Florida for bicyclists

TABLE 1

Large metro areas, ranked by Pedestrian Danger Index

Rank	Metropolitan area	Total pedestrian deaths (2003–2012)	Annual pedestrian deaths per 100,000 (2008–2012)	Percent of people commuting by foot (2008–2012)	Pedestrian Danger Index (2008–2012)
1	Orlando-Kissimmee, FL	583	2.75	1.1	244.28
2	Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL	874	2.97	1.6	190.13
3	Jacksonville, FL	359	2.48	1.4	182.71
4	Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach, FL	1,539	2.58	1.8	145.33
5	Memphis, TN-KC-MO	148	1.70	1.1	125.60
6	Birmingham-Hoover, AL*	148	1.33	1.1	125.60
7	Houston-Sugar Land-Baytown, TX	1,034	1.70	1.4	119.64
8	Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA	839	1.59	1.3	119.35
9	Phoenix-Mesa-Scottsdale, AZ	840	1.86	1.6	118.64
10	Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord, NC-SC	254	1.65	1.5	111.74

# Benefits: Add Green Space

Hundreds of acres for 400,000 residents within 10 minute walk





# Benefits: Exercise, Play, Engage

Playgrounds, dog parks, recreation areas, markets



# Benefits: Connect Communities

10-mile tract serves all age and socioeconomic groups connecting fragmented communities





# Benefits: Public-Private Funding

- Friends of The Underline – “Friends” model
- 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for advocacy, fundraising and public engagement
- Planning, Construction: 75-80% public – 20-25% private
- Post Construction: Ongoing Maintenance & Programming: 75-80% private – 20-25% public

# What We've Done

# What We've Done: One Year



- From Idea to Initiative
- Marketing touchpoints, website, social media, media
- UM School of Architecture Studio Class, Spring '14 & '15
- Knight Foundation & Miami Foundation Grantee
- Community events: bike rides, panel discussions, exhibits



# Broad-based support

## Partners

- Miami-Dade County Transit
- Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation, and Open Spaces
- University of Miami

## Endorsements

- Miami-Dade County
- City of Miami
- City of Coral Gables
- City of South Miami
- Village of Pinecrest
- Miami Herald Editorial Board
- Miami Association of Realtors
- AIA, APA
- Downtown Development Authority
- Many biking groups

## Funders

- City of Miami
- City of Coral Gables
- City of South Miami
- The John S. & James L. Knight Foundation
- Miami Foundation & Mitchell Wolfson Foundation
- Health Foundation of South Florida

# The Underline Goals

- Build WOW, iconic, statement public space
- Integrate with transit. The country's longest under-rail urban trail and linear park that is integrated into transit.
- Move us safely and efficiently. An urban bicycle/pedestrian network connected to transit.
- Provide county-wide access to public space, without driving.
- Make us healthier. Every \$1 invested in a protected trail produces nearly \$24 in reduced health costs.
- Build a city that attracts and retains talent.
- Support youth: Want quality transit and to be able to bike & walk safely.

# To Do



# To Do: Next Steps



- Selection of master plan design team Feb. 2015
- Complete master plan summer 2015
- Secure construction funding to begin construction 2016
- Analyze zoning opportunities for redevelopment
- Activate space and community



# The Underline

The country's longest transit-integrated linear park and urban trail

[www.theunderline.org](http://www.theunderline.org)