Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

TOWN HALL MEETING
Sponsored legislation creating “Getting to know your Commissioner” a 30 minute television program airing on the County channel 34.

Created the Social & Economic Development Council, a think tank of economists and college professors, who will develop short and long term plans to address the social and economic consequences of the downturn in Miami Dade County’s economy and reinvigorate economic development.

Sponsored legislation to improve security at our sensitive Water and Sewer facilities which supply drinking water to the residents of our community.

Obtained Litter Cans for Bus Stops for District 10.

Passed law mandating commercial establishments to place litter cans near entrances.

Passed law requiring commercial establishments to install bike racks.
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

“Highlights of Some of the Things that We are Doing for the Community“

Created the Bikes on Buses and Bikes on Metrorail Programs.

Initiated the “Stolen Car Detection & Criminal Profile Program” at Seaport.

Obtained street sweeper trucks to clean Dade’s streets.

Secured County property earmarked for development as Low Income High Density Apartments for use as Soccer Park in Kendall.

Purchased “Welcome to Westchester” and the “Welcome to Kendall” signs.

Created the “Golden Guide to the Dade County Code” and the “Resident Guide to Local Services.”

Closed down two night clubs that were havens for drugs and prostitution & Closed down all lingerie modeling studios and massage parlors in district.
Commissioner Javier Souto  
District 10

“Highlights of Some of the Things that We are Doing for the Community“

Obtained a state grant to landscape the Palmetto (SR 826) & Landscaped over 80 Miles of District Roads.

Appropriated $12,400 in funding to the Kendall Federation of Homeowners for the purchase of traffic radar devices.

Created “Friends of the Metro Parks” program which was used to refurbish Sunset Park through Private Sector donations.

Created “Friends of the Police” program which was used to open a privately funded police work station on Bird Road.

Obtained playgrounds for toddlers (tot lots) for Banyan Elementary School, Concord Park, Southern Estates Park in Village Green, and Sunset Park.

Established an “Adopt-A-Road” program to permit local organizations and private corporations to beautify roads.
Provided the Mildred Pepper Senior Center with $150,000 to purchase new air-conditioned buses for senior citizens.

Drafted two laws prohibiting noises that disturb the peace and tranquility of residential communities.

Sponsored Laws to eliminate illegal sexual activity in adult book stores and to protect residential communities, schools and parks from adult establishments.

Directed the County Manager to develop a system of filtering pornography from library computers accessible to unsupervised minors.

Secured funding for the Bird Road Max & the Coral Way Max Express Bus Service.

Secured $4 million to build a World Class Equestrian Center at Tropical Park
Reformed County jail food service practices that were wasting millions of dollars on jail inmates.

Drafted laws that require all cash registers in Dade County to have a screen visible to consumers, so they can see their merchandise transaction as it is charged.

Secured $350,000 for Outdoor Emergency Call Boxes at County parks to provide safety to families who use parks.

Initiated Mini Urban Forest Program to reclaim abandoned vacant lots and strips of land and landscape them with trees which are adopted and maintained by neighboring schools.

Paved & Illuminated Alleyways Adjacent to SW 8th Street Which Were Used by Prostitutes and Drug Dealers to Conduct their Business, Because they were inaccessible to Police Cruisers.
Commissioner Javier Souto  
District 10

“Highlights of Some of the Things that We are Doing for the Community“

Demolished an abandoned house which was used as a crack cocaine den and another which was an eyesore.

Established “Graffiti Reward Program.”

Instituted road calming techniques for Winston Park. Purchased signs which preserve the memory of Albert Martinez and may cause residents and other motorist to slow down. Redesigned SW 132 Avenue with traffic circles The road was also narrowed in this area in order to slow down the traffic. Installed a streetlight and stop signs to slow down the traffic in this neighborhood. Installed guardrails and flashing lights along SW 127th Avenue to Protect Winston Park Community from speeding motorists.

Obtained state funds to open 5 Regional Libraries on Sundays.
Commissioner Javier Souto  
District 10

“Highlights of Some of the Things that We are Doing for the Community“

Initiated the County’s Landscape Program in 1994, with the first road landscaped by Miami Dade County in the unincorporated area, SW 87th Avenue. Since 1994, over 80 miles of roads in District 10 have been landscaped.

Secured $2 million to extend the county water system into the Sunkist Estates neighborhood when vinyl chloride, a carcinogen, was found in their wells.

Landscaped and lighted Waterway Drive area and SW 72nd Avenue near the Coral Way ball fields.

Paved over 12 square miles or one third of the roads in District (including all the neighborhoods between Bird Road and Miller Road from the Palmetto Expressway to the Turnpike, Neighborhoods from Bird Road to Coral Way from the Turnpike to SW 97th Avenue, Village Green Neighborhood, and Royal Green Neighborhood)
Commissioner Javier Souto  
District 10

“Highlights of Some of the Things that We are Doing for the Community“

Established a Linear Park on SW 117th Avenue from Bird Road to just South of Miller Road.

Implemented safety improvements consisting of traffic light at SW 117th Ave. and 32 St., and SW 112th Ave. and 38 St.

Established a zero tolerance policy for graffiti within a 1,000 foot radius of a school or a park.

Designated road in front of Winston Park Elementary School as Wild Cat Way, street in front of Coral Park Senior High School as Ram Road and street in front of Southwest Senior High School as Eagles Boulevard.
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

District 10 projects that were funded directly out of the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program include

- $1,028,000 Royal Green Road Resurfacing Project (SW 42 St. to 56 St. & 127 Ave. to 132 Ave.)
- $696,000 Horse Country Road Resurfacing Project (SW 42 St. to 72 St. & 117 Ave. to 127 Ave.)
- $925,000 Winston Park Road Resurfacing Project (SW 72 St. to 88 St. & 127 Ave. to 137 Ave.)
- $790,000 Kenlands Road Resurfacing Project (SW 88 St. to 104 St. & 117 Ave. to 127 Ave.)
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

District 10 projects that were funded directly out of the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program include

$363,000 Sidewalks (SW 92 Ave. to 87 Ave & 24 St. to 32 St.)
District 10 projects that were funded directly out of the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program include:

- $312,500 Drainage Project (SW 97th Avenue from 8 Street to Flagler)
- $250,000 Drainage Project (SW 97 Avenue to 102 Avenue & Flagler Street to 4 Street)
- $56,000 Drainage Project (SW 97 Avenue & 40th Terrace)
- $170,000 Blue Lakes Park Illuminated Walking Path
- $250,000 Skating Park at Tropical Park
- $1,900,000 Kendall Soccer Park Phase 2
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

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My Commission District has benefit from approximately $65 million in federal monies for 690 FEMA projects in my Commission District, some have been completed, others are under construction and the remainder will commence next year. The largest District 10 projects that will be funded through FEMA monies include:
District 10 projects that were funded directly out of the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program include

$28,823,000 Drainage Improvements  (Southern Westchester SW 77 Avenue to 117 Avenue from 24 Street to 40 Street)

$9,847,000 Drainage Improvements  (Winston Park Neighborhood SW 127 Avenue to 137 Avenue from 72 Street to 88 Street)

$3,000,000 Drainage Improvements (Village Green Neighborhood SW 118 Avenue to 127 Avenue from 24 Street to 40 Street)

$5,147,000 Drainage Improvements (Westwood Lakes Neighborhood SW 40 Street to 56 Street & 112 Avenue to 117 Avenue)
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

District 10 projects that were funded directly out of the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program include

$1,550,000 Drainage Improvements (Horse Country)

$1,131,000 Drainage Improvements Royal Green Neighborhood (SW 127 Avenue to 132 Avenue & 42 Street to 56 Street)

$650,000 Drainage Improvements (SW 8 Street to SW 24 Street & SW 80 Avenue to SW 87 Avenue)

$1,550,000 Drainage Improvements (SW 56 Street to SW 72 Street from 117 Avenue to 109 Court)

$10,000,000 Drainage Improvements (SW 40 Street to SW 56 Street & 117 Avenue to 82 Avenue)
District 10 projects that were funded directly out of the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program include

My district will also benefit from approximately $38.7 million in canal dredging projects that will increase the storm water flow of our canals and further protect our community from flooding. The Canals in my district that will be dredged include the Westwood Lakes Canal, the Westchester (SW 84 Avenue) Canal, the Coral Way Ditch, Coral Park Canal, Southern Estates Canal, Royal Green Canal, Coral Gables Canal, Bird Road Extension, SW 92 Avenue, SW 97th Avenue North, SW 60th Street, Lindgreen Canal, and Heftler Canal.
Commissioner Souto with the students and teachers of Everglades Elementary School as they kick off a new program that he initiated to teach students respect for the environment and community responsibility and community pride. The program is called “Don’t Toss It Out - Toss It In.” Students participate in litter clean up at the neighborhood around their school.
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Young soccer players from the Kendall area compete in a soccer match on the new artificial turf fields at the Kendall Soccer Park. Soccer athletes and fans have finally realized the dream of a major Miami Dade County Park dedicated exclusively to the sport of soccer and the development and promotion of youth soccer programs and competition. It is important to promote youth soccer programs and youth soccer competition in this community, because soccer is a sport that is open to boys and girls and allows them to develop comradery, discipline, team work and other important skills. The Soccer Park also has an illuminated walking path which borders the perimeter of the beautifully landscaped grounds of the new park and provides area residents an opportunity to exercise in a safe and scenic setting.
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Commissioner Souto has provided the funds to install or replace over 50 linear miles of new or broken sidewalks in his district. As soon as the sidewalks were installed you could see neighbors walking and exercising throughout the neighborhood and small children and toddlers riding their tricycles and bicycles on the sidewalks. Now small children do not have to walk, play or ride their bicycles on the streets of their neighborhood, which is very dangerous.
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Commissioner Souto inspects a new drainage project that will protect a residential neighborhood in his district from future flooding episodes. Commissioner Souto’s district will benefit from over $65 million in new drainage improvements.
Commissioner Javier Souto  
District 10

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The Commissioner and Miami Dade Police Officer Paul Hernandez at a neighborhood crime watch meeting. Commissioner Souto organizes anti-crime block meetings in neighborhoods throughout his district to promote the formation of crime watch groups. These groups have been successful in reporting crime and protecting the neighborhoods. If you have an existing crime watch group, Commissioner Souto would welcome the opportunity to join your group and listen to your concerns. If you would like to organize a crime watch group in your neighborhood, please call the Commissioner and he will personally assist you in organizing a crime watch group.
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Commissioner Souto received a request from a constituent at one of his Town Meetings regarding the School drop off zone to the immediate West of Riviera Middle School. The constituent lives across the street from the school and expressed concerns regarding the poor condition of the swale, which was unpaved and during rain storms flooded and the soil turned to mud. Commissioner Souto requested that the Public Works Department install storm drains, curb and gutter and pave the swale area where the parents and school buses drop off the school children. Commissioner Souto’s town meetings provide a forum for District 10 residents to meet personally with the Commissioner and Directors of County Departments that provide municipal services, so they can resolve problems in their neighborhoods.
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

Commissioner Souto stands outside the Tropical Park Equestrian Center. This is a world class Equestrian Center, which will allow Miami-Dade County to serve as host city to numerous international equestrian competitions and events that will generate millions of dollars to our local economy. Miami Dade County will now be able to host equestrian events and competition even during the rainy season and extremely hot weather that is common during the summer months in South Florida.
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Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

Commissioner Souto inspects the new guardrails that he requested as a result of concerns expressed by neighbors near the snapper creek canal regarding the danger of the rising canal waters during heavy rain episodes, which posed a danger to motorists, because they could not see the canal banks and could easily drive into the snapper creek canal. Motorists are now protected during heavy rains, which cause the canal to overflow, from driving or hydroplaning into the canal waters.
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Commissioner Souto stands next to an abandoned house that was demolished by the County, because it used by young teenagers for rave parties and as a drug house.
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

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Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

Commissioner Souto pictured with Saturnino Urrutia, who works to keep the Commissioner’s District clean of junk and trash, as well as free of graffiti. Please feel free to call our office to report any junk furniture, tires, appliances, shopping carts, etc. in your neighborhood, and Saturnino will be more than glad to pick it up and take it to the County dump. Also feel free to report any graffiti in your neighborhood and he will cover it up for you. He also maintains the litter cans installed by Commissioner Souto throughout the District.
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Commissioner Souto inspects one of the new bicycle parking areas that are now required of all shopping centers and restaurants, as a result of a law sponsored by Commissioner Souto that was approved in September of 2000. We want to develop a true multi-modal transportation system to encourage people to leave their cars at home as much as possible and use their bicycles to travel to a store or travel to work. Commissioner Souto also sponsored legislation which required all Metro Buses to carry bicycle racks and Metro Rail Cars to carry bicycle parking areas to facilitate this form of transportation.
Commissioner Souto visits the Kenlands and surrounding neighborhood (Turnpike to SW 127 Avenue and SW 104 Street to Kendall Drive) to look at the new road paving project that he requested for this community.
Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

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Commissioner Souto stands next to one of the more than 50 litter cans that he purchased and installed at bus stops throughout his district in order to eliminate the large volume of litter found around these bus stops. Commissioner Souto not only purchased these litter cans, but his office also maintains these trash cans on a regular basis. The volume of litter around these busy bus stops have been significantly reduced and this has helped reduce flooding along several major roads, by reducing the volume of litter that clogs the storm water drains on these roads.
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Commissioner Souto with the students of Olympia Heights Elementary School and Riviera Middle Schools at the dedication of the Mini-Urban Forest adopted by the respective schools. These were overgrown abandoned lots that were community eyesores, until they were cleared and planted with shade and flowering trees and later adopted by the school children.
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Commissioner Javier Souto
District 10

Commissioner Souto presents a check for $150,000 to the Mildred Pepper Senior Center so that the center can purchase new air-conditioned buses to transport its senior citizens to and from the center, as well as to activities throughout the County. The Mildred Pepper Senior Center is located in District 10 off Miller Road and is operated by the Little Havana Activities Center. The Commissioner regularly visits senior centers to sit down with our senior citizens to discuss their concerns and needs. The population in our community is aging and Commissioner Souto feels that the growing needs of the elderly such as affordable housing, transportation and medical care are often overlooked. Souto believes that the cost of these services, as well as taxes, must be kept in check because senior citizens live on fixed incomes from retirement, which cannot keep pace with the escalating costs of goods and services (inflation) as well as the escalating cost of government (taxes).
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The Miami Dade Transit Department Bird Road Max pilot program is now a couple of years old. Commissioner Souto requested this mini-bus system to provide express service for the residents of Westchester to select destinations like Metrorail (Downtown), Baptist Hospital & Dadeland Mall. The pilot program has been a tremendous success. In just one year it has exceeded the rider-ship of the better known KAT (Kendall Area Transit) that has been operating for many years. I urge all of you to use this new service. Feel free to let Commissioner Souto know how it can be improved.
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Commissioner Souto at the inauguration of the "Bikes on Buses" program which he initiated. Dade County has installed these bike racks on every new bus that has been placed into service in the last two years. Soon every single bus in the County’s fleet will have the bicycle carrier on the front of the bus to accommodate at least two bicycles as part of a plan to integrate various modes of transit by allowing bikes on buses and bikes on metro rail trains.