

BILL, THANK YOU FOR THE INTRODUCTION...

AND THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO FOR MIAMI-DADE COUNTY...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, IT'S TRULY A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU.

I'LL SPARE YOU THE OBLIGATORY WEATHER COMPARISONS...

I WILL ONLY SAY THAT THE HIGH TODAY IN MIAMI HIT 70...

AND THERE WASN'T A CLOUD IN THE SKY...

JUST TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER, THIS WEEK, WE CELEBRATED THE 37TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAY IT SNOWED IN MIAMI.

THAT'S RIGHT... ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 19, 1977, MIAMI WOKE UP TO A LIGHT DUSTING OF SNOW.

I'M PRETTY SURE IT MELTED ONCE IT HIT THE GROUND.

BUT NONETHELESS, WE DO REMEMBER...

WE'VE ALSO MADE SURE IT NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN!

MIAMI IS KNOWN FOR MANY THINGS...

WE'RE THE MAGIC CITY...

WE HAVE SOME OF THE BEST BEACHES AND NIGHTLIFE IN THE WORLD...

WE'RE THE GLAMOUR OF SOUTH BEACH...

BUT WE'RE ALSO URBAN AND COSMOPOLITAN DOWNTOWN AND BRICKELL...

WE'RE ARTSY MIDTOWN, WYNWOOD, AND THE DESIGN DISTRICT...

WE'RE LITTLE HAVANA AND LITTLE HAITI -

IN THE FOODS WE EAT, THE LANGUAGES WE SPEAK...

OUR CITY MOVES TO LATIN AND CARIBBEAN RHYTHMS - AND INCREASINGLY, TO RHYTHMS FROM ALL OVER.

MIAMI HAS OPENED ITS ARMS TO THE WORLD, AND THE WORLD HAS COME TO US.

MIAMI HAS ALSO DEVELOPED A ROBUST BUSINESS CLIMATE...

TAKING ADVANTAGE OF OUR GEOGRAPHIC POSITION AS THE GATEWAY TO AMERICAS, THE CARIBBEAN AND BEYOND.

OUR CONCENTRATION OF INTERNATIONAL BANKS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES IS SECOND ONLY TO MANHATTAN.

OUR AIR AND SEA PORTS RANK AMONG THE BUSIEST IN THE NATION.

WE'RE A HUB FOR TECH START-UPS AND HEALTH CARE TOURISM...

WE HOST ART BASEL, ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT ART FAIRS IN THE AMERICAS.

ALL IN ALL, WE'RE EMERGING AS A PREMIERE GLOBAL CITY.

GIVEN WE'RE HERE IN NEW YORK, LET ME EMPHASIZE ONE SPECIAL THING WE ARE KNOWN FOR...

AND THAT'S BEING THE SIXTH BOROUGH.

IT GOES BEYOND THE FACT THAT AT CERTAIN TIMES OF THE YEAR, NEW YORK AUTO TAGS ARE SEEN ALL ALONG OUR STREETS.

OR THAT YOU ARE THE NUMBER ONE DOMESTIC ORIGINATOR OF TOURISM TO MIAMI...

ALL THE SAME NAMES, FACES, AND MANY OF THE PLACES YOU RECOGNIZE FROM CHELSEA TO SOHO TO MIDTOWN, THEY'RE ALL IN MIAMI AS WELL.

BUT THERE'S SOMETHING DEEPER - A SPECIAL AFFINITY BETWEEN US.

OUR TWO CITIES SHARE A SPECIAL BOND...

WE'RE CITIES THAT EMBRACE DIVERSITY - WE ALWAYS WELCOME OTHERS.

WE'RE BUILT BY THE HARD WORK OF IMMIGRANTS WHO HAVE COME TO OUR CITIES AND MADE THEM WHAT THEY ARE TODAY...

THEY ALWAYS RENEW OUR SPIRIT – GIVING US THE ENERGY OF WHO WE ARE.

THE AMERICAN DREAM THAT BEGAN FOR SO MANY HERE – ON ELLIS ISLAND AND SPREAD THROUGHOUT...

THAT DREAM IS ALIVE AND WELL IN MIAMI – THE NEW PORT OF ENTRY FOR SO MANY FROM THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

WE'RE PROUD OF THIS DISTINCTION!

THANK YOU AGAIN FOR BEING HERE...

AND WE WELCOME YOU TO VISIT US AND FIND OUT FOR YOURSELVES WHY MIAMI IS SUCH A SPECIAL PLACE.

