

**THANK YOU LESTER FOR THAT INTRODUCTION.**

**GOOD MORNING, EVERYONE. THANK YOU ALL FOR BEING HERE.**

**I WOULD LIKE TO ACKNOWLEDGE COUNTY COMMISSIONER BRUNO BARREIRO FROM DISTRICT 5 AND CITY OF MIAMI COMMISSIONER FRANCIS SUAREZ, THANK YOU BOTH FOR BEING HERE TODAY.**

**I AM PLEASED TO JOIN YOU THIS MORNING FOR THE GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY FOR THE SHENANDOAH WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

**AS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CONTINUES TO GROW, WE MUST CONTINUE TO ADDRESS CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS.**

**A BIG PART OF OUR WORK HAS BEEN TO MODERNIZE OUR WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE WHICH IS ESSENTIAL TO THE FUTURE OF OUR COMMUNITY. AS WE LIKE TO SAY, "IT STARTS WITH WATER." WATER MEANS EVERYTHING.**

**THAT IS WHY DURING THE NEXT 15 TO 20 YEARS, THE COUNTY WILL INVEST APPROXIMATELY \$13.5**

**BILLION TO ENHANCE AND UPGRADE OUR WATER AND SEWER INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH THE USE OF STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS.**

**THIS WILL BE THE LARGEST, AND MOST IMPORTANT PROJECT IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HISTORY AND WILL RESULT IN THE UPGRADING OF THOUSANDS OF MILES OF PIPES, PUMP STATIONS, AND WATER AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS THAT PROVIDE HIGH-QUALITY DRINKING WATER AND WASTEWATER SERVICES.**

**IN ADDITION, THIS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM IS PROJECTED TO CREATE 16,470 NEW JOBS AND WILL IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEM, AS WELL AS GENERATE \$24.9 BILLION IN ECONOMIC OUTPUT.**

**THE SHENANDOAH COMMUNITY IS ONE OF THE FIRST TO BENEFIT DIRECTLY FROM THE SERVICE UPGRADES AS A RESULT OF THIS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM. THIS PROJECT WILL NOT ONLY INCREASE WATER PRESSURE TO THE HOMES IN THIS AREA, BUT IT WILL ALSO DECREASE WATER**

**LOSS BY REDUCING LEAKS AND THE COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH MAINTAINING THESE LEAKING PIPES.**

**BY CONTINUALLY MAINTAINING AND INVESTING IN THE SYSTEM, AND BY UPGRADING AND IMPLEMENTING SMARTER TECHNOLOGY, AS WE'RE DOING HERE, OUR RESIDENTS CAN SAVE MONEY IN THE LONG RUN. AND THAT'S A BIG PART OF OUR WORK AS A COUNTY GOVERNMENT -- SAVING TAXPAYER DOLLARS.**

**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY CONTINUES TO BE DEDICATED TO INVESTING IN OUR WATER AND WASTEWATER SYSTEMS FOR THE BENEFIT OF OUR 2.6 MILLION RESIDENTS, NOW AND INTO THE FUTURE.**

**I THANK THE MIAMI-DADE WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT FOR THE WORK THE EMPLOYEES HAVE DONE IN PREPARATION FOR TODAY'S GROUNDBREAKING, AND THE WORK THEY WILL DO IN THE FUTURE.**

**THANK YOU ALL AGAIN FOR COMING TODAY!**

**MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND MAY CONTINUE TO BLESS MIAMI-DADE COUNTY!**