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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **City of Miami Celebrates the Grand Opening of the New Melreese Country Club**



**L-R:** Robert Fenton, Project Manager, City of Miami; Ola O. Aluko, Capital Improvements Programs, Director; Charlie DeLuca, Jr., Melreese Golf Course Manager, City of Miami Commission Chairman Joe Sanchez, Commissioner Angel Gonzalez, Mayor Manny Diaz, Pete Hernandez Miami City Manager, Charlie DeLuca, Melreese Golf Course Manager, Leo A. Daly, Melreese Country Club Architect and Henry Loudon, President of TRAN Construction, Inc. celebrate the grand opening of the new Melreese Country Club. Photo: Jorge R. Perez/City of Miami.

(Miami, FL) - Mayor Manny Diaz, joined by Commissioner Angel Gonzalez, District 1, Chairman Joe Sanchez, city administrators and members of the public celebrated the grand opening of the new **Melreese Country Club**, and the unveiling of the plans of the new Training Center for the First Tee Youth Outreach Program.

Since the October 8, 2008 ground breaking, the City of Miami built a facility under LEED Silver specifications developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) through the design of architect Leo A Daly and construction by TRAN Construction, Inc. Funded through the Miami Sports & Exhibition Authority and Sunshine State Government Financing Commission the facility's 17,500 square feet footprint was built at the construction cost of \$4.6 million.

"It is about time that the City of Miami has a world-class golf facility for residents and visitors to enjoy," said Mayor Manny Diaz. "I congratulate Commissioner Gonzalez and our Capital Improvements Program for a job well done."

Residents will be able to add the Melreese Country Club to their list of special event venues with a banquet room overlooking the golf course and two outdoor pavilion areas including a courtyard. Golf patrons will be able to purchase a membership which will allow them to store their golf equipment in the locker room and enjoy the perks of being a member of a golf country club. Once the second phase of the project is completed customers will also have access to two tennis courts being built adjacent to the facility.

"The Melreese Golf Course is the only golf course in the City of Miami," said Commissioner Angel Gonzalez. "The residents of the City of Miami have to feel proud that we finally have the proper golf course facility, with a restaurant, a clubhouse, and a banquet hall that can compete with other municipalities throughout Miami-Dade County."

The plans for a new Melreese Golf Training Center will be built adjacent to the existing practice range and clubhouse. The 5,400 square feet facility will accommodate The First Tee youth outreach program. The facility will bring the opportunity for more children in Miami to be exposed to the sport of golf and get involved in educational programs held in the facility which will have covered bays that include computer aided swing analysis and a golf simulator system. Work is scheduled to begin on the Golf Academy in the Spring of 2010 at the estimated cost of \$1,760,000.

The Melreese Country Club is located at 1802 NW 37 Avenue, the Country Club boasts a clubhouse, bar, courtyard, covered terraces, pro-shop and locker rooms.

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First!*



