

Mayor Manuel A. Díaz



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Press Release

**City of Miami
Office of Communications
Kelly Penton, Director
Phone: 305-416-1440
kpenton@miamigov.com**

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City of Miami and Orange Bowl Committee Join to Build Brand New Youth Football Field at Moore Park

-City Matches \$2.5 Million Grant from the Orange Bowl Committee-

(Miami, FL.)—The City of Miami Commission today unanimously voted to accept a grant from the Orange Bowl Committee for \$2.5 million for the construction of a youth sports/football stadium at Moore Park. The grant was given to commemorate the “Palm Festival” game played in 1933 at Moore Park between the University of Miami Hurricanes and Manhattan College. This game laid the foundation for the college football tradition known as the Orange Bowl and the Orange Bowl Committee. The grant also celebrates the 75th year of the Orange Bowl Game.

“With this gift from the Orange Bowl Committee, Moore Park will have a first class football stadium and running track for young athletes of the Liberty City and Allapattah communities,” said Mayor Manny Diaz. “I commend the Committee for making this investment in the future of our city and the City Commission for supporting this effort.”

“The FedEx Orange Bowl has always meant much more to the community than just a football game, whether that be in the form of youth sports programs, fan events, community grants, academic scholarships and more,” Orange Bowl Committee president and chairman S. Daniel Ponce said. “This Legacy Gift will help commemorate our 75th anniversary in a way that will ensure a lasting benefit to the youth of South Florida.”

The project will include: new synthetic field turf, running track, 1,500 aluminum bleacher seats, press box, electronic scoreboard, field lighting, and two restroom/concession buildings. The Committee will be responsible for managing and delivering the construction of the project.

“I am delighted with the prospects that this partnership will bring to the student athletes of Miami-Dade County Public Schools,” said Superintendent of Schools Alberto M. Carvalho. “Many of our students, particularly those from Miami Jackson and Booker T. Washington senior high schools, will greatly benefit from having a professional quality field and stadium nearby for their use. This is a valuable addition to the City of Miami Education Compact.”

The City of Miami will match the contribution with a grant not to exceed \$2.5 million. The total cost estimate for the project is \$5.65 million. The Committee will also raise \$650,000 through corporate sponsorships for the project.