



MAYOR MANNY DIAZ - STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS 2005
“THE NEW DESTINY” ACCOMPLISHMENTS

GOVERNMENT OVERHAUL – NOW EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT

- Lowered costs
- Improved productivity
- Better service delivery
- Greater employee moral

UNPRECEDENTED POLITICAL STABILITY

- Strong relationship with Commission
- Mayoral veto has not been exercised

FISCAL EXCELLENCY

- Current millage rate is the lowest in 50 years, reduced every year since elected
- Millage will be reduced further by $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mill over the next four years, resulting in \$42 million in savings
- Wall Street bond rating stand at A+, highest ever in City’s history
- Strong and sustainable level of reserves

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO POVERTY REDUCTION

- Unemployment rate has fallen from 7.3% (4/04) to 4.8% (4/05)
- Unemployment below the national average of 5.2%
- One of the nation’s top 10 generators of jobs.
- No longer the poorest city in the nation.
- 80% of eligible residents now claim Earned Income Tax Credits totaling \$125 million
- Increased access to Kid Care and protected senior citizen meals
- Small-business and micro loans have fortified the backbone of small businesses
- Workshops and fairs held regularly to improve financial literacy
- NET Offices are one-stop centers for residents to determine eligibility for benefits

ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

- Tax base has grown from \$13 billion in 2001 to \$22.5 billion in 2005
- Population has increased 10% in 3 years; contrast to the 1% growth experiences in the 1990s and the 7% total growth from 1970-2000
- \$20 billion in major projects
- 70,000 new residential units
- Over 3,000 new hotel rooms (most 4 or 5 star)
- 2.5 million square feet of office space, 5 million square feet of retail space
- Miami has been rated one of the top 5 real estate markets in the country by various agencies

AFFORDABLE HOUSING INCREASED

- City has quadrupled both funding and production of subsidized housing since 2002
- 3,000 subsidized affordable housing units completed or in production
- Nearly 17,000 privately funded workforce housing projects in production
- New plan will provide financial assistance to employees to purchase a home in the City
- Inclusionary zoning will be implemented in new Miami 21 code to create incentives for developers to build and finance affordable housing

MIAMI POLICE AN INTERNATIONAL MODEL FOR EXCELLENCY

- Crime rates decreased in every category and in every neighborhood to new lows
- One of the top five U.S. Cities in crime reduction - 60% in past five years
- Progressive policy on use of force led to a 20 month period in which police did not discharge a firearm at a civilian
- Crisis Intervention Team fielded 7000 calls in 2004 without a single incident

INCREASED NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

- Initiated ambitious agenda to improve all of Miami's neighborhoods
- Neighborhoods are safer and cleaner
- First ever Capital Improvements Plan will rebuild City's entire infrastructure
- 700 separate capital projects with a total estimated value of over \$1 billion
- No new taxes have been levied for capital improvements
- Quality of Life Task Force has tackled prostitution, gambling, abandoned cars, illegal dumping, illegal cafeterias, illegal units and unsafe structures
- Homeless population has decreased by 35%

IMPROVING EDUCATION THROUGH ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT

- Mayor's Mentoring Initiative has spread to 11 City of Miami Schools
- After-school programs offered year-round in parks
- Pursued partnerships with school board and private sector including:
Adopt a Classroom, The Miami Learning Zone, Save a Life Foundation and others

MIAMI 21 – THE MOST AMBITIOUS URBAN DESIGN PLAN EVER

- Replaces outdated zoning code with new smart code based on new urbanism principles
- Compliments code with economic development, transportation, parks and public realm, historic preservation and arts and culture

PARKS BECOMING VIBRANT CENTERS OF COMMUNITY

- Parks budget has been increased by 38%
- Centers of learning and fitness with year-round after school programs
- Announced master plans for Museum Park and Virginia Key Park
- Bridging digital divide by offering computer and internet access to residents at 37 parks

ARTS & CULTURE – NOW PART OF THE NYC-LA-MIA TRIANGLE OF ARTS AND CULTURE

- Host to the MTV Video Music Awards
- World-class Museums of Science and Art and Performing Arts Center will create hub of arts and culture in Downtown
- Host to Art Basel, the world's largest art fair; Miami Book Fair; Coconut Grove Arts Festival

SOLIDIFIED MIAMI'S STANDING IN HEMISPHERE AND THE WORLD

- Mayor's International Council continues to place Miami as the Gateway of the Americas
- Consistent pursuit to secure FTAA and passage of DR-CAFTA