



# THE MIAMI INTERMODAL CENTER NEWSLETTER

SPRING / SUMMER 2001

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## CONTACT US

To find out more about the MIC  
or to provide feedback on this newsletter,  
please contact Tasha Joseph,  
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## FROM THEORY TO REALITY

# MIC CONSTRUCTION STARTS



The MIC will be comprised of two major building elements, the consolidated Rental Car Facility and the MIC Core.

After years of planning, preparations and gaining governmental approvals, the Miami Intermodal Center is finally taking shape. In January, work began on the schematic design for the consolidated Rental Car Facility. Pre-schematic design also began on the MIC Core, the transportation hub component of the project, which is scheduled for completion in the Spring of 2005.

"We have gone from theory to reality with the Miami Intermodal Center," said Jose Abreu, the Florida Department of Transportation's District VI secretary. "Design and construction are underway. It is a very exciting time for FDOT and for our community." The MIC Facilities are comprised of two major building elements, to be built in phases, over the next six years. Set to open in mid-2004, the RCF will consolidate rental car operations in the airport, providing space for 10,000 cars. The building covers approximately 20 acres and will provide nearly 4 million square feet of space for rental operations (Ready/Return), as well as fueling and washing (Quick Turnaround, or QTA).

"The MIC Core will bring together various rail and surface transit modes, in addition to parking and future airport land side functions," said Kouroche Mohandes, FDOT program manager for the MIC. "Public concourses will link various program components and levels with each other and with the MIC Core through the MIC-MIA Peplemover terminal station, which will be like a bridge between the two buildings," Mohandes continued.

The large-scale planning elements of the RCF have been determined and finalized through the development of building plans. "The building's structure has been analyzed and multiple options developed for constructibility and cost," said Ricardo Fernandez, MIC facilities manager.

"Building systems have been evaluated and the physical space requirements have been incorporated into the design," Fernandez continued.

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# FDOT SELECTS CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT DELIVERY SYSTEM

To meet the challenging deadline for construction of the consolidated Rental Car Facility, the Florida Department of Transportation has selected the construction management at-risk system for building the project.

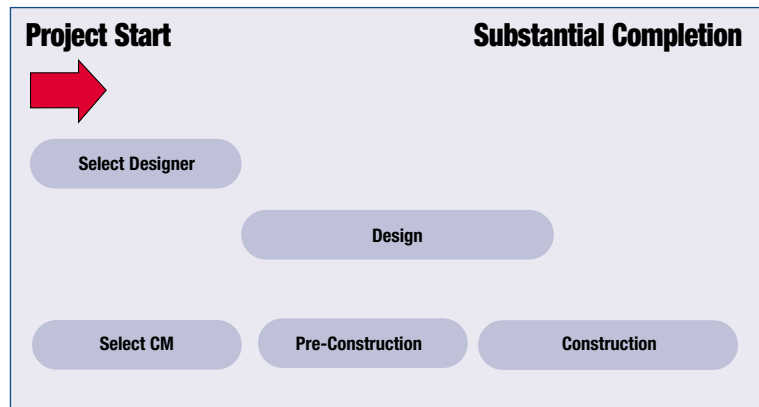
“CM At-Risk allows an entity, in this case FDOT, to contract with both a designer and a builder to get a construction project done without exceeding a maximum agreed price,” said Nick Serianni, business/financial manager for the MIC. “With this system, the risk and responsibility associated with the control and coordination of contractors and suppliers lies with the construction management company,” Serianni continued.

The CM At-Risk system is rapidly gaining popularity. According to leading construction industry journals like *Cahners*, this system allows for effective collaborations. The efficiency that results from utilizing CM At-Risk will enable FDOT to construct the MIC on time and within budget.

FDOT, assisted by the Florida Department of Management Services, began its search for the most qualified company to take on the role of the Construction Manager in January, when ads were placed in area newspapers.

“There are several qualified firms out there,” said Serianni. “With a construction program as complex as the MIC, we need to find the right company for the job.”

**CM AT-RISK:**  
*allows an entity to contract with both a designer and a builder to get a construction project done without exceeding a maximum agreed price*



**Construction Management at Risk Project Timeline**

According to Eric Wilson, vice president of EarthTech Consulting, Inc., the company hired by FDOT to oversee construction of the MIC, each firm interested in participating in the MIC was required to submit a Statement of Qualifications. From those statements we selected the most qualified firms to continue in the selection process.

Firms shortlisted in mid-March were required to prepare technical proposals by May 1. In late May oral presentations were made, the final ranking was decided, and contract and fee structure negotiations will begin with the top-ranked firm in late July, according to Wilson. He said a construction manager will be on board by August 2001.

An important aspect of the CM At-Risk selection is the company’s hiring policies. “The MIC is committed to hiring as many qualified small, minority and women-owned businesses as possible,” said Serianni. “One of the responsibilities of the

CM At-Risk is to hire minority-owned companies that will participate meaningfully in the construction of the MIC.”

The first component of MIC construction includes not only the RCF, but also associated demolition, utilities and drainage work and landscaping, all to be completed by mid-2004.

# UTILITIES WILL BE MOVED TO MAKE WAY FOR MIC CONSTRUCTION



**The MIC will work to relocate utility lines for construction**

Almost any large construction site is crisscrossed with utility lines, some visible and some underground. Within the Miami Intermodal Center site, seventeen utility providers have lines and facilities. All must all be carefully scrutinized and some may require relocation. MIC engineers, designers and planners are developing a utility master plan to identify and locate the utilities in the MIC area.

“We want to make sure we don’t cut any existing utility lines and we want to look at doing any necessary relocations before construction begins,” said Tony Acosta, MIC infrastructure manager. “Our concern is to prevent any disruption of service to adjacent areas and to avoid any construction delays.”

The MIC team has partnered with the major utility agencies, Florida Power & Light, Miami-Dade Water and Sewer, Southern Bell and City Gas to develop the master plan, and will coordinate with all seventeen of the utilities in the area to resolve whether existing lines must be relocated.

“It is a major challenge,” said Acosta. “The lines shouldn’t have to be moved twice, so they need to be safely out of the way not just of the MIC construction, but of future roadway improvements proposed by the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority and Miami International Airport.”

“Once the utility master plan is developed, joint project agreements will be signed with the various utility companies and the actual relocation will take place,” Acosta noted. “Major utility lines in the way of MIC construction will be relocated before work begins, and others will be relocated after it has started.”

# DESIGN UNDER WAY FOR MIAMI INTERMODAL CENTER ROADWAY PROGRAM



Design is well underway for one of the most complex and challenging roadway programs ever undertaken in South Florida. The Roadways Master Plan for design and construction of the network of roads that will serve the Miami Intermodal Center has been completed. Now the design of the various roadways segments has begun and should be completed by Summer 2002.

“Roadway construction is expected to be substantially complete in time for the opening of the consolidated Rental Car Facility in early 2004,” said Frank Zeinali, MIC roadways manager. “These roadways will be constructed in phases to facilitate the movement of people, goods and services in the MIC area and to provide direct access to and from State Roads 836 and 112.

Direct access will also be provided between LeJeune Road and the MIC transportation core, the RCF and Miami International Airport.

“Significant improvements will be made to existing interchanges at SR 836 and LeJeune Rd., and at LeJeune Road and NW 21 Street (Airport Blvd),” said Zeinali. “LeJeune Road between SR 836 and SR 112 will undergo reconstruction as well, and there will be a new parallel collector distributor road providing direct access to and from the MIC and the airport.”

In order to coordinate design plans and minimize impacts to the traveling public, the MIC Team coordinates with the Miami-Dade Aviation Department and the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority.

“Existing roadways in the vicinity of the MIC will also be improved to facilitate the movement of traffic during construction operations,” said Tony Acosta, MIC infrastructure manager. “Construction of the first roadway project began as scheduled in January 2001 and the MIC Team is working closely with area business owners to keep them informed of any impact on their operations due to construction activities.”

The top concerns of the MIC Team are providing easy access to the airport and maintaining the smooth flow of traffic. The team is developing a Maintenance of Traffic master plan in coordination with MDAD and MDX. The MOT Master plan will include MIA ground transportation improvements and the MDX proposed SR 836/SR112 Interconnector project.

Business owners and residents who may be affected will receive regular bulletins concerning upcoming construction. These bulletins will include information on detours and road closure as well as alternate routes. Information on the MIC Roadway Program may be obtained by contacting the Public Information Office at (305) 870-7889.

**THE CONSOLIDATED RENTAL CAR FACILITY:**  
*A facility that will house under one roof many of the rental car companies that are located in and around Miami International Airport.*

## FROM THEORY TO REALITY CONSTRUCTION OF THE MIC UNDERWAY

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“Special areas of interest in the facility, such as the exterior ramps and the customer service lobby will be cut into sections, and facades will be blocked out to arrange the building’s various elements.”

“Once the basic program requirements of the RCF facility are established in schematic design, building systems, profiles, materials, details and overall expression will be further defined during the Design Development Phase,” said Steven Thompson, program manager for the MIC. “The MIC Core effort will allow the team to further explore major planning alternatives in relation to various site schemes. The team will propose several options to be more fully defined in a subsequent schematic phase.”

**THE MIC CORE:**  
*A transportation hub that will connect local and regional forms of transportation*

## DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ESSENTIAL FOR THE MIC

Facilities as vast as the Miami Intermodal Center Rental Car Facility and the MIC Core require extensive drainage improvements. For the past year MIC engineers, designers and planners have been working in conjunction with their counterparts at the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority to develop a Drainage Master Plan. It will identify needed improvements to the area’s existing drainage.

“We are developing the Master Plan in phases,” said Tony Acosta, MIC infrastructure manager. “The first phase included a complete analysis of the existing drainage condition in the MIC area.”

According to Acosta, this comes at the request of South Florida Water Management and the Department of Environmental Research Management and will include drainage improvements proposed by the Florida Department of Transportation and MDX.

“The Master Plan will include a drainage layout showing suggested improvements to the site,” said Acosta.

**MIC DRAINAGE MASTER PLAN:** *will include a proposed drainage basin and a preliminary drainage layout showing the locations of proposed inlets, cross drains and outfall structures.*

# MIC COMMUNITY AWARENESS PROGRAM KEEPS YOU INVOLVED & INFORMED

**CONTACT CAP**  
 Vivian Cavanzo  
 CAP Coordinator 305-870-7889  
 micpip@bellsouth.net

Residents and business owners who live and work near the MIC have to be kept informed about detours, alternate routes and general traffic issues that may affect them during construction of the MIC.

The MIC Community Awareness Program is responsible for creating and disseminating Maintenance of Traffic bulletins, updates, etc. via fax and e-mail that detail detours and alternate routes that are established as a result of MIC construction. Dissemination of information will continue throughout the construction of the MIC.

CAP staff is available from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday to answer your questions about the MIC and its construction. CAP staff is also available to meet individually with residents and business owners regarding the MIC and maintenance of traffic issues.

“We are making every effort to ensure that the flow of traffic will be maintained at all times,” said Vivian Cavanzo, CAP coordinator. “Access to local businesses will continue to be maintained and detours will be provided as needed through local alternate routes. Communication with the residents and businesses that are affected by MIC construction is very important to the overall success of the project,” said Cavanzo. To find out more about CAP call (305) 870-7889.



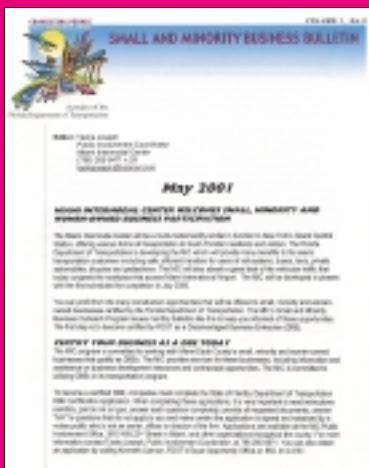
Tony Acosta, MIC infrastructure manager, answers attendees questions about the MIC

## MIC OPEN HOUSE



Kouroche Mohandes, FDOT program manager for the MIC, explains the construction phases to local residents at the open house

On January 8th, the MIC’s Public Involvement Program staff organized an open house to assist neighbors and business people who live or work in the vicinity of the MIC, inviting them to get their questions answered by MIC planners, architects and engineers who were on-hand at the event. The MIC Open House was held at the Wyndham Miami Airport Hotel and over 140 people attended.



## MIC BULLETIN INFORMS SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESSES ABOUT UPCOMING BID OPPORTUNITIES

Each month the MIC’s Small and Minority Business Outreach staff distributes a bulletin designed to keep small, minority and women-owned firms informed about upcoming opportunities to bid on MIC-related projects.

The bulletin also provides useful information about upcoming forums and events, while providing insight into the FDOT certification process and how to prepare bids. For more information, contact Tasha Joseph at (786) 265-9471.

## PROGRAM ASSISTS SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS OWNERS INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN THE MIC

South Florida's small and minority-owned business owners gathered on March 7 for a forum called *Gateway to Opportunity*, to find out how to bid on transportation and aviation-related projects, including the Miami Intermodal Center.

The forum was produced in partnership with the U.S. Department of Transportation, the MIC and Miami-Dade Community College's Wolfson Campus. It brought together representatives from those organizations, as well as Miami International Airport, the American Airlines North Terminal project, bankers, business consultants and minority business experts. It featured workshops on Disadvantaged Business Enterprise certification and bonding. There was also a session on lending conducted by Hamilton Bank.

"I was interested in how I could bid on all of these ground transportation and aviation projects," said Robert Lawkiel, owner of Direct Discount Auto Glass. "This forum helped me to understand the processes."

The forum was conducted as part of the MIC's Small and Minority Business Outreach program. Designed to notify and educate these business people about the MIC and how they can participate, the program provides monthly forums and bulletins. Information is disseminated throughout the county at MIC Outreach sites such as CAMACOL, the Black Business Association and Tools for Change. The bulletins list upcoming bid opportunities for the MIC.

"Each month, we go into the community to speak about the MIC at chambers of commerce and other meetings," said Cynthia Curry of CWC & Associates, the company hired to administer the MIC's outreach services. "FDOT is committed to hiring as many small, minority and women-owned businesses as possible for its MIC construction program. Through the SMBO program, we are able to get the word out about bid opportunities that will allow these businesses to participate."

In addition, the MIC has partnered with the Training and Employment Council of South Florida to hire people who are moving from welfare to work and place them in a construction training program designed by the MIC.

"The program will offer training in skilled jobs so participants can be placed in meaningful positions during construction," said Curry. "It will also help assure diversity in hiring."

For more information call Tasha Joseph, MIC Public Involvement Coordinator, at 786-265-9471, extension 29.



Small & minority business owners were given a briefing on doing business with the MIC

### Contact THE SMBO PROGRAM

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## WORKSHOP EXPLAINS RIGHT-OF-WAY RELOCATION PROCESS



Attendees visit the workshop exhibit area to learn more about the relocation process



EarthTech relocation specialist Patsy Masters addresses a crowd of over 100 people at the workshop

Nearly 200 people gathered at the Wyndham Airport Hotel in November for an all-day workshop on the MIC's right-of-way acquisition process. Residents and business owners alike who will be affected by construction of the MIC attended this informative workshop aimed at providing answers to their relocation questions.

"To build the first phase of the MIC, several properties need to be acquired by the Florida Department of Transportation," said Claire Tronel, Right-of-Way manager for the MIC. "The process, known as right-of-way, involves many steps and provides full protections for the businesses and residents. Those whose land is being purchased must relocate their homes or businesses to other parts of the county and will be assisted in the process every step of the way by FDOT relocation specialists."

At the workshop, business owners and residents were given a wealth of information on the relocation process.

"The workshop helped me to understand how properties were going to be acquired," said Rosa Gomez, a local resident. "It also helped me to put to rest some concerns I had about whether or not my house was going to be taken to build the MIC. It was very helpful."

The Right-of-Way Workshop brought together representatives and relocation specialists from county and city government. Leading real estate agents and lending institutions also participated, as workshop attendees asked questions about permitting, banking and other financial assistance.

"The MIC is a major and much-needed transportation project in this county," said Diane O'Quinn-Williams, director of the county's planning and zoning department. "Hundreds of people are going to be affected by its construction. We want to do everything in our power to help these residents and business owners as they relocate to other areas of the county."

The MIC has published a Right-of-Way Resource Guide, which contains helpful information about relocating your home or business if you are affected by construction of the MIC. This free guide is available by calling Soraya Fabian at 305-716-5120.

# The MIC Newsletter



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