

City Manager's Quarterly Report

Developing and Maintaining *A World Class City*



Christopher J. Russo
City Manager

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Sunny Isles Beach living is typically associated with being in paradise. Residents and visitors alike comment on the beautiful water, the sand on the beach, our beautiful parks, and the unique and beautiful architecture of this modern state-of-the-art city which has risen over the past sixteen years. All of this is achieved through hard work by many in and out of government.

The City has and will continue to build beautiful parks and improve the infrastructure and streetscape, while the development community continues to construct state of the art buildings in our City. You may have noticed we are in another building boom, both from new construction replacing the remaining old motels, and from City initiated projects on public land. From the Government, we are proud to announce that by the time you read this article, the Intracoastal Park on the south side of the city will have been completed. Our Gateway Park at the entrance to our City on Sunny Isles Boulevard is now under construction. Ultra luxury developments are now well on their way to being completed, particularly the Regalia, Mansions of Acqualina and the Chateau Beach Development.

There are eleven projects approved and in some phase of the construction process. At least eight more projects are being contemplated. Between 2000-2005, the height of the last building boom, we had twenty-five development projects either approved or under construction. Although we do not expect to see that level of activity again, the City is still moving forward with significant complex developments involving the most sophisticated construction techniques.

In keeping with our beautification plans, all new construction is required to have the public utilities undergrounded. Also, through a City-initiated project, all existing utilities will be placed underground in the next several years. Public utility connections are made at different times during the construction process. These are underground connections and usually require some traffic flow to be disrupted to accomplish the underground work. This work is mainly for the installation of the potable water lines, sanitary sewer pipes,

Progress Throughout 2014



storm drainage system, electrical service and telecommunication equipment and wiring. The City, along with the Florida Department of Transportation, requires this work to be done overnight so it does not interfere with daily traffic.

All those aspects of construction: redevelopment, the City's infrastructure improvements, landscaping, streetscape improvements, and new parks are why so many people from around the world want to visit or reside here. A word of acknowledgement should go to the development community, City staff and Commission for all of the hard work required to make our community a "World Class City".

