

**August 10, 2009**

## Miami Circle Groundbreaking Ceremony

Posted by Adam Mizrahi On August - 10 – 2009

After years of waiting and many promises, a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Miami Circle is scheduled this Friday August 14th at 5PM (5th and Brickell). Located at the corner of Brickell at the mouth of the Miami River, the new park will become yet another public space for the residents of Downtown Miami and become yet another attraction on the growing riverwalk. This scheduled groundbreaking comes in the heels of a [discussion by the Historical Museum of Southern Florida](#) and local leaders and a recently completed seawall for the site. During the ceremony, remarks will be made by Florida's Secretary of State, the Honorable Kurt Browning; City of Miami Mayor, the Honorable Manny Diaz; Rep. Luis Garcia, Jr., Florida House of Representatives, District 107; and, Spencer Crowley, Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Commissioner. A cocktail reception will follow the ceremony next door at the Viceroy Miami, 485 Brickell Avenue.

The Miami Circle Park will be a major step towards fulfilling the Miami Downtown Development Authority's Downtown Master Plan's larger vision to activate Downtown Miami's waterfront, promote a more pedestrian-friendly environment, and enhance the area's environment through beautification/greening initiatives. In addition to the park, expansion plans will include a bike path, public walkway and river walk that continues along the edge of the waterfront for public enjoyment.



Discovered in 1998, the Miami Circle site at Brickell Point is a nationally significant archaeological site located at the mouth of the Miami River in downtown Miami. Archaeological excavations at the site uncovered components of the primary village of the Tequesta, one of the first Native North American groups encountered by Juan Ponce de León in 1513. The site preserves evidence of the complex and planned architecture unique to the Tequesta, including the Miami Circle feature, which is a 38-ft (11-m) circular footprint of a prehistoric structure. In January 2008, the Historical Museum of Southern Florida (HMSF) was awarded a 44-year sublease by Florida's Department of State for management of the Miami Circle. The Miami Circle was designated Florida's 41st National Historic Landmark in January 2009 by the U.S. Department of the Interior.