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PRESS RELEASE

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## Miami Beach to Erect a New South Pointe Park Pier

Groundbreaking Ceremony of Landmark Structure is Tuesday, February 12, 9:30 a.m.

**Miami Beach, FL** – Miami Beach is synonymous with sand and surf. Next week, Miami Beach officials break ground on a new outdoor recreational pier located where the city begins at Government Cut. The new South Pointe Park Pier, when completed, will offer a new beachside experience to view marine life and beautiful scenery, and fish.

The City of Miami Beach celebrates the commencement of the project on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. at the entrance to the currently closed pier, the southeastern corner of South Pointe Park beach.

"Our vision for the pier is to provide an eco-friendly, citywide attraction that encourages environmental sustainability in our vibrant, historic community," said Miami Beach Interim City Manager Kathie G. Brooks. "We are excited to initiate the construction of the new pier -- the last remaining pier south of the Haulover inlet."

The project includes demolition of the existing pier and construction of a new pier that telescopes out in a succession of honeycomb-patterned platforms extending 450 feet from the entrance for fishing, recreation and special occasions. Also planned are a new pedestrian plaza, entry gate and shade structures and benches and the installation of viewing stations along the pier and turtle-safe lighting. Construction is scheduled to be completed in 2014. The estimated cost of the project is \$4.8 million.

The original pier, built in 1979, was a gathering place for fishing, recreation and families in Miami Beach. In 2004, the structure exhibited significant deterioration and deemed to have reached the end of its service life.

Funding sources include the Miami-Dade County Interlocal Convention Development/Resort Taxes, South Pointe Capital funds, and the South Pointe Redevelopment Agency. The project also includes grants from the Florida Intracoastal Navigation District (FIND) towards the design and construction phases of the pier.

Partner agencies include U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Coast Guard, Miami Beach Marine Authority, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, and Miami-Dade County Regulatory and Economic Resources.

The contractor is The Weitz Company and the engineer of record is Atkins of America.

Refreshments at the groundbreaking ceremony will be provided by Blissberry and Coca-Cola.

The South Pointe Park Pier is located at 1 Washington Avenue, Miami Beach.

The community outreach contact is Maria Marin, ISC PR Group, at 786.759.5770 or maria@iscprgroup.com.

For high-resolution photos/video footage of the event or more information, contact CIP Public Information Specialist Maria Palacios at <a href="mailto:mariapalacios@miamibeachfl.gov">mariapalacios@miamibeachfl.gov</a> or 305.673.7071.

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