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## **Palmetto Bay Officials Help Keep the Momentum Flowing by Attending Everglades Restoration Project Groundbreaking**



*(l to r) Environmental activist and President-Old Cutler South Neighborhood Association Beth Kibler, Palmetto Bay Mayor Eugene Flinn, Miami-Dade County Commissioner-District 8 Kati Sorenson, Palmetto Bay Councilmember Howard J. Tendrich, Chairman and Miami-Dade Representative of the SFWMD Governing Board Eric Buermann, Cutler Bay Councilwoman Peggy Bell, and Biscayne National Park Superintendent Mark Lewis.*

**PALMETTO BAY, Fla.,** (Jan. 26, 2010) – In a show of local support for restoration of the Florida Bay and Everglades, Palmetto Bay Mayor Eugene Flinn and Councilman Howard J. Tendrich, attended Today's (1/26/10) groundbreaking of the C-111 Spreader Canal project. A key component of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP), this project will restore freshwater flows to Florida Bay through Taylor Slough, preserve clean water for Everglades National Park, and maintain flood control for eastern communities, such as Palmetto Bay.

"Any day we see continued progress on Everglades restoration is a day for celebration," said Mayor Flinn.

Councilman Tendrich echoed Mayor Flinn's remarks, adding that it was, "a remarkable event highlighting intergovernmental cooperation between local, county, state, and federal bodies, all working toward this positive, successful effort."

The groundbreaking event, hosted by the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and attended by a host of federal and state partners, represents continued momentum for Everglades restoration. Florida Bay is an integral component of the Everglades ecosystem and is a valuable economic resource for the region. The groundbreaking, held along the C-111 Canal off State Road 9336 in the southwestern corner of Miami-Dade County, marks the start of construction for pump stations and other project features.

"Today's event at the C-111 adds to the anticipation of the groundbreaking of the rehydration/flow-way project at the Deering Estate in spring 2010," Flinn remarked. This restoration project, at this Miami-Dade County property within the boundaries of Palmetto Bay, is also managed by SFWMD.

SFWMD is a regional, governmental agency that oversees the water resources in the southern half of the state. The agency mission is to manage and protect water resources of the region by balancing and improving water quality, flood control, natural systems, and water supply. A key initiative is cleanup and restoration of the Everglades.

The Village of Palmetto Bay, one of South Florida's greenest communities, remains firmly committed to protecting the environment, improving quality of life, and promoting sustainability. Incorporated in 2002, this Tree City USA Community is introducing green-building standards into the construction of all present and future municipal facilities, including a Gold LEED-certified Village Hall and a new LEED-certified concession facility at Coral Reef Park. Village government is drafting legislation to encourage developers, building owners, and occupants to introduce responsible and manageable green-design features in all new and redevelopment projects within the Village.

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