

Project Becomes First Municipal Building in Miami Dade County to Receive US Green Building Council LEED® Certification

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 13, 2010 (Palmetto Bay, Florida) -- Village of Palmetto Bay's Coral Reef Park Concessions Project becomes first municipal building in Miami Dade County to receive US Green Building Council LEED® Certification. The project was designed by the award winning architectural firm of M.C. Harry and Associates. Nestled in a small grove of trees in Coral Reef Park, the project consists of a 2400sf building providing a food and beverage concession area and public restrooms accessed from an elevated outdoor seating deck which offers expansive views to the Park's active playing fields.

"While we specialize in the design of highly sustainable and technologically complex projects, projects like the Village of Palmetto Bay's Coral Reef Park Concessions Building are an opportunity to take all the resources of our firm and combine them into projects that touch the day to day lives of our community. We are extremely proud of this project and so pleased to have partnered with the Village of Palmetto Bay in bringing this project to the community" said James Piersol, AIA LEED AP, President of M.C. Harry and Associates.

LEED® is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. The US Green Building Council is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013. The Village of Palmetto Bay has made a commitment to promoting green building practices to enhance the Village's image as a good steward of Village-owned property. The Village, the Architects, Engineers and Contractor all worked collaboratively to achieve this unique recognition.

The Coral Reef Park Concessions Building achieved LEED certification for energy use, lighting, water and material use as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. By using less energy and water, LEED certified building save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

LEED certification of the Coral Reef Park Concessions Building was based on a number of green design and construction features that positively impact the project itself and the broader community. These features include:

- 45% potable water use savings
- 20% of the total building material content was manufactured using recycled materials
- 15% in energy cost savings
- 87% of the construction waste was diverted from landfills

Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO2 emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs.

ABOUT MCHARRY ASSOCIATES (ARCHITECTS) The firm of MCHarry & Associates is an award winning firm practicing in the markets of Municipal Facilities, Academic, Aviation, Commercial, Court Facilities, Hospitality, Libraries, Technical/Industrial, and Transportation. They are one of the oldest Architecture and Engineering firms in Miami and recently celebrated their 53 year anniversary. Since 1957, they have completed projects for numerous clients on a diverse range of planning and building projects. www.mcharry.com

ABOUT THE LEED RATING SYSTEM LEED is a third-party certification program and the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction and operation of high-performance green buildings. LEED gives building owners and operators the tools they need to have an immediate and measurable impact on their buildings' performance. LEED promotes a whole-building approach to sustainability by recognizing performance in five key areas of human and environmental health: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

ABOUT THE US GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) is a 501 c3 non-profit organization committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings. With a community comprising 78 local affiliates, more than 18,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 140,000 LEED Professional Credential holders, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013.