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PRESS RELEASE

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City of Miami Beach Joins the MetroLab Network *--Zika to Serve as Priority Project--*

Miami Beach, FL – Today, the City of Miami Beach officially joined MetroLab Network in partnership with Miami-Dade County, City of Miami, University of Miami, Florida International University and Miami-Dade College, under a Greater Miami and the Beaches (GMTB) collaborative.

Launched as part of the White House's Smart Cities Initiative, MetroLab Network brings together stakeholders from their membership — local government, policymakers, university researchers, industry leaders and non-profits — to connect disparate policy and research efforts that harness data-driven approaches to transform human services.

“We are thrilled to be a part of the expanding MetroLab Network,” said Miami Beach Commissioner Ricky Arriola. “Our collaborative is committed to identifying technology-enabled solutions to address the city and region’s most pressing challenges, including climate change, urbanization and globalization.”

Zika has been identified by the GMTB collaborative as the first priority project. This will include the research, development and deployment of projects and protocols to address impacts of climate-related diseases.

Additional projects identified to undertake this upcoming year, include those to mitigate coastal flooding, adapt to sea level rise and enhance resilience; and projects to increase economic prosperity for individuals and families, increase affordable housing and create multi-modal transportation options.

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