





# BEACHWALK REFORESTATION PROJECT

**SEPTEMBER 4, 2024** 

## G.O. Bond BEACHWALK REFORESTATION PROJECT

### MIAMIBEACH

- Enhance the **Beachwalk**, a key pedestrian and cyclist corridor in the Atlantic Greenway Network, by creating shade and addressing extreme heat.
- The project is funded by a United States Forest Service Urban and Community Forest Grant and a 2018 G.O. Bond, aiming to plant approximately 600 trees along the 7-mile stretch in 2024.
- Contribute to increasing the city's tree canopy from 17% to 22%.
- Community Benefits:
  - Shade & Comfort: Enhances outdoor areas for pedestrians and cyclists.
  - Heat Mitigation: Helps counter rising temperatures and improves environmental resilience.
  - Biodiversity & Conservation: Enhances the coastal hammock zone west side of dunes, increased biodiversity and improves Tree Equity Score.





### **MAY 2021**

GOB: Resident feedback highlights a need for more shade trees along the Beachwalk.

#### **JUNE 2021**

GOB: Reforestation efforts continue, reforestation for Middle Beach Beachwalk is being defined.

### **SEPTEMBER 2021**

GOB: Substantial completion of the North Beach Beachwalk, incorporating trees along dunes.

### **MAY 2022**

GOB: Middle Beach Beachwalk opened.

### **SEPTEMBER 2022**

GOB: The next phase of reforestation is the Beachwalk is discussed.

Outreach strategies discussed.

#### **APRIL 2023**

GOB: Discusses funding of planting initiatives and the Beachwalk trees.

#### **JUNE 2023**

GOB: Grant application with plans to plant approximately 600 trees along the Beachwalk.

### **JUNE 2023**

Grant application for the Beachwalk trees was approved by City

Commission

### **SEPTEMBER 2023**

1M grant award from US Forest Service for Beachwalk trees. Urban Forester creates proposed tree map on site and conducts procurement.

### **JULY 2024**

Beachwalk trees purchase approved by City Commission Project website created 16,000 postcards mailed to beachfront properties



## **Beachwalk Reforestation**

The Beachwalk reforestation effort aims to enhance one of the City's most recognized assets by creating shade and address extreme heat for this pedestrian and cyclist mobility corridor that is part of the Atlantic Greenway Network. The project is funded by both a United States Forest Service Urban and Community Forest Grant and 2018 G.O. Bond to plant approximately 600 trees along the entire seven (7) mile stretch in 2024. Additionally, the project will contribute to the City's goal of increasing the tree canopy from 17% to 22%.

Questions regarding tree locations and species should be sent to Outreach@miamibeachfl.gov by Monday, August 26, 2024.

### **SCHEDULE**

This project is expected to commence Summer 2024.

For more information please contact Kevin Pulido, Neighborhood Affairs Director, at KevinPulido@miamibeachfl.gov.



Scan the QR code to access the project page, which includes a list of tree species and additional project information.



# Project Overview and Benefits

These new trees will be a resilient addition to Miami Beach's renowned Beachwalk, enhancing aesthetics while also incorporating environmental, health and economic benefits such as:

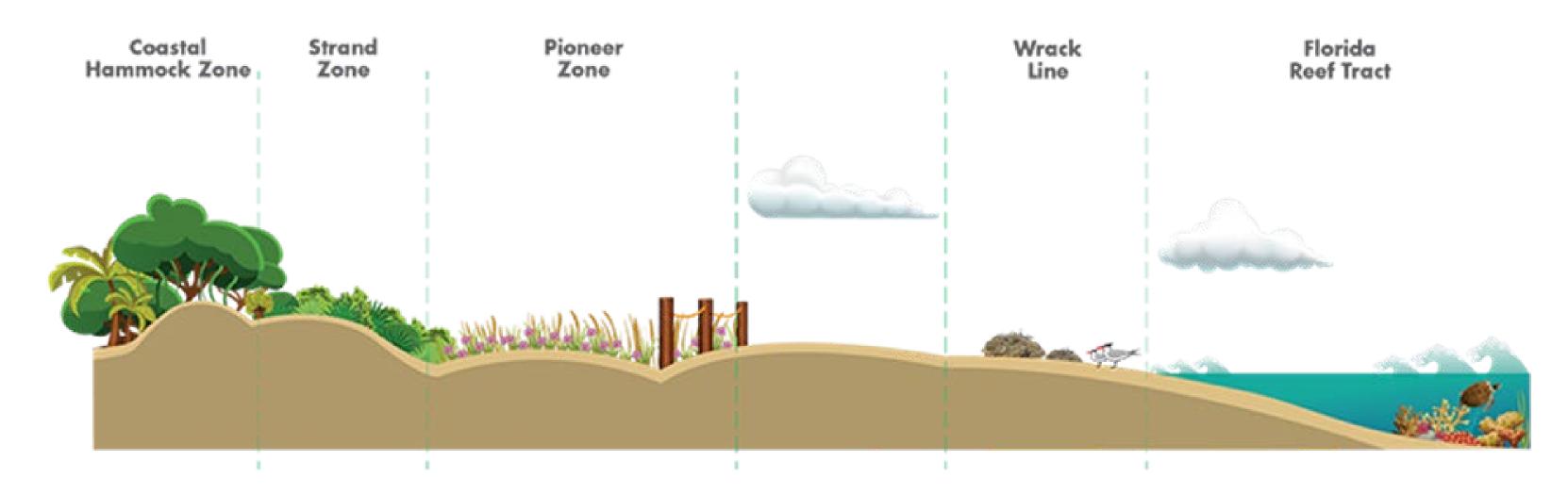
- Reduced surface temperature
- Increased biodiversity and conservation of species
- Enhanced property values
- Improved urban canopy and Tree Equity Score

Funding for this project provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program in partnership with the Hispanic Access Foundation

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### **DUNE CROSS SECTION**



**Coastal Hammock** – is a predominantly evergreen hardwood forest growing on stabilized coastal dunes lying at varying distances from the shore.

They also create wonderful habitats for native plants and wildlife, including many species of rare plants, butterflies, bees and other pollinators, and songbirds.

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# TIMELINE OF DUNE SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT AND RESTORATION IN MIAMI BEACH

1970s

1975-1980s

1980s

2000s

**TODAY** 



Initial efforts to combat beach erosion began, with early dune construction projects aimed at protecting the shoreline



usace and FDEP built a non-vegetated levee for storm protection as part of the first beach restoration efforts targeting the Miami Beach coast. The levee wore down.



Federal and State
funding was allocated
for large-scale dune
restoration with
vegetation and beach
nourishment projects.



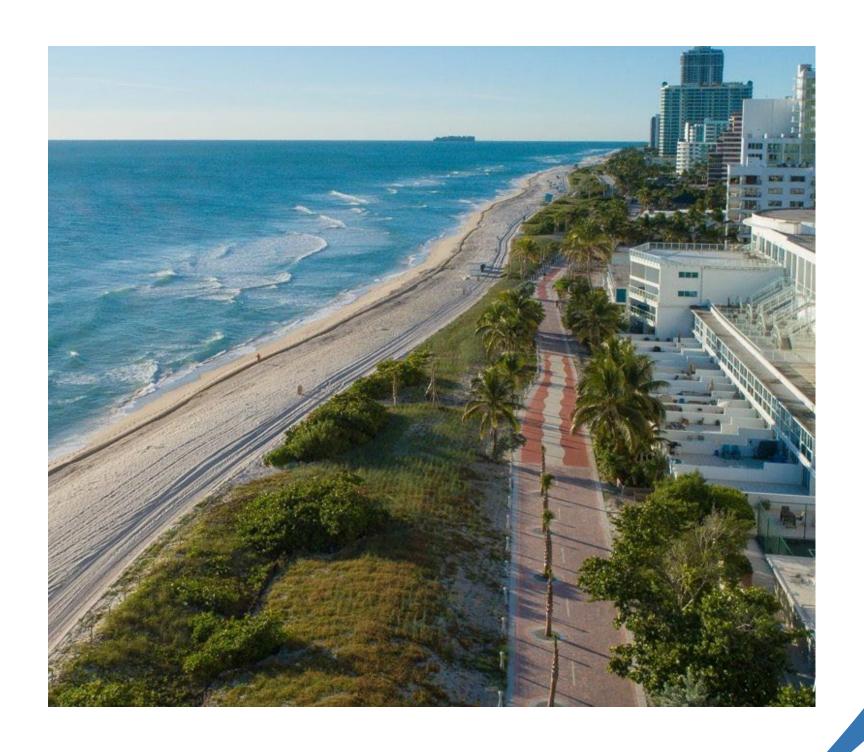
Dune Management
Plan adopted 2016
Continued maintenance
and enhancement of
the dunes, with
increased community
involvement and
volunteer programs.



Ongoing efforts to increase the resilience of the dunes, with a focus on increasing budgetary funding for dune maintenance and restoration. A healthy dune system is essential for rising sea levels and more frequent storms.

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### **DUNE PROTECTION**

Tree planting is carefully planned to support the dune system by enhancing the coastal hammock zone and introducing native vegetation.

### **UNIQUE CIRCUMSTANCE**

ecosystem and environmental challenges like storm surge, rising sea levels and extreme heat. Dune management is an essential part of the city's resilience strategy.

# VIEWSHED CONSIDERATIONS

Tree locations are chosen with proper clearance, to provide shade, and minimize obstructing views.

Trees will be maintained though the existing City's Greenspace Division contracts.

### **BIODIVERSITY**

The project is vital for providing shade and relief from intense sun, enhancing the Beachwalk experience. It also helps reduce erosion, improve beach aesthetics, and support local wildlife.

The Beachwalk's diverse tree palette includes recommendations by the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection and Dune Management Plan which refers to Institute of Regional Conservation for coastal hammock ecosystems.



- Red Bay
- Bahama Strong Bark
- Buccaneer Palm
- Jamaican Dog wood
- Lignum Vitae
- Paradise Tree
- Simpson Stopper
- Wild Tamarind
- Bahama Tabebuia

- False Mastic
- Green Buttonwood
- Green Thatch/Thatch Palm
- Gumbo Limbo
- Jamaican Caper
- Sabal Palm
- Sea Grape
- Sea Plum
- Silver Button Wood
- Keys Thatch
- Pigeon Plum

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## INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE

- MOT required for tree plantings
- Watering for 1-2 years, beginning daily, and tapering off throughout the year to establish the tree
- Trees must survive for at least 1-year, with and extended warranty option for 2-years
- Tree clearance will be maintained by PWD
   Greenspace contractors
- Annual pruning and regular monitoring by staff







# **NEXT STEPS**

- Community feedback through September
- Individual meetings with properties based on requests
  - The City is open and willing to adjust locations as feasible
- Approximate 10-week planting schedule

# **CONTACT US**

Kevin Pulido, Neighborhood Affairs Division Director Outreach@miamibeachfl.gov

### SCAN HERE TO LEARN MORE

