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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 12, 2023

## Miami Beach Set to Take Wraps Off Brittany Bay Park Living Shoreline

— A ribbon-cutting is planned for May 19 —

**Miami Beach, FL** – Members of the media and the public are invited to join Miami Beach officials for a ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, May 19 to mark the completion of the \$2.8 million Brittany Bay Park Living Shoreline project as well as extensive park upgrades.

The linear park project was made possible by the Miami Beach General Obligation Bond Program (G.O.) in partnership with The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the support of Florida Power and Light Company (FPL) through its charitable arm, the NextEra Energy Foundation.

“Living shorelines help manage coastal flooding by combining nature-based protection such as mangroves and restored wetlands with effective manmade solutions like concrete seawalls,” explained Miami Beach Mayor Dan Gelber. “This is one of the most eco-friendly tools we have for managing the threats associated with rising sea levels.”

The project marks the second green-grey infrastructure collaboration with The Nature Conservancy. FPL contributed \$150,000 to the project.

“It is always so rewarding to literally roll up our sleeves and work together with the City of Miami Beach and the Nature Conservancy – especially on such a great project that creates a resilient yet interactive living shoreline at Brittany Bay Park,” said FPL Vice President of Environmental Services Kate MacGregor. “FPL is proud to be a part of lasting improvements that will allow residents and visitors to enjoy Brittany Bay Park for many years to come.”

Living shorelines in combination with seawalls not only protect the local community from sea level rise and the impacts of severe weather conditions, but also restore and enhance natural habitats for birds, fish and other marine life, and provide important accessibility to nature for people.

“Implementing nature-based solutions like living shorelines and collaborating closely with partners and communities is critical to strengthening climate resilience,” added James Byrne, Director of Strategy, The Nature Conservancy in Florida. “We are thrilled to see the completion of this impactful project. Together, we can move forward on climate adaptation while also addressing the underlying drivers of climate change to support a resilient future.”

The Brittany Bay Park Living Shoreline is hydraulically connected to Indian Creek with an ADA-accessible scenic overlook that allows park visitors to walk from the park to the seawall. In

addition to new trees, shrubs and ground cover, all of the exercise equipment in the park was replaced with new equipment.

New walkways and lighting have also been installed along with new furnishings, benches and trash/recycle receptacles. Brittany Bay Park is located at the southernmost entrance of North Beach near the 63 Street drawbridge.

Miami Beach has approximately 55 miles of shoreline, of which about 91% falls on private property. The city's G.O. Bond has committed \$10 million toward resilient seawalls and living shorelines on public property. Work on the Brittany Bay Park Living Shoreline Project was performed by Florida Construction & Engineering, Inc.

Expanding nature-based infrastructure is a key action in the Resilient305 Strategy, a unique partnership between the City of Miami Beach, Miami-Dade County, and the City of Miami. The Brittany Bay project demonstrates how green infrastructure can be integrated into a dense urban environment and is another example of our city's commitment to implementing Biscayne Bay Task Force Report and Recommendations.

**WHAT:** Brittany Bay Park Ribbon-Cutting

**WHEN:** Friday, May 19 at 10:30 a.m.

**WHERE:** 70 Indian Creek Drive

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