

JAVIER A. BETANCOURT, AICP

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Community Leader

Strategic Thinker / *Visionary* / *Consensus Builder*

Highly qualified and accomplished community leader with advanced knowledge and understanding of public policy, and a broad base of expertise in public administration, urban planning, transportation, economic development, marketing/PR and governmental affairs. Visionary, creative, and results-oriented team leader with particular strengths in strategic analysis, consensus building, and problem solving. Demands a high level of integrity, productivity, and passion for public service from himself and his team.

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Miami-Dade County Miami, FL Executive Director, Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT)	2018 – Present
City of Coral Gables Coral Gables, FL Director, Economic Development Department	2015 – 2018
Miami Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Miami, FL Deputy Director	2008 – 2015
City of Coral Gables Coral Gables, FL Principal Planner, Planning Department	2005 – 2008
South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC) Hollywood, FL Regional Planner / DRI Coordinator	2002 – 2005
Office of U.S. Senator Bob Graham Washington, D.C. Deputy Press Secretary	2000 – 2002
Georgetown University Washington, D.C. Project Manager, Office of Public Affairs	1999 – 2000

COMMUNITY & PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Member	2012 - Present
Member, Board of Directors	2012 – 2015; 2018 - Present
Chair, Strategic Partnerships Committee	2014 – 2015
Vice-Chair, Govt. Affairs Committee	2012 – 2014
Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce Member	2015 - Present
Member, Board of Directors	2015 - 2017
Urban Land Institute (ULI) Member, Public Private Partnership Council	Active
Friends of The Underline Member, Board of Advisors	Active
Miami-Dade MPO Member, Beach Corridor Transit Study Steering Committee	2013 – 2015
Member, Bicycle-Pedestrian Advisory Committee	2009 – 2011
Miami River Commission Member, Board of Directors	2008 – 2015
Downtown Miami Charter School Member, Board of Directors	2009 – 2015
Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee Chair	2007 – 2008
American Planning Association Member (AICP certified)	2002 - Present

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Leadership & Public Administration

- Currently lead Miami-Dade County's Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT) – with 9 employees, 15-member Board of Trustees and \$2.5M operating budget – with primary responsibility for oversight of \$250M in annual surtax revenues and implementation of the People's Transportation Plan; directly supervise all of the CITT's function areas, including administration, budget & accounting, strategic & financial planning, project & financial review, governmental affairs and community outreach
- Recently led Economic Development Department -- with 6 employees, 2 advisory boards, and \$1M+ budget -- for premier, full-service municipal government, with responsibility for business retention/expansion/recruitment, and management of the City's real estate assets
- Led a public planning and economic development agency -- with 22 employees, 15-member Board of Directors and \$8M budget -- charged with growing, strengthening and promoting Downtown Miami; supervised all of the DDA's program areas, including urban planning & transportation, economic development, marketing/PR, enhanced services, and community/governmental relations
- Dramatically improved leadership teams and staffing through the strategic recruitment of key personnel and installation of performance management, accountability and training systems
- Oversaw transformation of DDA's fiscal/accounting protocols and procedures after years of financial mismanagement under previous administration, resulting in six consecutive years of balanced budgets and clean audits, and the renewal of community trust and support for the organization
- Cultivated excellent working relationships with various governing bodies, including CITT Board of Trustees, Miami-Dade BCC, City of Coral Gables Commission, and DDA/SFRPC Board of Directors

Economic Development

- Re-focused the City of Coral Gables Economic Development Department's efforts on strategic business recruitment, creative marketing, and business climate initiatives
- Oversaw several real estate initiatives for the City of Coral Gables, including the purchase of the historic H. George Fink Studio, purchase of several parcels for parks and parking lots, recruitment of Starbucks into City-owned retail space, a complex land-swap to facilitate the development of a new public safety building, and an RFP to redevelop municipal parking garages into a mixed-use project
- Oversaw the DDA's strategic partnership with the University of Miami and Miami-Dade Entrepreneurial Development Organization for the Venture Hive incubator program

Urban Planning & Transportation

- Developed and oversaw implementation of the DDA's 2025 Downtown Miami Master Plan, which guides growth, development and investment throughout Downtown Miami
- Oversaw key elements of iconic streetscape makeovers for Miracle Mile/Giralda Plaza and Flagler Street
- Spearheaded and oversaw several DDA efforts to promote alternative transportation solutions, including the AirportLink, Baylink, Tri-Rail extension, Brightline, Metromover enhancements, development of the City of Miami trolley, Cars-to-Go, CityBike, and several other projects
- Oversaw the Miami Downtown Development of Regional Impact (DRI), which serves as the master development order for all development within downtown
- Developed, administered, interpreted and/or reviewed comprehensive plans and DRIs for multiple regional, county and city governments throughout the region; served as DRI Coordinator for SFRPC

Intergovernmental Affairs & Public Relations

- Serve(d) as liaison to various planning, transportation, and economic development related organizations at all levels of government, including the Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), Department of Transportation & Public Works (DTPW), City/County planning departments, various economic development organizations, the South Florida Regional Planning Council, FDOT and FDEO.
- Regularly engage and present before various community groups and the media, including presentations to elected/appointed officials, business groups and residents; authored publications, press releases, & op-eds.
- Oversee(saw) advocacy/intergovernmental efforts for various entities, including development and execution of legislative agendas, oversight of lobbyists, and participation in federal/state lobbying missions
- Oversaw all television, radio, and online media efforts for U.S. Senator Bob Graham

EDUCATION & LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Florida Atlantic University Ft. Lauderdale, FL Masters in Urban & Regional Planning	2002 – 2004
Georgetown University Washington, D.C. Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service	1995 – 1999
Florida International University Miami, FL High Potential Leader Program	2012
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Miami, FL Leadership Miami graduate	2010

RECOGNITION

The Achiever <i>Miami Today</i>	2018
Real Estate Achievers & Leaders (REAL) Award Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce	2016
Economic Development Award Miami Association of Realtors	2015
Award of Excellence: Flagler Streetscape Project American Planning Association, Gold Coast Chapter	2014
Award of Excellence: Downtown Miami Preservation Development Toolkit American Planning Association, Gold Coast Chapter	2013
Public Sector Organization of the Year Award American Society for Public Administration (ASPA), South Florida Chapter	2012
40 Under 40 Award <i>South Florida Business Journal</i>	2012
South Florida Planning Award for Outstanding Individual Contribution Florida Atlantic University	2011
Unsung Hero of the Year Award <i>Miami Today</i>	2010
Urban Designer of the Year Award American Institute of Architects (AIA), Miami Chapter	2009
Distinguished Public Service Award Miami-Dade Planners Technical Committee	2008

SKILLS & CERTIFICATIONS

- AICP (American Institute of Certified Planners) certification 2008 – Present
- Knowledge and experience in organizational leadership, including strategic management, external affairs, accounting, budgeting, purchasing, supervision, human resources, and information technology
- Skilled in all elements of strategic planning, including data analysis, visioning, idea generation, consensus-building, metrics, product development, execution, and evaluation
- Knowledge, experience and training in emergency management and disaster recovery
- Excellent communication, presentation and interpersonal skills
- Spanish fluency: Intermediate (speaking, reading, understanding), Basic (writing)