

City approves \$23M beautification project



The renovation project could kick off later this year.

ZYSCOVICH ARCHITECTS, CURTIS + ROGERS DESIGN STUDIO AND MANA MIAMI

By [Matthew Arrojas](#) – Reporter, South Florida Business Journal
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Miami commissioners have approved \$23 million in funding to relaunch the beautification of Flagler Street in the city's Central Business District.

The money will be used to widen sidewalks with cafe seating, add a centralized valet parking center and create a "curbless" streetscape, among other improvements.

The goal is to make the street another Miami hub for retail and restaurants and enhance the pedestrian experience, said [Ken Russell](#), chair of the Miami City Commission and Miami Downtown Development Authority.

The project could move forward by the end of 2019 and continue for two years.

"Downtown Miami's Central Business District is experiencing a surge of new residents, businesses and investments, with a revamped Flagler Street poised to become a catalyst for continued growth," Russell said.

The city awarded the contract to Deerfield Beach-based Lanzo Construction. The beautification project originally kicked off in 2016 with the Miami-based contractor FH Paschen behind it, but progress quickly stalled after logistical difficulties and the city fired FH Paschen in 2017.

"We're thrilled we finally have the city's approval for the much-needed funding," said Flagler Business Improvement District Director [Terrell Fritz](#). "Given uncertainty regarding the streetscape project, businesses throughout the Flagler District were challenged by the delay. The vacancy rate on Flagler Street is higher than where we would want it to be, but there's a lot of interest coming in."



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A map of the Flagler District boundaries.

COURTESY OF FLAGLER BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Fritz outlined a few concepts coming to the district in Downtown Miami:

- Over/Under – 155 E. Flagler St.
- Biscayne Brewing Co. – 100 N.E. 1st Ave.
- Margot Natural Wine & Aperitivo Bar – 25 S.E. 2nd Ave.
- Food hall/entertainment venue (not specified) – 200 E. Flagler St.
- BrewPub concept (not specified) – 169 E. Flagler St.
- Miami International University of Art and Design – S. Miami Ave.

Real estate developer Moishe Mana proposed the design for the revamped Flagler Street, and Miami-based Zyscovich Architects designed it. Mana owns multiple properties in the Flagler district.

The city of Miami, Miami-Dade County and the Downtown Development Authority are working together to fund the project. The city commission voted unanimously to approve the funding, according to the city of Miami's clerk.