

South Florida BUSINESS JOURNAL

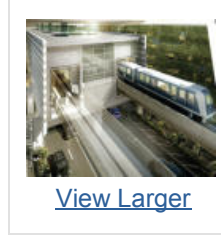
Monday, March 2, 2009, 9:45am EST | Modified: Monday, March 2, 2009, 5:30pm

MIA Mover breaks ground

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Transportation officials broke ground Monday morning on MIA Mover, a \$342 million light-rail people-mover system.

When complete, the system will have two station stops and will connect the **Miami International Airport** terminal with the Miami Intermodal Connector (MIC) – a ground transportation hub that includes transfers to regional rail, bus and rental car services.



It will be built and operated by the **Miami-Dade Aviation Authority**. The MIC station has a scheduled completion date of 2010, and the MIA Mover is slated to be operational in 2011.

Construction will be paid for with revenue from airport operations, airline fees and state funding. The total cost of the construction contract is \$259 million, with the **Florida Department of Transportation** providing \$100 million and the balance coming from bond revenue from the **Miami-Dade Aviation Department's** Capital Improvement Program.

The project is expected to generate 500 jobs, according to construction company **Odebrecht** and joint-venture partner **Parsons**. The two have committed more than \$34 million to hiring small- and medium-size subcontractors and consultants for the project.

"We are proud to be given the task of building a project that will further improve Miami-Dade's infrastructure, help boost the economy by creating jobs, support small businesses and contribute to decongesting traffic at the airport – all of which contribute to a sustainable community," said Gilberto Neves, Odebrecht's CEO in the U.S., in a news release.

The dual elevated guideways will run 1.27 miles, eventually linking the airport to Amtrak, Tri-Rail and Metrorail.

The MIA Mover will also provide transportation to airline workers commuting into MIA. It is projected to transport 48,000 daily visitors by 2020.