

## It's Time to Walk the Walk

Written by Christian Cipriani -- BT Contributor  
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### Imagine 15 miles of public walkway along Biscayne Bay and the Miami River

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After decades of wishful thinking and false starts, portions of a waterfront esplanade linking Miami's bayfront neighborhoods are slowly falling into place amid renewed governmental and public support.

Last month the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce hosted a presentation by Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk, a founding principal of urban planning firm Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company (DPZ) and longtime dean of the University of Miami School of Architecture (she recently relinquished that position after 18 years).

At the luncheon she shared highlights from the School of Architecture's 84-page *On the Waterfront* study, which outlines plans for a continuous 15-mile walkway along Biscayne Bay. It would stretch from Alice Wainwright Park, just below the Rickenbacker Causeway, to the north end of Edgewater, with a deep diversion inland along the banks of the Miami River.

Among the most vocal supporters at the luncheon were members of the hospitality industry. It's in their interest, she noted, for tourists to walk out of hotels and interact with the water, rather than just hop in a taxi. Moving with great urgency is a Miami hallmark; a baywalk would bring the lost art of calm wandering not only to visitors but also to locals.

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