

J O B S A V A I L A B L E

The Port of Miami tunnel

The Miami Times Staff Report

Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Chairman Richard P. Dunn, Omni CRA Chairman Marc D. Sarnoff, and Midtown Chair Francis Suarez, joined Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado, CRA Board Members Wilfredo "Willy" Gort and Frank Carollo, Miami-Dade Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson, CRA Executive Director Pieter Bockweg and Miami Access Tunnel Vice President Christopher Hodgkins in welcoming applicants at an open Tunnel job recruiting session.

Representatives from the University of Miami Life Science and Technology Park, on hand, focused on skilled trade construction positions like roofers, drywall, and electric. Sponsored by the Miami CRA, the event was held Sept. 3 at the Ninth Street Pedestrian Mall in Overtown. The job recruiting session was part of the CRA sponsored Folk Life Friday, an event designed to promote businesses within the CRA boundaries.

"It is vital to the CRA that the new jobs are a mirror of the community which is contributing to this project," Dunn said.

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Miami Commissioner Richard P. Dunn II greets LaQuanda Macklin who is a recent hire to the tunnel project.

—Photo / Jorge Perez

New construction project promises job creation

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"Once the construction is complete, many more new job opportunities will be created when the new tunnel is combined with the arrival of larger ships made possible by the port dredging project."

The Miami CRA is facilitating \$50 million toward the construction of the tunnel, which will connect the Port of Miami to Watson Island. The grand

struction in 2011, more than 300 new jobs will be generated.

"Once the construction is complete, many

Dunn said.

A dozen local residents have already been hired, with many more to come.

"During these hard economic times, people from this community need jobs more than ever."

—COMMISSIONER AUDREY EDMONSON

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"These employees will also be fully trained by the project management team, which means once the construction is complete they will be ex-

perienced and able to embark on a new stage to their careers," says Omni CRA Chairman Sarnoff.

Miami-Dade Commissioner Audrey M. Edmonson shared about the importance of this project.

"During these hard economic times, people from this community need jobs more than ever," she added. "I am pleased that the residents will have greater opportunities for meaningful em-

ployment within our community."

With Overtown being a community often neglected, Dunn insisted creating jobs in the community would be a continuing effort.

"I am expecting real jobs for our residents, not rhetoric from developers, their construction teams or employers," Dunn said. "These jobs are a good start, but there must be many more to follow."



AUDREY EDMONSON
Miami-Dade Commissioner

opening of tunnel is slated for May 15, 2014 but at the peak of con-

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