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Oct 22, 2009 11:44 pm US/Eastern

Commission Approves "Miami 21" Plan

4-1 Vote Passed The Plan



Lisa Cilli E-mail MIAMI (CBS4) — With a 4-1 vote Thursday night, the Miami City Commission passed a zoning plan that promises to put more pedestrian friendly spaces in the city--known as the Miami 21 plan.

City of Miami commissioners had their final reading and vote on the Miami 21 Plan, a sweeping overhaul of the city of Miami's zoning codes that promise people-friendly development and transit friendly neighborhoods.

The goal is to integrate homes with retail business as other major metropolitan cities, like New York and Chicago, have done.

Supporters said it would see stark urban landscapes transformed into inviting, people friendly, pro-pedestrian places. Critics worry the controversial zoning ordinance may hinder high rises and violate property rights.

Mayor Manny Diaz had made passage of Miami 21 a priority, hoping to win approval of the plan before he leaves office this year.

In a press release Thursday he said, "This is a proud day for the City of Miami. I thank the Miami Commission for adopting Miami 21, our blueprint for a sustainable, prosperous Miami. For the first time in our City's history, we have a plan to guide reasoned, pedestrian-friendly, sustainable growth."

Miami 21 replaces the existing zoning code known as 11000 and is expected to go into effect 120 days from adoption.



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