Cultural Affairs
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Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor

MIAMI-DADE ART IN PUBLIC PLACES
PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC)
MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 22,2026
10:00AM – 5:15PM, EST

PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PAC) MEMBERS

Melissa Hunter Davis, Editor, Sugarcane Magazine
Claudia Busch, Founding Principal, Berenblum Busch Architects
Wanda Texon, New World School of the Arts

PROJECT SITES, AUTHORITY, PHASE

- UPLAND PARK, PLAYGROUND AREA. MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS (DTPW), ARTIST RECOMMENDATIONS
- 9TH STREET PEDESTRIAN MALL, GARY MOORE, MIAMI-DADE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS, DEACCESSION

LOCATION

111 NW 1st Street, Suite 625, South Conference Room (Inspiration Room)
Zoom Webinar

ATTENDEES

Carol Damian	APP Trust, Chair
Bianca González LoCicero	APP Collection Manager
Miguel Juncal	Miller Legg
Andrew Pereda	Miller Legg
Daniel Reyes	Terra Group
Patricia Romeu	APP Chief
Jordan Shayne	Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW)
Amanda Sanfilippo Long	APP
Veronica Vera	APP

Patricia Romeu, APP Program Chief called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM on Thursday, October 22, 2026.

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UPLAND PARK, DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS (DTPW)
Following a welcome and introductions of APP team members and the Professional Advisory Committee members (PAC), Ms. Sanfilippo Long invited a project overview from the client team, including Jordan Shayne, Manager, Joint Development & Real Estate Coordination for DTWP, and Miguel Juncal and Andrew Pereda of Miller Legg, the project consulting firm providing engineering, planning, landscape architecture and urban design for the project. As presented by Daniel Reyes of Terra Group, the developer working in conjunction with DTPW, Upland Park is South Florida's first master-planned community, purpose-built for integration with Miami-Dade's planned East-West transit corridor. Part of Miami-Dade County SMART Plan, this groundbreaking project utilizes transit-supportive land uses to create ample open space for holistic living and working environments at market rate. Upland Park Phase 1 will comprise 1,062 garden-style apartment residences. Once completed, Upland Park will become the largest Transit Oriented Community (TOC) in Miami-Dade County to date, generating over one billion dollars in revenue for Miami-Dade County from a 90-year development and land-lease agreement. The multi-phased development will include more than 2,000 mid-rise and garden-style multifamily apartments, approximately 282,000 square feet of retail, and about 414,000 square feet of commercial space. Phase One A and B, are in the final phase of construction, encompassing a total of 578 multifamily apartments and are slated for delivery in late 2026.

Upland Park Phase 1B consists of 484 units and Upland Park 1A consists of 578 units. Each phase will provide a significant number of residential units within walking distance of the Dolphin Station Park & Ride facility. In addition to its transportation system connection appeal, the development will provide pocket parks with recreational activities, and lush landscaping methodically placed throughout the development. It was envisioned that a pooled shortlist of artists would be invited to consider multiple opportunities across both phases of Upland Park:

Since project initiation, APP engaged the client team in ongoing conversations regarding the opportunities for public art, revolving around three (3) main areas: Playground Area (Phase 1B), Fence and Gateways (Phase 1A), and free-standing sculpture / earthwork (Phase IB). An artist orientation meeting took place on September 9, 2026 to present opportunities to artists drawn from the overall roster of 32 artists shortlisted for Upland Park for the Fence and Gateway and Playground area group. An additional orientation will provide guidance to the sculpture and earthwork group.

Subsequently, (8) local and national artists drawn from the Upland Park artist roster as recommended by the PAC on June 18, 2026 presented their proposals for the playground area including:

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1. R & R Studios
2. Wade and Leta
3. Jillian Mayer
4. Emmett Moore
5. Germane Barnes
6. STEREOTANK: Ertorteguy, Marcelo & Valente, Sara
7. Friends with You
8. Katie Stout

After thoughtful discussion with input from the client teams, APP Trust, and staff, the PAC unanimously made the following recommendations:

STEREOTANK: Ertorteguy, Marcelo & Valente, Sara
Miami Beach-based artist collaborative Stereotank (lead artist Marcelo Ertorteguy) was recommended as the PAC's top choice to pursue their commission concept "*Upland Tree Island Playground."* The concept proposes a large-scale sculptural structure rising from the ground and opening into a broad, branching canopy that evokes the tree islands of the Everglades. The structure is intended to feature lighting elements with the design, and utilize durable exterior materials such as natural rubber, gravel, microperforated metal sheeting, concrete, recycled aluminum, composite wood, structural steel, and Glass Fiber Reinforce Concrete (GFRC) cladding. Native plantings and shade trees are proposed for all planters and seating areas.

The sculpture's curved supports and layered overhead ribs create a sequence of spaces: exposed and sheltered, open and enclosed, active and quiet. Children as well as adults can climb its surfaces, pass through its openings, and discover different routes across and through the structure. Around it, places to sit and gather are nestled among planted areas that extend across the site. Both the structure and the surrounding landscape are inspired by the tree islands of the Everglades: elevated formations of woody vegetation and dry ground that emerge from the wetlands, creating distinctive habitats that support rich biodiversity by providing refuge, food, and nesting sites for wildlife. Together, the sculptural form and planted landscape reinterpret these ecological formations as a contemporary landscape for play, gathering, and connection to South Florida's living ecological heritage.

Germane Barnes (Alternate)
As a secondary option, Miami-based artist Germane Barnes, was recommended for his concept *"Scoops of Fun"*, a comprehensive playground design including sculptures, seating elements, covered pavilions, and hardscapes inspired by the universal love for "Ice Cream." Rooted in the nostalgia of the neighborhood ice cream truck jingle playing down the street, summer afternoons, and shared moments of joy, the proposal reimagines familiar ice cream samples as sculptural play elements that invite exploration across generations. More than a playground, the proposal creates a vibrant civic space where

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childhood memories are made, rediscovered, and shared. At the heart of the design is a distinctive shade structure inspired by frozen popsicles. Providing generous shade and comfortable places to gather, the structure becomes both the visual centerpiece of the playground and a welcoming refuge from the heat. Additional seating and places to rest ensure that caregivers, grandparents, and visitors of all abilities can comfortably participate in the life of the space, whether actively playing or simply enjoying the atmosphere while supervising their children. A colorful field of ground pavers draws from the rich palette of ice cream flavors—from strawberry pink and pistachio green to vanilla cream, chocolate brown, and citrus orange. These colors establish a cohesive visual identity while creating a lively ground plane that connects the individual play elements into a unified landscape.

APP will work with the client team and artist to identify the final project scope and placement within schedule and budget.

Deaccession Recommendation, Ninth Street Pedestrian Mall
Gary Moore, Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs

APP Program Chief Patricia Romeu and APP Collection Manager Bianca González LoCicero indicated that that the Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency ("SEOPW CRA"), a quasi-governmental agency in the City of Miami, charged with the elimination of slum and blight in Overtown, had approached APP with the request for the demolition and removal of APP collection artwork *"Ninth Street Pedestrian Mall"*, completed in 1995, by artist Gary Moore. The work known as *"NW 9th Street Pedestrian Mall"* runs from NW 2nd Avenue to NW 1st Court (Metrorail), and under Metrorail from NW 8th Street to NW 10th Street. The site (NW 9thST) is a Right-of-Way closed to vehicular traffic under the jurisdiction of the City of Miami.

The request for the artwork removal comes as result of the CRA's proposal for the *"Crown of Overtown,"* a new community project that intends to redevelop this corridor into a comprehensive pedestrian area with amenities for visitors. The entire project site will undergo a complete transformation exceeding a $20 million investment by the SEOPW CRA, including public art components (see attached project renderings). Permitting for the work will begin in late 2026 with the goal of completing construction by December 2027. The current location of the artwork is a significant portion of the area slated for redevelopment.

In the early 1990's artist Gary Moore collaborated with landscape architect Gerald Marston of Wallace Roberts & Todd in the creation of the *Ninth Street Pedestrian Mall,* a then innovative infrastructure project located in Overtown, the historic heart of

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Miami's African-American community. Inspired by African Kente textile weavings, the main plaza featured a vibrant pattern of oranges, yellows, blues, and greens in rustic terrazzo and traditional color pavers. Seating and whimsical lighting elements punctuate the space. Large bronze relief medallions inset in the plaza floor (temporarily removed) document, commemorate, and celebrate the history and heritage of the Overtown Community. Future planned additions, but never realized, included streetscapes for the historic Overtown Folklife Village, a multi-use performance plaza for the Lyric Theater, and a sculptural Overtown Tower. The Ninth Street Mall was awarded the 1995 Design for Transportation Merit Award by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Ms. Romeu and Ms. González LoCicero noted that this artwork was not implemented through the APP commissioning program, but rather as a collaboration of the APP program with the City of Miami and the CRA at the time, and that no maintenance funds, nor plan or agreement for maintenance was ever put in place at the time of the commission. Without dedicated funding nor a responsible party for conservation, the artwork has been neglected over time with many of the original elements being removed, lost, and or damaged beyond repair. The CRA has made a commitment to reengage the artist for inclusion in the revisioning of this redeveloped public area. Given the current state of disrepair of the artwork, APP staff recommends its deaccession under the APP Accession and Deaccession Policy criteria:

2.2.4 SITE ALTERATION. For site-integrated or site-specific artworks, the site for which the artwork was specifically created is structurally or otherwise altered and can no longer accommodate the artwork, is made publicly inaccessible as a result of new construction, demolition, or security enhancement, or has its surrounding environment altered in a way that significantly and adversely impacts the artwork.

After thoughtful discussion the PAC unanimously recommended deaccessioning the artwork "Ninth Street Pedestrian Mall" by Gary Moore from the APP collection.

With no further business, the meeting of the PAC was adjourned at 5:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda Sanfilippo Long
Art in Public Places Curator and Artist Manager