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## PRESS RELEASE

# Mayor Proclaims March Bicycle Action Month

## *Invites Everyone to Bike Miami Days, Saturday, March 14*

(Miami, FL)- Mayor Manny Diaz opened the regular meeting of the City Commission today with a **Proclamation to recognize the month of March as Bicycle Action Month**. Standing at the dais with members of his Bicycle Action Committee, the Mayor cited significant strides made in the last year to promote bicycling in Miami, including the Commission's unanimous support for the City's first Bicycle Action Plan and the successful monthly event, Bike Miami Days.

"Last year, it was a sincere pleasure to stand before this Commission with a vision of making Miami a city where residents and visitors feel welcomed and safe riding on bicycles," said Mayor Diaz. "I am proud of the strides we have made since then, and I invite all residents to participate in our monthly Bike Miami Days event."

The Bicycle Action Month Proclamation cites the values of bicycling for reducing the impacts of motor vehicle traffic and the accompanying toxic emissions, the promise to make our urban environment more livable, the opportunity granted by cycling to improve the health and wellbeing of residents while enhance Miami's reputation as a beautiful and accessible tourist destination.

The City of Miami Bicycle Action Plan discusses the expansion of safe bicycle routes, facilities, and education programs for the safe and convenient accommodation of beginner, intermediate, and advanced cyclists.

Bike Miami Days is an initiative by Mayor Diaz to promote bicycling, livable streets and the growing urban neighborhood of Downtown, Miami. The event closes down major thoroughfares of Downtown, Miami, so that bikers, skaters, and pedestrians can travel freely and safely. The first four Bike Miami Days have brought thousands of people to the heart of the city.

**The next Bike Miami Days will be held on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.**

For a full list of activities, street closures, and the complete map for the Bicycle Action Month event, please visit [www.bike-miami.com](http://www.bike-miami.com).

*Proclamation Duplicated Below:*

# Proclamation

## THE CITY OF MIAMI, FLORIDA

**WHEREAS:** The City of Miami values bicycling as one means of reducing the impact of motor vehicle traffic and the accompanying toxic emissions, a decrease that promises to make our urban environment more livable, to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents and to enhance Miami's reputation as a beautiful and accessible tourist destination; and

**WHEREAS:** The Mayor's Bicycle Action Committee has launched "Bike Miami Days," a successful monthly initiative that promotes livable streets, bringing thousands of people to Downtown Miami to explore the City in a new and exciting way in an effort to make Miami a healthier, environmentally smarter and more congenial place to live; and

**WHEREAS:** The Fifth in a series of "Bike Miami Days," to be held on March 14, calls attention to Miami's perfect cycling weather during each of the four seasons and urges both residents and visitors to consider bicycling for recreation, fitness and transportation; and

**WHEREAS:** It is fitting and appropriate that local authorities, on behalf of the citizens of the City of Miami, pause in our official deliberations to issue this call for increased bicycle usage, providing an opportunity to promote health and wellness and environmental consciousness;

**NOW, THEREFORE:** I, Manuel A. Diaz, Mayor of the City of Miami, Florida, do hereby proclaim the month of March in the year 2009, as

## **BICYCLE ACTION MONTH**

**IN OBSERVANCE THEREOF:** I call upon all residents of the City of Miami to join me in the observance of this important occasion that promotes an elevated quality of life; further, I urge the embrace of partnerships and programs that encourage bicycling as a physical activity.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF:** I hereunto set my hand and cause the seal of the City of Miami to be affixed.

**DONE:** In the Office of the Mayor of the City of Miami, Florida.

February 26, 2009

  
Manuel A. Diaz, Mayor

