

NEW WORLD CENTER COMMITTEE

Back in the mid-1980s, Alvah H. Chapman, then-publisher of the Miami Herald and an iconic local leader and Greater Miami Chamber Board Chair, understood that with the expansion of Latin America as a global market and Asia beginning to show signs of becoming an economic powerhouse, Miami was geographically well placed to be the new center of the world. Alvah established the New World Center Committee and put much of that vision in place that shaped our urban core and led to the downtown we enjoy today. Now, 40 years later New World Center Committee works to address the big-picture issues that impact and shape the urban core of today and the next 40 years.

MISSION:

Today's New World Center Committee members still focus on projects with catalytic influence on downtown projects in the public and private sectors, focusing on issues that affect the quality of life and economic development.

OBJECTIVES:

- Guide the future growth of Downtown Miami for the next 40 years to not lose the gains made working with both public and private sectors and other partners active in this area, such as the Downtown Development Authority
- Celebrate Miami's central business core's growth and development and overall improvement of key areas within of Downtown Miami
- Promote and support up-and-coming urban transportation nodes within the Urban core provide best quality of life for residents and attract major business with a focus on new economy/tech sector businesses

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Participation in the New World Center Committee is open to all chamber members who have interests or concerns in this arena. Committee members include a broad range of professionals, real estate professionals, urban-based businesses, schools, incubators and individuals, along with educational and civic organizations.

LEADERSHIP:

The New World Center Committee is led by a Committee Chair and Vice Chair, who are elected by the Board of Directors for a one-year term. The Committee Chairman is responsible for the effective functioning of the New World Center Committee and ensuring its goals and activities are aligned with the committee's mission and objectives.

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2023-2024 NEW WORLD CENTER COMMITTEE GOALS

- Help steer and inform the pending Downtown Miami Master Plan & Development of Regional Impact (DRI)
- Host a special program on Miami 2050 in partnership with Technology & Innovation Committee
- Host our 9th annual Alvah H. Chapman Jr. Awards of Excellence and grow sponsorship by 10%
- Continue to advocate for the Underdeck (a.k.a. Miami Overtown Greenway: The HEART of Miami) and participate in the Underdeck committee
- Grow and engage the committee by organizing tours and forums that focus on key areas such as Parcel B, Bayfront Park, and the history of Flagler Street.
- Seek new opportunities and leverage the Miami-Dade College Wolfson Campus initiatives for workforce development training.

Javier Betancourt, Chair

Executive Director, Citizens' Independent Transportation Trust (CITT)
Miami-Dade County