



DOWNTOWN MIAMI BECOMING POPULAR RESIDENTIAL AREA

By Sasha Andrade

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MIAMI -- If you work in downtown Miami and you're interested in juggling a post-graduate education, Florida International University is making the commute convenient.

FIU is opening a campus at 1101 Brickell Ave.

"We are at the right place at the right time now, and in the future, for the working professional," said Jerry Haar, the associate dean of FIU's College of Business Administration.

The Downtown Development Authority called the move smart.

"It's a huge deal, and I think it's something that makes a whole lot of sense," said Deputy Director Javier Betancourt.

Betancourt said the campus will act as a huge incentive for potential downtown or Brickell employers and residents.

"You can live, work and play here, and you can do it without a car," said Betancourt. Many people are already gravitating toward the area, according to the DDA.

"We have 70,000 people now living in downtown. That's up from 30,000 less than 10 years ago," Betancourt said.

This summer, FIU will position itself right in the middle of it all.

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