

Massive Miami Worldcenter project slated for groundbreaking after city's OK

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Miami Worldcenter, one of the biggest urban projects in South Florida, is slated to break ground in the third quarter this year after its phase one site plan cleared approval from the city on Monday.

The project will introduce a mall, several residential towers and a convention center hotel on 27 acres of the Overtown neighborhood on the north side of the central business district. The developer is Miami Worldcenter Associates, led by Art Falcone of Encore Capital Management and Nitin Motwani.



Elkus Manfredi Architects designed the master plan. See the slideshow for renderings.

The 765,000-square-foot shopping mall, the 470-unit Paramount Miami Worldcenter condominium and a 429-unit apartment building will begin construction at the same time since the mall will serve as the base for the project.

Bloomingdale's and Macy's will be the anchor tenants for the mall, which is being developed in partnership with the Forbes Co. and Taubman. Daniel Kodsi is a partner on the condo tower while Orlando-based ZOM is partnering on the apartments.

"We have assembled a world-class team with a track record of delivering transformational projects, and now we're taking the last step toward starting construction of Miami Worldcenter," Motwani said in a news release. "Miami Worldcenter will transform 27 acres in the heart of Miami into a city within a city, connecting the central business district with the arts and entertainment district."

A 1,800-room Marriott Marquis hotel with 600,000 square feet of meeting and event space is also part of Miami Worldcenter in partnership with MDM Development. The hotel is part of a separate site plan approval process and isn't scheduled to break ground yet.