



MIAMI-DADE EXPRESSWAY AUTHORITY

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## **MDX Selects First Woman New Executive Director**

**MIAMI, (March 11, 2022)** – The Board of Directors of the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) has unanimously named Darlene Fernandez as its next Executive Director. Ms. Fernandez is currently Assistant Director of Miami-Dade County’s Department of Transportation and Public Works. She will succeed Javier Rodriguez who retired from MDX after a serving 15 years as Executive Director.

Ms. Fernandez is slated to officially begin her tenure on her new position on May 2, 2022.

“ I am honored by the tremendous opportunity to lead this organization. I look forward to the challenge of implementing transportation improvement that will make a difference to Miami-Dade”, stated Ms. Fernandez. “My goal is to bring an innovative perspective and vision to move MDX forward, benefitting the community we serve, and making a contribution to the prosperity of Miami-Dade’s economy”.

At Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works, Ms. Fernandez oversees 200+ employees and a budget of \$30 million. She steers strategy, management and maintenance of the County’s traffic signals and traffic controls devices and specializes in complex transportation, traffic, and infrastructure projects.

Ms. Fernandez holds a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Florida International University. She is a past Board Member of MDX. Recently she received *In the Company of Women Award 2022 – Government & Law Non-Elect from the Miami-Dade County Commission on Women & Parks Department.*

In the 26-year history of MDX, Darlene Fernandez becomes the first woman Executive Director of MDX following Servando Parapar and Javier Rodriguez. Vice Chairman Moss stated “ This is an important decision that interesting enough was taken during Women’s History Month”.



The Miami-Dade Expressway Authority operates and maintains five user-supported local expressways in Miami-Dade County – 112/Airport Expressway, 836/Dolphin Expressway, 874/Don Shula Expressway, 878/Snapper Creek Expressway, and 924/Gratigny Parkway. The Authority’s expressways are funded by toll revenue, which is reinvested back into the community and funds the construction of projects that alleviate traffic congestion, create thousands of local jobs, and provide new opportunities to small and local businesses.