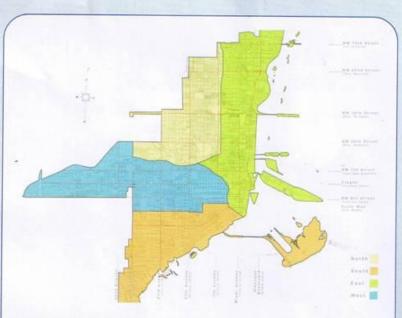


OPSPRODUCTS DESIGNER TRENDS NEWS **ARCHITECTURE** SHOPS

MORE MIAMI STAR POWER

BY ARIELLE CASTILLO

Yoo opens in the Design District, New Urbanists have a new plan and Richard Meier is back in business



NEW URBANISM, NEW MIAMI

Speculation about Miami 21, the city's sweeping overhaul of its zoning codes, can stop. In May, city leaders held the first in a series of public meetings on the plan. Leading the master design? Duany Plater-Zyberk & Company, founded by the famed New Urbanists Andres Duany and Elizabeth Plater-Zyberk (who is also the dean of the University of Miami's School of Architecture).

It's no surprise, then, that the updated zoning codes toe the New Urbanist line. More pedestrian-friendly streets will add trees to provide shade, narrower roadbeds and better sidewalks. Industrial areas will be kept strictly separated from residential ones, and strategic areas of density are planned to prevent further sprawl.

However, in a city known for its muddled bureaucracy, it may be some time before any changes begin. For updates, visit www.miami21.org.



YOO HOO

Yoo, the development company known for designing sleek luxury condo projects like Icon Brickell, under construction, is on a mission to design entire lifestyles, down to the rugs in owners' bedrooms.

The new Yoo Interiors showroom in the Miami Design District is a one-stop shop for those seeking the instantly hip, aiming to provide turn-key residential units. Much has been said about the star-studded team behind the Yoo brand: John Hitchcox, Jade Jagger and Philippe Starck. But a local design star, Alison Antrobus, will oversee Yoo Interiors. Antrobus has created interiors for the restaurant Prime 112, and the private residence Casa Malinka, featured in the May/June issue of Florida InsideOut.

Yoo Interiors will supervise furnishings for all Yoo buildings, including sales centers and model apartments. Those looking to buy turn-key condos in the buildings will have three different packages to choose from. The least expensive includes basic items like beds and sofas; the most expensive includes accessories like blinds and vases.

Yoo Interiors, 180 Northeast 39th Street, Suite 217, Miami; 305 571-8190

IN BRIEF

InsideOut's May/June issue included a report on the possible cancellation of the Beach House condo at 94th Street and Collins Avenue in Bal Harbour, Florida, designed by Richard Meier. Now it appears the project may go forward. Turnberry Ltd. has taken over as developer, replacing Lynx Strategic Development. Still no word on a start date for construction.

In June, the City of Miami zoning board sided with activists who appealed a special permit granted the Home Depot. The big-box retailer wants to build a new store on the site of a former Kmart in Coconut Grove. The zoning board ordered the Home Depot to do more traffic studies, after which it must reapply for the special permit. The project's Web site is www.grovedepot.com.

The Smithsonian's Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum in New York has presented Craig Robins with its 2006 Design Patron award. Robins is the president of Dacra Development, which almost singlehandedly created the Miami Design District, and the principal of DesignMiami. He is also a contemporary art collector and a booster of the city's art and design community. The museum's award recognizes an individual's patronage of design within the business and civic sectors.