

UM Scholars in Affordable Housing

Giovanni R. Castro
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of Mayor Francis Suarez

Capstone Project:

“Creating an intergovernmental
land banking authority”



Why I Care

- The City of Miami is one of the most culturally diverse cities in the United States, composed of neighborhoods such as Coconut Grove, Overtown, Little Havana, Allapattah & many more
- The City of Miami's Median home value is unaffordable to 84% of households & 64% of Miami's renters are cost-burdened
- An Intergovernmental Land Bank would increase opportunities for home ownership & rent opportunities for our most vulnerable residents

The City's median value of owner occupied units is unaffordable to 84% of Miami's Households

57% of Miami's households are cost-burdened (pay more than 30% of their income for housing)

70% of the City of Miami's occupied housing is rental housing

There are 500 million square feet of vacant or underutilized land scattered across Miami-Dade County

What I Learned

What Will I Do?

Meet

- Meet with the appropriate elected officials & staff

Discuss

- Discuss how the rising construction costs and lack of available land make it difficult to develop affordable housing

Focus

- Focus on the conversion of vacant, abandoned, and tax delinquent properties into productive use consistent with community needs

Execute

- Execute an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Miami, Miami-Dade County and the Miami-Dade County School Board to create a Land Banking Authority

Initiate private & public sector collaboration



Create and maintain an open line of communication with government officials, stakeholders and residents to promote forward thinking and innovative solutions



Emphasize affordable housing & inequality as critical issues to your elected officials



“Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.” - *Andrew Carnegie*

What Can You Do?

Giovanni R. Castro
GCastro@MiamiGov.com
305.978.4853