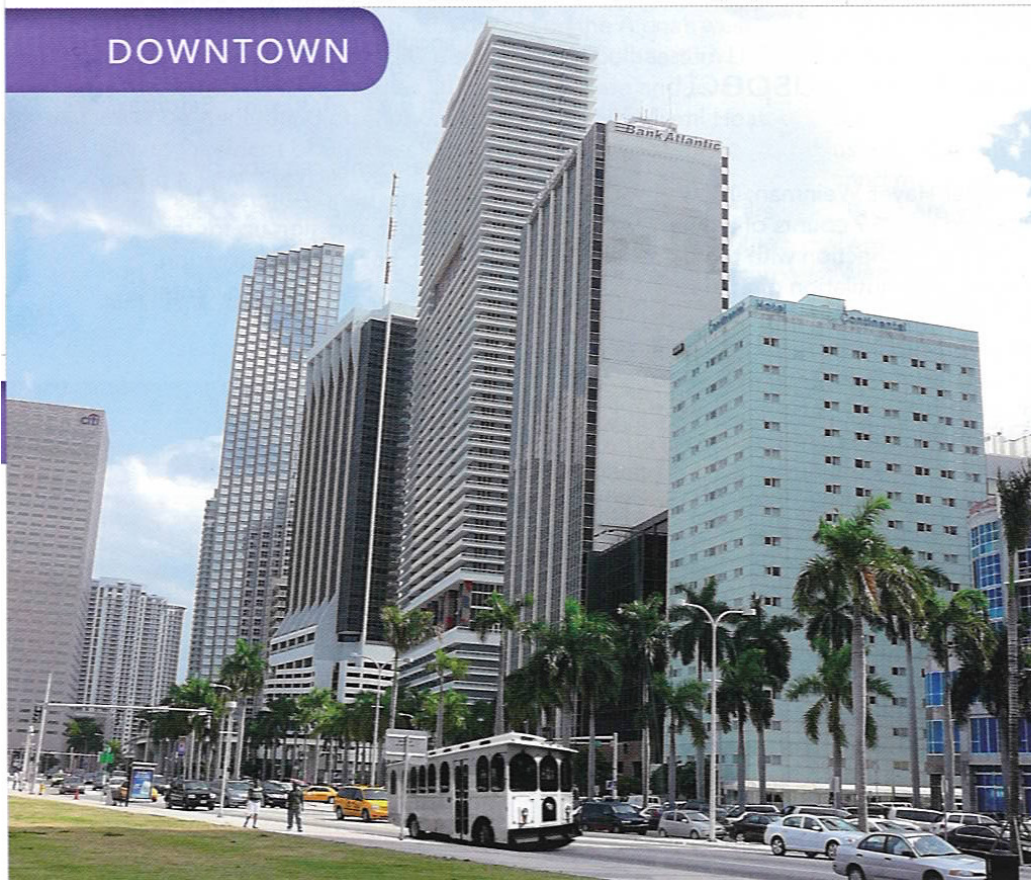


CITYWATCH

DOWNTOWN



Rubber Meets The Road

>> The City of Miami's plan to allocate federal stimulus dollars to implement a rubber tire trolley service has broad support in the downtown area, according to a study by the Miami Downtown Development Authority (DDA). Seventy-one percent of nearly 600 respondents to an online survey acknowledged a need for a downtown trolley, and 79 percent said they would likely use the service.

City commissioners recently agreed to spend \$4 million in federal transit grant money to purchase the trolley buses, which would service routes in the Brickell, downtown, health district, Coral Way, Overtown and Allapattah areas. The city will likely contract a private operator to manage and maintain the service, which could be implemented before the end of the year.