

Business

Groundbreaking set for Miami International people mover

By Alfonso Chardy

Transportation officials plan to attend a ceremony Monday morning at Miami International Airport to break ground for a \$342-million automated train that will ferry airline passengers between a transit and car rental hub and the airport nearby.

The 11 a.m. ceremony at ground level between the Dolphin and Flamingo parking garages at MIA will mark a milestone in the history of the MIA Mover -- as the automated people mover will be called -- and the transit hub just east of the airport.

The Miami Intermodal Center, or MIC, as the facility is known, is one of the largest transportation projects under construction in Miami-Dade County. Originally envisaged as a hub connecting all modes of transportation from aircraft to buses to cars and trains, the MIC has been reduced in scope over the years.

MIA Mover will link the air terminal to the MIC so passengers can drop off or pick up rental cars or board Tri-Rail. Eventually, transit officials hope to extend Miami-Dade's elevated Metrorail system to the MIC.

The Mover is scheduled to open by 2011.