

Community Background Report

West Little River

County

Miami-Dade

Boundaries

North: Northwest 107th Street and Little River Drive

South: Northwest 79th Street

West: Northwest 37th Avenue

East: North Miami Avenue

Community Type

Neighborhood

History

West Little River is a neighborhood of 4.6 square miles. Most of West Little River was originally a neighborhood of the City of Miami, annexed to the city in 1925. With the arrival of the Great Depression, the City of Miami gave up its jurisdiction and West Little River became an unincorporated area of Miami-Dade County.

The neighborhood has nine schools: Arcola Lake Elementary School, Madison Middle School, Broadmoor Elementary School, Miami Central High School, Dr. Henry W. Mack/West Little River K-8 Center Elementary School, Henry E.S. Reeves K-8 Center Primary Academy, William H. Turner Technical Arts High School, Miami Park Elementary School, and COPE Center North Middle School.

The Miami-Dade North Central Branch Library serves the West Little River neighborhood at 9590 Northwest 27th Avenue. The Arcola Lakes Branch Library is at 8240 Northwest 7th Avenue.

West Little River has numerous parks. The largest of these is Arcola Lakes Park, located in the neighborhood's southeast corner at 1301 Northwest 83rd Street. This park has a playground, a tot lot, an exercise course, a picnic shelter, a technology learning center, and lighted tennis, racquetball, and handball courts. It offers an after-school program, a youth enrichment and sports program, and programming for active older adults. The Arcola Lakes Senior Center is adjacent to the park, with a swimming pool, a fitness room, programming for seniors, and a banquet hall available for rental.

Little River Park is located on the northern edge of the neighborhood at 10525 Northwest 24th Avenue. This park has a swimming pool and swimming lessons, fields for baseball and football, a basketball court, an after-school program, and summer camp.

The smaller West Little River Park is at 2326 Northwest 84th Street. It offers a football field, a basketball court, and summer camp.

The tiny Broadmoor Park is a simple green space with a small playground and a walking path, located at 9731 Northwest 35th Court in the southwest corner of the neighborhood.

Soar Park is in the eastern end of the neighborhood at 120 Northwest 83rd Street. It has a playground, summer camp, an after-school program, an adult center, and the Haitian American Senior Center. This senior center offers case management, social, recreational, and educational activities, health and wellness support, breakfast and hot lunch, nutrition education, social service referrals, and transportation.

Larchmont Park, located at 406 Northwest 85th Street, is a narrow strip of green space running along the south bank of the Little River Canal in the eastern end of the neighborhood. It has basketball and racquetball courts.

The Edison West Little River Community Resource Center is located just beyond the southern boundary of the neighborhood on its eastern end, at 150 Northwest 79th Street. The Miami-Dade County Community Resource Centers offer a variety of social services to economically disadvantaged individuals and families interested in achieving self-sufficiency. A full list of services is available in the Miami-Dade County governmental website.

Community Dynamics

According to U.S. 2010 Census and American Community Survey 2015 5-year data, West Little River has a population of 30,749, 63.9% of which is working age from 18 to 64. The average per capita income is \$51,377, which is much higher than Miami-Dade County's average per capita income of \$28,823. The population is 48.62% Hispanic and 51.38% non-Hispanic. Furthermore, 45.18% of the population is White (including Hispanic White), 50.93% is Black, 0.28% Asian, 2% multiple races, and 1.6% others. A non-English language is spoken by 9.84% of the population. Regarding education level, 50.93% of the population has less than a high school education, which is higher than Miami-Dade County's 48.86%. Foreign-born individuals make up 41% of the population, out of which 38% are naturalized citizens, while 62% are not U.S. citizens. Of the foreign-born residents, 64% are from the Caribbean, 1% are from Asia, 3.2% are from South America, and 31% are from Central America.

Business Landscape

West Little River's commercial properties are concentrated along Northwest 27th Avenue, Northwest 22nd Avenue, Northwest 7th Avenue/US 441, and Northwest 79th Street. Businesses are many and varied, including retail, neighborhood services, auto sales and auto parts, supermarkets, food venues, and lodging. Industrial-commercial land use in the neighborhood is mostly limited to the far eastern and western ends of the neighborhood. West Little River has access to the Little River Canal, but abutting properties are mostly residential.

Transportation

One of the main transportation arteries in West Little River is Northwest 79th Street. This street is one of the commercial corridors of the neighborhood and forms its southern boundary. Miami-Dade buses run on this street (lines #12, #21, #79, and L). The Northside Metrorail Station (Green Line) is at 3150 Northwest 79th Street, in the southwest corner of the neighborhood. The Miami Amtrak Station is also located nearby at 8303 Northwest 37th Avenue. There is a Tri-Rail station and a Tri-Rail/Metrorail transfer station just outside the neighborhood's boundary at its southwest corner, in Hialeah.

Another main artery with a few commercial properties is Northwest 103rd Street, running east and west just inside the neighborhood's northern boundary. Miami-Dade bus lines #33 and #17 run on this street.

Northwest 27th Avenue, running north and south through the center of the neighborhood, is a commercial corridor. Miami-Dade bus lines #27 and #297 run on this street.

Another north-south artery with a few scattered commercial properties is Northwest 22nd Avenue, served by Miami-Dade bus lines #22 and #246.

Northwest 7th Avenue/US 441, a broad commercial roadway, runs north and south through the eastern end of the neighborhood. Bus line #77 runs here.

North Miami Avenue, forming the neighborhood's eastern boundary, is served by bus lines #2 and #202.

Miami-Dade bus service is also available on Northwest 32nd Avenue (line #32) and on Northwest 17th Avenue (lines #17 and #33). Bus line #202 runs on Northwest 83rd Street, east of I-95.

Interstate 95 cuts north and south through West Little River, parallel to and just east of Northwest 7th Avenue.

Reference

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