

WEST PERRINE

Ground broken for park's family aquatic center

BY CRYSTAL CHEW
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Miami-Dade County Parks broke ground for a new \$5.9 million family aquatic center at West Perrine Park at 10301 SW 170th Ter. last Saturday.

The ceremony was led by Miami-Dade County District 9 Commissioner Dennis C. Moss. There was about 30 people in attendance.

When Moss began his term, he was committed to building a pool in West Perrine.

"We are going to make good on the promise that I made," he said. "This will be a state of the art swimming pool and the community is going to be very pleased."

The center will consist of a mini-water park with walk-in swimming pools and a bathhouse.

"This is a community that has gone without a public swimming pool for probably two decades now," said Jack Kardys, community director of Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department.

"Swimming pools allow people to learn to swim. Being able to educate kids is really important to us."

Construction is sched-

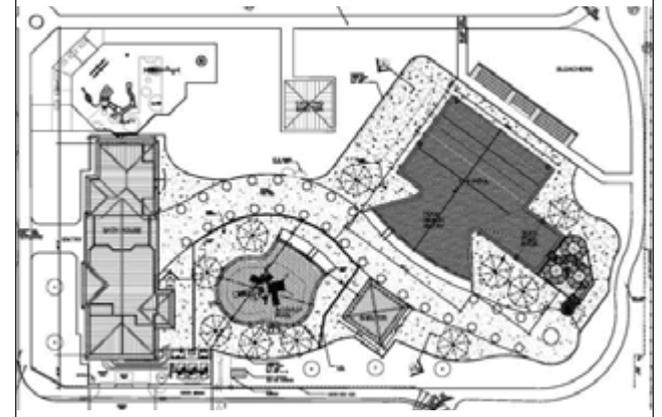
uled to take about a year to complete and is funded by the Building Better Communities General Obligation Bond Program (BBC-GOB), the Quality Neighborhood Improvement Program and Impact Fees.

The nine-acre park currently has a recreation center, three tennis courts, two basketball courts, a baseball field, a softball field and an outdoor fitness gym.

The development will add a kids water activity pool, water tube slides and a recreational swimming pool with four 25-yard lap lanes.

The centerpiece of it will be approximately 2,306 square feet with a play zone and featuring assorted water sprayers and spouts, a spiral slide and a climbing net.

"Basically everyone can



enjoy the facility at the same time," said Jose Gonzalez, design project manager. "It's unique with features that you can't get in a typical pool."

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