

Developers plan Wynwood's first hotel

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The first hotel in Miami's Wynwood Arts District could be built by Miami Beach developer Scott Robins, former Miami Beach Mayor Philip Levine, and partner Rory Greenberg.

Robins said he's working with Morris Adjmi Architects to design the hotel, which would have a unique mix of rooms. About half of the 182 rooms would be for short-term stays, and the other half would be for long-term stays – weeks or months, he said. There would also be 15,000 square feet of retail.

With all the attractions in Wynwood, many people would want to stay there longer, Robins said.

Formerly an industrial district, Wynwood has become a major tourism attraction with its street art, restaurants and shops. After a recent rezoning, apartment and office projects are under construction there, but not a hotel. At least, not yet.

"We are going for a cultural, cool, hip and artsy operator," Robins said. "We aren't interested in building something that won't fit the market."

Robins said his team is in talks with West Hollywood, California-based Paligroup about the Wynwood hotel. It currently has three boutique hotels in California under the Palihotel brand. They haven't signed a deal yet, but he likes their brand, Robins said.

The five-story hotel would be on the 39,550-square-foot site at 35-83 N.W. 27th St. The partners assembled the six parcels through Baron Wynwood LLC and related entities. The property is currently vacant. It's just west of North Miami Avenue.

Robins said the site already has the appropriate zoning for the hotel project. The Wynwood Design Review Board would need to approve the architectural plans.

Robins and Levine recently sold a group of retail buildings in Miami Beach's Sunset Harbour for \$68.75 million, so they have some capital to invest in a new venture.

In August, Levine fell short in his bid to secure the Democratic nomination for governor.

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