



Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency 2009 Annual Report

2009 Accomplishments

- Harbor Walk Project, a key component to the Gateway Project reached 60% design stage.
- Revisions to the Neighborhood Business/Residential Land Use District were approved by the Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee.
- The Housing Rehabilitation Grant program was established and 20 grant awards were approved.
- Sewer Connection grants were awarded to 12 applicants.
- Special Events were held at Bayshore Live Oak Park, including Hands Across the Harbor.
- Annual Financial Reports and Audits are included in the Charlotte County annual audit.



Charlotte County Community Redevelopment Agency

- Commissioner Bob Starr, Chair
 - Commissioner Robert Skidmore, Vice Chair
 - Commissioner Adam Cummings
 - Commissioner Tricia Duffy
 - Commissioner Richard Loftus*
- *Board Liaison

Charlotte Harbor CRA Advisory Committee

- James W. Herston, Chairman
- Michael Haymans, Vice Chairman
- Grace Amodeo, Secretary
- Nathaniel Cooley
- Evelyn Loeffler
- David Schmidt
- Charlotte Ventola

Staff:

Roger Baltz, Executive Director,
Charlotte County CRA

Debrah Forester, Redevelopment
Manager

Derek Rooney, Assistant County
Attorney

Kathy Knee, Recorder

Growth Management Department

Liaison:

Seann Smith, Planner II

Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency

One of the main projects identified in the Community Redevelopment Plan is the improvement to the US41 Gateway into the area. The Gateway Project is divided into several phases. With the Welcome Sign and entry landscaping completed in 2008, the next phase identified is the Harbor Walk. The Harbor Walk will be developed on Florida Department of Transportation right of way at the foot of the north-bound US41 bridge and will provide a pedestrian connection to the south-bound US41 bridge through a system of pedestrian walkways and boardwalks. This project will provide a regional intermodal trail along Charlotte Harbor connecting significant points of interest and will connect two redevelopment areas, four community parks, and provide enhanced access to Charlotte Harbor.

The Concept Plan for the project was presented to the community in April 2009 and was approved by the BCC at the July 14, 2009 board meeting.

In 2009, the design of the project reached 60% completion and meetings with permitting agencies were held. The project was ranked number one by the Charlotte County/Punta Gorda Metropolitan Organization (MPO) for future FDOT Enhancement funding.



Harbor Walk Concept Plan 2009

For more information, please visit our website: www.CharlotteCountyFL.com.

Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency

Harbor Walk Phase I

The Harbor Walk will provide a pedestrian and bicycle connection between the east and west side of US41 via an intermodal trail. Components of Phase I of the project will include a sidewalk from the foot of the north-bound US41 bridge to Melbourne Street, replacement of the seawall, a pedestrian plaza and promenade, and parking and bathroom facilities.



Phase I Concept Plan

2009 Activities

A number of community meetings were held in 2009 including a neighborhood charrette. The community meetings were held to seek public input on land use and zoning regulations. The outcome of the meetings resulted in an application to the Board of County Commissioners to modify the Neighborhood Business/Residential District to provide an incentive to encourage live/work opportunities in the area. The changes will be presented through the public hearing process in 2010.

VISION:

Revitalize the Charlotte Harbor area by promoting the ambiance of an old Florida waterfront community with its tree canopy.

Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency



April 2009 – Neighborhood Charrette

In addition to land use changes, the CRA facilitated the completion of commercial façade grants (funded by Community Development Block Grant funds) that upgraded existing structures. This led to the development of five new small businesses in the area. The area is being marketed as a “artist” village. Seasonal residents are also enjoying the historic character of the community.

Small Businesses and Artists are discovering Charlotte Harbor



For more information, please visit our website: www.CharlotteCountyFL.com or telephone Debrah Forester at 941-743-6241.

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The CRA provides grants to encourage public sector investment into the area. The Housing Rehabilitation Grant was initiated in 2009 and was very successful. Grant funds were available to residential units for up to \$2,000 for exterior improvements including painting, replacement of doors and windows and landscaping improvements.



Before Renovation



Renovation Completed

The Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee meets monthly to provide input into the redevelopment program and develop recommendations for implementation by the Agency. All meetings are open to the public. Agendas are available at www.CharlotteCountyFL.com, click Charlotte Harbor CRA in the Government links or contact the EDO office at 941.627.3023 to have your email address added to the agenda distribution list.

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Construction Activity in 2009



Charlotte Animal Hospital



CVS Pharmacy



Added decorative lattice or “Ginger Bread” to existing home

Charlotte Harbor Design Standards apply to both residential and commercial properties. The standards reflect an “Old Florida” vernacular. Architectural elements selected to reflect the period include cupolas, metal roofs, verandas and decorative lattice. The Charlotte Harbor Community Development Code, which includes both architectural standards and a sign code can be found in Section 3.9.50.1 of the Charlotte County Land Development Code at www.CharlotteCountyFL.com —click Growth Management in the department list.

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Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency

2004-2009 WORK PLAN Tax Increment Contribution*

GATEWAY PROJECT

Phase 1	\$ 158,118
Enhanced US 41 Sidewalk Design	\$ 94,900
Harbor Walk Design	\$ 333,294

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN	\$ 401,000
INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM	\$ 125,820
MONUMENT SIGN GRANT PROGRAM	\$ 44,720
HOUSING REHABILITATION GRANT PROGRAM	\$ 45,000
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK IMPROVEMENTS	\$ 96,174

Grants totaling \$4.8 million have been received over the past four years that have provide significant leverage to tax increment revenues to allow for the completion of projects within the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Area.

*Amounts are estimates based on budget allocations. The Charlotte Harbor CRA financial reports and audit is included in the Charlotte County Annual Audit.

**For more information, please visit our website: www.CharlotteCountyFL.com
or telephone Debrah Forester, Redevelopment Manager at 941.743.6241.**

ENJOY THE TREASURES IN CHARLOTTE HARBOR



Sunrise Views over Charlotte Harbor



Chester Roberts Park
Kayak Launch



Charlotte County Historical Center

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