

# Monthly Report

## July 2021



CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
FLORIDA

## Administration

# Charlotte County ranks 11th in Milken Institute Index

The Punta Gorda-Charlotte County Metropolitan Statistical Area was ranked 11th in the 2021 Milken Institute Best-Performing Cities Index. The MSA moved from 39th to 11th from 2020 to 2021. The index is based on jobs, wages, and high-tech growth, housing affordability and household broadband access. The MSA's strongest results were in one-year wage growth (eighth) and short-

term jobs growth (fourth). It was one of the handful of MSAs to see positive year-on-year jobs growth. The institute cited the county's "careful planning and investments [that] have led to improved local amenities."

"It's gratifying to see Charlotte County's efforts succeed in creating an economic climate where

large and small businesses can thrive, while maintaining affordability and public safety for our residents," said Charlotte County Administrator Hector Flores.

The institute also recognized the county's strategic planning and investments in public amenities and infrastructure through the 1% sales tax.

## Sunseeker Resort construction resumes

Staff from the county's Public Information Office, visitor's bureau and Office of Economic Development attended an Aug. 3 news conference where Allegiant Airlines President John Redmond announced the resumption of construction on Sunseeker Resorts Charlotte Harbor.

The project will feature three towers with 512 hotel rooms and 273 long-term suites, Redmond said. It will also have 55,000 square feet of meeting and event space, rooftop and ground-level pools, 19 bars and restaurants and a boardwalk overlooking the Peace River from the Gilchrist Bridge to Bayshore Live Oak Park.

The boardwalk and 18 of the bars and restaurants will be open to the public. A second phase of the development will include lodging and retail space on the northern part of the 27-acre property near a planned 5,000 square-foot pool, Redmond said.



**Cranes are back in operation at the site of the Sunseeker Resorts Charlotte Harbor after a 17-month pandemic shutdown.**

## County launches new TikTok page

Charlotte County launch its new TikTok account Aug. 6.

"We're adding TikTok to our social media strategy, because it gives us the opportunity to target a younger demographic with messaging about county events, jobs and news," said Communications Manager Brian Gleason.

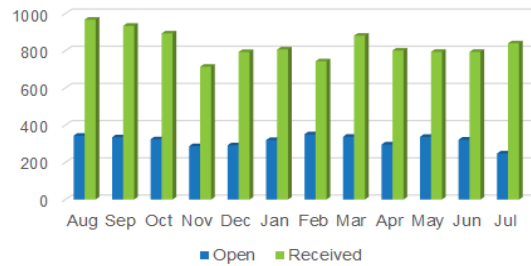
To view the county's TikTok page, go to [@charlottecountyflorida](https://www.tiktok.com). Download the TikTok app on your phone or computer from the Apple App Store or Google Play store.



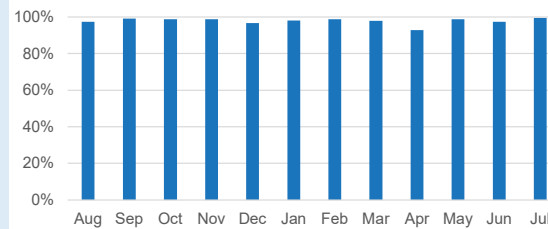
**Charlotte County Community Services Department hosted a drive-through Back 2 School Backpack Giveaway July 24 at the Centennial Park. 500 free backpacks were distributed to K-12 students.**

### Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

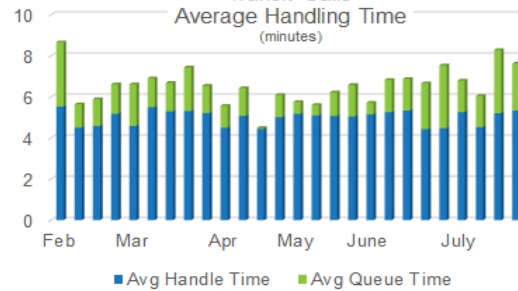


Customer Satisfaction  
% Positive

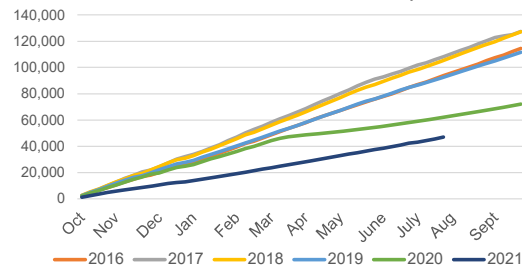


### Transit

Transit Calls  
Average Handling Time  
(minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



### Director Highlights

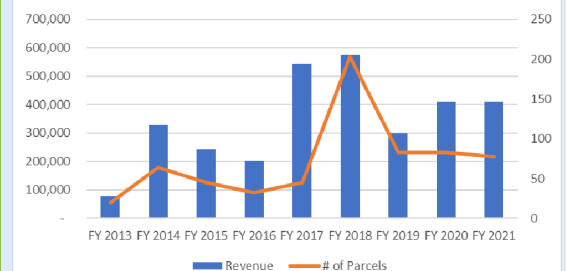
#### Real Estate Services

The Real Estate Services Division is responsible for the disposal of County-owned property not needed for County purposes under Florida Statute 125. These parcels are offered for sale through the sealed bid process. We began offering these parcels in bulk in 2011. Most of the parcels offered for sale were acquired by Tax Deed. We normally offer around 50 for each sale. To date the sale of surplus property has generated \$6,852,335 in revenue.

We will be offering an additional 50 parcels for sale in the fall surplus property sealed bid sale.

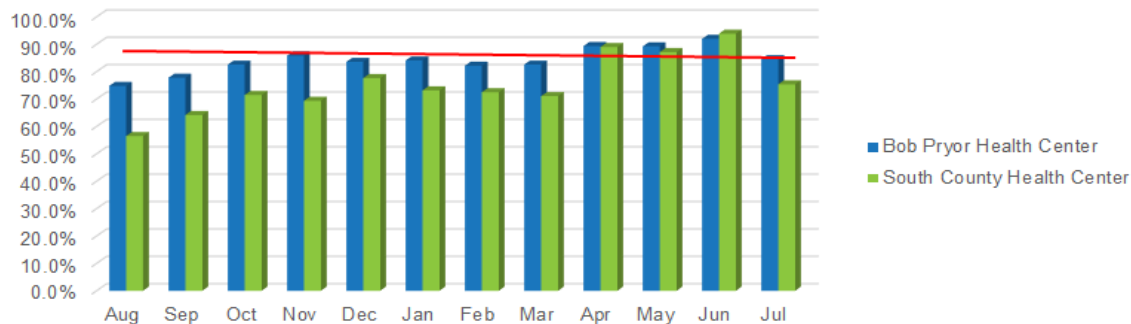
#### July 2021

Surplus Property Sales



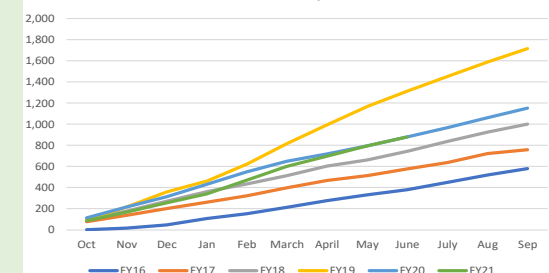
### Health Center

Employee Health Center  
Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



### Records Management

Record Requests





# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?

## IN PLANNING

**Piper Rd. Distribution Center** 250,950 sq. ft. distribution center with associated infrastructure located at 9301 Piper Road, Punta Gorda.

**Babcock Ranch School Expansion & SWFRES** two buildings and associated infrastructure located at 43301 Cypress Parkway, Punta Gorda, FL.

**O'Reilly Auto Parts** 7,453 sq. ft. commercial building with associated infrastructure located at 24000 Beatrix Blvd., Port Charlotte.

**Village Marketplace** 2,495 sq. ft. restaurant with a drive thru and three 1,286 sq. ft. units of retail space located at 1799 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte.

**Dunkin Donuts and Heartland Dental** Development located at 5605 S. McCall Road, Port Charlotte.

**Restaurant and retail** 34,700 sq. ft. restaurant and 24,660 sq. ft. commercial retail located at 22801 Bayshore Road, Punta Gorda.

**Cochran Corners Retail** 8,618 ± sq. ft. retail (salon) building with associated infrastructure located at 19669 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte.

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

**Starbucks** 2,500 sq. ft. building with associated parking and drive thru lane located at 2901 S. McCall Road, Englewood.



**BJ's Wholesale** 103,120 sq. ft. retail building with associated infrastructure located at 19150 Quesada Ave., Port Charlotte.

**Take-5 Oil Change** Apartment complex 5,100 sq. ft. quick oil change located at 19205 Quesada Ave., Port Charlotte.



**Modwash Car Wash** automated car wash located at 19740 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte.

**76 Gas Station and Daybreak Market** Gas station and convenience store, with drive thru restaurant, stand-alone automated car wash at 19100 Peachland Blvd., Port Charlotte.



## COMPLETED!!

**Port Charlotte Storage** Four self-storage buildings, parking, and infrastructure located at 23950 Veterans Blvd., Port Charlotte.



**San Casa Storage** 11 unit Storage Facility located at 7030 San Casa Blvd., Englewood.

## PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

### Babcock Update

- 1,433 Single Family permits submitted since August 2016
- 1,005 Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016

### Murdock Village Update

- Rezoning was approved for 400+ acres in the western section of Murdock Village in order to have mixed-use development with a maximum of 2,400 single and multi family units, commercial uses, and a 150-room hotel.
- Homes currently under construction, first family has moved in!
- Arredondo Pointe/Lost Lagoon Development which includes a mixture of retail, entertainment, water park, and hotel uses.

**Total Single Family Permits Issued: 246**  
Single Family Permits Issued—Babcock: 33

**Total Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 126**  
Single Family Certificate of Occupancy Issued—Babcock: 33

**Total Permits Issued for the month: 2,640**

**Total Permits Issued FY19-20: 32,037**  
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2019—Sept. 2020)

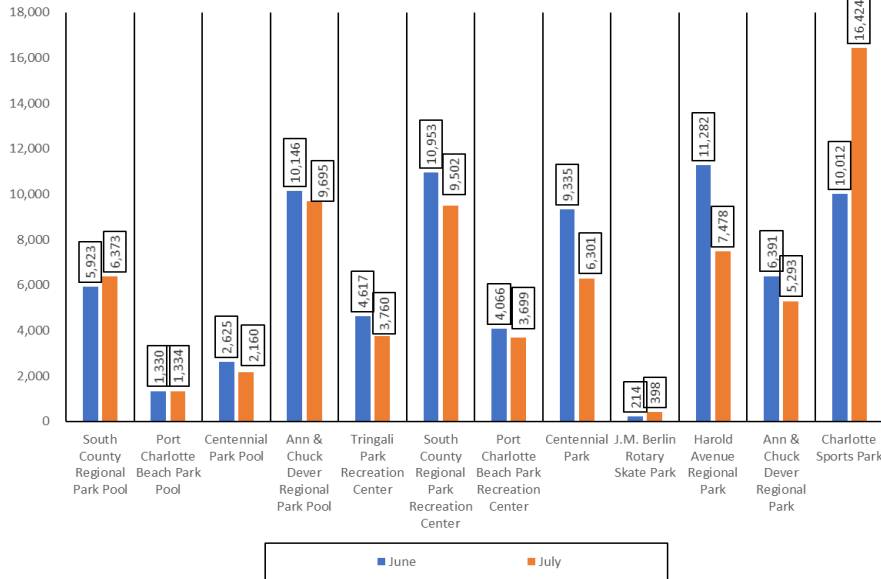
**Total Permits Issued FY20-21: 29,210**  
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2020—Sept. 2021)

## PERMITTING SNAPSHOT

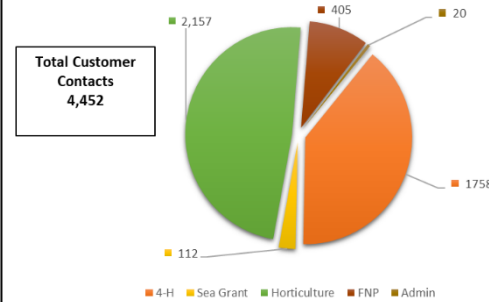


**CHARLOTTE COUNTY**  
Community Development

**Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities Attendance**



**UF/IFAS Extension Service Customer Contacts**



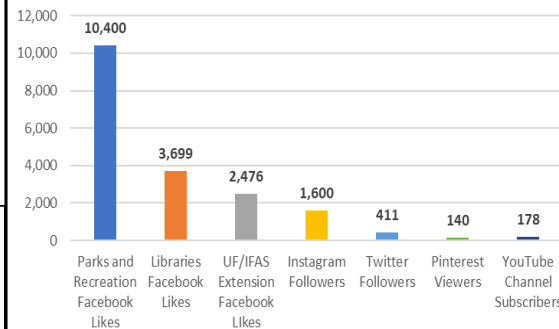
## Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 109 Youth Leagues and Adult Softball practices
- 5,119 Trash bags collected
- 924 Recycling bags collected

## Land Management

- 87.6 Miles trails maintained
- 14 acres treatment
- 46 Projects /\$2,518,295

**Social Media Impact**



## Sea Turtles

1,476 Loggerhead  
37 Green  
1 Kemps Ridley

## Shorebirds/Seabirds

### Adult High Count

Least Tern – 215  
Snowy Plover – 2  
American Oystercatcher – 7  
Black Skimmer – 230  
Wilsons Plover - 20

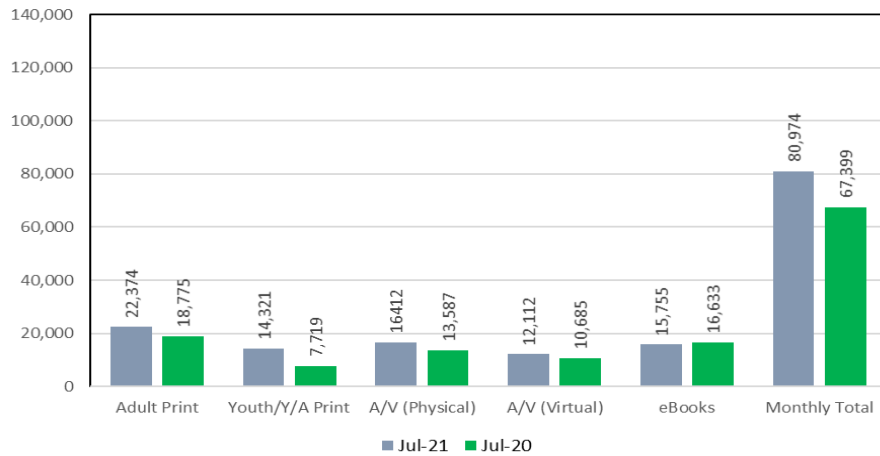
### Nest High Count

Least Tern – 6  
Black Skimmer - 16

### Chick High Count

Least Tern – 82  
Wilsons Plover - 4

**2020 - 2021 Circulation Comparison**



## Coastal Management

### Abandoned/Derelict Vessels Program

- 2 Removed
- 1 ready for removal
- 2 cited by law enforcement
- 2 open case

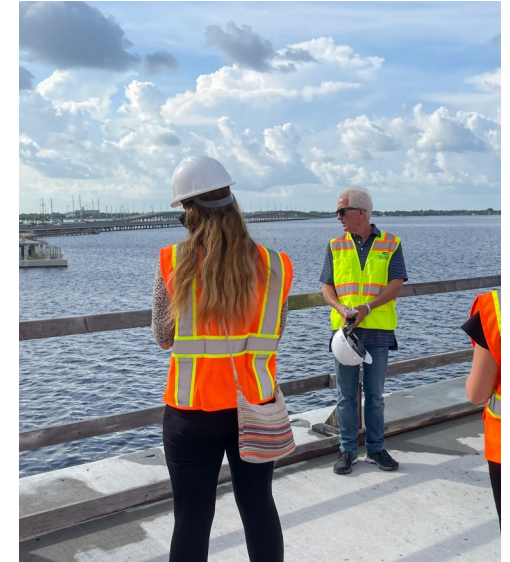
### Coastal Lighting

- 12 Permit Reviews, 2 inspections
- 34 violations: Manasota Key
- 23 violations: Don Pedro/Knight Island



### Sunseeker Resumes Construction

EDO Director Dave Gammon got a sneak peak at construction on Allegiant's Sunseeker Resort during a press conference held by Allegiant President John Redmond. Sunseeker aims to welcome its first guests as early as 2023. The resort will consist of three towers. The main building will host a 55,000 square feet meeting and event space that overlooks Charlotte Harbor and the Peace River, a spa and fitness center, 512 hotel rooms, a promenade and roof-top pool. The first floor promenade will be open to the public and will host 18 unique-concept restaurants and bars along with retail stores. The other two towers will hold over 180 extended stay suites. The resort will also host a 200 slip marina and a 300 foot pool that in future phases will be 1,000 feet; making it the largest pool in Florida. Allegiant is also renovating Kingsway Golf Course in Lake Suzy. The golf course will open at the same time as the hotel and will be open to members and resort guests. Between 700—800 constructions workers will soon be busy at the site and when it opens Sunseeker will have 1,150 employees, making it the third largest employer in the area. It is so exciting to see this project underway again!



Follow us on social media for information and  
the latest economic development news.



[Cleared4Takeoff.com](https://www.Cleared4Takeoff.com)

## Port Charlotte Library



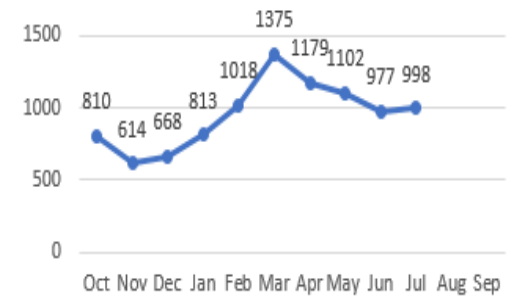
The Port Charlotte Library Renovation project was conducted over a four (4) week period which included carpet and cove base replacement on the first floor. Carpet was also replaced on both stairways along with the installation of new ADA approved handrails. Luxury vinyl flooring was installed in the large print room, first floor restroom, and maintenance room. The entire first floor was painted including all closets and doors. In addition, a new circulation desk was installed along with two new modular oval pods. New book stacks were installed and reconfigured on the first floor providing open space in the center area of the library to promote social distancing. The staff area on the first floor was also painted, carpeted, and reconfigured for efficiency.

## Progress

- ◆ Fire Station 5 - Activities include completion of masonry work including mechanical, electrical, and plumbing within the masonry walls.
- ◆ Fire Station 2 - Activities include continuing the site work; finalizing the stormwater pond; underground mechanical, electrical, and plumbing, and force main rough-ins; and preparing and pouring the slab-on-grade foundation.
- ◆ The shortlisting for design of the CCSO Administration Building was completed with SchenkelShultz Architecture as the selected firm.
- ◆ The Board approved the purchase agreement acquiring property at 500 Sable Street for the permanent location of a new Public Works Yard.
- ◆ Harold Avenue Wind Mitigation Grant- The assessment of the building envelope was conducted with a report to be issued by the end of August.

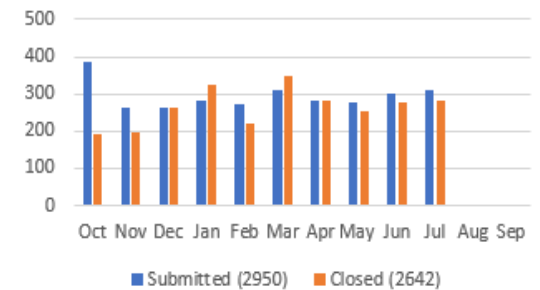


## FY21 Calls by Month

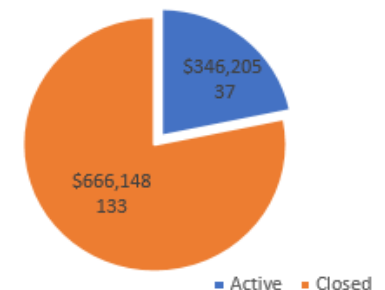


## FY21 Work Orders

(excluding Jail)



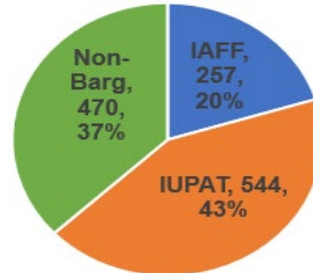
## Small Projects



# Human Resources

## Workforce

Employee Count 1,271  
Avg Age 46  
Avg Hourly Rate \$23.74  
Avg Years of Service 8.54



**Retention of New Hires**  
% completing probation

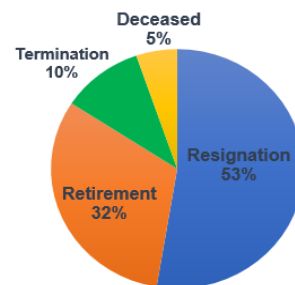
	July	YTD
% completing probation	89%	86.5%

## Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years 3.2%  
% of Workforce Retired this FY 2.4%

## Separations

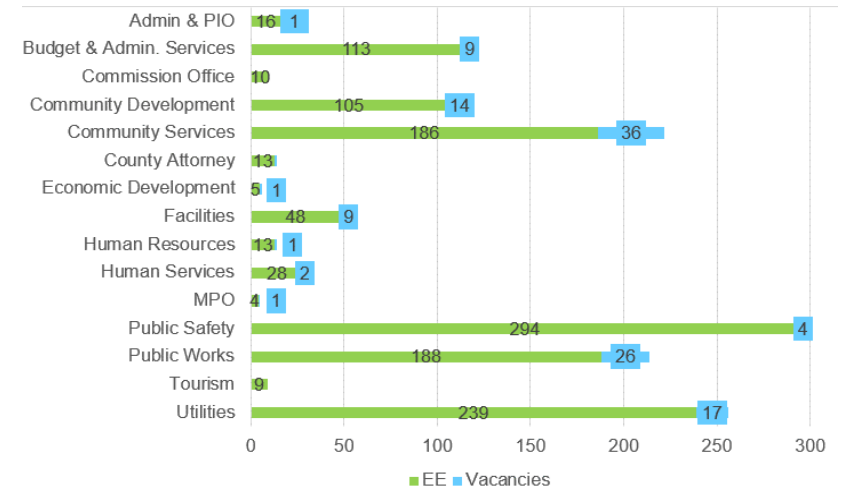
Turnover July 1.5% YTD 10.8%  
Separations July 19 YTD 137



## Training & Development

Training 1,063 Ee's 14.5 hrs 15,414 contact hrs  
% using Tuition Reimbursement 1%

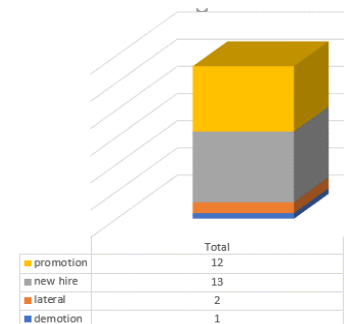
## Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 123

## Recruitment

Applications Taken 580  
Job Posting Hits 41,173  
New Hires 13  
Recruited Pos FT 43  
Posted PT/Sea 11





# Human Services

## Family Services Center to Open

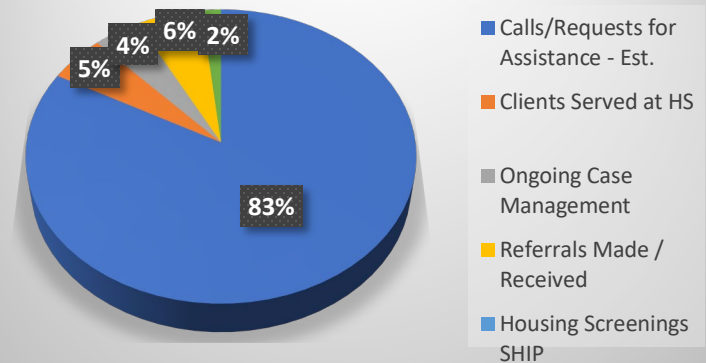
Phase 1 of the Family Services Center (FSC) is set to open in the Parkside Neighborhood by the end of September. The Neighborhood and Intake Services Divisions will be the first to move in August and will quickly be joined by six other local organizations or agencies: The Boys & Girls Club, Charlotte Behavioral Health, Charlotte County Sheriff, Jewish Family and Children's Services, Florida Department of Health, Charlotte Alliance for a Safe and Drug Free Community and The Hearing Impaired Persons of Charlotte County. The concept behind the FSC is to offer a shared vision, common intake process, defined, shared roles and collective outcomes that will ensure efficient, effective and successful delivery of services to County residents in need of support. Through collaboration, each organization will strengthen their individual missions and further the collective vision for a healthy, vibrant Charlotte County.



Family Services Center entrance above and offices, shared lobby and teaching kitchen below.

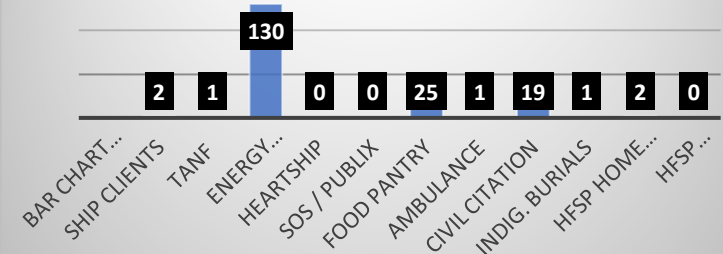


### Percent of Services

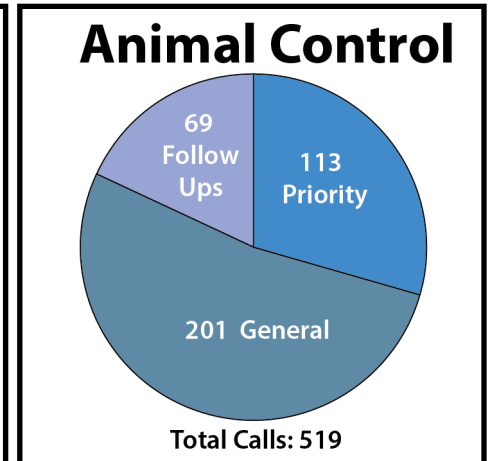
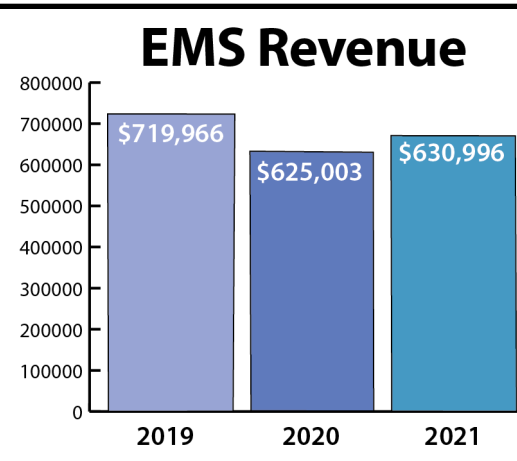
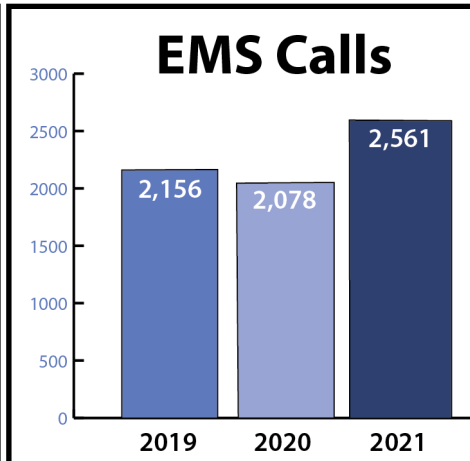
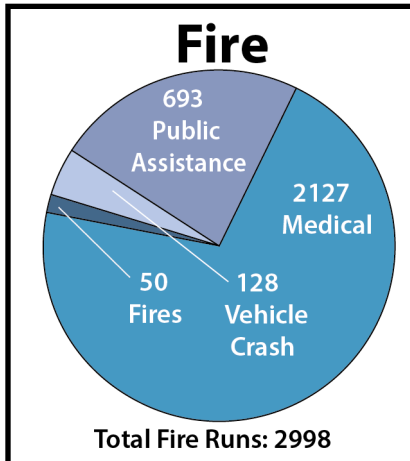


***"Connecting people and resources".***

### Programs by the Numbers



# Public Safety



## Hurricane Season

Public Safety started the month of July preparing for possible impacts from Hurricane Elsa. History shows Hurricane Elsa as the strongest July hurricane recorded in the Caribbean since the 2005 Hurricane Emily. Thankfully, Elsa moved past our county in the Gulf of Mexico on a parallel track to our state and our area suffered only a few minor effects.

Elsa served as a good exercise for Emergency Management and our county as a whole. The Emergency Operation Center was staffed with decision-makers from all county departments and partnering agencies. For any storm, if it is severe, those who report to the EOC are ready to stay around the clock if necessary. That way, the decision-makers for the entire county are in the same room and can quickly and efficiently make vital decisions in their area of expertise for the good of the entire county.

In July, Public Safety Director and Chief of Charlotte County Fire & EMS returned from working in the collapsed condominium high rise in Miami's Surfside community. Chief Fair served as the Urban Search and Rescue Division supervisor because of his experience in search and rescue during Hurricanes Michael and Dorian.

Chief Fair was able to do national television interviews on both the Today Show and CNBC with Shepard Smith. He also shared his experience with a few of our local media partners.





CHARLOTTE COUNTY  
FLORIDA

# Public Works

## In the Works

Our Traffic Signs and Marking team is installing new raised pavement markers (RPMs) along Prospect Avenue after a recent change to double solid yellow road markings. This change to Prospect Ave denotes that passing is prohibited in both directions of travel.



## Did You Know

On Saturday, July 24, Public Works held a job fair at the Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center. They had an excellent turnout with 48 people in attendance. Public Works received 12 applications and filled five temporary positions. Additionally, there were 28 applications submitted for positions in other departments.



## Working Together

Charlotte County Public Works and Community Services Parks and Recreation division, have been busy cleaning up our roadways, parks, and facilities in the wake of Hurricane Elsa.



Larvicide:	7,234 acres or 11.3 sq. miles - 60 treatments
Adulticide:	673,385 acres or 1,053 sq. miles - 127 treatments
Landing rate counts performed	460
Number of CDC traps distributed and collected	157
Total number of mosquitos Identified to species	1262
Accela Complaints resolved	344
Telephone complaint resolved	260
Aquatics invoiced	\$ 54,647.55 to MSBUs, Mitigation Sites, and Right of Way.

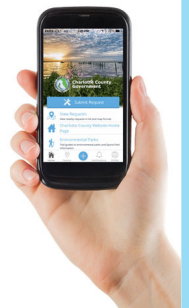
## Charlotte County Application Requests July 2021

Requests Received

**137**

Requests Completed

**353**





## Key Performance Indicators

### Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT (Current Month)

Jun-20	\$374,896	↑ 69.1%
Jun-21	\$633,952	

### Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT (Prev Month)

May-20	\$158,981	↑ 195.0%
May-21	\$468,992	

## PureFlorida.com

### Website Traffic

Users: 64,048

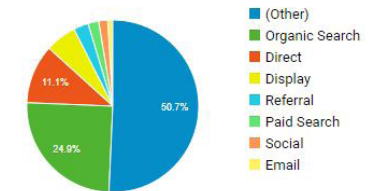
Pageviews: 130,354

Top Origin Markets:  
FL, NY, IL, OH, PA, GA, NJ, NC, IN, MA

New vs. Returning Visitors: 86.7% vs.  
13.3%

### Digital Channel Breakdown

Digital Channel Breakdown: July 1 – 31, 2021



## Sports July 2021

### Recent Events

#### Sandlot Adventure Park – Mad Max 4th Bash Drag Racing

Sandlot Adventure Park/July 1-4, 2021

The Sandlot Adventure Park held its inaugural 4th of July Mud Drag Races. Hundreds of drag racers from throughout Florida traveled to compete for over \$5000 in cash and prizes and to experience the all-new Mud Zone. Next year the classes will expand to attract different vehicles racing across the mud pits.



#### Peace River Riders - Wheels & Wings Race and Ride

Punta Gorda/July 10-11, 2021

Over 400 cyclist racers and enthusiasts traveling from as far as North Carolina participated in the XI annual race and ride. Riders had a chance to experience the beauty of biking through downtown Punta Gorda and ending at Beef O'Brady's for great food, awards and bragging rights.



#### Prospect Wire Baseball – National Championship

Charlotte Sports Park/ Centennial Park/July 24-28, 2021

Charlotte County was home to Prospect Wire National Championship. Their business model attracts the best athletes and teams in the nation by using spring training facilities and providing exposure to college and major league baseball recruiters. Over 1100 athletes participated between the Rays and Braves spring training home fields. This high caliber events created over 4000 room nights with an economic impact of over \$4.2 million.

#### Prospect Wire Baseball – State Championship

Charlotte Sports Park/July 31-Aug. 3, 2021

Charlotte County Sports Park was home to Prospect Wire State Championship. Over 600 athletes took to the fields and stadium to crown the next State Champion. The tournaments' athletes, coaches and families booked over 2000 room nights and generated an economic impact of \$2.4 million.



### SPORTS CORNER

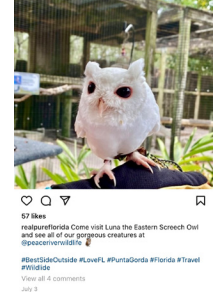
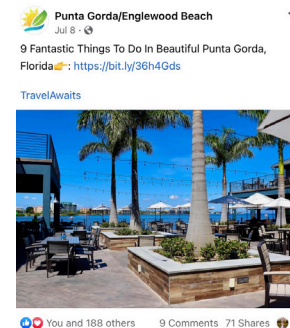
The VCB Sports Division will be providing the Association of Pickleball Professionals (APP) a three-year sponsorship agreement while hosting their National and International tournament at the PicklePlex of Punta Gorda in February 2022 - 2024. This sponsorship will provide the APP an opportunity to leverage high caliber athletes and expand their marketing outreach to grow the event.

### Fun Facts:

- Nearly 180 million people traveled to a sports event in the U.S. in 2019 either as a participant or spectator which generated 69 million room nights.
- Sports travelers, event organizers, and venues spent \$45.1 billion in 2019, which generated \$103.3 billion in business sales when including indirect and induced impacts.

## Public Relations/Media July 2021

A total of 28 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of over 35 million and a media ad value of approximately \$290K.



The Military Heritage Museum shared news of a special delivery happening in June, the Huey Project. The Huey Project is the acquisition and display of a Bell UH-1 helicopter, universally known as a Huey.

You can read all about it at [The Huey Project - Home | Facebook](#).





## -National- Water Quality Month



- **August—National Water Quality Month:** Charlotte County Utilities' mission is to provide safe, reliable drinking water for the enrichment of the community.
- **Hurricane Season 2021:** It is essential to prepare for a hurricane, especially regarding your water and sewer. Our hurricane preparedness flyer provides a check list of tasks and supplies.  
[Hurricane Preparedness: Utilities](#)

## **IMPACTS**

- **Loveland Grand Master Lift Station:** Loveland Boulevard from Midas Court to Wickens Avenue will be closed until Aug. 27.  
**Additional Impacts:**  
[Emergency Utility Notices](#)

## UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **Ackerman Septic to Sewer Project:** Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 2,135 properties with sewer service. Zones 1, 2 and the vacuum station are currently underway. Crews have started on the water main replacement along Ackerman Avenue.  
For project information:  
[AckermanProject.com](#)
- **Deep Creek Sewer Force Main Replacement:** Construction of a larger sewer force main to improve transmission capacity for the Deep Creek neighborhood. This project also includes pumping improvements at several lift stations along the project route. Crews are restoring the easements and roadway crossings along Rampart Boulevard.  
[Project Map](#)
- **El Jobean Septic to Sewer Project:** Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 300 properties with sewer service. On-site sewer connections to the vacuum sewer system is on schedule to start within the month for Zones 1 & 2.  
For project information:  
[ElJobeanProject.com](#)
- **Loveland Grand Master Lift Station:** Master Lift Station and 48" Gravity Interceptor, 14,000 LF of 48" pipe and 2,800 LF of 24" pipe. Crews are currently testing out the system. Loveland Boulevard is expected to be opened by the end of August.  
**Utilities Projects:**  
[Utilities Projects | Charlotte County, FL](#)  
[\(charlottecountyfl.gov\)](#)

## OPERATIONS

- **Calls:** 6,906
- **Call Wait Time:** 1 minute 33 seconds
- **Total Customer Accounts:** 64,721
- **Sewer Connections:** 41,968
- **Water Connections:** 64,074

### Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **3 Misc.—Utilities Department**
- **7 Utilities Billing**
- **5 Utilities Department Service**  
**15 Total**

**1,166 Facebook Page Likes**

### **2020 Water Quality Reports:**

<https://tinyurl.com/2020-CCR-PeaceRiver>  
<https://tinyurl.com/2020-CCR-BurntStore>

### Important Information:

**Water shutoffs and late fees resumed on July 6, 2021. Customers with previous past due bills will be automatically enrolled in a payment plan.**

**Customer Support is available at  
941.764.4300 or  
CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov**

### Payment Options

**Providing safe, reliable  
drinking water and  
wastewater service  
since 1991.**

