



Monthly Report

October 2021

1% Local Option Sales Tax Update Delivered

The County Commission last month received an update on 2014 and 2020 1% local option sales tax projects. The sales tax was first approved by Charlotte County voters in 1994 and renewed five times since, including last November.

The sales tax has generated more than \$500 million to fund investments in parks, recreation centers, libraries, roads, school safety, fire stations, sheriff's offices, the county jail and Justice Center and more. In addition to the 85 projects funded by the tax, another 33 have been funded in the City of Punta Gorda, which receives about 10% of the revenue generated. The 2020 extension approved by voters in November 2020 will fund another 24

county and 14 city projects.

Fourteen of the Tier 1 2014 projects have been completed, including recreation centers at Centennial Park and Ann and Chuck Dever Regional Park, the Mac V. Horton West County Annex, the Family Services Center and the Punta Gorda Charlotte Library. In addition, the widening of Ole-an Boulevard is nearing completion and the expansion of the Placida boat ramp is under design.

Projects to be funded by the 2020 extension include three new or replacement fire stations, an administration and hardened 911 building and a new District 4 facility for the Charlotte County

Sheriff's Office, a new Port Charlotte Beach Park recreation center, further widening of Edgewater Drive, improvements at G.C. Herring and William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial parks, water quality projects and the county's share of the Florida Department of Transportation's Harborview Road widening.

Work is underway on the Public Safety Department's airport rescue and firefighting training facility. The project will be completed in May 2022. The school district has already received its funding for security upgrades. For information about sales tax projects, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/departments/administration/sales-tax



The Human Services Department's Family Service Center is now open at 21500 Gibraltar Drive in Port Charlotte. It was funded by the voter-approved 2014 1% local option sales tax.

Communications Report Available on County Website

The Public Information Office published its inaugural Digital Communications Report last month as part of a new strategic communications plan. The report includes metrics on the ways we communicate with residents and stakeholders via our website, social media portals, emergency alerts and television. To view the report, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/departments/pio/digital-report.stml.

Digital Communications Report

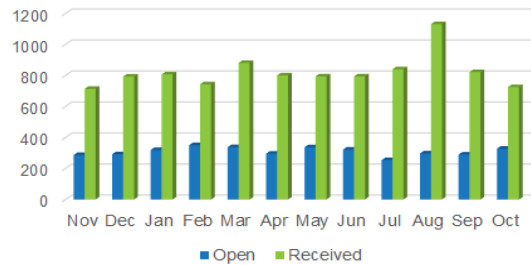
July-Sept 2021



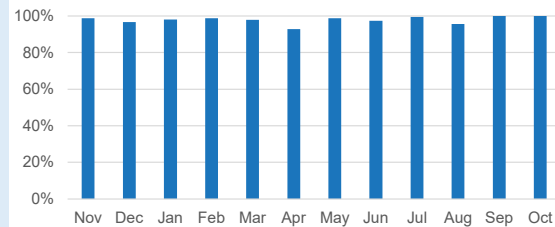
Website 2
App/Contact Us 3
AlertCharlotte 4
CharCoCares 4
Constant Contact 4
CC-TV/Granicus 4
Social Media Overview 5
Facebook 6
Instagram 18
Twitter 22
YouTube 24
Nextdoor 25
LinkedIn 25
TikTok 26

Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

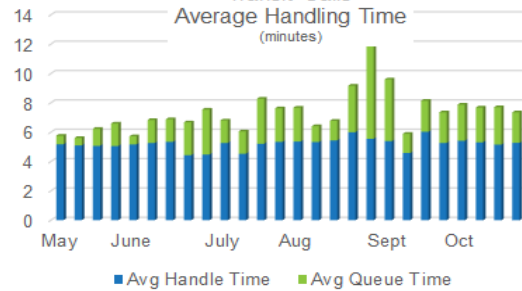


Customer Satisfaction
% Positive

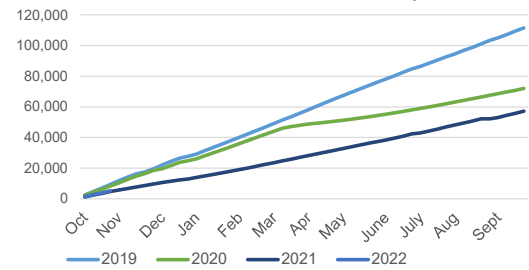


Transit

Transit Calls
Average Handling Time
(minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



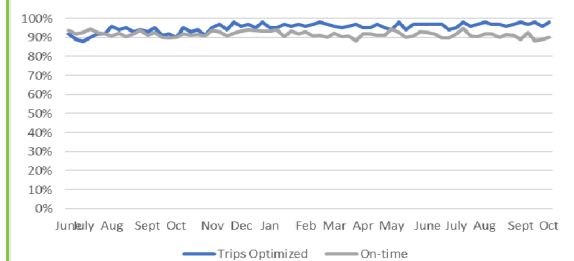
Director Highlights

Transit

Many exciting improvements have been in the works at Transit. In 2020, the Transit system launched into the cloud and cradle points were installed in all new vehicles to improve connectivity of tablets. With the cradle points, clients are provided free Wi-Fi on board and management can monitor buses with real time access to cameras. In summer 2020, Transit staff received training on the updated system and improving optimization. Optimization is up to 96% over the past fiscal year. The focus this year will be purchasing and testing an on-demand version of the Uber App in the Port Charlotte area. We are optimistic for launch in early 2022. Transit and Fleet have also been looking into electric vehicle options and the infrastructure that would be involved. Overall, the future is bright!

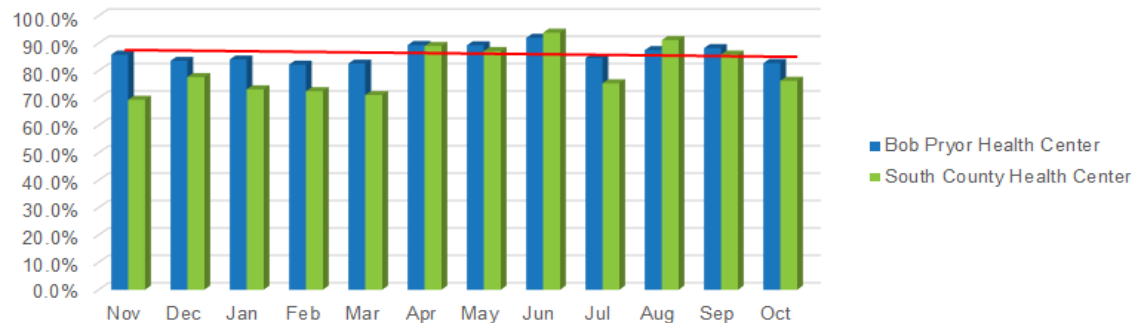
October 2021

Scheduled Transit Trips



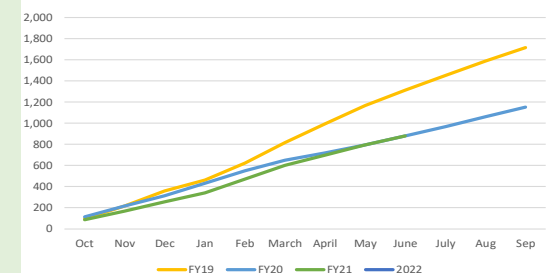
Health Center

Employee Health Center
Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



Records Management

Record Requests



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?



PLANNING STAGE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



COMPLETED!!



Babcock Preserve

43720 Bluebird Tr., Punta Gorda
154 two-family units with amenity area.

North Port Plaza

14520 Chancellor Boulevard, Port Charlotte
A one-story 15,300 sq. ft. shopping plaza.

Springs at West Port

1080 West Port Boulevard., Port Charlotte
216 multi-family residential apartments within seven buildings, clubhouse, and detached parking garages.

Village Marketplace

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

Dunkin Donuts and Heartland Dental

5605 S. McCall Road, Port Charlotte
Retail Development consisting of a Dunkin' Donuts and dental office.

Urgent Care Facility

19580 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte
5,100 sq. ft. retail/medical building.

Babcock Ranch Apartments

17174 Curry Preserve, Punta Gorda
373-unit multi-family residential development with an

Tommy's Express Car Wash

19010 Murdock Circle,
Port Charlotte
5,199 sq. ft. automated car wash.



BJ's Wholesale

19150 Quesada Ave.,
Port Charlotte
103,120 sq. ft. retail building with associated infrastructure.

76 Gas Station and Daybreak Market

19100 Peachland Blvd.,
Port Charlotte
Gas station and convenience store, with drive thru restaurant, stand-alone automated car wash.



Pit Stop

26455 Jones Loop,
Punta Gorda
Tire sales and auto service establishment.

Starbucks

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



Modwash Car Wash

19740 Cochran Blvd.,
Port Charlotte
Automated car wash.

Sunseeker

4949 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte
Mixed-use development consisting of 783 hotel units, restaurants, bars, and retail, located in the Charlotte Harbor CRA.



PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

Babcock Update

- 1,531 Single Family permits submitted since August 2016
- 1,134 Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016
- Single Family Permits Issued—Babcock: 42
- Single Family Certificate of Occupancy Issued—Babcock: 29

Murdock Village Update

County Commission accepted Kolter Development's proposal for the final (middle) portion of Murdock Village. This will be a continuation of the West Port Development.

Sunseeker Resort Update

Construction has resumed, topping of the first building anticipated by years end.

Total Single Family Permits Issued: 222
Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 118
Total Permits Issued for the month: 2,963
Total Permits Issued FY20-21: 35,240
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2020—Sept. 2021)
Total Permits Issued FY21-22: 2,963
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2021—Sept. 2022)

PERMITTING SNAPSHOT

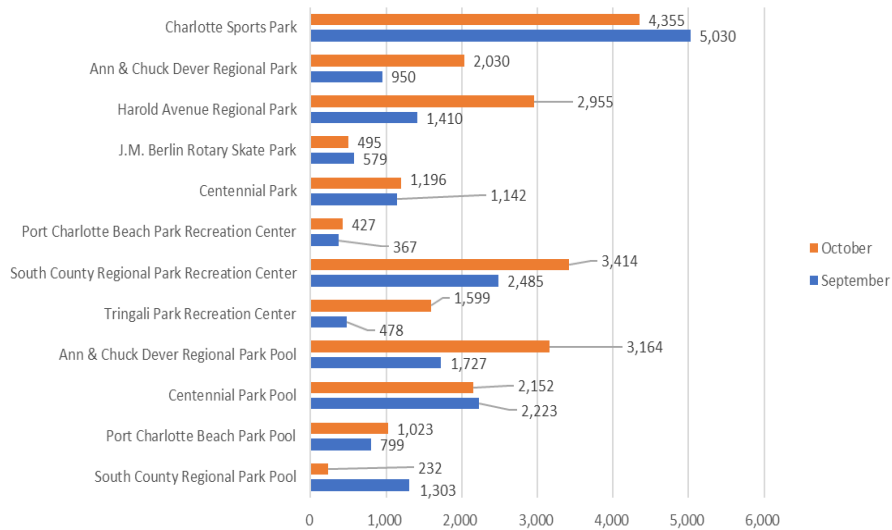


CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Community Development

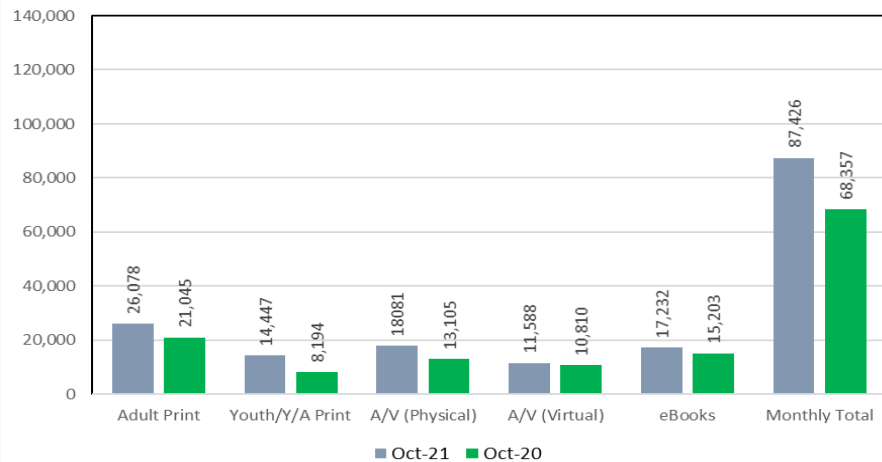
October 2021

Community Services

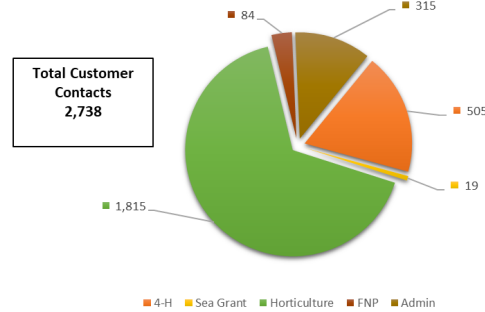
**Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities
Monthly Attendance**



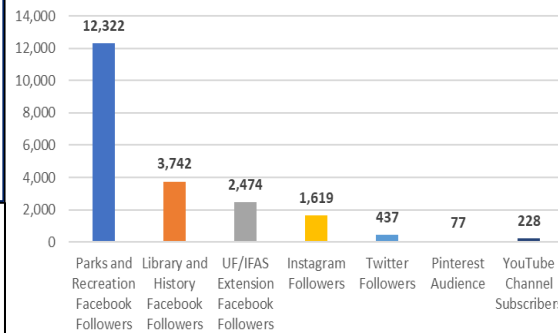
2020 - 2021 Circulation Comparison



**UF/IFAS Extension Service
Customer Contacts**



Social Media Impact



Coastal Management

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels Program

- 3 removed
- 2 letters sent
- 6 open cases

Coastal Lighting

- 10 permit reviews
- 4 inspections

Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 315 youth leagues and adult softball practices
- 1 baseball tournament
- 7,024 trash bags collected
- 878 recycling bags collected

Land Management

- 87.4 miles trails maintained
- 13.4 treated
- 15.6 mulched
- 14.6 miles of trails in habitat treated.

Project Management

- 27 projects /\$1,507,000

Sea Turtles

1,630 Loggerhead
95 Green
1 Kemps Ridley

Florida Economic Development Council Innovation in Marketing Award

In October the Economic Development Office was recognized at the Florida Economic Development Council's Annual Conference by being awarded the Innovation in Marketing Award for last year's digital marketing campaigns. It's an honor to be recognized by our state's Economic Development Council. Our marketing campaigns highlighted our beautiful community, our workforce, and our pro-business attitude. We are fortunate we have such a wonderful community to feature in our marketing campaigns. Our office works with the Charlotte County based marketing firm, Marketing Alliance, in our marketing efforts. Their fantastic team helps take our ideas and turns them into stylish and innovative marketing campaigns. The award will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on Tuesday, November 23rd. See part of our latest digital marketing campaign below.



Charlotte County, Florida Economic Development ✓
Published by Hootsuite · October 21 at 10:15 AM ·

When Cheney Brothers needed a linchpin location for their fast-moving Florida distribution network, Charlotte County was the obvious choice. Now the company covers the entire FL market rapidly and cost-effectively with its Ocala-Rivera Beach-Charlotte County network. And from Charlotte County, Cheney drivers can deliver as far north as Tampa and as far south as Naples and still be home in time for dinner. And Charlotte County delivers other advantages like lower costs and taxes, less regulation and more. See <https://cleared4takeoff.com/logistics>. #ComeSeeForYourself #CharlotteCountyFL



Cleared4Takeoff.com



SCORE Drop-In Mentoring



The Economic Development Office has partnered with SCORE Port Charlotte's certified business mentors to provide cost-free mentoring for Charlotte County's small businesses.

The Drop-In mentoring is held at our office in our conference room once a month. SCORE will resume these mentoring sessions in January 2022. The date and time will be announced on our social media soon.

Cost-Free Business Assistance


If you are in-business, starting a business
or interested in growing your business;
join us Friday, October 29th
Charlotte County Economic Development offices.



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

2020 Sales Tax Projects



The 2020 1% local option sales tax approved by the citizens in November 2020 will fund several new facilities to improve the quality of life and public safety of Charlotte County. The following active projects were selected, ranked, and approved by the Board of County Commissioners as a tier one level priority.

- ◆ Family Services Center Phase 2 – Contracts were finalized with Tandem Construction as the Construction Manager at Risk for Phase 2, allowing for design to kick-off in November.
- ◆ Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center – Design firm ranking and recommendation for Board approval is on the November 23rd agenda.
- ◆ Sheriff Administration Support / 911 Facility – This project is in contract negotiations with design firm and construction manager.
- ◆ District 4 Sheriff Office with Training Facility – The design Request for Proposals was completed and submitted to Purchasing for processing.
- ◆ Supervisor of Elections Warehouse – Contract negotiations with the design firm are in progress.

Progress

- ◆ Conceptual design plans for the new landfill scale house were sent to stakeholders for review and comments.
- ◆ Schematic design deliverables were received and distributed for staff review and contractor estimating for the Placida Boat Ramp Expansion project.



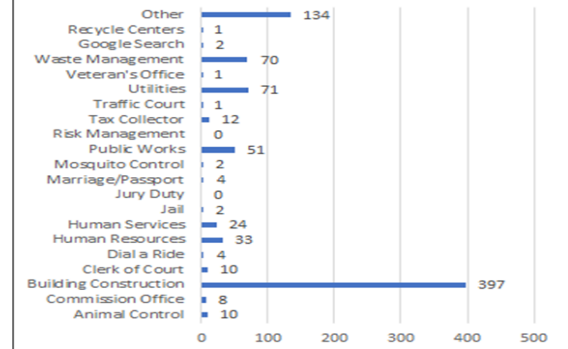
- ◆ Airport Rescue & Fire Fighter (ARFF) Simulator progress included completion of all the deep buried conduit for the simulator, roof dry-in of the control building, and the underdrain system installation for the fire pits. The 18,000 gallon liquid propane (LP) tank was delivered and installed. Construction of the water reclaim structure and forming of the fire pit pads will be next.

- ◆ Facilities is working with FPC and HVAC staff on the design for installing storefront access doors and glass in the northeast entrance of the Murdock Administration Building B.

- ◆ The old Family Services Center building was demolished in October, making way for the future Phase 2 building to be built adjacent to the recently completed Phase 1 building.

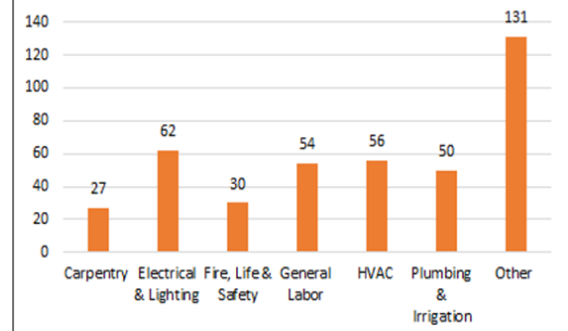


FY22 Switchboard Calls- October

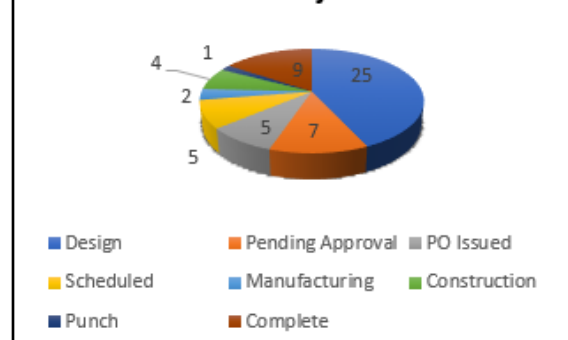


FY22 Work Orders Created- October

(excluding Jail)



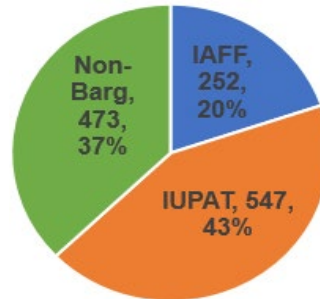
FY22 Small Projects- October



Human Resources

Workforce

Employee Count 1,272
Avg Age 46
Avg Hourly Rate \$24.35
Avg Years of Service 8.52



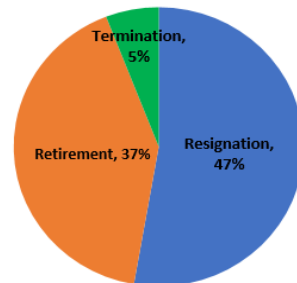
Retention of New Hires	October	YTD
% completing probation	83%	83.0%

Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years	3.1%
% of Workforce Retired this FY	0.6%

Separations

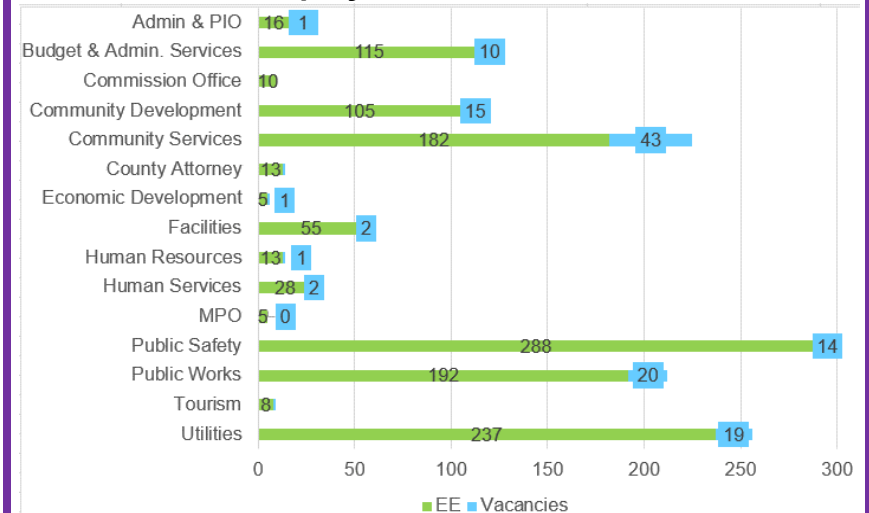
	October	YTD
Turnover	1.3%	1.3%
Separations	17	17



Training & Development

Training	49 EE's	11 hrs	539 contact hrs
% using Tuition Reimbursement		1%	

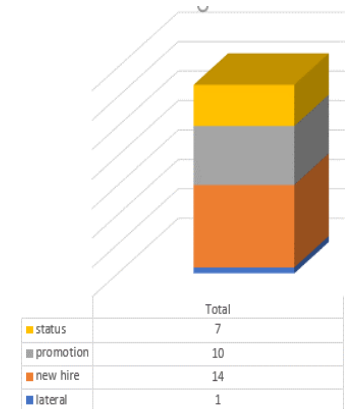
Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 130

Recruitment

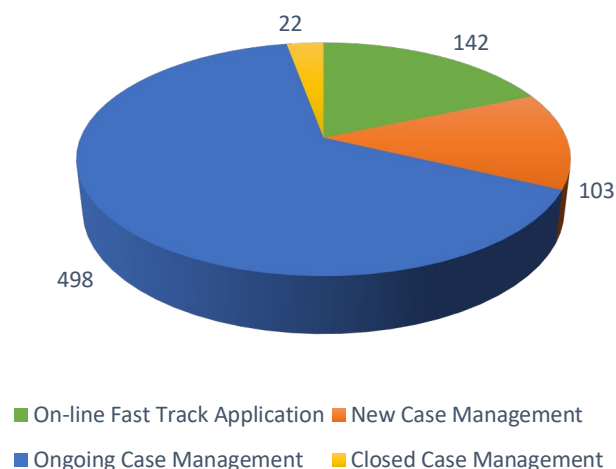
Applications Taken	632
Job Posting Hits	28,397
New Hires	14
Recruited Pos FT	47
Posted PT/Sea	9



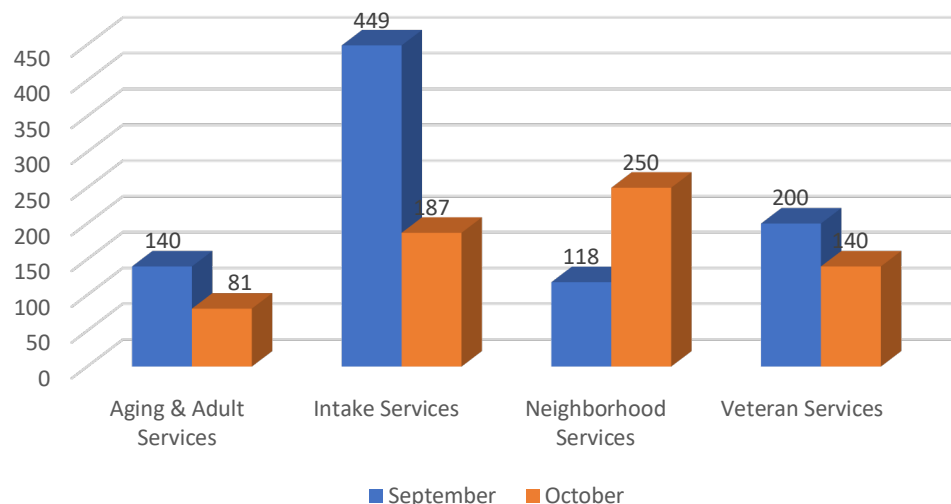
MAKING WAVES

This past month, Human Services advanced its goal of laying new groundwork for affordable housing in Charlotte County. On Tuesday Oct. 26th, the Board of County Commissioners approved a \$1.5 million loan to Blue Skies Communities, Inc., a development company who has proposed building 178 affordable apartments on Loveland Boulevard, this loan permitted them to submit a bid for a 4% tax credit for financing from the State of Florida. To learn more about local affordable housing plans and initiatives, we encourage everyone to follow the upcoming meetings of the Community Action Agency Advisory Board (meets the 4th Thursday of January) and the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (meets on the 3rd Wednesday in December).

October 2021 Case Management and Fast Track Applications



October 2021 Number of Clients Served by Division



COMPLETE

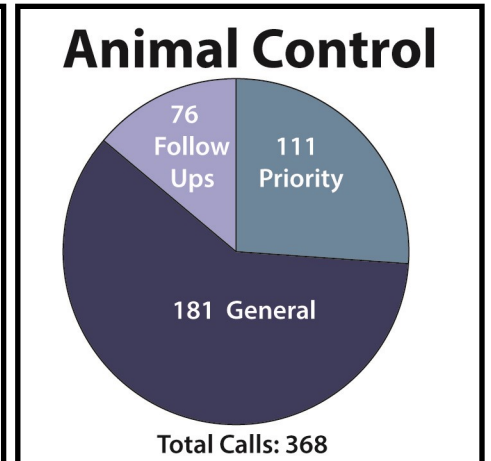
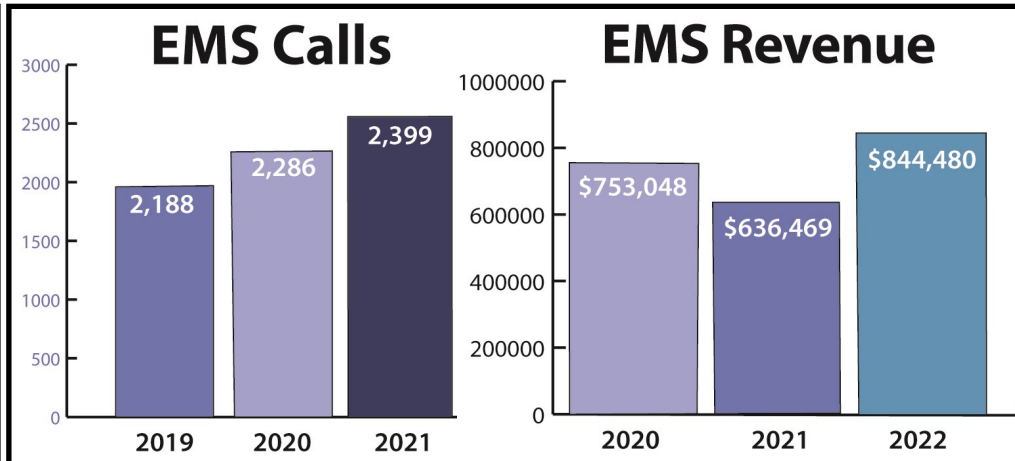
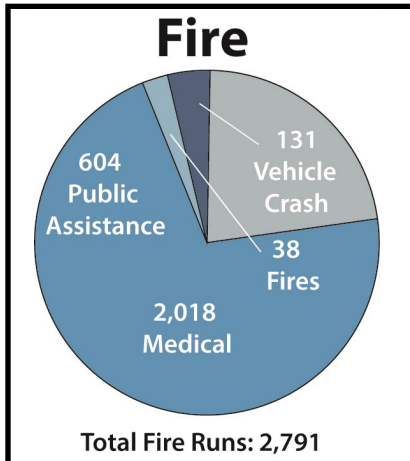
As part of ongoing outreach, the Aging & Adults, Veterans and Intake Services Divisions represented the Department in 3 outreach activities and/or Job Fairs held at the Punta Gorda Air Show, Charlotte Harbor Events & Confr. Center and the Family Services Center.

ON THE HORIZON

An official ribbon cutting ceremony has been planned for Phase 1 of the Family Services Center. Please join us November 24, 2021, at 8 am to meet staff and tour our facility at 21500 Gibraltar Drive, Port Charlotte.



Public Safety



Fire Prevention Month 2021

The theme of Fire Prevention Week 2021 was “Learn the Sound of Fire Safety.” Generally, the audience for fire prevention is school-age children, but this year’s theme also has some good reminders and takeaways for adults.

Working smoke alarms save lives, cutting the risk of dying in a home fire in half. Smoke alarms should be installed and maintained in every home. Where should you put a smoke alarm, you ask? Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Install alarms in the basement. Larger homes may require additional smoke alarms to provide a minimum level of protection.

Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home for the best protection. When one sounds, they all sound. Make sure you can hear the sound of the smoke alarm. It is especially important to have interconnected smoke alarms, if you sleep with doors closed.

Choose a smoke alarm that is listed by a qualified testing laboratory. Install smoke alarms away from the kitchen to prevent nuisance alarms. They should be at least 10 feet from a cooking appliance.

Photoelectric smoke alarms are the best type of alarms to be installed near the kitchen and bathrooms to reduce nuisance alarms.

Test smoke alarms at least once a month using the test button. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for cleaning to keep smoke alarms working. The instructions are included in the package or can be found on the internet. Finally, replace smoke alarms every ten years.





In the Works

The paving operations are officially in Phase V of the North West Port Charlotte MSBU. Did you know that once this contract is completed, all phases of this MSBU will have been paved within the last four years with approximately 100,000 tons of asphalt placed?

This project is ahead of schedule with a projected completion date of December 2021.

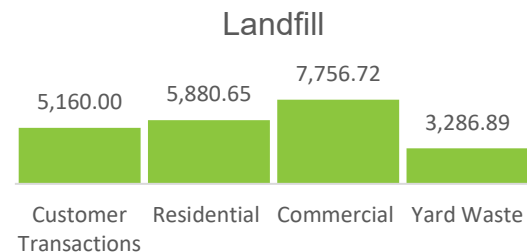


Did You Know

Pipe Lining is a process that involves inserting or placing a composite material within an existing drainage or utility pipe to restore or extend the useful life of the pipe. Here we have a 48-inch driveway pipe lining on Bermont Road.



Solid Waste



TRANSFER FACILITIES

REFUSE AND YARD WASTE	1,780	2,021
RECYCLING	552	716
SHARP	73	112
H. H. W.	303	381

■ Mid County ■ West County:



Larvicide: **1016.08 acres or 1.6 sq. miles - 12 treatments**

Adulticide: **76,443 acres or 119 sq. miles - 37 treatments**

Landing rate counts performed 300

Number of CDC traps distributed and collected 60

Total number of mosquitos Identified to species 2634

Accela Complaints resolved 52

Telephone complaint resolved 952

Aquatics invoiced **\$ 63,902.31**

Charlotte County Application Requests October 2021

Requests Received

201

Requests Completed

333



Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT

(Current Month)

Sep-20	\$263,413		
Sep-21	\$347,249	↑	31.8%

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT

(Prev Month)

Aug-20	\$252,858		
Aug-21	\$323,148	↑	27.8%

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

Users: 27,865

Pageviews: 72,021

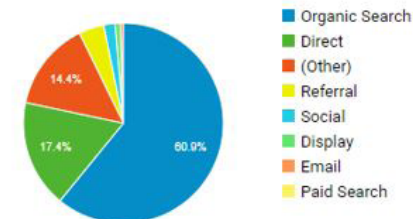
Top Origin Markets:

FL, NY, IL, OH, GA, PA, NC, NJ, IN, TN

New vs. Returning Visitors: 82.6% vs. 17.4%

Digital Channel Breakdown

Digital Channel Breakdown: October 1 – 31, 2021



Sports October 2021

RECENT EVENTS

Perfect Game Baseball- Florida Fall Select

Charlotte Sports Park//September 30- October 3, 2021

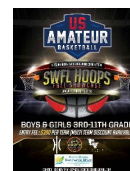
Charlotte Sports Park was the host of Perfect Game's Regional Fall Baseball Tournament. 1500 participants took the field to compete as the regions best team traveling from across the State.



US Amateur Basketball - Southwest Florida Hoops Fall Showcase

Centennial Park, Harold Avenue Park & South County Regional Park//October 16-17, 2021

Four of Charlotte County's gymnasiums were home to this inaugural Fall showcase. 276 athletes from 5th grade through 12th grade boys & girls showcased their talent on the courts.



Florida Half Century Softball - 50's Duel Tournament

Carmalita Park//October 16-17, 2021

Over 450 athletes and their families traveled to Port Charlotte from across the State to participate in the Duel. Generating over 400 room nights and an economic impact of \$348,000.

USSSA Prostyle Baseball- Victory in Pink

Centennial Park & South County Regional Park//October 23-24, 2021

Prostyle's Victory in Pink tournament had 70 teams participating, some traveling from Miami and the East Coast, supporting breast cancer awareness month by showing off their pink.



FHSAA – Class 2A Region 4 High School Swim Meet

Centennial Park Pool//October 23, 2021

The Sea Dragon's Swim Club, in partnership with the Florida High School Athletic Association, hosted to this region 4 swim meet at Centennial Park Aquatic Center. Top boys and girls swimming and diving teams traveled from the West coast of Florida to compete in this conference meet.

PicklePlex of Punta Gorda – Halloween Havoc

PicklePlex of Punta Gorda//October 29-31, 2021

The PicklePlex of Punta Gorda hosted their 2nd annual Halloween Haunting amateur pickleball tournament. Over 300 participants competed to be crowned the best individual and team players in their respective divisions.

FUN FACTS

- Basketball is the number one sport when it comes to the number of colleges that participate. Shockingly, the second sport is cross country. Cross country has 2,056 teams spread over the country since it is a convenient sport and does not require the equipment, complex or financial obligation.

Social Media October 2021

#BestSideOutside

@RealPureFlorida





Centennial Manhole Scavenger Hunt

Have you spotted one of our Centennial sewer manhole covers?

Send your photo of the manhole and location to CCUPR@CharlotteCountyFL.gov. All submissions will receive a prize!



Please exercise caution while taking your photos of the manhole cover.

- **Centennial Manhole Scavenger Hunt:** Centennial manhole covers have been installed throughout the county. Have you spotted one? Send us a photo and the location to CCUPR@CharlotteCountyFL.gov and receive a prize.



Due to water facility maintenance in our region, the delivery of normal water quantities is being impacted, reducing the pressure throughout our entire system.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **El Jobean Septic to Sewer Project:** Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 300 properties with sewer service. On-site sewer connections for Phase 1 and 2 have started. Residents will receive a door hanger approximately one week before the connection of your home.
For project information: ElJobeanProject.com
- **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 Ave. Residents may experience low pressure while crews are testing and flushing the new water lines. Staff is constantly monitoring the water quality and it is safe for consumption while this work is occurring.
For project information: AckermanProject.com
- **Quesada Boulevard Sewer Force Main Replacement Project:** Replacement of 12-inch and 20-inch sewer force main along Quesada Blvd from the Master Lift Station to the Lion Heart waterway.
- **Deep Creek Sewer Force Main:** Construction of a larger sewer force main to improve transmission capacity for the Deep Creek neighborhood.
[Project Map](#)

Additional Utilities Projects:

[Utilities Projects | Charlotte County, FL](#)
(charlottecountyfl.gov)

OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 11,533
- **Call Wait Time:** 18 minutes 45 seconds
- **Total Customer Accounts:** 65,246
- **Sewer Connections:** 42,328
- **Water Connections:** 64,576

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- 5 Misc.—Utilities Department
- 7 Utilities Billing
- 9 Utilities Department Service
- 21 Total

1,403 Facebook Follows

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 24/7 at 941.764.4300 or CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov

Payment Options

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

