

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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## Community Development

Claire Jubb of Charlotte County Community Development gave a presentation to the Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Agency Advisory Committee on the National Flood Insurance Program and the 2012 reform legislation with a focus on the impacts to structures within the Charlotte Harbor CRA. Jerry Mallet, Emergency Management Coordinator, explained what funding was available for mitigation options for properties located in high hazard areas.

## Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

**Bridge Rehabilitation & Maintenance Program** – This project represents a comprehensive maintenance program for Charlotte County Bridges. The two year program provides for cyclical maintenance of Bridges and will range from minimal Bridge maintenance to complete Bridge replacement (to be budgeted separately). Currently, three (3) bridges in Northwest Port Charlotte are being reviewed for Slope Pavement repairs/replacement: Bridges 014040, 014047 and 014052.

Design is complete and the project package is under review by the Purchasing Department in preparation for bid solicitation. The construction contract should be out for bid in June 2013 with construction beginning in July 2013.

**Burnt Store Road Widening Project Phase Three** – This Project consists primarily of engineering design and plan preparation services for the widening of Burnt Store Road, between the Lee County Line and a point north of Zemel Road, from a two-lane undivided rural typical section to a four-lane divided suburban typical section. The Project will be comprised of determination of alignment, evaluation of typical section alternatives, stormwater management and drainage improvements, application of access management standards, bicycle/pedestrian facilities, a signalized intersection, (may include street lighting) and utility relocations, additions, and adjustments. Charlotte County Real Estate Services is in the process of acquiring property along Burnt Store Road between the Lee County Line and a point north of Zemel Road.

On April 30, 2013 the County acquired all property necessary to construct the new alignment for Burnt Store Road Phase 3. Construction is projected to begin in January 2014.

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Transportation Regional Incentive Program (TRIP) Agreement was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on May 28, 2013 and was forwarded to FDOT for final execution. This agreement provides \$3.1 million dollars in funding for construction of the Burnt Store Road Phase 3 project.

**Charlotte Harbor Gateway Harbor Walk, Phase One** – This project is to design and construct pedestrian and boater access to Charlotte Harbor. The Charlotte Harbor Community Redevelopment Area (CHCRA) is interested in providing continuous pedestrian access from Bayshore Live Oak Park to Chester Roberts Park and to improve boater access to the harbor. A request for the advancement of funds will be resubmitted to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) after the Transportation Bill is approved.

**Edgewater Drive Widening Phase Two** – This project will widen Edgewater Drive, between Harbor Boulevard and Midway Boulevard, to a four-lane arterial roadway, designed to better serve the central portion of the County and accommodate anticipated traffic growth in the corridor. The project will include replacing three bridges (West Spring Lake Waterway, East Spring Lake Waterway, and Sunrise Waterway) and improving five intersections, four of which will be roundabouts. Improvements include a raised median, curb and gutter, sidewalks/bike lanes, and landscaping.

100% design plans have been received and are under review. Once the review is complete, the package will be submitted to the Purchasing Department in preparation for bid solicitation. The BCC approved a change order to include a round-about in the design of the West Tarpon intersection; the revised design requires a permit modification. Construction is estimated to begin in January 2014.

**GPC Bridge Rehab – Sheehan Blvd Over Yale Waterway** – This project will rehabilitate the existing Bridge on Sheehan Boulevard over the Yale Waterway. The existing Bridge was built in 1968 therefore the Bridge deck and rails are substandard. Sales Tax Funds will supplement MSBU Funds allowing for the inclusion of sidewalks on both sides of the Bridge. The rehabilitation will widen the structure to accommodate sidewalks, replace the bridge deck and install a barrier wall. Design is at 60% completion with construction estimated to begin in early 2014.

**Harborview Road Bridge Over DeSoto Canal** – This project is to design and construct a replacement for the DeSoto Canal Bridge on Harborview Road approximately 0.35 miles east of Rio de Janeiro Avenue. Design is complete and bid documents are in the Purchasing Department undergoing preparation for bid solicitation. Construction is anticipated to begin in August 2013.

**Parkside – Aaron Street Sidewalks** – This sidewalk will be installed on Aaron Street from an existing sidewalk on Gertrude Avenue to an existing sidewalk on Harbor Boulevard. This design will link a large network of sidewalks that already exist and that are planned for the Parkside area. The 90% design plans have been reviewed and comments returned to the design engineer. The addition of trees or landscaping is being considered for this project. The construction date will coincide with the Parkside improvements as they roll out.

**Parkside - Elkcarn Boulevard Multi Use Path** – This project will construct a 10' multi-use path with street (shade) trees along the west side of Elkcarn Boulevard and decorative trees on the east side, in association with the planned utility work by Charlotte County Utilities.

The County is currently seeking an Environmental Resource Permit from SWFWMD. The 90% construction plans and 90% landscape plans are under review. Construction is estimated to begin in September 2013.

A change order was previously added to include landscape design including street trees, irrigation, and associated design specifications. Charlotte County and Johnson Engineering staff met with the Parkside CRA Tree Committee and the following trees were chosen: Street trees - Live Oak, Sweet Gum & Sycamore. Decorative trees: East Palatka Holly, Fringe Tree & Walter Viburnum.

**Parkside - Harbor Boulevard Improvements (US 41 to Olean Boulevard)** – This project is to conduct a Road Feasibility and Traffic Study (Phase 1) followed by design of roadway improvements (Phase 2) to Harbor Boulevard from US 41, including gateway, to Olean Boulevard. The design will include multi-use paths, curb and gutter, wayfinding, and other amenities.

A Public Information Meeting was held May 22, 2013 at the Cultural Center where three design options for Harbor Boulevard improvements were presented. These design options are available for viewing on this webpage: <http://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/CRA/Parkside/Pages/default.aspx>. Charlotte County residents are encouraged to vote for their preferred design option—details at the webpage, and a ballot box and display boards are also available at the Port Charlotte Library, 2280 Aaron Street, Port Charlotte, FL 33952. Votes and suggestions will be collected through June 14, 2013. After June 14th, all votes and suggestions will be tallied and presented to the Board of County Commissioners at the July 23, 2013 board meeting.

**Tom Adam's Bridge** – Phase 2 of the Tom Adams Bridge Rehabilitation will replace the tender house, electrical, and mechanical equipment. The proposed tender house will provide visibility of traffic and pedestrians approaching the structure when the bridge is being opened or closed. Currently, the bridge tender's view is obstructed. Design consultants are preparing construction plans and permit applications.

The County received 60% design plans for review and the design engineer is addressing comments. Renderings from the Public Meeting held January 16, 2013 are available on the Project Status Updates Web site. Construction is projected to begin in January 2014.

**Traffic Signing & Marking** accomplishments from May 1 – June 1, 2013

- Wounded Warrior signs installed throughout Charlotte County complexes.
- Herbicide = 502 objects (Truck at Fleet for repairs - several weeks)
- Legends Installed = 571
- New Signs Installed = 24
- Marine Markers Repaired = 71

- Road Striping = 119,347 Linear Feet
- Signs Inspected = 5316
- Signs Manufactured = 194
- Signs Repaired = 1475
- Special Studies = 6: Functional Classification (Axels) and Truck studies for weights and motion
- Speed Studies = 7 (Sheriff Dept. Enforcement)
- Traffic Counts = 22 stations
- Trouble Calls (after hours) = 9

## **Community Services**

### **Charlotte Sports Park**

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted home games for the Charlotte Stone Crabs on the following dates with the below attendance: Friday, 5/31 – Canceled due to rain; Saturday, 6/1 – 701; Sunday, 6/2 (doubleheader) – 518

There were a total of three (3) Extended Spring Training games at the CSP last week with an estimated total of 79 total fans.

### **Tringali Recreation**

Saturday, June 1, 2013, from 7:00pm to 9:00pm Charlotte County Community Services hosted Summer Nights Dance for 6th to 8th graders, which was held at Tringali Recreation Center. The event was designed for middle school kids to come out and be with friends in a safe environment. Kids attending the dance had a blast playing games like limbo, had a hula hoop contest and guessed how much candy was in the jar. There were also multiple dance contests. Another dance is scheduled for July 13.

### **Harold Avenue Recreation**

Summer fun has officially begun at Harold Avenue Recreation Center. For the next 48 days the participants of the Charlotte County Community Services' Summer Camp will embark on a "Great Escape." The campers will participate in daily activities that are designed to immerse them into a world uniquely designed for them. To ensure that the campers receive the most of their experience, their first week was dedicated to learning about life at the center. The Harold Avenue Recreation offers activities to area children entering into grades K-5. In addition, game one of the Summer Youth Basketball League was completed on Saturday. During the course of the day, the center played host to 220 players and 450 spectators. Tip off took place at 8:00 am. The participants played two 20 minute halves allowing them the opportunity to demonstrate the skills that they acquired. The Youth Basketball Summer League will continue with nine more weeks of regular season games on Friday evenings 6:00-9:00pm and Saturdays beginning at 8am-4:00pm.

### **Port Charlotte Beach and Pool**

For the week of May 26-June 1 the Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 61 attend the water aerobics classes and 222 paid admissions.

The Recreation Center had one rental with expected attendance of 250.

The Dance with Daddy was a huge success. Thirty-Six dads and their girls, 81, in total, at event, had a great time dancing, making a craft project and taking lots of pictures together. The hula-hoop contest continues to be very entertaining especially when the dads attempt it. The girls on the other hand are very good at the hula hoop and we even had to do a 'hoop-off' to determine the winner.

### **South County Regional Park and Pool**

For the week of 5-29 through 6-4-13, South County Regional Park Pool had 397 paid admissions, was visited by 111 pass holders and had 36 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 9 swim practices resulting in approximately 480 "splashes". Learn to Swim Spring Session 4 continued with 9 classes and 46 participants. Summer Camp season has officially begun with 6 different summer camps utilizing the pool this past week. Charlotte County Summer camp visited the pool twice for a total of 150 'splashes'.

Camp at South County is in week 2. During the first week Bisque It Studio visited camp and the campers painted ceramic fish. During week 2 the elementary campers went to Chuck E Cheese and the middle school campers went to the Movie Theatre. Registration for week 2 was approximately 110 campers for elementary and middle school camps combined at South County. Staff is doing a wonderful job and there have been no major accidents or incidents.

### **Oyster Creek Regional Pool**

Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 615 paid admissions, was visited by 89 pass holders and had 57 water aerobics participants. The Charlotte County Blue Fins held 5 swim practices resulting in approximately 150 "splashes". Learn to swim Spring Session 4 continued with 3 different classes. Six different summer camps visited the pool last week.

### **Libraries and Historical Division**

Summer Reading Kick Off at the Town Center Mall on Saturday, June 1st was a big success. Approximately 400 families attended the program from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm.

Mid-County Regional Library's Incredibly Bad B Movie Series starts on Wednesday June 12 at 6:00 p.m. with Ed Wood's Bride of the Monster, starring Bela Lugosi. This campy monstrosity features a mad scientist's attempt to create atomic supermen. The film features a rubber octopus monster and plenty of schlock dialogue. This film is free and open to the public. There will be a complimentary slice of pizza while supplies last. The remaining films in the Incredibly Bad B Movies Series include Manos: The Hands of Fate, July 10; and Teenagers from Outer Space on August 14.

### **Extension Services**

- Newspaper Article for June 3rd – "Bird watching" (article on the Orange Bird-of-Paradise Plant)
- Florida State Horticultural Society Meeting – Sarasota – June 2nd - 4th – Paper Presentation – "An Exotic Orchid, Eulophia graminea, Invades Charlotte County."
- 2013 Master Gardener Graduation – June 5th – 10 am
- Landscape Problem – Site Visit - 5235 The Point, Manasota Key, Englewood
- Freshwater Wetlands – Florida Master Naturalist Program - Laishly Marine – 6:00 pm

## **Facilities and Construction Maintenance**

### **Repair and Maintenance**

Two roof top air conditioning units were installed and are now operational at the Cultural Center.

The Pre Bid for the Admin B Building lower roof replacement is scheduled for today.

CCSO Fire Suppression Pre Bid is in process.

Remodeling of the Family Services ADA bathroom is in progress.

Port Charlotte Beach Pool part 2 project is underway

Impact windows and storefronts are on order for the Englewood Annex.

The Public Works Administration Office remodeling is scheduled to begin June 10.

Sealing and Striping for Port Charlotte Library parking lot is complete.

Hathaway Park ADA parking spots were restriped.

### **Operations**

Fire Backflows Deficiency repairs that were identified during the recent inspections have begun and will be completed by end of this month.

Our new wheel chair is being fitted with an anti-theft device.

The Pepsico recycle machines have been removed from B-building.

## **Project Management**

Requests for bids have gone out for the B Building roof replacement and CCSO fire suppression is out to bid.

The Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool stabilization project is scheduled to start Monday June 3.

Ninety percent of the Harbour Heights drainage and parking improvements are complete.

Quotes for geo-tech work for the PCB Fishing Pier and Boardwalk have been received.

The foundation for the softball field concession building was laid out.

SWFWMD applied for a permit for the Anger Fishing Pier and Parking repair.

The deck is completed on the Bayshore Rail Road Building and a roof is being installed.

To enhance security on the 3rd and 4th floor Judges entrances, we are working with an architect-DMK-to add a new wall, cameras, phones and secured door. This will, in essence, duplicate the single door we currently have. We hope to get this into our GC in the very near future.

The demolition started on the Fire Station 6 renovation project. The submittal process for materials has begun and is under review.

## **Human Services**

The Human Services Department has a new summer intern student who is studying criminal justice at Florida Gulf Coast University. Our student intern will spend the next 6 weeks working with Department staff in the Neighborhood Accountability Board and Civil Citation juvenile diversion programs.

## **Public Works**

On May 28, 2013 the Solid Waste division responded to an illegal dumping call of four 55 gallon oil drums off a Cook and Brown Road in East Charlotte County. All the drums were tipped on their sides leaking oil to the surrounding area. Two of the drums were corroded and had to be transported in over pack drums. All four drums were taken to the Mid-County Mini Transfer Facility to be disposed of properly. The soil was severely contaminated with oil and had to be excavated, Public Works M&O assisted the Solid Waste Division in the cleanup.

## **Tourism**

VCB staff attended the bi-annual Travel Expo in The Villages on May 31st at the Savannah Center accompanied by the following local industry partners: Fishermen's Village, Palm Island Resort, Four Points by Sheraton Punta Gorda Harborside, and the Military Heritage Museum. Although the final attendance numbers aren't in, the May show typically draws 2,500-3,500 attendees actively shopping for vacation options. In addition to distributing over 350 Visitor Guides as well as other brochures, our delegation promoted various vacation packages specifically designed for this show.

## **Utilities**

Effective June 1, 2013, CCU outsourced the mail sorting, stuffing, and metering of its outgoing mail for a savings of \$1,846 annually. This savings represents only the savings between outsourcing and keeping a part-time mail clerk working to do the same job. In the past, when the machines would break down, the sorting, stuffing and metering then become a manual operation whereby we would pull in extra staff to get the work done. This is not accounted for that the \$1,846 savings—which increases the savings.