

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Development

Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation

Winchester Corridor Phase Three – This project includes the construction of a new 4 lane divided roadway from SR 776 to Placida Road (CR 775). Construction of the Winchester Roadway project should begin in late 2013. While construction is ongoing, the final design and permitting of the intersection of SR 776/Winchester will occur. Towards the end of construction of the roadway, the intersection improvements will be rolled into this project and constructed.

This project is currently out for bid. The pre-bid conference was held August 7 with bid opening scheduled August 28, 2013. The pre-bid meeting was well attended and we are preparing responses to questions asked by various contractors.

Lighting District

Charlotte County CIP Projects (July 16 – August 12, 2013)

Burnt Store Lakes (South Burnt Store Lighting & Landscaping) MSBU Decorative Lighting Project - plans and technical specifications reviewed and commented on. This project has been awarded to On-power Services and the preconstruction meeting has been held. Catalog cuts have been received and approved.

Burnt Store Road Project – (Pedestrian Features – preemption conflict with Seminole Gulf Railroad) Met with County staff to discuss engaging an Engineering firm to provide final timings for the railroad pre-emption and forward them to FDOT for approval and then to Seminole Gulf Railroad for design. 90% plan review is underway.

CM at Risk - Flamingo/SR 776, & Winchester/Placida – Traffic signals placed at SR 776/Flamingo reached final acceptance. Traffic signals at the future intersection of Winchester/Placida are nearing completion; final punch list is underway.

Edgewater Phase Two – Traffic signal plans have been revised and are under review.

Departmental Projects (July 16 – August 12, 2013)

- Fiber optic maintenance continues in all traffic signal cabinets; jumpers replaced, fiber cleaned and wick checked for operation.
- Repaired fender lights on the Tom Adams Bridge.
- Repaired 25 non-functional roadway lighting poles.
- Repaired several decorative entrance way lights on Cape Horn Blvd for the MSBU.
- Offsite improvements began for Placida/San Casa (Dollar General Store); inspection underway.
- Working to incorporate IT fiber and ATMS fiber into one pull box and allow IT additional fiber as part of replacement runs after eliminating COMCAST contract. Ongoing.
- Repaired broken sign bracket at SR 776 and Gillot.
- Responded and repaired sensors at the South Gulf Cove boat locks.
- Traffic signal preventative maintenance was performed at the following locations:
 - o US 41 SB @ Marion Avenue
 - o US 41 SB @ Virginia
 - o Cooper @ Carmalita
 - o Cochran @ Education

- o Veterans @ Murdock
 - o Placida @ Lemon Bay High School
 - o Placida @ Rotonda West
 - o Placida @ Access to Merchants Crossing
- Replaced several damaged pull boxes for the City of Punta Gorda's multi use trail project.
 - Replaced two defective/damaged Coho incident management cameras with two Bosch incident management cameras.
 - Replaced several small broken pull boxes at US 17 and Marlympia.
 - Installed countdown pedestrian display at Placida and Lemon Bay High School and replaced walk signs.
 - Converted school flasher at Charlotte Street and Elizabeth Street to solar for the City of Punta Gorda.
 - Programmed all school flashers for 2013/2014 School Year.

Locates Performed: 170 requests for underground utility locates were received, generating 93 tickets for locates.

Trouble Calls: 17 trouble calls received, responded to and problems of various natures resolved.

FDOT Projects (July 16 – August 12, 2013)

SR 776/Gulfstream Phase 4 - Lighting plans are complete. The preconstruction meeting was held July 30, 2013 and the project is advertised for bid– awaiting construction to begin.

Paving Projects

2012 North/South Paving Program – This program provides for the resurfacing of roads in Greater Port Charlotte, the Road & Bridge District, Burnt Store Village, and Tropical Gulf Acres. Paving is complete in Burnt Store Village, Tropical Gulf Acres, Midway Areas 3, 4, 5, 6, Peachland Area 1, Elmira area 1 and Hillsborough area 9. Peachland, Midway, and CR-74 Road and Bridge paving is also complete. The Contractor is currently paving in the Greater Port Charlotte area. As of August 12, 2013 the total asphalt placed for this contract is 140,155 tons. The Greater Port Charlotte District is approximately 95.6% complete; once this district is complete the Contractor will be working to complete the change orders for this contract. The contractor is working on restoration, however due to inclement weather this process is taking longer than projected.

2012 West County Paving Program – This program provides for the resurfacing of roadways in Gulf Cove, Rotonda Lakes and Rotonda Sands. The paving operation is complete in Rotonda Sands and Rotonda Lakes and continues in Gulf Cove. As of August 12, 2013 the contractor has placed approximately 57,208 tons of asphalt in this district, which is approximately 74.4% complete. The contractor is working on restoration, however due to inclement weather this process is taking longer than projected.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

*The Charlotte Sports Park hosted four (4) home games for the Charlotte Stone Crabs on the following dates with attendance: Monday, 8/05 – 486; Wednesday, 8/07 – Rained out;

Saturday, 8/10 – 1266; Sunday, 8/11 – 444.

*The Charlotte Sports Park hosted three (3) home games of the Gulf Coast League for the Tampa Bay Rays with estimated attendance of 75 fans.

*The Tampa Bay Rays hosted a youth baseball clinic, sponsored by Mosaic, at the Charlotte Sports Park on 8/10, for approximately 40 youths.

Harold Avenue Recreation

Dribble it, pass it, we want a basket! On this past Saturday the participants of the Youth Basketball Summer League dribbled their way into week 10 ending the regular games of the current season. Throughout the course

of the day words of encouragement filled the air as coaches, players and spectators cheered their teams on in hopes of a victory. Congratulation goes out to the participants of the Summer Youth Basketball League for completing a wonderful regular season!

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation and Pool

For the week of August 4 –August 10 the Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 20 attend the water aerobics classes and 233 paid admissions.

The Recreation Center rental facilities remains closed to the public while new floors are installed. The office remains open.

South County Regional Park and Pool

South County Recreation has had a deep cleaning after the conclusion of Summer Camp 2013. The installation of the awning started on 8/12/13. This project has been in the works since January 2013. New Fall programs such as Volleyball and Badminton started this week as well.

For the week of 8-7 through 8-13-13, South County Regional Park Pool had 313 paid admissions, was visited by 109 pass holders and had 60 water aerobics participants. 3 different summer camps visited the pool resulting in approximately 90 "splashes". Learn to Swim Summer Session unfortunately was not able to be completed due to class rain outs. Learn to Swim Summer Session 4 began with 8 classes and 40 students. Staff held 1 Special Olympics Swim Practice resulting in approximately 30 "splashes". Charlotte High School swim & dive team began practicing resulting in approximately 150 "splashes". Charlotte County Blue Fins held 10 swim practices resulting in approximately 600 "splashes".

Oyster Creek/Ann Dever Memorial Park and Pool

Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 529 paid admissions, was visited by 101 pass holders and had 87 water aerobics participants. 6 different summer camps visited the pool resulting in approximately 140 "splashes". Learn to Swim Summer Session 4 began with 2 classes and 8 students. Lemon Bay High School Swim & Dive Team began practicing resulting in approximately 120 "splashes".

Extension Services

Great Bay Scallop Search – August 10th

Newspaper Article for August 12th – "For better or worse, the queen palm"

Master Gardener Education Committee – Gardening Symposium Planning – August 14th – 10:00 am

Citrus Expo – Lee Civic Center - 9:00 am to 2:00 pm – August 15th

Facilities Construction and Maintenance

Repair and Maintenance

Our electricians have been busy at the Mid County Regional Library at 2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd, PC. They traced, marked and turned off an electrical outlet at the outside gazebo to discourage vagrancy, ran wires to provide additional electrical access for the librarian staff, and completed on site repair work on lighting fixtures. In addition the Fire Alarm Panel was repaired; patching the wall as needed.

The library in Punta Gorda, 424 W Henry Street, was in need for some repair in the hallway near the back door. Our technicians replaced cove trim along the base of the interior wall where the wall meets the floor. The trim protects the base of the wall from damage and provides a more polished look

Operations

Facilities oversees the implementation of the Generator Maintenance Contract that maintains and performs inspections of county generators on a semi-annual basis. We have approximately 87 generators that receive maintenance and inspections which keeps our critical infrastructure and building safety systems operational during power outages. As we begin the month of August we will be receiving semi annual inspections and maintenance reports of all contract maintained generators. This also insures they are in tip top condition to perform when needed, especially since we are approaching peak hurricane development season.

Project Management

Cape Haze Pioneer Trail design request for letters of interest were sent to consultants. The consultants packages are due on August 14th. The packages will be reviewed and a selection made.

Human Services

The Youth Developmental Assets survey tool arrived from Search Institute. Department staff met with administration from the Charlotte County Public Schools and the five county high schools involved to coordinate and confirm the distribution and collection process of the survey instrument. The survey tool measures key indicators which are likely to continue to the success of our community youth. The project is sponsored by the Children's Services Council and is funded by a grant from the Department of Juvenile Justice. The survey will be distributed in the schools beginning next week.

Transit and Fiscal Services staff coordinated the collection and submission of documents from Charlotte County needed by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) for the Triennial Transit Audit. This audit conducted every three years is required by FTA to receive grant funds necessary to operate the Dial-a-Ride public transportation system. A site visit audit will be conducted by FTA the end of September.

Tourism

Culinary travel is a growing trend in the tourism industry and the Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau is feeding that niche by coordinating visits of food writers. The most recent was last week (Aug. 13) when the Bureau arranged the visit for a writer who is Edible Orlando magazine's editor and co-author of a new Florida seafood cookbook. The book focuses on stories about those in the state's seafood industry and recipes using fresh Florida seafood. The day visit consisted of meeting a clam farmer and visiting a clam farm in Placida, which was coordinated by Florida Sea Grant, and an interview with Peace River Seafood owners and chefs as well as lunch with seafood pulled from Charlotte Harbor that morning. Earned editorial coverage is a way for the County Tourism office to stretch its marketing dollars.