

# Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

Published 6/24/14

## Administration/PIO

Information on the 1% local option sales tax extension is available on the county website: lists and maps of projects funded in the past by previous local option sales tax, maps and information on the proposed projects should the extension pass, and more. Visit [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) and click "1% Local Option Sales Tax" in the Hot Topics list on the left.

## Community Development

**Active Construction Projects** (may affect vehicular/boater/pedestrian traffic patterns)

**Burnt Store Road Phase III Construction** – Construction consists of widening Burnt Store Road, between the Lee County Line and a point north of Zemel Road, to a four-lane divided suburban typical section including stormwater management, drainage improvements, street lighting, 6' sidewalks on both sides of the roadway, utility relocations and additions. Construction is projected to be complete in September 2015. Construction Contract: Gibbs & Register, Projected Schedule: 03/10/14 – 09/10/2015

Work began on box culverts at the Clark Canal. Installation of four 54" pipes is underway near Zemel Road and fill is being hauled in to form the new lanes south of Zemel Road. Excavation of Pond 1 continues. The box culvert at the Bear Branch Creek is almost complete and backfilling continues.

**C.R. 771 (Gasparilla Road) Widening** – The purpose of this project is to widen C.R. 771 (Gasparilla Road) to a four-lane divided roadway, from S.R. 776 to the vicinity of Rotonda Boulevard East. The project will include the installation of sidewalks and bicycle facilities. Construction Contract: Halfacre Construction, Projected Schedule: 07/07/14 – 09/06/16

A preconstruction meeting was held June 4, 2014 and the Notice to Proceed was established for July 7, 2014. The subcontractor, Woodruff and Sons, Inc., will begin on the south side of the project, near Rotonda Boulevard East, where the roadway will be widened to four lanes up to the Bridge at the Butterford Waterway. The Bridge work is anticipated to begin in mid-December 2014. This is a 790 calendar day contract.

**Harborview Road Bridge Replacement** – This project is to design and construct a replacement Bridge over the DeSoto Canal on Harborview Road east of Rio de Janeiro Avenue. The new Bridge will be constructed with a precast concrete deck and a temporary bridge with related structures. Construction is projected to be complete in the fall of 2014. Construction Contract: Owen Ames Kimball, Projected Construction Schedule: 11/18/2013 – Fall 2014

June 16, 2014: The Bridge deck has been grooved, pedestrian fencing has been installed and sidewalks have been poured. Traffic is being shifted to the new bridge on June 16, 2014 so that the remaining roadwork and removal of the temporary bridge can begin. Once that work is complete the contractor will restore properties that were disturbed to their previous condition.

*PSA issued 6/12/14: Effective Monday, June 16, 2014, traffic lanes will shift to the new Bridge on Harborview Road over the DeSoto Canal. Variable message boards and traffic control devices are in place to direct travelers through this area. Construction crews will remove the temporary bridge and proceed with curbing and restoration work. The Public Works Department would like to remind motorists to remain alert at all times and exercise caution when traveling through construction zones.*

**Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Sunset Waterway at Forrest Nelson Blvd SUN 3.65** – This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Forrest Nelson Boulevard,

between Quesada Avenue and Corktree Circle, at the Sunset Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing water control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will be replaced with three 8'x10' box culverts to increase flow capacity. Construction Contract: Quality Enterprises, Projected Construction Schedule: 05/19/2014 – 9/26/ 2014

Construction is underway; the temporary force main, the erosion control devices and the by-pass pipe are all installed. The sheet pile coffer dam is underway and should be complete this week. Upon completion of the sheet pile coffer dam, the water will be pumped out of the work area in order to install the new box culverts.

**U.S. 41 Microtunnels / Weirs** – This project involves engineering and permitting for the directional drilling of culverts under U.S. 41 at the Fordham, Elkcam, and Pompano Waterways, replacement of culverts at the North and South U.S. 41 Access Roads, within the Pompano Waterway, replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Elkcam Waterway, north of the U.S. 41 Access Road, and replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Fordham Waterway, north of the U.S. 41 Access Road. Construction Contract: ZEP Construction, Projected Schedule: 11/18/2013 – Summer 2015

Pompano Waterway: Utility installation work is ongoing and should be complete by June 20, 2014. Roadway restoration will begin this week and should be complete by the end of the month. The Pompano Waterway construction is 83% complete and is ahead of schedule.

Elkcam Waterway: The second 84" microtunnel is scheduled to start on Monday, June 16, 2014 and should be complete by Saturday, June 21, 2014. The project at the Elkcam Waterway is currently 24% complete.

### **Construction Projects in Design or Negotiation**

**Midway Boulevard Widening Phase Two** – This project will complete the widening of Midway Boulevard between Sharpe Street and Kings Highway. Downstream stormwater improvements must be made before widening this section of the corridor. This project includes increasing the drainage capacity under US 41 at three locations in addition to the widening of Midway Boulevard from Sharpe Street to Kings Highway. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: 05/08/2012 – Summer 2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Late 2014

Giffels-Webster Engineering submitted the 100% construction plans. County staff is reviewing the final plans and will return all comments back to the design engineer by the end of the month for inclusion in the final construction plans.

**Placida Road Safety Improvements Phase I (Rotonda Blvd. West to Cape Haze Drive)** – Safety improvements include: a 2.9 mile bicycle-pedestrian path from Rotonda Boulevard West to Cape Haze Drive, intersection improvements at Lemon Bay Golf Course, Bantry Bay, Cape Haze Drive and Panama Drive and resurfacing of Placida Road from Rotonda Boulevard West to the Boca Grande Causeway. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: Through early Fall 2014, Procurement Process: Fall 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Late 2014

The design engineer is working on the 60% plans; the anticipated completion date is June 27, 2014. The design schedule was adjusted slightly due to additional work required to extend the left turn lane at Panama Blvd. The 90% plans are scheduled for completion on August 15, 2014 and 100% plans are scheduled for completion on September 30, 2014. Utility notification/coordination activities are on-going:

1. Plans were received from CenturyLink for relocation work within the corridor. These plans are currently being reviewed by the consultant to verify that all conflicts with the proposed sidewalk have been addressed.

2. Utilities Inc. (Sandalhaven) owns active sewer forcemain line buried with 3ft +/- cover along northbound shoulder from Sta 181 to Sta 266. Sidewalk grading will move roadside ditch/swale closer to the road and will reduce existing cover for forcemain. They are considering adjustment and/or re-construction.

**Placida Road Safety Improvements Phase 2 (Cape Haze Dr. to Boca Grande Causeway)** – The continuation of the Phase 1 bicycle-pedestrian path from Cape Haze Drive to Boca Grande Causeway. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: Through July 2014, Procurement Process: Summer 2014, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2014

The 90% plans are scheduled to be completed by July 15, 2014; with 100% plans anticipated July 30, 2014. The SWFWMD exemption request was submitted on June 12, 2014. SWFWMD has 30 days to process the submittal, so it is expected back by July 12, 2014.

3. CenturyLink has identified specific locations of "minor" conflict issues with existing pedestals and will make necessary adjustments.
4. FPL power pole relocation and hardening is underway throughout sidewalk project area; three FPL poles with guy wires are pulling westward across the proposed sidewalk area and will be adjusted by FPL.
5. Possible addition of new CCU reclaimed water main within project limits.

### **Drainage Projects**

**Little Farm Road Culverts** – The scope of this project is to design, permit and construct culverts to replace the concrete swaled portion near the end of Little Farm Road. The construction plans call for sixteen (16) 6'x3' box culverts to be installed at the slough so traffic can cross without going through the water. This project includes the box culverts, headwalls, approach slabs and guardrail for this portion of the road. Design Contract: Weiler Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 11/09/2012 – 12/01/2013, Procurement Process: 12/10/2013 – 07/22/2014, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

A construction contract was presented to the BCC for award on February 11, 2014, however the Commissioners requested more information before voting on the contract. Discussions were held at the Board Workshop on February 18, 2014; the Board asked staff to investigate alternative solutions. Little Farm Road was discussed further at a BCC Workshop on May 20, 2014; as a result of the discussions, additional funding resources were explored and identified. The construction contract will be presented to the BCC for award on July 22, 2014.

**Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Dorchester Waterway at Kenilworth DOR 4.89** - This project provides for the design, permitting, and construction of a stormwater control structure under Kenilworth Boulevard at the Dorchester Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing water control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure collapsed in late November 2013. This structure will be upsized from two culverts to two 8'x10' box culverts. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 01/23/2014 – 03/20/2014, Procurement Process: 04/04/2014 – 07/22/2014, Projected Start of Construction: August 2014.

Johnson Engineering completed the survey collection, structure design and all permits have been obtained. The bid documents were sent to the Purchasing Department in April to begin the procurement process. Bid opening is scheduled June 18, 2014. It is anticipated that a recommendation will be presented to the BCC to award the construction contract on July 22, 2014. Construction will take approximately 105 days to complete upon notice to proceed.

## **Maintenance & Operations**

Mosquito Control crews treated 60,814 acres with ground adulticide equipment.

There were fifty-six new requests for service week ending June 17, 2014. The types of requests were drainage, brush, illegal dumping and asphalt repairs.

A Drainage Crew installed 24 linear feet of 19"x30" reinforced concrete pipe on Washington Loop at Three Rivers. They also completed 6,500 square feet of line and grade on Washington Loop at Grey Fox Lane

A Quick Response Crew repaired severe washouts around a retention pond to provide access for pest management service crews at Kings Highway at Sun Coast Blvd.

A Drainage Crew installed 40 linear feet of 24"x38" pipe - replacing an existing road crossing pipe on Harbor Blvd. They also completed 5,000 square feet of line and grade on State St. and another 10,000 square feet of line and grade was completed on Harbor Blvd.

A Drainage Crew completed 4,400 square feet of line and grade on Evanston Ave., completed 1,800 square feet of line and grade on Alpine Ave., and replaced a driveway at 21045 Alpine Ave.

Two Outfall Crews replaced four road crossing pipes in the Peachland Blvd. area in advance of the Paving Program.

A Drainage crew finished line and grade work on Foreman Blvd. and is working on Forbes Terrace. A flail mower completed routine work in Grove City and an outfall crew began prepping the road staging pipe for installs in the Peachland Blvd. area.

An Outfall Crew began the installation of 19" x 30" pipe on Saxony Circle in Deep Creek.

## **Community Services**

### **Charlotte Sports Park**

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted the Prostyle Baseball Tournament on 6/14. Games were played on two (2) practice fields with an estimated attendance of 150.

Upcoming Events:

The Charlotte Stone Crabs will be hosting a six (6) game home stand beginning on June 19th.

### **Harold Avenue Recreation**

We are playing BAS-KET-BALL, Adult Men's BAS-KET-BALL. Week 4 of the Adult Men's Basketball Summer League was completed on Sunday. In this fast paced, highly competitive league there are only two undefeated teams. Each week the momentum grows drawing a crowd of at least 160 spectators cheering their teams on to victory. The Adult Men's Basketball League consists of 10 teams that have eight men on their rosters. The games are held every Sunday from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. inside of the Vivian Hall Gymnasium located at the Harold Avenue Recreation Center.

### **Port Charlotte Beach and Recreation**

This Past week we had several rentals, the first of which was the Public Works meeting for 90+ people. The next was The CCSO with the Azalea Neighborhood Watch with 28 participants. The weekend had some excitement with two weddings, Friday and Saturday and each with an average of 120 guests.

This coming week we will have CCSO Pointe Sienna/Palmetto Neighborhood watch inaugural meeting, I wish them the best of luck! It's tough getting a neighborhood community on board. They are, however, in good

hands with CCSO's Dale Phillips. She is a true powerhouse and motivator bringing people together and getting them involved.

We will also have the Genealogical Society here for a meeting with an expected attendance of 30 members.

On Friday we will have a Celebration of Life, with 65 family and friends. On Saturday we have a family reunion for 60 people, and on Sunday we will have a wedding for 55 family and guests.

For the week of 6-11 through 6-17-14, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 295 paid admissions, was visited by 20 pass holders and had 15 water aerobics participants. In addition, staff taught 4 private swim lessons and hosted one Pizza Party Program on Saturday 6-14-14.

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

Recreation and camp staff took 70 campers to Lego Land in Winter Haven Florida. This is the second year camp has taken this trip and is an additional trip not included in the cost of camp. The day was a huge success and the staff and kids had a great time.

For the week of 6-8-14 through 6-14-14 South County Regional Park Pool had 777 paid admissions, 16 water aerobics participants and was visited by 173 pass holders. The Bluefin's held nine practices with approximately 540 swimmers. 10 outside summer camps brought in approximately 564 swimmers. Also, South County Regional Park and Harold Avenue summer camps had approximately 270 swimmers.

### **Oyster Creek Regional Pool**

For the week of 6-8-14 through 6-14-14 Oyster Creek Regional Park Pool had 655 paid admissions, 49 water aerobics participants and was visited by 129 pass holders. The Bluefin's held five practices with approximately 125 swimmers. Eight local summer camps visited OCRP with a total of 292 campers. Session one of the Summer Learn to Swim program started with 20 participants.

### **Extension Services**

Newspaper Article for June 16 – "Plant an edible fig in 2014"

4-H Camp – June 16 to 20 – Camp Cloverleaf – Lake Placid

UF/IFAS Country Store at FAC- 2014 - Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek Hotel, Orlando, FL - June 17

GI-BMP Training – June 18

Community roadway (gateways & thoroughfares) landscape beautification

### **Libraries and Historical**

This year is the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Hurricane Charlie and the Mid-County Regional Library has an exhibit of community photos for everyone to enjoy. It brings back lots of memories for those who were here and brings awareness to those who are new to the Community. It will be featured here until late August.

Summer Reading is in full swing at all of our Libraries. Over 100 people came to Mid-County Library yesterday for the weekly program. Come join in the fun!!

## **Facilities Construction & Maintenance**

### **Repairs and Maintenance**

Real Estates Services and Community Development departments are relocating starting this week from Building Construction Services building to "B" building room 208.

After many months of intense and detailed collaboration with the Information Technology Department, on Monday May 12th Facilities SharePoint Work Order Request System was upgraded to the 2010 version. Our IT contact, Dennis Woodruff worked with us to make the new and improved version provide consistently better

access with easier, more user-friendly reporting capabilities. During testing the old and new systems ran parallel to assure the transition was smooth. Phasing out of the old system will mean the old links are limited to read only status during the final transition period. We have addressed the initial hurdles in the implementation process and are successfully fulfilling the new work order requests from our county partners for service and repairs. Many thanks to Dennis, Victor, and Darla for all their efforts on updating this vital software.

### **Operations**

A Charlotte County Sherriff's Office Deputy is now assigned to the Murdock campus on a full time basis. The newly assigned deputy will be providing additional security at a wide range of public meetings that take place at the Murdock Campus regularly, and will be available to respond to a full range of security and safety related issues that frequently arise on campus in a timely manner. The addition of this deputy will provide us with a level of flexibility and responsiveness that is expected to provide a significant enhancement to our ability to keep the Murdock Campus safe for our citizens, customers, employees, and elected officials.

Accessibility improvements are being made in several parks and county buildings beginning this week. In total, eighteen small but significant projects are planned to improve ADA accessibility at these locations. The projected timeline for completion of these projects is sometime in the fall and then a second set of accessibility projects will start. The second phase will continue until we have completed all identified areas in need of these improvements. Public Service Announcements will be posted on the county website to give advance notice of areas where work is being done. Our goal is to have very minimal impact on day-to-day activities. Some minor schedule adjustments may be needed but should not require a complete facility shut down for more than a day or two, only if necessary.

Starting last week the Facilities Department began making safety improvements to the Murdock Administration parking lots and drive ways. This project includes changing signage and installing speed control bumps throughout the campus parking areas. Work is starting in high pedestrian and vehicle traffic use or in areas of restricted line of sight.

### **Human Services**

The County's 2-1-1 call center is assisting in providing information on the federally funded Summer BreakSpot Program. This Program sponsored through the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services furnishes free, healthy breakfasts and lunches to all kids and teens 18 and younger at various designated sites throughout Charlotte County during the summer. For more information on this Program and to find the site locations nearest you, call 2-1-1 or visit the County's website.

Mike Adams has just been hired as the new Neighborhood Accountability Board & Civil Citation Coordinator in the Human Services Department /Youth Services Unit. For more information on these restorative juvenile diversion programs or to volunteer to serve on the Neighborhood Accountability Board, please contact Mike at the Human Services Department @ 941-833-6518.

### **Tourism**

The Peace River Botanical and Sculpture Gardens in Punta Gorda, scheduled to open in September 2016, welcomed Turkish artist Kemal Tufan earlier this month (June 13) as he installed his sculpture called "Keel". The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau worked with the gardens to invite local media to meet the artist and view the installation. The 23-piece sculpture is estimated to weigh between 20 and 30 tons with the largest piece weighing 5,800 pounds. When open, the Peace River Botanical and Sculpture Gardens will attract local, regional, national and international visitors.