

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Sports Park hosted the following Tampa Bay Rays Spring Training home games (attendance is noted in parenthesis): Thursday, March 26 – New York Yankees (5149); Saturday, March 28 – Boston Red Sox (6085); Monday, March 30 – Baltimore Orioles (3137); Tuesday, March 31 – Boston Red Sox (4290).

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation and Pool

This past weekend we had very successful CCSO Women's self-defense class, 35 attended to learn new skills. The Charlotte Promenader's had another night of 80 people dancing and having a great time. On the 29th we had a wedding and reception for 120 and Monday was the last Tai Chi class till next season.

For the week of 3-25 through 3-31-15, Port Charlotte Beach Pool had 381 paid admissions, was visited by 66 pass holders and had 153 water aerobics participants.

South County Regional Park and Pool

For the week of 3-22-15 through 3-28-15 South County Regional Park Pool had 237 paid admissions and was visited by 173 pass holders. We had 43 water aerobics participants this week. The Blue Fins held eight practices with approximately 480 swimmers.

Extension Services

Newspaper Article for March 30– "Is there a persimmon in your future?"

2nd Qtr. Business Meeting - Community Services – Mid-County Library –March 30

Managers Meeting – March 30- Charlotte Sports Park

Office Cleaning Continues – March 30

2015 MG Training – MG Training – "Invasive Wildlife & Plants"– March 31

East Port Environmental Campus Meeting - CCU Conference Room – April 1

2015 MG Training – MG Training – "Why Landscapes Fail" — April 2– Donna Worthley

All Faculties Meeting – Manatee County Extension Service

2014 Affirmative Action (AA) Report due – April 3

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

Work was completed in Commission chambers room 119 to assist the Clerk of the Court personnel to take minutes of meetings.

At Murdock, electrical and lighting modifications were completed for the Tax Collector's first floor tag office area and other staff office areas.

At Port Charlotte Library at Cultural Center work is underway on the second floor electrical system and retrofitting of lighting in conjunction with library remodel.

Operations

Facilities has installed a new x-ray machine at the Justice Center. This replaces the large unit that has served this location from the beginning. This new machine provides the latest detection capabilities for enhanced security access and is more compact for space savings at this location.

Project Management

The contractor has begun the installation of drainage structures at the Harbour Heights Park drainage, parking, and sports court improvement project.

Public Works is reviewing the bridge tender parking at the Anger Park parking lot. The project is on hold until a decision is made on this.

Revisions have been made to the first set of preliminary design plans for the El Jobean fishing pier renovation project.

The pre bid meeting was held for the Franz Ross Park drainage, parking, and lighting project.

The survey has been completed for the Harbour Heights Boat Ramp project.

A pre-mobilization meeting is scheduled on April 2nd for the Sports Park grass parking drain maintenance project. The contractor is scheduled to be mobilized on site April 6th with construction starting shortly. The maintenance work will be completed in phases keeping the parking area open for games and functions. The phasing will be approved by Sports Park staff and using agencies.

The projects staff received training on Building Information Modeling (BIM) process. BIM is a process helping with risk management, team collaboration, and design conflicts. The intent is to provide an efficient constructed facility at lower cost and better quality.

Human Services

Senior Services chaired the Communities for a Lifetime committee meeting. The group is hosting a 'Tech Boot Camp' on April 23 partnering with St. Charles Borromeo Catholic School. Students will be assisting seniors in learning to use cell phones, iPads, and various other technologies. Eleven (11) participants have committed to taking the class.

Veteran Services completed a final claim for a widow that started as a service connected death and burial claim. After receiving a denial notification from the VA from the claim she had submitted herself, Veteran Services staff explained all the requirements in detail. The death certificate was submitted for correction and the VA claim resubmitted. Not only was the claim approved, the VA also awarded benefits back to the original claim date with a bank deposit around \$9,000. This final claim was for associated health benefits.

Public Works

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

2015 County Paving Program - This program provides for the resurfacing of roads in Greater Port Charlotte, Parkside, Deep Creek, and the Road & Bridge Districts. Construction Contract: Ajax Paving, Construction Schedule: March 2015 – Late 2015

The 2015 Paving Program was awarded to Ajax Paving Industries on March 10, 2015. Notice to proceed was established as March 23, 2015 at the preconstruction meeting and the contractor will begin in the Peachland 4 area.

CR 771 (Gasparilla Road) Widening – The purpose of this project is to widen CR 771 (Gasparilla Road) to a four-lane divided roadway, from SR 776 to the vicinity of Rotonda Boulevard East. The project will include the installation of sidewalks and bicycle facilities. This 790 calendar day project is funded by the 2009 Sales Tax, Road Impact Fees, Gasoline Tax and a State Grant. Construction Contract: Construction Manager at Risk, Halfacre Construction, Woodruff and Sons, Inc. will be performing on-site construction, Construction Schedule: 07/07/2014 – 09/04/2016.

Zep Construction began Bridge construction on the east side of the new Bridge. This work will continue for a few months before traffic is switched to the new lanes.

Woodruff and Sons continues with utility installations along the east side of the project north of the Butterford Waterway towards SR 776.

Additional crews are on-site completing storm drain structures, stormwater retention ponds and sidewalks. Construction is approximately 27% complete

Newgate Waterway Spoil Removal - The Newgate Waterway has several large silt deposits and overgrown vegetation within the limits of the water line. This accumulated material is causing an adverse impact on the stormwater conveyance system and needs to be removed. Approximately 8,000 cubic yards of material will be removed from the waterway approximately 3,400 feet from Jennings Boulevard to east of David Boulevard. Construction Contract: Gator Dredging, Construction Schedule: 12/22/2014 – 04/21/2015.

Dredging is underway and is approximately 75% complete.

U.S. 41 Microtunnels / Weirs – This project involves engineering and permitting for the directional drilling of culverts under US 41 at the Fordham, Elkcam, and Pompano Waterways, replacement of culverts at the North and South US 41 Access Roads within the Pompano Waterway, replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Elkcam Waterway, north of the US 41 Access Road, and replacement of a stand-alone weir across the Fordham Waterway, north of the US 41 Access Road. Construction Contract: ZEP Construction, Construction Schedule: 11/18/2013 – 5/12/2015

- Elkcam Waterway: Zep Construction completed the concrete sheet installation and concrete cap on the new weir upstream of US 41. The contractor began the final restoration in this area to complete this phase of construction; sodding, sidewalk and guardrail is currently being installed.
- Fordham Waterway: Zep Construction completed the west side headwall and is currently installing new riprap in this area. Final restoration on the north side is complete and restoration on the south side will begin shortly to complete this phase of construction.
- Elmira Blvd: Zep Construction is currently constructing the south headwall and will start the north headwall the week of April 6, 2015.

Construction is approximately 89% complete.

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. This project was selected for inclusion in the 2008 Sales Tax Referendum. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting Schedule: 05/08/2012 – Summer 2014, Procurement Process: Jan - May 2015, Projected Start of Construction: June 2015

This construction project is currently advertised for competitive bid. The Pre-bid Conference was held March 18, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. in Room 106B, Building B - Administration Center. Bid Opening is scheduled April 15, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. in the Purchasing Division Conference Room.

Sidewalks – Burnt Store Lakes - The South Burnt Store MSBU Committee requested sidewalks within the Burnt Store Lakes subdivision. This project will design and construct approximately 1.5 miles of sidewalks on Vincent Avenue from Boca Vista Road to Burnt Store Road and on Saragossa Lane from Cape Horn Boulevard

to Burnt Store Road. Design Contract: Banks Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 01/06/2014 – Late 2014, Procurement Process: Spring 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2015

100% design plans were submitted to the MSBU Committee on January 29, 2015. The Committee voted to move forward with construction of the sidewalk on Rio Togas this year. Construction plans and bid specifications are being finalized by staff. This project is expected to go out for bid late spring/early summer 2015.

****NEW** Sidewalks – Cape Haze Drive** - Design and construction of approximately 3,400 linear feet of sidewalk along Cape Haze Drive, from Arlington Drive north to approximately 450' north of Links Lane, where Cape Haze Drive becomes a four lane road. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting: March 2015 – Fall 2015, Procurement: Fall 2015, Construction: Early 2015

Johnson Engineering was selected to design this sidewalk project. Staff met with the Engineering firm to confirm the scope and fee for the project.

****NEW** Sidewalks – Gulfstream Boulevard** - This project will consist of an 8' sidewalk installed from an existing sidewalk on Gulfstream Boulevard at Snow Drive continuing to Rosemont Drive. Design includes a connection to an existing sidewalk on Sunnybrook Boulevard. Design Contract: Giffels-Webster Engineers, Design/Permitting: 3/20/2011 – 6/25/2013, Procurement: April 2015, Construction: TBD

Design is complete and the bid package is being prepared to send to the Purchasing Department for bid advertisement.

Sidewalks - Parade Circle Sidewalk Connections - The Rotonda West MSBU requested that sidewalks be installed along the feeder roads leading to Parade Circle. This design will be for approximately 950 feet of 6' sidewalk along Oakland Hills Road, Pebble Beach Road, Pinehurst Road, Broadmoor Road, Long Meadow Road and White Marsh Road. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting: thru Spring 2015, Procurement: TBD, Construction: TBD

Johnson Engineering submitted the 60% design plans which have been reviewed by staff. The 90% design plans are expected the first week of April 2015.

Drainage Projects

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Fordham Waterway at Peachland FOR 5.11 - This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Peachland Boulevard at the Fordham Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing stormwater control structures were either inadequate to convey the quantity of water required to maintain level of service objectives or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will be upsized from two 48" culverts with a 50' weir to one 8'x10' box culvert with a 5' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 03/01/2011 – 04/01/2013, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

This project is currently advertised for competitive bid. The pre-bid meeting was held March 18, 2015 and bids are due April 22, 2015.

*****NEW** Stormwater Control Structure Replacement – Lion Heart Waterway at Peachland LIO 4.03-** This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Peachland Blvd. at the Lion Heart Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing stormwater control structures were either undersized or had

deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will replace two 60" metal pipes with two 10'x10' box culverts. Design Contract: TBD, Design/Permitting Schedule: TBD, Procurement Process: BD, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

The Letters of Interest have been submitted and ranked. Negotiations will commence with the top ranked firm.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Niagara Waterway at Peachland NIA 5.72 - This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Peachland Boulevard at the Niagara Waterway. As a result of the Stormwater Master Plan that was completed in 1998, it was determined that many of the existing stormwater control structures were either undersized or had deteriorated since the 1960's when they were originally built. This particular structure will be upsized from one 48" RCP and 22' weir to two 36" RCP's with a 6' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 03/01/2011 – 04/01/2013, Procurement Process: Early 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Spring 2015

This project is currently advertised for competitive bid. The pre-bid meeting was held March 18, 2015 and bids are due April 22, 2015.

Landscaping Projects

- Basic landscape maintenance was performed at: Manasota Key; South Gulf Cove; Grove City Park; US 17 medians in Cleveland; US 41 Revitalization phase I; Charlotte Harbor Gateway and Melbourne Street Bridge.
- Installation of stationary exercise equipment was completed at San Domingo Park.

Maintenance & Operations

March 25 - 31, 2015

A total of 40 new requests were received related to drainage, brush, asphalt repair and illegal dumping.

- Drainage line & grade: 9,100 SF in Greater Port Charlotte
2,000 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte
3,800 SF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
10,540 SF in Englewood East
- Small pipe install: 24 LF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
84 LF in Greater Port Charlotte
- Menzie ditch cutting: 61,000 SF in South Charlotte Stormwater
41,000 SF in Mid Charlotte Stormwater
160,000 SF in West Charlotte Stormwater
- Boom mower: Cut 8,848CY in Road & Bridge South
Cut 24,650 CY in Rotonda Heights
Cut 33,527 CY in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Cut 51,400 CY in Greater Port Charlotte
- Shoulder repair: Maintained 1.7 miles on Jones Loop Road in Road & Bridge South
- Culvert cleaning: Cleaned 38 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte
Cleaned 25 culverts in Englewood East
Cleaned 3 culverts in Northwest Port Charlotte
Cleaned 1 culvert in Rotonda Lakes
Cleaned 3 culverts in Gulf Cove
Cleaned 7 culverts in Grove City
- Trash / debris removal: Removed 10,540 lbs. from Englewood East
- Asphalt Repair: 4 tons of material used to repair locations within Greater Port Charlotte
7.95 tons of material used to repair locations in Punta Gorda Non-Urban

- Outfall: 1,920 SF in Englewood East
- Major outfall: 677 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte

Contracted Services

- Vertical hedging (power shearing) in South Gulf Cove has been completed with 510,204 LF cut.
- The contractor moved to the Englewood East area to begin cutting; the estimated LF to be cut is 1,020,408 LF.
- Pipe lining continues in the Deep Creek subdivision with the largest pipe on Nadir Road being lined on March 31, 2015.

Other Projects

Harbour Heights Median Improvements - This project consists of installing curbing, irrigation and landscaping within the existing medians on Sunnybrook Road and Broadpoint Drive. Design Contract: Charlotte Engineering, Design/Permitting: 6/27/14 – 03/11/2015, Procurement: 03/24/2015 through Spring 2015, Construction: Summer 2015

The 100% design plans were received and reviewed by County staff and returned to the Design Engineer. Contract documents are 100% complete and have been sent to the Purchasing Department for review in preparation for bid solicitation.

Rotonda West Bridge Lighting – The Rotonda West Street and Drainage MSBU requested the installation of decorative lighting to the five bridges over the Rotonda River. Bridge Locations: Rotonda Boulevard East, Rotonda Boulevard West, Rotonda Boulevard North, Cape Haze Drive, Rebel Court. Wright Construction completed the installation of an electric power system to feed the decorative lighting planned under the first phase of this project. Design Contract: Florida Transportation Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: through Spring 2015, Procurement Process: Summer 2015, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2015

Florida Transportation Engineering (FTE) submitted the 90% design plans for staff to review.

Tourism

Last month (March 25), Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau staff attended the annual Travel Expo at The Villages, a community of over 100,000 which is located 2 ½ hours north just off I-75. Preliminary estimates indicate about 5,000 residents attended this consumer show hunting for ideas and information relating to vacation travel within the state. Research conducted by show organizers revealed that the majority of this affluent market takes at least two in-state vacations each year, prefers to travel mid-week, and is interested in visiting natural attractions and the beaches. Charlotte Harbor & the Gulf Islands was well represented at the show as representatives from area attractions and accommodations (Fishermen’s Village and Weston’s wannaB inn Resort) participated with the tourism office. More than 400 of our Visitor Guides were distributed and staff fielded a variety of detailed questions about our destination including inquiries relating to our beaches, golf, accommodations, fishing, kayaking, events, nature tours, etc.