

Charlotte County Weekly Department Highlights

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Community Development

Building Official Ben Bailey met with the contractor and owners of the new Holiday Inn Express going in at 9075 Mac Drive in Punta Gorda and they have revived their permit and will be installing a T-pole soon and hopefully breaking ground in the next 60-90 days.

Community Services

Charlotte Sports Park

The Charlotte Stone Crabs hosted over 4,000 fans during their eight game home stance. The visiting teams for this series were the Clearwater Threshers and the Dunedin Blue Jays. The game on 6/10 was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Harold Avenue Recreation Center

Hard to believe Harold Avenue Summer Camp is 3 weeks in! Despite the less than ideal weather last week, Harold Avenue Summer Camp was still able to have enjoyable field trips to both the Shell Factory and the Canoe Outpost. The youth basketball league is getting into full swing with the last of the jerseys being handed out. With most of the basketball players finishing up their prior sport commitments they are now dedicating their time completely to the league here at Harold Avenue. We've also seen a good number of Pickleball players coming in on camp field trip and swim days so Harold Avenue is remaining busy all summer!

Tringali Recreation Center

Last Wednesday's Super Mini Sports Golf session was a huge hit. We converted the gym at Tringali to a 4-hole golf course, filled with obstacles for the kids to play around. For example, "Coney Island" was a hole that consisted of a plethora of pylons to hit around. We also planted little prizes at each flag for the children to find upon completing each hole. All in all, a great time was had by all, including the parents! Next week is our last class and graduation ceremony. Hope you have another wonderful week in beautiful Charlotte County!

Port Charlotte Beach Recreation Center

The recreation center continues to be busy: on 6/8 we had a neighborhood watch meeting with 50 people; on the 6/9 was a wedding set-up day with 20 people helping. The wedding took place on the 6/10 with 133 guests in attendance.

The 6/11 was "Dance with Daddy" and we had 104 daddies and daughters. Everyone had a fun, amazing night with lots of "Sugar and Spice"... featured appetizers from Donato's Italian restaurant, cupcakes, cookies, fudge from ZOET's, and pretty pink cupcakes from Kerrington's Bake Shop. Our DJ was sponsored by Molina Health care, prizes and goodies donated by many local businesses totaling more than \$1,000. We had five volunteers help with pictures, check-ins, and crafts, to make this a very successful night. On a side note, we had more dads dancing than ever before, and with a local dance instructor leading many fun dances too.

On 6/12 we had a pre-school graduation with 68 people.

Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool

For the week of 6/8 through 6/14/16, Port Charlotte Beach Park Pool had 105 paid admissions, was visited by 17 pass holders and had 14 water aerobics participants. The pool closed early several days due to inclement weather.

Extension Services

- Newspaper Article for June 13 – “Portulca - a sparkling summer annual flower that takes the heat”
- EP Campus Meeting – June 13
- Horticulture Department Meeting – June 13
- Community Services-Strategic Plan/Budget Review with Admin – June 15

Natural Resources

This week staff continued the data collection per the grant award agreement with Florida Communities Trust. This week and for the upcoming weeks staff will focus efforts on vegetative plot monitoring. This is an important component of management as it provides feedback on the management efforts through vegetative community composition, structure and density over time. This data can be used to determine success of management techniques as well as shaping future management actions.

Staff also concentrated efforts to encourage use of our parks and preserves in the form of a more user-friendly map system. In the past trail maps were established for many parks and preserves for the public to utilize in their exploration of the beautiful areas within Charlotte County. Over time these trail maps have become confusing as new trails have been established and others are no longer utilized. The feedback we have received from our customers indicated a need for a more streamlined trail system. The direction was to establish two “main trails” for each property as well as secondary trails for the more experienced and adventurous members of the public.

This week saw the first tropical weather of the season. The Charlotte County received several inches of rain and experienced heavy winds. Natural Resources staff spent a day assessing safety and storm damages to our properties. Several trails required clearing of fallen trees and limbs.

Parks

- Cleaned debris and graded Port Charlotte Beach and Bayshore parks’ shorelines
- “Official use only” sign installed at Chadwick Park for staff parking
- Treated the Bunk House for bee nest

Facilities Construction & Maintenance

Repairs and Maintenance

- Charlotte Sports Park repairs to the concession equipment were completed and one of the A/C roof top units was rebuilt.
- ADA restroom door installation was completed at Englewood Beach Chadwick Park.
- Pre-bid meeting for Sports Park Clubhouse parking lot reseal and stripe is scheduled for June 29.
- C.A.R.E. kitchen remodel is scheduled to begin next week.

Operations

The Event Center Generator Project Engineer was chosen to research what will be needed to install a partial back-up generator in the event of power interruptions. This proposed generator providing limited power will better serve the Event Center and customers during FP&L outages. The engineer is tasked to determine the scope and then design a system to provide basic power backup for some functions performed at the facility during an FP&L power loss situation. However, we will not be able to provide for a complete power back up at the Event Center. The size and power required for providing full power back up would be too costly and not effective.

Project Management

- The Board of County Commissioners held a meeting on June 14, where they approved the recommendation for a sports lighting retrofit at North Charlotte Regional Park in the amount of

\$423,000. This retrofit will provide green sports lighting upgrades with Musco Sports Lighting, LLC. at two soccer fields and three baseball fields.

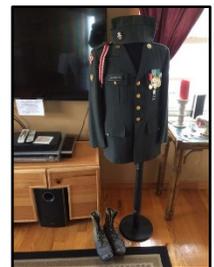
- Mid-County Library Renovation Project is in the initial pre-bidding phase. Requests for Letters of Interest went out this week from Purchasing Department.
- Harbour Heights Retention Ponds started construction and moving along as designed.
- McGuire Park is near completion of the design phase with 90% construction documents.
- The Jail Design Development phase is 50 percent complete. The construction manager will complete a progress estimate starting on June 20.
- The construction manager completed the Sheriff's Office District 1 guaranteed maximum price. The proposal is being processed for Board approval.

Human Services

A suicidal veteran came into the Veteran Services office and was immediately seen by an in-house VA Vet Center Counselor. The counselor was able to assess the veteran's situation and transport him to the Port Charlotte VA Clinic for emergent care. Because of the Charlotte County Human Services Memorandum of Understanding with the Ft. Myers VA Vet Center, this veteran was able to receive immediate, life-saving assistance and will continue to receive necessary mental health counseling here instead of having to drive to Ft. Myers.

Ivey Winkler assisted a veteran who recently requested Individual Unemployability. The veteran received a letter from the VA stating that his previous employer had neglected to return necessary documentation to further his claim. Ivey called the veteran's previous employer in Rhode Island to implore them to return the documents to VA for the veteran. The previous employer informed Ivey that they had no record of the veteran and that information was sent to the VA stating that he never worked for them. Ivey was able to speak to the HR staff and provide details of the veterans employment, names of people the veteran worked with, and through that information, the employer was able to piece together his employment and correct the information on the VA form to show that he had in fact worked for them for OVER 10 years! The veteran services staff will be able to send this new information to VA, ensuring his benefits will be processed with correct information.

Terry Keene coordinated with VA and FDVA to expedite a claim for a terminally ill Vietnam veteran after he was given less than six months to live. The veteran asked Terry to attend a Tidewell Hospice pinning ceremony in honor of his military service and asked he wear his Air Force dress blues. Unfortunately, the veteran passed away and was unable to attend the ceremony. The family still held the pinning ceremony in the veteran's home and Terry attended in dress uniform and spoke to the family during the ceremony. He is now working with the VA and family to secure survivor benefits.



Public Works

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

Edgewater Drive Widening Phase 2 (EP2) – 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. The project will include replacing three bridges (West Spring Lake Waterway, East Spring Lake Waterway, and Sunrise Waterway) and improve five intersections, four of which will be roundabouts. Improvements include a raised median, curb and gutter, sidewalks/bike lanes, and landscaping.

This project includes Construction, Engineering and Inspection (CEI) services to ensure compliance with federal rules and requirements. The Board of County Commissioners approved the CEI contract with

Southwest Engineering & Design on November 12, 2014. Construction Contract: Owen-Ames-Kimball, Construction schedule: 1/5/2015 – 4/24/2017

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (June 15, 2016) – *The eastern portion of the Spring Lake Park boat ramp parking lot will remain closed through Friday, Sept. 2 as Edgewater Drive Phase 2 Improvements continue.*

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (June 15, 2016) – *The intersection of Altoona Street and Edgewater Drive will close at 8 a.m. Monday, June 20 through 4 p.m. Monday, July 11 as part of the Edgewater Drive Phase 2 Improvements that will widen Edgewater Drive from Harbor Boulevard to Midway Boulevard. Access from Midway Boulevard will be closed. Local traffic can access Edgewater Drive via Lakeview Boulevard. Visit www.GoEP2.com for a detour map. Motorists are asked to use caution and obey signage while navigating detours as work crews remove drainage pipe and complete roadway reconstruction in the area.*

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (June 1, 2016) – *The Port Charlotte Boulevard and Edgewater Drive intersection closure has been extended through 4 p.m. Friday, July 1. Port Charlotte Boulevard will be closed to through traffic between Chelsea Court and Edgewater Drive. Access to Edgewater Drive and Sunrise Park will be via Chelsea Court. Visit www.GoEP2.com for a [detour map](#).*

Edgewater Drive remains closed to through traffic between Midway Boulevard and Harbor Boulevard.

Roadway Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Burnt Store Road Phase 2 Widening – This project is to design and permit a new four-lane divided roadway to include sidewalks and bike facilities between the existing two (2) four-lane projects to the north and south. This section is from the southern end of Burnt Store Road (near Notre Dame Boulevard) to the northern four-lane section of Burnt Store Road, north of Zemel Road. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting schedule: through 3/3/2017, Procurement Process: TBD, Projected start of Construction: TBD (Funding for construction has not been allocated.)

The 30% plans have been received and reviewed by both County and FDOT staff, and have been returned to Johnson Engineering to make adjustments and continue with the development of the 60% design plans.

A meeting with Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) was held to present the County's plan for handling stormwater retention and run-off. The stormwater drainage plans are progressing on schedule.

Design schedule:

- 60% plans due Aug. 12, 2016
- 90% plans due Dec. 2, 2016
- 100% plans due Feb. 3, 2017
- Final bid contract documents due March 3, 2017

Olean Boulevard Widening – The Board of County Commissioners (BCC) approved widening Olean Boulevard to 2 lanes in each direction with a continuous, center left turn lane, to be used in both directions. Design includes a 10' sidewalk on the south side of Olean Boulevard and decorative lighting as defined in the Parkside Master Plan. Staff will report back to the BCC with cost estimates to extend the project limits from Harbor Boulevard to Easy Street, to replace the existing 6' sidewalk on the north side of the roadway between Harbor Boulevard and Aaron Street, and to replace the standard light source in the decorative lighting with more efficient LED lighting. This report will be provided to the BCC later this summer. Design Contract: Florida Transportation Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: Summer 2016 – TBD, Procurement Process: TBD, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

Staff is negotiating with Florida Transportation Engineering to design and permit the roadway project. Design is anticipated to begin within the next 60 days.

Once design is complete, all permits and necessary rights-of-ways are acquired, the County will advertise for construction bids. Estimated land acquisition is \$3,941,000.

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

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Fordham Waterway at Quasar FOR 4.60 – This project provides for the construction of a stormwater control structure under Quasar Boulevard at the Fordham Waterway. The new structure will replace two 60" reinforced concrete pipes and a 50' weir with one 8'x10' box culvert and a 6' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Construction Contract: Andrew Sitework, Construction Schedule: 6/20/2016 – 2/2017 (180 calendar day contract)

The preconstruction meeting was held May 5 and Notice to Proceed was established for June 20.

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement - Niagara Waterway at Quasar NIA 5.09 – This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Quasar Boulevard at the Niagara Waterway. The new structure will replace two 48" metal pipes and a 44' weir with two 48" concrete pipes and a 20' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Construction Contract: Andrew Sitework, Construction Schedule: 6/20/2016 – 2/2017 (180 calendar day contract)

The preconstruction meeting was held May 5 and Notice to Proceed was established for June 20.

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (June 9, 2016) – *Quasar Boulevard will be closed between Abner Street and Aken Street (at Niagara Waterway) and between Beacon Drive and Inverness Street (at Fordham Waterway), on Monday, June 20 and will remain closed through January 2017. These road closures are necessary during construction as work progresses to upgrade the stormwater control structures beneath Quasar Boulevard at these two canal crossings. Traffic will be detoured north to Peachland Boulevard. Advance warning signs and detour signs will be installed to direct traffic.*

Stormwater Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Stormwater Control Structure Replacement – Lion Heart Waterway 4.34 (Kenilworth Blvd.) - This project provides for the design, permitting and construction of a stormwater control structure under Kenilworth Blvd. at the Lion Heart Waterway. Construction will consist of replacing (2) 72" corrugated metal pipe culverts with (2) 8'x10' box culverts and a 64' weir. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: Jan. – Dec. 2016, Procurement Process: Dec. 2016 – Feb 2017, Projected Construction Schedule: April – Dec. 2017

Johnson Engineering has completed the survey, the existing base plan, and the geotechnical investigation. The engineering firm is coordinating with the utility on the aerial crossing. The 30% design plans are scheduled to be submitted for review June 17.

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

Gulfstream Boulevard Sidewalks – 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. Construction of the Gulfstream Boulevard Sidewalk is part of a larger contract and will begin upon completion of the South Gulf Cove Sidewalk Project. Construction Contract: Bonness, Inc. Construction schedule: 4/25/2016 – July 2016.

Construction is underway. Stormwater drainage has been installed, subgrade is being mixed and sidewalk concrete is being poured. Restoration of the areas around the new sidewalks was delayed due to rain events during the last couple of weeks however progress should begin to pick up now.

South Gulf Cove Sidewalks – The South Gulf Cove MSBU Advisory Board requested approximately 17 miles of multi-use pathways within the South Gulf Cove subdivision. Phase One includes the design and construction of approximately 2.7 miles of off-street pathways on Ingraham Boulevard from Gasparilla Road to Calumet Boulevard and on Calumet Boulevard from Ingraham Boulevard to St. Paul Drive. Construction Contract: Bonness, Inc., Construction Schedule: 11/9/2015 – April 2016

Sidewalks are installed and final punchlist items are nearing completion. The MSBU Committee requested that the benches and garbage cans be relocated to San Domingo Park. A change order is being prepared to accomplish this additional task.

Sidewalk Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Harbour Heights Sidewalks – This project consists of constructing approximately 2.75 miles of 5' wide sidewalks within the Harbour Heights MSBU District. Sidewalks are proposed along the following six (6) roadways: Sunnybrook Road (from triangle at Broadpoint Dr. to Peace River Dr.), Peace River Drive (from Sunnybrook Rd. to San Marino Dr.), San Marino Drive (from Broadpoint Dr. to Peace River Dr.), Broadpoint Drive (from Voyageur Dr. to Washington St.), Sulstone Drive (from Sunnybrook Rd. south to end), Voyageur Drive (from Broadpoint Dr. to end). Design Contract: Charlotte Engineering, Design/Permitting (Public Works Engineering): 6/27/14 – May 2015, Procurement: Summer 2016, Construction: TBD

Construction contract bid documents are under review in the Purchasing Department. The review is nearing completion and this project is expected to be advertised for bids by the end of June.

Parkside - Gertrude Avenue/Aaron Street Multi-Use Path – This project will provide for a 10' multi-use path, landscaping, decorative lighting, a pocket park and signage along Gertrude Avenue, from Caring Way to Aaron Street, and along Aaron Street from Gertrude Avenue to Harbor Boulevard. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: June 2015 – Summer 2016, Procurement Process: TBD, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

The Parkside Board authorized an additional sidewalk on the north side of Aaron Street to Gertrude Avenue, as well as an additional sidewalk on the southwest side of Gertrude Avenue from Caring Way to Aaron Street. Johnson Engineering is working on the 90% design plans and has submitted the application for SWFWMD permitting.

Parkside - West Tarpon Boulevard/Ambrose Lane Multi-Use Path – This project includes a 10' multi-use path, landscaping and decorative lighting along West Tarpon Boulevard from US 41 to Ambrose Lane and on Ambrose Lane from West Tarpon Boulevard to Elkcam Boulevard. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: June 2015 – Summer 2016, Procurement Process: TBD, Projected Start of Construction: TBD

The Parkside Board met on Jan 12 to review budgets and design options and authorized staff to move forward with design of an additional sidewalk on the south side of West Tarpon Boulevard to Ambrose Lane.

Johnson Engineering is working on the 90% design plans and has submitted the SWFWMD permit application; SWFWMD permitting is expected to be complete in June.

Parade Circle Sidewalk Connections – The Rotonda West MSBU Advisory Board requested that sidewalks be installed along the feeder roads leading to Parade Circle. Construction will consist of six (6) sidewalks, six (6') feet wide, approximately 900 lineal feet each, starting at the Parade Circle and continuing to the next roadway intersection but not going through the intersection at the following locations:

- Oakland Hills Road to Annapolis Lane
- Pebble Beach Road to Mark Twain Lane
- Pinehurst Road to Mariner Lane
- Broadmoor Road to Broadmoor Lane
- Long Meadow Road to Long Meadow Lane
- White Marsh Road to White Marsh Lane

Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting: 7/1/2014 – Nov. 2015, Procurement: through 6/14/2016, Construction: 6/20/2016 – 10/18/2016

Phase 2 sidewalk connections: Bids were opened May 18 and a recommendation to award the construction contract will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on June 14.

Contingent upon Board approval, the preconstruction meeting will be held June 15 with Notice to Proceed issued for June 20. This 120 calendar day contract is projected to be complete by Oct. 18 excluding any delays that may be caused during the rainy season.

Phase 3 bike path connections: Staff reviewed the 60% design plans and are awaiting the 90% plans.

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

Buena Vista Grassy Point Waterway Maintenance Dredging – Maintenance dredging provides continued safe navigation for citizens who utilize the waterways. This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge the lateral channels and 500 feet into the interior canals to determine the amount of material needed to be removed to restore safe navigation. Construction Contract: Marine Contracting Group, Construction Schedule: 5/10/2016 – Oct. 2016 (150 day contract)

Marine Contracting Group mobilized their equipment, prepared the spoil site and has been dredging along George Road and Lister Waterway.

Coastal Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Gulf Cove Waterway Maintenance Dredging – Maintenance dredging provides continued safe navigation for citizens who utilize the waterways. This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge the lateral/access channels. The amount of material to be removed will be determined as engineering and design progresses. The project includes the removal of the existing silt to the previous dredge depth of -4ft MLW within the lateral/access channels and 100 feet into the interior canals. Design Contract: TBD, Design/Permitting Schedule: Through Summer 2016, Procurement Process Summer 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Summer 2016

Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC) proposed an alternate approach that will improve navigation and yield cost savings over time through reduction of maintenance dredging needs. The approach includes identifying/combining multiple canals into single channels extending to the river.

The County reviewed the preliminary plan set and issued a revised task order to Coastal Engineering Consultants to proceed with the additional survey and design work. CEC completed the additional survey and alternate design alignments depicting the proposed connector channels. The design was reviewed and approved by the MSBU Advisory Board; a second change order was submitted to facilitate the new design.

A pre-application meeting was conducted with the FDEP and ACOE to determine project feasibility. Both agencies view the project as favorable. FDEP commented that the FWC Department of Aquaculture will need to comment on the shellfish habitat designation and the ACOE stated that NMF will need to do the same in regards to the Smalltooth Sawfish habitat.

The permit application and drawings are complete and were submitted to State and Federal permitting agencies; correspondence between the County and ACOE confirmed that the review is underway. The Marine Marker Plan is also under review by the permitting agencies.

The Army Corps of Engineers has not asked for an informal review of this project from the National Marine Fisheries Services as of Sept. 30, 2015. The FDEP issued their permit with FWC Department of Aquaculture review of the shellfish habitat designation.

The Coast Guard is ready to issue the Marine Marker Permit pending authorization from the ACOE. A Request for Additional Information (RAI) was received from the ACOE and responded to.

The US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) Public Notice was issued Feb. 2016. Upon receipt of the ACOE permit the County will move forward with project implementation.

Pirate Harbor Access Channel – Dredging provides safe navigation for citizens who utilize the waterways. This project provides for engineering, design and permitting to dredge 2,300 feet of access channel that was not covered under previous permitting. This project was originally presented to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) in 2003/04 however, at that time, FDEP did not view this project as favorable and it was removed from the original contract. Now that the Pirate Harbor rock ledges have been removed, the engineering and design of the Pirate Harbor Access Channel has been added to the previous contract and

will require a standard general permit. Design Contract: Coastal Engineering, Design/Permitting Schedule: 4/22/2014 – Spring 2016, Procurement: Summer 2016, Projected Start of Construction: Fall 2016

FDEP completed the Uniform Mitigation Assessment Method (UMAM) ranking on the seagrass impacts for the proposed dredging. Coastal Engineering Consultants (CEC) investigated sites for a seagrass mitigation project (e.g., fill blow-holes / prop-scars). The initial search for potential mitigation sites did not find enough suitable areas within the vicinity of the project area therefore a wider search area was examined using aerial photography.

CEC, working in partnership with FDEP and County Staff, completed the field survey of potential seagrass mitigation areas which was reviewed by FDEP and FWC. A second meeting was held with FDEP in November 2015 to discuss the Seagrass Mitigation plan; FDEP requested that an updated boat survey be conducted to determine the required dredge depth; the boat survey was completed in February 2016.

A third meeting was held with FDEP, Aquatic Preserve and FWC staff to review the project design and multiple alternative proposals for seagrass mitigation strategies. State agencies have requested a channel realignment to possibly reduce potential impacts to seagrasses from the dredging.

State agency staff, County and CEC staff reached a consensus on a mitigation strategy to propose restoration of seagrass areas in the vicinity of Cormorant Key. A public interest proposal is being developed, in cooperation with Florida Sea Grant and local boating stakeholders within the Aquatic Preserve, as part of the permit process. A revised permit application will be submitted by the end of June to encompass the above changes and strategies.

Landscaping Projects in Construction

Burnt Store Village Buffer – This project provides for landscaping and irrigation to create a buffer along the east side of Burnt Store Road between Zemel Road and Doredo Drive. Design Contract: Charlotte Engineering & Surveying. Construction contract: Jones Landscape, Construction schedule: May – Aug. 2016.

Inclement weather has delayed ground preparations, reclaimed water meter and electrical service installations. Work will progress as ground conditions improve.

US 41 Landscaping at Waterway Crossings (Microtunnel Locations) – This project provides for landscaping along US 41 at the Elkcam, Fordham and Pompano Waterway drainage crossings. Landscape materials may include trees (Sand Live Oak, Sabal Palm, Slash Pine), shrubs (Saw Palmetto, Fakahatchee and Cord Grass), and groundcover (Coontie, Leather Fern). Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates, Construction Contract: MRT Lawn and Garden Center, Construction Schedule: TBD (60 calendar days)

Work is scheduled to begin June 20 and will be complete within 60 calendar days.

Landscaping Projects in Design, Negotiation or Procurement

Gateway Landscaping: Jones Loop at I-75 – The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte County and enhance the County's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live.

This project provides for roadside landscaping along Jones Loop at the I-75 interchange. This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design Schedule: through Nov. 2016.

Design is in progress; base plan, preparation and site investigations are underway.

Gateway Landscaping: Toledo Blade Blvd. (US 41 to Hillsborough Blvd.) – The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped

community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte County and enhance the County's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live.

This project provides for median landscaping with irrigation along Toledo Blade Boulevard between US 41 and Hillsborough Boulevard. Landscape materials may include trees (Palm, Japanese Blueberry, Crepe Myrtle), shrubs (Saw Palmetto, Ixora, Fountain Grass), and groundcover (Coontie, Purple Lantana, Asian Jasmine, Starburst Pentas). Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates

A recommendation to award the landscape contract was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on June 14. The preconstruction meeting is scheduled June 16 at which time notice to proceed will be established. This project is anticipated to be complete within 60 calendar days upon Notice to Proceed.

Gateway Landscaping: US 17 at I-75 – The Board of County Commissioners expressed their approval to proceed with planning, design and construction of landscaped community entrance features that will improve the appearance of certain gateways to Charlotte County and enhance the County's overall desirability as a place to visit, work and live.

This project provides for roadside landscaping along US 17 at the I-75 interchange. This project is funded, in part, by a grant from the Florida Highway Beautification Council. Design Contract: Johnson Engineering, Design/Permitting schedule: through Nov. 2016.

Design is in progress; base plan, preparation and site investigations are underway.

Midway Boulevard Median Landscaping – This project provides for median landscaping with irrigation along Midway Boulevard between Yancey Street and Harbor Boulevard. Landscape materials may include trees (Palm, Weeping Yaupon, Crepe Myrtle), shrubs (Silver Palmetto, Bluestem Palmetto, Fountain Grass), and groundcover (Purple Lantana). Design Contract: David M. Jones, Jr. & Associates, Construction Contract: Superior Landscaping and Lawn Service, Construction Schedule: TBD (60 calendar days)

A recommendation to award the construction project to Superior Landscaping and Lawn Service was approved by Charlotte County Administration on May 24 for a total project cost of \$108,811.50. This project is expected to be complete within 60 calendar days of Notice to Proceed which will be established at the preconstruction meeting on June 17.

Maintenance & Operations Division (June 8–14)

A total of 60 new requests were received related to drainage, brush, and illegal dumping.

Drainage line & grade:	2,800 SF in Greater Port Charlotte 15,200 SF in Northwest Port Charlotte 800 SF in Harbour Heights 1600 SF in Englewood East 6,530 SF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Small pipe install:	72 LF in Northwest Port Charlotte 24 LF in Englewood East 16 LF in Punta Gorda Non-Urban
Menzie ditch cutting:	160,000 SF in West Charlotte Stormwater
Culvert cleaning:	Cleaned 26 culverts in Greater Port Charlotte Cleaned 2 culverts in Road & Bridge North
Boom mower:	Cut 59,224 CY in Greater Port Charlotte
Debris removal:	Removed 21,240 pounds of debris from locations throughout the County
Asphalt repair:	Utilized 5.06 tons of material to repair locations throughout the County

Landscaping Services

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; Melbourne Street Bridge and all county-owned fenced retention ponds.

Tourism

The Charlotte Harbor Visitor & Convention Bureau will be holding a 2016/2017 marketing program meeting 10 a.m. - Noon on Monday, June 27, in Room B-106 at 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte. Members of the Charlotte County tourism industry are invited to attend and Charlotte Harbor VCB staff will review the Q1 2016 research, discuss the national forecast for tourism, share advertising initiatives for 2016/2017, talk about importance of social media, share partner co-op advertising opportunities, and discuss the importance of area tourism committees. The meeting will include a question and answer period. An RSVP is requested and can be made by calling 941.743.1900.