

**Administrator's Update for 10/31/12**  
**By Ray Sandrock, County Administrator**

The National Association of Counties (NACo) is evaluating energy utilization and energy upgrade projects to help counties gain the most value from their investments. We are excited that Charlotte County will be recognized as one of the contributors to NACo's new County Building Database. This database will help other agencies determine the most cost effective and successful energy upgrades available for county government buildings.

Out of the 3068 counties in the United States, approximately 225 counties are tracking energy at [www.naco.org/energystar](http://www.naco.org/energystar), and 90 of them are contributing energy data to the NACo's national database. As one of the contributors to the database, Charlotte County will be featured on the web pages as well as in news articles, reports and national publications. Additionally, Charlotte County will be included as a case study in NACo's best practices database located at [www.naco.org/greendatabase](http://www.naco.org/greendatabase).

Charlotte County has been tracking utility usage since its energy efficiency program began in 2007. In the last year, Charlotte County has been monitoring county-wide utility usage more closely through a new software program called EnergyCAP. Through EnergyCAP, energy data is automatically transmitted to EnergyStar's portfolio manager. We are proud to be recognized for our continued efforts in energy efficiency.

**Construction updates**

A change order was added to the Elkcam Boulevard multi-use path project to include landscape architectural design including street trees, irrigation and associated design specifications. Earlier this month Charlotte County and Johnson Engineering staff met with the Parkside Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) tree committee. Trees chosen for the street area include Live Oak, Sweet Gum and Sycamore. Decorative trees selected include East Palatka Holly, Fringe Tree and Walter Viburnum. The multi-use path will be a one-mile, 10-foot wide path through the Parkside CRA that enables residents and visitors to walk and bike in a beautiful neighborhood setting. This project is scheduled for completion in spring of 2013.

For the Harborview Road Bridge over the DeSoto Canal project, 90 percent design plans have been received and are currently under review. Design for this project is estimated to be completed in late November with construction beginning in February 2013.

**Englewood library update**

The Englewood Library book collection is almost packed up and ready to go to storage. The temporary library will open on schedule in the Tringali Community Center meeting room on Wednesday Nov. 14 at 10:00 am. Library operations will be maintained at this temporary location during normal library hours until the renovation and expansion project is complete. The anticipated completion date is April 2013.

**Fire extinguisher training**

The Charlotte County Fire/EMS fire prevention division has completed its final training on the department's new BullEx BullsEye laser-driven extinguisher training equipment. With this new equipment, we can conduct fire extinguisher training inside a building without discharging any chemical or having any live fire burn. The system works by having video screens display flames, and as students point the laser fire extinguisher at the screen the fire starts to extinguish. The department's safety committee and the risk management division obtained \$10K of grant monies to purchase this equipment. Charlotte County Fire/EMS can now help local businesses conduct these programs, safely and easily, to meet the OSHA requirements. If you need to hold a fire extinguisher class please contact Charlotte County Fire/EMS at 941.833.5600.