

County solicits public input on project and policy planning

By Hector Flores

Public input is a critical element in the county's strategic planning. It informs both near- and long-term planning for facilities, infrastructure and policies. There are numerous opportunities for residents and stakeholders to provide input to staff and county commissioners.

The most frequent chance to give feedback is during commission meetings, which are held every second and fourth Tuesday (except during the board's August recess). At the beginning of meetings, public input is invited on agenda items. On the second Tuesday of the month, the commission agenda includes a period — typically late in the morning — for public input on any topic after discussion and action are taken on agenda items. On the fourth Tuesday of the month, there is a public input session on any topic at 1 p.m.

You don't need to wait for meetings to provide feedback. My email address is at the bottom of this weekly column. Commissioners can be reached by email (Assistant@CharlotteCountyFL.gov) and telephone (941-743-1300). Through the Charlotte County mobile phone app, you can make requests or report issues across a variety of county departments. You can also view the status of submitted reports to see if something similar has already been filed, or to learn more about reports that have been reported near your location. To download the app, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/apps. You can also use the app directly from the county website, www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov, by clicking Contact in the menu at the top of any page.

There are numerous chances to provide public input on specific issues coming up. On Tuesday the County Commission has scheduled its quarterly transportation update. Among the topics to be discussed are Harborview Road, the Edgewater corridor, the Burnt Store Road east/west connector, Kings Highway widening, Sandhill Boulevard and the traffic circle at Cranberry and Hillsborough boulevards. The meeting begins at 1 p.m. in Room 119 of the Charlotte County Administration Center.

The Punta Gorda/Charlotte County Metropolitan Planning Organization has scheduled three public input meetings to solicit feedback on its 25-year transportation plan. The meetings are scheduled for:

4-6 p.m., May 27, 2025

Ann & Chuck Dever Regional Park Recreation Center
6961 San Casa Drive, Englewood, FL 34244

10 a.m.-noon, May 28, 2025

Charlotte County Family Services Center
21500 Gibraltar Drive, Port Charlotte, FL 33952

4-6 p.m., May 28, 2025

Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center
75 Taylor St., Punta Gorda, FL 33950.

There is also a virtual public workshop at 5 p.m., May 29, 2025. To register to attend the virtual meeting, visit <https://tinyurl.com/MPOvirtualmeeting>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

The Community Services Department has scheduled a pair of public input meetings about master planning for Deep Creek Park and Rotonda Community Park.

The Deep Creek Park meeting is set for 6 p.m., June 3 at 25555 Sandhill Blvd. in Deep Creek. The Rotonda Community Park meeting is set for 6 p.m., June 5 at 100 Rotonda Blvd E.

Please take advantage of any opportunity you have to provide your thoughts. Your input is extremely valuable, especially during these planning periods. I can tell you the feedback factors strongly into all decisions we make to deliver exceptional service to our community.

Readers may reach County Administrator Hector Flores at
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