



Monthly Report

Feb. 2023

Managing Charlotte County's Long-Term Hurricane Recovery

Charlotte County is only five months out from Hurricane Ian devastating wide swaths of the community, but your local government, its residents and business community are making fantastic strides in their recoveries. That said, there is much work to be done. Numerous county facilities, parks, libraries and equipment remain offline as we navigate issues, such as insurance, scopes of work, material delays and more. It will likely be years before we are fully recovered, so we ask for your continued patience as we navigate this unprecedented challenge.

County staff last week met with representatives from multiple state and federal agencies that are part of the Interagency Recovery Coordination group. The IRC provides a strategic and national approach to lead, manage and coordinate recovery efforts while increasing the resilience of communities. The IRC consists of six recovery support functions, each led by a designated fed-



eral agency. The functions are economic, housing, health and social services, natural and cultural resources, community planning and capacity building and infrastructure systems. The county is also working with the state Division of Emergency Manage-

ment to explore grant opportunities to improve the resiliency of our community.

There are numerous facilities that suffered such severe damage. It may be many months or even years before they reopen, if at all. Damage to the Utilities Department administration building at the East Port Environmental Campus forced staff from multiple departments and agencies to relocate immediately to an alternate facilities. The Mid-County Library had to be completely emptied to preserve as many materials as possible and allow mitigation work to occur.

There is no magic wand to wave that would get everything back to normal today or tomorrow or even a few months from now. Recovery takes time. Patience can wear thin at times, but know that my colleagues and I are working hard every day to shorten the road to recovery and prevent future storms from hurting us so badly.

Commission wants progress on Cultural Center

During a recent County Commission workshop, the board discussed the status of the Cultural Center property and what the county can do to meet unmet needs in the community since the center closed. The unanimous consensus was that the county should begin planning for a new facility immediately and identify funding sources and opportunities on a parallel track.

Commissioners expressed their gratitude to the Charlotte Community Foundation

for its report identifying programs and services the center provided and feedback from the public about its expectations.

Damage to the former Cultural Center building was so extensive, it will need to be replaced. How much it costs will depend on what gets built. Public input sessions will be part of the planning process, and we expect there will be substantial interest from the public when we ask for input in the coming months.

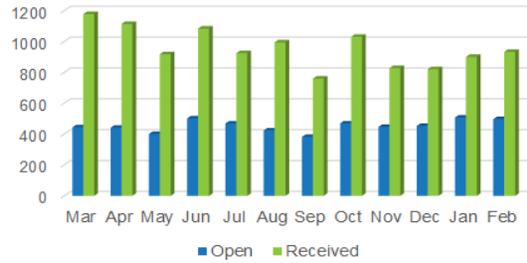


BRUSH FIRE SEASON

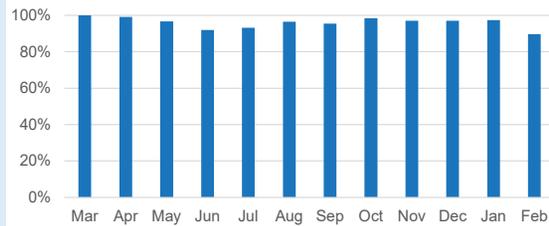
This is the time of year when brush fires spark up. With low humidity, dry conditions and windy weather, it pays to be careful. No burn ban is in place, but may be soon.

Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

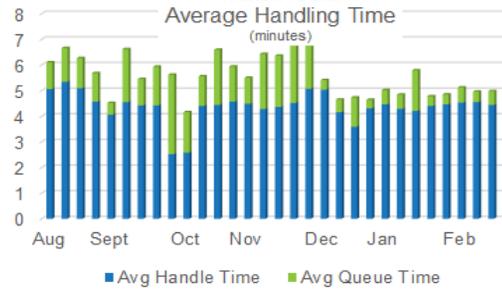


Customer Satisfaction % Positive

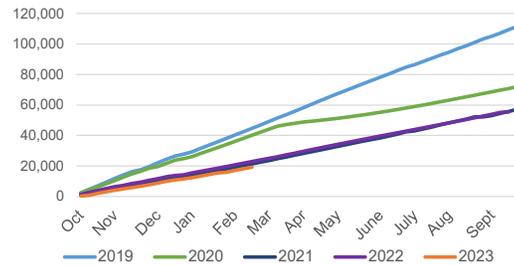


Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

Financial / Human Resources Information System

The county is well into the implementation of our new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system MUNIS. As Eden reaches end of life, the county, in partnership with the Clerk's Office, is transitioning to MUNIS which will manage our core functions, including financials, budget, procurement, payroll and human resources. Implementation and refinement of the Financial processes, workflows and modules are well underway. Up next are the Procurement and Human Resources modules. The county is currently on target for a Go Live date of April 2024.

February 2023



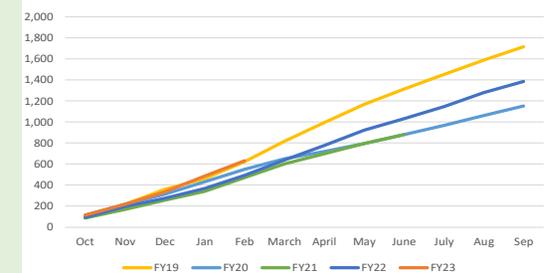
Health Center

Employee Health Center Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



Records Management

Record Requests



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?



PERMITTING STAGE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



COMPLETED!!



Jones Loop Commercial

26480 Jones Loop Rd., Punta Gorda
10,100 sq. ft. retail commercial building.

Radisson Hotel

1321 Claburn Cir., Port Charlotte
A four-story 117 room hotel.

Harpoon Harry's & Shops at Bayshore

22801 Bayshore Rd., Port Charlotte
33,354 SF restaurant, and 24,569 SF of retail buildings.

Whiskey Joe's

5000-5054 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
8,939 SF of restaurant, and 2,100 SF of outdoor bar area with manmade beach.

Del Taco & Buffalo Wild Wings

1490 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
2,370 SF Del Taco & 1,145 SF Buffalo Wild Wings restaurant and drive-thru.

Mazda Car Dealership

798 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Car dealership with wash and service bays to be constructed in two phases,

Sprouts Supermarket

2000 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Build-out of a supermarket and site modifications.

Free-standing Emergency Room

150 Tamiami Trail
Port Charlotte
11,000 sq. ft. free-standing emergency room.



Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen

18600 Veterans Blvd.,
Port Charlotte
7,974 sq. ft. restaurant.



Dunkin' Donuts

19220 Veterans Blvd.,
Port Charlotte
1,731 sq. ft. Dunkin' Donuts with a drive-thru.



FedEx Distribution

9301 Piper Rd, Punta Gorda
250,950 sq. ft. distribution center.

Wawa
1452 Chancellor Blvd., Port Charlotte
5,943 sq. ft. convenience store and gas station.



Sunseeker

4949 Tamiami Trail,
Port Charlotte
Mixed-use development consisting of 783 hotel units, restaurants, bars, and retail, located in the Charlotte Harbor CRA.

PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

Babcock Update

- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 1,800
- Single Family Permits Issued February: 53

West Port Update

- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 216
- Single Family Permits Issued February: 30



February Permitting:

Total Single Family Permits Issued: 232

Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued: 199

Total Permits Issued for the month: 7,596

Total Permits Issued FY21-22: 41,319
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2021—Sept. 2022)

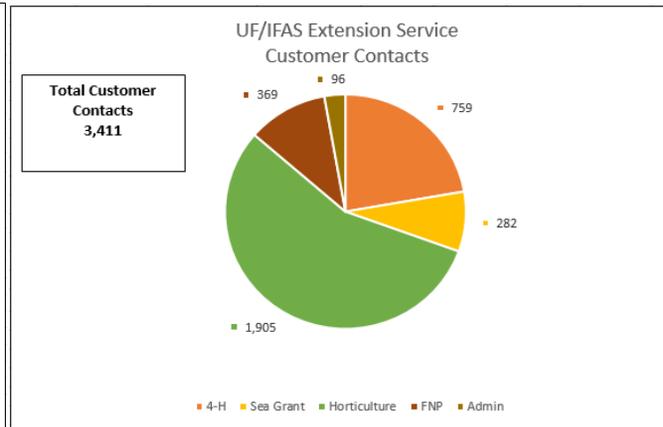
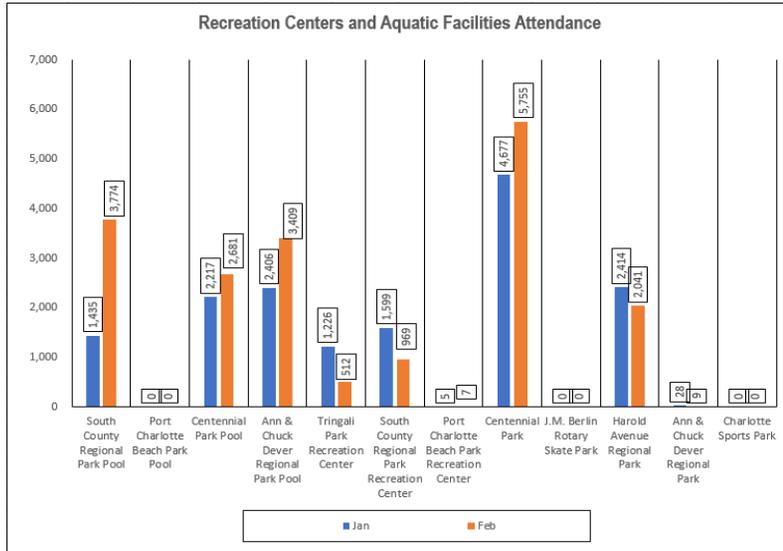
Total Permits Issued FY22-23: 41,081
(Fiscal Year Oct. 2022—Sept. 2023)

PERMITTING SNAPSHOT



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
Community Development

February 2023

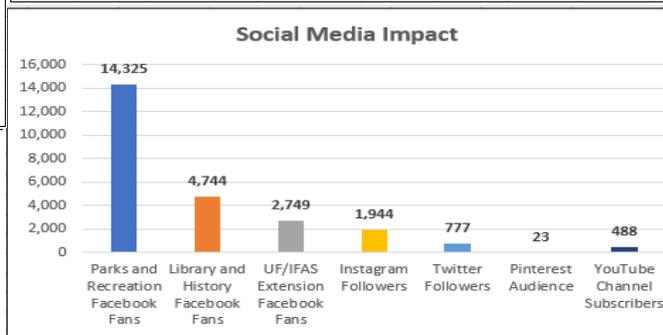
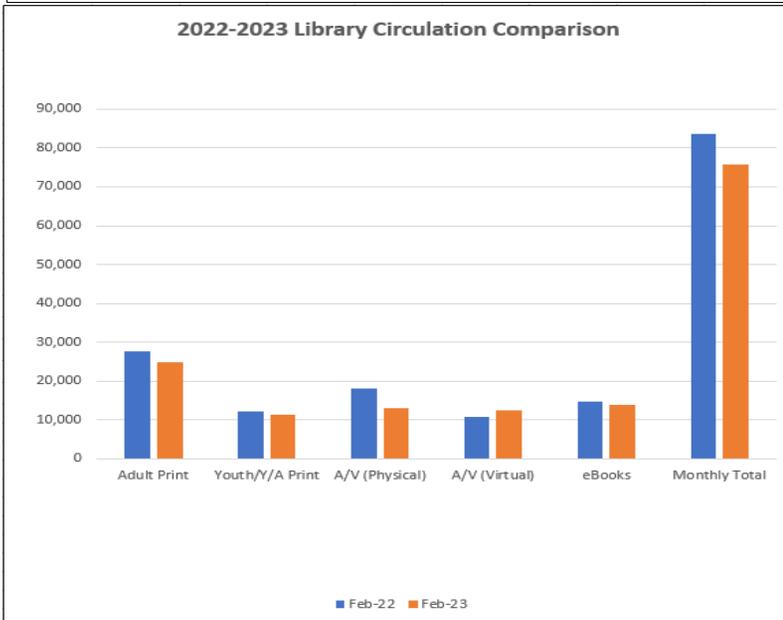


Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 2,476 trash bags collected
- 377 recycling bags collected
- 20 youth leagues and adult SB practices

Land Management

- 43.71 miles maintained
- Staff initiated the routine maintenance and mowing rotation of our environmental parks and preserves, also continued the removal of debris and downed trees from our parks and preserves.



Project Management

- 38 projects, \$5.9MM

Coastal Management

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

- 31 Open Cases
- 7 Removed
- 6 Relocated
- 8 Ready for removal
- 1 Pending approval

Coastal Lighting

- 40 Permit Reviews
- 2 Inspections

Eagle Nests

- 31 being monitored
- 16 nests with chicks
- 3 possibly still incubating
- 5 destroyed with no activity



Charlotte Technical College Students place at NBAA Maintenance Competition

Last month students from the Charlotte Technical College competed at the NBAA's Maintenance Competition in Miami-Opa-Locka. They won second place in the Electrical Troubleshooting and VRTowing competitions. Congratulations to the students for this achievement!

The Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) school was started at Charlotte Technical College with a grant for the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity Job Growth Grant Fund. A&P mechanics are in high demand in the aviation school. We are proud to support this growing program.

AeroEngines Americas Aviation Week Conference

Business Recruitment Manager, Kay Tracy, and Business Retention & Expansion Coordinator Amanda Benton attended the AeroEngines Americas conference in Dallas last month. The conference was a great opportunity to network with aviation businesses and let them know about the opportunities here in Charlotte County.

When polled, attendees of the conference said that the shortage of A&P mechanics and MRO (maintenance, repair, and overhaul) capacity was the biggest problem facing aviation today.

That information made a great conversation starter! Charlotte County has a pipeline of A&P mechanics being trained at Charlotte Technical College and opportunity for an MRO to be opened at Punta Gorda Airport.



Charlotte County Chamber Business Expo



Amanda and Janet exhibited at the Charlotte County Chamber's Business Expo. They enjoyed meeting local business owners, and residents. They talked about current issues that the Economic Development office is tackling and how we can support local businesses.

Charlotte County Chamber 3rd Wednesday Coffee

Economic Development Director, Dave Gammon, spoke at the Charlotte County Chamber's 3rd Wednesday Coffee last month. He shared all the exciting growth happening in Charlotte County and the possibilities in the future.





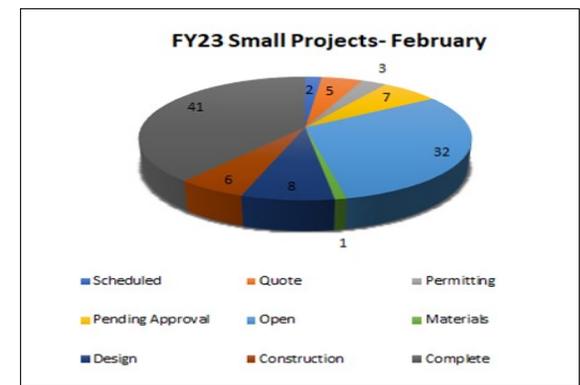
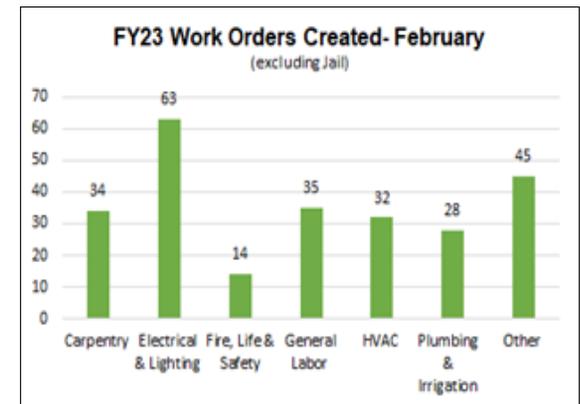
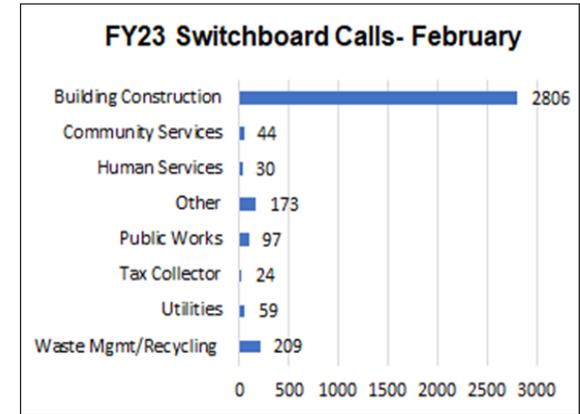
Hurricane Ian repairs continue at multiple sites throughout the county. The build-back of the **Cedar Point Environment Center** began. Repairs to the fascia, flooring, insulation, and the cupola are completed. The remaining repairs will be done upon receipt of the proper permits. At **Charlotte Sports Park**, temporary air conditioning units were installed in preparation for construction to begin. Requests for proposal by geographical region (West, Mid, and South County) were solicited for qualified firms to provide professional Construction Manager at Risk services as part of hurricane damage recovery.

- ◆ The Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Army Corps of Engineers approved the **grass parking project at Bayshore Park**. The project is awaiting Site Plans Review approval before beginning construction.



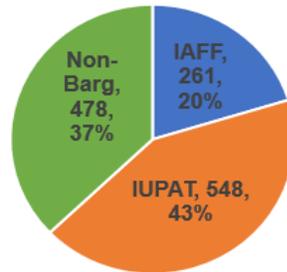
Fencing around the construction site was installed by Florida Premier Contractors for the safety of our community.

- ◆ The design team, SchenkelShultz, submitted 100 percent construction documents for the new **CCSO District 4** office on Airport Road.
- ◆ Magnum Builders completed the one-year warranty walk-thru and work at **Fire Station 10** on Don Pedro Island.
- ◆ The one-year warranty work was completed by Wharton-Smith, Inc. at the new **Transit Facility** on Veterans Blvd.
- ◆ Through an agreement with Kitson & Partners, Fawley Bryant recently completed preliminary plans for the shell build-outs of the new **Fire Station 9** and **CCSO District 5** office at Babcock Ranch.



Workforce

Employee Count 1,287
 Avg Age 46
 Avg Hourly Rate \$26.92
 Avg Years of Service 8.54



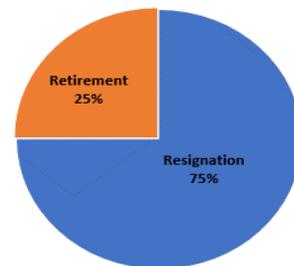
Retention of New Hires	February	YTD
% completing probation	84%	81%

Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years	2.8%
% of Workforce Retired this FY	0.9%

Separations

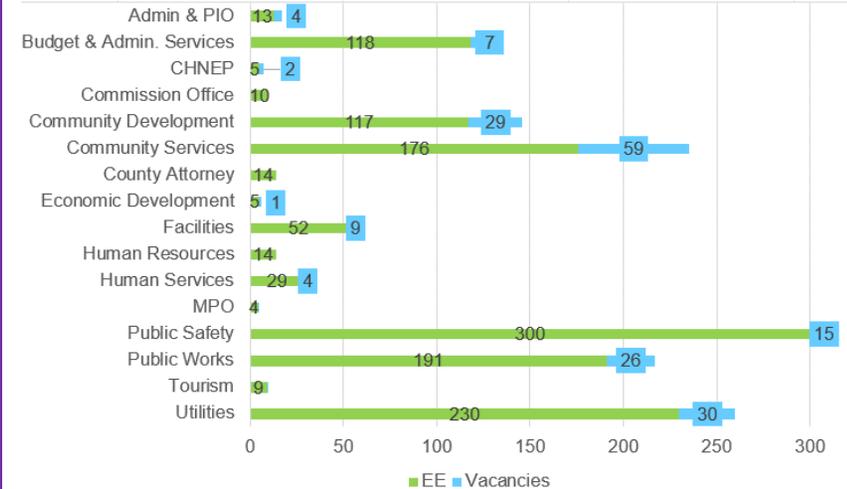
	February	YTD
Turnover	0.9%	5.3%
Separations	12	68



Training & Development

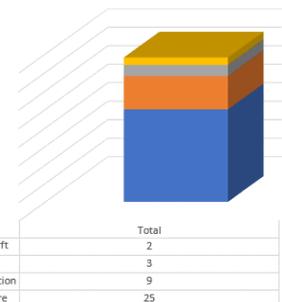
Training	223 EE's	21.5	4,795 contact hrs
% using Tuition Reimbursement		1%	

Employees vs Vacancies



Recruitment

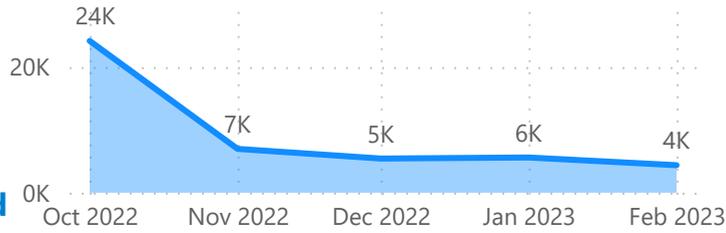
Applications Taken	606
Job Posting Hits	24,147
New Hires	25
Recruited Pos FT	65
Posted PT/Sea/Intern	7



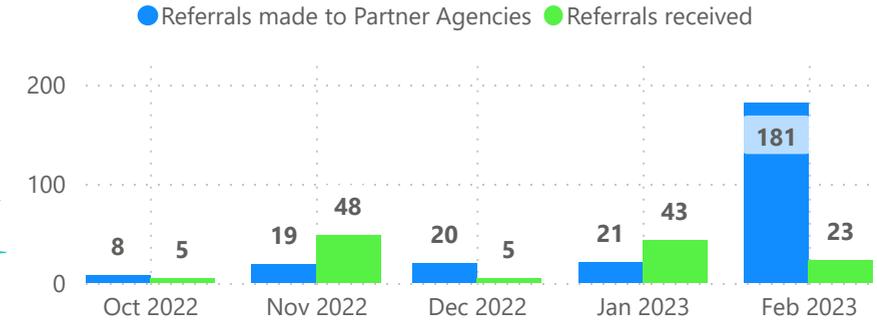
962

Households Served (February)

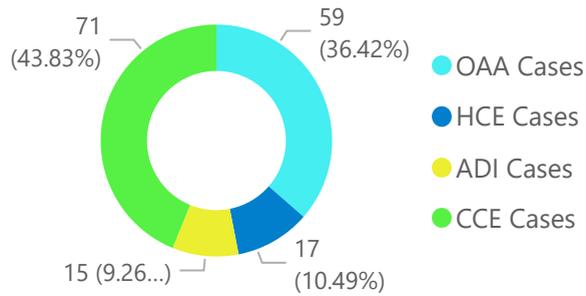
Department Phone Call Volume



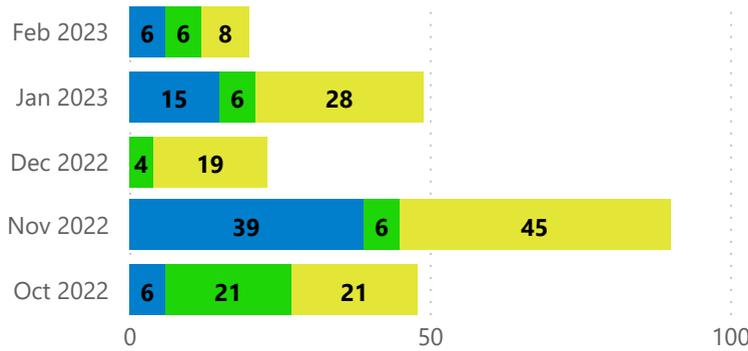
Referrals FY23



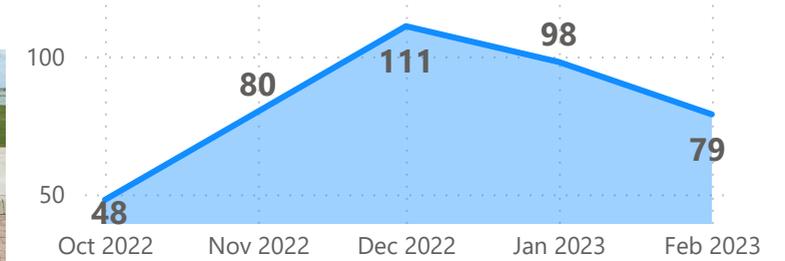
Aging & Adult Services Case Management



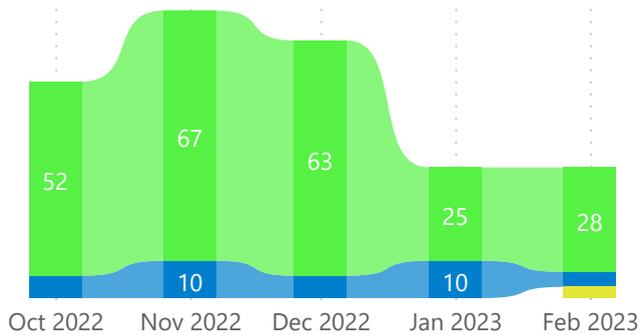
● Completed/Closed/Termed ● In process/ Research ● New Cases



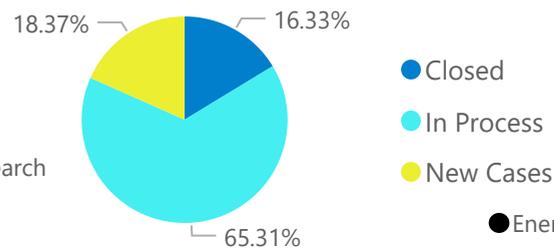
Veteran's Claims Cases



Neighborhood Services Case Management



Civil Citation Case Management



● Completed ● In process/ Research ● New Cases

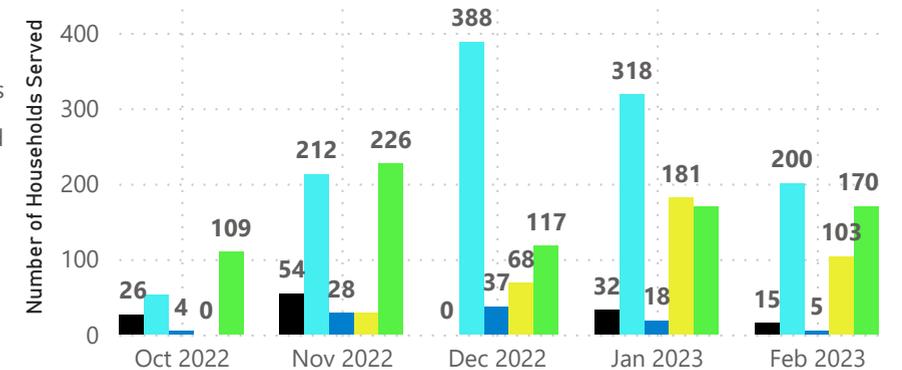


Promotion: Intake Coordinator Kelly Gammon has been Promoted to Case Coordinator!

Our Rockstar of the Month
Robin Clark,
Intake Coordinator

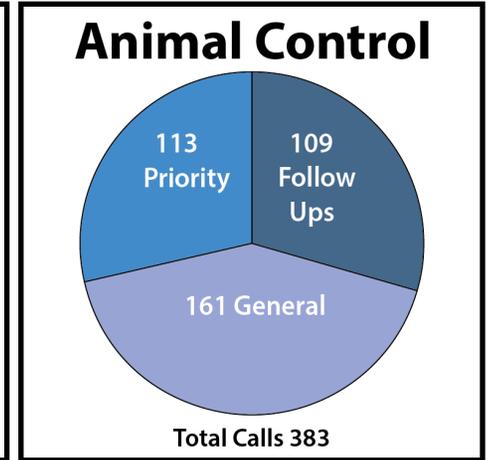
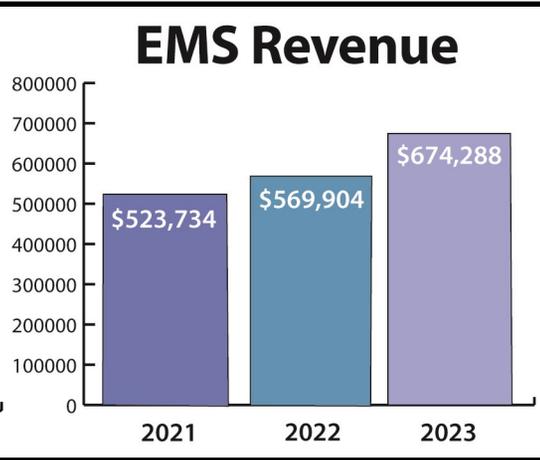
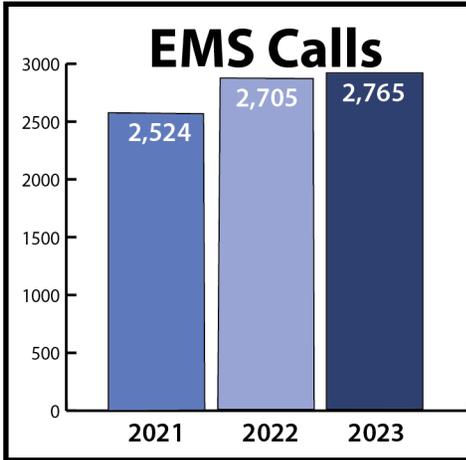
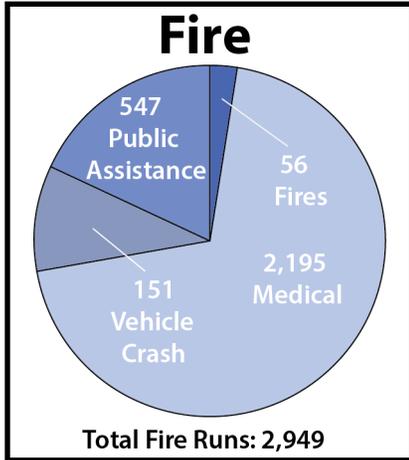
Veteran Services outreach at Babcock Ranch Public Market resulted in 15 new appointments this month!

Intake Services FY23



Our Mission: To collaborate and provide programs and connections that increase financial stability and support individuals and families as they work to reach their fullest potential.

Public Safety



Brush Fire Prevention

The U.S. Department of the Interior says that nine out of ten wildfires are started by humans. The good news? Nine out of ten wildfires can be prevented. We are just getting into our driest season in southwest Florida, which means a small wildfire will grow and spread quickly.

Now is the best time to use common sense whenever open flames or other heat sources are used near the woods. While we have not had substantial rainfall for several weeks, it may get even drier. Whether or not the county imposes a burn ban is up to the discretion of Charlotte County Fire & EMS Chief Jason Fair. One factor Chief Fair utilizes to decide if a ban is necessary is the Keetch-Byram Drought Index (KBDI), a continuous reference scale estimating the dryness of the soil and upper duff layers. The index increases each day without rain and decreases when it rains. Higher values of the KBDI

are an indication that the conditions are favorable for the occurrence and spread of brushfires. Once Charlotte County nears the 650 range on the KBDI, Chief Fair considers banning any open burning.

During a brushfire, Charlotte County Fire & EMS crews work first to protect lives and then to protect property. While protecting property is a high priority, if you have woods surrounding your home, you should help us by creating a defensible space. Clear a 25-foot, brush-free buffer around your house and regularly remove leaves and debris from gutters and roofs, so blowing embers don't land in them and become a fire. If you see a fire starting, get to a safe place and call 911.



Solid Waste Customer Transactions

11,283
Landfill Total Transactions

7,594_T Residential M.S.W.
27,831_T Commercial M.S.W.
1,982_T Yard Waste
36,240_T Hurricane Debris

Mini-Transfer & Recycling Facilities opened February 14

Mid County	West County	
433	174	HHW
102	34	Sharp
397	415	Recycling
1,485	1,537	Refuse & Yard

Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control

20
Application Complaints

30
Telephone Complaints*
not shown

Application Requests

Received

153

Completed

191



Leaner Trees

152
Hanger Trees
377

February White Goods Operations

217

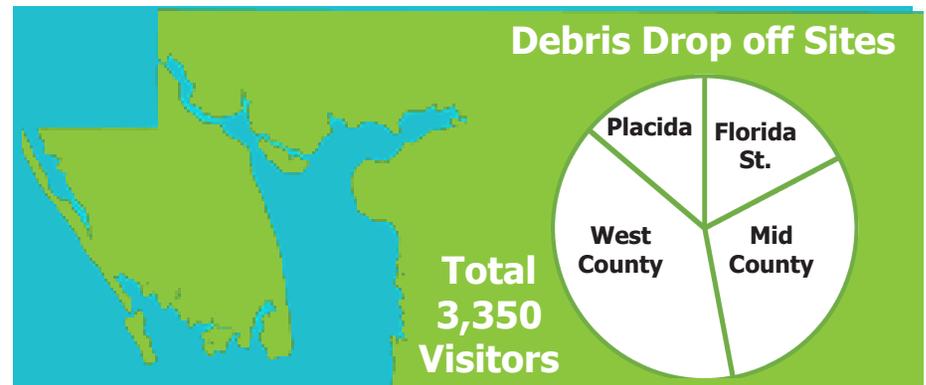


798
Various Signs Corrected

88.7%
of the 80,612
County Maintained Signs Corrected

9,032 Remaining Needed Corrections

Debris Drop off Sites



218,040 cy Debris Picked up

Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT
(Current Month)

Jan-22	\$962,615	↑	0.1%
Jan-23	\$963,143		

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Jan-22	\$2,331,799	↑	6.7%
Jan-23	\$2,488,043		

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

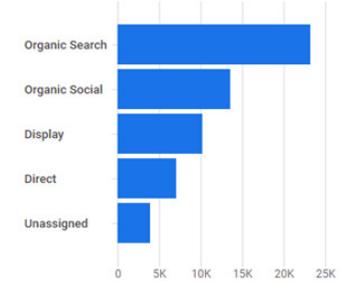
Website Users: 62K

Sessions: 86K

Top Origin Markets:

FL, GA, NY, OH, MI, IL, PA, IN, VA, NC

Sessions by Channel Group



Sales February 2023

SPORTS

Horizon Gymnastics - Princess Classic Invitational

Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center - February 10-12, 2023

This Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) and USA Gymnastics sanctioned invitational included all disciplines for girls ages 3-18. Over 600 people traveled from across the state of Florida and Georgia to cheer on their kids.



Snowbird Baseball Classic - NCAA College Games

Centennial Park, South County Regional Park - February 18- March 16, 2023

The 15th annual Snowbird Baseball Classic kicked off another year by opening with Ohio State as the anchor team. 26 Division I & III College teams from across the country will play conference games during this school break from mid-February to mid-March. Come cheer on your favorite team, all mater or volunteer if you just love the game. Go to www.snowbirdbaseball.com for more information.



Fun Fact

Who's ready for Spring Training Baseball?

- Spring Training Baseball is split 50/50 between Florida Grapefruit League and Arizona Cactus League with 15 teams in each state.
- Surprise Stadium (Royals & Rangers) has a merry-go-round in the right field concourse
- In 2007 the Tampa Bay Rays changed their name from "Devil Rays" to "Rays". Changing the meaning of the term "Ray" to mean a burst of sunshine. The following year in 2008, they made it to the World Series.



MEETINGS

Meetings attended Florida Encounter February 2-4 in West Palm Beach. Qualified meeting professionals with proven business for Florida attend this premier tradeshow. The VCB took part in 30 one on one meetings with planners interested in hearing more about our area for their meetings and conventions. Worth noting is that 24 meetings were from incoming requests, a significant increase over previous years, and confirmation about the excitement for the opening of Sunseeker Resort which will offer 60k square feet of flexible meeting space.

Public Relations/Media February 2023

A total of 15 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 639,438 and a media ad value of approximately \$1,202.

Travel Writer Charles McCool with US Gulf Coast Travel came to visit Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach on February 13-16, 2023 and showcased The Suites at The Fishermen's Village as well and some of our wonderful attractions and restaurants. For the full article is US Gulf Coast Travel.



Check out our top social media posts for the month of February
@realpureflorida

Visitors to Charlotte County save local residents an average of **\$1,083** per household in taxes every year.



WATER & WASTEWATER FACILITY TOURS

BURNT STORE WATER TREATMENT AND RECLAMATION FACILITY
17430 BURNT STORE ROAD
PUNTA GORDA, FL 33955

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22 & WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12
10 AM TO 12 PM

TOUR CAPACITY IS LIMITED AND SEATS MUST BE RESERVED IN ADVANCE ON A FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVED BASIS



Are you interested in a behind-the-scenes look at the process involved in providing water and wastewater treatment and reclamation services to the community? You will also learn about the water treatment and reclamation process and observe treatment plant operators in action.

Wednesday, March 22 & Wednesday, April 12 from 10 AM to 12 PM

Tour capacity is limited, and seats must be reserved in advance on a first-come, first-served basis. Tour guests are asked to wear closed-toed shoes and be prepared to participate in a walking tour, mostly outdoors.

Please email Caroline.Wannall@CharlotteCountyFL.gov or call 941-764-4304 to request a reservation.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- **SR 776 Sewer Force Main Project:** Upsizing the existing sewer force main to 12-inch and 16-inch lines along SR 776 from Biscayne Dr. to the Charlotte Sports Park. This is an in-kind project for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Consent Order. This project is expected to be complete by spring 2023.
- **Ackerman Septic to Sewer Project:** Construction of a wastewater system to service approximately 2,135 properties with sewer service. Zones 1, 2 and the vacuum station are currently underway. The vacuum station is expected to be complete by spring 2023. Zones 1 and 2 sewer connections are expected to begin after vacuum station completion. For project information: AckermanProject.com
- **Lake View/Midway Septic to Sewer Project:** This project proposes construction of a wastewater collection system to service approximately 1,500 properties with sewer service, new water service lines and a vacuum station. Septic tank location letters have been sent out to properties located within the project area. Please complete these forms and return in the self-addressed envelope provided.
- **Cochran Reclaim Project:** Construction of reclaim water mains along the right-of-way of Cochran Blvd. from Quesada Ave. to Peachland Blvd. Due to design changes construction has halted and is expected to resume within the next few months.

OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 8,696
- **Call Wait Time:** 3 minutes 13 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 44,670 (93 increase from Jan.)
- **Water Connections:** 67,419 (205 increase from Jan.)

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **5 Misc.—Utilities Department**
 - **9 Utilities Billing**
 - **14 Utilities Department Service**
- 28 Total**

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)
2,317 Follows

2021 Water Quality Reports:

<https://tinyurl.com/2021-CCR-Peace-River>
<https://tinyurl.com/2021-CCR-Burnt-Store>

Remember, every drop counts! 💧

Important Information:

The Temporary Customer Payment Center located at the Murdock Administration Center, 18500 Murdock Circle, B-109, in Port Charlotte is open.

Monday through Friday—9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The Temporary Customer Payment Center assisted **276** individuals for the month of February.

Contact us at 941.764.4300 or CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov