



Monthly Report

April 2023

County Commission reviewing Strategic Focus Areas

The County Commission continued revising its strategic plan at a workshop focused on economic and community development, financial trends and goals for affordable housing, environmental water quality and workforce development.

Economic and community development is one of four focus areas in the board's strategic plan, which is reviewed every two years as part of the county's two-year budget process. The other focus areas are public services, infrastructure, and efficient and effective government.

The board received an overview of financial trends with a focus on the impact of Hurricane Ian and any potential economic downturn or recession that may occur over the coming years. The extent of damage Ian caused will actually boost county revenues in the short-term, as insurance payouts to residents to rebuild their homes in-

crease sales tax revenue. That impact will be coupled with another sizable increase in property values and tax revenue, driven by new construction and rising home sale prices.

The board's goal for affordable housing is to increase the number of units available by 200 each year for the next five years. Progress was made with the establishment of the county's affordable housing trust fund. Last year, the board approved an agreement with Palladium Group to build a 600-unit development on county-owned land near Veterans Boulevard. Construction will begin in 2024. The 88-unit Jacaranda Place apartment complex for low-income families and disabled individuals on Loveland Boulevard has scheduled a ribbon-cutting ceremony for June.

Water Quality Management Brandon Moody presented an update on the One Charlotte, One

Water initiative. Moody implemented the first phase of ambient water quality monitoring in June 2022. To view a site map of monitoring location, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov and search for One Charlotte, One Water.

Workforce development is an ongoing effort, especially given the tight labor market and steep competition for talented employees needed to operate local government. The county starts young, with a target of increasing the number of interns we hire to 20 in fiscal year 2023-24.

The Human Resources Department held an internship event at Charlotte Technical College and added four colleges to its partnership efforts. IT held student job fairs, developed a Big Brothers, Big Sisters county employee mentoring program is planning a "Day in Government" event this year to showcase career opportunities in government.

Public Works launches Ian recovery project map

The Charlotte County Public Works Department has launched an interactive map providing information on the status of Hurricane Ian repairs of county facilities and infrastructure.

The map displays the projects' location, description and status.

To view the map, visit www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov/ianroadrepairs.



Sea turtle nesting season

It's sea turtle nesting season in Charlotte County. Our beaches are home to these amazing creatures who come to lay their eggs each year.

When visiting Charlotte County coastal beaches, please:

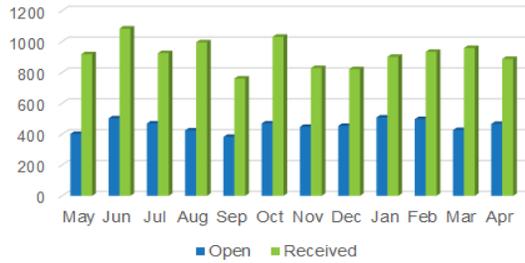
- Give nests space

when setting up at the beach

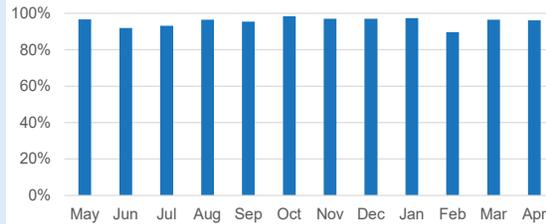
- Stay back from roped-off areas
- Keep pets off the beach
- Fill in any holes created and knock down sand castles
- Don't use flashlights or cell phone lights on the beach at night

Information Technology

Service Tickets by Month

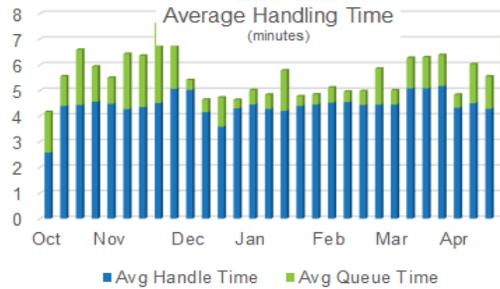


Customer Satisfaction % Positive

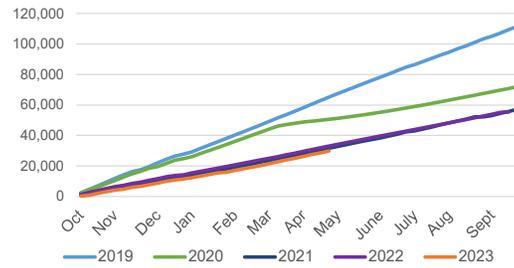


Transit

Transit Calls Average Handling Time (minutes)



Annual Cumulative Ridership



Director Highlights

Employee Total Rewards Report

"Total Rewards" represents the total compensation package that employees receive, or an applicant may receive upon hire. Total rewards encompasses all compensation plus benefits & rewards associated with their employment. Employees and perspective employees can see the investment the County makes.

This was a team effort with staff from Human Resources (Kathy Quick & Mary Shelley), Information Technology (Janet Schmidt), Fiscal Services (Roger Davis), Risk Management (Jennifer Bullistron) and Wellness (Stephanee Philips) working together to define the requirements, data sources, calculations and report format.

April 2023

Employer Contribution Summary Information



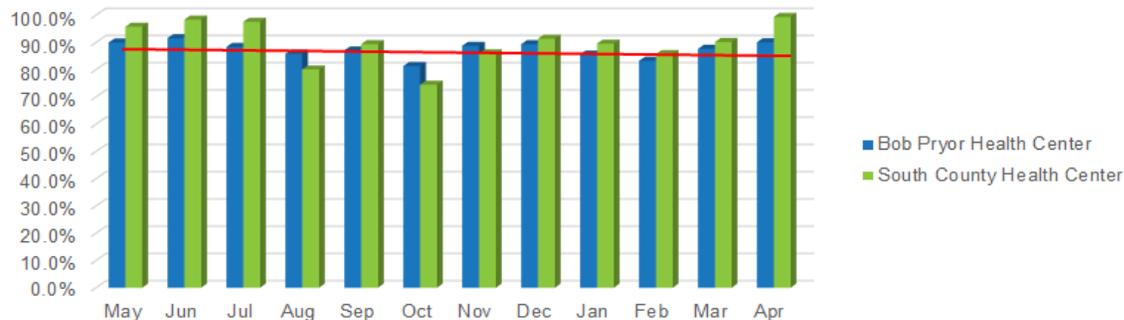
PAID TIME OFF (HOURS)



	\$
Compensation	74,880.00
Social Security/Medicare	5,728.32
Retirement	8,918.21
Insurance	16,303.12
Wellness	516.32
Benefit Subtotal	31,465.97

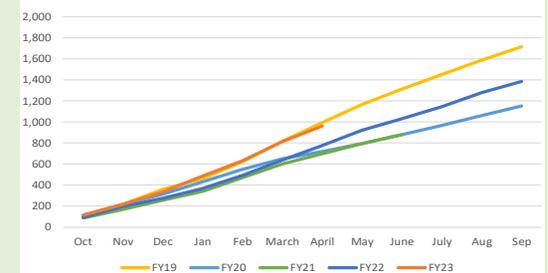
Health Center

Employee Health Center Monthly Appointment Utilization Summary



Records Management

Record Requests



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT?



PERMITTING STAGE



UNDER CONSTRUCTION



COMPLETED!!



Avery Port Charlotte

1441 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Redevelopment of Macy's site into 250 apartment units with a pool and other amenities.

Promenades Mall

3280 Tamiami Trail, Port Charlotte
Plan Amendment and rezone Petition to create a mixed use development of 1,100 residential apartments and over 500,000 of non-residential commercial, office and hotels.

Harpoon Harry's & Shops at Bayshore

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

Elliano's Coffee

19637 Cochran Blvd., Port Charlotte
800 Sq. Ft. drive through coffee shop.

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.

Distribution Center

8264 Duffie Dr., Punta Gorda
124,999 sq. ft. distribution center near the Punta Gorda airport.

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



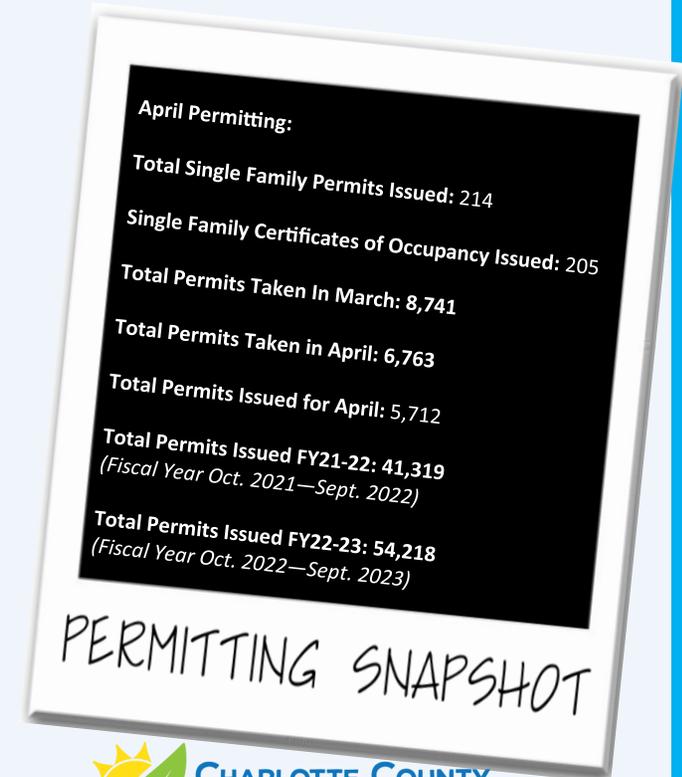
Dunkin' Donuts
19220 Veterans Blvd.,
Port Charlotte
1,731 sq. ft. Dunkin' Donuts with a drive-thru.

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



Starbucks
18501 Murdock Circle, Port
Charlotte
2,500 sq. ft. Starbucks with double drive-thru lanes.

**Equus Warehouse and
Distribution**
9450 Piper Rd., Punta Gorda
378,000 sq. ft. warehouse and distribution project.



PROJECTS' SPOTLIGHT

Babcock Update

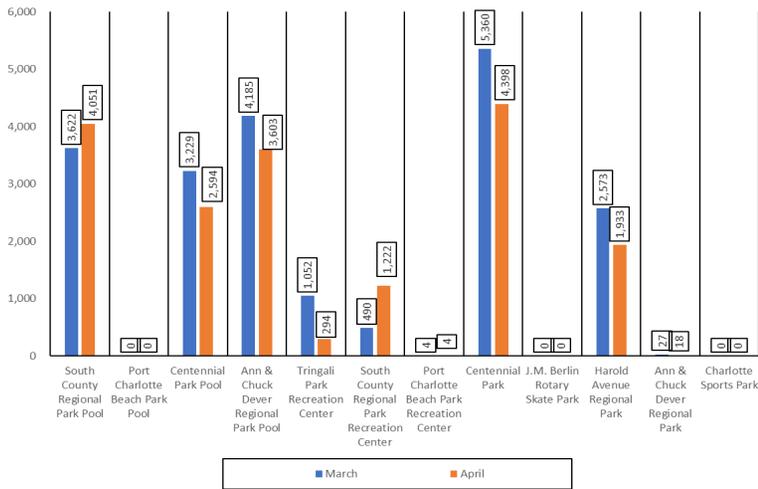
- Certificates of Occupancy issued since August 2016: 1,891
- Single Family Permits Issued April: 42

West Port Update

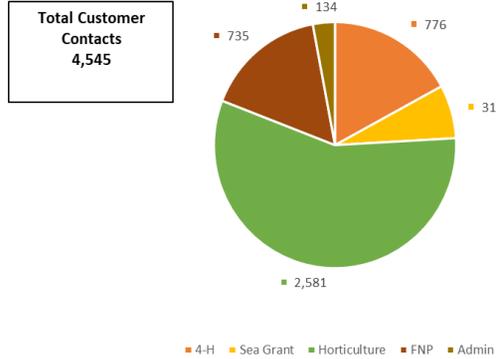
- Single Family Certificates of Occupancy Issued since April 2021: 277
- Single Family Permits Issued April: 13



Recreation Centers and Aquatic Facilities Attendance



UF/IFAS Extension Service Customer Contacts



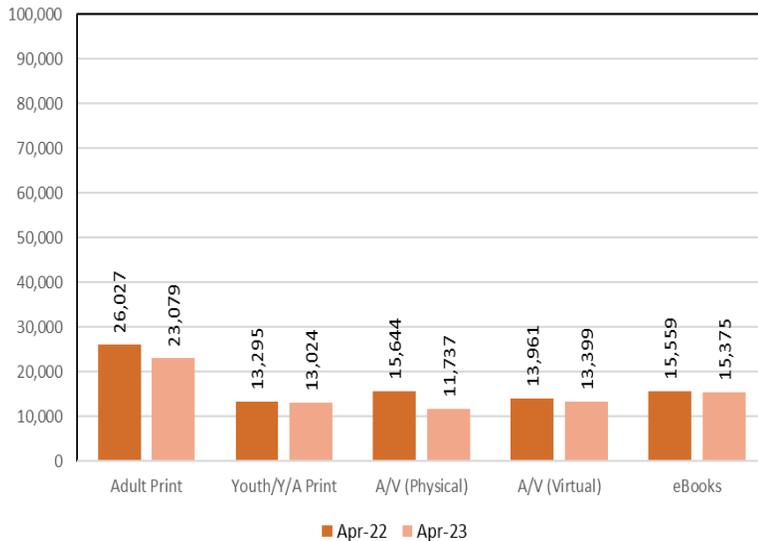
Parks and Athletic Field Maintenance

- 344 youth leagues and adult softball practices
- 16 tournament games
- 3,756 trash bags collected
- 457 recycling bags collected

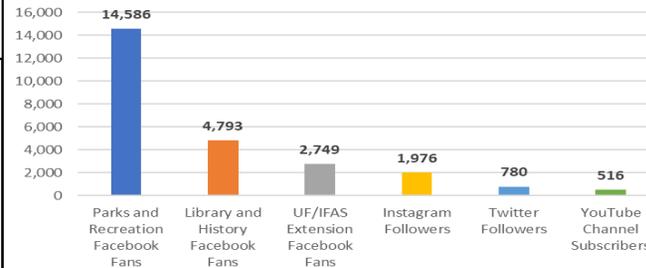
Land Management

- 79 miles maintained
- 18 exotics/invasives acres treated
- 9 truckloads of Hurricane Ian debris removed from Oyster Creek Environmental Park and Babcock Earth Day event

2022 - 2023 Library Circulation Comparison



Social Media Impact



Natural Resources

Abandoned/Derelict Vessels

- 25 Open Cases
- 10 Removed
- 1 Relocated
- 9 Ready to be removed
- 1 Pending

Coastal Lighting

- 31 Permit Reviews
- 4 Inspections
- Sea Turtles
 - 3 Nests

Eagles Nests

- 12 Nests
- 12 with chicks

Project Management

- Projects Completed - 3
- Projects - not started - 5
- Projects - In progress - 50
- Total projects - 58
- Total - \$ 6,343,196

Don't forget! The deadline for Economic Injury Loans for Hurricane Ian is June 29th.

Did Your Business Suffer Financial Damages after Hurricane Ian/Nicole? SBA can Help!

Benefits of an SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL):

- No Payments and No Interest for the 1st Year
- After 1 year: Ian fixed interest rates: 3.040% - businesses; 1.875% - nonprofits
- Nicole fixed interest rates: 3.305% - businesses; 2.375% - nonprofits
- No Cost to Apply; No Closing Costs; No Pre-payment penalty
- Up to 30 years to repay loan
- No collateral on loans under \$25K
- \$2 million maximum loan for businesses and private non-profit organizations
- 1099 eligible to apply



What you need to apply:

- Contact information for all applicants
- Applicant cell phone (for verification)
- Social security numbers and Employer Identification Numbers (EIN) for all applicants/owners
- Financial information (e.g., income, account balances and monthly expenses)
- Information about your deed or lease
- Tax return for previous year
- Insurance information, if available

How to apply:

Deadline: Ian 6/29/23 & Nicole 9/13/23

- Online at DisasterLoanAssistance.sba.gov
- Visit a [Recovery Center \(locator\)](#) & meet with SBA **in person**
- Apply by mail – call (800) 659-2955 to request a paper application

Questions? Call **(800) 659-2955** (dial 7-1-1 to access telecommunications relay services) or visit sba.gov/disaster

Business Hurricane Season Preparedness Webinar

May 24, 2023 Live Webinar at 12:00 PM

Join us for a FREE webinar with guests from the SBA, CareerSource SWFL, FSBDC at FGU, Charlotte County Emergency Management, and more to talk about hurricane season preparedness for businesses.

REGISTER NOW



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Your Business. Cleared for Takeoff.

U.S. Small Business Administration



CareerSource
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA



FGCU



MRO Americas 2023



Kay and Amanda attended MRO Americas in Atlanta in April to meet with aviation businesses. They were able to make appointments with several companies looking for more information about doing business in Charlotte County.

April 2023



The **Bayshore CRA Parking Lot** project will include design and construction of a surface parking lot and pedestrian promenade connection for public use. The project is located at the east end of Bayshore Live Oak Park. The parking lot design will be a stabilized subgrade and grass surface with associated drainage. The pedestrian promenade project is intended to provide connectivity and improve pedestrian mobility along the Charlotte Harbor Riverwalk. This connection will allow the public to access the Charlotte Harbor Riverwalk from Bayshore Live Oak Park. The engineer will be onsite to layout underground structures, 4" slabs, and curbing. Excavation for installing underground drainage is pending material delivery. Once completed, work will continue for forming sidewalks and curbing. The ADA ramp walkways have been installed.



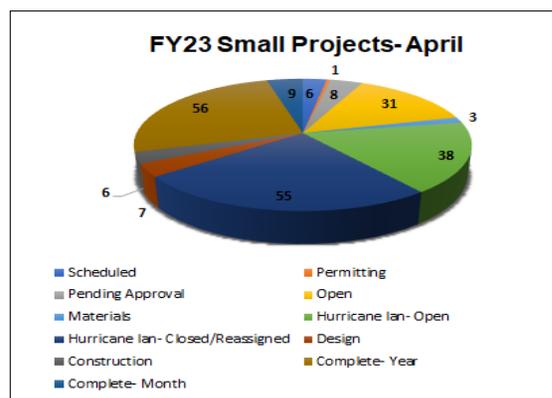
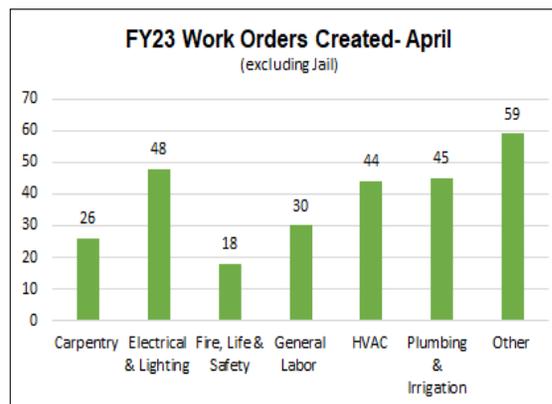
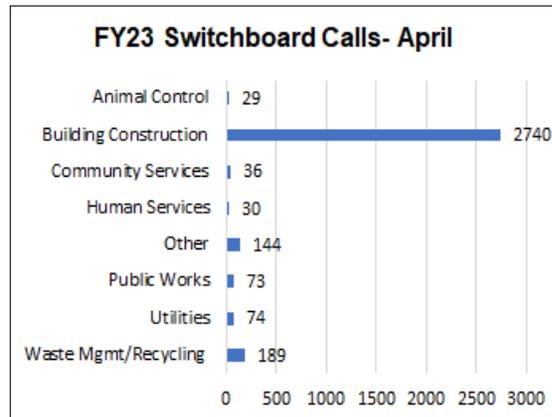
◆ Renovation is completed at the **Grace Street pharmacy** and ready for staff to move in on Monday, May 8th.

◆ Charlotte County's Administration, as well as various stakeholders of the **Family Services Center**, were accompanied on walk throughs of the construction site for the Phase 2 building. Construction is expected to be complete by the end of the year.

◆ **Hurricane Ian Recovery contracts for South, Mid, and West County** have been awarded to Florida Premier Contractors (FPC), Wharton Smith, and Jon Swift, respectively. FPC has commenced work at the Justice Center. Wharton Smith and Jon Swift are in the process of receiving purchase orders and will begin working in their respective areas in the next few weeks.

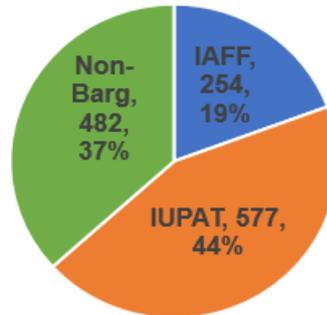
◆ Electric was run to the **Emergency Operations Center (EOC) FEMA storage trailers** allowing for air conditioning in those storage units.

◆ The **Historic Courthouse** weather-deteriorated doors on the Olympia Avenue side of the building were replaced with historically accurate mahogany doors.



Workforce

Employee Count 1,313
 Avg Age 46
 Avg Hourly Rate \$26.70
 Avg Years of Service 8.36



Retention of New Hires April
 % completing probation 93%

Succession Planning

Ee's in FRS DROP the next 5 years 2.3%
 % of Workforce Retired this FY 1.3%

Separations

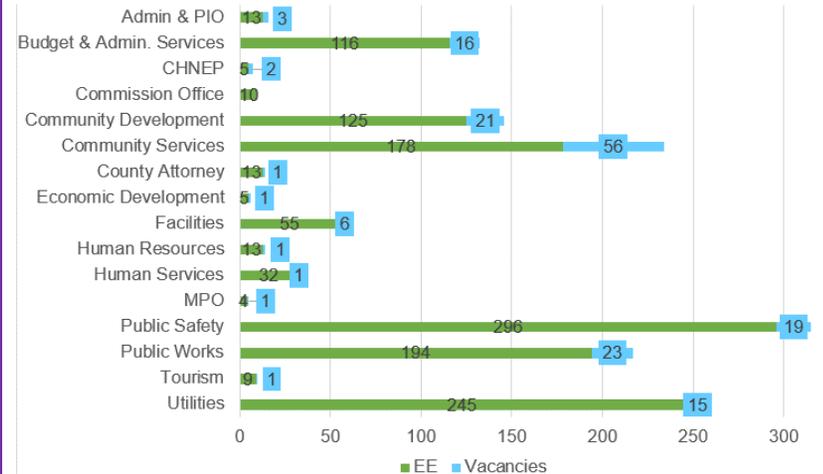
April
 Turnover 1.4%
 Separations 19



Training & Development

Training 288 EE's 27.5 7,920 contact hrs
 % using Tuition Reimbursement 1%

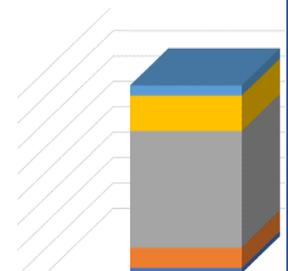
Employees vs Vacancies



Total Vacancies: 167

Recruitment

Applications Taken 587
 Job Posting Hits 24,147
 New Hires 23
 Recruited Pos FT 56
 Posted PT/Sea/Intern 12



Status	Total
status	2
promotion	7
new hire	23
lateral	4
demotion	1



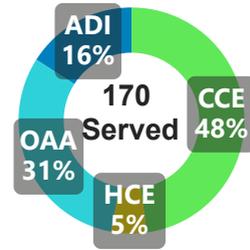
This month we shared in our department our county's Line of Sight Strategic Plan Goals and participated in writing down how our service meets our vision.



Aging & Adult Services

Case Management

Completed/Closed/Termed In process/ Research New Cases



- CCE
- HCE
- OAA
- ADI

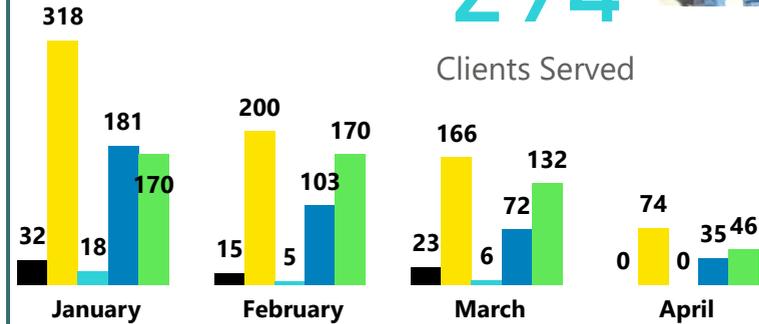
Welcome our New Aging and Adults case aide Marisa Campbell



Intake Services

294

Clients Served

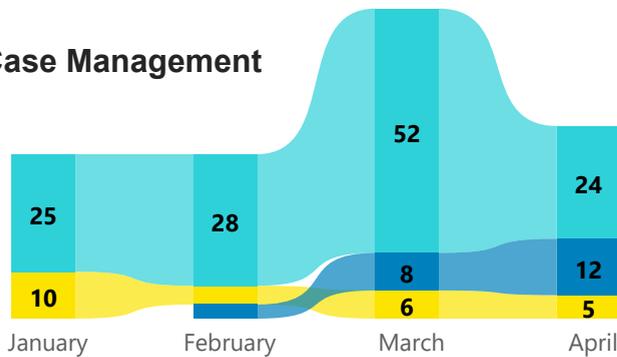


- Energy Assistance-in progress
- Energy Assistance-Completed
- Water Assistance-in Progress
- Water Assistance-Completed
- Fastrack Applications

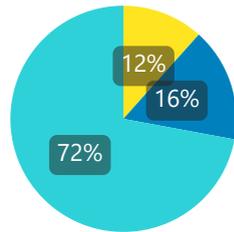
Neighborhood Services

Completed/Closed/Termed In process/ Research New Cases

Case Management



Civil Citation



- Closed
- New
- In Process

Welcome our new Neighborhood Services case manager Paul Waldrop.



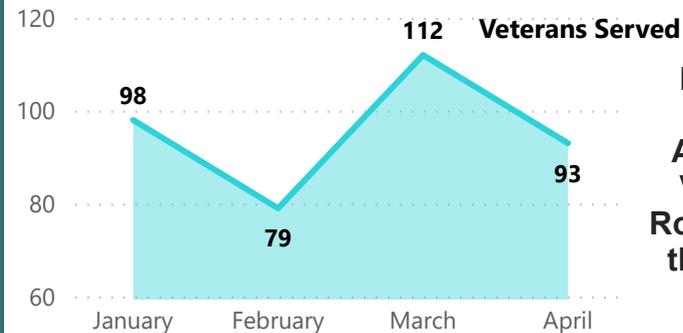
Veteran Services

1316

New Claims Cases

177

Calls received requesting Assistance

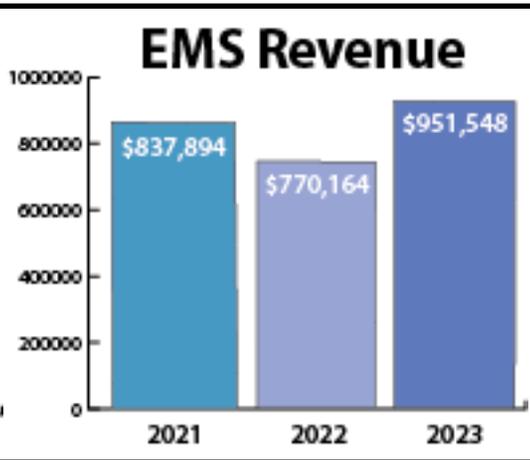
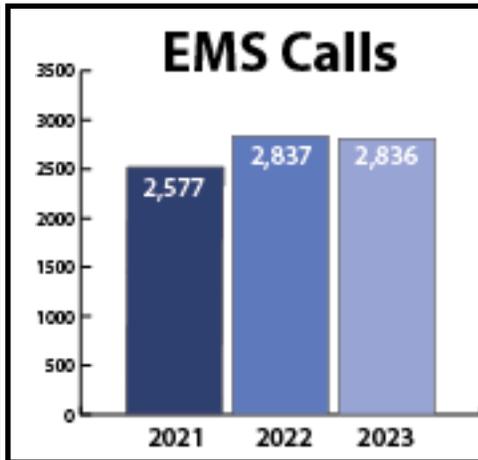
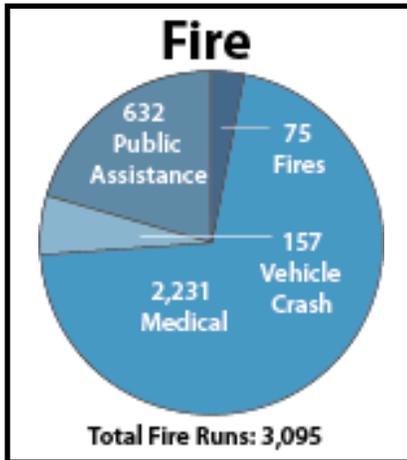


Matthew Cote, Assistant VSO our Rock Star of the Month



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



Fire Extinguisher ABCs

If you had to use a fire extinguisher, would you know how to use it? It's too late if you are trying to figure it out during an emergency. Fire extinguishers can be a great tool to stop a small fire from becoming large and having an A.B.C. fire extinguisher handy in the garage and kitchen is a good idea. ABC refers to the type of fire the extinguisher is designed to put out. For example, a Class A extinguisher will put out combustible materials like paper, cloth, and wood. Class B will extinguish flammable liquids, petroleum grease, paints, and solvents, while a Class C will put out fires involving energized electrical equipment.

Only attempt to use a fire extinguisher if you have already dialed 911, the fire is small and contained, you are safe from toxic smoke, and you have a clear exit path. To use the extinguisher, remember the acronym **PASS**, which stands for

Pull, Aim, Squeeze, and Sweep.

Pull the pin in the handle. The pin releases the handle and allows you to discharge the extinguisher. Aim the nozzle or hose at the base of the fire from a safe distance. Squeeze the handle to expel the extinguishing agent onto the fire. Sweep the hose or nozzle from side to side at the base of the fire until the fire is out.

Fire Extinguisher

PASS



PULL



AIM



SQUEEZE



SWEEP

Solid Waste Customer Transactions

11,023
Landfill Total Transactions

7,835_T Residential M.S.W.
25,542_T Commercial M.S.W
2,851_T Yard Waste

Mini-Transfer & Recycling Facilities opened February 14

Mid County	West County	
396	304	HHW
87	53	Sharp
689	739	Recycling
1,944	2,120	Refuse & Yard

Mosquito and Aquatic Weed Control

30
Application Complaints

10
Telephone Complaints*
not shown

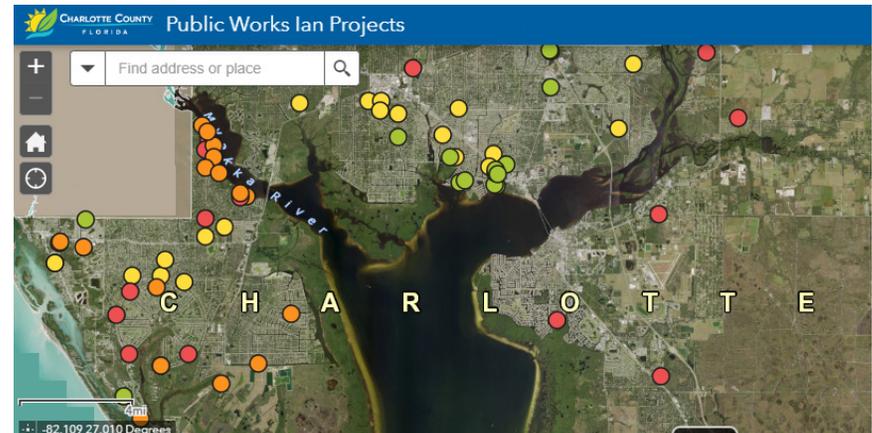
Application Requests Received

217
Completed
201



Engineering Division Hurricane Ian Projects

71
Total Projects



39
Planning

25
Purchasing

7
Complete



77,330
Total inventory Corrected

91%
of the 80,612
County Maintained Signs Corrected

7,792 Remaining
Needed Corrections

Key Performance Indicators

Tourist Development Tax Collections TDT
(Current Month)

Mar-22	\$1,321,665	↓ -14.4%
Mar-23	\$1,131,680	

TDT YTD Collections (Pacing)

Mar-22	\$4,636,479	↓ -2.4%
Mar-23	\$4,525,117	

PureFlorida.com

Website Traffic

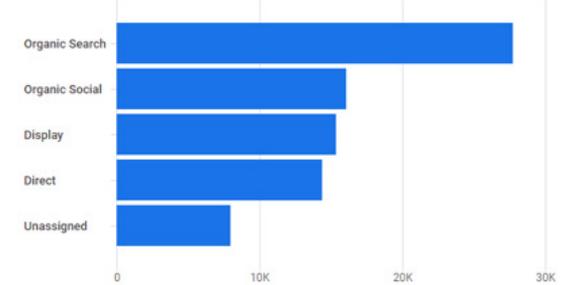
Website Users: 68K

Sessions: 87,324

Top Origin Markets:

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

Sessions by Channel Group



SPORTS

Health and safety will always be a concern in youth sports, but the greater hurdle going forward is concerning economic stability. Finding coaches, referees, and other staff necessary to keep tournaments running smoothly is not as easy as it used to be. Parents have proved they will put their children's activities first, but they could face tough choices as inflation continues to raise prices. Coinciding with economic issues is the shortage of officials. Unfortunately, officials and referees in every sport have become sparse. Many high school, amateur and collegiate associations are working together to address this problem.

Sports Corner

US Disc Golf – Celtic Ray Open

South County Regional Park - April 15-16, 2023

Charlotte County Disc Golf Association hosted and executed the Celtic Ray Open at South County Regional Park. This tournament provided points standings towards US Disc Golf rankings, while securing funds to offer a purse for their December amateur and professional open hosted in Charlotte County.



US Amateur Basketball – Charlotte Shootout

Babcock Ranch High School - April 15-16, 2023

Since the county gymnasiums are still closed, this US Amateur Basketball Shootout was hosted and anchored at Babcock Ranch High Schools' three gymnasiums. Over 200 middle school boys and girls showcased their talent on the courts.



IWFA – International Women's Tournament

Charlotte Harbor - April 23-26, 2023

Charlotte Harbor waters and the Gulf of Mexico was home to our areas first International Women's Fishing Association tournament. Twenty-Five selected anglers from throughout the nation and internationally, including Brazil and Guatemala, competed in various disciplines.



Fun Fact

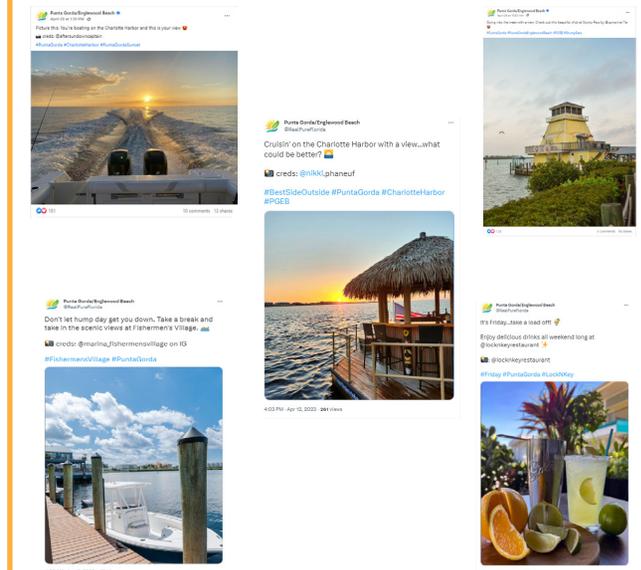
As we enter the season of Hockey Playoffs....

- All NHL hockey pucks are frozen before the games, so they glide faster on the ice
- On average, 12 hockey pucks are used per game since they thaw out
- A thawed hockey puck will bounce and turn on its side versus gliding on the ice

Sales April 2023

Public Relations/Media April 2023

A total of 418 media placements were secured. These placements had a reach of approximately 571,760,582 and a media ad value of approximately \$1,074,910.



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

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



Drinking Water Week — May 7-13, 2023

For more than 40 years, the American Water Works Association and its members have celebrated Drinking Water Week – a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives.

Thank you to our Water Distribution Staff.



Watch the weather, wait to water!

During the summer months, yards need no more than 1/2 to 3/4 inch of water every two to three days.

If your lawn has received enough water from rainfall, turn off the irrigation system and turn it back on when needed.



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 currently delayed. The department is in coordination with FDOT for MOT and directional drill approvals.
- **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. If you are in Zone 2 and still need to receive or complete an Installation Agreement? Please contact Syndi Merriman at Syndi.Merriman@CharlotteCountyFL.gov or 941-764-4305 for more information.

For project information:
AckermanProject.com

UNDER DESIGN

- **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.

[Additional Utilities Projects](#)

[Potable Water Master Plan Report](#)

OPERATIONS

- **Calls Presented:** 7,773
- **Call Wait Time:** 2 minutes 8 seconds
- **Sewer Connections:** 45,063 (156 increase from March)
- **Water Connections:** 67,908 (233 increase from March)

Charlotte County, FL App Requests

- **1 Misc.—Utilities Department**
- **11 Utilities Billing**
- **7 Utilities Department Service**
- 19 Total**

[Charlotte County Utilities Facebook](#)
2,388 Follows

2022 Water Quality Reports:

<https://tinyurl.com/2022-CCR-Peace-River>
<https://tinyurl.com/2022-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 **301** individuals for the month of February.

Contact us at 941.764.4300 or
CCUSupport@CharlotteCountyFL.gov