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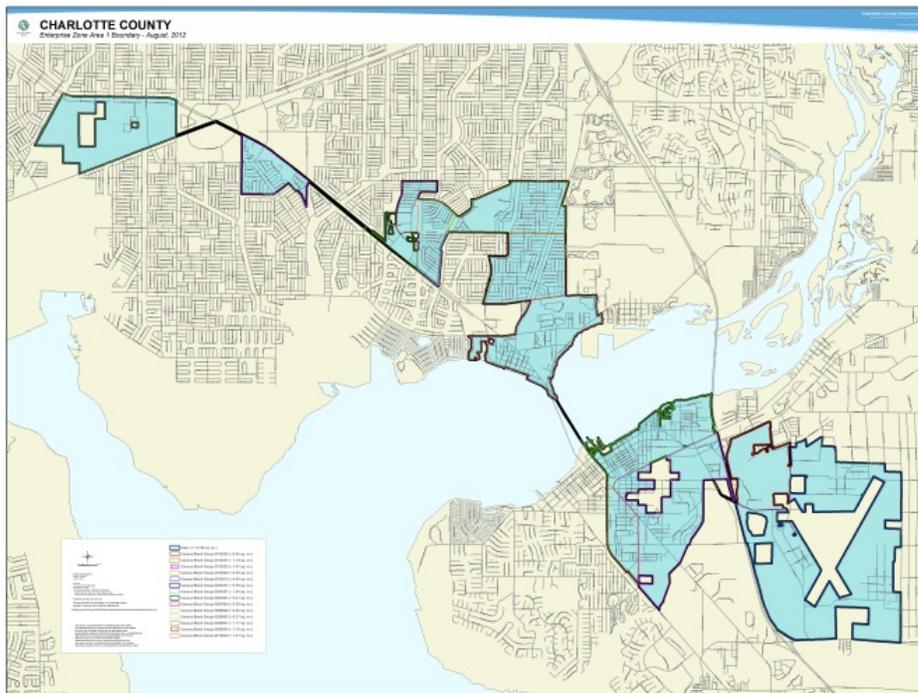
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2013
For Immediate Release

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Enterprise Zone Designation

Charlotte County has received notice from the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity officially designating the Charlotte County Enterprise Zone. Businesses and home owners within the Enterprise Zone can begin to qualify for tax advantages and incentives if specific criteria are met. “The Enterprise Zone designation provides an opportunity to assist with a targeted approach to our economic development efforts by focusing additional incentives in areas located within the Enterprise Zone including the airport and our redevelopment areas” according to Commission Chairman Constance. A number of action items were required to be completed prior to receiving the official designation, including the adoption of an Enterprise Zone Strategic Plan and the creation of the Enterprise Zone Development Agency. The Agency, consisting of 11 representatives and one alternate, will be assisting with promoting the Enterprise Zone and implementing the Plan. Julie Mathis, Chair of the Enterprise Zone Development Agency is looking forward to promoting the benefits of the Enterprise Zone to local businesses and residents. “We hope that this new designation will help further business expansion and job creation in the area.”



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