



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Public Information Meeting for Edgewater Drive Phase 2 Improvements project

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (Jan. 22, 2015) – The Edgewater Drive Phase 2 public information meeting is scheduled Tuesday, Jan. 27 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Port Charlotte Beach Complex at 4500 Harbor Blvd. to give residents and motorists an opportunity to learn more about the 27-month Edgewater Drive Phase 2 (EP2) Improvements project that began this month.

Representatives of the Charlotte County Public Works - Engineering Division, Charlotte County Utilities and the construction team, including Owen-Ames-Kimball Co. and Southwest Engineering & Design, will be available to answer questions about the project. The construction schedule and maps of the affected areas will be available for review. For this event, no parking fees will be charged.

EP2 includes expanding two miles of Edgewater Drive from two lanes to a divided four lane residential boulevard from Harbor Boulevard to Midway Boulevard and replacing utilities. The Sunrise Waterway, East Spring Lake and West Spring Lake Bridges will also be replaced. Roundabouts will be added at Midway Boulevard, Lakeview Boulevard, W. Tarpon Boulevard and Port Charlotte Boulevard, and a new traffic signal will be installed at Harbor Boulevard. A grass median, landscaping, decorative lighting, decorative bridge railing and sidewalks will be added.

In planning road improvements, Charlotte County Public Works' goal is to improve safety and mobility for the traveling public, including drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians; preserve and enhance the economic, historic, scenic and natural qualities of the roadway system; enhance mobility for local residents for day-to-day activities; and improve a critical corridor that provides a hurricane evacuation route from coastal to inland areas.

EP2 is funded by the local option sales tax approved in 2008 by Charlotte County voters. The Edgewater Drive Phase 2 Improvements are budgeted at \$28.2 million.

In addition to road improvements, Charlotte County Utilities will be installing a new water and sanitary sewer main along with an irrigation main. These efforts are being coordinated so all construction within the project limits is performed at one time to reduce the impact to residents and to create cost-efficiencies in construction.

Visit www.GoEP2.com for up-to-date information about traffic detours, construction schedules, boating and impacts to local parks. The site also includes detour and project maps and FAQs. Visitors to the site can register to receive project updates by email and text.

Questions can be directed to <u>Info@GoEP2.com</u> or by calling 941-62-GO-EP2 (941-624-6372).

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Editor's Note: A map of affected area is available at http://goep2.com/detour-map.

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