



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Edgewater Drive to close on March 2**

PORT CHARLOTTE, Fla. (Feb. 26, 2015) – Edgewater Drive is scheduled to close from Harbor Boulevard to Midway Boulevard Monday, March 2 at 1 a.m. as part of the 24-month Edgewater Drive Phase 2 (EP2) Improvements project that began in January.

Edgewater Drive will be open only to local traffic, and the Spring Lake and Sunrise Parks will remain open. Motorists and boaters are prohibited from active construction zones. West Spring Lake, East Spring Lake and Sunrise Waterway Bridges will remain impassable by automobile for the duration of the project, and pedestrians also are not allowed in the construction zone.

The project contractor anticipates leaving at least one of the bridge spans open at all times for marine traffic. Any channel restrictions or temporary closures will be coordinated with the Coast Guard and published in the [Local Notice to Mariners](#) that is updated weekly on [www.GoEP2.com](http://www.GoEP2.com).

EP2 includes expanding two miles of Edgewater Drive from two lanes to a divided four lane residential boulevard and replacing utilities. The Sunrise Waterway, East Spring Lake and West Spring Lake bridges also will 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 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.

The project website, [www.GoEP2.com](http://www.GoEP2.com), contains up-to-date information about construction schedules, traffic detours, and impacts to boating and 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.

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. The one-cent sales tax was first approved by Charlotte County citizens in 1994 and was extended in 2008 with voter approval. The Edgewater Drive Phase 2 Improvements are budgeted at \$28.2 million.

Questions can be directed to [Info@GoEP2.com](mailto:Info@GoEP2.com) or by calling 941-62-GO-EP2 (941-624-6372).

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**Editor's Note:** A detour map and maps of the construction area are available at <http://goep2.com/detour-map>.

Contact: Kara Minoui, Gravina, Smith, Matte & Arnold Marketing and PR, 239-275-5758,  
[KaraM@GSMA.pro](mailto:KaraM@GSMA.pro)