

## 2007 Accomplishments

- The Golden Gate Overpass opened to traffic in July, allowing traffic to efficiently pass over Airport-Pulling Road without stopping at the traffic signal.
- Developer Contribution Agreements (DCA) saved taxpayers more than \$7 million. The Tree Farm/Woodcrest/Massey alternative roadway project DCA was approved, placing the obligation of constructing the roadway on the developer. Staff coordinated with multiple developers to secure improvements, funding, and rights of way for constrained segments and future roadways.
- The Landscape Section earned two Florida Nursery, Growers & Landscape Association (FNGLA) Awards of Excellence.
- Collier County's Municipal Service Taxing Unit/Benefit Unit is a funding mechanism for community members to create a special taxing district to make improvements to their neighborhood and/or community area. The Forest Lakes MSTU passed a referendum for a \$6 million bond for road and stormwater improvements.
- The Council for Sustainable Florida awarded a Certificate of Promising Practice to the Stormwater Management Department for the installation of a solar powered pond circulating system. Collier County was the first government entity to install such a unit in Florida.

## Transportation Services

One of the division's priorities is to increase our road capacity and provide the infrastructure necessary to accommodate our growing population. Over the course of the past seven years, the Transportation Services Division has responded to a strong commitment from the Board of County Commissioners to build needed roadways by constructing 120 lane miles of new capacity on twelve different road projects, all of which have been opened to traffic. In five additional projects currently under construction, approximately 39 additional lane miles have been opened to traffic as work continues on other segments of those projects. Plus, approximately 225 lane miles in 16 other projects are under construction, or in active design, for capacity expansion.

The Alternative Transportation Modes Department implemented Collier Area Transit routes on Sunday in response to numerous requests from the community, completed six roadway landscape projects, totaling 13 miles, and completed \$2 million worth of projects through Municipal Services Taxing/Benefit Units. Additionally, CAT, in its seventh year of service, now offers nine routes, has relocated the main passenger transfer site to the Collier County Government Center, constructed 12 additional bus shelters and the BCC approved the purchase of a CAT operations center at 8300 Radio Road. Total ridership reached nearly 1.2 million passengers.

The Road Maintenance Department staff maintains existing roadways, bridges

and roadside drainage swales. Crews resurfaced more than 21 miles of roadways, converted 20 miles of limerock roads to asphalt, and cleaned and reshaped more than 144,000 square yards of roadside ditches.

The Traffic Operations Department completed Phase I of the Cartegraph Asset Management System and began Phase II, field implementation and asset collection. The system allows the county to track labor, equipment, and material costs and inventory both in the field and in stock. Additionally, staff worked with the Collier County Sheriff's Office to increase street lighting in high crime areas.

Transportation Engineering & Construction Management staff managed 11 major road projects valued at \$337 million, and completed four intersection improvements and median modification improvements valued at \$2.3 million to better improve roadway capacity and safety. Sidewalks valued at \$3.1 million were also added at various locations including Everglades City, Golden Gate City, Immokalee, and East Naples.

The Transportation Planning Department updated the Long Range Transportation Plan and proceeded with a build-out study based on the submitted proposed land uses. Staff secured BCC approval for a corridor preservation Growth Management Plan change, completed the impact fee indexing study, and selected a vendor to proceed with the Wilson Boulevard Extension/Benfield Road project Corridor Study.

*“Significant progress was realized and operations and aesthetics of the transportation network improved significantly in fiscal year 2007.”* — Administrator Norman Feder

