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Media contact: Susan M. Walsh, 941-861-5504; cell 941-650-4791; swalsh@scgov.net

Project contact: Brian Gorski, 941-861-5471; bgorski@scgov.net

‘Green’ Fire Station 10 groundbreaking ceremony set June 8

Sarasota County will break ground on the construction of Fire Rescue Station 10 during a ceremony at 9:30 a.m. Monday, June 8, on Vic Edwards Road at the intersection of Fruitville Road, about 5.6 miles east of Interstate 75. The new fire station is one of four fire stations planned in the county.

Since its inception as a county capital improvement project in 2005, the fire station has been a cooperative venture of the county and the neighborhoods around the 5-acre Vic Edwards Road site.

The \$5.7 million project includes the construction of a 13,345-square-foot disaster deployment facility and improvements to Vic Edwards Road. Completion is expected in April 2010.

The facility will house Engine 10, a fire suppression apparatus and Rescue 10, an advanced life support ambulance, to respond to fires and other emergencies in The Founders Club community and the area’s commercial parks, as well as the communities served by area roads, including Vic Edwards Road, Cowpen Lane, Sinclair Road, Bern Creek Loop and Oak Ford Road. The station will be staffed with full-time fire medics working alternating 24-hour shifts, seven days a week. The fire medics are trained and certified as firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics.

The building is designed as a silver Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified project under the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED Green Building Rating System. The station will incorporate several “green” features, such as using rainwater for apparatus bay cleaning and filling of fire suppression tanks; solar hot water; and energy-efficient appliances and lighting. The site also will have parking for alternative transportation, environmentally friendly outdoor lighting and landscaping, and recycling systems.

The building will include a day room, bunk rooms, a kitchen, office and works areas, storage and laundry rooms, as well as office space for the Wild Land Fire Mitigation Section and work space for the Operations Division during emergencies and natural disasters.

BMK Architects designed the station. Brooks & Freund LCC of Fort Myers is the contractor.

For more information about Fire Rescue Station 10 and the groundbreaking ceremony, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000 or visit the county's Web site at www.scgov.net.

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