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## Nearly \$17.3 in capital improvement contracts awarded today

The Sarasota County Commission today approved contracts totaling almost \$17.3 million for the design, construction or management services for six infrastructure projects across the county. The largest contract was \$8.5 million for Phase 2 of the Fruitville Road improvements east of Interstate 75.

Contractors awarded Tuesday were:

**Fruitville Road improvements from Coburn to Tatum roads, Phase 2:** Wright Construction Group Inc. of Punta Gorda was awarded the \$8.5 million contract for improvements to Fruitville Road from Coburn to Tatum roads. Phase 1 of the project from Tatum to Debreceen roads was approved in July when a \$4.35 million contract was awarded to Russell Engineering Inc. of Bradenton. The two phases will improve 2.2 miles of Fruitville Road between Coburn and Debreceen roads. The improvements include widening and reconstruction of the roadway from two to four lanes, with the addition of 4-foot-wide bicycle lanes, streetlights, 10-foot-wide concrete sidewalks on both sides of the road, intersection improvements, a water main and stormwater pipes, inlet structures and stormwater ponds. Construction of the first phase began in July, and is expected to take eight months to complete. Phase 2 will take about 12 months. The project is part of the Sarasota County Economic Stimulus Program (ESP) of fast-track, capital-improvement projects funded largely through the penny surtax (1-cent) sales tax.

**Honore Avenue from Bee Ridge to Fruitville roads:** This also is an ESP project. The \$2.3 million project awarded Tuesday to HDR Construction Control Corporation, headquartered in Omaha, Nebraska, but with a local office in Sarasota, is for construction engineering inspection services for the Honore Avenue improvements from Bee Ridge to Fruitville roads. The \$14.24 million design-build contract for Honore Avenue was awarded to APAC-Southeast Inc. of Sarasota in July. The project will make this section into a new 2.7-mile, two-lane divided road. Improvements include the addition of medians, roundabouts, meandering sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, drainage improvements, Florida-friendly landscaping, bio-swales and rain gardens to treat stormwater runoff and decorative streetlights in the medians. It is designed to protect the neighborhood character and feature sustainable, environmentally friendly features. Construction will be done in three phases, and is expected to be completed in February 2011.

**Coastal facilities:** The board approved up to almost \$5.4 million for various coastal construction projects. The three Florida-based contractors chosen submitted unit price construction bids. They are Marine Contracting Group Inc. of Punta Gorda, Schippers Marine Construction Inc. of Crystal River and Shoreline Foundation Inc. of Pembroke Park.

**Venice Gardens Water Reclamation Facility Phase 4 improvements:** A \$435,349 contract was awarded to TLC Diversified Inc. of Palmetto for expansion of the Venice Gardens Water Reclamation Facility. Construction of the project to provide increased transfer capability to a Venice facility is scheduled to begin this month and be completed by July 2010.

**Rehabilitation of a master pump station at the Meadowood Water Reclamation Facility:** TLC Diversified Inc. also was awarded the \$343,775 contract for rehabilitation of the master pump station that will transfer wastewater flows from the Meadowood Water Reclamation Facility to the regional Bee Ridge Water Reclamation Facility. The master pump station project also includes the addition of an emergency power generator and electrical power service, a control system, flow meter assembly, chain-link fencing, landscaping and site work.

**Regional Water Main Interconnect at State Road 681:** A construction management services contract was awarded to McKim & Creed P.A. for the Regional Water Main Interconnect at State Road 681. The \$210,690 contract provides for daily on-site construction management supervision, contract management and daily inspection services. This project will connect a 24-inch water main to the proposed Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority transmission main near Cow Pen Slough and Knights Trail. The interconnect is expected to provide as much as 20 million gallons of water a day when completely built in 2025.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000. For a listing of all current or planned county infrastructure projects, visit [www.scgov.net](http://www.scgov.net) and select "Projects in My Neighborhood."

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