

Successes - Capital Projects

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Capital Projects	Knights Trail Road Utility Improvements Project	Completed construction of the Knights Trail Road Utility Improvements Project.	This project will provide improved services from the Solid Waste Landfill, address the anticipated additional flow from the Fire Training Academy, as well as the two additional parcels planned for future County development.
Capital Projects	Venice Gardens Lower Zone Monitoring Well	Completed construction of the Venice Gardens Lower Zone Monitoring Well Project.	This project provides for the lower zone monitoring well requirements of the SWFWMD Water Use Permit.
Capital Projects	Venice Gardens Water Treatment Facility (WTF) Phase II	Completed construction of the Venice Gardens WTF Phase II Project.	This project will improve the functionality and efficiency of the facility by enhancing water flow, control, and process automation.
Capital Projects	Pump Stations No. 1 and No. 4	Completed construction of the Pump Station 1 and 4 Rehabilitation Project.	To enable remote operations of these Pump Stations potable water systems and to provide upgrades to segments of pipeline in the potable water transmission and distribution systems to further ensure reliable water supply is continuously available to these portions of the Utility's service area.
Capital Projects	Countywide Lift Station Rehabilitation Project	Completed construction of the Countywide Lift Station Rehabilitation Project.	This project included civil site, structural, mechanical, and electrical upgrades to the existing lift stations to bring them up to current County standards and to improve safety and accessibility for County maintenance staff.
Capital Projects	Venice Gardens Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Expansion and Conversion to Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT)	Started construction of the Venice Gardens WRF expansion and conversion to AWT.	This project will allow for increased capacity from 3 to 6 MGD and conversion from an Advanced Secondary Treatment process to AWT that will result in reduced levels of nutrients in the effluent that are discharged from the South Master Reuse System.

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Capital Projects	Completion of Sanitary Sewer and Manhole Rehabilitation/Lining Work	Completed lining over 8,072 LF of sanitary sewer infrastructure, 53 Manholes and 3 Lift Stations over the past FY.	This R & R work mitigates the potential for sanitary sewer overflows, pipeline failures, or failing and leaking manholes. Further, lining of sanitary sewer lines is less intrusive than replacing them, especially in built-out neighborhoods, is less costly, and can increase the useful life of the assets by 50-100 years. Lastly, it supports the Board initiative of investing in maintenance and upgrading of county infrastructure.
Capital Projects	Completion of Stormwater Pipeline Infrastructure Rehabilitation	Completed lining over 1,481 LF of stormwater pipeline infrastructure over the past FY.	The County's stormwater system, which continues to be expanded due to the increase in impervious surfaces and population growth, includes more than 250 miles of storm sewer. The stormwater system is in varying need of rehabilitation and repair, which can mostly be accomplished via lining the inside of the pipe. Lining of these pipelines lines is less intrusive than replacing them, especially in built-out neighborhoods, is less costly, and can increase the useful life of the pipe by 50 years. Lastly, it supports the Board initiative of investing in maintenance and upgrading of county infrastructure.
Capital Projects	Monthly Project Status - Report Automation	Leveraged PowerApps technology allowing Director to quickly review an comment on 85+ project updates monthly. After review and comment, reports are automatically sent to respective owner of the CIP Project via AI agent automation.	Efficient use of County Resources
Capital Projects	Awarded Solicitations and Amendments	Department Solicited or Amended \$10 Million in Design Contracts and \$170 Million in Construction Contracts for a total \$180 Million Dollars of Contract awards.	Created or Maintained 1,315 jobs within the community per IMPLAN

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Capital Projects	AIA Florida Gulf Coast Merit Award - Fire Station #13 Siesta Key	<p>Received a Merit Award from the AIA (American Institute of Architects) Florida Gulf Coast Chapter.</p> <p>The Merit Award is for projects which demonstrate a commitment to excellence in architectural design. The award is in the New Work – Commercial & Public Category which recognizes outstanding examples of built private or public non-residential projects.</p>	Recognition increases awareness of overall success of county projects.
Capital Projects	AIA Florida Gulf Coast Merit Award - Nora Patterson Bay Island Park Project	<p>Received a Merit Award from the AIA (American Institute of Architects) Florida Gulf Coast Chapter.</p> <p>The Merit Award is for projects which demonstrate a commitment to excellence in architectural design. The award is in the New Work – Commercial & Public Category which recognizes outstanding examples of built private or public non-residential projects.</p>	Recognition increases awareness of overall success of county projects.
Capital Projects	Owner Direct Purchase Program	Continued use of program saving \$133,000 in FY25 and \$1.9 Million since project inception.	Efficient use of County Resources. Act as financial stewards of public resources.

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Capital Projects	South County Courthouse - LEED Silver Certification	<p>South County Courthouse Project was awarded LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certification.</p> <p>The South County Courthouse project included the construction of a new, 2-story courthouse, a new parking area, and stormwater improvements on the campus of the existing R. L. Anderson Building. The project included installation of rooftop photovoltaic (solar) panels, LED lighting, and other energy management systems.</p> <p>According to the USGBC (U.S. Green Building Council), "LEED is the most widely recognized green building rating system in the world. LEED certification offers a framework for healthy, efficient, and cost-effective green buildings, providing environmental and social benefits. It serves as a globally recognized symbol of sustainability leadership, supported by a committed community of organizations and individuals driving market transformation."</p>	Recognizes design and operational efficiency.
Capital Projects	Resurfacing Projects - 2023	Completed the construction of Siesta Key, Beneva North County, and South County Resurfacing projects.	County-wide roadway resurfacing and neighborhood improvement effort as provided for in Capital Improvement Program (CIP) No. 95702, Roadway Resurfacing Program. The project included milling and paving of existing roadways, pavement striping, signage and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp modifications and roadway base repairs.
Capital Projects	Resurfacing Projects - 2024	Started the construction of Central Sarasota Parkway/North County and Englewood Ilse/South County Resurfacing projects.	County-wide roadway resurfacing and neighborhood improvement effort as provided for in Capital Improvement Program (CIP) No. 95702, Roadway Resurfacing Program. The project included milling and paving of existing roadways, pavement striping, signage and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp modifications and roadway base repairs.

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Capital Projects	Fruitville Road Widening	Started ROW Acquisition of Fruitville Road widening.	This project includes a preliminary engineering design report, roadway design plans, permitting and right-of-way analysis for a complete 4-lane divided urban arterial roadway extension from Debrecen Road to Lorraine Road, approximately 1.5 miles in length. The project includes adding two (2) through travel lanes, 5' sidewalks on both sides, 7' buffered bicycle lanes on both sides, roadway lighting, median, and landscaping with a closed drainage system. It also includes stormwater facilities and drainage ponds to accommodate the roadway improvements. An intersection control plan was evaluated and determined that a standard traffic signalization was the preferred control option over the roundabout configuration the future extension of Lorraine Road. Also planned are utility infrastructure extensions for potable water and reclaimed water services.
Capital Projects	Manasota Key Road Emergency Repair	Awarded construction contract of Manasota Key Road emergency repair.	The project includes removal of existing asphalt, wooden guardrail, vegetation, damaged pipes and rebuilding the road with new embankment, base, subbase, bedding stones, new guardrail, milling/ resurfacing, pavement marking.

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Capital Projects	Apex Rd and Palmer Blvd Roundabout	Started construction of Apex Rd and Palmer Blvd roundabout.	<p>This project will improve the level of service, enhance the intersection capacity, and improve traffic safety at Palmer Boulevard and Apex Road.</p> <p>The existing 4-way stop sign-controlled intersection will be replaced and converted to a new single-lane roundabout. The roundabout geometry will be based on the latest FHWA and FDOT guidelines for modern roundabout intersection design. Also, to accommodate higher traffic volume projection for Design Year 2045, the roundabout design includes additional eastbound through/right lane and westbound exclusive right turn lane.</p> <p>The project is needed to support County and community development at the "Quad" sites in coordination with the Enterprise Information Technology (EIT) Data Center and the new Planning and Development Services (PDS) facility proposed to be constructed in 2024 in the southwest quadrant and northwest quadrants respectively.</p>
Capital Projects	Desoto Sidewalks Phase 2	Achieved Substantial Completion of Desoto Sidewalks Phase 2 Project	<p>The Desoto Area Sidewalks project is a part of the Regional Sidewalk Program intended to enhance walkability to schools and shopping centers and enhance safety and efficiency of these thoroughfare roadways. Phase II of the project consists of the design, permitting, bidding and limited post design services support for approximately 3.41 miles of sidewalk along Desoto Road from Middle Avenue to Lockwood Ridge Road (1.51 mi) and Tuttle Avenue from MLK Jr. Way to south of University Pkwy (1.9 mi) in the DeSoto Acres neighborhood. The proposed sidewalk will be located on the one side of the existing road right-of-way.</p>

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Capital Projects	CCSWDC Scalehouse Phase 1 Improvements	Completed construction of CCSWDC Scalehouse Phase 1 Improvements	The Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex (CCSWDC) accepts over 400,000 tons of solid waste annually and receives an average of over 500 customers per day. All customers and contractors that bring solid waste to the CCSWDC for processing must enter through the two entrance scales and leave the site over the one exit scale or through the one bypass lane if the vehicles tare weight is on file with the scale house. The CCSWDC must have accurate and functional scale systems to track incoming waste streams in accordance with the facility's bonds, permits and regulatory requirements. Improvements to the scales is needed to ensure reliable operation of the weighing systems.
Capital Projects	Emergency Services Administration Building	Achieved Substantial Completion	The new ES Administration facility places critical staff and operations in a new, modern, storm-hardened facility in the most optimum location next to the EOC, allowing Emergency Services to function more cohesively day-to-day as well as during events. The facility includes 2nd floor expansion space to allow for flexibility both in operations and growth.
Capital Projects	History Center and Fruitville Library Addition and Renovations	Issued Notice to Proceed for construction.	The project involves the construction of a new County History Center and an expansion of the existing Fruitville Library. The existing History Center is aging and inadequate to house the County's collections of historic artifacts.

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Capital Projects	17th Street Regional Park	Issued Notice to Proceed for construction.	The 17th Street Athletic Complex occupies 95 acres on the eastern part of the existing 17th Street Park complex, encompassing the utilities site located to the east. Starting in the spring of 2025, the project will commence with the replacement of current athletic facilities and the construction of additional ones. The park will feature eight youth softball fields, including a Championship field, four rectangular fields suitable for soccer, football, and lacrosse, as well as three fields dedicated to adult softball. Supporting amenities will encompass restrooms, concession stands, shade structures, meeting rooms, maintenance facilities, press box, and grandstands at the Championship field.
Capital Projects	Sarasota County Support Services Facility (Fleet) Construction	Issued Notice to Proceed for construction.	Construction of a new Fleet Maintenance Facility, including Emergency Services vehicle maintenance. The proposed building will be +/- 85,000 SF of maintenance bays and associated functions, parts storage, property storage, administrative functions, vehicle acquisitions and asset management, Emergency Services upfitting, and staff accommodations.
Capital Projects	Snook Haven Park Improvements	Issues Notice to Proceed for construction.	The Snook Haven Improvements Project involves the creation of a new ADA-compliant food service facility, a new accessible pavilion that will offer covered seating and a view of the river, replacement of the bandshell with a new ADA-compliant version and accessible patio, a new fishing pier and associated ADA compliant parking, conversion of one of the existing cabins into an outfitter facility (canoe/kayak rental) with a public restroom, construction of accessible walks throughout the project area that will connect to the existing boat ramp and the canoe/kayak launch, and site specific themed furnishings.

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Capital Projects	Terrace Building Envelope Renovation Project	Achieved Substantial Completion.	The Terrace Building Envelope (Project) generally included, all repairs and renovations to the building exterior including waterproofing and new windows. This is a designated historic building and was a monumental task to complete based on the number of stakeholders.
Capital Projects	Nokomis Community Park Pickleball Project	Achieved Substantial Completion	The proposed project includes the following recreation facilities and support components: eight fenced pickleball courts with lighting and Americans with Disabilities Act access, a restroom facility, 2-pole shelters, shade structure, pavilion, expanded paved and lighted parking lot, lighting for existing parking lot, upgraded access to the Legacy Trail, improved internal circulation, and enhanced landscaping and stormwater management.
Capital Projects	Foxworthy (FKA -Bypass) Park Pickleball	Achieved Substantial Completion	The proposed project includes the following recreation facilities and support components: three new fenced pickleball courts with lights, ADA access, and shaded structure, upgraded existing tennis courts with lights, shaded seating, ADA access, and new fencing, new restroom, upgraded ADA parking; upgraded and enhanced playground with shelters and ADA access; upgraded pedestrian access into the park; and enhanced landscaping and stormwater management.
Capital Projects	311 Call Center & OFM Tenant Improvements	Achieved Substantia Completion	Project included build-out of the 2nd Floor of the space above the Medical Examiner's Administration Offices. The use of this area is for OFM - SRQ staff as well as the 311 Call Center.
Capital Projects	RL Anderson Renovations	Completed last phase of South County Courts / RLA Renovations project with completion of all remodeling and relocations at the RL Anderson facility.	The project included the renovation of the existing R.L.A. and adjacent Annex building. There were multiple stakeholders involved, including the Supervisor of Elections, Property Appraiser, Veteran Services, State Attorney, Public Utilities, Vital Records, Health Department, Public Defender, and Planning and Development Services.

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Capital Projects	Longboat Key Library	Facilitated Schematic Design workshops with Town of Longboat Key to successfully launch their Fundraising campaign.	Sarasota County is working with the Town of Longboat Key to build and open a public library in Longboat Key as part of the Town Center Green Project. This would be the county's first new library location since 2018 and the first on a barrier island.

Successes - Communications
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Communications	311 Contact Center Operations	Plan, Support, and Execute Relocation Initiatives of the 311 Contact Center to the Medical Examiner's Office	Communications collaborated with the Office of Financial Management, Capital Projects, Enterprise Information Technology, and Facilities to design and relocate to a new 311 Contact Center expanding operations. The new facility will increase the department's call-handling capacity, improve training and development programs, and generally enhance services provided to the community and our county's performance.
Communications	National Hurricane Center Webinar	The National Hurricane Center in Miami partnered with the Sarasota County Government Communications Team to host a 2025 Hurricane Season Virtual PIO Briefing with Jamie Rhome, Deputy Director of the National Hurricane Center.	Deepened connections with federal partners and showcased the department's leadership in professional communications organizations. Provided unique opportunity for county staff, as well as Public Information Officers across the state to directly receive messaging guidelines from the National Hurricane Center. Connected Sarasota County PIOs with communications professionals throughout Florida.
Communications	FEMA Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) Virtual Tabletop Exercise	Three Communications team members attended a training through FEMA to better prepare us in sending IPAWS messaging to the community. This was a testament to the team's dedication and support of Emergency Management.	The Communications team coupled with the participants from EM are better prepared should a storm impact our area with how we message to the community.
Communications	National Association of Government Communicators Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards	Communications Department won two awards in the National Association of Government Communicators Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Awards - Photographer's Portfolio and Englewood CRA Infographic.	Increased visibility of our organization among other local, state and federal government communications teams.
Communications	Hurricane Preparedness Community Conversations Event	Communications played an integral role in the planning, day of setup and successful execution of this first ever event at Riverview High School.	Informed the community of the upcoming hurricane season and how best to prepare. Kevin Guthrie from FDEM called this the best event such as this that he attended this year. This event set the standard for future years.

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Communications	3CMA Savvy Award Finalist	Sarasota County's Fats, Oils and Grease Program was named a 3CMA Savvy Award Silver Circle Winner in the Most Creative Activity with Least Dollars Spent Category.	National recognition for the Communications team showcasing quality of materials produced.
Communications	Communications Support - Summer Sandbag Operations	Communications collaborated with Emergency Management, Public Works and Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources to share information on a new, free, self-service sandbag availability program, with four dates where the public could fill and take home sandbags to protect their properties regardless of whether a storm was forecast.	These events and the successful communications plan sharing the information surrounding the four dates, each with three distribution sites, increase community trust in their own as well as the county's ability to prepare for a disaster. These initiatives, along with the corresponding graphics, videos and information, allowed residents to better protect their homes from potential flooding.
Communications	Customer Relationship Management	The 311 Contact Center collaborated with the Solid Waste department to execute the "Fresh Start With A Cart" initiative. The collaboration involved configuring and integrating the County's Customer Relationship Management (CRM) QAlert with the hauling vendors.	The initiative began in November 2024 and stabilized in May 2025; during this period, the 311 Contact Center received 29,405 calls, averaging 4,200 per month, which represents a 320% increase in Solid Waste calls.
Communications	RLA Commission Chambers Broadcast A/V Renovation Project	A recent upgrade was completed to the broadcast and A/V equipment within Sarasota County's South County Commission Chambers. The upgrade utilizes the latest technology which will mirror what is being installed within the new County Administration Center (CAC). Additionally, the project included redundancy measures should CAC go offline.	Enhanced quality of broadcasting and streaming of board meetings at RLA chambers as well as better sound quality. Creates redundancy to continue to provide the public with access to information in the event of equipment failure at CAC.
Communications	Communications Support - Solid Waste	Onboarding of Solid Waste Public Information Officer / Media Relations to supporting Solid Waste communications and messaging.	Implementing consistent communications builds trust by keeping the community reliably informed about projects, progress, and impacts. It increases public awareness and engagement. This proactive approach strengthens credibility and prepares the department to communicate effectively during emergencies.

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Communications	Communications Support - Stormwater	Implementation of consistent Stormwater communications to the community.	Implementing consistent stormwater communications builds trust by keeping the community reliably informed about projects, progress, and impacts. It increases public awareness and engagement, helping residents understand their role in protecting property and water quality. This proactive approach strengthens credibility and prepares the department to communicate effectively during emergencies.
Communications	Communications - Staff Presentation at National Conference	Communications staff presented "When the Lights Go Out" along side the City of North Port at 3CMA in September. Staff was able to connect and share the county's story of working with a municipality during a storm to numerous attendees. Those who attended the presentation discussed the county's innovation and ability to adapt on the fly. T	This presentation showcases the county's work as a recommended best practice to the broader communications profession.
Communications	Access Sarasota Live Stream	Launch of Access Sarasota Live Stream available from multiple applications and formats.	Access Sarasota Live Stream provides the availability of consistent, uninterrupted live stream of all live meetings and other programming available on Access Sarasota. Community members and county employees can easily stream the meetings from their laptops or other devices.
Communications	Customer Relationship Management	The onboarding of five temporary contract staff positions has positively impacted the overall service level and performance of the 311 Contact Center.	From June to August, the 311 Contact Center experienced a 52% increase in service level delivery. This performance has placed the department at 88% in service level, exceeding our goal of 80% goal.
Communications	311 Contact Center - Total Calls Offered	For Fiscal Year 2025 as of mid September, more than 330,000 calls were offered for service.	Increased access to county information and services.
Communications	County Podcast - Beyond the Beach	Communications collaborated with various departments to continue content for the Sarasota County Podcast, Beyond the Beach, which officially launched in 2024. Staff have worked continuously to create new and diverse content throughout the year, increasing the number of episodes.	Communications increased the number of podcasts produced from 2024. The podcast received 204 downloads from January 2025 to August 2025, compared to 124 downloads in 2024. Additionally, the video format has earned over 600 views this year.

Successes - Emergency Services
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Emergency Services	Automatic 9-1-1 Call Re-Routing	Established automatic 9-1-1 call re-routing to ensure continuity of service in the event of a catastrophic system failure in Sarasota County. Calls will automatically roll over to Manatee County, with Lee County serving as a secondary backup.	This system safeguard ensures that no 9-1-1 call in Sarasota County goes unanswered, preserving life safety and emergency response capabilities during critical incidents or major outages.
Emergency Services	Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) Interference Monitoring and Mitigation	Led a county-wide initiative to actively address and mitigate radio frequency interference. This included coordinating with various partners to monitor and verify the operations of BDAs.	This proactive effort directly strengthens the reliability and integrity of the County's public safety communications network. While BDAs are essential for extending coverage in critical areas, improperly configured or malfunctioning units can cause severe interference, disrupting communications for everyone on the system. By actively monitoring these devices, the team prevents these disruptions, ensuring uninterrupted, secure communications for first responders. This enhances their safety and the effectiveness of critical operations. This initiative sets a new standard for a collaborative approach to system integrity, protecting a vital asset for the entire community.
Emergency Services	Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) System Upgrade and Implementation	Completed Phase IV of the CAD upgrade, which included installation of the CentralSquare software and hardware, building relational and geospatial databases, and integrating 11 existing applications. This system now serves as the foundation for CAD operations supporting 14 different law enforcement and fire rescue agencies.	The upgraded CAD system allows for instant expansion in the event of a catastrophic emergency, ensuring continued service when it is needed most. It enhances situational awareness with accurate ESRI mapping, real-time visibility of events and heat maps in the Situation Room, and improved GIS maintenance. Customizable mobile data terminals (MDTs) and compatibility with additional mobile devices make the system more user-friendly, enabling faster information sharing and better decision-making for management and across all participating agencies.

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Emergency Services	eRole Management	Led the successful transition of eRole Management to Human Resources.	Collaborated very closely with Human Resources, Strategic Planning, and APEX teams to develop formal establishment of the Staffing Unit, clarification of roles and responsibilities for eRole notification, tracking, and coordination with county departments. This transition will result in a greater level of staffing support for employees and EOC operations during disasters.
Emergency Services	Healthcare Facility Workshop	Held the first county Healthcare Facility Workshop in partnership with Florida Department of Health-Sarasota and Sarasota Fire/EMS. Workshop was attended by 40 healthcare facilities.	Healthcare Facilities received disaster preparedness and recovery best practices. Strategies were shared to strengthen Healthcare Facility Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) submission and coordination during disasters.
Emergency Services	Hurricane Response, Recovery, and After-Action Report	Led the County's response to and short-term recovery from Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton. Led the after-action process with key partners and county departments to highlight achievements and publish an After-Action Report (AAR) with 62 key areas for enhancement.	Implemented protective measures and communicated risks to the community ahead of impacts to the storms. Coordinated the short-term recovery with local, state, and federal partners to deliver needed services to residents and businesses. Implementing the enhancement recommendations in the AAR will strengthen the county's ability to respond to and recovery from future incidents.

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Emergency Services	Improved Radio System Efficiency through Vendor Accountability and Long-term Planning	Successfully provided an uninterrupted 800MHz P25 Radio System across nine tower sites and two dispatch centers by executing a proactive maintenance and planning strategy. Staff drove critical deliverables, including targeted preventive maintenance, the implementation of hot fixes and patches, and the initiation of long-term planning for system upgrades and replacement.	These efforts enhance critical public safety services by strengthening system resilience and ensuring fiscal responsibility. By holding Motorola accountable to its obligations under the assumption of the County's 12-year Airbus radio contract, staff achieved two key outcomes: the County saved approximately \$1 million in maintenance costs and achieved 100% system uptime for the entire year. This uptime significantly exceeds the contractual obligation of 99.999%, which allows for only up to 5.5 minutes of downtime annually. This proactive approach ensured uninterrupted, cost-effective communications that protect our first responders and the community while driving vendor accountability to position the County for sustained long-term service success.
Emergency Services	New ICS Refresher Training Development	Led the development of a new approach to the annual ICS Refresher training for all County employees.	Coordinated with the Communications Department, Human Resources, and the Office of Financial Management to produce a video that updated NIMS Training and included personal/family preparedness, hurricane risk factors, damage reporting, eRole Program updates, and timekeeping during disasters. Resulted in more engagement from employees on annual training requirement.
Emergency Services	Radio Monitoring Process	Developed and implemented a new process for tracking and addressing issues identified by the DiagnostiX system. This automated system monitors radio tolerances and flags equipment that needs urgent repair.	This new procedure significantly enhances system management and operational efficiency. By proactively addressing radios flagged by DiagnostiX, staff can fix or replace equipment before it fails in the field. This reduces downtime and improves response time to radio issues, ensuring first responders have reliable, mission-critical equipment. This proactive maintenance approach prevents communication failures during critical incidents.

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Emergency Services	Regional Geographic Information System (GIS) Repository	Contracted with the regional vendor to establish county Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) boundaries and host GIS data in a shared repository for use across jurisdictions.	Shared GIS data enables accurate location transfer when 9-1-1 calls cross jurisdictional boundaries which advances mapping accuracy, improves response times, and strengthens interoperability. This regional collaboration enhances emergency response during both everyday incidents and large-scale disasters.
Emergency Services	Relocation of Radio Operations	Successfully relocated 800MHz P25 radio operations into the new, hurricane-rated Emergency Services Administration Building. This move facilitated a comprehensive upgrade to critical monitoring equipment, protecting vital assets and improving operational capabilities.	This relocation significantly strengthens the County's public safety communications infrastructure, directly aligning with initiatives to enhance emergency preparedness and resilience. The new facility provides a secure, hardened environment with continuous generator power, ensuring uninterrupted service during natural disasters. The relocation also allowed for a substantial upgrade of radio equipment, which now provides enhanced operational oversight, reliability, and troubleshooting capabilities. Furthermore, the expanded storage area for an equipment cache and a dedicated service bay for vehicle radio equipment streamline emergency deployments and in-house maintenance, positioning the County to meet future demands for public safety services more efficiently and effectively.
Emergency Services	Identification of Projects for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	Led the Sarasota's Local Mitigation Strategy (LMS) Working Group to partner with county stakeholders in the identification of 36 mitigation projects for FDEM/FEMA consideration towards \$66 million of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding (of which \$30.2 million submitted for 10 BCC projects).	The approved HMGP Projects will cover functional areas from water resiliency for critical infrastructure, improvements to stormwater systems, to building facilities with enhanced building codes. These efforts will strengthen the county's resiliency to future disasters.

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Emergency Services	StormReady Designation	Earned StormReady renewal designation from National Weather Service (NWS).	The recognition is valid for 4 years until July 24, 2029. This effort will better prepare Sarasota County to protect life and property from the onslaught of hazardous weather through better planning, education, and awareness. StormReady can help save lives. Additionally, this designation provides the Community Rating System program receive 25 Insurance Services Organization points.
Emergency Services	Emergency Management Accreditation	Recommended to receive accreditation from the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP).	EMAP fosters continuous improvement in emergency management capabilities. It provides Sarasota County the opportunity to be recognized for compliance with industry standards, to demonstrate accountability, and to focus attention on areas and issues where resources are needed.
Emergency Services	Disaster Preparedness through Community Outreach	Presented 61 seminars and disaster preparedness presentations to 4,600 community members and key partners. Coordinated National Weather Service (NWS) SkyWarn training for 159 participants (84 people in-person and 74 online) for training on how to provide timely and accurate reports of severe weather to NWS. Held inaugural Community Conversations Event for hurricane preparedness with over 350 attendees from the public.	Attendees at hurricane seminars gained valuable disaster preparedness information. At the Community Conversations event, participants heard from experts from state, federal, and local emergency management as well as the NWS. Attendees also learned about their risk to hazards in Sarasota County and had the opportunity to connect with over a dozen public safety and health agencies as well as county departments to enhance their personal and family preparedness. Many participants at the SkyWarn training also received a tour of the EOC and gained a better understanding of EOC operations.

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Emergency Services	Emergency Training with Internal and External Partners	Held 31 trainings for disaster response and recovery preparedness, including an EOC Briefing with the NHC Deputy Director and NWS-Tampa Chief Meteorologist and a G-402 National Incident Management System (NIMS) for Senior Officials course in collaboration with the FDEM's Director Kevin Guthrie and his key staff. The G-402 NIMS for Senior Officials course held this year puts Sarasota County as one of the three counties already in compliance with the new State Bill 180 training requirement for senior leaders.	Training enhances coordination and collaboration among agencies. Working together to learn how to better coordinate disaster response and recovery activities strengthens the countywide ability to respond and recovery from disasters more efficiently and effectively. Areas of focus include: mass care (e.g., evacuation center staffing, medically dependent call down process), operations, logistics, finance and administration, and EOC activations.
Emergency Services	Pre-Disaster Contracts	Led the implementation of nine pre-disaster contracts, with Procurement's support, to augment response and recovery capabilities across 4 functional areas (i.e., disaster feeding, evacuation center staffing, oxygen, and disaster consulting).	The county's response and recovery capabilities will be enhanced by having vendor support available to increase staffing capabilities, feeding responders and county staff, and having access to disaster response and recovery expertise. These contracts will increase the ability to get county employees back to their department roles and return the county to normal operations quicker.
Emergency Services	WebEOC Implementation	Led implementation of WebEOC with support from EIT. WebEOC is a new common operating picture and resource management system for EOC activations.	The incorporation of WebEOC will enhance the ability of EOC staff to share critical response and recovery information, track key activities, and submit and track resource requests.
Emergency Services	Duty Officer Program Enhancements	Implemented enhancements to the Duty Officer Program, ensuring an Emergency Management team member is on-call 24/7.	The Duty Officer Program provides 24/7 access to the Emergency Management team as well as daily weather briefings. This program strengthens the connection between Sheriff's Office dispatch, first responders, Public Works, Transportation, Public Utilities, municipalities, and Emergency Management.
Emergency Services	Terrorism and Mass Fatality/Casualty Training	Held a Terrorism tabletop exercise and a Mass Fatality/Casualty Workshop	EOC partners have worked towards strengthening mass fatality/casualty coordination efforts. Information collected during these events was used to draft a framework for a larger Mass Casualty/Fatality Plan.

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Emergency Services	Fire Marshal Fee Study	Fire Marshal services fees have not been updated since 2001. Based upon findings of a third-party consultant contracted by the County, the current fee schedule does not generate sufficient revenue to offset the expenditures required to perform the necessary functions of the Office of the Fire Marshal. These functions include permit processing, construction plans reviews, and life safety inspections to comply with the most currently adopted edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code and NFPA 1730. The department is in the process of reviewing the final report and recommendations from the consultant.	If adopted by the Board, adjusted Fire Marshal services fees will generate an increase in revenue that is necessary to offset the expenditures associated with performing the required permitting, plan review, and inspection services as mandated by the most currently adopted edition of the Florida Fire Prevention Code and NFPA 1730.
Emergency Services	Lifeguard EMTs	The Fire Department sponsored two lifeguards to attend an EMT course in 2025. This brings the total number of lifeguards also certified as EMTs to 12.	Professional development of lifeguards supports the provision of high-level emergency care and response on public beaches and response to unguarded beaches/areas in Sarasota County.
Emergency Services	Lifeguard Tower Builds	In 2025, staff placed four new lifeguard stands on beaches (1 at Lido, 2 at Casey Key, and 1 at Venice). This was a collaborative effort between the Fire Department's Lifeguards, Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources, and Facilities to produce new mobile lifeguard towers to replace older towers or those damaged in storms at beaches.	Exceptional County Services provided to supply beach patrons with lifeguard towers that are functional, safe, and environmentally sound. High Performing County Team working together to create, build, and staff lifeguard towers.
Emergency Services	Conversion of Medic 1 to Rescue 101	SCFD converted a non-transport unit to a second transport unit at Fire Station 1.	This item converted a first response only crew to a full ALS transport capable rescue crew. This has improved unit availability within the response area. This decreases the time it takes for a patient to be transported to the hospital after they call 911.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Emergency Services	Fire Station #7	The future Fire Station 7 project received a notice to proceed in Spring of 2025.	Currently, Fire Station 7 is located in a shared facility with East Manatee Fire District in just inside Manatee County. The new Fire Station 7 will remain in Lakewood Ranch, but in a more ideal location close to the intersection of Lakewood Ranch Boulevard and Communications Parkway in Sarasota County. The new location will decrease response times overall throughout Lakewood Ranch.
Emergency Services	3-Person SCFD Fire Engine Crew added to Fire Station 23	SCFD implemented a 3-person Fire Engine crew to Fire Station 23 on 10-01-25.	Locating a 3-person Fire Engine company to Fire Station 23 (1930 N. Tamiami Trail) beginning on 10-01-25 enables the department to respond quickly to incidents located north of Laurel Road and portions of Casey Key. These areas are part of the new agreement between the County and Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department (NVFD).
Emergency Services	Increased Fire Engine Staffing on Fire Engine 22	SCFD increased minimum staffing of Engine 22 from 2-person firefighters to 3-person on Fire Engine 22.	Fire Engine 22 is located at Fire Station 22 (4531 Englewood Rd) in the southern portion on the County's response district. On 10-01-25 staffing increased from a minimum of 2 firefighters to 3 on Fire Engine 22. This increase will assist this crew to accomplish critical on-scene tasks for all-types of incidents more efficiently and safely.
Emergency Services	Increased Firefighter Staffing on 4 Fire Engines	SCFD implemented a five-year plan to increase firefighter staffing on the remaining two-person fire engines. On October 1, 2025, (start of FY26), SCFD will add a 3rd firefighter four additional fire engines (Engines 2, 8, 13, and 26).	Increasing firefighter staffing will result in improved outcomes for the public and first responders when responding to emergencies such as structure fires. Three-person staffing on fire engines allows first responders to complete critical tasks quicker, resulting in increased fireground efficiency and decreased on-scene times. This reduces the number of responding apparatus required on incidents, thereby reducing risk to the general public.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Emergency Services	Firefighter SCBA Mask Safety Review	As part of the Sarasota County Fire Department's (SCFD) annual firefighter physicals, respiratory protection fit testing is conducted for all personnel. During the most recent testing cycle, an unusual increase in fit test failures was observed and traced to a manufacturing defect affecting several SCBA facepieces. In response, SCFD initiated a department-wide inspection of all SCBA masks, which identified more than 70 facepieces requiring immediate replacement. Affected personnel were promptly issued new, compliant masks to restore full respiratory protection.	This swift and coordinated response significantly improved firefighter safety and operational readiness. By proactively identifying and replacing over 70 defective SCBA masks, SCFD reduced the risk of hazardous exposure during emergency operations. The action ensured continued compliance with NFPA and OSHA respiratory protection standards, prevented potential injuries, demonstrated the department's strong commitment to firefighter health, safety, equipment reliability, and demonstrated the continued importance of a dedicated Fire Department Health and Safety Officer.
Emergency Services	Whole Blood Program for Critical Patients	The Whole Blood program is designed to deliver potential life saving blood to critical patients in the field by our paramedics instead of having to several crucial minutes until the patient is transported to a hospital. This program was implemented in February of 2025.	Since the program's inception, the department has administered whole blood to 12 critical patients which has given these patients a higher chance of surviving their injuries. To date, 9 out of 12 (75%) of these patients have survived.
Emergency Services	2025 Mission: Lifeline EMS Recognition	SCFD has been awarded the highest level (Gold) in 2025 Mission: Lifeline EMS Recognition by the American Heart Association for the tenth year in a row.	This award is a testament to our first responders who are providing the most research-based and rapid care to patients experiencing a heart attack or stroke. The target award highlights the mutual collaboration of both prehospital and hospital providers working together to reduce time barriers and ensure prompt treatment.
Emergency Services	PEDReady	The PEDReady program demonstrates the Fire Department's commitment to our preparedness to deliver the best possible care for any pediatric illness or injury. SCFD was the first metro-sized fire department and fourth overall in Florida to earn the program's highest level of achievement (Gold).	Pediatric emergency care is unique and can be complicated. Being trained and prepared to care for this special population is crucial to our service delivery. This program shows the fire department's commitment in pediatric care. SCFD was also one of first in the state to have a Pediatric Emergency Care Champion (PECC) to advocate for pediatrics and has been instrumental in the collaboration between SCFD and receiving ERs in the development pediatric specific prehospital protocols that transition smoothly into ER protocols as transfer of care takes place.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Emergency Services	Video Laryngoscope Program	The Video Laryngoscope program has given our paramedics another tool to assist them in attaining patent airways in critical patients. This program began in April of 2025.	These devices ensures a better view of airways during patient intubations in a variety of light conditions and difficult airways. To date this program has increased first-pass success rates in patient intubations which also prevents the chance of anoxia. Currently all Rescues (Transport Ambulances) and EMS Captains are equipped with Video Laryngoscopes. In addition, Engines 18 and 19 are also equipped with them due to their Rural locations and the extended response time for a Rescue to arrive on scene.
Emergency Services	PulsePoint Heart Safe Community	The PulsePoint Heart Safe Community Award is a recognition by the PulsePoint Foundation that highlights SCFD's commitment to evidence-based and best practice out of hospital cardiac arrest care.	The SCFD's overall cardiac arrest overall survival rate currently is 27.7% and a Bystander CPR rate of 46.3%. Both of these numbers are above the State and National percentages.
Emergency Services	Regional Fire Training Academy Construction	The Regional Fire Training Academy will serve as Sarasota County's training facility, replacing four current locations spread throughout the county. This 30-acre complex will consist of classrooms, associated outbuildings and training props to assist in the training and preparedness of first responders. A notice to proceed was obtained in September 2024 and sitework began in the Spring of 2025. Project completion is anticipated for Fall of 2026.	The Board of County Commissioners approved funding for this project, along with funding sources from local, regional, and state partners. This facility will better serve new and incumbent firefighters with primary training goals focusing on physical skills, muscle memory, and simulating fire training conditions as close to real life as possible. The facility will also serve as training grounds for law enforcement emergency vehicle operations.
Emergency Services	4 Boats and PPE added for Highwater and Swiftwater Responses	The SCFD added 4 powered boats (2 zodiac and 2 flat-bottom jon style boats) and 2 double stack trailers (each trailer carries 1 zodiac and 1 jon boat). Along with the boats and trailer, the department also added several sets water rescue PPE.	These grant funded boats and PPE will enable the Fire Department to increase our capabilities in responding to, searching for, and rescuing victims during highwater and swiftwater events throughout the county.
Emergency Services	2 Highwater Vehicles added to SCFD Fleet	The County Commissioners approved the purchase of 2 highwater capable vehicles for the Fire Department.	These vehicles are a critical asset in the fire department's capabilities in the safe and efficient response to incidents during highwater incidents. These vehicles are capable of safely traveling through water up to 50" deep.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Emergency Services	Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department Agreement	SCFD developed and implemented a plan to enhance fire response service in an area that was previously covered by Nokomis Volunteer Fire Department (NVFD). The department also negotiated a contract with NVFD for their continued responses in a portion of the county.	Locating a SCFD 3-person Fire Engine company to Fire Station 23 (1930 N. Tamiami Trail) beginning on 10-01-25 enables the department to respond quickly to incidents located north of Laurel Road and portions of Casey Key and enhances the department's overall response capabilities in this portion of the county.
Emergency Services	Emergency Services Performance Measures Review	Performance measurements in 2025 have become part of the business model and this information is being used to help make data-informed operational decisions. These measurements are a result of the Emergency Services department conducting a departmentwide, consultant-led performance measures review that focused on driving results for our customers in 2024. By employing the "managing for results" process, each division developed performance measures that encompasses results, outputs, demands, and efficiency measures.	This performance management plan, as documented in the strategic business plans are improving the department's ability to make data-informed decisions and deliver results for our customers. These performance measures focus on the benefits to the our citizen(s) are also utilized to justify budget proposals.
Emergency Services	Fire Department Accreditation	In 2025 the fire department submitted their first annual compliance report to maintain accreditation by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI). The department was initially awarded accreditation on February 27, 2024.	SCFD is one of approximately 35 internationally accredited agencies in the state (of more than 460 fire departments statewide). International accreditation is a commitment to the future of the department, as it demands planning and continual improvement in SCFD's response, which will directly benefit the residents and visitors of Sarasota County.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Emergency Services	Fire Department Open Houses	<p>The Fire Department continued monthly open houses at rotating fire stations across the community in 2025. As a result of these events, SCFD at each event averages 170 attendees, 3 car seat installations, 34 bike helmet fittings, 12 CPR demonstrations, and 10 units of blood donated, as well as interacted with hundreds of children regarding fire and life safety education. SCFD's recruitment team is actively searching for qualified candidates for firefighter, lifeguard, and inspector positions at these community events. Furthermore, these events include partnerships with other county departments/divisions, such as Emergency Management, Human Resources, UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability, as well as local hospitals and non-profits including Suncoast Blood Bank and the Humane Society of Sarasota County.</p>	<p>Not everyone in the community calls 9-1-1 nor requires emergency assistance. The Fire Department Open Houses serve as a way for the community to interact with their fire department and meet their local firefighters, as well as provide an opportunity for SCFD and partners to engage the community proactively with risk reduction activities such as fire and life safety messaging, CPR trainings, demonstrations, and more. These are interactive events for people of all ages. Prior to this program's inception in June of 2024, an annual fire department open house was held prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. By revising the offerings to make them more frequent and at rotating fire stations each month, SCFD seeks to engage more people in the convenience of their own communities.</p>
Emergency Services	Fire Administration Building	<p>Completed the Fire Administration Building on the Emergency Services Campus located at 6062 Porter Way.</p>	<p>The new facility located next to the County's EOC and Public Communications (911) houses all of Fire Administration and the Fire Marshal's Office which increases the department's ability to provide improved service to the community by increasing resiliency, functionality, and resistance to wind and flood waters.</p>

Successes - Enterprise Information Technology

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Enterprise Data Expansion	Added 65 new tables and over 70 million rows to the enterprise data warehouse.	Enhanced the county's ability to make data-driven decisions.
Enterprise Information Technology	Breeze Transit	Completed migration from hybrid solution utilizing two systems.	By moving off of the hybrid environment to a single transit system solution provides a more robust and stable platform to support Breeze vehicles.
Enterprise Information Technology	Communications	Implemented a new public records request management system.	The new system provides a more streamlined method for handling public records requests.
Enterprise Information Technology	Work and Asset Management System	Migrated the work and asset management system that was on premise to the systems upgraded cloud solution.	This allows the County to take advantage of additional system functionality such as the scheduler and mobile modules. By being in the cloud the County will be the beneficiary of regular software upgrades and improvements.
Enterprise Information Technology	Records Retention	Over the past year, the County Departments digitized over 1767 boxes of paper.	By digitizing these documents County employees can now easily locate documents in the content management system. This effort is also beneficial to the County relocating departments from the Admin Building by reducing the amount of paper that needs to be moved.
Enterprise Information Technology	311 Connect	Expanded 311 Connect integrations.	New Integration with Solid Waste removal vendors and the cloud work and asset management system.
Enterprise Information Technology	Cell Phone Deployment	Including Centralized Management	This included deployment of text retrieval system and reporting, deployment of mobile device management system for configuration and ongoing management, and deployment of approximately 1300 phones (smart and standard) in 2 month timeframe.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Electronic Signature Expansion	Expansion of electronic signature solution for expedited delivery of service.	<p>During an emergency activation for last season's hurricanes, there was a pressing need identified for homeowners and homeowner associations to allow access to private or gated roads for storm debris removal coordinated by the Solid Waste Division. In the past, this was handled by sending a form to the party and having them manually sign and deliver it back by mail or in person.</p> <p>Due to the scope of the damage and roads being impacted, the County expanded its electronic signature solution for expedited delivery of service. A DocuSign form and template was created to quickly expedite the process of sending the form and receiving it back from the party. Also expanded to include homeowners' agreements and amendments for the Resilient SRQ program.</p>
Enterprise Information Technology	Hurricane Recovery(s)	Restored voice and data services after hurricanes last season.	The recovery included moving a generator to the roof of Admin, to power the 6th floor voice and data equipment so all the buildings in the downtown area could access applications, data, and the internet.
Enterprise Information Technology	State Cybersecurity Grant	EIT applied for year 3 of the State Cybersecurity Grant.	EIT applied for part of the 15 million State of Florida Cybersecurity Grant for year three. This was coordinated with the other constitutional offices to make sure their cybersecurity needs were met. Over the next several years, EIT will continue to roll out the State funded cybersecurity products if they fit the needs of the environment and ensure better security and management for the County and constitutional offices.
Enterprise Information Technology	Breeze Transit Annual Risk Assessment	EIT Security Team performed an annual Risk Assessment for the Transit Department.	This includes working with EIT Liaisons from the Transit Department who are subject matter experts. This assessment is mandated by the Federal Transit Authority Audit requirements. The goal is to eliminate or minimize the vulnerabilities that pose possible issues in the environment.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Upgrade Anti Virus and Endpoint Protection	Implement new Anti Virus and Endpoint Protection system.	The Security Team did an extensive analysis of multiple products to select the best system for the County environment. The new system has been implemented and meeting requirements.
Enterprise Information Technology	Downtown Buildings Network Changes	Due to the closing of the Admin Building, EIT had to design and implement network changes.	New networks were built for Selby Library, North Library, Fire Stations 1, 5, 6. Their networks were removed from the current Admin Building and rerouted.
Enterprise Information Technology	Support for Storms Debbie, Helene & Milton	Damage from the various storms called the Desktop Support team into action on numerous fronts including the recovery efforts at the Administration building.	From the start of August 2024, the Desktop Support team worked alongside other EIT Teams and ES staff to support the County's efforts in response to the three storms: Debbie, Helene and Milton. These efforts included modifying support schedules and locations to meet ES efforts, creation of new dashboards to track network recovery efforts, formation of support queues to track requests related to storms, relocation and setup of staff to temporary working sites, moving the EIT warehouse inventory and operations to Fixed Assets, coordination of the technology equipment inventory at the Administration building, and the tracking and deployment of replacement equipment.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Stipend to County-Issued Mobile Phone Project	The change from employee stipends to county-issued mobile phones resulted in a project to deploy new mobile phones to department identified personnel.	<p>Within the 6-month project timeline, the Desktop Support Operations team deployed over 1,160 mobile phones to 21 different departments and agencies. This project involved the highest level of collaboration, and data gathering, with all departments, including Human Resources' expertise in creating a Workday Campaign and increased internal support from other EIT divisions and management.</p> <p>Besides the final deployment count, this 6-month project included, but not limited to the following: the formation of a new team in Desktop Support Operations, implementation of a new mobile device management platform, updates to EIT's How-To videos and Knowledge Base, creation of support materials for staff, inventory system modifications, new mailbox for communication plan, Power BI dashboards and visuals, onsite deployment staging coordination, the ordering, tagging and outfitting of all new phones and the overall tracking and reporting of the project's status and milestones.</p>
Enterprise Information Technology	Endpoint Management Team	The Desktop Support Operations division was expanded to include the Endpoint Management team.	Modernization of the endpoint (i.e. mobile phones, computers, tablets, etc.) has included a shift to focus on the user experience, security, and intended use of the supported technology. The new Endpoint Management team's main areas of responsibility include the management of EIT supported mobile devices, computer image management using Microsoft System Center Configuration Manager (SCCM), secure endpoint administration (i.e., library patron PCs), and Windows Update compliance.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	New Mobile Device Management (MDM) platform	EIT successfully implemented a new Mobile Device Management (MDM) platform for county issued mobile phones.	Effective support of mobile phones required an updated, modern and comprehensive management platform that matched Desktop Support's current level of service offered on computers. The new Endpoint Management team on-boarded and rolled out the Ivanti Neurons MDM in less than 7 weeks to meet the requested timeline. This feat included the creation of new policies and configurations for the mobile devices, integrations into current infrastructure, setup of roles and permissions for support staff and testing and deployment procedures for new devices.
Enterprise Information Technology	Metrics	Desktop Operations tracks 3 main KPIs. Each provides a different level of insight into our staff's interactions with county staff and their effectiveness as part of the Team. FCR tracks how often the Help Desk staff are resolving tickets during that initial call from staff. SLA Compliance tracks how often our Desktop Support Ops team are successfully completing tickets within their stated time frames for resolution. CSAT allows county staff to comment and rate their level of satisfaction with the Desktop Support Ops team member that assisted them.	Desktop Operations has met and exceeded our main 3 Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) of First Contact Resolution (FCR), Service Level Agreement (SLA) Compliance, and Customer Satisfaction Rate (CSAT). Key Performance Index (KPI) Goal Actual First Call Resolution (FCR) 85% 94.2% Service Level Agreement (SLA) 85% 99.5% Customer Satisfaction (CSAT) 90% 97.8%
Enterprise Information Technology	Windows Patching Improvements	Service improvements were implemented to the Windows Update patching environment to increase workstation update and security compliance.	The Endpoint Management team improved the overall effectiveness of the Windows Update patching environment by eliminating older group policy objects and adding new Windows baselines in Microsoft's System Center Configuration Manager. These updates have allowed for more precise application of updates, including Feature Updates and full version upgrades (i.e., Windows 11).

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Employee Onboarding Improvement	EIT worked with Human Resources to update the bi-weekly Quick Starts to improve the technical onboarding of staff.	In collaboration with HR, EIT now attends Employee Quick Starts to provide new hires with their login credentials and a brief login tutorial before they are dismissed to their respective business units. This support add-on goal is to assist new hires with their first login attempt by providing them with the proper information, in-hand, and improve the overall onboarding experience for staff and their managers.
Enterprise Information Technology	AI Literacy & Governance	County staff have opportunities to learn more about AI and gain an understanding of how to use AI at Sarasota County.	Throughout year of 2025, EIT Data Team hosted three sessions on Understanding the AI Administrative Directive, reaching over 100 staff members. The team also organized use-case workshops and roundtables focused on AI, RPA, AI-Ready Data, and AI Agents. Additionally, the team collaborated with the Human Resources Training team to develop a Workday Learning course that uses AI Syntenic Voice to explain how to use AI at Sarasota County.
Enterprise Information Technology	Cloud & Analytics Modernization	Initiated Databricks Phase 1 and Power BI Capacity architecture to support scalable, AI-ready analytics and broader data democratization. In 2025, the EIT Data team started implementing Databricks as a resource for AI and data projects. Hosted within county MS Azure tenant, Databricks marks the start of creating a modernized data architecture. In quarter four of fiscal year 2025, the team procured and started the initial architecture of MS Power BI Capacity. Creating enterprise departmental workspaces, development pipelines, and a SharePoint hub site to increase our data democratization efforts.	This enables the Data team to develop data pipelines, a comprehensive data catalog, a generative AI module where county staff can ask questions without needing to know T-SQL, and conduct data science experiments.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	County Data Automation & Efficiency Improvements	Implementation of Robotic Process Automation to create efficiencies and eliminate manual tasks.	Upgraded UiPath and Power BI Report Server; automated mailroom proof-of-delivery, payroll documentation, and financial reporting processes; and deployed over a dozen new RPA and data pipelines. Supported major initiatives across Public Utilities, Emergency Services, General Services, Stormwater, and other departments with dashboards, data pipelines, and automation to improve operational efficiency, regulatory compliance, and citizen service delivery.
Enterprise Information Technology	Established the SharePoint Sites for new departments	With the announcement of Public Works being split into two new departments (Stormwater and Transportation) the need arose to quickly establish and migrate their internal EmployeeNet sites into their own sites.	Within two weeks the SharePoint sites were stood up and users were redirected to the new sites.
Enterprise Information Technology	New Legal Services Request Application	The Office of County Attorney required a centralized portal to manage their department's legal service needs. Through an innovative solution utilizing Power Apps and Power Automate, the Development Operations team launched a platform that significantly enhanced the efficiency and transparency of the legal services request lifecycle.	This application allows submitters to track the status of their requests and provides a central dashboard for OCA to see and manage all the requests and increase visibility within their office.
Enterprise Information Technology	Released Stormwater Assessments Version 1.5	The Stormwater Assessments team identified critical features that needed to be added to increase efficiency to manage parcels and generate assessments.	The new tagging system allows the Stormwater team to quickly categorize parcels. The master account file view that was implemented allows them to review the expected bill without having to recalculate the parcel or the entire database.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Mobile Device Management and Request System in Cherwell	The transition from stipend to County-issued phones required enhancements to the IT Service Management System(ITSM). The Service Desk team reached out requesting the implementation of Mobile Device asset management inside of the ITSM. Within two months the team designed updates to the out-of-the-box mobile assets, built out mobile order forms, mobile app request forms, and bulk asset management utilities to fill the gap and provide a comprehensive solution to manage mobile devices.	Assigning and changing mobile devices takes minutes instead of hours. Customers can request mobile apps and get fast approval and implementation times. Department IT liaisons also now have a clear glass pane to see all their county-issued cell phones and who they are assigned to.
Enterprise Information Technology	OnBase Content Management System - Upgraded from EP3 to v23	The OnBase team worked in conjunction with Hyland to successfully upgrade from EP3 to v23.1.	As a result of the upgrade, the county has reduced the yearly maintenance fees and brought us up to the latest long-term release.
Enterprise Information Technology	Single Sign-On in GovMax	EIT worked with Sarasota County to deploy single-sign on (SSO) for the GovMax application. This feature enhancement was requested from RFP's and our current clients.	Some of the advantages of SSO are the following: Improved user experience Enhanced Security Better compliance control
Enterprise Information Technology	911 System Upgrade	Emergency services made it a priority to modernize the 911 system and provide the community with a world class platform to meet current and future needs and growth. The procurement and implementation of the new Enterprise CAD was completed to meet these objectives.	The implementation of new servers, workstations, and software has brought the system to the cutting edge of technology with plenty of room for expansion moving forward. Speed, accuracy, and system redundancy have all been met with the new system. Standardization of mobile software has also provided stability and better interoperability between the many agencies we dispatch.
Enterprise Information Technology	Solid Waste – Contractor Transition Support	EIT supported the transition to new solid waste contractors by defining service areas, validating addresses, and preparing for resident communications.	EIT enabled a seamless transition to two new solid waste contractor service areas by validating thousands of resident addresses, supporting cart distribution and resident notifications, and automating new-build geocoding. These efforts reduced resident confusion, strengthened coordination with 311, and laid the foundation for future service integration.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Enterprise Information Technology	Stormwater Asset Maintenance Application	EIT built a public-facing application that integrates stormwater maintenance data from Cartegraph.	A public-facing map now allows residents to track nearby stormwater projects by entering their address, increasing transparency and reducing inquiries. Internally, staff gained a countywide view of progress, improving project management, decision-making, and resource allocation.
Enterprise Information Technology	Satellite Flood Data Solution	EIT developed a flood monitoring application using satellite-derived data and county infrastructure layers.	EIT introduced a near real-time flood monitoring tool integrating satellite-derived data with county infrastructure. Emergency Management can now identify flooded streets, impacted buildings, and critical facilities within hours, improving situational awareness, response speed, and public safety during storm events.
Enterprise Information Technology	Comprehensive Catalog of GIS Content and Services	EIT created a countywide catalog of maps, apps, and surveys by department.	A countywide catalog of GIS maps, apps, and surveys now provides staff with a single reference point, enhancing awareness, reducing duplication, and supporting onboarding and training. The catalog positions the county to maximize use of existing GIS investments across departments.
Enterprise Information Technology	Stormwater Inspection Surveys	EIT designed digital survey tools to collect and manage stormwater inspection data.	Digital field surveys replaced manual inspection tracking for construction and industrial sites, streamlining data collection and integration with existing systems. This modernization potentially improved compliance monitoring, data accessibility, and accountability while saving staff time.
Enterprise Information Technology	Utilities Data Integration with Work and Asset Management System	EIT reformatted utilities infrastructure data for integration with Work and Asset Management System.	EIT restructured utilities infrastructure data for seamless use in Maximo, ensuring maintenance and planning decisions are based on current and accurate information. With ongoing data maintenance, Utilities now benefits from a reliable, continuously updated system that strengthens infrastructure management.
Enterprise Information Technology	Workflow integration into GovMax	EIT worked to identify features that are requested through RFP's and the current clients. The team identified that it requires workflow automation into some of the modules of the GovMax application.	Users can now integrate workflows into budget proposals. The team is working on getting other modules with the same type of workflow automation in Capital Projects, grants, etc.

Successes - Financial Management
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Financial Management	FY26 Budget Workshops and Public Hearings	Successfully prepared for and held 4 budget workshops and 2 public hearings.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	GFOA Award	Awarded the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) for the 35th consecutive year.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	FY26 Budget	Adoption, implementation, execution, amendment, and management of the FY25 Budget.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	Develop Countywide Dashboard for Capital Improvement Program Projects	Develop a Countywide dashboard to assist departments see the status of their Capital Improvement Projects.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	Establish a Budget Manual	Compile useful information, resources, and guidance to establish a Budget Manual, assisting with Countywide budget development, maintenance, and updates. Provide to Director for review.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	Implement Requirements for Capital Improvement Program Projects Operating Impacts	Establish processes & procedures required for the inclusion of operating impacts, in the budget, for Capital Improvement Program Projects. Provide to Director for review and approval.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	Standardization of Capital Improvement Program procurement related processes	Develop standardized submittal/workflow processes for Capital Improvement Program procurement related items.	Continuous Improvement
Financial Management	Standardize the Budget Amendment and Omnibus request and approval processes	Develop standardized submittal/workflow processes for budget amendments and omnibus items.	Continuous Improvement
Financial Management	Updated Standard Operating Procedures	Updated procurement SOPs and made them available on an easily accessible Smartsheet	Continuous Improvement
Financial Management	State of Emergency Procurements	Updated emergency procurement process map, guidelines, training & forms for FY25. Updated non-contracted emergency vendor database ahead of 2025 storm season.	Continuous Improvement

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Financial Management	Vendor Newsletter	Published a quarterly vendor news letter to share information with vendors.	Community Outreach
Financial Management	On Demand Training	Created on-demand training courses related to scope development and solicitation methods. Expanding to include Cooperative Purchasing and Procurement Principles.	Continuous Improvement / Customer Service
Financial Management	Vendor Evaluations	Implemented a vendor evaluation process to evaluate performance of term contract providers	Continuous Improvement / Financial Stewardship
Financial Management	Mission & Vision	Collaborated with Procurement team to create and adopt mission and vision statements	Continuous Improvement
Financial Management	P-Card Rebates	Received more than \$248,000 in p-card rebates from Bank of America, Lowes, Home Depot and Amazon Business	Financial Stewardship
Financial Management	Procurement Liaisons Outreach	Held quarterly meetings with procurement liaisons from departments to strengthen relationships and maintain open lines of communication.	Customer Service
Financial Management	Bond Issuances	Completed three Bonds: White Fleet, Surtax and Utilities (total \$220.7 million).	Financial Stewardship
Financial Management	Conduit Financings	Completed two conduit financings: Plymouth Harbor deal for \$17 million and Glenridge deal for \$13 million.	Financial Stewardship
Financial Management	Training	Provided annual training to Cost Reimbursement staff and Disaster Field Representatives	This annual training allows those that serve in the Emergency Operations Center and in Departments to assist other County staff with procurement, documentation of time, financial direction, and calculations during disaster activation and response.
Financial Management	Established Disaster Financial Recovery Team	Established Disaster Financial Recovery Team comprised of one career service employee and 3 time-limited positions	Establishment of this team provides the County the ability to build a disaster knowledgeable team in order to financially recover from disasters in the most expeditiously manner which potentially maximizing the amount of financial recovery from events. (Financial Stewardship)

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Financial Management	Supported Countywide Grant Pre-award Services	Supported researching funding opportunities, analysis of funding and the development and submittal of funding applications.	Approximately 40 funding applications submitted to federal, state, and local agencies. Successful awards totaled over \$56,141,897. Outside funding for projects allows county funding to be utilized for other priority projects. (Financial Stewardship)
Financial Management	Expansion of OFM Grant Team (non disaster)	Expanded OFM Grant team by one career service manager position.	Allowed for expansion of staff in the non-disaster grant area allowed a better distribution of workload, allowing staff to better support countywide grant efforts. (Customer Service/ Continuous Improvement)
Financial Management	Award of \$210 million of Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) funds to recover from Hurricanes Debby, Helene, and Milton ("2024 Storms") to be administered through the Resilient SRQ Program.	In January 2025, HUD awarded \$210 million of a CDBG-DR direct allocation to Sarasota County to assist in recovery efforts from the 2024 Storms. This additional allocation brings the County's CDBG-DR funds to \$411 million.	Receipt of funding to continue community recovery from the impacts of the 2024 Storms and make it more resilient to future storm impacts.
Financial Management	HUD-Approval of \$210 M (2024 Storms) for CDBG-DR Action Plan for Resilient SRQ Program	Completed public comment period, submission of Action Plan, received HUD-approval of Action Plan (first County in the State) in June 2025, and executed \$210M grant award agreement for Resilient SRQ Program.	Receipt of funding to continue community recovery from impacts of 2024 Storms and make it more resilient to future storm impacts.
Financial Management	Launched all 2024 Storms Programs	Obtained Board-approval, launched the Housing Rehab/Recon, Housing Reimbursement, Infrastructure, and Affordable Housing for the 2024 Storms CDBG-DR Resilient SRQ Program by mid September 2025.	Receipt of funding to continue to help the community recover from the impacts of 2024 Storms and make it more resilient to future storm impacts.
Financial Management	Vendor Training	Hosted quarterly vendor training sessions to provided guidance on how to do business with Sarasota County.	Community Outreach
Financial Management	P-Card Audit	Successfully completed audit of FY24 emergency p-card purchases.	Financial Stewardship
Financial Management	. Kim says we need an object code and org code	American Rescue Plan Act Annual Recovery Plan Performance Report # 5 was submitted by the deadline.	If report is not submitted by the deadline we risk funds being returned to the US Treasury.
Financial Management	American Rescue Plan Act has spent more than half of \$84.2M	Have spent more than \$58.2M of the \$84.2M of the American Rescue Plan Act funding.	Spend down date of funds is 12/31/26 deadline. Funds not spent will be returned to the US Treasury.
Financial Management	Expansion of HERO team	Expanded the HERO team by hiring a Senior Housing Coordinator (BP3) position.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Financial Management	Approval of Local Housing Assistance Plan for SHIP Funding for HERO team	The interlocal agreement with the City of Sarasota for SHIP funding was terminated and administration of SHIP funding transitioned back to the County. The Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP) was formally approved by Florida Housing Finance Corporation. Sarasota County will receive \$2.9M in SHIP funding for the State Fiscal Year (July 2025 - June 2026).	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.
Financial Management	Affordable Housing Conference	HERO team attended the Affordable Housing Conference to network/partner with other grant administrators and attend informational sessions on innovative use of CDBG and SHIP grant funds to further affordable housing initiatives.	Continuous Improvement/Customer Service
Financial Management	American Rescue Plan Act Annual Recovery Plan Performance Report # 5	American Rescue Plan Act Annual Recovery Plan Performance Report # 5 was submitted by the deadline.	If report not submitted by the deadline we risk funds being returned to the US Treasury.
Financial Management	Expansion of HERO team	Expanded the HERO team by hiring a Senior Housing Coordinator (BP3) position.	Financial stewardship of taxpayer dollars.

Successes - General Services
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
General Services	Initiated the General Services Departmental Safety Meeting	Initiated the General Services Departmental Safety Meeting in partnership with Sarasota County Government's Safety and Risk Management Section, providing a forum for leadership and staff to participate in training, share insights, and address workplace safety, equipment, and concerns.	The General Services Department, in partnership with Sarasota County's Safety and Risk Management Section, established departmental safety meetings to promote a culture of accountability and continuous improvement. These meetings engage staff and leadership in open dialogue, training sessions, and equipment reviews, improving safety awareness and reducing workplace incidents. The initiative enhances compliance, mitigates risk, and reaffirms the County's commitment to protecting employees while maintaining efficient and reliable operations.
General Services	Mail and Print Services Deliver Critical Election Printing Across 2024 Elections	The Mail and Print Services Division completed the Supervisor of Elections print job for the November 5, 2024, General/Presidential Election, producing over 34,132 pieces. In total, the Print Shop generated 83,728 pieces across the three elections held in 2024: the March 19 Presidential Primary, the August 20 Primary Election, and the November 5 General/Presidential Election.	By producing over 83,000 pieces for three major elections in 2024, including more than 34,000 for the General/Presidential Election, the Mail and Print Services Division ensured timely, accurate, and secure delivery of election materials. This effort directly supported the Supervisor of Elections, safeguarded the integrity of the democratic process, and reinforced public confidence in Sarasota County's ability to manage high-volume, high-stakes printing operations.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
General Services	Coordinated Relocation of Apex Warehouse to Consumer Court Warehouse	General Services Facilities Division led the coordinated relocation of materials from the Apex Warehouse to the newly acquired Consumer Court Warehouse in partnership with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Emergency Management, Fire Department, and Logistics Chief. This strategic transition streamlines operations, improves delivery responsiveness, and elevates organizational efficiency and facility standards to better support countywide readiness.	The General Services Department successfully coordinated with the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Emergency Management, Fire Department, and Logistics Chief to relocate all materials from the Apex Warehouse to the newly acquired Consumer Court Warehouse. This strategic transition consolidated resources into a modern, organized facility, enhancing operational efficiency, delivery speed, and overall cleanliness. The move strengthened interdepartmental coordination, improved accountability for critical supplies, and elevated facility standards. Most importantly, it advanced Sarasota County's emergency readiness, reinforced stewardship of public resources, and positioned the County for long-term logistical resilience.
General Services	Sarasota County Government Fleet Named 2nd in Nation for 2025 APWA Best Government Fleet Award	Sarasota County Government Fleet was recognized nationally with a 2nd Place ranking in the 2025 American Public Works Association (APWA) Best Government Fleet Award, highlighting the department's commitment to innovation, efficiency, and excellence in public fleet management.	Sarasota County Government Fleet's 2nd Place national ranking in the 2025 APWA Best Government Fleet Award highlights the department's commitment to innovation, efficiency, and excellence in public service. This recognition elevates the County's reputation, builds employee pride, reinforces public confidence in resource stewardship, and sets a standard for continued leadership in fleet management.
General Services	Material Management Supports EOC With Critical Supply Delivery During Hurricanes	The Material Management Division delivered critical logistical support to the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), ensuring the timely distribution of essential supplies such as sandbags, water, and other resources that enhanced community safety and resilience during activations and multiple hurricanes.	This effort ensured rapid access to life-sustaining resources, strengthened emergency response capabilities, enhanced community safety during hurricanes, and reinforced public trust in Sarasota County's ability to safeguard residents in times of crisis.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
General Services	Mail and Print Services Achieve Record-Breaking Solid Waste Project	The Mail and Print Services Division achieved a record-breaking milestone by completing the largest single order in its history for Solid Waste. The team printed and metered 132,160 oversized postcards for a time-sensitive project, finishing the job two days ahead of schedule.	By completing the largest single order in division history, 132,160 oversized postcards for Solid Waste, two days ahead of schedule, the Mail and Print Services Division demonstrated exceptional efficiency, precision, and reliability. This achievement showcases the team's ability to manage high-volume, time-sensitive projects while reinforcing its role as a trusted partner in delivering critical countywide communications.
General Services	Print Shop Supports City of North Port Special Election	The Print Shop successfully supported the City of North Port's Special Election on May 13, 2025, by producing and distributing all required registers and ballots, ensuring the accurate and timely execution of the election process.	By producing and distributing all registers and ballots for the May 13, 2025, Special Election, the Print Shop ensured the timely, accurate, and secure delivery of critical election materials. This effort reinforced trust in the electoral process, supported the City Commission's referendum initiatives, and demonstrated the division's capacity to manage high-stakes, time-sensitive projects with precision.
General Services	Facilities Maintenance Enhances Security Through Unified Access Control Systems	Facilities Maintenance installed and synchronized access control systems at ten facilities, unifying the platform to enhance efficiency, strengthen security, and ensure continuous monitoring.	By installing and synchronizing access control systems across ten facilities, Facilities Maintenance unified the security platform to improve operational efficiency, strengthen protection of county assets, and ensure continuous monitoring. This initiative advances organizational resilience and reinforces a safe, secure environment for employees and the public.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
General Services	Fleet Energy and Sustainability Plan Guides County's Transition to Cleaner Transportation	A comprehensive Fleet Energy and Sustainability Plan was developed to guide the County's long-term transition to cleaner, more efficient transportation. The plan identifies charging station installation sites and necessary infrastructure upgrades to ensure exclusive use by County vehicles. It is strategically aligned with the projected 5–10 year fleet composition, incorporating a balanced mix of traditional, hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and fully electric vehicles to advance operational efficiency and sustainability goals.	The development of a comprehensive Fleet Energy and Sustainability Plan positions Sarasota County to achieve long-term efficiency and sustainability goals. By identifying charging station sites and infrastructure needs, and aligning with the County's projected 5–10 year fleet composition, the plan ensures a balanced integration of traditional, hybrid, plug-in hybrid, and electric vehicles. This strategy advances operational efficiency, reduces environmental impact, and demonstrates the County's commitment to responsible resource stewardship.
General Services	Fleet Enhancements Drive Efficiency and Standardization	Key fleet advancements include the implementation of Telematics/ Samsara across more than 1,200 County assets and the standardization of all vehicles with Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) tow-wiring configurations, enhancing efficiency, oversight, and operational readiness.	The implementation of Telematics/ Samsara on more than 1,200 County fleet assets, combined with the standardization of all vehicles with Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) tow-wiring configurations, strengthens operational oversight, improves efficiency, and ensures greater readiness to meet countywide service demands.
General Services	FY25 Asset Accountability and Auction Performance	The FY25 Annual Physical Inventory was successfully completed, accounting for 7,034 assets, with only six identified as lost, stolen, or missing, reflecting a 99.9% accuracy rate in locating, verifying, and inventorying all tagged equipment. Additionally, FY25 auction activities have generated \$1,865,863 in revenue, reinforcing responsible stewardship and delivering significant budgetary support and value to County taxpayers.	Achieved a 99.9% asset inventory accuracy rate while generating \$1.86 million in auction revenue, demonstrating strong fiscal stewardship and delivering measurable value to County taxpayers.

Successes - Governmental Relations
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Governmental Relations	Adoption and Implementation of the 2025 State Legislative Program	The 2025 State Legislative Policy Program was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in August of 2024.	It provided the Board's policy foundation for coordination with county administration and department directors and staff, as well as the Florida Association of Counties (FAC). As a function of the Policy Program the Commissioners, staff, and contracted lobbyists were able to successfully advocate on a number of proposed legislative actions.
Governmental Relations	Statutory Change Related to Emergency Powers of Condominium Associations	The county successfully advocated for a statutory change that expanded the emergency powers of a condominium or cooperative association to allow such to require the evacuation of the property in the event of any "evacuation order" instead of being limited to such power for a "mandatory evacuation order."	The statutory change will strengthen the ability of the county to enforce evacuations during a major storm event.
Governmental Relations	2025 State Legislative Appropriations	State legislative non-recurring, appropriations requests for infrastructure projects were developed, submitted by legislative delegation member sponsors, and included in the final budget for the state. They were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$6 million for Lorraine Road Segment C improvements. • \$800,000 for the Phillippi Creek septic to sewer program; resilient force main. • \$350,000 for the Ibis Street Multi Use Recreational Trail (MURT). 	The appropriations will help supplement the funding strategies for each of these important infrastructure improvement projects, improving transportation/mobility and water quality.
Governmental Relations	Federal Community Funding Requests	Federal Community Funding Requests were submitted by Rep. Steube and included in the mark up of the Transportation Housing and Urban Development (THUD) budget. The were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$1.5 million for Fruitville Road improvements. • \$1.5 million for River Road improvements. 	The impact will be supplemental funding toward the continued improvement of mobility through each of these important infrastructure projects.

Successes - Health and Human Services
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Health and Human Services	Community Offender Rehabilitation Program (CORT) Pilot Outcome Evaluation (Department Action Item)	Completed an evaluation of the CORT program after two years of operations at full capacity and presented to the Board of County Commissioners.	The CORT Evaluation Final Report was presented to the Board. The success of the pilot project lead to the creation of the RESTORE program.
Health and Human Services	Parents for Parents (P4P) Peer Navigation Evaluation (Department Action Item)	Completed an program evaluation of P4P that included the impact on families, reunification, and use of services.	The USF Evaluation concluded that the program has demonstrated significant success in fostering parental engagement, increasing unification rates, children spending less time in out of home care, and improving trust in child welfare services.
Health and Human Services	Implementation of the Use of Drones for Larvicide Application (Department Action Item)	Obtained a mosquito management Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) contract for FY25 to treat up to 1,000 acres of swamps and woodlots in populated areas.	Procurement drafted a Notice of Recommended Award Packet identifying lowest responsive and responsible bidder, and the contract became active in July.
Health and Human Services	Contracted Human Services Software Training and Implementation (Department Action Item)	With the acquisition of software to automate contract, application, and performance management, Advisory Council members, nonprofit service providers, and staff completed training for full implementation of the use of the software for the annual funding recommendation process.	Through the e-CImpact system, applicants submitted their proposals electronically, enabling advisory council members to efficiently evaluate and score submissions online. This process resulted in recommendations of \$6,209,379 through the Human Services Advisory Council (HSAC) and \$9,485,077 through the Behavioral Health Advisory Council (BHAC). Total of 149,090 unduplicated clients have been served to date this fiscal year.
Health and Human Services	Implementation of a High-Fidelity Wrap Around Team (Departmental Action Item)	Lead the creation of a partner collaboration to implement coordinated, individualized, team-based services and supports that are targeted toward children and youth with complex emotional, behavioral, or mental health needs, and their families.	A full team of 3 wraparound specialists and 2 clinicians have been trained. Have had 22 clients with complex needs referred, assessed, and served to date. A new Electronic Health Record system (Fidelity EHR), designed specifically for wraparound, has been implemented.
Health and Human Services	Increased Access to Preventative Dental Services for Children (Departmental Action Item)	Expanded the Dental Sealant Program to include summer services through referrals from Healthy Start and Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) programs to serve the community all year versus the school-based 9-month timeframe.	The expanded access to preventative dental services for children resulted in 51 new clients receiving 109 dental services, 21 adults and 30 children.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Health and Human Services	Female Veterans Symposium (Departmental Action Item)	Sarasota County Veteran Services held the first Female Veterans Symposium for our community to address a historically underserved population. This population encounters challenges including homelessness, suicide, and PTSD, at a higher rate than male veterans or non-veteran females.	78 service members and several veteran-serving providers attended this first symposium specifically supporting female veterans.
Health and Human Services	Implementation of Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds (Organizational Item)	Funding was implemented through contracts with Lightshare and the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office. Lightshare's Rehabilitation, Education, and Support Toward Offender Reintegration (RESTORE) serves male inmates of the Sarasota County Correction Facility, ages 18 or older, who present with a history of opioid, substance abuse or co-occurring disorders that are chronic in nature and warrant a residential structure to promote lifestyle changes and recovery. The Sheriff's Office expanded access to Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). Funding from the County Opioid Abatement Settlement, which is a one-time annual payment from the State of Florida Office of Attorney General, totaled \$1,920,681.95 for FY 2023-2025. Funding from the Regional Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds for FY 2024 and 2025 totaled \$7,027,970.00. Funding from the National Opioid Settlement totaled \$250,813.12.	Through RESTORE, 70 felony inmates were diverted from the Sarasota County Correctional Facility. The annual program evaluation is currently underway for this program. Through the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office expansion of the Medication Assisted Treatment Program (MAT) and Reentry Services, service to an additional 25 inmates with MAT, with a MAT nurse, Certified Addiction Counselor and Reentry Navigator. The annual program evaluation is currently underway for this program. One FTE was added as a contract specialist to oversee the contracted opioid/substance use related programs.
Health and Human Services	Eligibility Services for Veterans (Organizational Accomplishment)	Continued service enhancements to reach as many veterans as possible who may be eligible for benefits to which they are entitled.	A total of 996 claims were filed, with an 84.19% approval rate and 237 claims pending. Through benefit assistance, Sarasota Veterans received \$18,336,466.97 in awards. Staff engaged the community by visiting 45 facilities, conducting 24 seminars, and completing 7 home visits.
Health and Human Services	Accessible Maternity Services (Organizational Accomplishment)	Maternity Services through Health and Human Services/Department of Health were initiated to address lack of available prenatal care in the community.	To date, 175 women have been served with access to 839 quality prenatal services and there have been 61 deliveries.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Health and Human Services	Age-Friendly 10-Year Recognition (Organizational Accomplishment)	AARP recognized Sarasota County on reaching a major milestone of 10 years as an Age-Friendly Community.	Sarasota County supports healthy aging and an enhanced quality of life for all residents. Notable actions through collaborative partnerships include enhancements to transit options to support mobility for all, integration of active older adult living into the Sarasota County Libraries strategic plan, creation of a Healthy Brain Across the Lifespan guide, training for hundreds of staff and providers using the Dementia Care and Cure Initiative curriculum, and improvements to multimodal access through the downtown corridor.
Health and Human Services	Publication in the Journal of the American Medical Association- JAMA Network Open (Organizational Accomplishment)	Two DOH Sarasota and our Mosquito Management Manager were co-authors (4th, 5th & 6th) on an article published in the JAMA-Open Network titled "Public Health Response to the First Locally Acquired Malaria Outbreaks in the US in 20 Years"	JAMA Network Open is an international, peer reviewed, open access, general medical journal that publishes research on clinical care, innovation in health care, health policy, and global health across all disciplines and countries for clinicians, investigators, and policy makers.
Health and Human Services	Fall Prevention Program (Organizational Accomplishment)	Continued work delivering evidence-based falls prevention program to reduce falls-related morbidity and mortality.	Over the past year, Fall Prevention 101 and 102 classes in the community served 916 people, Matter of Balance 285, and Brain Health 101 served 404 people to improve health outcomes.
Health and Human Services	Comprehensive Treatment Court Program Evaluation (Organizational Accomplishment)	A program evaluation was completed on the Comprehensive Treatment Court program (CTC). CTC has demonstrated its ability to meet performance outcomes, and reduce jail utilization, over the past eight years.	CTC has served 658 clients from the Sarasota County Correctional Facility (SCCF) since its inception in 2017. The average beds days saved per CTC program participant is 55. The total annual jail bed costs savings is \$755,038. 79% of CTC clients successfully completed the program with a 19% recidivism rate which is significantly less than the 68% national average recidivism rate for this population. The average annual recurring savings for SCCF is estimated at \$620,364.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Health and Human Services	<p>Child Well-Being Presentation to the Florida Senate Appropriations Subcommittee (Organizational Accomplishment)</p>	<p>Child well-being system coordinator participated in a panel presentation before the Florida Senate Appropriations Committee on Higher Education at the invitation of the Florida Institute for Child Welfare (FICW).</p>	<p>The purpose was to provide an overview of FICW, and staff provided perspective as a member of the Greater Resiliency of the Workforce (GROW) Center Advisory Committee (GCAC). This was an opportunity to spotlight innovative work in Sarasota County, including the tangible impact of the work such as the Parents4Parents program and other collective efforts in child and family well-being.</p>

Successes - Human Resources
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Human Resources	Timely completion of fingerprinting for all required employees	Determined positions within county departments that were required to be fingerprinted as determined by Fl. Statutes.	Ensures that employees and citizens are safe while interacting with county staff and the county is in compliance with Fl. Statutes.
Human Resources	Community and employee educator	Developed an internal CDL training program. Shared agreement between county departments to fund and house the position Long term – will be able to train employees who are not required to have a CDL for future career growth and succession planning.	Will save the county approximately \$70k in the first year. Employees will be trained in a more timely manner and ready to perform the full essential functions of the job classification.
Human Resources	Developed and implemented new “Supervising and Managing at Sarasota County Government” program	Developed and implemented new “Supervising and Managing at Sarasota County Government” program for newly hired or promoted employees in supervisory or managerial roles. The program includes six online, on-demand courses to be completed within their first 30 days in the new role, plus a one-day hands-on in-person session where the skills are put into practice (to be completed within their first six months). This new program is designed to address the skills most needed by supervisors and managers on the job.	This program will improve leadership skills and increase the effectiveness of newly hired or promoted managers, enhancing overall organizational performance and employee satisfaction.
Human Resources	Implemented new Service Award items	Implemented new Service Award items – custom designed challenge coins replaced the outdated pins, and a new line of beautiful acrylics replaced the previous mismatched acrylics as well as the previous plaques. These changes not only resulted in greater consistency and quality in the awards, but also significantly streamlined the process of ordering and organizing the award items each quarter, all without significantly increasing the cost for the organization.	The changes streamlined the quarterly ordering process while improving the quality of awards, boosting employee morale and recognizing contributions more effectively without a significant cost increase.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Human Resources	Implemented new “Featured Function” component of Quarterly Managers Meetings	Implemented new “Featured Function” component of Quarterly Managers Meetings. These brief presentations have often been interactive and have been very well received, allowing the entire management team to gain knowledge and insight into specific programs or functions within Sarasota County Government.	This component fosters greater collaboration and understanding across the entire management team, which can lead to more informed decision-making and cross-departmental efficiency.
Human Resources	Combined the ALE Capstone Event and ALE Closing Celebration into one event	Successfully rescheduled and combined the ALE Capstone Event and ALE Closing Celebration into one event as a result of the impacts of Debbie, Helene, and Milton. Participants were struggling to prepare for and deliver the Capstone while still actively involved in recovery efforts, so this change was made.	The combined event showed organizational flexibility and support for employees during a difficult period, ensuring participants could still complete their capstone requirements and celebrate their achievements.
Human Resources	Successful hire of Training & Organizational Development Specialist	Successful hire of Training & Organizational Development Specialist. The employee quickly integrated into the team and organization and has performed extremely well, allowing for a seamless transition.	Filling this key position ensures the continuation and enhancement of training and development programs vital to employee growth and organizational success.
Human Resources	Rebuilt Benefits and Wellness Team	Fully staffed and all employees have completed their first year with the County	A fully staffed and stable benefits team can more effectively manage employee benefits, improving the quality of service and ensuring a positive employee experience.
Human Resources	Selected a Full-Service Health and Benefits Consultant	Completed the formal process to solicit and evaluate proposals from firms offering comprehensive consulting services for the county's employee health and benefits programs.	This step will ensure the county has expert guidance to optimize its health and benefits offerings, which is crucial for employee recruitment and retention.
Human Resources	Secured New Medical, Dental, and Pharmacy Plan Administrators	Finalized the selection process for the companies that will administer the county's medical, dental, and pharmacy benefit plans for employees.	This process secures key partnerships with administrators to provide comprehensive and cost-effective health services to employees.
Human Resources	Retained Workday Consultant to review and re-implement benefit plans	for basic life insurance, long-term disability, supplemental life insurance	The consultant's review will ensure that these essential benefit plans are optimized and effectively managed within the Workday system, providing a seamless experience for employees.
Human Resources	Completed 1-year renewal ahead of schedule for Employee Assistance Program	(Resources for Living), effective 1/1/2026	Completing this renewal early guarantees uninterrupted access to vital mental health and support services for all employees.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Human Resources	Launched and hosted “Cooking with Confidence”	healthy cooking demonstration series	This series promotes employee well-being by providing practical skills and knowledge to encourage healthier lifestyle choices.
Human Resources	Modernized Open Enrollment Outreach	The project involved a comprehensive overhaul of all materials and channels used to inform employees about open enrollment, with a focus on improving clarity and accessibility.	The redesigned strategy will make open enrollment information clearer and more accessible, empowering employees to make informed decisions about their benefits.
Human Resources	Received the Gold level Aetna Workplace Well-being Award	for the programs and strategy to make a difference in the health and well-being of SCG employees	This award nationally recognizes the county’s commitment to employee wellness, which enhances its reputation as an employer of choice.
Human Resources	Launched JetDental	a full-mobile dentistry service to County employees	This convenient service improves access to dental care, promoting better health outcomes and a positive work-life balance for employees.
Human Resources	Implemented Workday Candidate Engagement and SMS Messaging	Workday Candidate Engagement and SMS Messaging (strategic initiative) – implemented in July/August 2025 using contract services staff. This provides an enhanced candidate experience allowing candidates to drop a resume to “introduce” themselves. An overhaul of candidate communications with branding applied to emails. Complimentary SMS messaging for external candidates to enhance recruiter responsiveness through progressive means. Allows for multiple separately branded landing pages and campaigns to focus on specific candidate types.	The new features will enhance the county’s recruiting efforts by providing a more modern and responsive candidate experience, improving the efficiency of the hiring process.
Human Resources	Workday Administrator position filled	Workday Administrator position filled – after 11 months of searching, this position was filled in July 2025.	Filling this critical position ensures the effective administration and ongoing maintenance of the county’s Workday system, a key platform for HR and finance operations.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Human Resources	Developed and Launched Workday Signature Block app	Workday Signature Block app – developed in-house using Workday Extend. This custom application collects additional email signature information not previously available in Workday. Actual development was completed within one week and deployed for entire HR team to test and provide feedback. This app was developed in response to a joint EIT/ Communications/HR team charged with implementing email signature block software for Outlook to provide consistent email signatures across the organization.	This application provides consistent, professional email signatures across the entire organization, improving brand identity and streamlining communication.
Human Resources	Implemented Workday Request Framework	Workday Request Framework – Using existing, unused functionality, designed new processes in Workday to eliminate paper forms, memo approvals and email requests. To date, this includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Outside Employment (form) · Authorized Unavailable (form) · Overlap of Employment (memo) · Reorganization requests (Memo) to include, pre-authorization, pool position requests · Supervisor/org chart changes already approved (emails) 	The new framework digitizes and automates key HR processes, which will significantly increase efficiency and reduce administrative work.
Human Resources	Deployed Enhanced Update to Workday Time Tracking	Workday Time Tracking – deployed new time entry tool for recording time by type for full week; deployed Manage Absence feature in August ahead of Workday forced upgrade.	This enhancement improves the accuracy and efficiency of time tracking and absence management for all employees.
Human Resources	Converted Employee Files to Digital Records	Migrated all active employee paper-based personnel files into a secure digital format, streamlining HR operations and reducing the need for physical storage.	The digitization of files streamlines access to information, increases security, and reduces the need for physical storage, improving HR operations.
Human Resources	Four new departments utilizing volunteers via Volunteer Sarasota County program	The Breeze, HR, PDS, and HHS (Mosquito Management) departments now use volunteers.	This expansion of the volunteer program increases operational capacity and efficiency for these departments without adding to the budget.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Human Resources	Began Transfer of eRole Program to HR	Started the process of moving the eRole Program from Emergency Management to Human Resources to centralize its administration and improve organizational efficiency.	This transition streamlines the administration and management of the eRole program under a centralized HR function, improving organizational efficiency and oversight.
Human Resources	Completed Initial Phase of Job Description Overhaul	Successfully completed the first part of a project aimed at creating consistent, accurate, and up-to-date job descriptions for enhanced recruitment and performance management.	The completion of this phase lays the groundwork for standardizing job descriptions, which will improve recruitment, performance management, and career development.
Human Resources	Increased Community Outreach and Recruiting Events	The department completed more than 85 community outreach and job fair events, with a goal of 87 by September 30.	This increase in outreach enhances the county's visibility as an employer, broadens the candidate pool, and improves the ability to attract top talent.

Successes - Libraries and Historical Resources

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Libraries and Historical Resources	New Integrated Library System	New Integrated Library System	Implementation of a new integrated library system with enhanced features for customers, resulting in improved access to a vast array of library resources.
Libraries and Historical Resources	New History Center and Fruitville Library Expansion	Groundbreaking for the new County History Center and Fruitville Library expansion.	Residents will have access to thousands of books, journals, artifacts, and audio-visual items related to county history, in addition to educational programs and community meeting spaces.
Libraries and Historical Resources	Summer Learning Success	Summer Learning	Record-breaking participation in the library's Summer Learning initiative, which keeps children and adults engaged with learning and reading while school is out of session. Over 2.1 million minutes of reading were logged over the summer months. Meanwhile, over 800 programs were offered across the library system with over 25,000 participants.
Libraries and Historical Resources	One Book One Community Participation	One Book One Community continues to be a popular event and brings residents together through a shared book and related events.	Highest attendance ever for the library's One Book One Community events in March, with almost 1,700 attending the author's two presentations.
Libraries and Historical Resources	Library Journal Honorable Mention Award for Off the Page	Honorable Mention Award from <i>Library Journal</i> for the library system's Off the Page initiative.	In October 2025 the library system will receive an Honorable Mention Award from <i>Library Journal</i> for its Off the Page Program and related promotional activities. This award brings recognition to staff's efforts to promote the program following the devastating impact of Hurricane Milton.
Libraries and Historical Resources	Digital Library Card Application and Verification System	New digital library card system for residents to apply for a library card and receive instant verification regarding eligibility. For those who qualify, the account is issued instantly for immediate access to library resources.	Launch of the digital library card verification system makes it easier and more convenient to obtain a membership.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Libraries and Historical Resources	Historic Designation and Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Programs	Staff has made a concerted effort to promote the benefits of historic designation and ad valorem tax exemption programs.	Increased awareness of the benefits of these programs has resulted in more residents applying for historic designations and ad valorem tax exemptions. Ultimately, this protects Sarasota County's local heritage, while bringing financial relief to residents.
Libraries and Historical Resources	Memory Lab Launch	A pilot Memory Lab, which provides digitization equipment for the public, was launched at the History Center. Residents can now make appointments with staff, who will assist with digitizing letters, photographs, films, and other personal treasures.	The Memory Lab contributes to local historic preservation and provides new technologies to community members.
Libraries and Historical Resources	Libraries Supporting Tax Preparation and Voting	Libraries offered tax filing assistance to record numbers of residents, while also serving as early voting sites and polling places.	Libraries hosted tax filing assistance programs, early voting, and Election Day voting, providing valuable civic activities for the community and reaching thousands of residents.
Libraries and Historical Resources	Educational Assistance for Staff	Library staff were encouraged to take advantage of a tuition reimbursement program to fund continuing education activities.	Enhanced educational opportunities for staff resulted in improved recruitment and retention for the Libraries Department.

Successes - Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	<p>Completed Capital Improvement Projects, Park Improvement Projects and Celebrated Grand Openings</p>	<p>Held ribbon cutting at Potter Park for a pickleball improvement project.</p> <p>Held a ribbon cutting at Nokomis Community Park for a pickleball improvement project, including a connection to The Legacy Trail.</p> <p>Held a ribbon cutting ceremony for the grand reopening of the historic Phillippi Estate Farmhouse.</p> <p>Completed pickleball improvement project at Englewood Sports Complex.</p> <p>Completed Twin Lakes Park playground project.</p> <p>Collaborated with FDOT to hold a ribbon cutting for The Legacy Trail overpasses at Clark Rd. and Bee Ridge Rd.</p> <p>Celebrated a ground breaking ceremony to begin the constructions of improvements at Snook Haven Park.</p> <p>Completed accessibility improvements at Colonial Oaks Park.</p> <p>Held a ribbon cutting at Foxworthy Campus for a pickleball improvement project, including new restrooms and a walking trail.</p>	<p>Improved parks and amenities for citizens and visitors of Sarasota County which support the Parks Master Plan implementation.</p>
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	<p>Hosting of National and International Sporting Events</p>	<p>Hosted multiple events including Under 21 Croquet World Championships, International team BMX training, Sarasota Cup Soccer Tournament, International Canoe Federation Stand Up Paddleboard World Championships, Florida Scholastic Rowing Association Sculling and Sweeps Championships, and USRowing Youth National Championships.</p> <p>The total economic impact to Sarasota County from sports tourism events in FY25 exceeded \$111,800,000.</p>	<p>National and international sports events generate significant economic impact for Sarasota County, especially during low-tourism season. These events also create opportunities for local participation, enhancing quality-of-life for residents.</p>

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	South County Regional Park	Received Board approval for a new interlocal agreement for managing and operating designated regional parks in the City of Venice and conveyance and funding agreements for Wellfield Park.	Expansion of facilities and services to the community in South County and continued implementation of the Board approved Parks, Preserves, and Recreation Strategic Master Plan.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Community Needs Assessment Survey	Conducted a community needs assessment to gather input related to the current and future needs associated with programs, amenities and facilities. The survey was made available for the month of March and a total of 1,282 responses were received.	Respondents provided feedback on their levels of satisfaction with facilities, parks, programs, and overall offerings, as well as feedback regarding future needs and desires. The feedback collected assists staff with the prioritization of projects and long-term planning.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Reopened Turtle Beach Campground	After severe damage in the 2024 storm season, Turtle Beach Campground renovations were completed and fully reopened to the public.	Since the park was reopened, occupancy has been regularly over 90%. The high occupancy rate demonstrates the value and experience of camping within steps to the Gulf.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Partnering with Sarasota County School Board on Development of New Athletic Field Facilities	The opening of new lighted artificial turf multipurpose fields at Oak Park and Skye Ranch Schools.	Enhanced the availability of athletic field space for use by the community.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Sarasota County Tourist Development Fiscal Year 2025 Cultural/Arts Grants	Awarded the Sarasota County Tourist Development Fiscal Year 2025 Cultural/Arts Grant Agreements for 35 projects totaling \$2.1 M.	Provided support to local artists and organizations as well as expanded the community's access to cultural and artistic programs and diverse recreational opportunities.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Summer Camp	<p>Successfully planned and delivered diverse summer camp programs to 2,123 campers across 6 County sites and multiple specialty camp sites. Registration for summer camps sold out in minutes.</p> <p>For the first time the PRNR summer camp team held virtual parent orientation nights for each of the summer camp locations. Staff worked with the Communications Department to develop an informative video outlining the Parent Handbook.</p> <p>In partnership with Patterson Foundation, provided opportunities for summer reading opportunities through summer camp activities such as reading rooms stocked with books, reading rewards, crafts, and end of session reading celebration party. A total of \$18,000 was granted from the Patterson Foundation as part of the Suncoast Summer Reading Challenge for Summer 2025.</p>	<p>Summer camp offers quality, affordable and safe programming opportunities for community youth. Additionally, nearly \$65,000 was awarded in financial aid to camp families.</p>
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Memorandum of Understanding with the Florida Forest Service	<p>Completed an MOU with Florida Forest Service in a cooperative effort to share office space, equipment, tools, skills and abilities so the necessary land management activities can be completed at a reduced cost to both agencies.</p>	<p>Promotes resource efficiency, reduces costs, and enhances collaboration for land and resource management.</p>
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Sarasota County Code Amendments	<p>Amended Chapter 90 of the Sarasota County Code, relating to managing unauthorized commercial activity and updating delegation of authority for approval of fees for use of County parks.</p> <p>Amended Chapter 114, Article III of the Sarasota County Code, relating to the Tourist Development Plan and allocated funding for sports stadiums.</p>	<p>Enhanced the County's ability to manage public spaces, ensure responsible commercial activity in parks, and strategically allocate tourism funds to support sports stadiums, while promoting community access, sustainability, and economic growth.</p>
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Sandbag Operations for 2025 Storm Season	<p>Sandbagging operations were made available to the public pre-storm as part of the community's preparedness efforts in June, July, August and September.</p>	<p>Making sandbagging operations available to the public ahead of storms helped enhance community preparedness, reduce potential flood damage, and support a more effective emergency response.</p>

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	17th Street Regional Park	Began construction of the Athletic Complex at 17th Street Regional Park.	Improved parks and amenities for citizens and visitors of Sarasota County which support the Parks Master Plan implementation and expanded sports tourism within the County - a destination for world-class events and training.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Land Acquisition and Management Program	<p>Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program (ESLPP).</p> <p>PRNR acquired/protected nine properties in FY25: one as a conservation easement and eight as fee simple purchase(s), through the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program (ESLPP) and Neighborhood Parkland Program (NPP) that total 39.76 acres.</p> <p>33 land nominations were received, eight of which were ESLPP only, 11 of which were for NPP only, and 14 of which were nominated to both ESLPP and NPP.</p> <p>Nine properties are currently under contract and in the due diligence phase (27 acres).</p> <p>Four Work plans (Radnor, North County Waterfront, South County Waterfront, Pinebrook) were approved by the Board for future acquisition opportunities.</p>	The Sarasota County Land Acquisition and Management Program, which includes the Environmentally Sensitive Lands Protection Program (ESLPP) and the Neighborhood Parkland Program (NPP), protects water resources, native habitats, and listed species while preserving rural and low-impact agricultural lands. The program contributes to recharging groundwater and aquifers; creates floodplains and greenway corridors for wildlife and recreation; enhances species diversity; ensures community access and connectedness; provides water access opportunities; and preserves our cultural, historical, and natural resources.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	2024 Storm Season Recovery	<p>Assessed damage, cleared debris and reopened parks to the public after impacts from Hurricanes Helene and Milton.</p> <p>369 refunds totaling over \$74,871.26 processed for closures and cancellations due to storm-related damage and closures.</p> <p>Over 150 miles of trails and fire breaks cleared of storm debris and mitigated for wildfires.</p> <p>Reopened all beach parks with the exception of Caspersen Beach by spring 2025.</p>	Public park sites were promptly reopened to the public after damage was assessed, debris cleared and repairs completed following Hurricanes Helene and Milton, ensuring clean, safe and accessible parks to support community well-being.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Land Management of Invasive and Exotic Species	Treated over 900 acres of exotic and invasive plant species and removed over 1,800 invasive and exotic animal species.	Reduced negative impacts to natural resources such as destruction of native habitat, decreased invasive plant species spread and displacement of native animal species.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Agents of Discovery App and Program	In partnership with UF/IFAS, launched the Agents of Discovery Program at multiple park sites.	Provides an interactive way for families to turn screen time into nature-based missions that provide opportunities to explore the outdoors while learning and having fun.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	AmeriCorps Program	Eight AmeriCorps Volunteers completed four months of service with PRNR. During their service they assisted with storm recovery by focusing on clearing vegetation along 14 miles of fence lines and conducting wildland fire community outreach.	The work of the AmeriCorps Volunteers helped to reduce the risk of loss of life and property due to wildfires, enhance recreational opportunities, and enable prescribed burns that contribute to healthy and diverse habitats for plants and wildlife.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Awarded State Grants and Alternate Funding Support	Received notice of award and alternate funding for over \$2.8M million from local, state and federal agencies to support PRNR operations and projects.	The successful award of local, state, and federal grants and alternate funding significantly enhanced PRNR's capacity to implement identified plans, projects, and services, directly benefiting the community. This financial support not only boosts departmental resources but also strengthens overall public service delivery and infrastructure.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Board Assignments	Completed Board Assignments related to the City of Venice local funding agreement and the use of motorized watercraft at Ted Sperling Park at South Lido Beach.	Board Assignment reports are developed as a result of detailed research, data collection and analysis on a particular topic of interest. These reports provide information to the Board of County Commissioners and the public which helps build trust, improves decision making and can lead to more effective solutions.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Completed Projects In-house	Completed multiple projects in-house and in partnership with other departments resulting in significant cost savings to the taxpayers.	Measurable cost savings obtained by developing skills and completion of in-house projects.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Expanded the Holiday Community Events to South County	Held the first holiday community event at Englewood Sports Complex.	Expanded opportunities for the community and increased community engagement.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Intern Program	Continued participation in the internship program with 13 interns recruited to six of the seven PRNR divisions. Hosted the PRNR 101 Intern Meet and Greet at The Ridge Teen Center.	In summer 2025, 13 interns joined the PRNR team and gained professional skills and contributed to completion of a variety of programs and department goals. These interns are also now potential new PRNR employees.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Marine Turtle Tagging Program	The long-term Manasota Key marine turtle tagging project continued in 2025 with a total of 23 tagging team members, including 17 staff from Sarasota County Government and 6 trained volunteers.	The Marine Turtle Tagging Program supports marine turtle conservation efforts and promotes education about Florida's marine turtles.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Mid-County Regional Skate Park	Received Board direction to proceed with a public-private partnership to build a world-class skatepark in mid-county.	The potential partnership leverages private funding and expertise, reducing the burden on taxpayers while delivering a high-quality public amenity.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Park Standards and Site Development Guidelines	Continued the development of park standards and site development guidelines to be used for park improvement projects.	Standardized and streamlined the design, maintenance and procurement of park improvements.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Parks Staff Workdays	Hosted PRNR staff workdays at Knight Trail Park and Lakeview Park with 116 staff participating across the two events. Projects completed included removal of invasives, cleaning up of shooting range areas, painting, power-washing, refreshing mulch and shelled areas, and hauling away cut limbs and branches. Each workday also included an educational component so staff had the opportunity to learn about the site and the services offered to the community.	The Parks staff workdays provide an opportunity for staff to work together as a team to improve County parks, meet colleagues from different divisions, learn something new and visit a site they might not have been to before. Staff get to interact meaningfully with other PRNR team members that they don't normally work with to make improvements to a park location.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Accessibility Improvements in Parks	Continued progress and focus on the importance of accessibility within parks, including improvements identified within the PRNR ADA Transition Plan.	Parks continue to become more accessible for all users. Park staff have increased knowledge of the Americans with Disabilities Act and are better equipped to assist park patrons with disabilities.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Continued Implementation of Tree Planting in County Parks	Planted a total of 568 trees at multiple PRNR park sites, with 133 utilizing the County Reforestation Fund in FY25.	Expanded shoreline stabilization, water quality, climate control, beautification, environmental stewardship and benefit to overall reforestation efforts.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Hosted Multiple Community Special Events	<p>Hosted multiple events at park sites including signature events Fire Fest!, Big Truck Day, Sandy Claws Beach Run, and Merry Meals with Santa with an estimated 13,850 participants.</p> <p>In partnership with the Siesta Key Chamber of Commerce, Parks hosted the Annual Crystal Classic International Sand Sculpting Competition with over 20,000 paid attendees, 24 master sculptures and over 90 vendors.</p>	Expanded opportunities for the community and increased community engagement.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Partnerships	Successful partnerships with local nonprofit organizations to deliver community support and opportunities in the most effective and efficient manner.	Partnering with local nonprofit organizations enhances service delivery and community support.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Volunteer Program and Recognition	<p>Expanded the Beach Trifecta Volunteer event to South County.</p> <p>Organized 64 "Done in a Day" volunteer events with 2,316 volunteers at multiple locations.</p> <p>Hosted 2nd Annual Volunteer Luncheon for all PRNR volunteers.</p> <p>The Beach Ambassadors donated over 2,110 hours of their time in FY25.</p> <p>In FY25, over 167,650 total direct and indirect volunteer hours were shared with Sarasota County parks.</p>	In FY25 alone, the value of volunteer services within PRNR exceeded \$5,533,570 with a direct impact on the accomplishment of PRNR's mission.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Public Meetings for Park Improvement Projects	Hosted public meetings for 17th Street Regional Park, Red Rock Park and Pinecraft Park with over 130 registrants. Assisted with a public meeting for Alligator Creek.	Hosting public meetings for park projects allows community members and stakeholders to share input. It promotes transparency and fosters a sense of community ownership.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Received Multiple State and National Awards	<p>Siesta Beach was ranked the #1 beach in the U.S. and #4 in the world by TripAdvisor Travelers' Choice in 2025.</p> <p>Received an award from National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) in the category of Conservation for the Land Acquisition and Management Program Rebranding and Community Education Plan.</p> <p>Travel + Leisure's "World's 50 Best Beaches" report ranked Siesta Beach as the best beach in the United States, the 12th best beach in North America, and 42nd in the world. Siesta Beach was the only beach in the U.S. to make the global list.</p> <p>Received award from Florida Recreation and Park Association (FRPA) in the category of Voluntary Service Group for Friends of Lemon Bay Park.</p>	National and state-wide recognition for outstanding work by PRNR staff and our partners. Enhances economic impacts, public perception, and increases community engagement.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Sale of 1710 Vamo Drive	Received Board approval for the sale of 1710 Vamo Drive which is home to a historic one-story Mediterranean Revival residence (ca. 1925) to buyers who will restore and maintain it as a single-family residential structure.	This property is next to a county park with water access. With this agreement, the historic building will be cared for and local history preserved without any cost to taxpayers. The County will also retain the water-access park site which will remain open for the community to enjoy.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Spring Training Baseball in Sarasota County	Successfully held Major League Baseball (MLB) Spring Training season in partnership with Baltimore Orioles and Atlanta Braves.	Each year MLB Spring Training generates millions of dollars of economic impact for Sarasota County through tourism. In addition, fans of the Braves, Orioles and visiting teams are exposed to Sarasota County as a potential destination for future vacations, personal relocation and even business relocation.
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	T-REC Program	Together with our T-REC partners, the T-REC Program hosted 3-7 events per month including Glow Bingo Nights, a Holiday Party and the T-REC Prom, with an estimated 3,450 participants and volunteers.	Offering therapeutic recreation to special populations enhances physical, emotional, and social well-being by providing inclusive opportunities for skill development, stress relief, and connection with others.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Parks Recreation and Natural Resources	Twin Lakes Park Multipurpose Field	Transformed an underutilized baseball field at Twin Lakes Park into a multipurpose field that can be utilized for a wide variety of sports and uses with all work done in-house.	Created a more versatile open space to support a wider range of sports and activities in a cost-effective manner.

Successes - Planning and Development Services

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Planning and Development Services	PDS One Stop	PDS One Stop construction is nearing completion with an anticipated move-in during Winter 2025.	The new PDS One Stop will provide convenience to customers and allow more collaboration between teams to better serve customers.
Planning and Development Services	Successfully managed damage assessment for three storms	Successfully managed damage assessment and recovery for Debby, Milton, and Helene.	Three storms that made landfall in Sarasota County impacted many residents. Damage assessment and recover efforts were efficiently done and successfully met FEMA standards.
Planning and Development Services	Affordable Housing!	A presentation to the Board was presented by the chair of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee with recommendations to increase affordable housing options.	Creating opportunities for increased affordable housing options strengthens the community.
Planning and Development Services	Initiated Land Development Fee Study	Retained Consultant to Study Land Development Fees	Up-to-date fees recoup staff review and time.
Planning and Development Services	Plat Resolution to Meet State Mandates	R-25-138 authorizes the County Administrator or Designee authorization to administratively approved Final Plats as required per state statute.	Meets state statute. Reduces approval timelines.
Planning and Development Services	Update CAP (Critical Area Plan) Process	Reviewed and presented recommendations to the Board to update the CAP process and guiding ordinance/resolution. Key focus areas: 1. Advertising 2. Scope of Work 3. CAP Formal Process.	The review and presentation provided an overview of the potential enhancements to the CAP process to make it more streamlined and to make it a more effective planning tool.
Planning and Development Services	Expedited Storm Related Building Permits	Increase in storm-related building permits of approx. 8,200 since August 2024 along with related Building and Flood reviews and Building inspections on those permits. These were in addition to the regular building permits during that period.	Assisted in the recovery of the community after multiple storms impacted Sarasota County.
Planning and Development Services	Milestone Inspections	County required to track and administer state-mandated program for structural (milestone) inspections on all condo buildings 3 or more stories.	Ensuring the safety of residents by identifying and tracking the submittals of required milestone inspection reports.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Planning and Development Services	Streamline Licensing	Evaluation and revamping the contractor licensing processes to streamline the process and enhance responsiveness to the customer.	Additional FTE position to provide a physical licensing presence in both county office locations, address licensing backlog, and enhance our ability to dramatically improve customer satisfaction.
Planning and Development Services	Impact Fee Technical Report Update	Completed the Impact Fee study and preparing to present the Impact Fee Technical Report to the Board.	Provided the Board with a comprehensive, data-driven analysis of infrastructure funding needs tied to development growth.
Planning and Development Services	2025 Mobility Fee Annual Fee Rate Increase	Executed the approved annual increase to the Mobility fee rate.	Demonstrated commitment to transparent and responsible fee management.
Planning and Development Services	2024 Annual Impact Fee Report	Prepared and circulated the Annual Impact Fee Report to stakeholders.	Provided stakeholders with clear and detailed information on impact fee collections and expenditures, facilitating informed decision-making and effective oversight through transparent reporting.
Planning and Development Services	Impact Fee Administration Manual	Authored and finalized a new Impact Fee Administration Manual.	Enhanced documentation to ensure regulatory compliance and audit preparedness, while promoting transparency and accountability in fee collection and management.
Planning and Development Services	Neighborhood Initiative Grant Program (NIGP) Cycle 38	15 Applications for NIGP Cycle 38 have commenced with their neighborhood projects. The total funding awarded for this cycle was \$98,978.20.	The NIGP provides the opportunity and means for neighbors to collaborate on projects that will enhance their community and instill a sense of neighborhood pride. Projects can fall under the following categories: Character, Environment, Safety, Health, and Leadership.
Planning and Development Services	Helping Hands Grant Program Launch	The Helping Hands Grant Program, officially approved on August 26th, is a new initiative of Neighborhood Services designed to infuse \$227,582 of Lien Amnesty funds into neighborhoods.	The intent is to deter code enforcement infractions from occurring by encouraging community building, neighborhood pride, educating residents on common code enforcement violations, and providing financial support through non-matching grants.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Planning and Development Services	Kensington Park Playground Ground-Breaking and Construction	March 13th, 2025 marked the official Kensington Park Playground Ground-Breaking. The new park has reached substantial completion and is anticipated to open in October 2025.	Kensington Park playground is a Capital Improvement Project that came directly from the Kensington Park Neighborhood Plan. This project is the culmination of several years of partnership with the Kensington Park neighborhood. This playground will provide a community recreational area as well as sense of placemaking for the community.
Planning and Development Services	Code Enforcement Zones	Evaluated enforcement zones based on types of violations, number of violations, land area, and demographic changes and updated strategies to improve education and compliance.	Several zones were adjusted to provide better, quicker service and reduced staff travel time to reactive and proactive complaints. Understanding what types of violations exist in specific neighborhoods allows for a more focused educational approach in deterring future violations.
Planning and Development Services	Code Enforcement Short Course and Officer Safety Course	Provided the Code Enforcement Short Course and Officer Safety Course for field staff to learn the essentials of proper noticing, testifying, trespassing rules, and legalities of code enforcement. The training focused on Officer safety while conducting the necessary tasks to gain compliance.	The Code Enforcement Short Course provides education to code enforcement staff so that all legal requirements are met, per Florida Statutes. The Officer Safety Course brings awareness and highlights safety tips and protocol while conducting inspections out in the field.
Planning and Development Services	Community Clean Ups	Provided community clean ups to enhance safety, health, and welfare in communities.	A total of 10 Community Clean Ups were be conducted in various neighborhoods to eliminate junk/trash/debris, white goods, tires, and yard waste. A total of 183 tons of debris was removed from neighborhoods as of September 2025. The events allow opportunities for staff to educate citizens on codes and regulations.
Planning and Development Services	Illegal Sign Removal	Removed illegal signs in the right-of-way	Staff have removed over 10,000 illegal signs from the right-of-way. This provides for an aesthetically pleasing and safer community.
Planning and Development Services	Lien Search Requests	Provide lien search requests for citizens, businesses, including title companies.	A total of 5,004 lien search requests were conducted by Code Enforcement Administrative staff, as of August 31, 2025. This ensures citizens and businesses are provided up-to-date information on existing liens, which can result in payoff letters being provided and liens paid.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Planning and Development Services	Completed Shoreline Hardening Inventory	Updated the Gulf of Mexico shoreline hardening inventory previously conducted in the 1980s, 90s, early 2000s, and 2016.	As the county and other local governments consider shoreline management with policy and projects, it is important to consider the potential results. Shoreline hardening disrupts the natural sand transport process and results in the loss of dry sandy beaches and the associated recreational and habitat values. Alternatives to hardening include elevating or relocating structures and beach restoration/nourishment that maintains the sandy shoreline and reduces risk to upland infrastructure. This study frames these issues and trends.
Planning and Development Services	Launched a New GIS-Based Tracking and Reporting System for NPDES	Collaborating with GIS staff, a cloud-based inspection form was developed that compiles the information and photos from the inspection to an auto-generated report, with mapping of each site.	Inspection information doesn't have to be logged in the office, it's done during the inspection. The photos are added and the record is available on a GIS map. This saves time and results in more consistent outcomes with better tracking.
Planning and Development Services	Launched a Volunteer Opportunity to Assist with Records Digitization	Worked with HR and EIT, launched and recruited for a volunteer to assist the team with records digitization in anticipation of moving to the One Stop.	Significant progress was made to manage and digitize PDS records in advance of the move to the PDS One Stop.
Planning and Development Services	New Pass Dredging	Working with the City of Sarasota and Army Corps of Engineers, processed the necessary documents to put New Pass dredge spoils on Lido Key.	Improved navigation in the channel and restoration of Lido Key beaches. Construction is anticipated this winter.
Planning and Development Services	Evaluated Property Management Technology Capabilities	Evaluated current Property Management technology capabilities and researched best practices for available software.	The evaluation allowed staff to review and see what technology is available to assist in the tracking and processing of real estate transactions for the County.
Planning and Development Services	Determined Level of Service for Englewood CRA Assets	An evaluation was completed to determine the level of service that the Englewood CRA will need after sunseting in 2029.	The evaluation provided a baseline for maintaining the improvements that have been completed within the Englewood CRA.

Successes - Public Utilities

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Public Utilities	Implement Heritage Oaks Lift Station Risks Assessment	Completed the site layout, construction, and installation of a backup diesel-powered pumping unit.	The Heritage Oaks location offers enhanced reliability and redundancy, addressing concerns raised by reports of structural flooding.
Public Utilities	Siesta Key Wastewater Collection Level of Service	Completed a wastewater collection system model calibration for Siesta key and examined areas to define the level of service desired for the collection system. Provided a report for Administration to review.	Creating a standard level of service supporting resiliency within our collection system.
Public Utilities	Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG)	Prevented over 18 Million Gallons of grease laden waste from entering our sewer collection system since program inception	This improves reliability of our wastewater system and prevents Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs).
Public Utilities	On-Boarded Air release Valve (ARV) Team	Assembled and trained an internal team after the handoff from Hazen. Prepared Internal Team to do inspection routes and assessments.	This initiative will help drive down Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs) by establishing best management practices for ARV maintenance.
Public Utilities	Carlton Grounding and Electrical Study	Reviewed grounding and electrical issues which could result in a loss of motors. Provided a contractor report to the Director.	Provides next steps to ensure longevity of our electrical equipment at our main water treatment plant.
Public Utilities	I-75 Potable Water Tank Upgrades	Completed the installation of in-tank mixer and controls, and the ability to boost chemicals at Elevated Tank #1 (off Lakewood Ranch Blvd. next to I-75) to make using the tank more efficient in our system.	Allows for operational adjustments and enhancements to the distribution system in preparation for the Manatee County contract expiration.
Public Utilities	Venice Gardens Groundbreaking	Kicked off the Venice Gardens Wastewater Treatment AWT project going from a 3 MGD facility to 6 MGD, while maintaining existing operations.	Moving forward with the second wastewater facility to advance wastewater treatment level to accomplish boards direction to have all three facilities to AWT level.
Public Utilities	Staffing Optimization	Re-Organization of Public Utilities completed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Added Skilled Trades Worker III classification (STWIII) Internal Promotion Rate was 20% 	Provides for staff retention and succession planning into the future.
Public Utilities	Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Training & Certification	Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt Training & Certification was conducted on-site by the USF Corporate Training & Professional Education division.	Creating a culture of continuous improvement.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Public Utilities	National Recognition for Bee Ridge AWT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Envision Gold Award • ASCE Article 	Boosting our organizations creditability, visibility, and moral.
Public Utilities	Financial Stability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintained AA+ Bond rating with S&P and Fitch • Venice Garden Bond Offering (\$143M) 	Lower borrowing costs for the rate payers
Public Utilities	Continuous Service Availability	Returning service back on to the barrier islands after two major hurricanes.	Ensuring health and safety for our residents.
Public Utilities	Peace River 3C Potable Water Line	Commissioned a 42" line that spans over 7.3 miles within Sarasota County to provide water to the northeastern region of the county.	Future redundancy and resiliency for the regional water supply.

Successes - Solid Waste
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Solid Waste	Solid Waste Program Metrics	Solid Waste programs provide a high level of service to the community.	Approximately 52,486 lbs. of household hazardous waste have been diverted from landfill disposal through The Re-Uz-It Shop (as of September). Approximately 31,593 tons of recyclables have been collected and diverted from landfill disposal (as of September). Conducted 704 compliance assistance visits to businesses for hazardous waste, recycling, waste reduction opportunities (as of September). Processed 116,043 customers at the Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex (as of August). 325,881 tons of Solid Waste was managed at the Central County Solid Waste Disposal Complex (as of August). Volunteers for Keep Sarasota County Beautiful (KSCB) contributed 1,078 hours in total for KSCB events with a total of 504 trash bags and 144 recycling bags (as of August).
Solid Waste	Solid Waste Community Outreach	Solid Waste builds community by providing a high level of direct, in-person education and outreach to the community.	Solid Waste staff attended 9 education related presentations and/or community booths and interacted with approximately 1,570 student and adult residents and visitors (as of June).
Solid Waste	Solid Waste Industry Advancement	Solid Waste builds the industry and professional competence by serving in professional organizations, staying informed of best practices and comparable facility operations, and presenting at industry seminars and events.	Solid Waste staff serve in professional organizations and participates in the Solid Waste Association of North America Advanced Research Foundation and the Hinkley Center for Solid and Hazardous Waste in support of solid waste research. Solid Waste staff toured comparable facilities and presented at professional events for SWANA (Solid Waste Association of North America), Waste Expo, and NAHMMA (North American Hazardous Materials Management Association).

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Solid Waste	Solid Waste Franchise Collection Service Transition	<p>Solid Waste provides residential franchised collection service of garbage, recycling, and yard waste for unincorporated Sarasota County.</p> <p>Solid Waste also provides franchised commercial garbage collection service under the same agreement. Two service providers are employed serving an equally divided district into service areas (north and south).</p>	<p>Automated residential curbside collection service has been added for garbage, mirroring the collection of curbside recycle service. Each residence received one cart for collection service. The resulting transition provides a more efficient and safe service as well as a clean aesthetic curbside. Residents are able to use their old garbage container for collection of yard waste. The transition to two service providers is an added contingency for collection services during storm events.</p>

Successes - Stormwater
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Stormwater	Incentive Rebate Program – Demonstration BMPs	Final draft plan completed in collaboration with multiple departments. Participants expressed strong support and positive feedback throughout the process.	Provides a public education opportunity by showcasing demonstration Best Management Practices (BMPs) at accessible facilities such as libraries and parks.
Stormwater	Billing & Assessments (B&A) Group Achievements	Completed Phase II of the Database Project, presented the system at the annual FFMA conference, and submitted TRIM notice export files to the Property Appraiser’s office on time despite significant external challenges.	Enables customized reporting for leadership, improves data accuracy to ensure equitable property assessments, and ensures legal compliance through timely TRIM submissions.
Stormwater	Regulatory Review Performance	Since January, staff have completed 322 development reviews, 263 land-use petition reviews, and 1,532 CFHA reviews.	Delivers exceptional, resource-aligned county services that support responsible development.
Stormwater	Staffing Success – Open Positions Filled	Watershed Engineering vacancies were successfully filled; new staff are trained and actively contributing to assignments.	Strengthens the county’s workforce and supports a high-performing, resilient team.
Stormwater	Environmental Recertifications	Staff completed 45 Environmental Resource Permit recertifications since January to ensure stormwater infrastructure remains functional.	Promotes safety and resilience by maintaining county infrastructure essential for a secure place to live, work, and play.
Stormwater	Basin Model Maintenance	Updated county basin models with new development data and uploaded them to the county FTP site for use by developers. Models are also integrated into watershed management plans and CRS program activities.	Supports compliance with comprehensive planning requirements and provides reliable technical resources for both county planning and the development community.
Stormwater	Pre-Hurricane Season Community Outreach	Conducted presentations at two community meetings and staffed booths at three hurricane expos across all five major watersheds in May 2025.	Engaged more than 500 residents, answering questions and educating the public on stormwater services, projects, funding, and preparedness measures.
Stormwater	Stormwater Workshops with County Commission	Held four public workshops with the Commission to review the 2024 storm season response, ongoing services, regulatory proposals, maintenance levels of service, and budget planning.	Reached a broad audience through in-person attendance and livestreams; outcomes included initiation of a new maintenance level of service, creation of a Stormwater department, and hiring of a Stormwater Director.

Successes - Transit
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transit	Grant Close-Outs	Breeze closed a total of six grants in FY 25.	Closing out old grants provides a clean slate for financial audits, as well as opportunities for new grants.
Transit	College Partnerships	Collaborated with University of South Florida Sarasota Manatee (USFSM), New College, and Ringling College to develop marketing materials and a media release promoting free rides and 20-minute frequency on Route 99. Each school was provided with posters and a graphic for informational monitor displays. Geofencing was set up around the school perimeters, triggering a 30-second video advertisement as "pre-roll" within the YouTube and similar platforms. Exhibited at two USFSM student information events.	Partnerships with colleges offer opportunities to expand public transit awareness amongst students to encourage ridership. The programs also increased collaboration between Breeze and several colleges, opening up pathways for future joint projects.
Transit	Rebranding	Continuing to update all facilities, vehicles, and materials with the Breeze brand while fully retiring SCAT. This effort supports a unified identity and improved public perception. Individual rebranding projects that were completed during FY 25 were the Cattleman Station and Breeze Admin Building.	The rebranding establishes a fresh new look and promotes transit in a positive way.
Transit	Launch of Updated Technology Systems	Various software and hardware systems implemented onboard vehicles, in admin and maintenance facilities, and online for customers.	New systems have led to greater efficiency, better safety, and more convenience for customers.
Transit	Bus Operator and Mechanic Staffing	Staffing levels have improved sufficiently from prior years to avoid route closures due to shortages, marking a significant improvement from chronic understaffing issues that were present in previous years.	The reduction of understaffing issues has allowed for more efficient operation of buses, better proactive maintenance routines, and less strain on employees in fulfilling their duties.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transit	Emergency Evacuation Leadership	In recent emergency events such as storms, Breeze took the lead in evacuating Sarasota County citizens from hazardous areas. The agency transported hundreds of evacuees to safety.	The capacity for Breeze to move large numbers of people in difficult circumstances provided Sarasota County residents the means to escape from danger in several emergency events. Breeze continues to provide this capacity to Sarasota County for future events. Breeze completed over 1700 evacuation trips in response to Hurricane Milton.
Transit	More Compliments than Complaints for Service	In the past, the agency had received more complaints than compliments, but recently the proportion was reversed, and more positive feedback was received than negative from the public. This was the result of general improvements in Breeze services, equipment and facilities, as well as a greater emphasis on customer service and enhanced training.	Improving transit service and the customer experience generates public goodwill as well as potentially better ridership. Better employee-public interactions leads to a safer and more productive environment, and less disruption to transit operations.
Transit	Marketing Objectives	Breeze's marketing objectives include: raising awareness of local public transportation service, increasing knowledge about geographic access to public transportation, and increasing positive perceptions of public transit.	From November 2023 to November 2024, community awareness of Breeze Transit increased from 75% to 91%. Correct identification of living within ½ mile of transit service increased from 50% to 61%, and positive community perceptions of local transit increased from 47% to 52%, with a 9% increase among non-riders.
Transit	5-Year Fixed Route Fleet Replacement Plan	Breeze is actively advancing its 5-year replacement plan to modernize its fleet by acquiring new buses to replace vehicles that have exceeded their intended service life. This initiative involved thoughtful planning to identify the most suitable vehicle types and configurations, as well as productive collaboration with manufacturers to secure the right solutions.	Keeping the Breeze fleet up to date maintains safety for riders and the general public, reduces maintenance costs and environmental costs, and promotes a positive rider experience on newer vehicles.
Transit	Expanded Service Area	Breeze increased its fixed route service area by extending Route 77 into downtown Sarasota, extending Route 76 onto Palm Ave. extension, and adding a loop to Route 3 on the northside of Fruitville Rd. Breeze also extended the OnDemand zone to include a Walmart location in Charlotte county in October 2024 based on rider demand.	Expanded service allows more residents and visitors to use Breeze transit services, and generates a larger and more effective network for current riders.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transit	Change Management and Process Improvements	Continued change management in the department with process improvements, employee growth and development, business analytics, and strategic thinking. Examples include more streamlined fixed route signup processes, more effective and regular inter-division communication, providing new training opportunities for bus operators as well as office staff, making greater use of analytics platforms like Power BI to help automate departmental data collection and reporting, increasing time for long term strategic thinking for the department while gaining greater input from across the department on strategic goals and direction.	Departmental restructuring and better processes has contributed to better organizational efficiency and effectiveness, better team cohesion, more informed and precise operational decision making, and safer operations.
Transit	Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Drug and Alcohol audit	FTA audited records and policies to ensure compliance with federal standards.	Successfully completed drug and alcohol audit, ensuring continued eligibility for federal funding.
Transit	Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Triennial	Breeze completed the FTA triennial review of award management and program implementation practices within 23 review areas.	Underwent a successful review process, ensuring good standing with FTA and eligibility for future grant funding.
Transit	Transit Development Plan (TDP) Major Update	The Sarasota County Breeze TDP Major Update has been completed and submitted to the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) in compliance with Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.) 14-73.001.	The TDP serves as a strategic plan for the next 10 years and allows Sarasota County to maintain its eligibility to receive public transit grant funds from FDOT.
Transit	Solar Lighting	To enhance the customer experience, 26 solar powered lights were installed at existing bus shelters with high ridership numbers.	Visibility and safety were improved by installing solar powered lights in bus shelters.
Transit	OnDemand Fares	In July 2025, Sarasota County introduced a new distance-based fare structure for its OnDemand transit service, replacing the previous flat rate. The updated model sets fares between \$3 and \$6 per ride, depending on trip length, and was designed to balance community needs with transit resources.	While ridership saw a slight decline (15%) in the first few months following implementation, revenue has increased by 54%, based on a comparison of average ridership and fare totals for the two months before and after the fare change was implemented. The updated fare system balances affordability with responsible resource management, helping ensure continued access to convenient and affordable transportation across Sarasota county.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transit	Grant Awards	Breeze was awarded three new grants in FY25: Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) Service Development Grant for the 77 Islander Extension, FDOT Corridor Grant for Route 99, and the Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program (HLMP) to harden the roof of the Transit Administration building.	The Service Development Grant for the 77 Islander Extension provides a connection for riders between Siesta Key and Downtown Sarasota. In July 2025 the funding from the FDOT Corridor Grant for Route 99 allowed the route to become fare free, aligning with the free fares offered by MCAT. The HLMP award will provide funding to harden the Transit Administration building roof to withstand a higher wind rating ensuring Breeze can fulfill its critical role during emergencies.
Transit	Countywide Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Training Program in Transit	In August 2025, Breeze hired a CDL trainer to launch the countywide CDL training program.	This program allows the County to be better stewards of public funds by keeping training investments within the organization recognizing the high standard of CDL training established by the Transit Department, resulting in cost savings. Additionally, managing the training internally enables us to respond more quickly and effectively to departmental needs by providing more flexibility.
Transit	Urbanized Area (UZA) Split resolution with Manatee County Area Transit (MCAT)	In FY 2025, Breeze finalized a UZA split resolution with MCAT, establishing a new funding agreement for Section 5307 formula grants. The agreement outlines a phased approach to restore equitable funding, with Breeze receiving 55% of the allotted funding in 2024, 60% in 2025, and full alignment with the Federal Transit Administration(FTA) formula beginning in 2026.	This agreement ensures Breeze receives a fair share of FTA funding, allowing for better resource allocation and expanded transit services. This revised agreement will help to offset past funding disparities and support improved service delivery for the public.
Transit	Florida Public Transportation Association Marketing Award	In September 2025, Breeze received the Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA) award for Best Ridership or Sales Marketing among Class II agencies. The submission showcased a comprehensive compilation of Breeze's rebranding efforts, including updated visuals across all Breeze products, including buildings, bus stop signs, vehicles, shelters and transfer stations.	Receipt of this award recognized Breeze Transit's commitment to results-driven marketing that supports ridership growth and community engagement. Earning this award not only validates the effectiveness of the rebranding campaign, but also elevates the agency's reputation among peer agencies, stakeholders, and our riders as a leader in public transportation.

Successes - Transportation
2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	River Road South Right-of-Way Map	Maintained right-of-way map for River Road (Winchester Boulevard to Pine Street) approved by the Board on August 26, 2025, and filed in the public record.	Ensures public use rights, clarifies maintenance responsibilities, and supports future development and expansion.
Transportation	Knights Trail Road Right-of-Way Designation	On May 6, 2025, the Board reclassified a roadway within county-owned property to public right-of-way for Knights Trail Road (Rustic Road to future Lorraine Road).	Grants FPL rights to install infrastructure needed to power the Sarasota County Regional Fire Academy Facility, advancing a key Capital Improvement Project.
Transportation	“Easy Button” Design-Build Contracting	Drafted a scope of services modeled on FDOT’s Design-Build process and submitted it to the Director.	Though the FDOT model was not feasible, the process identified legal and operational constraints and resulted in a workable Horizontal CMAR alternative, expanding flexible, legally sound project delivery options.
Transportation	Laurel Road Widening	Secured a \$16M state-funded grant agreement, approved by the BCC and FDOT, for the Laurel Road widening project.	Expands roadway capacity to reduce current congestion and accommodate future traffic demand.
Transportation	Manasota Beach Road P3 Agreement	The board approved an unsolicited P3 agreement to design, permit, and construct a 2.1-mile two-lane roadway and reconfigure 0.6 miles east of SR 776 with multimodal improvements.	Creates a new multimodal corridor connecting River Road and US 41, improving bicycle, pedestrian, and vehicular mobility and linking with Wellen Park’s roadway facilities.
Transportation	Midnight Pass Monitoring & Surveying	Launched and sustained a weekly field-monitoring program at Midnight Pass beginning in October 2024, documenting shoreline conditions, channel morphology, and adjacent beach/dune changes.	Data shows Midnight Pass has remained open for 11+ months, now classified as a migrating channel. Results strengthen justification for preservation efforts and provide early warnings for potential emergency actions.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	Expansion of Countywide Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Network	<p>Sarasota County successfully integrated three new corridors into its ITS network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue Lake Road (Sarasota Center Blvd → Lorraine Rd) • Bahia Vista Street (City limits → Cattlemen Rd) • Center Road (US 41 → Rockley Blvd) <p>This expansion extends traffic signal interconnectivity, communications infrastructure, and system monitoring capabilities, bringing additional roadway miles under centralized management.</p>	By extending the ITS network, the County enhanced real-time traffic management, improved corridor safety, and increased responsiveness to congestion and incidents.
Transportation	Deployment of 10 Permanent Traffic Count Stations	Sarasota County installed 10 new permanent count stations, expanding the countywide traffic monitoring network.	The expanded permanent count network strengthens the County's ability to track traffic growth, evaluate roadway performance, and prioritize capital investments.
Transportation	ATMS Network Upgrade: 1 Gbps Switch Deployment at All County Intersections	The Transportation department completed a systemwide upgrade of its Advanced Traffic Management System (ATMS) network by replacing legacy 100 Mbps Ethernet switches with new 1 Gbps units at every County-managed intersection. This modernization significantly increased bandwidth capacity, improved system stability, and prepared the network for future technology integration.	The upgrade enhances real-time data transfer for traffic signal operations, video feeds, and field device communications, resulting in more reliable signal coordination and faster incident response.
Transportation	Fiber Hub Cabinet Power Resiliency Upgrade Using Surplus UPS Units	The Transportation department repurposed surplus uninterrupted power supply (UPS) equipment to upgrade fiber hub cabinets across the ITS network. This initiative extended the backup runtime of key communication nodes, ensuring that critical traffic management infrastructure remains operational during power outages.	By leveraging surplus equipment, the County improved system resiliency and continuity of operations at minimal cost.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	Replacement of UPS Units and CCTV Cameras	The Transportation department replaced more than 50 uninterrupted power supply (UPS) units and over 20 closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras that were either storm-damaged or at end of life. This effort restored critical field infrastructure and ensured system reliability across the Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) network.	The replacements improved network resiliency, enhanced traffic monitoring coverage, and reduced the risk of service interruptions during severe weather and daily operations.
Transportation	Roadway and Right-of-Way Maintenance Achievements	The Transportation department completed extensive maintenance activities to improve roadway conditions and public safety, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repair of 3,482 potholes • Removal and replacement of 28,081 square feet of damaged sidewalk • Mowing of 3,130 acres of roadway right-of-way <p>These efforts reflect the Transportation Department's ongoing commitment to sustaining critical transportation infrastructure and public spaces.</p>	By addressing roadway and sidewalk deficiencies, the Transportation department improved mobility, enhanced safety for pedestrians and drivers, and reduced long-term repair costs.
Transportation	Promotion of Scotti Pieper to Crew Lead	The Transportation department promoted Scotti Pieper to Crew Lead, recognizing strong performance, technical skills, and leadership potential.	The promotion strengthens team supervision, improves efficiency in daily operations, and provides staff with a clear point of leadership in the field.
Transportation	Leadership Promotions in Traffic Operations	The Transportation department advanced three employees into key leadership and planning roles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Locke promoted to Traffic Operations Manager • Mason Becker promoted to Signs and Markings Supervisor • Jenny Rodriguez Mendez promoted to BP II Planner, Traffic Operations <p>These promotions reflect recognition of employee expertise, dedication, and leadership potential, while aligning staff talent with The Transportation department's operational and planning priorities.</p>	Strengthening leadership within Traffic Operations improves decision-making, enhances service delivery, and builds capacity to manage a growing and complex transportation network.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	Traffic Operations Department Achieves 100% CPR/AED Certification	The Transportation department ensured that every member of the Traffic Operations team received training and certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillator (AED) use.	With full CPR/AED certification, The Transportation department is better equipped to respond to medical emergencies in the field, office, or public settings.
Transportation	Chainsaw Safety and Operations Training Program	The Transportation department created and implemented a chainsaw training program to provide County departments with standardized instruction on the safe and proper use of chainsaws.	This initiative improved safety by reducing the risk of accidents and equipment damage, while also enhancing the speed and effectiveness of response during emergencies.
Transportation	Traffic Operations Production and Service Achievements	The department's Traffic Operations teams delivered significant output in 2024: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Sign Team completed 4,009 tasks • The Signal Team completed 2,624 tasks Melvin fabricated nearly 2,000 new traffic signs to support safety and mobility across the county road network.	These accomplishments highlight the department's commitment to timely, efficient service and roadway safety.
Transportation	Creation of Meadowood Street Non-Ad Valorem Lighting District	Following a citizen-led petition, the Transportation Department successfully established a new non-ad valorem lighting district for Meadowood Street residents. This process included coordinating with property owners, preparing legal and financial frameworks, and ensuring compliance with assessment and service standards.	The new district improves the roadway and the neighborhood by enhancing residents' overall quality of life. The citizen-driven approach reflects strong community engagement, while the non-ad valorem structure ensures equitable and sustainable funding. This initiative demonstrates the Transportation Department's ability to partner with residents to deliver tailored infrastructure solutions that support safety and livability.
Transportation	Manasota Beach Road Bridge Grant	Received notice of \$6M Grant award from FHWA and \$3M allocation of Resilient SRQ funds for Manasota Key Bascule Bridge Rehabilitation.	Provides needed funding to complete the bridge rehabilitation project to provide safe and dependable infrastructure on a hurricane evacuation route for County residents and visitors.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	Safe Streets For All Safety Action Plan (SS4A)	Completed the Safe Streets for All Safety Action Plan that qualifies the County for Federal project funding to implement multi-modal roadway safety improvements.	Development of a plan to improve the safety of the higher accident and crash rates on the County throughfare system. This plan will allow the County to apply for federal funding to complete the safety improvement projects.
Transportation	South River Road Grant Funding	Board approved \$40M of Resilient SRQ funding for the widening of South River Road.	Expands roadway capacity to reduce current congestion and accommodate future traffic demand on an underperforming hurricane evacuation route.
Transportation	County-wide Maintenance of Traffic Services	The Transportation signs team assisted in the safe setup and breakdown of over 50 MOT/TTC plans for Field Services and other departments	Provides critical internal assistance for peer departments to expedite projects within the transportation right of way safely, protecting workers and the traveling public.
Transportation	Blue Sky Sandbag Events	Transportation staff coordinated the events and operated 2 of 3 County locations that provided sandbags to County residents on 4 separate blue sky events.	This provided residents to obtain sandbags during a low stress, non-storm related event to prepare for future storm or flooding events.
Transportation	Plat approvals for Development	Transportation staff reviewed, provided initial approval, and submitted 6 new development plats to OCA for BCC Approval.	Provides the basis for tax growth based on new development for the County. This allows for properties to be sold and added to the tax roles.
Transportation	First Graduate of Reinitiated Professional Engineering Development Program	Crystal Miller received her PE, graduated from the PEDP program, and started a new Professional Engineering position in Transportation/ Stormwater.	The PEDP program has been a huge success for the development of high performing county engineers and leaders since its original inception. After several years of hiatus, the program was reinitiated in 2020. Graduating the first member of this new PEDP group of employees is a major milestone to provide long term expertise and succession planning for County staff.
Transportation	Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents	County Engineer, Spencer Anderson, was elected as treasurer to the Board of Florida Association of County Engineers and Road Superintendents.	Staff participation in professional organizations encourages professional development, networking and opportunity to share the County's success and challenges with peers to bring back new information and techniques to the County for consideration and implementation.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	American Public Works Association Emerging Leaders Program	Crystal Miller was selected for the APWA Emerging Leaders Program.	The APWA emerging leaders program is very selective and only has 35 members per year, nationwide. Participation in such will further develop Crystal as a current and future leader in the County.
Transportation	Leadership Sarasota	Spencer Anderson was a selected member and graduate of the 2025 leadership sarasota program administered by the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce.	Participation in Leadership Sarasota encourages professional development, networking and opportunity to share the County's successes and challenges with peers to bring back new information and techniques to the County for consideration and implementation.
Transportation	Manasota Key Road Permanent Repair Project	The Board adopted a LAP project with FDOT for the redesign of a 2,400-foot section of Manasota Key Road damaged by Hurricanes Helene and Milton, in the amount of \$572,239.00. This project will provide a long-term sustainable road design for this segment of road that has been washed out and repaired 3 times in the last 10 years.	The process with FHWA will provide funding for the reconstruction of this susceptible roadway, which will provide long-term reliability and safety to a hurricane evacuation route.
Transportation	Phillippi and Vamo Sidewalks Project	The Board authorized a contract for design of the Phillippi and Vamo Sidewalks project, in an amount not to exceed \$449,759.00.	Expansion of the County sidewalk system in these neighborhoods has been a long-standing infrastructure improvement and is programmed in Surtax. Construction will follow and provide new, safer routes to schools once completed.
Transportation	Keyway Road Right of Way Acquisition	The Board approved the purchase of property located at 650 E Keyway Road, Englewood, PID #0482003020, in the amount of \$300,000.00	Acquisition of this property at the excellent value will allow for the long term execution of the County Roadway Thoroughfare plan.
Transportation	Palmer Blvd and Apex Road Roundabout	The Board authorized construction of contract with Halfacre Construction Company, for the roundabout at Palmer Boulevard and Apex Road, in an amount not to exceed \$8,127,735.40.	Construction of this roundabout will provide for increased capacity with needed safety improvements at the subject intersection while supporting access to the new adjacent County facilities.
Transportation	I-75 Gateway Features	Transportation provided a presentation to the Board on various concepts and cost estimates of potential gateway features into the County along I75.	The gateway initiative was initiated several years ago to help welcome I75 travellers into Sarasota County. While the Board decided to not proceed with this current effort, the information provides a baseline for future decision making.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	Myakka Road Culvert Replacement	The Board approved an interlocal agreement with Manatee County to share in the cost of replacing a damaged culvert on Myakka Road, which straddles the Sarasota/Manatee County line. The road had been narrowed to one lane following the 2024 hurricane season. The work has been completed, and the road is restored to a safe operating condition.	This interlocal agreement solved challenges for both Sarasota and Manatee Counties. Manatee County executed the work with oversight from Sarasota County. This was a productive relationship with the sister County that should foster positive future collaborative efforts.
Transportation	US41 Landscape Improvements	The Board approved execution of a Landscape Maintenance and Installation Agreement with the State of Florida Department of Transportation, for the installation of native landscaping improvements along US 41, from McIntosh Road to Bay Street.	Adjacent residents have long requested that US41 be landscaped in this location. This will beautify US41, a major arterial in the County.
Transportation	North Casey Key Road Emergency Construction	The Board approved the execution of a construction contract to replace the sections of North Casey Key Road that were destroyed during the 2024 hurricane season. This project will reconstruct the road with a seawall to provide more resilient protection and long-term service and reliability.	This road has been an ongoing safety and maintenance issue for the local residents and visitors to North Casey Key. Following its complete destruction during the 2024 Storm season, reconstructing it in a more resilient manner was necessary to provide safety and security of a reliable public road.
Transportation	Hi Hat Ranch Agreement	The Board approved a negotiated Development Agreement with Hit Hat Ranch that includes widening and construction of Bee Ridge Road from Bent Tree Blvd to High Hat Ranch and acquisition of right of way along Fruitville Road.	This agreement will provide significant long term improvement for the County road thoroughfare capacity while balancing increasing demand from development.
Transportation	Airspace Agreement for the North Sarasota Multimodal Connector	The Board adopted a resolution for the Use and Occupancy Agreement for airspace from the Florida Department of Transportation in order to construct and use a vehicular overpass above I-75.	This agreement is a major milestone in the development of a new overpass connecting Lakewood Ranch Blvd and Cattlemen Road just south of University Parkway. Future construction of the overpass will relieve interstate congestion and provide alternative routes for local travellers.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	New Street Sweeping Contract	The Board authorized execution of a term contract with Bomac Construction Services, Inc., dba GH Street Sweeping for street sweeping services, for a three-year period, in a total amount not to exceed \$1,081,998.00	The County's previous street sweeping contractor was seriously underperforming, and their contract was not renewed. This new contract/ allows for renewed street sweeping services to clean roads and provide a safe, aesthetically pleasing travelling environment for County residents and travellers.
Transportation	Desoto Area Sidewalks Phase II	This CIP project was completed, and new sidewalks and street lighting were constructed on N Tuttle Ave from Myrtle to University and Desoto Road from 301 to Lockwood Ridge.	New sidewalks improve safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, providing a separated path for travel other than the road.
Transportation	Blackburn Point Bridge Preliminary Design Contract	A preliminary design contract was executed by the County Administrator to initiate design of a replacement of the aging and functionally and mechanically obsolete Blackburn Point Swing Bridge.	This is a major project with significant public interest. This initial project phase will develop and solicit public input to develop concepts on a replacement bridge structure that will be presented to the Board for consideration.
Transportation	Siesta Key Resurfacing Project Completion	The \$11.4M construction of the Resurfacing Siesta Key is part of a County-wide roadway resurfacing program, as provided for in the Roadway Resurfacing Program. The project includes milling and paving, pavement stripping, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramp modifications, curb repairs, roadway base repairs, and school zone sign improvements.	Road resurfacing offers significant benefits, including cost savings compared to full reconstruction, improved safety by eliminating cracks and potholes, extended road lifespan by protecting underlying layers, and enhanced aesthetics that improve the overall appearance of an area. It also contributes to economic benefits by allowing faster completion with less downtime, and can be a sustainable choice by reducing waste and energy consumption.
Transportation	South Venice and South County Resurfacing Project Completion	The \$13.8M construction of this project consists of milling and paving of existing roadways in South Venice and South County subdivisions. Work also includes striping, ADA modifications, base repairs, and installation of microwave traffic signal vehicle detection devices and hardware.	Road resurfacing offers significant benefits, including cost savings compared to full reconstruction, improved safety by eliminating cracks and potholes, extended road lifespan by protecting underlying layers, and enhanced aesthetics that improve the overall appearance of an area. It also contributes to economic benefits by allowing faster completion with less downtime, and can be a sustainable choice by reducing waste and energy consumption.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
Transportation	<p>APWA Florida Chapter Accreditation Technical Committee (ATC) – Founding Member</p>	<p>Joseph Gentile was selected to serve as a founding member of the APWA Florida Chapter's Accreditation Technical Committee.</p>	<p>The committee was created to foster a culture of continuous improvement and operational excellence by supporting agencies in achieving, maintaining, and advancing their operations through APWA Accreditation and strengthening collaboration among Florida agencies to advance accreditation efforts.</p>

Successes - UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability

2026 DRAFT Strategic Plan

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Extension Educational Events	In Fiscal Year 2025, UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability hosted more than 280 online and in-person classes and events on agriculture, water resources, ecology, health and other topics, with a registered audience of more than 6,300 individuals. In addition, produced over 165 new educational videos.	Education on these diverse topics helps support behavior change and application of best practices, leading to environmental, economic, and social improvements in our community.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Educational Contacts and Materials	In calendar year 2024, Extension had 45,134 educational contacts through classes, events, and technical assistance. Over 2.3 million online connections were made on educational topics.	Direct education and material development support residents in addressing their questions about health, environmental, landscaping, and other topics and encourage adoption of best practices that improve quality of life and provide economic benefits for the whole community.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	LIFE: Creating Environmental Stewards for the Future	In FY25, Extension provided a total of 42 field trips to over 1,500 students at Myakka River State Park and Lemon Bay Park and Environmental Center through its LIFE (Learning in Florida's Environments) program. LIFE is an award-winning partnership providing in-class instruction and field trips for elementary school students on Florida's ecosystems and wildlife. At Myakka, students engaged in unique field labs, learning about macroinvertebrates and water quality, plankton and energy flow, and bird adaptations in a freshwater ecosystem. At Lemon Bay, the lab experiences focused on mangrove forests and estuaries, marine invertebrate taxonomy, and animal adaptations in coastal ecosystems.	LIFE field labs provide an opportunity for students to act as wildlife biologists, marine scientists, and more with the goal of making science and scientific careers more accessible. They learn about important local ecosystems, land management challenges, and choices they could make to decrease environmental impact. Research indicates that the most important factor in developing a conservation ethic is for youth to have positive experiences in nature. Labs are aligned to Florida State science standards and support teacher-identified needs. Students demonstrated knowledge gain of 45% and, importantly, 84% indicated they had never before been to Lemon Bay Park. LIFE not only encourages students to engage in STEM fields, but also creates an interest in visiting these parks and exploring the natural world.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Enhanced Youth and Family Programming	Extension increased the amount and variety of free and after-hours youth and family environmental education programs. This included: a large-scale celebration for Take A Child Outside Week; 2 Eastern screech owl box building workshops; and new Shells and Shark Teeth programs, to educate about the fossilized shark teeth found on our beaches. A new Youth and Families webpage brings these youth and family opportunities to the public in a streamlined, easy to access way. A grant was awarded from Sarasota Bay Estuary Program to provide youth camping and family watershed tours in 2026.	These efforts resulted in 2,597 total youth environmental educational contacts connecting Sarasota County's youth to local natural areas, inspiring a conservation ethic, supporting academic success, and offering the kinds of family opportunities that make Sarasota County a world-class place to live.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Health Benefits of Nature	Through the Health Benefits of Nature strategic plan item, Extension created and delivered a wide variety of educational resources and programs to help adults and families understand the importance of connecting with nature, how to get started, and where to go in Sarasota County. Resources included two new presentations offered four times so far; 19 meditation walks in Sarasota County natural areas for 130 participants; and two new fact sheets and a webpage compiling the latest scientific data on the subject.	Spending more time in nature supports physical activity and helps address conditions such as anxiety and depression. This program provides guidance on how to achieve health benefits from time in nature. Nature meditation walk participants reported reductions in feelings of stress, frustration, and anxiety after the program.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Agents of Discovery	In June 2025, Extension partnered with Parks to develop and launch Agents of Discovery, an augmented reality game, encouraging families to get active outside and learn about local natural areas, ecology, and history. To date, five sites have been developed, each with 10 different geolocated educational challenges that children play on their device as they follow a path through the park, with more to come. An extensive social media campaign, press release, blogs, videos, webpage, flier, rack card, and in-person programming to launch each site have been developed.	This new program provides opportunities for children (and adults) to get outside and connect with nature, helping develop a conservation ethic, while learning and having fun. Between June and August, there have been 589 total plays across four locations and four in-person programs offered.

Department	Successes	Description	Impact
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Florida Master Naturalist Program	Three modules of the Florida Master Naturalist Program (FMNP) were offered, promoting awareness and understanding of Florida’s natural world for teachers, tour guides, volunteers, and residents. They included: Upland Systems (19 students in Oct. 2024); Invasive Plants (12 students in August 2025); and Freshwater Restoration (15 students in September 2025).	<p>The FMNP courses are attended by professionals, volunteers, and the general public; often supporting professional development and job advancement. Participants this year included local government employees, environmental educators, teachers, staff of eco-tourism companies, Master Gardener Volunteers, retired lawyers and physicians, and many more.</p> <p>The SunCoast Friends of FMNP were active in supporting educational programming including the documentary screening of The Path of the Panther, at tabling efforts (Earth Day, Wild About Nature, and Take a Child Outside week), and educational walks.</p> <p>Participants increase their knowledge on topics by 40-50% consistently and report profound experiences that in some cases change the direction of their lives and careers. A new blog series showcases FMNP graduate success stories.</p>
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Extreme Heat Safety and Awareness	A partnership between Sarasota County and NASA in 2024 resulted in a report on local extreme heat conditions, evaluating surface temperature trends, and showing evidence of urban heat islands throughout the County. Using the results, Extension implemented a comprehensive education campaign focused on increasing awareness of the symptoms of heat-related illnesses and how to stay cool during the summer, focused on reaching the populations and geographical areas identified as most vulnerable to extreme heat.	Extreme heat causes health risks, strains power grids, raises costs for residents, and increases drought and wildfire risks. The effects of these heat –related risks are greater for vulnerable populations in our area, such as low-income and elderly residents. During the summer months of 2025, a total of 14 outreach events or classes reached 630 county residents with heat awareness resources and cooling materials. New resources were also developed including: “Mapping Heat Vulnerability in Sarasota County” Story Map, a blog, and a social media awareness campaign.

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UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Sustainable Communities Workshop	Sustainability staff, in partnership with organizing partners, successfully held the 19 th annual Sustainable Communities Workshop themed “Elements of Sustainability.” Attendees represented a diversity in geographic representation from our local region, age, and varied occupations. 21 speakers covered topics including future water supply, flooding, adaptation, extreme heat resilience, rare Earth elements, nature-based solutions, air quality, and more.	Staff received positive feedback from many partners, exhibitors, sponsors, and attendees, indicating increased awareness and commitments to sustainability improvements in their homes and businesses. The events reached a combined total of 157 people live, plus recordings and materials that were made available on the website after the event.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Energy and Water Efficiency Upgrades	A new rebate program, funded by US Department of Energy, was launched in June 2024 to improve housing affordability within public/affordable housing providers. These providers applied for rebate funds for ENERGY STAR -certified upgrades to their units and were awarded funds based on scoring criteria, including the age of the building and current appliances, the residents’ utility costs and responsibilities, and the impacts of the requested upgrades.	Following applications in September 2024, awards were announced in November outlining almost \$200,000 worth of energy efficient upgrades for 4 housing providers. Upgrades were purchased and installed by providers in approximately 70 units between November 2024 and August 2025. This grant also funded an Energy Program Specialist staff position to oversee grant administration, monitor provider compliance, and process rebate paperwork, as well as manage the other aspects of the Energy Upgrade program including energy and water upgrades at affordable housing units, workshops, consultations, training, and more.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Energy and Water Efficiency Education	Sustainability staff held educational workshops, attended community events, and worked with housing and community partners to distribute efficiency devices and assist low-income families in reducing their utility bills as part of a housing affordability strategy.	Staff educated approximately 1,712 people about energy and water efficiency and home upgrades and maintenance at 53 different workshops, school and camp programs, and community events. In addition, volunteers and staff completed energy evaluations and efficiency retrofits for 7 housing units and completed 3 household consultations, saving families money on their utility bills. Devices and materials distributed at these programs can save participants up to 301,806 kWh of energy, 980,896 gallons of water, and \$42,083 on energy bills annually.

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UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Sustainability Education	The Sustainability team educates the public year-round through public classes and requested speaker engagements on topics of solar, energy and water efficiency, sustainable living, climate change, extreme heat, resilience, and sea level rise.	This FY, the Sustainability team reached 5,065 members of the public with sustainability education via 35 county and community events and 57 classes and presentations.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan	Thanks to a 2022 Resilient Florida planning grant from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), the Sarasota County Vulnerability Assessment (VA) and Resilience Plan was completed at the end of 2024 and a final report was presented to the Board in March 2025. This project involved detailed analysis and research by a consultant, regular internal team meetings among county departments and with city staff, and community input surveys and events . A new webpage – Resilience Planning was created that has a copy of the reports and a story map.	The adaptation and resilience plan process developed a critical and regionally significant asset inventory, completed an adaptation plan that has a detailed list of adaptation strategies and projects ranked and ready for implementation. Sustainability staff supported other departments (Stormwater and Public Utilities) in identifying and applying for two Resilient Florida project implementation grants submitted in August 2025. Staff also supported other resilience-related grants pursued by other departments.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Climate Pollution Reduction Grant	<p>In September 2023, the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) provided \$1 million to complete greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories and climate action plans for the Sarasota and Manatee County region.</p> <p>The Priority Climate Action Plan was completed in March 2024, outlining the communities most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, where GHG emissions come from, and solutions aimed at improving both.</p> <p>Agency and community meetings were held in January and March 2025 to get input on long-term air pollution reduction goals and strategies for the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP). This plan will be presented to agencies and the public again in the Fall of 2025 and the report will be finalized in December 2025.</p>	<p>The CPRG grant includes identification of investment-ready projects and programs to reduce GHG emissions in the near term, as well as potential funding sources. Types of projects include energy efficiency, renewable energy, transportation, waste reduction and agriculture projects.</p> <p>Staff organized or participated in numerous meetings and events to get community input and share information on the process. The two-day agency meeting in January 2025 had 79 attendees representing all jurisdictions, covering four sector topics – Transportation, Buildings, Environment, Agriculture & Working Lands, and Waste Management. A public meeting was held on March 6, 2025, with 28 attendees . Input was gathered at these meetings that will guide the CCAP which will advance environmental, economic, and public health goals, while increasing resiliency in the region.</p>

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<p>UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability</p>	<p>Workforce Training and Professional Development</p>	<p>In an effort to serve local professionals, more training opportunities were made available, along with dedicated marketing efforts. These opportunities included increased offerings of FDACS exams for pesticide applicators, preparatory classes, as well as a mix of training and certification programs intended for a wide range of professional audiences. Over 1,000 individuals were educated throughout these various programmatic efforts.</p>	<p>Providing training to a professional audience results in a direct benefit to participants, often resulting in increased pay, further developed resume, and chances to advance in their careers. Beyond these direct impacts, they also expose learners to best practices in their respective industries. Learning and adopting these best practices may result in better service to clientele, saved time and money, and in the case of the green industry, less fertilizer and pesticide used. Ensuring that pesticides are used correctly is crucial for protecting water quality, non-target species, human health, and the environment.</p> <p>Programs were promoted on social media and via newsletters. Two webpages and one blog were developed to promote the collective effort and to direct users to the appropriate portals for verifying certified individuals across several industries.</p>

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UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	4-H Positive Youth Development	<p>This Fiscal Year, Sarasota County 4-H had a total of 14 clubs and nearly 200 youth involved in 16 different projects that range from raising livestock, plants, showing dogs to photography, performing arts and visual arts.</p> <p>Several youth projects and presentations competed at district and state levels. Sarasota youth placed 1st in the state in graphic design and 2nd in Science and Technology. Several youth participated in iLEAD, 4-H Legislature, 4-H University, Camp Cloverleaf, Youth Cattle Day and Meats Judging Clinic, activities that enrich leadership, life skills and learning.</p> <p>Two clubs were directly run by Extension staff, through partnerships with non-profits. The Booker Middle School 4-H Club is a partnership with the Boys & Girls Club to provide an afterschool 4-H club with science focused programming. Youth explored a variety of topics from weather, soil, nutrition, chemistry, solar power, ecology, agriculture, ecosystems, and water science. Youth also grew plants that they showed at the Sarasota County Agricultural Fair. The Allstar Lucky Clovers 4-H Club is a partnership with Sarasota Housing Authority focused on STEM, leadership, and horticulture lessons for underserved teens. Youth completed plant projects at the Sarasota County Fair and participated in learning and leadership events at the state level, including serving on Florida 4-H State Executive Board.</p>	<p>Participation in 4-H activities provides the positive, supportive environment youth need to succeed. School enrichment, day and residential camps, and other types of programs introduce youth to longer-term learning experiences. Efforts focus on helping youth develop science skills; helping youth develop an interest in learning; teaching responsibility and leadership; helping develop healthy habits; and appreciation of nature, agriculture, and natural resources. Through 4-H experiences and relationships, youth build better lives and become better stewards, employees, community citizens, and leaders.</p>
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Hands-On Experiential Learning	<p>Launched the “ex•plore” series, a strategic plan action item to more fully engage audiences in educational opportunities through increased hands-on and exploratory activities, including nature hikes, gardening demonstrations, county facility tours and more.</p>	<p>By getting participants out of the classroom through field-trip style events, they are more engaged and increase their learning and likelihood to adopt best practices. They are also exposed to county facilities and programs across departments communicating priorities and successes in water quality, land conservation, waste reduction, and much more.</p>

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UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Plant Sale and Extension EdFest	Extension and its Master Gardener Volunteers hosted the 17th annual Plant Sale + EdFest, with more than 350 attendees, total plant sales and donations exceeding \$15,500 (used for future educational efforts), and dissemination of landscaping, conservation and other Extension information.	Visitors to the event learn Florida-Friendly Landscaping techniques and go home with plants to implement what they've learned right away, resulting in water conservation, wildlife habitat enhancements, and water quality improvements. Participants also learn about Extension programs and ways to get involved, increasing awareness of county services and volunteer opportunities.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Beginning Farmer Support Programs	Supported beginning farmers with the Small Farm Startup School and the Beginning Farmer Incubator, a partnership at Mote Aquaculture Park that provides hands-on experience in a low-risk, high-learning environment.	The local agriculture industry is struggling with many challenges, but interest remains in starting new and innovative farming operations. Aspiring farmers have the opportunity to learn in a comprehensive 8-week course, as well as hands-on in an incubator environment. These services help increase success among entrepreneurs and resilience within the local food system
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Farm and Ranch Tour	This year's Sarasota County Farm and Ranch Tour took 100-plus attendees on two buses, visiting and learning about the local agriculture industry and history, including stops at a cattle ranch, vegetable farm, ag museum, and school district farm site.	The Farm and Ranch Tour exposes residents to the often hidden local agriculture industry, connecting people to the people who grow their food and encouraging support of local businesses, while also educating on the best practices that make agriculture a key contributor to water quality, land conservation, and stormwater management.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Youth Safety Day	Partnered with the Progressive Agriculture Foundation to host the second annual "Youth Safety Day" event, to share with more than 100 youth and their families the hidden dangers in agricultural and rural settings, and techniques to avoid harm.	Farms and rural properties present many dangers such as equipment, ATVs, livestock and wildlife, poisonous plants, firearms, and more. This event is designed to provide youth with engaging ways to learn safety practices to reduce injuries around these risks.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Arbor Month Tree Programs	Extension hosted five in-person and one online Arbor Month-related educational events, sharing information about tree selection and care for our area, and included distribution of 200-plus tree saplings for replanting.	Educating residents about the value of trees and providing trees for adoption builds local canopy coverage and increases awareness about the vital role trees play in our community. Trees provide water quality and heat mitigation benefits, wildlife habitat, and stormwater and flooding prevention.

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UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Reducing Plastics Program	Launched a new “Reducing Plastics” series, an education effort combining classroom education with informational publications to share simple ways that individuals and businesses can reduce their generation of plastic waste and pollution.	Plastic pollution affects water quality and community aesthetics and microplastics impact human health and the environment in ways that are still being discovered. Educating the community on ways they can reduce their plastic use, contribution to pollution, and individual exposure to harmful health impacts helps residents understand how they can be part of the solution.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Family Nutrition Program	Delivered nutritional education and healthy living information and activities to more than 3,380 students through the grant-funded Family Nutrition Program.	Students learn about healthy habits, nutrition, edible gardening, and disease prevention strategies that support public health improvements for decades to come.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	School Gardens	Supported dozens of school gardens through technical support and semi-annual supply distributions, disbursing seedlings/seeds, growing supplies, seasonal planting suggestions, crop information and more.	School Gardens initiatives support teachers with resources and education so they can engage students with hands-on education about plant science, healthy eating, and active lifestyles.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Educational Outreach Gardens	Extension enhanced the Educational Outreach Gardens around its office facility to increase educational opportunities on Florida-Friendly Landscaping. Improvements included completion of the Greenhouse, addition of a new “Wildflower Meadow,” and many new plantings demonstrating edible gardening and fruit trees.	Monthly tours of the gardens, virtual tours, and plant identification signs expose residents to Florida-Friendly Landscaping practices, encouraging adoption in their own homes and neighborhoods. This results in community benefits such as resource conservation, water quality improvements, cost savings, and more.
UF/IFAS Extension and Sustainability	Landscape Professionals Trainings	Delivered continuing education trainings for “green industry” professionals on best management practices, as well as focused trainings for county staff, environmental professionals and horticulture industry representatives. This included specific continuing education (CEU) training for turfgrass professionals, focusing on turfgrass identification, arthropod pests of turfgrass, nematodes, disease, abiotic stressors, and (lower-impact) integrated pest management.	Landscape professionals represent a large portion of the local workforce and ensuring they are well informed of best practices and the latest science helps protect community resources and improve water quality, water conservation, and cost savings. Professional training also supports workforce and career development for these professionals to advance in their careers.