Growth Management Department

Collier County’s Growth Management Department improves the quality of life for county residents and visitors by protecting and enhancing both the natural and built environments by encouraging sustainable growth and community partnerships. The goal is to balance mobility, economic vitality and environmental sensitivity through coordinated planning, regulation and construction and maintenance programs.

Fiscal Year 2015 Highlights

**Building Plan Review and Inspections Division**
- 36,271 total permit applications received, a 16 percent increase over the prior year.
- 36,602 total permits issued, a 23 percent increase over prior year.
- 186,710 total inspections performed, a 24 percent increase over prior year.
- Maintained 100 percent satisfaction of 5-, 10- and 15-day guaranteed building permit review times.

**Capital Project Planning, Impact Fees and Program Management Division**
- Provided permitting, deployment and operational support for 36 artificial reefs.
- Successful resolution of FEMA second appeal for Hurricane Wilma and re-obligation of approximately $10 million.
- Secured more than $2.8 million in additional funding from the Florida Department of Transportation and the Collier Metropolitan Planning Organization for new sidewalks.
Code Enforcement Division

- Worked with affected parties to obtain compliance prior to the initiation of enforcement action, including education on code requirements.
- Worked actively with law enforcement to identify properties that, due to their distressed status, pose a threat to the community. The division offers services including neighborhood cleanups, interagency monthly task force meetings, lien searches, payoff requests and permits for garage sales and recreational vehicles.
- Participated in 25 community cleanup events, resulting in the collection of 50 tons of tires, 107 tons of debris and 21 tons of yard waste.

Development Review Division

- Received a 2015 Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties (NACO) for Development Review Exceeding Client Expectations.
- Earned a Class 5 rating in the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System. The rating improvement saved more than $1.5 million for the more than 70,000 flood insurance policies in unincorporated Collier County.
- Assisted over 2,400 property owners and residents with flood insurance inquiries, flood zone determinations and other flood related assistance.

Engineering and Natural Resources Division

- Performed a total of 23,172 inspections, a 25 percent increase over the prior year.
- Received a total of 122 projects requesting either preliminary or final acceptance of utility systems, up 22 percent over prior year.
- Environmental plan and petition reviews were up 13 percent over prior year.
- Responded to 221 pollution complaints, a 62 percent increase over the prior year.

Operations and Regulatory Management Division

- Business Center processed more than 36,000 building permit applications, an increase of 16 percent over the prior year.
- Processed 3,000 new and renewal local licenses and state registrations, handed out more than 600 citations for unlicensed contracting or misconduct and issued 170 Vehicle for Hire Certificates to Operate and more than 1,000 driver identifications.

Operations Support Division

- Fiscal Year 2015 ended with an operating profit for the first time in many years, and fiscal year 2016 marks the first year without a budgeted general fund subsidy to support the Airport Authority operating budget.
- An interlocal agreement between the Collier County Airport Authority and Naples Airport Authority was enacted to provide emergency support for the County’s airports.

Road Maintenance Division

- Resurfaced 38.39 lane miles of pavement, staying within budget.
- Resurfaced 9,588 linear feet of asphalt sidewalk.
- Installed 2,100 linear feet of storm sewer pipe.

Transportation Engineering Division

- Construction began on County Barn Road on another of the Lely Area Stormwater Improvement Projects (LASIP). The $7.4 million project also will improve roadway conditions through the construction of shoulders and by repaving the roadway.
- Sidewalks were constructed in Immokalee (Second Avenue North, North Second and Escambia streets) and in Golden Gate City (20th Court Southwest, 46th Terrace Southwest and 48th Street Southwest).
- Construction began on Golden Gate Boulevard, east of Wilson Boulevard to 18th Street. Plans call for the addition of bike lanes, sidewalks, a dividing median and widening the boulevard from two to four lanes.

Zoning Division

- There was a 9 percent increase in the number of land use petitions submitted in 12 month period.
- 175 zoning letters (letters that verify zoning or clarify for property owners those uses for their properties) were issued.