

A large, stylized graphic in the background features a yellow sun with rays and a green leaf, both partially obscured by a light blue wave-like shape at the bottom.

2026 Local Option Sales Tax Focus Group Ranking

Prepared for the Board of County Commissioners

April 14, 2026

Emily Lewis, Deputy County Administrator



CHARLOTTE COUNTY
FLORIDA

2026 Sales Tax Timeline

Date	Action
August 19, 2025	Focus Group to convene organizational meeting
April 9, 2026	Focus group to hold final meeting and determine list of projects that will be recommended to BCC
April 14, 2026	BCC to determine: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Length of extension• Selection of final projects
April 26, 2026	BCC to approve ordinance for ballot referendum
May 4, 2026	Deadline to initiate OPAGGA performance audit (if necessary)

Construction Program

- Project Slate developed from Capital Needs and Approved by BCC on May 14, 2025
- Categories:
 - Public Safety
 - Infrastructure
 - Quality of Life
 - Schools

Infrastructure	Estimate
<i>Roadway Projects</i>	
Harborview Rd Widening (Date Street to I-75)	\$52,452,000
Edgewater Drive Widening – <i>Phase 5</i>	\$41,040,000
Burnt Store Road Area East/West Corridor Connector	\$46,176,000
Taylor Road	\$11,296,000
Bicycle, Pedestrian trails and Sidewalks	\$7,500,000
<i>Total Roads</i>	<i>\$158,464,000</i>
<i>Water Quality Projects</i>	
Edgewater (Flamingo Blvd. between Samantha and SR 776)	\$10,000,000
Harborview Road (Date Street to I-75)	\$16,300,000
<i>Total Water Quality</i>	<i>\$26,300,000</i>

Infrastructure (continued)	Estimate
<i>Facilities Projects</i>	
Clerk Records Warehouse	\$9,108,000
Fleet Management Building	\$22,675,000
Mid-County Annex	\$42,080,000
Mid County Public Works Operations Facility	\$27,060,000
Babcock Ranch Community Library and Annex	\$27,197,805
<i>Total Facilities</i>	<i>\$128,120,805</i>

Public Safety	Estimate
<i>Charlotte County Fire/EMS</i>	
Fire Station 4 Replacement	\$8,387,000
Fire Station 18 - New	\$9,597,000
Fire Station 19 - New	\$9,597,000
Fire Station 20 - New	\$9,597,000
Fire Station 21 - New	\$9,597,000
Emergency Vehicle Maintenance Expansion	\$2,750,000
Public Safety Academy*	\$11,850,000
<i>Total Fire/EMS</i>	<i>\$61,375,000</i>

Public Safety (continued)	Estimate
<i>Charlotte County Sheriff's Office</i>	
Jail Administration Renovation	\$6,234,000
Warehouse at CCSO HQ	\$6,524,000
<i>Total CCSO</i>	<i>\$12,758,000</i>

Schools	Estimate
<i>Charlotte County Public Schools</i>	
School Safety	\$10,000,000
Career and Technical Education	\$5,000,000
<i>Total CCSO</i>	<i>\$15,000,000</i>

Quality of Life	Estimate
Bissett Park	
Phase 2 – Restroom replacement, Fishing Pier, Playground and walking path	\$4,500,000
Phase 3 – Recreation Center	\$35,100,000
Centennial Park	
Phase 2 – Master Plan, Sports Courts, Pavilions, Restrooms and additional parking	\$6,800,000
Phase 3 – Integrated water feature, lazy river, additional lap lanes, shade structures and retractable bleachers	\$11,600,000
Recreation Center Renovation	\$7,300,000
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center Parking Garage	\$7,400,000
G.C. Herring Park – Phase 2	\$3,850,000
Charlotte Sports Park Paving Improvements	\$3,773,000

Quality of Life <i>(continued)</i>	Estimate
Maracaibo Kidspace Park	\$8,800,000
Myakka River Park – Phase 2	\$8,100,000
Placida Passive Park - Phase 3	\$14,000,000
South County Regional Park Recreation Center Renovation	\$10,800,000
South Murdock Community Park	\$12,800,000
Tringali Community Center Replacement	\$5,600,000
William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park – Phase 3	\$3,300,000
Various Park Renovations*	\$7,300,000
Cultural Center Replacement	\$60,498,000
Grace Street Complex	\$3,000,000
<i>Total Quality of Life Projects</i>	<i>\$217,548,000</i>

*scalable project depending upon funding

Focus Group 2026

- 15 member committee
- Members represented a wide variety of community groups and organizations as well as residents appointed by the BCC
- 13 meetings held
- Reviewed over 40 projects

Focus Group 2026

Process:

- Staff presented projects approved by BCC to be considered.
- Focus group members scored each project individually
- Collective scoring provided to the committee at the final stages to assist with the ranking process

Focus Group 2026

Results:

- Ranking of projects based on scores and weights and geographic diversification using the Metro Forecasting growth model areas
- List of recommended projects in two tiers:
 - Tier 1 projects equal the estimated revenue generated by the sales tax extension
 - Tier 2 projects are additional recommendations should funds be available

Sales Tax 2026

Revenue estimates for each of the programs the Focus group was asked to consider, based upon \$36M collection annually:

	Six Years	Eight Years	Ten Years
Tier 1	\$216,000,000	\$288,000,000	\$360,000,000
Tier 2	\$36,000,000	\$72,000,000	\$108,000,000
Total	\$252,000,000	\$360,000,000	\$468,000,000

Six Year Program Tier 1

Six Year Program – Tier 1

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
CCPS Safety	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$400,000*
CCPS Career and Technical	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$200,000*
CCU Harborview	\$16,300,000	\$16,300,000	\$102,500
Harborview Road Widening	\$52,452,000	\$52,452,000	\$92,000
Edgewater/Flamingo Corridor – Phase 5	\$41,040,000	\$41,040,000	\$100,580
Public Safety Academy	\$11,850,000	\$11,850,000	\$812,743
Cultural Center Replacement	\$25,000,000	\$61,248,000	\$142,000
CCSO Jail Admin Renovation	\$6,234,000	\$6,234,000	\$0
Fire/EMS Vehicle Maintenance Warehouse	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$30,000

*This is operating cost to Charlotte County Public Schools, not Charlotte County BCC

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Fire Station 19 (New – Gasparilla Rd.)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$903,000
Tringali Community Center Replacement	\$5,600,000	\$5,600,000	\$100,000
Babcock Ranch Community Library & Annex	\$9,953,000	\$27,197,805	\$1,105,000
CCSO Warehouse	\$6,524,000	\$6,524,000	\$22,000
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center Parking Garage	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000	\$170,000
Bissett Park – Phase 3	\$10,000,000	\$35,100,000	\$1,100,000
<i>Total Tier 1 Recommendation</i>	<i>\$216,000,000</i>		

Six Year Program Tier 2

Six Year Program - Tier 2

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Babcock Ranch Community Library & Annex	\$17,244,805	\$27,197,805	\$1,105,000
Bissett Park – Phase 3	\$18,755,195	\$35,100,000	\$1,100,000
<i>Total Tier 2 Recommendations</i>	<i>\$36,000,000</i>		

Eight Year Program

Tier 1

Eight Year Program – Tier 1

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
CCPS Safety	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$400,000*
CCPS Career and Technical	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$200,000*
CCU Harborview	\$16,300,000	\$16,300,000	\$102,500
Harborview Road Widening	\$52,452,000	\$52,452,000	\$92,000
Edgewater/Flamingo Corridor – Phase 5	\$41,040,000	\$41,040,000	\$100,580
Public Safety Academy	\$11,850,000	\$11,850,000	\$812,743
Cultural Center Replacement	\$51,000,000	\$61,248,000	\$142,000
CCSO Jail Admin Renovation	\$6,234,000	\$6,234,000	\$0
Fire/EMS Vehicle Maintenance Warehouse	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$30,000

*This is operating cost to Charlotte County Public Schools, not Charlotte County BCC

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Fire Station 19 (New – Gasparilla Rd.)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$903,000
Tringali Community Center Replacement	\$5,600,000	\$5,600,000	\$100,000
Babcock Ranch Community Library & Annex	\$27,197,805	\$27,197,805	\$1,105,000
CCSO Warehouse	\$6,524,000	\$6,524,000	\$22,000
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center Parking Garage	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000	\$170,000
Bissett Park – Phase 3	\$28,755,195	\$35,100,000	\$1,100,000
CCU Edgewater	\$10,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$100,000
Total Tier 1 Recommendation	\$288,000,000		

Eight Year Program

Tier 2

Eight Year Program - Tier 2

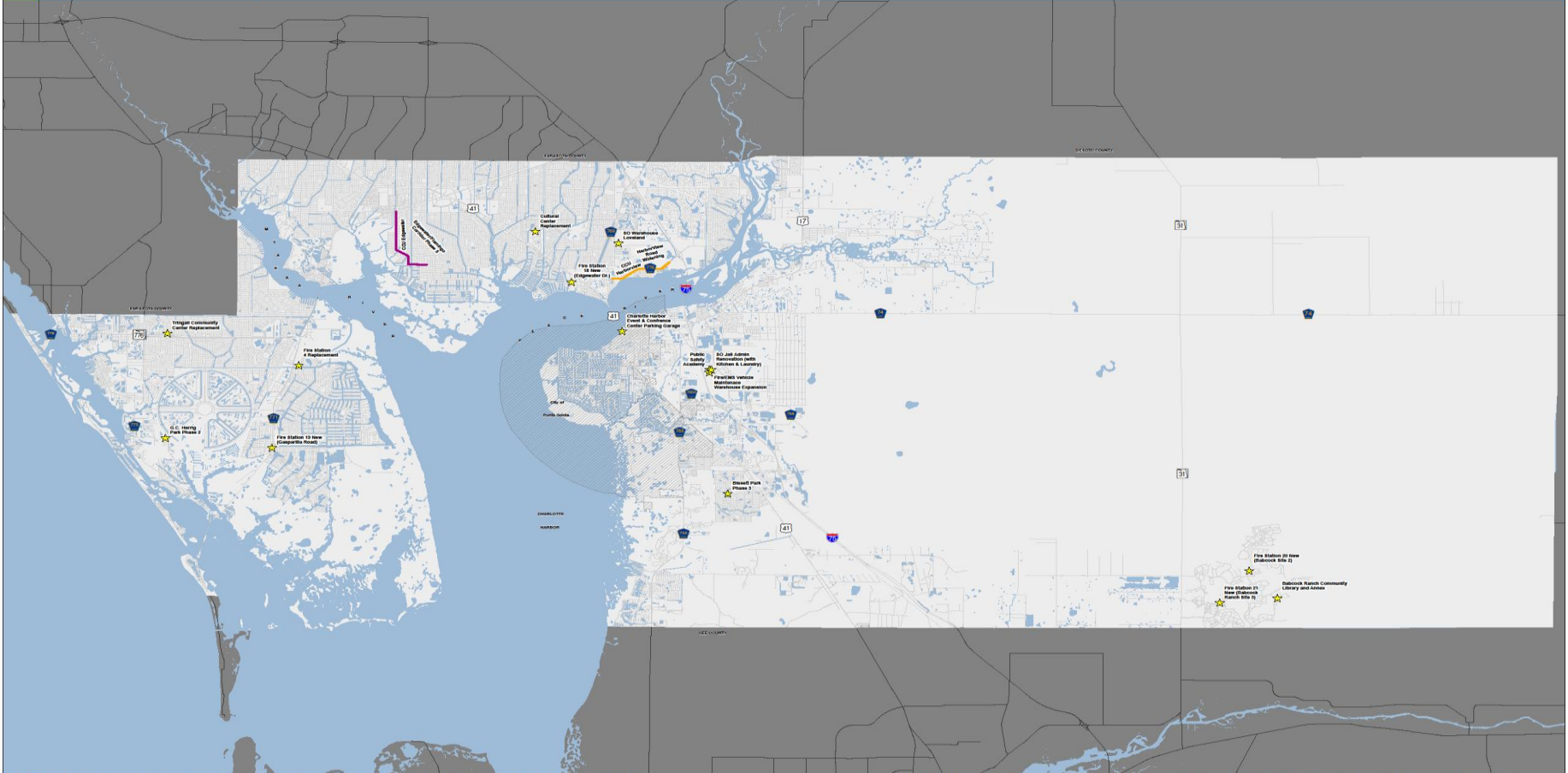
Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Cultural Center Replacement	\$9,498,000	\$61,248,000	\$142,000
Bissett Park - Phase 3	\$6,344,805	\$35,100,000	\$1,100,000
Fire Station 18 (New - Edgewater Dr.)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$903,000
Fire Station 4 (Replacement)	\$8,387,000	\$8,387,000	\$22,000
Fire Station 21 (New – Babcock Site 3)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$958,000

Eight Year Program - Tier 2

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Fire Station 20 (New – Babcock Site 2)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$930,000
Bicycle, Pedestrian Trails and Sidewalks	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$100,000
G.C. Herring Park – Phase 2	\$3,850,000	\$4,131,703	\$30,000
Various Park Renovations	\$7,300,000	\$7,300,000	\$0
<i>Total Tier 2 Recommendations</i>	<i>\$71,670,805</i>		

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Proposed 2026 Sales Tax Projects
Approved 8 Year Projects



This map is a representation of compiled public information. It is believed to be an accurate and true depiction for the stated purpose. The Charlotte County and the developer make no warranties, implied or otherwise, as to the accuracy or completeness. The developer does not accept any responsibility as to its use. This is not a survey or it is to be used for design, construction, or informational purposes only and may vary from actual conditions. For project information, please refer to contract plans and related documents.

Ten Year Program

Tier 1

Ten Year Program – Tier 1

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
CCPS Safety	\$10,000,000	\$20,000,000	\$400,000*
CCPS Career and Technical	\$5,000,000	\$10,000,000	\$200,000*
CCU Harborview	\$16,300,000	\$16,300,000	\$102,500
Harborview Road Widening	\$52,452,000	\$52,452,000	\$92,000
Edgewater/Flamingo Corridor – Phase 5	\$41,040,000	\$41,040,000	\$100,580
Public Safety Academy	\$11,850,000	\$11,850,000	\$812,743
Cultural Center Replacement	\$60,498,000	\$61,248,000	\$142,000
CCSO Jail Admin Renovation	\$6,234,000	\$6,234,000	\$0
Fire/EMS Vehicle Maintenance Warehouse	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$30,000

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Fire Station 19 (New – Gasparilla Rd.)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$903,000
Tringali Community Center Replacement	\$5,600,000	\$5,600,000	\$100,000
Babcock Ranch Community Library & Annex	\$27,197,805	\$27,197,805	\$1,105,000
CCSO Warehouse	\$6,524,000	\$6,524,000	\$22,000
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center Parking Garage	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000	\$170,000
Bissett Park – Phase 3	\$35,100,000	\$35,100,000	\$1,100,000
CCU Edgewater	\$10,000,000	\$25,000,000	\$100,000
Fire Station 18 (New – Edgewater Dr.)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$903,000

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Fire Station 4 (Replacement)	\$8,387,000	\$8,387,000	\$22,000
Fire Station 21 (New – Babcock Site 3)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$958,000
Fire Station 20 (New – Babcock Site 2)	\$9,597,000	\$9,597,000	\$930,000
Bicycle, Pedestrian Trails and Sidewalks	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	\$100,000
G.C. Herring Park – Phase 2	\$3,850,000	\$4,131,703	\$30,000
Various Park Renovations	\$7,300,000	\$7,300,000	\$0
<i>Total Tier 1 Recommendation</i>	<i>\$359,670,805</i>		

Ten Year Program

Tier 2

Ten Year Program - Tier 2

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Mid County Operations Facility	\$27,060,000	\$27,060,000	\$54,000
William R. Gaines Jr. Veterans Memorial Park – Phase 3	\$3,300,000	\$3,300,000	\$200,000
Centennial Park – Phase 2	\$6,800,000	\$6,800,000	\$250,000
Charlotte Sports Park Parking Improvements	\$3,773,000	\$3,773,000	\$50,000
Bissett Park – Phase 2	\$4,500,000	\$4,500,000	\$10,000
South Murdock Community Park	\$12,800,000	\$12,800,000	\$60,000

Project	Committee Approved	Project Estimate	M & O Costs
Myakka River Park – Phase 2	\$8,100,000	\$8,100,000	\$30,000
Centennial Park Recreation Center Renovation	\$7,300,000	\$7,300,000	\$206,000
Placida Passive Park	\$14,000,000	\$14,000,000	\$30,000
Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center Parking Garage	\$3,700,000	\$7,400,000	\$170,000
Maracaibo Kidspace Park	\$8,800,000	\$8,800,000	\$75,000
South County Regional Park Recreation Center Renovation	\$10,800,000	\$10,800,000	\$60,000
<i>Total Tier 2 Recommendations</i>	<i>\$110,933,000</i>		

External Projects

- Englewood Fire District Request

Fire Station 72: Built for 2.... Serving Today's Community with 3



- Original Design: 2 firefighters
- Current Staffing: 3 firefighters
- Facility Size: 1,085 sq. ft.
- Flooded in 2 recent storms

Next Steps

1. Discussion & Direction on Length of Program
2. Discussion & Direction on Final Project Selection