



INTRODUCTORY CHAPTER: COUNTY TO BREAK GROUND FOR LIBRARY

Lake County officials are inviting local residents and the media to celebrate the official groundbreaking of Cagan Crossings Community Library on Friday, Oct. 6, at 9:30 a.m.

The future 30,000-square-foot facility is to be constructed on a site in the Cagan Crossings development, located about 16 miles south from Clermont off of U.S. Highway 27 in the Four Corners community.

The Lake County Board of County Commissioners approved a \$7.1 million contract for construction of the library at its Sept. 19 meeting. However, through grant funding from the state (\$500,000) and federal (\$198,000) governments, a donation from the Cagan family (\$302,000) and library impact fees (\$500,000), the overall cost for the project is expected to dip to nearly \$6 million.

Officials from Osceola and Polk counties are currently considering lending operational support through a joint-use agreement for the facility as 30 percent of the current

circulation figures from the Citrus Ridge County Library are comprised of residents from both of these counties.

Construction is expected to begin in October on the two-story facility designed by the St. Petersburg office of Harvard Jolly architects. It is anticipated the project will be completed in about one year.

The new library will replace the current Citrus Ridge County Library located in a shopping center on U.S. Highway 192. The current library is a popular destination for residents from the four counties, Lake, Orange, Osceola and Polk, of the Four Corners community. The new library will feature considerably more space and computers, including a larger children's section and a community room.

The community room, which will be equipped with a generator, will be used by the Lake County Department of Public Safety, Emergency Management Division, as a forward command center in the event of a large-scale disaster in the community.

PERMITS ARE ON THE WAY FOR UMATILLA HEALTH CENTER

A ceremony to mark the beginning of construction for the Lake County Health Department facility in Umatilla is forthcoming as the project is entering the permitting phase.

The health center will be the first project the County will pursue silver certification requirements of the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system. A voluntary program, LEED provides a complete framework for assessing building performance and meeting sustainability goals. Based on well-founded scientific standards, LEED emphasizes state of the art strategies for sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality. The health center is one of as many as four current building projects the County will be seeking LEED certification.

The health center project includes renovating the existing 4,600 square-foot structure and adding 11,000 square feet of space. The Orlando office of Harvard Jolly architects designed the project and construction is expected to be completed in about one year. When completed, the facility will enable the Health Department to offer clinical services, pediatrics, maternity and immunizations to the surrounding community.

"The renovations and expansion of the health center in Umatilla will once again give the Health Department a presence in northeast Lake County and give much needed access to care for residents in that area," said Kevin Lenhart, Program Operations Administrator for the Lake County Health Department.

NEW FIRE STATION COULD BE PROTOTYPE FOR FUTURE FACILITIES

The design by Starmer Ranaldi architects for the new Lake Jem Fire Station will be used as the prototype for future Lake County Fire Rescue fire stations, according to Lake County's Department of Public Safety, Fire Rescue Division.

Designed to accommodate Lake County Fire Rescue, Lake-Sumter EMS and office space for the Sheriff's Office, the prototype is a 9,300-square-foot facility featuring two bays, living quarters, dormitories, offices and kitchen facilities. Construction of the project located off County Road 448 is expected to begin before the end of the year, with completion in the fourth quarter of 2007.

The new station will house full-time firefighters and paramedics who are currently serving the community at a temporary fire

station nearby. According to fire officials, the temporary station in the Lake Jem area is providing residents and business owners with improved fire service response and emergency medical delivery service.

"We have already seen a significant drop in response times by just having a temporary station out there since March, so we know it's going to be a good location," said John Jolliff, Deputy Fire Chief.

The new fire station will be unique for Lake County because it signals the beginning of fire station facilities composed of strong building materials along with brick exteriors and metal roofing. The extremely low maintenance facility is expected to last more than 40 years.



Office relocations for several departments are continuing for Lake County Government. The Public Defender's Office will soon be vacating the fourth floor of the Lake County Judicial Center to make room for additional judges and staff. The Office will be moved to the building, which formerly housed the Department of Public Works, at 123 N. Sinclair Ave.

Public Works moved this month into a leased facility at 437 Ardice Ave. in Eustis. The new general information phone number for the Department is (352) 483-9000.

ROLL CALL

There are more than a dozen different projects underway for the Lake County Department of Facilities Development and Management. Here are a few developments:

- 1 Lake Jem Fire Station**
Project enters permitting phase
- 2 Judicial Center**
Re-roofing project complete, re-roofing work to begin soon on jail
- 3 Cagan Crossings Community Library**
Groundbreaking ceremony to be held Oct. 6 at 10 a.m.
- 4 Umatilla Health Center**
Project enters permitting phase

