

## **Apply for mechanical and roof permits online!**

**We now offer two more opportunities to apply online for permits. Roofing and mechanical permit applications may now be filed through E-Connect, at Community Development's Web site.**

**To apply online, you will need the property owner's name, job site strap number, job description, estimated value, directions to the job site, and type of permit. A fax may be required to back up the online process if a Roof Pitch Agreement or a recorded NOC is needed.**

**To learn more about this enhanced service, go to <http://www.lee-county.com/econnect/>.**

## **Meetings and public hearings**

**Amendments to the Land Development Code that apply to the Pine Island Community Plan will be reviewed by the Local Planning Agency (LPA) April 23 at 8:30 a.m. in Commissioners' Chambers, 2120 Main Street, Fort Myers. Public hearings are tentatively set for Commissioners at 5 p.m. May 8 and May 22, at the same location.**

**Read the proposed ordinance at <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/CommunityPlans/PineIsland/PILDC-C.pdf>.**

**The LPA will review other Land Development Code Amendments May 21 at 8:30 a.m. in the first floor conference room of the Lee County Administration Building, 2115 Second St., Fort Myers. Hearings before commissioners are tentatively set for June 12 and June 26 at 5 p.m. in commissioner chambers.**

## **Phone changes coming soon**

**Lee County is updating its telephone system. In May, phone numbers in the County Administration Building, 2115 Second St., Fort Myers will change. In June or July, Community Development offices at 1500 Monroe St. and 1825 Hendry St., Fort Myers, will get new phone numbers.**

**This upgrade provides us with additional phone lines for phone-based scheduling, like building inspections. We also expect routing upgrades that will enable us to more efficiently serve call-in customers.**

**Eventually, all county government phone numbers will begin with 533 – or “LEE”.**

**As soon as we learn our new phone numbers, we'll pass them along. During the transition, we will automatically connect callers to the new number or provide a message giving the new number.**

**The county's online telephone directory will be updated as the new numbers are rolled out. Access it at [http://www.lee-county.com/employee/CMS\\_search.asp](http://www.lee-county.com/employee/CMS_search.asp)**

## Affordable housing reviewed

At the well-attended March Affordable Housing Committee meeting, the county's consultant discussed how workers in Lee County continue to have difficulty affording a home here. They also outlined several options for addressing this. Most discussion focused on a proposed workforce housing fee on residential and commercial building.

The Horizon Council will discuss this issue May 10 at 2 p.m. at the Lee County Economic Development Office, 12800 University Dr., Suite 325, Fort Myers. The Affordable Housing Committee will discuss it again May 11 at 2 p.m. in the first-floor conference room at our office, 1500 Monroe St., Fort Myers.

Read the policy options at [http://www.lee-county.com/dcd1/Downloads/Documents/Studies\\_Reports/Housing/AHPolicyOptions.pdf](http://www.lee-county.com/dcd1/Downloads/Documents/Studies_Reports/Housing/AHPolicyOptions.pdf)

Read the support study at [http://www.lee-county.com/dcd1/Downloads/Documents/Studies\\_Reports/Housing/AffordableHousingMethodology.pdf](http://www.lee-county.com/dcd1/Downloads/Documents/Studies_Reports/Housing/AffordableHousingMethodology.pdf)

## Lighting compliance reminder

Don't forget that project engineers must submit a separate certification that outdoor lighting is in compliance with the Lee Development Code (34-625) when a regular letter of compliance is submitted on a Development Order application. The final certificate of compliance will not be issued without this.

To review the code, go to <http://www.lee-county.com/dcd/GeneralInfo/LeeCountyLDC.htm>.

## Congratulations!

Please join us in congratulating Paul Smith, senior code enforcement officer, who celebrates 25 years of employment with Lee County.

## March permit report

Builders in unincorporated Lee County, Bonita Springs and Fort Myers Beach pulled 318 permits for single-family houses in March, about 6 percent more than in February and 62 percent less than in March 2006. The value of permits for single-family homes was \$81.1 million in March.

About 73 percent of the single-family home permits were for construction in Lehigh Acres.

Also in March, permits were issued for 290 multi-family units with a combined value of \$43.4 million and for 48 commercial permits valued at nearly \$24 million.