

M E M O R A N D U M

April 21, 1999

TO: DIVISION OF RECORDS AND REPORTING

FROM: DIVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES (McKINNEY) *JCM*

RE: DOCKET NO. 990223-TL - In re: Request for review of proposed numbering plan relief for the 941 area code.

DOCKET NO. 990184-TL - In re: Investigation into boundary issues in South Sarasota and North Charlotte Counties (Englewood area).

DOCKET NO. 981941-TL - Investigation into telephone exchange boundary issues in South Polk County (Ft. Meade area).

Attached are **STATEMENTS MADE AT THE PUBLIC HEARINGS HELD ON APRIL 8 IN SARASOTA**, to be filed on the correspondence side of the above-referenced dockets:

1. Englewood Area Planning Advisory Board
2. Englewood Water District
3. Council of Neighborhood Associations, Inc.
4. Chairman Stan Stephens, Manatee County Board of County Commissioners
5. Southwest County Alliance of Homeowners Associations
6. Dr. J. Brian Murphy
7. South Venice 2010
8. Grace Amodeo
9. Jill Leah, President, Highwave Incorporated
10. Sarasota County and Municipal Population Projections

AFA _____
APP _____
CAF _____
CMU _____
CTR _____
EAG _____
LEG _____ JCM/slh
MAS _____ Attachment
OPC _____ cc: Division of Communications (Ileri)
RRR _____
SEC _____
WAW _____
OTH _____

DOCUMENT NUMBER-DATE

05197 APR 22 88

FPSC-RECORDS/REPORTING



Dr. Bill Coy

Englewood Area Planning Advisory Board

Board Members

Sarasota County:

John J. Fellin
Chairman

MaryAnn Wills

Kenneth R. Kleinlein, Sr.

Charlotte County:

Willard A. Coy, DMD
Vice-Chairman

Myron Post

Bill Truex

City of North Port:

L. Edward Schuler

SUBJECT: Proposed telephone area code changes

For the record I'm Dr. Bill Coy, Vice Chair of the Englewood Area Planning and Advisory Board. The Board's primary purpose is to advise the governing bodies of Sarasota County, Charlotte County and the City of North Port concerning the coordinated provision of county services to the entire Englewood community, including but not limited to the areas of: Transportation, Utilities, Drainage, Public Safety, Parks and Recreation, Libraries, and Schools.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 10, 1998 the Advisory Board adopted a position in opposition to the proposed temporary changes in our telephone area codes.

We acknowledge that there is a growing need for new telephone numbers. We understand that a program is in the planning stages now that might, ultimately, mean a different approach to telephone numbering. This we can accept, so long as it is the final result.

We believe, however, that interim changes would be thoroughly confusing for most people, and costly for many businesses. In addition, the Englewood community is already divided with jurisdictions in Sarasota County, Charlotte County (and the City of North Port) and within that relatively small area already has many telephone exchanges to contend with. While Englewood is unique in its separation by county boundaries, the community is unanimous in choosing to be considered as a single, united community.

We feel that a proposed plan that would change telephone area codes at the county line, is unacceptable.

It is the recommendation of the EAPAB to advance two possible solutions to the 941 dilemma:

1. Combine Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte Counties into a smaller unit with a new area code giving a projected time life of approximately 10 years.
2. Accept the proposed Alternative 3 Split as presented.

"The purpose of the Advisory Board shall be to advise the governing bodies of Sarasota County, Charlotte County and the City of North Port concerning the coordinated provision of public services to the entire Englewood community". Inter-Local Agreement 95-096

c/o Sarasota County Planning Department, P.O. Box 8, Sarasota, FL 34230-0008 &
Charlotte County Community Development Department, 18500 Murdock Circle, Port Charlotte, FL 33948-1094

The Public Service Commission (NPA Division) should consider: the need for a more definitive way of accurately projecting the time-life of an area code (NPA guidelines indicate area code changes only after 8 to 10 years); the assignment of all NXX numbers should be in increments of a 1000 ; determine if all of the assigned NXX's are being used or just stored for future use; any new area code should not have any similarity to the one it is replacing; the concept of an Overlay Plan is unacceptable demographically.n

Thank you for the opportunity to present our opposition to any division of the Englewood community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willard A. Coy". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dr. Willard A. Coy
Vice Chair, EAPAB
April 8, 1999

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN SARASOTA COUNTY AND CHARLOTTE COUNTY
WINCHESTER BOULEVARD EXTENSION

①

This Agreement is made and entered into by and between Sarasota County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, and Charlotte County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida, this 5th day of January, 1999.

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the parties have jointly determined that there is a need for a major highway connecting S.R. 776 in the Englewood area of Charlotte County with River Road in Sarasota County, to be known as Winchester Boulevard, (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, portions of Winchester Boulevard will be within the respective road systems of each county; and

WHEREAS, Sarasota County has acquired most of the necessary right-of-way for Winchester Boulevard within its jurisdiction, and has contracted for a Project Design and Environment (PD&E) study for the portion of the Project within Sarasota County; and

WHEREAS, the improvements to Winchester Boulevard will require improving River Road at it's intersection with Winchester Boulevard; and

WHEREAS, the value of the right-of-way and said study being provided by Sarasota County is estimated at \$1,316,200.00; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte County has acquired most of the right-of-way for the Project between S.R. 776 in Charlotte County and the county line, and has contracted for the final design of the roadway in that area; and

WHEREAS, the value of the right-of-way and final design provided by Charlotte County is estimated at \$321,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the additional cost to complete the design, right-of-way acquisition and construction of the Project within the jurisdictions of both parties is estimated at \$752,000.00, \$1,052,000.00, and \$11,507,000.00, respectively, a total of \$13,311,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte County and Sarasota County desire to expedite all aspects of the Project.

WHEREAS, Chapter 163, Florida Statutes, permits governmental units to enter into interlocal agreements to make the most efficient use of their powers by enabling them to cooperate with one another on a basis of mutual advantage; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte County and Sarasota County desire to make the most efficient use of their powers by entering into this Agreement to serve their mutual best interests and advantage.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual terms, conditions and promises hereafter set forth, Charlotte County and Sarasota County agree as follows:

1. This agreement is entered into between Charlotte County and Sarasota County pursuant to Chapters 125 and 163 of the Florida Statutes.

2. In addition to the study and the right-of-way, Sarasota County agrees to contribute by funding the operation and maintenance of three (3) miles of the completed roadway and appurtenances within its jurisdiction at an estimated annual cost of \$11,000 per lane mile. However, Sarasota County will not contribute additional dollars (over and above the value of the right-of-way, cost of the PD&E study and maintenance) toward the design, right-of-way acquisition, and the construction of the project.

3. Charlotte County agrees to fund all other costs of the Project, including final design, permitting, right-of-way acquisition and construction, as described above, necessary to complete the Project within both jurisdictions, up to a maximum amount of \$13,311,000.00

4. If at any point during the Project it appears to either party that the funding contributions of the parties as agreed to herein will not be adequate to complete the Project, then either party may initiate additional negotiations aimed at modifying the Agreement to address the funding shortfall. Under no circumstances shall either party be obligated to provide funding beyond the herein agreed to amounts, unless this Agreement is modified, and the modified agreement ratified by both parties.

5. Charlotte County shall be responsible for accomplishing the final design, right-of-way acquisition, permitting and construction of the Project within its jurisdiction, subject to the funding limitations contained herein.

6. Sarasota County shall be responsible for accomplishing the final design, right-of-way acquisition, permitting and construction of the Project within its jurisdiction, subject to the funding limitations contained herein. However, since Charlotte County is making a funding contribution, Charlotte County staff shall participate in the review and approval of all aspects of the Project including the selection of consultants, development of scopes of work and fees for professional services contracts, technical reviews, permitting, right-of-way acquisition, bid documents, actual construction of the improvements, pay requests, change orders and all other expenditures.

7. The parties agree to facilitate the most cost effective and permissible drainage design for the Project as a whole by joining in permit applications as may be necessary to allow stormwater from one county to discharge to, or be treated in, the other county, as may be appropriate.

FOUR COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL UNIFORM INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT
FOR
FIRE PROTECTION, EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS),
AND SPECIALIZED SERVICES

2

THIS AGREEMENT, is made and entered into by and between Sarasota County, Manatee County, Charlotte County, Desoto County, certain FIRE and/or FIRE-RESCUB PROTECTION DISTRICTS/AUTHORITIES, and EMERGENCY SERVICE DEPARTMENTS WITHIN THESE COUNTIES and the MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS executing this Agreement (As Described in Exhibit "A");

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the parties to this Agreement provide fire protection and/or emergency medical services and/or specialized services within their respective territorial limits;

WHEREAS, Section 163.01, Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969, Florida Statutes (1996) authorizes Cities and Counties to enter into an Agreement to provide for the efficient use of resources;

WHEREAS, all parties to this Agreement are public agencies as defined within Part 1 of Chapter 163;

WHEREAS, Section 252.40, Florida Statutes (1996) authorizes the development of Agreements for reciprocal emergency aid and assistance;

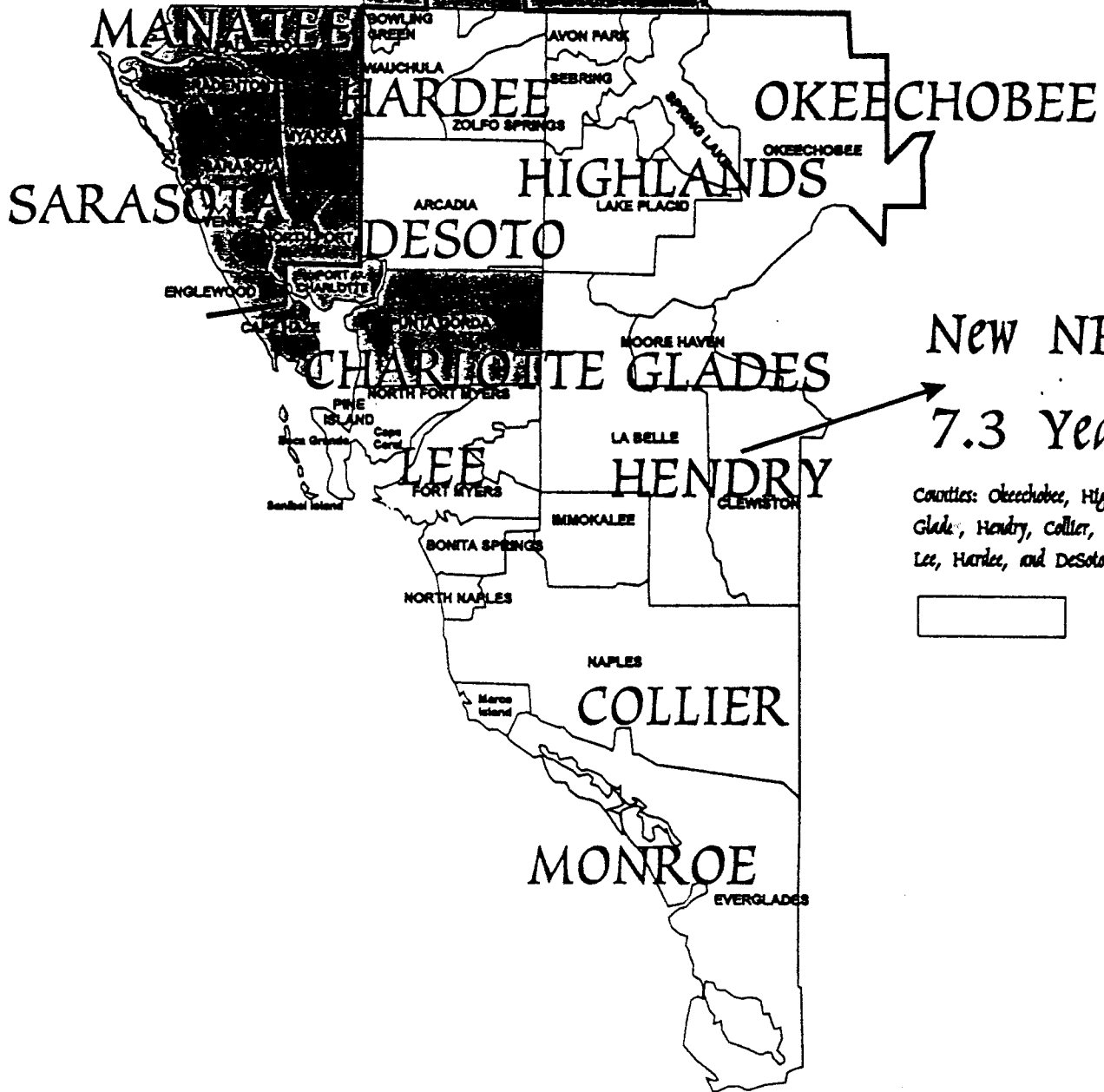
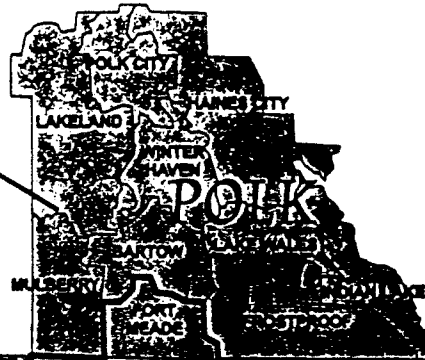
BOARD RECORDS
FILED FOR RECORD
98 APR 19 PM 3:56
KAREN E. HERRING
CLERK OF CIRCUIT COURT
SARASOTA COUNTY, FL

941 Area Code
Alternative 3
Split

941

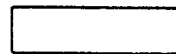
4.1 Years

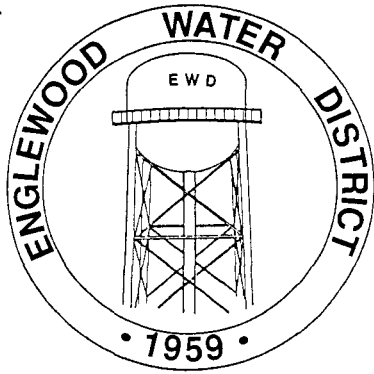
Counties: Polk, Manatee,
Sarasota, and Charlotte



New NPA
7.3 Years

Counties: Okeechobee, Highlands,
Glades, Hendry, Collier, Monroe,
Lee, Hardee, and Desoto





ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT

Paul Phillips

P.O. Box 1399 • Englewood, Florida 34295-1399
(941) 474-3217 • Suncom: 552-7011 • Fax: (941) 475-0497 • E-mail: ewd@ewol.com
201 Selma Avenue

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

William Mulloy, Chairman
Paul J. Phillips, Vice-Chairman

Toddington S. Tracy

Ken Burda

Kerry E. Mack

James A. Elder, P.E.
Administrator

Wayne R. Roddey
Assistant Administrator

April 8, 1999

The Englewood Water District is a political subdivision of the State of Florida, created in 1959 and codified by enactment of Chapter 96-499 Laws of Florida, in June 1996.

A five member Board of Supervisors, with positions filled concurrent with a general election governs the District. The Board members selected the Chairman and Vice-Chairman. My name is Paul J. Phillips and I am currently the Vice-Chairman. On March 18th, 1999 the Board directed me to represent them at your meetings.

The Englewood Water District is located in the southern part of Sarasota County and the northwestern part of Charlotte County. There are approximately 17,000 customers equally divided between the two counties. The District's administrative office and drinking water treatment plants are located in Sarasota County while the wastewater treatment facility is in Charlotte County. Therefore, the Englewood Water District can not be divided by area codes.

On March 18th, 1999 the Board of Supervisors passed Resolution Number 99-03-18 G stating their objection to more than one area code. The District can not efficiently and effectively operate to provide water, wastewater and reuse water to its customers if its telephone system is unduly complicated by more than one area code.

ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT

RESOLUTION No. 99-03-18 G

A Resolution of the ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT opposing a change to the Telephone Area Code.

WHEREAS, the **ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT** is a political subdivision of the State of Florida created by Chapter 96-499, Laws of Florida, as amended; and

WHEREAS, the **ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT** has a duty and obligation to its customers to keep operating costs as low as possible,

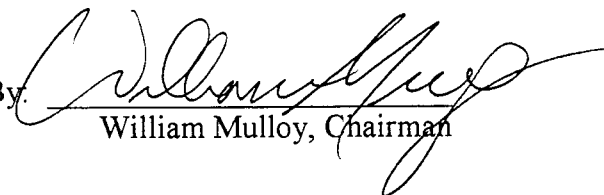
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the **ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT** that,

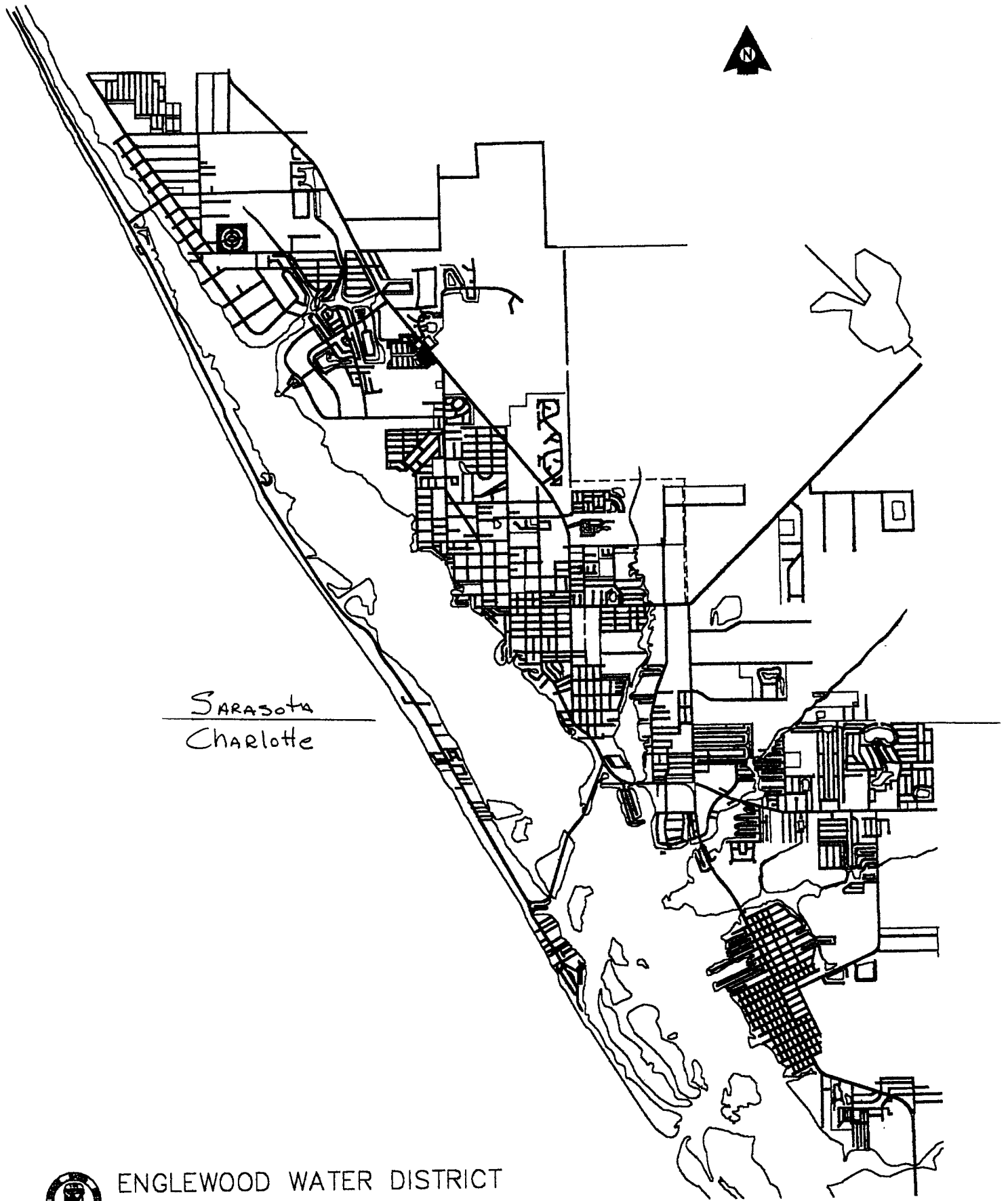
The Public Service Commission is hereby requested to deny any change which cause a division in the area of the Englewood Water District with regard to telephone area codes.

The boundary of the Englewood Water District is attached and a part of this Resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by UNANIMOUS vote this 18th day of March, 1999.

ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT

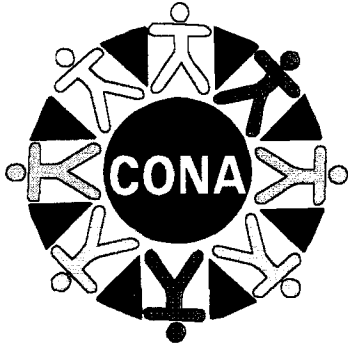
By: 
William Mulloy, Chairman



SARASOTA
Charlotte



ENGLEWOOD WATER DISTRICT
DISTRICT MAP



**Council Of Neighborhood
Associations, Inc.**
P. O. Box 382, Osprey, FL 34229

April 7, 1999

Shannon Staub, Chair
Sarasota Board of County Commissioners
1660 Ringling Boulevard
Sarasota, FL 34236

Re: Public Service Commission Hearing, 4/8/99

Dear Commissioner Staub:

The Sarasota County Council of Neighborhood Associations (CONA) applauds the recent decision of the Board of County Commissioners related to the area code issue. The Board has challenged the Public Service Commission's approach to solving uncontrolled growth of our telephone communications system and its impact on the citizens and businesses in Sarasota County. CONA supports the positions voted upon by the Sarasota County Commission at its March 30 meeting. These positions are:

1. Continued use of a single area code for Manatee, Sarasota and Charlotte counties.
2. Opposition to any overlay codes, as they would undoubtedly serve to confuse, irritate and anger residents.
3. Implementation of a new area code within the tri-county area only if the new code would extend the exhaust period to six years or longer.

We urge the Sarasota County Commission to continue all necessary discussions with the Public Service Commission and to impress upon them that their decision must positively impact local residents' telephone service now and in years to come.

Sincerely,

COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS

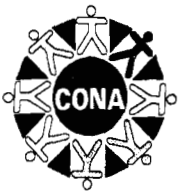
Cheryl Gross, President

***Congratulations to the City of Sarasota's newly
elected Commissioners
Carolyn Mason & Mary Quillin***

Everyone is invited to the installation ceremony.

Friday, April 16, 1999

City Hall, 1565 1st Street in Sarasota at noon.



**Council Of Neighborhood
Associations, Inc.**
P. O. Box 382, Osprey, FL 34229



Monday, April 12, 1999 -- Meeting Notice

"The Brawl over Sprawl"

Sheila Garbade
408 Pine Ranch Trail
Osprey, FL 34229

1999 CONA Board of Directors

President.....Cheryl Gross, Sarasota Springs Association, 371-0619
1st Vice-President.....Jim Cartwright, Colonial Gables Homeowners, 377-9135
2nd Vice-President.....Sheila Garbade, Pine Ranch East Homeowners, 966-6768
Treasurer.....Suzanne Stepek, Holiday Harbor, 921-5979
Secretary.....Brian Stewart, South Gate Homeowners Association, 927-2873
Directors:.....Bill Duerig, Jacaranda West Homeowners Association
Bill Earl, Richard Road East Homeowners Association
Jan Findley, Englewood Isles Property Owners Association
Gayle Reynolds, Denham Acres Neighborhood Association

CONA Mission Statement: CONA exists to promote and further the common good of the citizenry of Sarasota County; to further the interest, welfare, comfort and health of the residents and homeowners; and to support representative government and proper administration by the authorities and governmental agencies in the entire County of Sarasota.

For more newsletter information, contact Dawn Stewart at 927-2873 or write CONA PO Box 382, Osprey, FL 34229.

April 1999

CONA COMMENTS

Newsletter of the Sarasota County



COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS, INC.

Public Meeting

Monday, April 12, at 7:00 PM

“The Brawl Over Sprawl”

A forum regarding the controversial issue of growth east of I-75.
Panelists will present divergent viewpoints for your consideration, questions and comments.

Panelists: Jay Brady, *Gulf Coast Builders Exchange*;
Betsy Benac, *Wilson, Miller, Bartow & Peek, Inc.*;
Dan Lobeck, *Growth-Restraint & Environmental Organization*;
Wade Matthews, *Sarasota Audubon Society*
Bill Zoller, *Concerned Citizens East of I-75*

Location: Waldemere Fire Station, 2070 Waldemere Street, one block east of
Sarasota Memorial Hospital, on the corner of Waldemere & East Ave.

- **Planning Commission Workshop April 7, 7 pm:** To obtain public comments relating to planning for the area east of I-75. A good way to prepare for CONA's April 12 forum. To be held at 1660 Ringling Blvd., First Floor Commission Chambers.
- **New Board Member:** CONA is pleased to welcome new Board member Gayle Reynolds, a community activist, representing Denham Acres Neighborhood Association.
- **THANK YOU!** CONA would like to thank Bill Couch with *the Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce*, Jono Miller of the *Environmentally Sensitive Lands Advisory Committee*, and Matt Walsh, Editor and Publisher of the *Gulf Coast Business Review* for a lively and informative discussion of the Sensitive Lands Referendum at our March 8 meeting.
- **Zoning Ordinance Letter to Board of County Commissioners:** CONA sent a letter in support of the Richardson Road East Homeowners Association's proposed zoning ordinance amendment, which would regulate RV park/campground setbacks from residential neighborhoods.

The following Associations are on CONA's Membership Roster for 1999:

Arbors Mobile H.O.A.	Jacaranda West Homeowners Association
Bay Acres Estates	Pine Ranch East Owners Association
Blackburn Point Woods HOA	River Forest Civic Association
Casey Key Protective Association	Sarasota Springs Community Association
Colonial Gables HOA	Save Richardson Road East
Denham Acres Homeowners	Sherwood Estates Association
Downtown North Neighborhood	Sorrento East Property Association
Englewood Isles Property Owners	Sorrento South Property Owners
Growth Restraint & Environmental	Southbay Yacht & Racquet
Holiday Harbor HOA	South Gate Community Association
Hourglass Lakes Estates	Tamaron Homeowners Association

If your Association is not listed above, please send in your 1999 membership dues. Thank you!

PROPOSED NUMBERING OF 941 AREA CODE

CHAIRMAN STAN STEPHENS' STATEMENT

4-8-99 HEARING

Good ~~afternoon~~^{Morning}. My name is Stan Stephens, my business address is 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 903, Bradenton, Florida and I currently serve as Chairman of the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners. As Chairman, it is my responsibility to see that the Board of County Commissioners protects the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Manatee County, Florida.

The Board of County Commissioners recommends that the Commission either approve the current plan or reconfigure the area code service areas into smaller geographic areas which will lengthen the exhaust period, but still retain the 941 area code for Manatee County in any reconfigured service area. Manatee County's area code was changed approximately three years ago from 813 to 941. Another area code change means changing telephone alert systems, paging programs, the enhanced 911 data base, and processing all telephone reference materials and 911 operational software. This change caused significant confusion to the county's numerous working and retired residents and added considerable expense to the emergency management services. The impact of an area code change is amplified when the change occurs in a three-year period, and this impact will be avoided when longer exhaust periods are implemented. We believe that the residents and governments of Manatee County, Sarasota County and Charlotte County should all retain the 941 area code.

Manatee County opposes the use of an overlay system that would require ten-digit dialing as a means of extending the exhaust period. Demographically, a large percentage of Manatee County residents are senior citizens and many of our retired residents may find ten-digit dialing unsettling and confusing. In addition, children may have difficulty remembering a longer dialing code. The overlay system is not in the best interest of Manatee County.

Thank you for your attention.

James E. ~~Evans~~

T
H
E
ALLIANCE
SOUTH WEST COUNTY ALLIANCE
OF HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATIONS

PO Box 263

Englewood, FL 34295-0263

Fax (941) 474-3865

April 6, 1999

Florida Public Service Commission
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850

Re: Docket 99-0223-TL
941 Area Code
Relief Plan

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This Alliance consists of twenty-four Homeowner's Associations, with about 6,000 owners, in the area of Englewood, Sarasota County, Florida. We submit herewith our ideas for the future of Area Code 941.

Most importantly, we want Sarasota and Charlotte Counties to remain in the same Area, whatever that may be. The proposals submitted by PSC Staff will divide the community of Englewood into two Areas and will, as well, divide Charlotte County,, since GTE service territory extends several miles into Charlotte County. The only way to prevent such divisions is to put all of both counties into the same Area Code. This is basic.

The NPA Code Relief Planning & Notification Guidelines issued by ATIS (Exhibit PK-1 in this proceeding) states in paragraph 5.0 (f):

f) for each relief activity proposed in the plan, it is recommended that customers who undergo number changes shall not be required to change again for a period of 8-10 years.

The proposed alternatives estimate lives of 5.2 years, 4.6 years, and 4.2 years unless an overlay is used. No one who has submitted testimony has felt that an overlay is a viable alternative. The proposed splits each give estimated times far less than the ATIS guide lines. Such a present "solution" is inadequate and improper. All it does is to set up another proceeding like this in a couple of years. The solution is to divide 941 into three (3) areas now. This will extend their usefulness and adequacy for a period within the guidelines.

In those Guidelines, following paragraph 5.0 (h) is an unindented, unnumbered, paragraph which reads, in part:

Requests for relief NPA codes.....Normally, only one code will be assigned per request unless the codes are to be introduced simultaneously or..

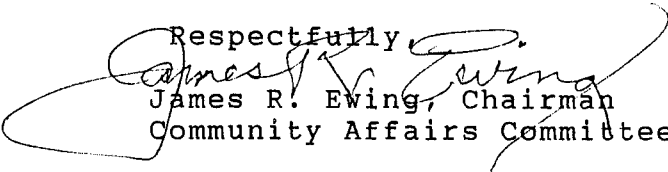
We submit that a present division into three areas will be in line with all the guidelines established. Therefore, we recommend the following division. It keeps the sections of Charlotte County and of Englewood in the same Area Code, and also solves the Ft. Meade problem.

The population figures given here are certified by the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations and are the latest available to us. We note that Polk County is the most populous of the 13 counties presently in 941 and that Lee County is second and Sarasote County is third. We have placed these counties in separate proposed Areas, so as to equalize populations in so far as is feasible..

Area 1	Area 2	Area 3
Polk 459,010	Manatee 241,422	Lee 394,244
Hardee 22,447	Sarasota 311,043	Collier 200,024
Highlands 79,536	Charlotte 131,307	Monroe* 1,000
Okeechobee 34,746	DeSoto 27,224	Hendry 30,308
		Glades 9,648
	*Monroe, mainland portion, estimate.	
TOTAL 595,739	710,996	635,324

We request that you consider our proposal and implement it as the solution to this consolidated docket.

Respectfully


James R. Ewing, Chairman
Community Affairs Committee

JRE:id

BEFORE THE FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

In Re: Request for Review of Proposed

Docket 99-0223-TL

Numbering Plan Relief for the 941

Area Code

TESTIMONY

OF DR. J. BRIAN MURPHY

Dear Commissioners,

My name is Dr. J. Brian Murphy and I am Vice President of the Eye Center at 2003 Cortez Rd. W., Bradenton, Florida 34207. I currently serve as Chairman of the Board for the Manatee Chamber of Commerce. I will serve one year as Chairman, through 1999 and be Immediate Past Chairman in the year 2000. I have chaired numerous committees in the Chamber over the last 15 years and currently serve as chief executive officer -- overseeing Chamber operations.

My concerns about this 941 recommended / proposed split and the forecast exhaust period, as the Chairman of the Manatee Chamber of Commerce are:

Manatee County is home to approximately 5,600 businesses. The vast majority are small businesses under five employees. In 1998, the Bradenton-Sarasota metropolitan area was classified by PC World and Money magazines as being the second best place of second tier cities to operate a home-based business. Small businesses are more greatly impacted, both from an operational and financial perspective, by unanticipated changes such as a new area code. Not only purchasing new stationery, business cards, etc. but the loss of business due to confusion and downtime from a smaller company's perspective has a greater chance of impacting their bottom-line, collectively.

Word of mouth and effective communication systems, are two of the most appropriate ways to provide a productive sales and customer service effort. The Manatee Chamber in planning for the millennium has projected improved customized communications such as e-mail, chat boxes, interactive communications as key to providing our members the service they demand and should deservedly receive. Interruptions, distractions for the largest number of people and businesses carries with it the greater harm. Splitting Manatee, Sarasota and Polk would impact more than 1 million people living in

contiguous counties. The projected population change by the year 2010 would also show the largest percentile increase, 21%, of the entire Tampa Bay region.

Additionally, Manatee County has a strong industrial base, share an international airport with Sarasota County and are home to the largest containerized port on the west coast of Florida. Port Manatee is also the closest, deep water sea port in Mexico. Internationally, area code changes will have an unsettling negative impact on our foreign business partners, not to mention our growing international tourism business and a senior citizen's population.

As far as the exhaust period is concerned, it should most certainly be extended beyond the estimated 5.2 years. Methods of calculating phone lines should be intensely analyzed, as well as, new technology closely monitored in order to plan for changes in the telecommunications industries that would positively reduce the proliferation of new telephone numbers.

If the commissioners were to consider alternatives to the Northwest/Southeast split ... first and foremost Manatee County should remain in the 941 area code. Secondly, there should be no overlays impacting Manatee County. Due to our proximity being centrally located, adjoining two of the most populous four counties, Manatee, Polk and Sarasota are the most logical choices, as was recommended by Lockheed Martin.

Specifically, Manatee and Sarasota Counties share mutual transportation planning organizations (MPO), metropolitan statistical area (MSA), business locations and educational institutions. In fact, we have a difficult time knowing where Manatee County stops and Sarasota County begins as it relates to the county boundary line, particularly, in terms of zip codes and tax issues. Case in point, in the southeast part of Manatee County alone, in the Lakewood Ranch Development, seven thousand homes will be built in the next five years and this development straddles county lines.

We would not be in favor of an overlay method of relief in Manatee County. We do not believe an overlay method is a good means to reach an extended exhaust period. Businesses have speed dials for a specific purpose, although many companies do not have or use this feature. Perhaps a seven-digit number is about the capacity at which business people and the elderly alike are able to handle rendering to their memory.

The only exception for an overlay in the recommended 941 area plan would be for unincorporated Englewood, that overlaps county boundaries.

This concludes our testimony. Thank-you.

Presented at the Public Hearing held at the Sarasota County Administrative Center, Sarasota, Florida on April 8, 1999.

South Venice 2010

A Coalition of Neighborhood Associations

98 Hourglass Drive

Venice, Florida 34293-6030

Ph/Fax 941-497-6868

Email Pirdev@aol.com

Public Service Commission (Sarasota County Hearing) April 8, 1999
2540 Shumard Oak Blvd.
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0850

The mission of South Venice 2010 is to preserve, promote and protect the integrity of the community. To that end, we respectfully request that Sarasota and Charlotte Counties be given one area code number.

We respectfully request that the Public Service Commission think outside the box and, in the interests of the public health, safety and welfare, keep Sarasota County and Charlotte County in the same area. Manatee County has just announced adding 10,000 new homes in a major development. Sarasota County is growing by leaps and bounds. Charlotte County continues to be a major area for southwest Florida growth. Unless geographic areas are down-sized, another area code change is in our short term future. To prevent this, we ask that you take a fresh approach.

Sarasota County and Charlotte County are joined at the hip in the city of Englewood. The county line runs through the middle of that city. In our opinion, government should do everything possible to preserve the sense of community that Englewood enjoys.

Recognizing and appreciating the need to encourage a sense of community in the area, local governmental bodies have joined together in inter-local agreements. County Commissions have collaborated positively on funds for the building of roads.

School Boards have worked successfully in a reciprocal agreement for school attendance. Students attend Englewood Elementary school, a Sarasota County school. They then attend Ainger Jr. High and Lemon Bay High School, Charlotte County schools. The sense of community is strengthened through after-school and weekend youth activities. These events include students from Sarasota County and Charlotte County.

South Venice 2010

April 8, 1999

Patients from both Sarasota County and Charlotte County feel fortunate to have medical facilities so close by. Government has a responsibility to remove as many obstacles as possible for residents in a time of need for health care. Overlays would place obstacles in the path of residents.

Picture yourself the partner of someone who has need of a doctor. Or, think of yourself as the school secretary who needs to call home because an elementary schoolchild has become ill at school. In a time of stress, confusion of numbers could complicate reaching people. Consider the ease of dialing seven numbers. Now contemplate dialing ten numbers.

Sarasota and Charlotte Counties are fortunate that they have not been afflicted by the problems of the very large counties that have few choices for dealing with monumental problems brought on by very large populations. We can preserve our sense of community for a while yet. Please help us to do that.

We respectfully request that you do all in your power to permit Sarasota County and Charlotte County to operate under the same area code.

Thank you.


Giovanna Deveny, Chair

MY NAME IS GRACE AMODEO AND I HEADED THE PETITION TO ELIMINATE LONG DISTANCE RATES THROUGHOUT CHARLOTTE COUNTY IN 1995 - 1997. I LIVE AT 17079 O'HARA DR. PORT CHARLOTTE, FL. 33948.

CHARLOTTE AND SARASOTA COUNTIES HAVE BEEN WORKING HARD TO CREATE UNITY WITHIN AND BETWEEN THEIR COUNTIES. WE ARE NO STRANGERS TO DIVERSITY, BUT WE'D LIKE TO KEEP CONTINUITY WITH THE SAME AREA CODE. WE ARE STILL STRUGGLING WITH LONG DISTANCE RATES BETWEEN ENGLEWOOD AND THE REST OF CHARLOTTE COUNTY.

OUR COUNTY BOUNDARIES WERE ESTABLISHED MANY YEARS AGO. THESE COUNTY BOUNDARIES DO MEAN SOMETHING TO OUR RESIDENTS, OUR BUSINESSES, AND COMMERCE AND WE HOPE TO ~~Ø~~ THE PSC AND THE TELEPHONE COMPANIES. WE BUILD ROADS TOGETHER, COMMON DISASTERS CONNECT US WITH WATER SUPPLIES AND EMERGENCY HELP. YOU WOULDN'T DIVIDE YOUR BODY, WELL THEN DON'T DIVIDE OUR COUNTY BODIES EITHER.

OUR RESIDENT POPULATION IN CHARLOTTE COUNTY IS ONE OF THE OLDEST IN THE STATE. HAVING DIFFERENT AREA CODES WITHIN THE COUNTY WOULD CREATE CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION. WE GET ENOUGH WRONG NUMBERS NOW WITH SEVEN DIGITS. IT WAS POINTED OUT AT THE LAST MEETING THAT WE TEACH OUR CHILDREN THEIR HOME PHONE NUMBERS. SEVEN DIGITS ARE EASIER FOR THEM TO REMEMBER.

WE ARE GLAD THAT YOU CONSOLIDATED AND ENCOURAGE YOU TO KEEP THE AREA CODE IN CHARLOTTE, SARASOTA AND MANATEE COUNTIES THE SAME,

With no overlay
Thank you.



Highwave Incorporated
P.O. Box 1633
Englewood, FL 34295-1633
941.460.0330

April 8, 1999

Florida Public Service Commission
Customer Hearing
Sarasota County Administrative Center

Public Statement

Highwave Incorporated is a local Internet Service Provider located in Englewood in Sarasota County. Our customer base includes residents and businesses who can reach our service by dialing a local telephone number. Currently, this includes the geographic area from Nokomis south to Placida and west to the Myakka River, including the entire Cape Haze peninsula.

If the area code changes at the Sarasota/Charlotte county line, this will have a negative impact on the perception of our service area. Regardless of whether or not the local toll-free calling area changes, the perception will be that we are a long-distance call for the people in the new area code. In effect, our livelihood depends upon the decision that is made by the Public Service Commission, GTE, and Sprint.

While I understand the need to make a change, I do not feel that it is in the best interest of the community of Englewood to divide the area code at the county line. The local Englewood calling area should remain under a single area code!

Of the alternatives that have been suggested, only those that keep Englewood under a single area code should be considered. An alternative that would best meet our community's current needs as well as consider future expansion would be one that keeps Sarasota, Charlotte, and Manatee counties together and assigns a new area code to them, excluding Polk county.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jill Leah".

Jill Leah
President

Sarasota County and Municipal Population Projections

		1990	1998	2000	2005	2010	2015	2020
Sarasota	Resident Population	50,961	51,650	52,219	52,790	53,326	53,326	53,326
	Functional Population	61,282	61,681	62,767	63,454	64,098	64,098	64,098
Venice	Resident Population	17,052	19,069	21,246	22,556	22,556	22,556	22,556
	Functional Population	23,352	25,907	29,144	30,941	30,941	30,941	30,941
North Port	Resident Population	11,973	17,672	19,392	24,679	31,407	39,970	50,867
	Functional Population	15,346	21,507	24,855	31,631	40,255	51,230	65,197
Longboat Key	Resident Population	3,393	4,074	4,695	4,695	4,695	4,695	4,695
	Functional Population	9,173	11,435	12,703	12,703	12,703	12,703	12,703
Municipal Total	Resident Population	83,379	92,465	97,552	104,720	111,984	120,547	131,444
	Functional Population	109,153	120,530	129,469	138,728	147,997	158,972	172,939
Unincorporated	Resident Population	194,397	223,558	228,248	244,680	259,216	273,353	285,956
	Functional Population	239,441	275,359	281,136	301,376	319,279	336,693	352,215

RESIDENT POPULATION

Total County	277,776	316,023	325,800	349,400	371,200	393,900	417,400
Municipalities	83,379	92,465	97,552	104,720	111,984	120,547	131,444
Unincorporated	194,397	223,558	228,248	244,680	259,216	273,353	285,956
% Unincorporated	69.98%	70.74%	70.06%	70.03%	69.83%	69.40%	68.51%

FUNCTIONAL POPULATION

Total County	348,594	395,889	410,605	440,104	467,276	495,664	525,155
Municipalities	109,153	120,530	129,469	138,728	147,997	158,972	172,939
Unincorporated	239,441	275,359	281,136	301,376	319,279	336,693	352,215
% Unincorporated	68.69%	69.55%	68.47%	68.48%	68.33%	67.93%	67.07%

Sources:

- (1) Resident Population, Summary Tape File 1A, U.S. Bureau of the Census, 1990.
- (2) Resident population, 1998, and Resident Population Projections, 2000-2020, Total County, Bureau of Economic and Business Research, Warrington College of Business Administration, University of Florida, 221 Matherly Hall, Gainesville, Florida, 32611-7145 (352-392-0171).
- (3) Municipal projections taken from adopted Evaluation and Appraisal Reports.
- (4) Unincorporated County: difference between Sources (2) and (3).
- (5) Functional population defined as all housing units occupied.