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## County opens first 'green' fire station in Dec. 10 ceremony

Sarasota County's first "green" environmentally sustainable fire station will open with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 9 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. The new station is on the site of the original 1954 city-owned fire station at 47 N. Adams Drive, Sarasota.

The \$2.2 million station is a cooperative venture of the county, the city of Sarasota, area residents and the St. Armands business community. It will house both Advanced Life Support (ALS) Fire Engine 3 and an ALS Rescue 3 vehicle. The facility will be staffed with four full-time firefighter/paramedics and firefighter/emergency medical technicians providing 24-hour service.

Designed by Fleischman Garcia Architects, with offices in Tampa and Sarasota, the 5,443-square-foot building is expected to be certified under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System developed by the U.S. Green Building Council.

Green features include:

- Capture of rainwater to clean apparatus and fill fire suppression tanks
- Solar hot water
- Indoor lighting controls
- Energy-efficient appliances
- Environmentally friendly outdoor lighting
- Parking for alternative transportation
- Native Florida landscaping

The station includes facility upgrades to meet Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) flood requirements and storm hardening designed to withstand Category 4 hurricane winds. Safety features include living and office spaces above the 11-foot minimum flood elevation, impact-resistant glass and a full fire sprinkler and fire alarm system. The station features a day room, bunk rooms, a kitchen, a decontamination area, an emergency medical services storage area and laundry rooms.

Magnum Builders of Sarasota Inc. was the contractor.

For more information about the ribbon-cutting ceremony or Fire Station No. 3, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.