

SCGOVNEWS



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Ribbon-cutting ceremony for downtown Fire Station 1 set Oct. 6

The public is invited to the official opening ceremony of the new Fire Station 1 at 2 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 6. Sarasota County and the City of Sarasota will celebrate the completion of the station with a ribbon cutting ceremony.

The new fire station and fuel depot were built on the site of the 50-year-old station, 1445 4th St., in the city's Rosemary District.

The Sarasota County Fire Department's busiest station also will be the third "green" fire station certified under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System by the U.S. Green Building Council. Fire Station 3 on St. Armands Key and Fire Station 15 in Palmer Ranch also are LEED-certified.

Fire Station 1's "green" features include:

- A rainwater harvesting system that captures rainwater to wash fire trucks and fill tanks
- Solar hot water
- Reclaimed "grey" water from showers is used to flush toilets
- Energy-efficient outdoor lighting and sensor-driven indoor lighting
- Florida-friendly landscaping
- Parking for alternative transportation
- Energy-efficient appliances

The storm-hardened station will withstand Category 5 hurricanes and includes a fire suppression sprinkler system.

The single-story, 13,054-square-foot station has four truck bays and two deep rescue stations that can accommodate more people and equipment during a disaster. It houses Fire Engine 1, Fire Ladder 1, Battalion Chief 1, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Captain 1 and two advanced life support ambulances, Rescue 1 and Rescue 20. The facility is staffed with 12 firefighter/paramedics and firefighter/emergency medical technicians with two command staff persons providing 24-hour-a-day service. The city's fire department consolidated with the county in 1996.

The \$3.1 million construction project includes replacement of the on-site refueling station's underground single-wall fuel storage tanks with double-wall tanks, as required by state statute. It was designed by Totems Architecture Inc. of Sarasota. DeAngelis Diamond Construction Inc. of Naples and Port Charlotte was the contractor. The total project cost was \$4.5 million, including design.

For more information, contact the Sarasota County Call Center at 941-861-5000.

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