

## Cape Coral Police Department Unveils New Motorcycles for Traffic Unit

*The Cape Coral Police Department unveil new fleet of BMW Motorcycles for the Traffic Unit*

**T**he Cape Coral Police Department added a new fleet of motorcycles for the Traffic Unit, which will help thwart aggressive driving, reduce traffic crashes, curtail traffic homicides and help keep citizens safe as they travel to and from their destinations.

Cape PD purchased new BMW R-1200-RT-P Authority motorcycles to be used for the next five years as an integral part of the Police Department's Traffic Unit. The new BMW motorcycles provide a cost savings of almost \$5,000 per bike compared to leasing Harley Davidson police motorcycles.

Previously, Cape Coral Police leased the Harley Davidson motorcycles for two years and turned them in to the leasing agent. At the start and end of each lease, the department would pay to have police equipment installed and uninstalled on the motorcycle and then pay again to have the equipment on the new motorcycle. This would cost about \$700 – \$1,000 per motorcycle. At the end of the lease, Cape PD had nothing left but lease payment receipts.

The Cape Coral Police Department now will own these motorcycles and will only have to pay to have the police equipment installed and removed one time over the next five years.

Other major benefits of the 2015 BMW R-1200-RT-P Authority:

- Better fuel economy (40-60 mpg / competitor 28-32 mpg)
- Less required maintenance (every 6,000 miles / competitor every 2,500 miles)
- Lighter overall weight (approx. 250 lb.)
- Traction Control (prevents tire slippage)
- Tire Pressure Monitoring (safety to rider)
- Integrated ABS brakes
- Comfortable riding position
- Cooler running engine (water-cooled – keeps rider cooler during summer)
- Lights at the driver's eye level
- LED – visible over 0.9 miles away
- Take Down Lights
- Alley Lights
- Running Lights
- Wireless Headsets
- Heated grips and seats (for cool winter mornings)



“This is the culmination of almost three years of testing and evaluation,” said Det. Sergeant Dana Coston, Cape Coral Police Department Public Affairs Officer. “The partnership with BMW allows us to field a smaller, lighter, more maneuverable and cooler bike also equipped with the newest technology.” ■

## CivicTRAK Mobile Citizen App Coming Soon

**W**ith the increasing use of smartphones and other mobile devices, City Council approved moving forward with a one-year trial of the CRW CivicTRAK mobile citizen app. CivicTRAK is a new service provided by CRW, one of the City's software vendors.

The City has been using CRW's TRAKiT product since 2009 for processing permits, project management, code cases, business licenses, and citizen requests for service. With TRAKiT, Cape Coral citizens have been able to call the Citizen Action Center with complaints or requests for services. The service also is accessible online where a citizen can submit the information and monitor the status of an issue.

The new CivicTRAK app will provide this convenience and other services using a smartphone. When entering complaints or requests for service via the app, residents also will have the option of uploading photographs and transmitting GPS locations. CivicTRAK also will provide a portal for City information and services including contact information, City news, City calendar, facility locations and a city business directory.

The City currently is working with the vendor to configure and test the new system. The app is expected to be available for download in August. ■

## Cape Coral Evaluating Pros and Cons of Electric Service Options

*Negotiations started with LCEC and additional information requested*

**T**he City of Cape Coral's 30-year contract with LCEC is expiring, and we are in the process of reviewing electric service options for our community because.

There are two options available, one of which is to negotiate a new agreement. The other option, which LCEC provided to the City, is to create a municipal electric utility to serve and focus only on our Cape Coral community.

There are pros and cons to both options. Negotiating a new franchise agreement may be the most expedient option; however, Cape Coral customers may not get the customized services provided by a municipal electric utility. Creating a municipal electric utility would give Cape Coral customers the opportunity to invest proceeds from electric bills in Cape Coral and have transparency into electric operations; however, the process could take a few years to complete. Purchasing the Cape Coral assets of the electric



system could be expensive; however, the “good news” is that Cape Coral customers already own the assets as “equity owners” in LCEC.

We really do not have a “position” in this process but we do have an “interest.” Our interest is to gather and present facts to our citizens and City Council, and give honest and correct information on the options available. We have requested additional information from LCEC that will assist

us with the evaluation process.

As this process continues, you may hear some incorrect and misleading information from those who do have a “position.” We encourage you to keep an open mind, wait for the process to play out and all the facts to be presented. This will take some time to complete. But once completed, Cape Coral electric customers can be confident they will be well-served by the outcome. ■