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P.W. Chamber Building Underway

The Palms West Chamber of Commerce is taking steps to preserve plant life in preparation for construction of its new building in Loxahatchee Groves.

Earthmovers pushed, dug and pulled four statuesque oak trees recently from the area that is becoming the new home of the Palms West Chamber of Commerce building. But the trees aren't going far.

As part of the overall development plan, the four oaks and 16 cabbage palms were relocated to be used later in the landscape plan for the property.

"This is the next step that will allow the building itself to commence," said John Southard, vice chairman of facilities for the chamber and senior project manager for Balfour Beatty Construction.

Actual construction is set to begin soon.

"The oaks were probably 40 to 50 feet tall, I would think, and probably 30-plus years old," said Scott Armand of Armand Professional Services, who is overseeing the landscaping for the project. "They were relocated to our little tree farm on the property until we get the building done."

Overall, the tree canopy the area is known for will be greatly enhanced when the project is complete, to include not only the relocated trees but 40 additional ones, Armand said.

The landscape plan features native plants and includes bald cypress, live oak and South Florida slash pine trees, muhly grass, green coco plum, red bay, white indigo berry and cardboard palms.

The Palms West Chamber of Commerce advocates for a healthy business environment, providing outstanding member services, benefits, education and information, thereby enhancing the quality of life in the community. The new chamber offices will provide a suitable building in which business and community-based groups could hold meetings, seminars and classes.

For more information, call (561) 790-6200 or visit www.palmswest.com.