



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT SEPTEMBER 27, 2019

City Manager

- **Alert Punta Gorda** – Get notified in the event of an emergency. Subscribe now for public safety alerts regarding hurricanes, critical threats, evacuation, and other important emergency information from Punta Gorda Police and Fire Departments. To sign up to join Alert Punta Gorda visit <https://bit.ly/2mnlBqZ>.
- **City Council Meeting** – City Council is requesting public input on three discussion items at its upcoming Oct. 2 meeting.
 - ✓ PLAN Punta Gorda Citywide Master Plan – Dover Kohl presented the draft PLAN Punta Gorda 2019 Citywide Master Plan at a public meeting on Aug. 21. Since that time, the public has been able to comment on the Plan directly to the firm. In order to provide additional opportunities for the public to weigh in, City Council will conduct public input sessions on both Oct. 2 and Oct. 16, prior to consideration of its adoption in the November/December timeframe. The Plan can be viewed in its entirety at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/citywide-master-plan>.
 - ✓ Gilchrist Park Activity Center Feasibility Report - On Sep. 3, Dover Kohl provided the City with the feasibility report regarding four options to consider pertaining to the Punta Gorda Boat Club and Bayfront Center. The consultant recommended renovation of both facilities as the most preferred approach at this time. The public is encouraged to offer feedback at the Oct. 2 Council meeting. The report can be viewed at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/city-manager/gilchrist-park-activity-center>.
 - ✓ Climate Adaptation Plan Update In 2018, the City applied for and received the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's 2018-2019 Florida Resilient Coastlines: Resiliency Planning grant, administered by FDEP. The City contracted with Taylor Engineering, Inc. in Feb. 2019 to conduct a vulnerability analysis for city-owned critical infrastructure and prepare an addendum to the 2009 City of Punta Gorda Adaptation Plan with a Living Shoreline Element. The 2019 City of Punta Gorda Adaptation Plan Update is an addendum to the 2009 Plan. The Plan will be presented at the Oct. 2 City Council Meeting and at the Oct. 23 Planning Commission meeting. The plan can be viewed at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/city-manager/climate-adaptation-plan>.
- **Election Information City of Punta Gorda**–
 - ✓ Election season is here and the City Code has a few regulations regarding political signs. Political signs are not permitted in the public right-of-way, public water canals or on other public property or on any utility pole or tree, except within specified proximity of polling places on election day, under rules utilized by the Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections. Signs are limited to one per candidate or issue on any single parcel. Signs may be located on private property, with permission of the owner. Signs cannot exceed 32 square feet in area per side and 6 feet in height. Signs shall be removed within 5 days (Nov. 10) after the election.



- ✓ Vote By Mail ballots for the 2019 City General Election were mailed to approximately 3200 voters on Sept. 26.
- ✓ The deadline for voters to request a Vote By Mail ballot is Oct. 26 at 5 p.m. Contact the Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections Office at (941) 833-5400.
- ✓ Candidate Campaign Treasurer's Reports submitted for all 2019 City General Election reporting periods through Sept. 13 (due date Sept. 20) are available by contacting the City Clerk's Office at (941)575-3369 or pgclerk@cityofpuntagordafl.com.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
9/29	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	http://musclecarcity.net/events/
10/4-10/6	Sandra's Oktober Fest	Sandra's Restaurant 111 W Olympia Ave	http://www.sandras-restaurant.com/
10/5	Walk to End Alzheimer's 2019	Laishley Park	https://act.alz.org
10/5	October St. Vincent Rummage Sale	25200 Airport Rd.	http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/15405/19?curm=10&cury=2019
10/5	Blessing of the Animals	11330 Burnt Store Rd.	www.bspconline.org
10/12	City Wide Garage Sale	Comfort Storage 3811 Tamiami Trail	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
10/12	Military Heritage Museum Hosts "Anchors Aweigh"	Military Heritage Museum	www.militaryheritagemuseum.org
10/13	Vendor & Craft Fair	Laishley Park	http://www.localdiessouthflorida.com/
10/15	PGI Car Club Cars & Coffee	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	biltucker@earthlink.net
10/17	Third Thursday Wine Walk	Downtown	www.puntagordachamber.com
10/19	Food Truck Festival	Nesbit St.	https://www.allrainbowandalliedyouth.org/
10/19	Muscle Car City Monthly Car Show	Muscle Car City	(941) 575-5959

Lot Mowing Program

- City mowers will completed mowing the following area; Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.), PGI (Magdalena Drive, Via Veneto, W. Henry Street, Appain Drive, and Columbian Drive), PGI Bird Section (Almar Dr., Albatross Dr., Whippoorwill Blvd, and Turtle Dove Blvd), PGI (Bal Harbor Blvd, Deborah Dr., Ryan Blvd, and Suzi St.), and Burnt Store Isles (Monaco Dr., Tripoli Blvd., Madrid Blvd., and Macedonia Dr.).
- City mowers are currently mowing the following area; Burnt Store Meadows (Areas of Tamiami Tr., N. Blue Sage, S. Blue Sage, Royal Poinciana, and Gold Tree) and East Side and the area behind Dunkin Donuts (E. Marion Ave, E. Olympia Ave, Narranja St, E. Henry, and Cooper St.).

Urban Design

- Urban Design Staff met with Taylor Engineering to review the presentation of the Climate Adaptation Plan and the Living Shoreline Element that will be presented at the October 2nd City Council meeting. The updated plan can be reviewed at: <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/city-manager/climate-adaptation-plan>
- Staff met with:
 - ✓ Peace River Wildlife Center regarding options and site constraints for the City owned W Henry Street property
 - ✓ Developer regarding potential food truck garden
 - ✓ A property owner regarding the development of two duplexes in the neighborhood residential zoning district
- The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) invites residents, merchants, business and civic leaders as well as local government representative to participate in creating a Corridor Vision Plan for US41 in Charlotte County. The goal is to create a plan that is reflective of where the community would like to be and how FDOT can be a partner. The first meeting will take place on Oct. 15 from 5:30 p.m – 7:30 p.m. at the Charlotte Harbor Events Center. During the first hour participants are invited to visit a variety of booths and interact with FDOT staff and project team members. Beginning at 6:30 p.m a project overview presentation will be given with time allotted afterwards for continued interaction. The second meeting, with identical content and format to the first meeting, will take place on Oct. 22 from 5:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. at the First Alliance Church- Family Life Center in Port Charlotte.
- Urban Design staff met with the Peace River Wildlife Center to discuss the potential development of the public facility on the City-owned open space off West Henry adjacent to Hounds on Henry and the new Punta Gorda Charlotte Library. The area has potential for a new building and operations. Staff will continue working with the PRWC to develop a conceptual plan.

Public Works Department

Engineering

- **Minor Paving** – Maintenance paving is complete at the intersection of Taylor and Carmalita St.
- **Veterans Park Phase II** – Stevens and Layton Inc. began work on Sept. 25. At this point the project has an estimated completion timeframe of mid to late Dec.
- **ADA Interior Signage and Wayfinding** – The contractor submitted the sign shop drawings to City staff for review. This work for sign installations to meet ADA compliance is scheduled to complete by the end of Jan.
- **Sidewalk ADA Ramp Improvements** – Staff met with the contractor to review Sidewalk ADA ramp construction. The improvements will take place at various locations throughout the city. A timeline and location list will be forth coming.
- **Alligator Creek Pedestrian Bridges along US41 NB-FDOT Right of Way** – Work continues with: excavation, rock, compaction and segmental block wall installation.
* The Contractors Work Area north and south of the north fork Alligator Creek bridge parallel to US41 NB remains closed to pedestrians and cyclists until further notice.
- **Goldstein Street Bricking Party between Marion and Olympia Aves** – A Historic Street bricking party was successfully held Saturday, Sept. 14. Community volunteers and City staff completed the project. Clean up and final sweeping of sand will be done the week of Sept. 22.

- **Citywide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 494 properties totaling 364,800 square feet of grading/sodding. Work was completed this week at 7411-7417 S. Tulip Tree, 701 Royal Poinciana, and 7386-7392 Satsuma. Work is underway between 586-592 Royal Poinciana and will then move to 542-550 Royal Poinciana.

Canal Maintenance

- **Repairs** – Crews filled 31 depressions and performed five seawall cap and seam patches.
- **Buckley’s Pass** – The north sections of seawall panels have been installed. The helical anchors are being installed along the north sections. Rock removal and seawall panel installation is ongoing in the south section. The dredge barge has been delivered to the staging site.



Police Department

- **Coffee with a Cop** – Oct. 2 is National Coffee with a Cop Day. Starbucks is hosting the Punta Gorda Police Department’s Coffee with a Cop from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Various members of the department will be there to enjoy a cup of coffee with our community.”
- **Body Worn Camera Grant** – The Punta Gorda Police Department is one of only thirty-two agencies, in its category, nationwide awarded the Body Worn Camera (BWC) Policy and Implementation Program to Support Law Enforcement Agencies from the U.S. Department of Justice. The grant funding of \$67,019 will be used to offset the cost of the budgeted body camera program scheduled to be implemented in 2020.
- **Employee Development Coordinator Position** – The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Employee Development Coordinator. This is a non-sworn, administrative position responsible for department training programs, hiring and testing processes, member certifications, and armory management. You can apply by visiting www.pgpdjobs.com. For more information, please contact Lieutenant Dylan Renz at (941) 575-5503 or by email at drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com.
- **Police Officer Testing** – Twenty applicants tested this week for the position of Police Officer with the Department. Fifteen applicants successfully passed the testing process. The next testing process will be held on Jan. 13, 2020 with oral board interviews scheduled on Jan. 14, 2020 and Jan. 15, 2020. You can apply to participate by visiting www.pgpdjobs.com.



- **Public Safety Dispatcher Testing** – The Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Public Safety Dispatcher. Testing will be held on Oct. 14. Applicants must be submitted prior to 4 p.m. on Oct. 7. To apply visit www.pgpdjobs.com. For more information, please contact Lieutenant Dylan Renz at (941) 575-5503 or by email at drenz@cityofpuntafordafl.com

Fire Department

- **Trip & Fall Prevention** - Among older adults, falls are the leading cause of injury deaths, unintentional injuries, and hospital admissions for trauma. Falls can take a serious toll on older adults' quality of life and independence.. Making changes to your home – also known as home modifications – can make activities easier, improve your health and wellness, and reduce your chances of falling. These changes can include removing hazards, adding supports such as handrails, or changing how or where you do activities. Below are some suggestions to make your home safer:
 - ✓ **Keep pathways clear.** Keep stairs and walkways clear by removing objects that you could trip over. Add storage for things that are usually on the floor, such as shoes or papers.
 - ✓ **Be aware of uneven surfaces.** Look out for changes in the level of flooring, such as in doorways or in between carpeting and tile. Remove throw rugs or use a rug gripper underneath to secure them to the floor.
 - ✓ **Keep frequently used items close by.** Reaching up high or bending down low can cause you to lose balance. For example - in the kitchen, make sure that cooking supplies and other items that you use often are easy to reach.
 - ✓ **Light your way.** Install bright lights, have switches at both ends of stairways, and use night lights to light the path from your bedroom to bathroom. Light switches that glow are easier to see in the dark.
Add supports in the bathroom. Bathrooms can be dangerous, especially when things are wet. Put grab bars near the toilet and in the shower. Non-skid strips in the bathtub can keep you from slipping.
 - ✓ **Stay safe on the stairs.** Consider installing handrails on both sides of the stairs. If you already have handrails, be sure you use them. Check that they are properly installed and not loose. eModificationwww.stopfalls.org

Utilities Department

Groundwater R.O. Construction Update – In approximately nine months the new R.O. Plant will open. The completion and operation of the Groundwater R.O. plant will reduce by as much as 50% the total organics in the finished drinking water.

- **Week 65** – Installing drywall in the administration side of the building



Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 46 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 6.6 MG daily average
- Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect – Sending water at a rate of 2.0 million gallons per day, started Jul. 16.
- Rainfall in Sept. 2018 3.60” and Sept. 2019 .08”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “hard” – Grains of Hardness 12 ppm – Total hardness 205 ppm
- TDS for Sept. 26 – Current 406 ppm, Low 181 ppm, High 405 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 311 ppm
- Reservoir Sept. 26 – Current 5.16’, Record Low 5.04’, Record High 6.77’, 54 Year Avg. 5.57’

City Clerk

Current Board & Committee Vacancies ([Volunteer Appointment Information Form](#))

- Building Board (One alternate vacancy) - Meets the 4th Tuesday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers – City residency not required. Seven member board with two alternate members. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Four members must be involved with the building industry and three members must be consumer advocates who are not, nor ever have been, involved with building industry. Makes recommendations to City Council on the minimum qualifying requirements for obtaining Certificates of Competency in the various construction trades and the fees for same. Periodically reviews and holds public hearings on all building, electrical, plumbing, housing, gas, fire prevention and other related codes. Reviews enforcement of all codes relating to construction standards and acts as condemnation board in matters of violation of minimum standards. Hears alleged complaints.
- Utility Advisory Board – (One regular vacancy) Meets the fourth Monday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven member board. Three-year terms, maximum of two terms. Makes recommendations to City Council with regard to, but not limited to, revisions to the utility construction standards, alleged billing discrepancies and review of utility drawings.
- Burnt Store Isles Canal Advisory Committee – (Three regular vacancies) meets the second Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be resident of Burnt Store Isles. Five member board. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Makes recommendations to City Council on effective maintenance of existing canals, waterways and navigable channels within the district, together with the maintenance and reconstruction of seawalls. Holds public hearings and makes final decision on petitions for special permit to the provisions of Section 6-6(c) of the City Code.
- Utility Advisory Board – (Two vacancies) meets the fourth Monday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven-member board. Three-year terms – maximum of two terms. Makes recommendations to City Council regarding, but not limited to, revisions to the utility construction standards, alleged billing discrepancies and review of utility drawings and specifications.
- Code Enforcement Board (One regular and one alternate vacancy) - Meets the fourth Wednesday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven member board with two alternate members. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Hears and decides alleged violations of the City Code of Ordinances.
- Police Officers’ Pension Board (One regular vacancy) - Meets quarterly and as called in Council Chambers. Five members – two City residents at large, two police officers and one member appointed by appointed by the Board. Four year terms – no maximum. Charged with management of the Police Officers’ Pension Fund.

- Firefighters' Pension Board (One regular vacancy) - Meets quarterly and as called in Council Chambers. Five members – two City residents, two firefighters and one at-large as appointed by the Board. Two year terms – no maximum. Financial disclosure required. Charged with management of the Firefighters' Pension Fund.
- Punta Gorda Isles Canal Advisory Committee (One regular vacancy) - Meets the third Monday at 1:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be a resident of Punta Gorda Isles. Seven member board. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Makes recommendations to City Council on effective maintenance of existing canals, waterways and navigable channels within the district, together with the maintenance and reconstruction of seawalls. Holds public hearings and makes final decision on petitions for special permit to the provisions of Section 6-6(c) of the City Code of Ordinances.

New Businesses

- Renewal Notices for the 2019/2020 Fiscal Year have been emailed to all current active businesses. Due date for payment is Sept. 30. A 10% late fee will be charged for payments received after the deadline.