



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT DECEMBER 6, 2019

City Manager

- **Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Agency** – is seeking one member to fill a position expiring on Dec. 31. Appointee must be a Charlotte County resident and shall serve for a four-year term. The purpose of the Agency is to implement the policies, projects & programs contained in the Punta Gorda Downtown Redevelopment Plan. Please contact Nina Stamoulis, Commission Office at (941) 743-1300 or janina.Stamoulis@charlottecountyfl.gov for an application or for additional information.
- **Contractors Meeting** – The City of Punta Gorda's Building Division will host a meeting for all General, Building and Residential Contractors at 9 a.m. on Dec. 11. The meeting will be held in Council Chambers in City Hall at 326 West Marion Ave. It is important for you and/or your representative(s) to attend as the new FEMA preliminary flood mapping information will be presented and this may affect decisions that you and your customers will need to make on future construction projects. A representative from Public Works will also be there to answer any questions or address issues with Right of Way permitting inspections. The Chief Building Official will hold a question and answer period concerning jobsite related plan review and inspection processes. This meeting is intended for construction industry professionals. Citizens or individual property owners are invited to attend a Public Open House hosted by FEMA to discuss any concerns regarding the preliminary Flood Insurance Study. FEMA representatives will be on hand to discuss and address any questions or concerns in a one on one format. The Public Open House will be held at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center located at 75 Taylor St. in the City of Punta Gorda from 4 to 7 p.m. on Dec. 12.
- **Action Register** – The Action Register is a listing of ongoing tasks or projects, with target dates for completion and comments that provide a report on progress. It is updated weekly and posted to City's website on Thursdays. It can be viewed at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/city-manager/city-communications/-folder-83>.
- **Annexation** – One of the City's objectives is a structured program of annexation that can lead to a more diverse tax base. This initiative has also been highlighted and evaluated in the recently accepted Citywide Master Plan. At its Dec. 4 meeting, City Council approved three pre-annexation agreements. One involves Nino's Bakery on Cooper Street, which is adjacent to our Public Works/Utilities Campus. Once Nino's is brought into the City, further annexations (such as our campus) in the area can proceed. The other two agreements focus on properties adjacent to the northern and eastern sides of Burnt Store Presbyterian Church on Burnt Store Road. The Church is considering an assisted living facility on the parcel east of their facility. City staff and the property owners are working to resolve sewer capacity issues as part of the annexation process.



Upcoming Events

- Holidays around the World at Punta Gorda History Park** – Dec. 15 and 22 from 2 p.m. until 8 p.m. with Children’s Activities from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. There will be cookie decorating, shell painting, rock painting, ornament making, and clay crafting. For more information contact 941.505.0130 or 941.639.1887. Admission is \$8.00 per family or an individual rate of \$3.00. The public is invited to stroll the park. The Historic Homes will be decorated by the various cultures that make up our great town. Food trucks, cultural food offerings, performances, displays and vendors will be in History Park.

Date	Event	Location	Contact
12/6	Light up the Night 2019	City Marketplace	http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/i-want-to/view/events-calendar/-curm-12/-cury-2019
12/6-12/7	Holly Days Home Tour	First United Methodist Church	http://pggc.org/home-tour/
12/6-12/7	Premier Auto Auction	Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center	https://premierauctiongroup.com/
12/7	Girls on the Run of SWFL 5k	Laishley Park	https://www.gotrswfl.org/
12/7	MHM Hosts “Suncoast Wind Ensemble”	Military Heritage Museum	www.militaryheritagemuseum.org
12/14	City Wide Garage Sales	Comfort Storage	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
12/14	41 st Annual Christmas Parade	Taylor Street	http://charlottecounty-chamber.org/
12/14	Yoga in the Park	Laishley Park	https://www.palmpoweryoga.com/
12/15	2 nd Annual Parade Christmas Fair	Laishley Park	https://www.facebook.com/events/398727384222257/
12/17	PGI Cars & Coffee	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	billtucker@earthlink.net
12/19	Third Thursday Wine Walk	Downtown Punta Gorda	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
12/20-12/21	MHM Hosts “Bob Hope Christmas Gala”	Military Heritage Museum	www.militaryheritagemuseum.org

Lot Mowing Program

- The City has completed mowing the following areas: PGI Bird Section (Almar Drive, Albatross drive, Whippoorwill Blvd, and Turtle Dove Blvd). PGI (Bal Harbor Blvd, Deborah Drive, Ryan Blvd, Suzi Street, and Casey Key Drive). Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.).

Urban Design

- Staff is working on a draft agreement for Council consideration which, if approved, will allow Quality Independence, Inc. to take over agripreneur garden operations at 317 East Virginia Ave. The group voluntarily cleaned up the site and have already planted the first tomatoes and lettuce plants.



Public Works

Parks & Grounds

- **Laishley Park** – Children’s playground is closed for major repairs until further notice.

Engineering

- **Paving Schedule** – The contractor started work on Dec. 2 through Dec. 20 (weather and equipment operation permitting), milling and pavement resurfacing is scheduled on the following streets:

Aruba Ct. from Ryan Blvd. to the cul-de-sac
Padre Island Dr. from Carmichael Dr. to the cul-de-sac
Roseau Dr. from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
Caya Largo Ct. from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
St. Croix Ct. from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
Curacao Ct. from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
Deborah Dr. from Bal Harbor to the cul-de-sac
Wyatt Circle from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
Charlotte Amalie from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
St. David’s Island Ct. from cul-de-sac to cul-de-sac
Paul Place from Deborah Dr. to the cul-de-sac
Bonaire Ct. from Ryan Boulevard to the cul-de-sac
Socorro Dr. from Aqui Esta to the cul-de-sac



Each street will be open to local traffic only. Detours and impact to traffic are to be anticipated. Hours of operation will be between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. When driving in the area, motorists are encouraged to drive with extreme caution and be alert for workers in the rights-of-way.

- **Alligator Creek Pedestrian Bridge (US 41 NB FDOT Right-of-Way)** – The bridge deck work is complete with coping formwork and concrete to be scheduled along with handrail and electrical installations. The contractors work zone encompasses the multi-use trail and over Alligator Creek parallel to US41 NB. The multi-use trail will remain closed to pedestrians and cyclists until further notice.
- **Citywide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 554 properties totaling 419,875 square feet of grading/sodding. Work is underway in Burnt Store Isles and during the week of Dec. 9 will include 680-696 and 685-699 Macedonia.
- **Intersection ADA Improvements** – The demolition and concrete work is complete at Virginia Ave and Taylor St. The ADA mat placement will be scheduled the week of Dec. 2 - Dec. 6.
- **Veterans Park Phase II** – Gazebo painting is complete. All seating, plaque and mural wall caps as well as all column caps have also been installed. During the week of Dec. 9 the contractor will begin stucco work on all walls and also will be installing all light pole foundations. Gazebo floor removal will also begin next week.
- **Taylor Street Streetscape** – The project is complete with the following exception, eight benches for the four seating areas have been ordered and should be delivered and installed in early January.



Canal Maintenance

- Crews filled 16 depressions and performed two seawall cap repairs.

Buckley's Pass Additional Harbor Access

- Dredging of the pass is ongoing. The canal between Almar Drive and River Bay Drive will be closed to through traffic during dredging operations. Boaters should use caution when operating in the area. Trucking of dredge spoils from Casey Key Drive to the Colony Point Drive spoil site has commenced.



Police Department

- **Punta Gorda Family Fun Day** – Everyone is invited to the first Punta Gorda Family Fun Day at the Punta Gorda Public Safety Complex (1410 Tamiami Trail) on Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The police and fire departments will have vehicles to see close up, there will be a kids' workshop, face painting, games, food, balloon animals, a dunk tank, K9 demos, and much more! This is a **FREE** event for the community so come out and enjoy!
- **Police Officer Testing** – The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Testing will be held on Jan. 13 with oral board interviews scheduled on Jan. 14 and Jan. 15. You can apply to participate by visiting www.pgpdjobs.com. For more information, please contact Administrative Services at (941) 575-5503 or drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com.
- **Public Safety Dispatcher Testing** – The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Public Safety Dispatcher. Testing will be held on Feb. 10. Applicants must be submitted prior to 4 p.m. on Feb. 5. To apply visit www.pgpdjobs.com. For more information, please contact Administrative Services at (941) 575-5503 or drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com.
- **Internship Program** – The police department is currently accepting internship applications for the Spring Semester. Our internship program is open to college students and high school seniors interested in gaining educational experience in law enforcement, criminal justice, and small government administration. Please contact the internship program coordinator at (941) 575-5571 for additional information or to have an application package sent. Deadline is Dec. 7.

Fire Department

- **Holiday Safety Tips** – When selecting the perfect natural tree, needles on tree should be green and the trunk should be sticky to the touch. Old trees can be identified by bouncing the tree trunk on the ground and looking for needles falling off. The base of the tree should be cut at a 45 degree angle and placed in water. Do not place your tree close to a heat source. Heat will dry out the tree, causing it to be more easily ignited by heat, flame or sparks. Use only non-flammable decorations and inspect lights for frayed wires, bare spots, and gaps in the insulation, broken or cracked sockets, excessive kinking or other defects before use. Use only lighting evaluated by a nationally recognized laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL) and do not leave lights on unattended. Do not link more than three light strands, unless the directions indicate it is safe. Connect strings of lights to an extension cord before plugging the cord into the outlet. Make sure to periodically check the wires – they should not be warm to the touch. Ensure that trees and other holiday decorations do not block an exit way. In the event of a fire, time is of the essence. A blocked entry/exit way puts you and your family at risk. As in every season, have working smoke alarms installed on every level of your home, test them monthly and keep them clean and equipped with fresh batteries at all times. Know when and how to call for help. And remember to practice your home escape plan!

Utilities Department

Groundwater R.O. Construction Update

Week 74- Wet panels being installed



Week 74- Supports for the new caustic tanks being installed



Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 37.5 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 5.4 MG daily average
- Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect – Receiving water at a rate of .5 million gallons per day, started Sept. 30.
- Rainfall in Nov. 2018 1.8”, Nov. 2019 0.80”, Dec. 2018 1.90”, Dec. 2019
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “very hard” – Grains of Hardness 20 ppm – Total hardness 342 ppm
- TDS for Dec. 5 – Current 481 ppm, Low 340 ppm, High 546 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 460 ppm
- Reservoir Dec. 5– Current 5.08’, Record Low 4.90’, Record High 5.53’, 54 Year Avg. 5.15’

City Clerk

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

- Code Enforcement Board – (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.
- Board of Zoning Appeals – (One regular and one alternate) Meets the 4th Tuesday at 4 p.m. in City Council Chambers. City residency required. Seven-member board with two alternate members. Three-year terms - maximum of three terms. Financial disclosure required. Makes recommendations to City Council on variances to City Code.
- Building Board (One regular vacancy) - Meets the fourth 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 against contractors.
- 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

- All persons, firms or corporations engaging in business or occupation within the City of Punta Gorda are required to obtain a Local Business Tax (LBT) Receipt in accordance with Chapter 12 of the Punta Gorda City Code. As part of our effort to promote economic development and vitality in our area, we offer the following list of new or transferred business within our community this week:
 - ✓ Powerquip LLC, 2521 West Marion Avenue, #312
 - ✓ Quality Calibrations, Inc., 252 West Marion Avenue, #1124
 - ✓ Inspire Multimedia LLC, 540 Philodendron
 - ✓ Massage Therapy by Ashleigh Runkle, 318 Tamiami Trail #229