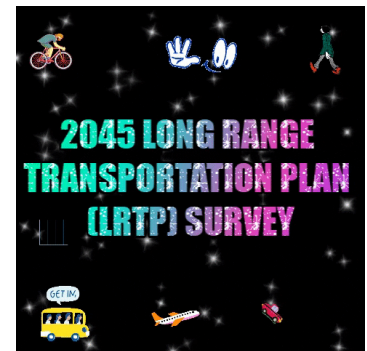


WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT JANUARY 3, 2020

City Manager

- **Fair Share Impact Fees** – At its Jan. 8 meeting, City Council will review a draft ordinance pertaining to recommended rates for parks, mobility (transportation) and public safety impact fees. Previously (July 10, 2019), the City's rate consultant Raftelis presented to Council the 2019 Development Impact Fee Study, after which staff solicited input from community and business groups. The draft ordinance includes the recommended rate structure as proposed by the consulting firm as well as an exemption for affordable housing. Council can choose to enact rates at the recommended 100% level or select a reduced percentage. At the 100% recommended rate level, a 2,500 square foot single-family home would increase from \$1,273 to \$3,820. General office per 1,000 square foot would increase from \$330 to \$610, and retail/restaurant per 1,000 square foot from \$770 to \$990. Impact fees are charged on new development and assist in paying for a portion of growth-related impacts on parks, mobility and public safety. Based on Council discussion and direction, staff will then prepare the ordinance for public hearings in February.
- **2045 Long Range Transportation Plan** – The Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) has been preparing their 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) since mid-2019. An aspect of the Plan is the development of an extensive number of Public Participation opportunities soliciting public opinion for the transportation planning "needs" for City and County residents. The MPO and their consultant (Tindale-Oliver Inc.) has prepared a survey asking individuals to share their ideas and opinions utilizing the LRTP survey. Take the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Charlotte2045LRTP>.
- **Upcoming Events National League of Cities Service Line Program** – Also at the Jan. 8 City Council meeting a discussion will take place about the National League of Cities Service Line Program. This program is an educational program that is at no cost to the City. The program provides four key benefits for NLC members that participate:
 - ✓ Educates resident homeowners about their service line responsibilities.
 - ✓ Provides an affordable solution that helps residents avoid the often-high cost of water and sewer service line repairs.
 - ✓ Engages local contractors to perform the repairs that contribute to the local economy.
 - ✓ Creates a new source of funding for projects that benefit the community.



The NLC [Service Line](#) Warranty Program is currently available in nearly 500 cities and municipalities across the country and has helped more than 100,000 homeowners save money on service line repairs and replacements since the Program began. Costs to the homeowner to participate are \$5.75 per month for the water line program, \$7.75 for the sewer line program and \$9.99 for the plumbing program.

- **Liquid Aluminum Sulfate Antitrust Litigation** – The City received a letter from Attorney General Ashley Moody providing notification that an electronic transfer was made in the amount of \$128,548.65 representing the City’s share of the settlement of the liquid aluminum sulfate antitrust case. This case was in regards to alleged price-fixing among certain manufacturers of liquid aluminum sulfate. Attorney General Moody also thanked City staff for the time and effort put in to the collection of documentation that assisted in the litigation of the case.

Date	Event	Location	Contact
1/3-1/5	Snowbird Celebration Arts & Crafts	City Marketplace	http://www.mypromotions.com/
1/11	Fishbowl Fiesta Fun Run	Charlotte High School	Teresa.hughes@yourcharlotteschools.net
1/11	City Wide Garage Sales	Comfort Storage	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
1/12	Yoga in the Park	Laishley Park	https://www.palmpoweryoga.com/
1/16	Third Thursday Wine Walk	Downtown Punta Gorda	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
1/17	MHM Hosts “Give ‘em Hell Harry – A Biographical Play”	Military Heritage Museum	www.militaryheritagemuseum.org
1/18	Peace River Pride	Laishley Park	https://www.allrainbowandalliedyouth.org/pride
1/18-1/19	Sullivan Street Craft Fair	Sullivan Street	http://puntagordachamber.com
1/20	Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Parade	Taylor Street	http://www.macedoniaservices.org/.org
1/21	PGI Car Club Cars & Coffee	Bal Harbor	biltucker@earthlink.net

Lot Mowing Program

- The City Lot Mowing crews will begin mowing a new cycle on Jan. 6.

Urban Design

- The PGI Green Thumbs are starting off the year with a new series called Garden Talks 2020. The series opens on Jan. 17 at 9:30 am with a talk on Florida-Friendly Landscaping™ (FFL). Learn how to have a beautiful landscape that saves time, energy & money while protecting our future. This talk is designed to introduce you to the University of Florida’s approach that educates homeowners about how to plan, install, & maintain healthy landscapes using minimum water, fertilizer, and pesticides. The result? Low-cost, low-maintenance, attractive landscapes that add value to your community & reduce the chance of polluting the water supply. Join Master Gardener Joyce Laubach for a walk through the Nature Park where FFL practices are in evidence.

NOTE: The Nature Park is located at 1555 Aqui Esta Dr. at the corner of Bal Harbor and Aqui Esta in PGI. Please park in the shopping center lot across the street from the park. The Garden Talks take place outside so plan to bring a chair, a hat, sunscreen, mosquito repellent and water. Other Garden Talk dates are:

- Feb. 21: A rose is a rose is a rose...it’s also an herb
- Mar. 20: Bromeliads
- Apr. 17: Why Prune?

Public Works

Sanitation

- **Disposal of real Christmas trees** – Place tree at the curb for collection on your regular yard waste day. All decorations and lights should be removed before placing the tree out for collection. Artificial trees will be collected on your regular household trash day. As collection times may vary, residents are reminded to have all materials out to the curb NO LATER than 6 a.m. If you have any questions, please call the City of Punta Gorda Public Works Department at (941) 575-5050 Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Engineering

- **Veterans Park Phase II** – The contractor has completed rough grading of the site and has indicated that they will be finalizing underground electric installation and will begin pouring concrete sidewalks and curbs during the week of Jan. 6.
- **Alligator Creek Pedestrian Bridge (US 41 NB FDOT Right-of-Way)** – Work has resumed following the holiday break. The multi-use trail will remain closed to pedestrians and cyclists until further notice. The project is on track to complete by Feb. 2020.
- **Citywide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 589 properties totaling 446,250 square feet of grading/sodding. Work is underway in Burnt Store Isles and during the week of January 6 will include work along San Sebastian Ct. and Tripoli Blvd.
- **Intersection ADA Improvements** – The following ADA ramp locations are complete: Myrtle and Narranja, Hazel and Myrtle, Ida and Cooper, Showalter and Mary, Showalter and Cooper, Fitzhugh and Booth, Booth and Virginia, E Helen and Mary and E. Helen and Milus streets.

Canal Maintenance

- Beginning the week of Jan. 13 through Jan. 31 (weather and equipment operation permitting), the Ponce Inlet is scheduled to be dredged. The contractor will off load dredge material at the vacant lot at the southerly end of Colony Point; then the material will be transported to another location by dump trucks.



- **Seawall Replacement Projects** –
 - Marine Contracting Group has completed two of the 37 seawalls in PGI with five seawalls under construction.
- Crews filled 14 depressions and repaired three seawall caps.
- **Seawall Assessment Program** – The Seawall Assessment continues, crews are currently working in the NE zone. The assessment is expected to be completed by Feb. 2020.
- **Ponce De Leon Inlet Dredge Program** – The Ponce Inlet is scheduled to be dredged starting the week of Jan. 13. The work is expected to be completed by Jan. 31.

Buckley's Pass Additional Harbor Access

- Dredging of the pass is ongoing. The land plug between Alligator Creek and the PGI canal system will be removed over the next few days. Boaters **NEED** to stay out of the new pass until construction is completed. Damage to vessel propulsion systems is very likely to occur if they enter the pass. The canals between Almar Drive



and River Bay Drive and Sea Edge Drive will be closed to through traffic during dredging operations. Boaters should use caution when operating near the construction area. Trucking of dredge spoils from Casey Key Drive to the Colony Point Drive spoil site continues.

Police Department

- **No Texting While Driving** Remember Florida's texting law, which prohibits texting while driving and the use of handheld wireless communications devices (even talking on the phone unless hands-free) while driving in school zones or work zones except for emergencies. Please help ensure everyone's safety by putting down your cell phone while driving!
- **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@cityofpuntafordafl.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@cityofpuntafordafl.com.
- **Internship Program** –The police department is currently accepting internship applications for the Summer and Fall Semesters of 2020. 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.



Fire Department

- **Driving in Fog** – Due to recent weather conditions, Charlotte County has experienced several vehicle accidents, some with life threatening injuries. Fog can occur at any time. Fog on highways can be extremely dangerous. Fog is often unexpected, and visibility can deteriorate rapidly. You should watch for foggy conditions and be ready to reduce your speed. Do not assume that the fog will thin out after you enter it. It is best to avoid driving in fog. It is preferable that you pull off the road into a rest area or truck stop until visibility is better. If you must drive, be sure to consider the following:
 - ✓ Check traffic conditions before traveling, by dialing 511 or visiting www.511.org.
 - ✓ Obey all fog-related warning signs and slow down before you enter fog.
 - ✓ Use low-beam headlights and fog lights for best visibility even in daytime, and be alert for other drivers who may have forgotten to turn on their lights.
 - ✓ Watch for vehicles on the side of the roadway. Seeing taillights or headlights in front of you may not be a true indication of where the road is ahead of you. The vehicle may not be on the road at all.
 - ✓ Listen for traffic you cannot see and avoid passing other vehicles.
 - ✓ Don't stop along the side of the road, unless absolutely necessary.
 - ✓ Reduce the Distractions in your vehicle. Turn off the radio and cell phone. Your full attention is required.
 - ✓ Use the Right Edge of the road or painted road markings as a guide.
 - ✓ Signal Turns well in advance and brake early as you approach a stop

Utilities Department

Utilities Administration

- The resampling for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) has been conducted at 601 Shreve Street. A table of the resample values is on the City's web-page under the Utilities Department. All resample values at this sample site as well as throughout the water system were below the 80 ug/L drinking water standard.

Groundwater R.O. Construction Update

Week 78- New Caustic tanks being installed



Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 31.9 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 4.6 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 Dec. 2018 1.90”, Dec. 2019 1.10”, Jan. 2019 4.90” Jan. 2020 0.00”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “very hard” – Grains of Hardness 18 ppm – Total hardness 308 ppm
- TDS for Jan. 2 – Current 456 ppm, Low 394 ppm, High 609 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 498 ppm
- Reservoir Jan. 2 – Current 5.14’, Record Low 4.90’, Record High 6.00’, 54 Year Avg. 5.16’

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 alternate vacancy) 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.

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:
 - ✓ Old Punta Gorda, Inc., 501 Shreve Street
 - ✓ Well Being Acupuncture, 1401 Tamiami Trail, Suite B