


WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT FEBRUARY 28, 2020

City Manager

- **Mural at Veterans Park** – The Punta Gorda Mural Society is seeking City Council permission to install a mural on the designated eight foot tall mural wall located in Veterans Park. The proposed mural is to be a recreation of the “Historic Punta Gorda Army Airfield” (PGAAF) mural, which once adorned a building at the Punta Gorda Airport. The PGAAF mural as originally designed commemorates the development and use of the Army Airfield during World War II. The Airfield was originally constructed in 1943. It was used by the US Army Air Corps to train pilots in flying P-40 and P-51 fighter aircraft. It is estimated that 750 pilots received training at Punta Gorda from 1943 to 1945.


- **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. A quarterly update will be presented at the Mar. 4 City Council meeting. The full report can be viewed at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=10887>.
- **Wings Over Charlotte Harbor** – City Council will review an event permit for Wings Over Charlotte Harbor to be held Oct. 23, 24, & 25 at their upcoming meeting. The main viewing area for the event will be at Fishermen's Village. There will be a food truck rally and spectator viewing at Gilchrist Park. Other viewing areas requested are Alice, Shreve, Pittman & Brown Parks. The applicant is also requesting to close W. Retta Esplanade from Harvey Street to the tidal creek bridge and working to secure off-site parking locations along with shuttle services to the viewing areas.
- **Signs in the Right of Way** – City Council will have a discussion about signs at the Mar. 4 meeting. Due to an abundance of signs in the Right of Way, staff began working weekends when sign infractions seem to be at their most prolific. Due to the numerous violations, the Code Enforcement Board, Feb. 26, heard approximately 16 cases related to signs in the Right of Way. The Code Board motioned to find the Respondent(s) violated Chapter 11.6 Prohibited Signs and Devices (c) and further ORDERED the Respondent(s) to pay case costs in most cases a \$100.00 fine.
- **Institute for Elected Municipal Officials** – Congratulations are in order for Councilmember John Miller for his completion of the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials. The primary objective of the Florida League of Cities program is to provide elected municipal officials with an intensive academic program that will assist them in effectively meeting the requirements of their elected role. The program offered a comprehensive overview of Florida municipal government.

Upcoming Events

- **The Black Tie Express** – Vice Mayor Lynne Matthews and Nanette Leonard are leading The Black Tie Express clothing drive on Mar. 16. Residents from all over our community can participate by donating formal gowns, tuxedos, suits and accessories, which will provide these young students in need who want to attend Charlotte High’s 2020 Prom the opportunity to go in style. Students from the Leo Club will decorate The Black Tie Express and will help with the donations. The Black Tie Express will stop in Punta Gorda Mar. 16 at;
 - 1) 10:10 a.m. Laishley Crab House 150 Laishley Ct.
 - 2) 10:40 a.m. City Hall (in front of building) 326 W. Marion Ave.
 - 3) 11:10 a.m. Bal Harbor Shopping Center 1133 Bal Harbor Blvd.

After the last stop in Punta Gorda, the Black Tie Express will pull into Charlotte High School’s parking lot where students from the Leo club will help unload all of the donations.

- **Fishermen’s Village Events** – can be accessed at <https://www.fishville.com/events/>

Date	Event	Location	Contact
2/27-2/29	Florida Frontier Days	Punta Gorda History Park	(941)769-1270
2/29	10 th Annual Punta Gorda Pub Crawl	Various locations in Punta Gorda	http://puntagordapubcrawl.com/index.html
3/1	13 th Annual Taste of Punta Gorda	Laishley Park	https://www.tasteofpuntagorda.org/
3/2	Charlotte County Veg Fest	Laishley Park	https://charlotteveg.org/
3/6	Wall of Warriors Ceremony	Military Heritage Museum	www.militaryheritagemuseum.org
3/7-3/8	MY Promotions Spring Fest Arts & Craft Festival	Muscle Car City	http://www.mypromotions.com/
3/14-15	Sullivan Street Arts & Craft Festival	Sullivan Street	https://puntagordachamber.com/
3/14	City Wide Garage Sale	Comfort Storage 3811 Tamiami Trail	https://puntagordachamber.com/
3/14	TEAM Punta Gorda Pedal & Play	Laishley Park	http://pedalandplayinparadise.com/

Lot Mowing Program

- The City has completed mowing the following areas: Burnt Store Meadows (Areas of Tamiami Tr., N. Blue Sage, S. Blue Sage, Royal Poinciana, and Gold Tree). East Side and the area behind Dunkin Donuts (E. Marion Ave, E Olympia Ave, Narranja St, E Henry St, and Cooper). Downtown and Historic District (W. Marion Ave., W. Olympia Ave., Shreve St., and Harvey).
- The City has completed trimming the following areas: Burnt Store Meadows (Areas of Tamiami Tr., N. Blue Sage, S. Blue Sage, Royal Poinciana, and Gold Tree). East Side and the area behind Dunkin Donuts (E. Marion Ave, E Olympia Ave, Narranja St, E Henry St, and Cooper St). Downtown and Historic District (W. Marion Ave., W. Olympia Ave., Shreve St., and Harvey St.). PGI (Bal Harbor Blvd, Deborah Drive, Ryan Blvd, Suzi Street, and Casey Key Drive). PGI (Magdalena Drive, Via Vento, W Henry Street, Appian Drive, and Columbian Drive). Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.).

Urban Design

- **Charlotte County Planned Development** – Staff attended roundtable discussion that provided an opportunity for stakeholders to revise and update the County’s Planned Development Regulations.

- **ADA Enhancements Project Kick Off** – Staff met with consultants and completed a walkthrough of the City Hall Annex.

Public Works

Parks & Grounds

- **Gilchrist Park Tennis Courts Closure** - Gilchrist Park Tennis Courts will be closed for resurfacing beginning tentatively on Mar. 4 or Mar. 5. The tennis courts will be closed for approximately seven – ten business days. If you have any questions, please contact Art Brewster, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works Department at (941)575-5041 between the business hours of 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.
- **Ponce De Leon Boardwalk Closing** - Beginning on the evening of Mar. 2 through the morning of Mar. 4 the boardwalk at Ponce De Leon will be closed for construction. If you have any questions, please contact Art Brewster, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor, Public Works Department at (941)575-5041 between the business hours of 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

Engineering

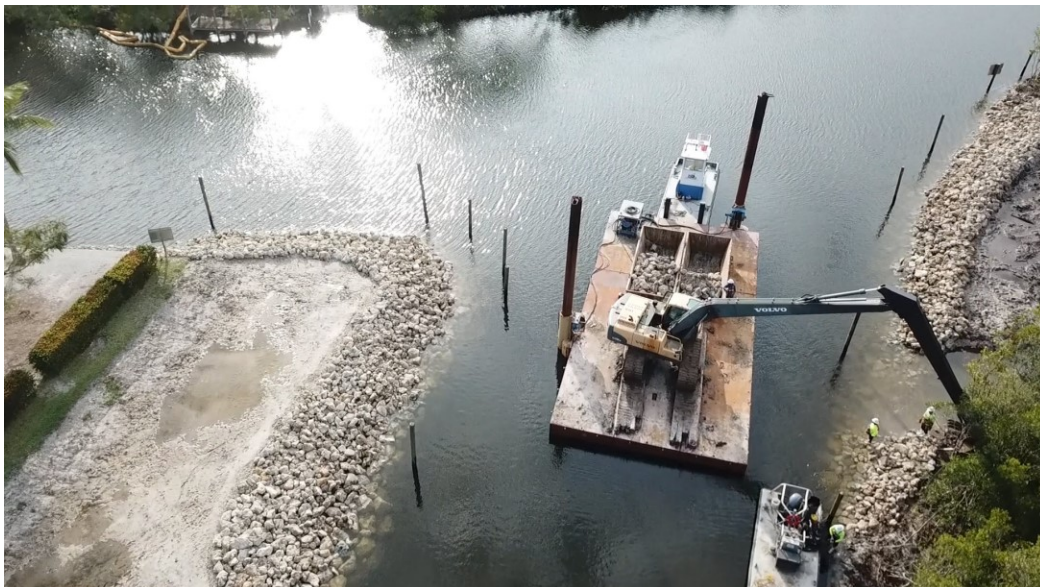
- **Madrid Sidewalk Construction** - Excavation, pipe placement and compaction of subbase continues. Sidewalk base prep, formwork and concrete placement is occurring. Pending is the delivery and installation of the catch basins. The work area is from the western drive of the Burnt Store Publix Plaza to US 41 SB. This project is scheduled to complete by the end of May 2020. If you have any questions, please contact Linda Sposito, Sr. Project Manager, Public Works Department at (941)575-5060 between the business hours of 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.
- **Sailfish Bridge Construction - Sailfish Bridge Update – Change in Schedule** There will be no work on Sailfish Bridge Friday, Feb. 28. The bridge will be fully open to boat traffic. On Mar. 2, the work under Sailfish Bridge will continue at the normal schedule of 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. with passage allowed at 9 a.m., noon and 3 p.m. On Mar. 3 Sailfish Bridge will be completely closed to boat traffic from 9:15 a.m. until 6 p.m. while concrete grout is being placed under the bridge. Once the concrete grout pour is started at 9:15 am, there can be no boat passage until 6 p.m. that evening as the concrete pour must be a continuous operation. There will be no noon or 3 p.m. passage allowed on Mar. 3. This is the final stage of the bridge repair. Beginning Mar. 4, the bridge will be fully open to boat traffic. Short momentary delays may occur at later dates as cleanup and inspections are completed. Please contact Mark Gering, City Engineer, at 941-575-5030 for more information.
- **ADA Interior Signage and Wayfinding** - The signs for the Public Works and Utilities Campus are being manufactured. Installation is anticipated to commence the beginning of March.
- **Alligator Creek pedestrian bridge along US 41 NB-FDOT Right of Way** - The project is construction complete with exception of the power supply to be scheduled with FPL to service the decorative light fixtures and poles. The pedestrian bridge is open for public use.



- **City wide Drainage Swale regrading** - To date JRL Underground has completed work at 662 properties totaling 492,100 square feet of grading/sodding. Work areas during the week of Feb. 24 include 425-441 Valletta Ct. Mar. 1 work areas include 4000-4011 Castellanos and locations along Trieste Dr.
- **Veterans Park Phase II** - The project is near substantial completion, the contractor still has to install the handrails around the gazebo and ramps. The anticipated manufacturing completion date for handrails is Mar. 3 and installation of handrails should be completed by Mar. 11. Staff will be developing a punchlist inspection report during the week of Mar. 2.

Canal Maintenance

- **Ponce Inlet Dredging** – Project complete.
- **Seawall Assessment Program** – Project complete.
- **Seawall Replacement Projects** - The seawall replacement contractor has completed eight seawall replacement projects. There are three projects under construction in PGI and three under construction in BSI. A seawall replacement project is not considered complete until the sod has been placed.
 - Crews filled depressions at 14 locations.
 - Crews performed five seawall cap and seam patches (61' linear ft.).
- **Buckley's Pass** - Please visit the City's YouTube channel to view drone footage taken of the construction progress. Check out the very popular playlist by visiting: https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLn0c8jp5fQiW4fNFEdownKc85_W-fSqI5. The dredging and placement of rip-rap along the mangrove planting areas continues. Boaters NEED to stay out of the new pass until construction is completed which is scheduled to occur in April. DO NOT open the turbidity curtains to gain access through the pass. 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 may be closed to through traffic during construction 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. Residents NEED to stay out of the Colony Point Drive spoil site and off of the spoil piles. Heavy equipment is being used in the area and injury is likely to occur.

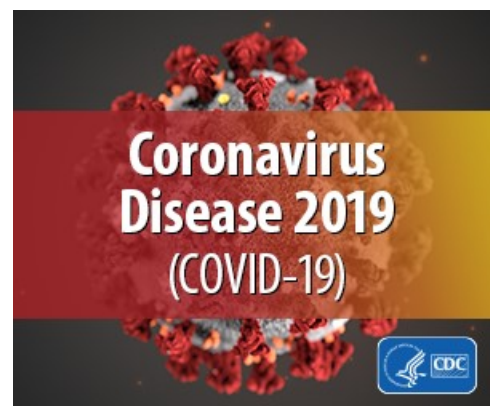


Police Department

- **Punta Gorda Police Department Honored at Rays Game** – The Tampa Bay Rays held a First Responders Appreciation game in honor of the Punta Gorda Police Department at Charlotte Sports Park. A static PGPD vehicle display was set up in the concourse, the PGPD Honor Guard conducted the Presentation of Colors, and Chief Davis threw out the first pitch.
- **Community Engagement Team** – The Community Engagement Team launched this week. The Community Engagement Team is made up of two officers with the goal of providing proactive enforcement and addressing specific problems within the community.
- **Police Officer Testing** – The department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Testing will be held on May 18 with oral board interviews scheduled on Tuesday, May 19 and May 20. You can apply to participate by visiting www.pgpdjobs.com. For more information, please contact Administrative Services at (941) 575-5503 or by email at drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com.
- **Public Safety Dispatcher Testing** – The department is currently accepting applications for the position of Public Safety Dispatcher. Testing will be held on May 11. Applicants must be submitted prior to 4:00 PM on Thursday, Apr. 30. To apply visit www.pgpdjobs.com. For more information, please contact Administrative Services at (941) 575-5503 or by email at drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com.
- **Internship Program** – The 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

- **Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)** – The Fire Department has received numerous questions related to the Coronavirus. There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus. However, as a reminder, CDC always recommends everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases, including:
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Stay home when you are sick.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces using a regular household cleaning spray or wipe.
 - Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating; and after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
 - If soap and water are not readily available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol. Always wash hands with soap and water if hands are visibly dirty. For more information about handwashing, see [CDC's Handwashing](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/) website.



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 86 – Well clearance samples continues.

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 37.1 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 5.3 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 Feb. 2019 3.40” Feb. 2020 0.90”
- 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 307 ppm
- TDS for Feb. 28 – Current 488 ppm, Low 351 ppm, High 656 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 517 ppm
- Reservoir Feb. 28 – Current 5.12’, Record Low 4.94’, Record High 5.97’, 54 Year Avg. 5.23’

City Clerk

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

- **Board of Zoning Appeals (1 alternate vacancy)** – Meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. in City Council Chambers. City residency required. Seven-member board with two alternate members. Three-year terms with a 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:
 - ✓ Brian J Rowland, Salon Blue, 1105 Taylor Road, Studio 3
 - ✓ Concierge Home Watch and Management, 27 Sabal Drive
 - ✓ Diana Cutting, Salon Blue, 1105 Taylor Road, Studio 9
 - ✓ Dreher Martin CPAs, 207 Cross Street, #208
 - ✓ Nicole Astradinis, Salon Blue, 1105 Taylor Road, Studio 7
 - ✓ Paige Leah Styles LLC, Salon Blue, 1105 Taylor Road, Studio 12
 - ✓ Rebekah Green, Salon Blue, 1105 Taylor Road, Studio 10
 - ✓ RTFC Financial Services, 200 Tropicana Drive
 - ✓ Thornberry Custom Builders, Inc., 6210 Scott Street, #113
 - ✓ Tonya Cintron, Salon Blue, 1105 Taylor Road, Studio 11
 - ✓ White Sands Treatment Center, 207 Cross Street, Suite 300
 - ✓ Perfectly Polished Nail Boutique, 121 East Marion Avenue, #111
 - ✓ Quality Calibrations, Inc., 27 Sabal Drive