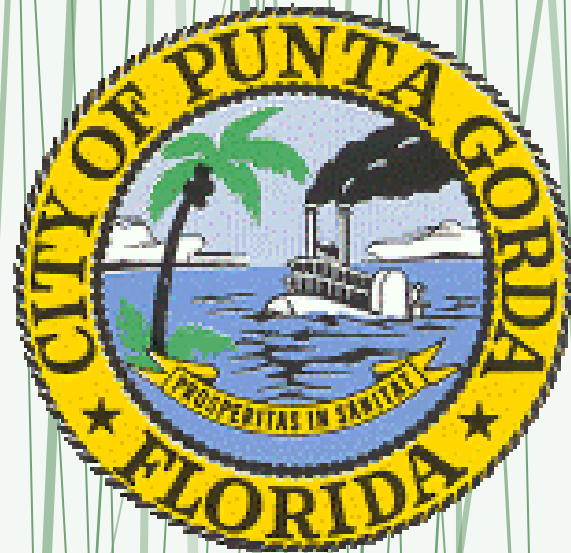


CITY OF PUNTA GORDA
Annual CRA Report
Fiscal Year 2015
Submitted: March 31, 2016

Prepared for:
City of Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Agency and City Council



March 31, 2016

Auditor General's Office
111 West Madison Street
Claude Denso Pepper Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1450

Ladies and Gentlemen:

We are pleased to submit the Annual Progress Status Report for the City of Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Agency (PGCRA) for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. Section 163.356(3)(c) requires the City to file with its governing body, on or before March 31 each year, a report of its activities for the preceding fiscal year, which report shall include a complete financial statement setting forth its assets, liabilities, income, and operating expenses of the end of such fiscal year. It is the philosophy of the PGCRA to keep all interested parties informed with respect to the activities of the PGCRA and encourage active participation in the development of redevelopment programs benefiting the entire community. We believe the data, as presented, is accurate in all material respects and that all disclosures necessary to enable the reader of this report to gain an understanding of PGCRA's operation and financial activity (included).

Respectfully submitted,

David C. Hilston

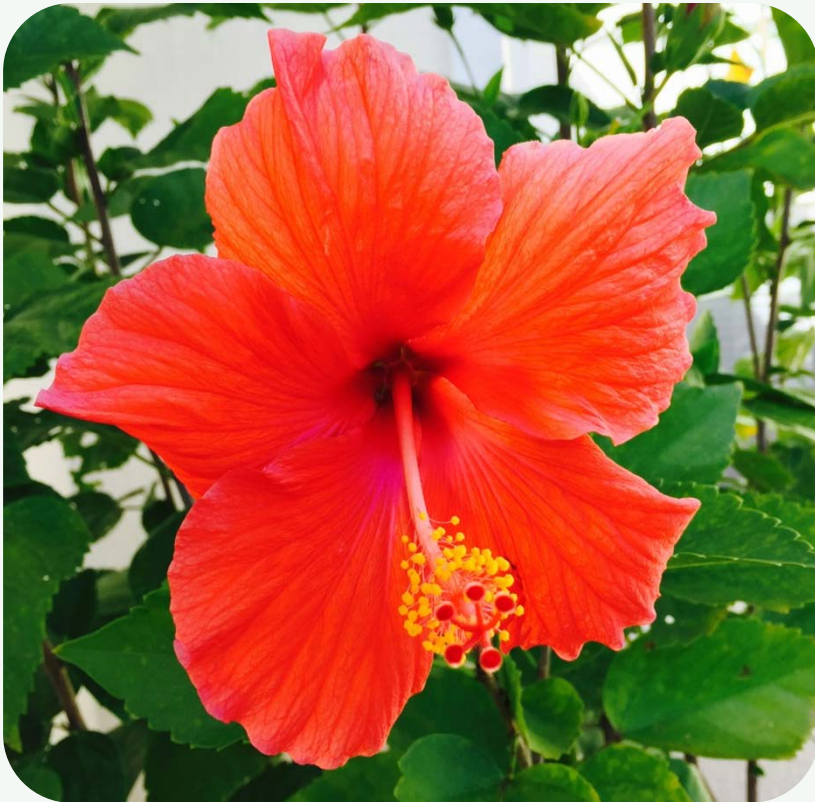
David C. Hilston, AICP
Urban Design Manager

The Mission



The Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Agency's mission is to create an aesthetically unique environment with high quality character while maintaining small town charm.

Table of Contents



- What is the CRA
- Meet the CRA Members
- CRA Staff
- Public Notice
- Purpose
- History of the CRA
- CRA Boundary Map
- 2015 Activities
- Special Events
- What Are They Saying
- Looking to the future...
- Financial Matters
- CRA Website
- Who should I contact?

What is the CRA?

A Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) is a taxing district established by local government for the purpose of carrying out redevelopment activities that include reducing or eliminating blight, increasing the tax base, and encouraging public and private investments in the redevelopment area. The members of the Punta Gorda City Council also serve as the Board members of the CRA along with 2 members at large and the City Manager, who serves as the CRA Executive Director.



Meet the CRA Members

Pictured Above Left to Right: Nancy Prafke, Gary Wein, Frank Weikel, Chair Rachel Keesling, Jane Sturges, Tom Cavanaugh, and Vice Chair Kim Devine

City Staff

Howard Kunik, CRA Director

David Levin, City Attorney

Karen Smith, City Clerk

David C Hilston, AICP, Urban Design Manager

Joan F LeBeau, AICP, Chief Planner

Mitchell S Austin, AICP, Urban Planner

Cherry Cash Prewitt, Planner

Lisa Hannon, Events Coordinator

Julie Ryan, Urban Design Executive Assistant

Public Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE PUNTA GORDA COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

All interested parties are hereby notified that the Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Agency has filed with the City of Punta Gorda, Florida, a copy of its Annual Status Report and Annual Financial Report highlighting projects, programs and CRA finances for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015. Copies of these documents may be examined after March 31, 2016, in the Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 326 W. Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950, the Punta Gorda Urban Design Division, City Hall Annex, 126 Harvey Street, 3rd Floor, Punta Gorda, Florida, 33950, during regular business hours Monday through Friday from 8:00AM to 4:30PM, or may be accessed, after March 31, 2016 on the City's website at <http://www.pgorda.us>.

This notice is being published in compliance with the requirements of Section 163.356(e)(c) of the Florida Statutes governing Community Redevelopment Agencies.

Thursday, March 31, 2016

adno=5047123

The Purpose



Pursuant to Section 163.356(3)(c) of Florida Statutes, the City of Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Agency (the “Agency”) is required to:

...file with the governing body, on or before March 31 of each year, a report of its activities for the preceding fiscal year, which report shall include a complete financial statement setting forth its assets, liabilities, income, and operating expenses as of the end of such fiscal year. At the time of the filing of the report, the “Agency” shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the community a notice of the effect that such report has been filed with the municipality and that the report is available for inspection during business hours in the office of the clerk of the city and in the office of the “Agency”.

The purpose of this Annual Report is to satisfy the requirements of Section 163.356(3)(C) and to provide the public with useful information concerning the Community Redevelopment Area and Agency.

The History of the CRA

In July 1985, City Councilwoman Phyllis Smith was named to head a group of local residents, business people, and community leaders with the express purpose of encouraging the revitalization of Punta Gorda's historic downtown area. The committee began with a community-wide citizen survey that said the downtown area needed conveniently located parking, a broader range of retail/service businesses, preservation of its rich history, and a stronger lineage of the central business district to the Charlotte Harbor waterfront. The Committee turned its efforts to downtown revitalization and in 1990 the establishment of a Community Redevelopment Agency with the aim of adopting a redevelopment plan for its downtown area and using tax increment financing to fund the projects and programs contained in the plan. The City of Punta Gorda has moved forward and has steadily implemented the projects and programs within the Redevelopment Plan (East Side and Downtown Planning Study) to achieve and realize the goals and objectives of the Plan.

Community Redevelopment Area City of Punta Gorda, Florida

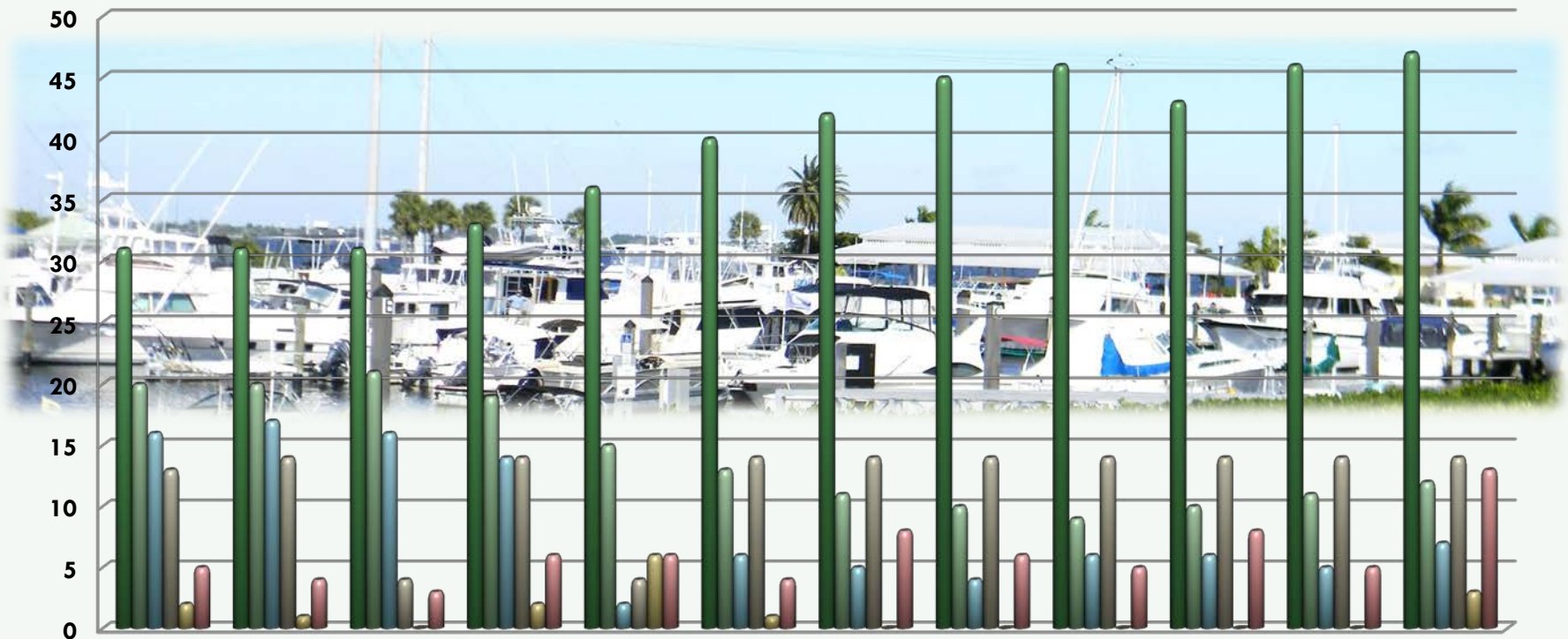


The CRA area is bounded on the North by the Peace River, on the West by Maud Street, on the South by Henry Street, and on the East by Cooper Street



2015 Activities

Laishley Park Municipal Marina



	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15
■ Annual Contracts	31	31	31	33	36	40	42	45	46	43	46	47
■ Semi-Annual Contracts	20	20	21	19	15	13	11	10	9	10	11	12
■ Monthly Contracts	16	17	16	14	2	6	5	4	6	6	5	7
■ Commercial Contracts	13	14	4	14	4	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
■ Transient Contracts	2	1	0	2	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
■ Mooring Rental	5	4	3	6	6	4	8	6	5	8	5	13

94 permitted slips and 42 moorings

SS Clearhead Activity



	Jan-15	Feb-15	Mar-15	Apr-15	May-15	Jun-15	Jul-15	Aug-15	Sep-15	Oct-15	Nov-15	Dec-15
■ Number of Pump Out	85	92	94	66	45	32	30	34	54	77	97	98
■ Total Gallons Pumped	2,340	2,260	2,260	1,870	1,290	1,020	720	1,150	1,290	1,990	2,700	2,620

Herald Court Centre Retail Space



Morgan Stanley

Punta Gorda

CHOCOLATE & WINE



Herald Court Centre, a mixed-use parking garage, is the most ambitious CRA project ever. The facility provides “free” parking for downtown shopping and events, and houses retail/restaurants such as Subway Restaurant; Artisan’s Atelier; the Foot Landing; Otherside Ink; the on-site campus for Florida Gulf Coast University. 2015 added the addition of Morgan Stanley, Pedelec & Punta Gorda Chocolate & Wine. The CRA and CRA Staff continue to work to retain and recruit new business to develop the Downtown/CRA District.

Punta Gorda Welcomes the following New Businesses

Crossway Counseling

A Way Out Bail Bonds

Learn to Sail

Gloria Blanding Boutique

Morgan Stanley Smith Barney

EL PATIO COURTYARD CAFÉ

Gold Star Mortgage Financial

Pedelec SQB

Green Coast Home Inc

Courtyard Café and Wine Bar

TEE OFF TEMPS

Sci Tech, LLC

Expression Correction

Gruvii LLC

Tippen Law Firm

Millennium Physicians Group imaging center

Peace River Glass Artist

LEROY'S SOUTHERN KITCHEN

Friendly Floors

Furniture & Mattress Depo

Economy Homes of SW Florida LLC

SW Florida Cardiovascular Institute

Cilantros Restaurant

HORIZON HOMES OF SW FL MODEL HOME

Laishley Park Improvements

Courtyard Landscaping

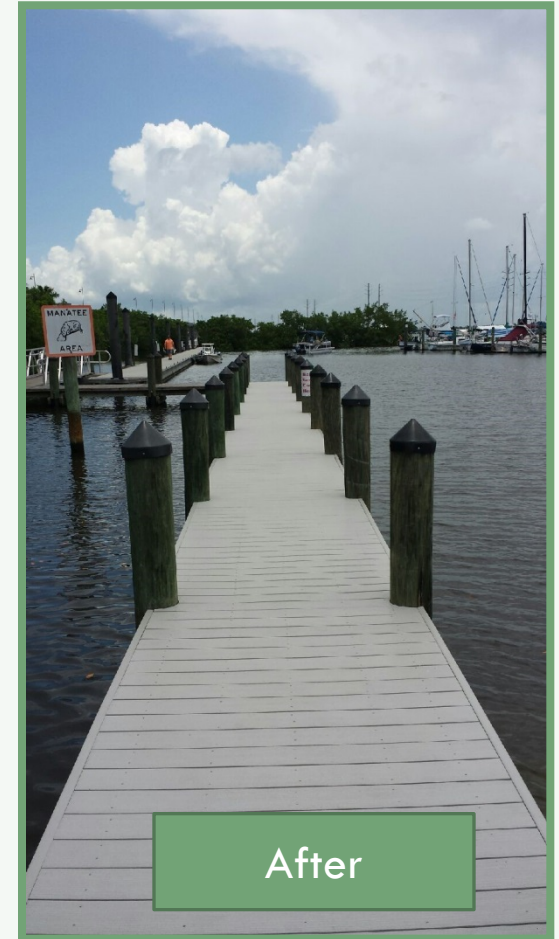


Laishley Park boat ramp docks

Replacement of deck boards and rub rails on 2 docks.



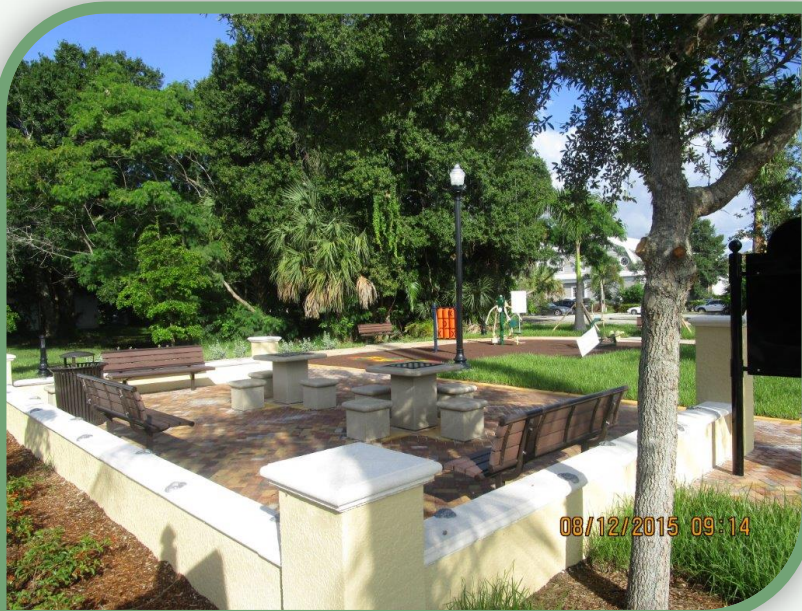
Before



After

Bailey Brothers Community Park

Dedicated to 7 Brothers that served their community and their country in the Armed Services from World War II to the Vietnam War, Bailey Brothers Park was constructed in 2015 and is open to all who live in Punta Gorda. This community park allows residents a common setting for children to play, parents to talk, families to be active together, and neighbors to enjoy one another.



Harborwalk Projects

**Harborwalk West -
ADA improvements to
Gilchrist Park Fishing
Pier.**



Harborwalk Projects

Harborwalk West Seawall



Marion Avenue Sidewalk



“Punta Gorda Fitness Zone” Phase II



Expanded the Fitness Zone to two additional locations along Linear Park, adding 12 new pieces of equipment.

“Fitness zones are a powerful way to provide enhanced fitness opportunities to our residents and visitors. We hope to have more exercise machines in the future, we have the room.”

- Howard Kunik, City Manager

Sullivan Street Lighting



Bike Loaner Program

The Punta Gorda Bicycle Loaner Program makes bicycling Punta Gorda and Regional Trails possible for everybody! The **free** loaner program is a cooperative effort between TEAM Punta Gorda, City of Punta Gorda and area businesses.



Budweiser Clydesdales parade through downtown Punta Gorda

The world-famous horses took part in a parade along U.S. 41 and then were available for pictures with local residents. They visited the patrons of several restaurants and taverns along the route



Press Talk: Vancouver's identity?

Just start.

Lou Brancaccio is The Columbian's editor. Reach him at 360-735-4505 or lou.brancaccio@columbian.com. Twitter: <http://twitter.com/lounews>.

PUNTA GORDA, Fla. — It's time. No really, it's time.

Time to promote Vancouver for what it really is. OK, I get the perceived problem. Many believe we have to first figure out what "it" is before we can promote it. But maybe the real problem is we're over-thinking the whole dang thing. Maybe — just maybe — we don't have to figure "it" out. Let me explain.

• • •

I sneaked away for a few days and ended up in the warm sunshine on the Southwest Florida coast. It's a pretty little place called Punta Gorda. Filled with brick streets, boutique shops and beautiful parks. And did I mention bikes as art? Yeah, bikes as art. Way cool.

Oh, the bikes are real. Somebody rode these bad boys once. But today they are art.

Now, look, Punta Gorda is not the bike capital of the world, although plenty of cyclists take advantage of its moderate temperatures and miles of paths. Still, it's only a piece of its makeup. So the locals went with it.

Bikes do not tell Punta Gorda's story. They are simply part of the story.

• • •

As many of you know, displaying public art is not unique to Punta Gorda. In fact, many cities have done this.

Chicago was actually one of the first to do it in the U.S.

Fiberglass cows were painted and decorated by local artists. Then they were placed around the city. How they were painted would often reflect local culture.

Later, the cows were auctioned.

• • •

In Punta Gorda, according to urban planner Mitchell Austin, the bike art was a public/business venture that was born from residents.

"It was organically generated by citizens," he said.

Unlike some cities that auction off the art, Punta Gorda's idea is to simply keep the city beautiful with public art.

• • •



This annual celebration of those who founded and developed this historic city—incorporated on December 7, 1887—kicks off Punta Gorda's Christmas Season.



The sky's the limit

By **CHRISTY FEINBERG**
SENIOR WRITER

Reported earlier this month. Charlotte County is gaining speed and about to take off in a new partnership with Western Michigan University College of Aviation.

"They look to become a major footprint in our community," Economic Development Director Tom Patton announced Wednesday during the Enterprise Charlotte Economic Council meeting, which was packed with Punta Gorda City Council members, Charlotte County commissioners, Punta Gorda Airport Authority commissioners, Florida SouthWestern State College leaders and other movers and shakers that could help solidify this partnership.

If all goes well, Western Michigan could have 50 pilots training in a 14-month program at the Punta Gorda Airport by next summer or fall, Patton said. Western Michigan and Florida SouthWestern likely would partner, with Florida SouthWestern offering a two-year degree, followed by Western Michigan with a four-year bachelor's.

"There's a technician demand as well as a pilot demand that is huge in the future," Patton said.

That would be just the first stage of what could be a multi-industry presence by Western Michigan in Charlotte County. Western Michigan could soar beyond aviation and into the fields of health care, medicine and arts as several deans from WMU have made multiple trips to the Punta Gorda area. Western Michigan has already been talking to local doctors about bringing physician assistant students to

the area for one to two months of training.

"Right now I can tell you we are enthusiastic about potential opportunities in your area," said Cheryl P. Roland, spokesperson for Western Michigan University. "One real draw for us is the fact that we have more than 1,300 alumni in the area, and we know they'd like to have us connected with the community. Several of our university leaders have visited the area, met with local representatives and continue to explore the opportunities. They are in the process of collecting specific details to proceed with final approvals for an initiative."

In order for this to happen, however, Charlotte County needs to address a few issues.

Western Michigan needs a custom hangar at Punta Gorda Airport, but there is one available on an interim basis. They also have been looking at the Impac building in Punta Gorda, where flight simulators could be housed in the gymnasium. The long-vacant, multimillion-dollar building, once known as Impac University, also needs upgrades and modifications.

Patton didn't want to go into details of how the Impac discussions were going, but he did say: "I think they are as interested in making this happen as we are."

Patton also is working with local condos on lease agreements to house the students, but private developers building a dormitory in the future is a possibility as well.

Florida SouthWestern also may need a large building on its Punta Gorda campus to house airplanes and parts, and Patton encouraged those attending the meeting to support Florida SouthWestern's



PHOTO PROVIDED WWW.WMICH.EDU

The Cirrus SR-20 is the one of the more popular aircrafts used by the Western Michigan University College of Aviation.

efforts in this partnership.

"We need to get behind whatever FSW needs," Patton said. "We need a facility for that program."

There are a few other issues such as parking at Impac and student transportation, but City Manager Howard Kunik seemed confident that these would not impede any progress.

As the parties move closer to finalizing the partnerships, a clearer picture will emerge about costs and the economic impacts to the region. For example, the number of physician assistant students hinges on the number of local doctors willing to work with them. Another variable is how much money the State Legislature is willing to allocate to Florida SouthWestern to build an Aviation Maintenance Technology facility.

Patton told the packed room that he is looking for volunteers to form the team that will travel to Kalamazoo, Mich., to show the university how interested Charlotte County is in Western Michigan University.

"I look at this as our Super Bowl," Patton said. "It's ours to lose and they should be here next summer if we can get the job done."

Among those in attendance was Fort Myers resident Jim Williams, who happens to be

best friends with Dave Powell, the dean for WMU's College of Aviation. The two started talking about the need for more training opportunities for the students and that ultimately led to Wednesday's announcement about the possible partnership with Charlotte County.

The skies above Fort Myers are a bit congested with two airports. Punta Gorda's is more open, making it more enticing for an aviation program.

"The people of Punta Gorda were really receptive to the idea," said Williams, who stressed the planes used by the students wouldn't be a noise factor for Charlotte County.

Having Western Michigan and Florida SouthWestern training technicians and pilots could lead to additional aviation businesses looking to hire qualified, educated employees.

"If we have a facility that is pumping out graduates. ... You can only see where this might lead," Patton said.

Florida SouthWestern officials attending Wednesday's meeting also expressed excitement over the potential partnership with Western Michigan.

"I think it would be a draw from every direction," said John Meyer, Dean of the School of Business and Technology for Florida SouthWestern.

Email: cfainberg@sun-herald.com

New aviation
school flying into
Punta Gorda

Western Michigan
University College of
Aviation

SPECIAL EVENTS



Downtown Punta Gorda is also a place for numerous events. The scenic waterfront open space hosts public festivals, concerts, and fishing tournaments. These events bring a steady stream of people to the downtown area and generate interest in the Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Area (PGCRA).



In 2016
Punta Gorda Hosted
Over 110 Special Events
With Attendance
Exceeding
130,000!

Punta Gorda, FL

- ❖ 5th Annual Pub Crawl
- ❖ 7th Annual Hands Across the Harbor
- ❖ 37th Annual Christmas Parade
- ❖ Peace River Reg Car Show
- ❖ AHA Charlotte Heart Walk
- ❖ AWL Dog walk-a-thon
- ❖ Bernice Russell Exhibit Opening
- ❖ Blues Brews & BBQ
- ❖ Carmelo's 1st Anniversary Event
- ❖ Charlotte County Pride Fest 2015
- ❖ Chocolate Fantasia 7K Run
- ❖ Habitat for Humanity Fishing Tournament
- ❖ Charlotte High Homecoming Parade
- ❖ Cirque' Italia
- ❖ Corvettes of Charlotte County Car Show
- ❖ Crossing the Bridge
- ❖ Cupid's Caper



10th Annual

*Don't Miss the 2015 Punta Gorda Wine & Jazz Festival
Feb 21st, 2015*

Punta Gorda



Wine &
JAZZ
FESTIVAL



Mindi Abair



Nick Colonne



Dave Koz



- ❖ Destination Power Sports Event
- ❖ Diocese of Venice Youth Rally
- ❖ DMA Oktoberfest
- ❖ Dragonboat Festival
- ❖ Emancipation Day
- ❖ PGCC Fall Sullivan St Craft Fair
- ❖ Fishville Mustang Car Club Car Show
- ❖ Funk Fest 6
- ❖ Gallery Walk
- ❖ Girls on the Run 5K
- ❖ Dept of Health 5K
- ❖ Holly Days
- ❖ iHeart Media International Food Festival
- ❖ iHeart Media Seafood Festival
- ❖ It's a Knockout
- ❖ JACD Twin Tot Walk
- ❖ Leroy's New Year's Eve
- ❖ Lifelong Learning Institute Health Fair





MEMORIAL DAY
5.25.15
VETERANS 10K & 5K
RUN
IT'S OUR TURN!



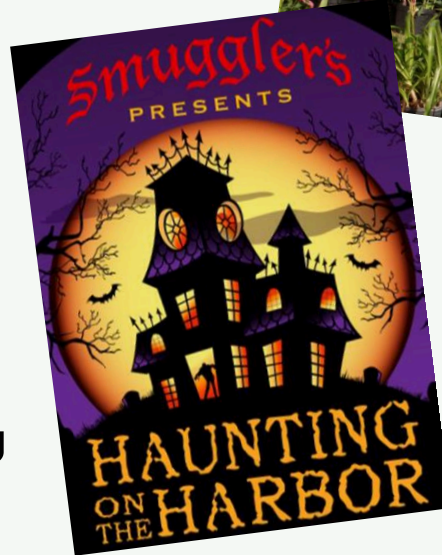
- ❖ PGCC Lighted Boat Parade
- ❖ Living Well w/MS Car Show
- ❖ March of Dimes March for Babies
- ❖ Marine Dynamics Boat Show
- ❖ Memorial Day Veteran's 10K & 5K Runs
- ❖ Mental Health Awareness Walk
- ❖ Military Heritage Museum 4th of July
- ❖ MLK Day Parade
- ❖ Muscle Car City Premier Auction
- ❖ MY Promotions Arts & Craft Show
- ❖ NAACP March for Peace
- ❖ Ogden's Office Concert
- ❖ Palm 60 Candles Event
- ❖ Port Charlotte Adventist School Superhero Walk
- ❖ Peace River Reg Car Show Gallery Walk
- ❖ Peace River National Art Fair
- ❖ Pedelec Grand Opening



- Pedal and Play is 5 exciting bicycle tours that includes:
- 62 mile Metric Century Tour
- 30 mile Tour
- 15 mile Tour
- 10 mile Mystery Tour
- City Manager's/History Tour

The 4th Annual Pedal and Play in Paradise benefited the Leukemia & Lymphoma society and Team Punta Gorda's Bicycle Friendly Community Initiatives.

- ❖ PGCC Sullivan St Craft Fair
- ❖ Share the Love Home Tour
- ❖ Pregnancy Careline Peace River Walk 4 Life
- ❖ Peace River Radio Association Hamfest
- ❖ Punta Gorda Hibiscus Festival
- ❖ Sallie Jones PTO Penguin Waddle 5K
- ❖ Smuggler's 4th of July
- ❖ Smuggler's Chili Fest
- ❖ Smuggler's Haunting on the Harbor
- ❖ Spring into Summer 5K
- ❖ SVDP Boots & Skirts Gala
- ❖ SVDP Walk for the Poor
- ❖ SWFL Vietnam Wall Ground Breaking
- ❖ Taste of Punta Gorda
- ❖ TNT Event Art/Craft Show
- ❖ Veteran's Day Car Show
- ❖ Veteran's Day Parade
- ❖ VMCCA Gallery Walk Car Show
- ❖ Walk to End Alzheimer's
- ❖ SWFL Vietnam Wall Fest





What are they Saying?

10 AFFORDABLE DOWN-SOUTH DESTINATIONS TO ESCAPE WINTER'S CHILL

Posted On 11 Jan 2016

1. Punta Gorda, Florida



"A friendly community with a remarkable past and an exciting future."

A small city with a very big heart welcomes you! IT'S HAPPENING ON THE HARBOR!

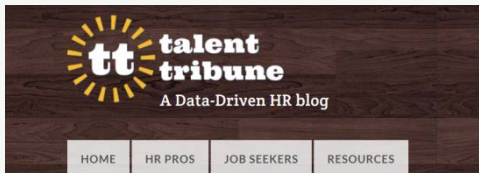


PUNTA GORDA AREA

DAY THREE

3 Stroll through a farmers' market or paddle in pristine Charlotte Harbor. Reward your effort with a waterfront meal at Farlow's (try the fresh black grouper "burger") or Beach Road Wine Bar + Bistro where the baby kale in the grilled salad is locally grown. Go upscale with a reservation at one of Trabue's weekly wine dinners, or at The Perfect Caper, where mozzarella, pâté and other touches are house-made. End the day with a local microbrew from the Fat Point Brewing tap room or a scoop of homemade ice cream from Cubby's.

CharlotteHarborTravel.com



The 10 Best Places to Open a Small Business

KATHERINE WOOD | DECEMBER 15, 2014

5. PUNTA GORDA, FL



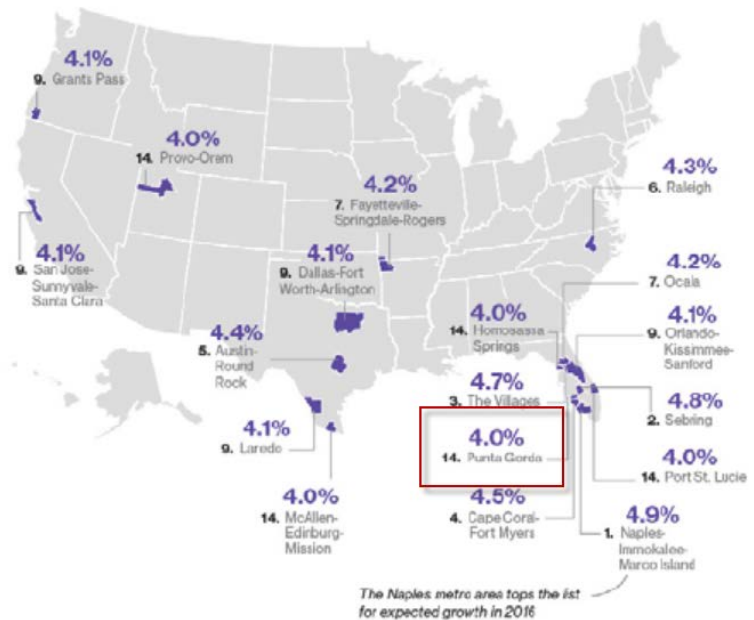
Photo credit: swfloridaproperties.net

Punta Gorda has shown a history of resilience. From a great fire in 1905 to massive destruction from Hurricane Charley in 2004, residents have endured hardship and persevered. The town's small businesses have reflected its endurance by steadily adding 2% in net small business growth. If that doesn't show the area's durability, we don't know what does.

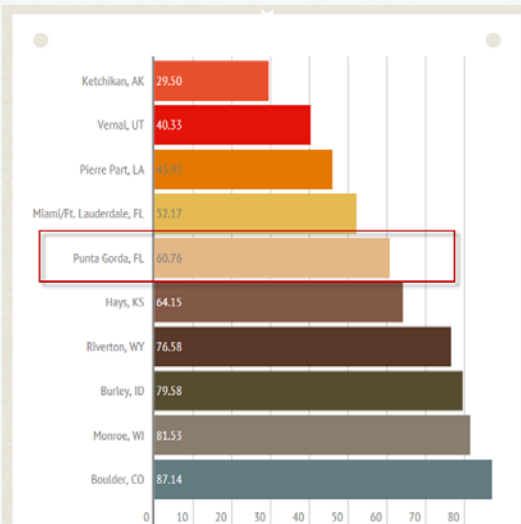
These 18 Cities Will See the Most Economic Growth Next Year

These Are the New Hubs of Economic Growth

Florida dominates the ranks of the 18 metropolitan areas that will see the most economic growth next year



Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors with IHS Global Insight



The 10 Best Places to Open a Small Business

2015 ECONOMIC PREVIEW



JANUARY 2015

THE FLORIDA ECONOMY IS EXPECTING A SUNNY YEAR

PREDICTED 2015 GROSS METROPOLITAN PRODUCT (GMP) GROWTH (IN PERCENT)

FLORIDA MSA	2015 GROWTH
Naples-Marco Island	4.7
Palm Coast	4.6
Orlando-Kissimmee-Sanford	4.4
Cape Coral-Fort Myers	4.3
Ocala	4.0
Port St. Lucie	4.0
Miami-Fort Lauderdale-Pompano Beach	3.6
Palm Bay-Melbourne-Titusville	3.6
Punta Gorda	3.6
Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater	3.6
Jacksonville	3.5
Lakeland-Winter Haven	3.5
North Port-Bradenton-Sarasota	3.5
Sebastian-Vero Beach	3.4
Deltona-Daytona Beach-Ormond Beach	3.3
Panama City-Lynn Haven-Panama City Beach	3.1
Crestview-Fort Walton Beach-Destin	3.0
Pensacola-Ferry Pass-Brent	2.8
Tallahassee	2.8
Gainesville	2.3

Source: Prepared for the U.S. Conference of Mayors and the Council on Metro Economies and the New American City by IHS Global Insight

Life in the Bike Lane

Florida cities are stepping up their efforts to become bicycle-friendly

by Erika D. Peterman

About five years ago after sailing across Lake Michigan, **Gene Pawlowski** was trying to figure out how to get into town once he had docked his boat. A local pointed to some nearby bikes and told him to take one. They were available on loan for free.

Pawlowski, a snowbird, liked the idea so much that he brought it to his Florida home of **Punta Gorda**. Thanks to a partnership between the city and volunteer organization TEAM Punta Gorda, that resulted in the local Bicycle Loaner Program. The program allows residents and visitors to experience the city on two or even three wheels by visiting one of six locations and renting city-owned bicycles from a fleet of 42 – free of charge.

"This is a community that relies on tourism, and the Bicycle Loaner Program is the best advertising you can get for being a great place to visit," said program chairman and TEAM Punta Gorda volunteer **John Baird**. "How could you not love a place that will loan you a bike?"

Punta Gorda isn't alone in its efforts to be bike-friendly. Through a variety of initiatives and projects, cities across the state are working to make it easier, safer and more enjoyable for bicyclists to navigate their communities.

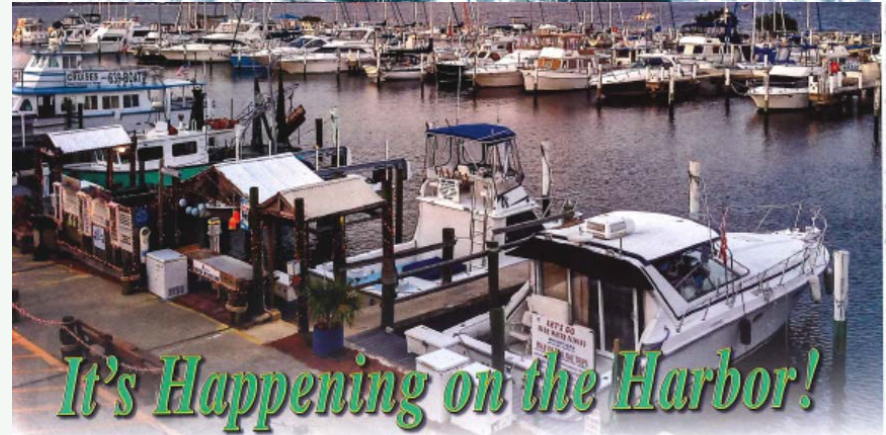
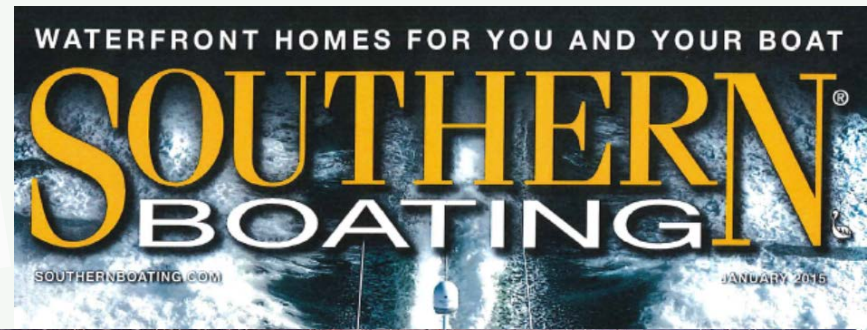
These Are The 10 Safest Places In Florida (Spring 2015 Edition)

Looking to have some fun in the sun, but stay safe while doing it? Then these Florida cities are perfect for you.

TOP TEN

Those safest places were:

1. City of Marco Island
2. City of Parkland
3. City of Niceville
4. Village of North Palm Beach
5. City of Winter Springs
6. Town of Key Biscayne
7. City of Punta Gorda
8. City of Oviedo
9. City of Lake Mary
10. Cooper City



Charlotte Harbor on Florida's Gulf Coast will have you planning a return trip before you even leave.

Everyone loves a great comeback story. Celebrating with others who triumph over defeat is innate, and that is exactly what the residents of Punta Gorda and the surrounding Gulf Islands share since Hurricane Charley ripped through Charlotte Harbor and left behind ruin in 2004. Today, the coastal community has not only been revitalized in structure but also in spirit, with residents who noticeably take a great deal of pride in the strength, beauty and growth of their city.

"one stop shop" for cruisers with an impressive marina, vibrant shopping and multiple restaurants, cafes and a sweets shop. Villas above each shop include a full kitchen, dining, and living room, and two bedrooms with a full bath.

Laishley Marina on the Peace River is a few nautical miles north of Fisherman's Village. The Laishley Crab House offers excellent fresh seafood and a full sushi bar at reasonable prices, and when blue crab is in season you can't go wrong with a fresh-fried crab sandwich or fresh crab and



Looking to the future

- Vietnam Veterans Memorial Replica
- Community Garden Co-op
- Sidewalk Improvements
- Harborwalk
 - Gilchrist Park
 - US 41 Southbound Underpass
 - Mary Street Connection
 - Laishley Park Municipal Marina
- Gilchrist Park Playground & Restroom
- Punta Gorda Library & Historic Archive



Financial Matters

How is the CRA Funded?



Activities in the CRA are predominantly funded by tax increment. Tax increment is calculated based on the dollar value of all real property in the Community Redevelopment Area at the time the CRA district is created, also known as the “frozen value”.

Taxing authorities who contribute to the tax increment continue to receive property tax revenues based on the frozen value. However, any tax revenues from increases in real property value, referred to as “increment”, are deposited into the Community Redevelopment Agency Trust Fund and dedicated to the redevelopment area. Tax increment revenues can be used immediately, saved for a particular project, or bonded to maximize the funds available. Any funds received from a tax increment financing area must be used in accordance with the Redevelopment Plan for specific redevelopment purposes within the targeted area, and not for general governmental purposes.

Financial Matters

The Community Redevelopment Agency budget and financial reporting activities are part of the City's comprehensive financial process. The following tables contain the City of Punta Gorda CRA Financials for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015.

CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA

BALANCE SHEET

Community Redevelopment Agency

September 30, 2015

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$	1,499,925
Accounts receivable		3,705
Due from other funds		7,457
Total Assets	\$	1,511,087

**CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA
BALANCE SHEET
Community Redevelopment Agency
September 30, 2015**

LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES

Accounts payable	\$	113,126
Deferred revenue		18,741
Total liabilities	\$	131,867
Fund balances		
Capital improvement and maintenance		
CRA District (Downtown)		1,379,220
Total Fund Balances	\$	1,379,220
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	1,511,087

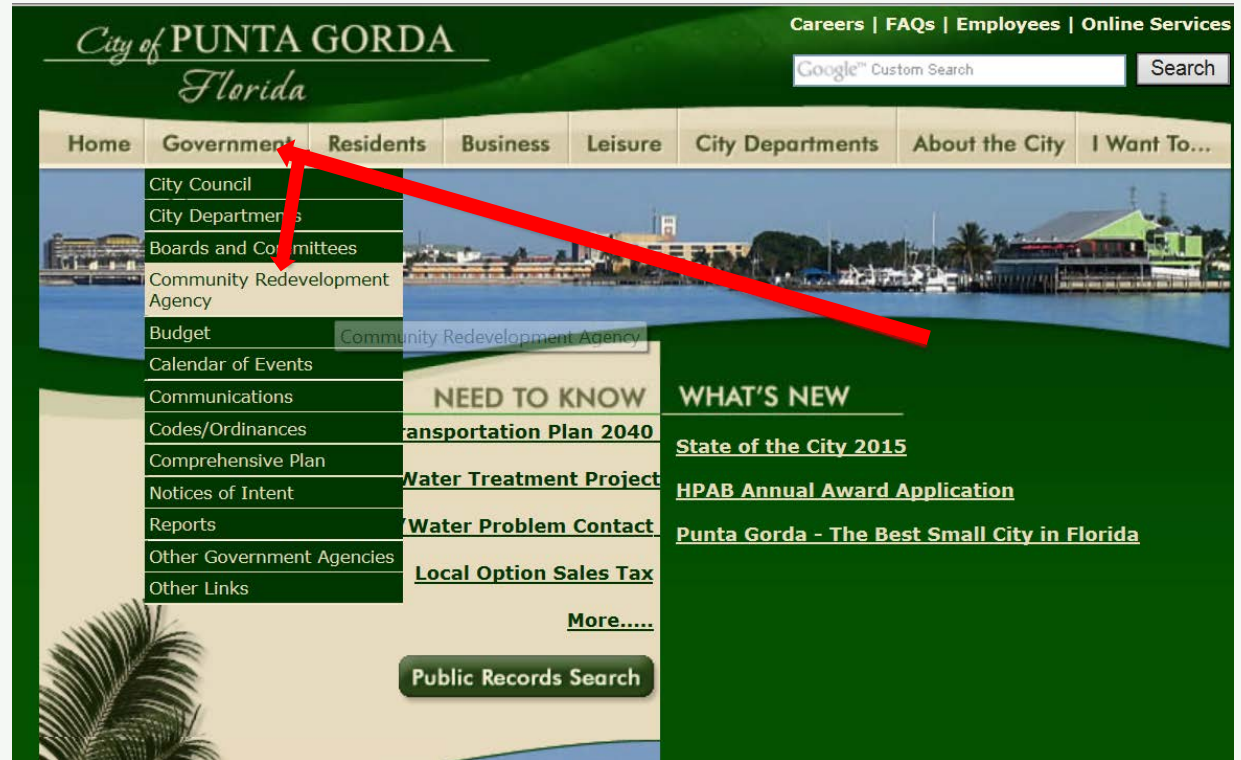
CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
Community Redevelopment Agency
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2015

Revenues			
Intergovernmental revenues	\$	884,092	
Miscellaneous		251,720	
Total Revenues	\$	1,135,812	
Expenditures			
Economic environment		251,176	
Capital Outlay		132,007	
Total expenditures	\$	383,183	
Excess Revenues over expenditures		752,629	
Other financing sources (uses)			
Transfers in		448,578	
Transfers out		(1,282,054)	
Total other financing sources (uses)		(833,476)	
Net change in fund balances		(80,847)	
Fund balances, October 1, 2014		1,460,067	
Fund Balances, September 30, 2015	\$	1,379,220	

CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES -
BUDGET AND ACTUAL
COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FUND
For the Fiscal Year Ended September 30, 2015

	Budgets		Actual	Final Budget
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Intergovernmental revenues	\$ 895,368	\$ 895,368	\$ 884,092	\$ (11,276)
Miscellaneous	296,154	297,554	251,720	(45,834)
Total Revenues	\$ 1,191,522	1,192,922	1,135,812	(57,110)
Expenditures				
Economic environment	243,416	306,680	251,176	55,504
Capital outlay	0	269,005	132,007	136,998
Total Expenditures	\$ 243,416	575,685	383,183	192,502
Excess revenues over expenditures	\$ 948,106	617,237	752,629	135,392
Other financing sources (uses)				
Transfers in	454,299	454,299	448,578	(5,721)
Transfers out	(1,282,054)	(1,282,054)	(1,282,054)	-
Total other financing uses	(827,755)	(827,755)	(833,476)	(5,721)
Net change in fund balances	\$ 120,351	\$ (210,518)	\$ (80,847)	\$ 129,671
Fund balances, October 1, 2014			<u>\$1,460,067</u>	
Fund balances, September 30, 2015			<u>\$1,379,220</u>	

Finding Us on the Web

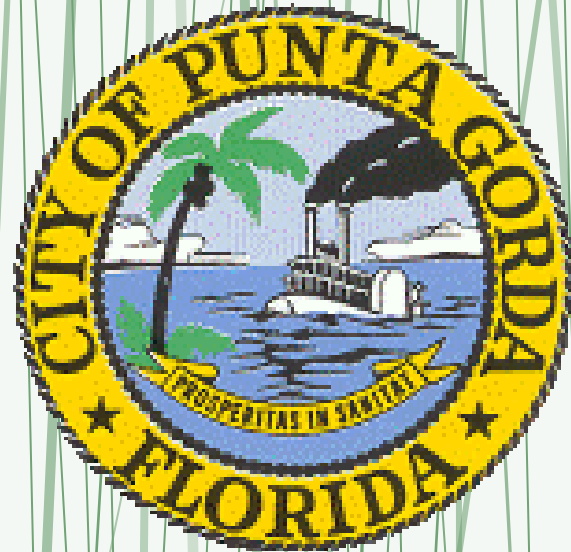


The Community Redevelopment Agency is at your service 24 hours a day / 7 days a week at www.pgorda.us you will find a wealth of information including meeting dates; latest happenings and events; maps; and much more!

Any Comment or Questions?

Contact:

David C. Hilston, AICP
Urban Design Division
City of Punta Gorda
326 West Marion Avenue
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950
Email: Dhilston@pgorda.us
Phone: 941-575-3372



It's Happening On The Harbor®

PUNTA GORDA

