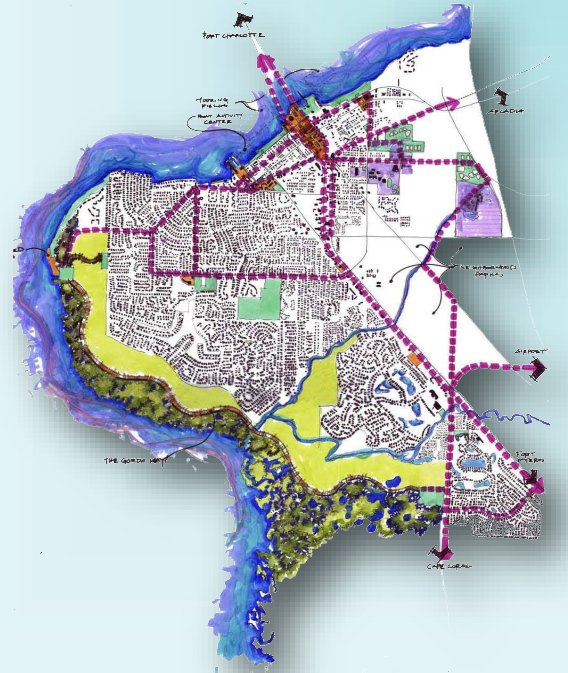


Annexation And The City of Punta Gorda



Punta Gorda

Florida's Harborside Hometown

PUNTA GORDA CITY COUNCIL



Lynne R. Matthews,
Mayor
District 4
Term: 2020-2022
lmattews@pgorda.us



Debby Carey,
Vice Mayor
District 2
Term: 2020-2022
dcarey@pgorda.us



Melissa Lockhart
District 5
Term: 2021-2023
mlockhart@pgorda.us



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District 1
Term: 2020-2022
jcumings@pgorda.us



Mark Kuharski
District 3
Term: 2021-2023
mkuharski@pgorda.us

CITY STAFF

Gregory Murray, City Manager
Melissa Reichert, Assistant City Manager
Karen Smith, City Clerk
Kristin Simeone, Finance Director
Joan LeBeau, AICP, Urban Design Director
Rick Keeney, Public Works Director
Chuck Pavlos, Utilities Director
Chief Pam Davis, Chief of Police
Chief Ray Briggs, Fire Chief

WELCOME

Welcome to City of Punta Gorda. We're excited that you are interested in becoming a part of our City. Annexation into the City of Punta Gorda offers many benefits, including higher levels of service and more accessible government. We're also careful to balance the interests of annexation, making sure we maintain the same high standards for both current residents and our new neighbors. We're sure you're going to enjoy being part of "City Living." For more information about specific annexations, or the annexation process, please call or email the City's Urban Design Division at

- ◆ Phone: 941.575.3372
- ◆ Email: UrbanDesign@CityOfPuntaGordaFL.com

PUNTA GORDA CITY LIMITS & UTILITY SERVICE AREA



Utility Rates as of 01/01/2021	INSIDE CITY LIMITS	OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS
WATER		
ALL CLASSES WA-PERU	11.09	13.86
ALL CLASS CUSTOMER CHARGE	4.82	6.03
SF/MF 0-5,000 gals	3.29	4.11
SF/MF 5,000-10,000 gals	3.66	4.75
SF/MF 10,000-20,000 gals	4.53	5.88
SF/MF 20,000-40,000 gals	5.55	7.21
SF/MF over 40,000 gals	6.76	8.78
CM-ALL USE	4.19	5.23
IRR 0-10,000 gals	4.70	5.89
IRR 10,000-30,000 gals	5.76	7.21
IRR Over 30,000 gals	7.01	8.78
WASTEWATER		
ALL CLASSES-WW PERU	28.32	35.40
ALL CLASSES-WW USE	1.65	2.06
<i>Net savings of 15% on utility rates by annexing into the City</i>		

WHAT IS ANNEXATION?



Annexation is the process set forth in the Florida Statutes that allows properties outside the current city limits to become part of a city. By adding unincorporated property within an incorporated municipality (a city or town), it allows municipalities to logically expand and straighten their boundary lines, as well as efficiently provide services without duplication. Within the City of Punta Gorda boundary, there are properties and neighborhoods that are not within the City, even if the mailing address is Punta Gorda, FL. Annexation allows these businesses and residents to join the City and be able to receive municipal services that are available to

properties located within the City Limits.

There are two main ways in which unincorporated property can be annexed into a municipality. It can be by, (1) "voluntary" annexation, or (2) by a "referendum" annexation. Both methods are governed by State law (Chapter 171 of the Florida Statutes).

Voluntary annexation occurs when a property owner (or owners) submits a petition to annex into a municipality. As a result of that petition, and if the municipality agrees, a municipal ordinance is passed at a public hearing annexing the area. By state law, in order to be eligible for voluntary annexation, the property has to be contiguous to the annexing municipality and compact.

The City shall consider requests for voluntary annexation when those lands are logical extensions of the existing City limits, when services can be properly provided, and when proposed uses are compatible with the City's Comprehensive Plan.



WHY IS ANNEXATION IMPORTANT TO THE CITY

- ◆ Part of the City’s Strategic Plan
- ◆ Enhances economic development
- ◆ Helps drive commercial and retail growth where it makes the most sense and create sales tax revenue

Since 2004 the City of Punta Gorda has annexed over 1,700 acres (2.3+ square miles) into the Incorporated City limits at the voluntary request of property owners.

Fiscal Year	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020
Annexation (acreage and type)	30.70 acres Developed commercial	0.64 acres Vacant commercial	39.00 acres Vacant, residential & light industrial	3.16 acres Developed Special Purpose

Recent City Annexations

Nino’s Bakery / Punta Gorda Self Storage

Eagle Point Mobile Home Community

Jones Loop Road Property

Park Hill Mobile Home Community

Walmart and Murphy Oil

Additional Jones Loop Road Property

Cooper Street Property

Burnt Store Presbyterian Church



WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF ANNEXATION?


A City is a unit of Government designed and equipped to provide urban services in a cost-effective manner. In general, cities annex land to allow for the long-term planning necessary to accommodate growth and to facilitate the planning and budgeting of infrastructure, such as roads and parks.

Annexation can reduce your tax burden and save money!

Based on a general comparison of tax rates and taxing entities, residents and businesses of unincorporated Charlotte County would see moderate savings in annual property taxes by annexing into the City Limits.

Plus, your property and state tax dollars would stay in your community – going directly to the improvements in this area. The City is committed to making the

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- ◆ Provides for the protection of the environment, your lifestyle, your home and your property values through planning, zoning and building ordinances;
 - ◆ Offers enhanced sanitation services
 - ◆ Delivers superior Police & Fire Protection
 - ◆ Provides pro-active Planning, Zoning, and Code Enforcement
 - ◆ Gives citizens a voice and allows them to run for City offices, serve on citizen boards and commissions, and vote in City elections
 - ◆ Maintains all dedicated and improved streets and all fully improved streets are cleaned regularly
 - ◆ Provides an approximate 15% net savings on water rates
- 

POLICE

- ◆ Minimum staffing of four (4) officers on any given shift
- ◆ Officers and volunteers conduct regular directed patrols
- ◆ Average dispatch call for service is 1.47 minutes
- ◆ Average patrol response time is 4.23 minutes
- ◆ Away from home program/house checks
- ◆ Aggressive sexual offender monitoring program that includes proximity alerts



FIRE

- ◆ Response time is cut in half
- ◆ Fire houses located on Acline Rd. and Burnt Store Rd.
- ◆ EMS located on Aqui Esta Drive
- ◆ Fire hydrants required by State Statute and Ordinance
- ◆ Safety Programs
 - ◇ Replacement or installation of one (1) 10-year smoke alarm
 - ◇ Flare disposal
 - ◇ CPR Training
 - ◇ Fire extinguisher training
 - ◇ Medication and sharps disposal



UTILITIES

- ◆ Already City Utility customers
- ◆ All facilities on site are customer owned and maintained
- ◆ Net savings of 15% on water rates
- ◆ Additional questions contact Utilities directly at 941-575-3339



BUILDING

- ◆ Faster permitting
- ◆ Direct access to Building official and inspectors



2021 TAX BILL COMPARISONS BASED ON A \$100,000 RESIDENTIAL VALUATION

UNINCORPORATED CHARLOTTE COUNTY

CITY OF PUNTA GORDA

CHARLOTTE COUNTY	6.3007	CHARLOTTE COUNTY	6.3007
GREATER CHARLOTTE LIGHTING	0.3250	GREATER CHARLOTTE LIGHTING	N/A
LAW ENFORCEMENT	2.5855	LAW ENFORCEMENT	N/A
WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION	0.0394	WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION	0.0394
CITY OF PUNTA GORDA	N/A	CITY OF PUNTA GORDA	3.950
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS	0.2000	ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS	0.2000
CHARLOTTE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD	6.850	CHARLOTTE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD	6.8500
SOUTHWEST FL WATER MANAGEMENT	0.2535	SOUTHWEST FL WATER MANAGEMENT	0.2535
Total Ad Valorem Millage	16.5541	Total Ad Valorem Millage	17.5936
Appraised Value Millage	\$1,655.41	Appraised Value Millage	\$1,759.36

Non Ad Valorem Assessments

Non Ad Valorem Assessments

CHARLOTTE COUNTY SANITATION	\$ 271.55	CITY SANITATION (Billed monthly \$23.22)	\$ 278.64
CHARLOTTE CO FIRE RESCUE DEPT (varies)	\$ 203.77	CHARLOTTE CO FIRE RESCUE DEPT	N/A
PUNTA GORDA (NU) ST&DR	\$ 211.78	PUNTA GORDA (NU) ST&DR	N/A
SOU CHARLOTTE STORM-WATER UTILITY (varies)	\$ 9.10	SOU CHARLOTTE STORM-WATER UTILITY	N/A
Total Non Ad Valorem Assessment	\$ 424.65	Total Non Ad Valorem Assessment	\$ 278.64

Total Tax Bill

\$ 2,080.06

Total Tax Bill

\$2,038.00

Approximate Tax Savings of \$42.06



2020 TAX BILL COMPARISONS BASED ON A \$500,000 COMMERCIAL VALUATION

UNINCORPORATED CHAARLOTTE COUNTY

CITY OF PUNTA GORDA

CHARLOTTE COUNTY	6.3007	CHARLOTTE COUNTY	6.3007
GREATER CHARLOTTE LIGHTING	0.3250	GREATER CHARLOTTE LIGHTING	N/A
LAW ENFORCEMENT	2.5855	LAW ENFORCEMENT	N/A
WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION	0.0394	WEST COAST INLAND NAVIGATION	0.0394
CITY OF PUNTA GORDA	N/A	CITY OF PUNTA GORDA	3.950
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS	0.2000	ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS	0.2000
CHARLOTTE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD	6.850	CHARLOTTE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD	6.8500
SOUTHWEST FL WATER MANAGEMENT	0.2535	SOUTHWEST FL WATER MANAGEMENT	0.2535
Total Ad Valorem Millage	16.5541	Total Ad Valorem Millage	17.5936
Appraised Value Millage	\$8,277.05	Appraised Value Millage	\$8,796.80

<u>Non Ad Valorem Assessments</u>		<u>Non Ad Valorem Assessments</u>	
CHARLOTTE CO FIRE RESCUE DEPT (varies)	\$ 1,667.00	CHARLOTTE CO FIRE RESCUE DEPT	N/A
PUNTA GORDA (NU) ST&DR	\$ 254.14	PUNTA GORDA (NU) ST&DR	N/A
SOU CHARLOTTE STORM-WATER UTILITY (varies)	\$ 14.71	SOU CHARLOTTE STORM-WATER UTILITY	N/A
Total Non Ad Valorem Assessment	\$ 1,935.85	Total Non Ad Valorem Assessment	\$ -

Total Tax Bill

\$ 10,212.90

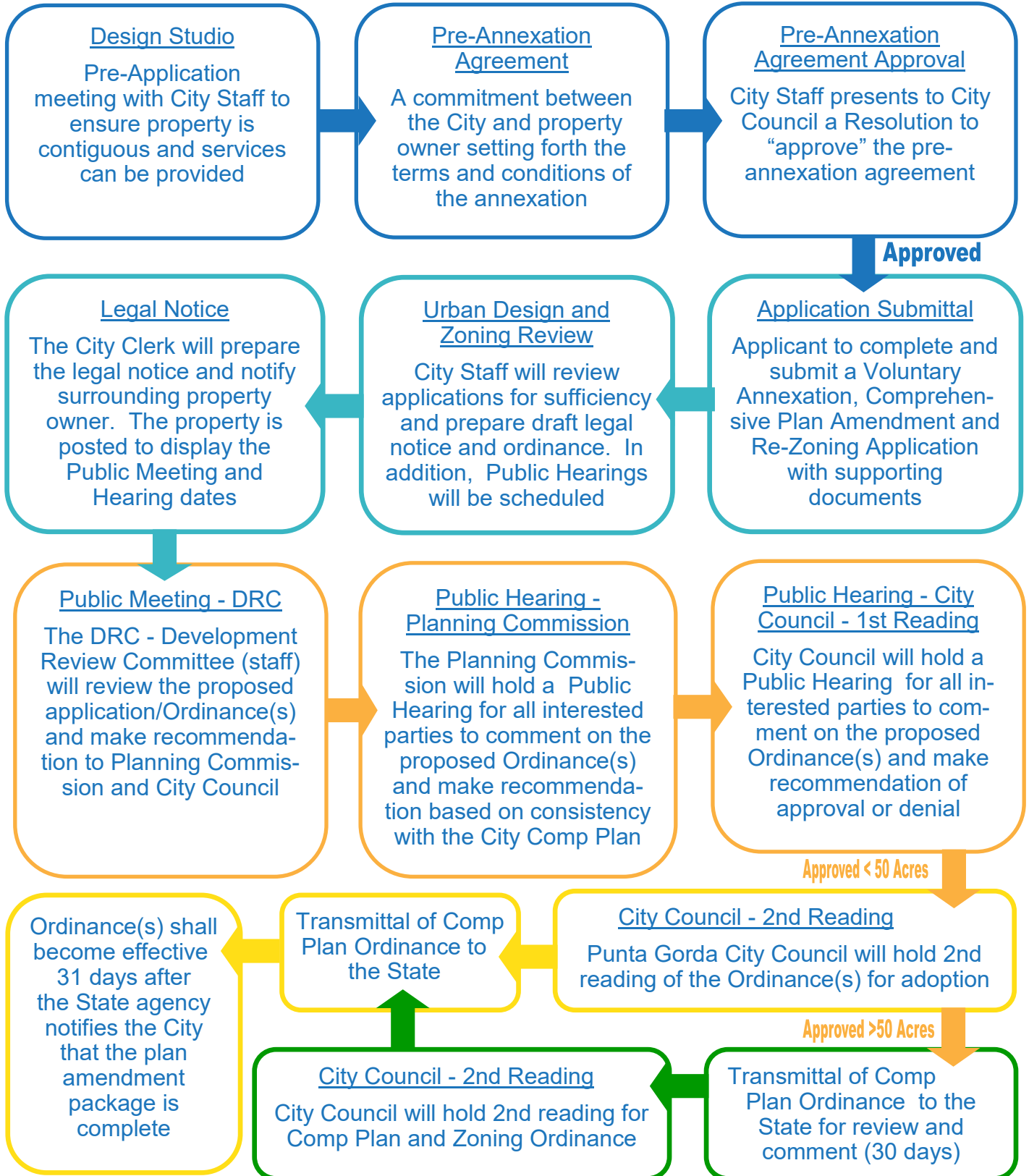
Total Tax Bill

\$8,796.80

Approximate Tax Savings of \$1,416.10



WHAT IS THE ANNEXATION PROCESS?



ANNEXATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WOULD MY ADDRESS CHANGE?

No, addresses are not affected by annexation

WOULD MY SCHOOL DISTRICT CHANGE?

No, school zone boundaries are not affected by annexation

WILL THERE BE ANY DISRUPTION IN MY UTILITY SERVICE(S)?

No, residences and businesses will see no disruption in their utility service(s)

WHAT IS THE COST FOR VOLUNTARY ANNEXATION?

The cost of the voluntary application and other required application is the “actual cost” of legal advertising to be paid prior to the annexation be finalized

ARE THERE ANY “OTHER” COSTS WITH ANNEXATION?


Property owners are required to submit a signed and sealed boundary survey completed no less than 12 months prior to the application that accurately shows the current conditions of the property

WHY IS THE CITY CONSIDERING ANNEXATION OF A PORTION OF UNINCORPORATED CHARLOTTE COUNTY?

The City considers all requests of annexations if the process is initiated by the property owner and is contiguous with the City’s existing limits. The City’s Strategic Plan places a high priority on annexations to strengthen & diversify the City’s tax base. This process may also assist in using resources efficiently, capturing growth, or implementing a plan across current borders.

HOW DO I START THE ANNEXATION PROCESS?

Contact one of the City Planner’s at UrbanDeign@cityofpuntagordafl.com or call 941-575-3372 to set up a Design Studio appointment where staff can answer any question and assist with the application process



WANT MORE INFORMATION?

If you are a property owner interested in annexing into the City of Punta Gorda or would like more information on the benefits of being in the City, and how to start the process and where to get questions answered contact:

Urban Design Division
Joan LeBeau, AICP, Urban Design Director
City of Punta Gorda
326 West Marion Avenue
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950
Email: JLeBeau@CityofPuntaGordaFL.com
Phone: 941-575-3372



Our Mission is “To enhance Punta Gorda’s identity as a vibrant waterfront community, unique in character and history, and one of the most desirable places to live, work and visit.”



Punta Gorda