



# Definitions

City of Punta Gorda Comprehensive Plan 2045

Ordinance 2013-2024  
February 7, 2024

## DEFINITIONS

Accessory Use and Structure A structure subordinate or incidental to the principal structure on a lot in square footage, scale, and use. Accessory structures and uses include detached garages, storage buildings, pools and pool houses, tennis courts, decks, piers and other related structures, etc.

Account Number In accordance with the state chart of accounts, each class of expenditures and revenues is assigned a specific account number for use within the City's accounting system

Ad Valorem Taxes A tax levied on assessed value of real and personal property within the City and not expressly exempted. This tax is also known as property tax.

Adjacent Concurrency Service Areas Concurrency Service Areas which are contiguous and touch along one side of their outside geographic boundary

Adult Congregate living facility Adult congregate living facility means any state department of health and rehabilitative services licensed building or buildings, section of a building or distinct portion of a building, residence, private home, boarding home, home for the aged or other place whether (where) for a period exceeding twenty-four (24) hours, housing food service and one or more personal services (are provided) for adult resident clients, not related to the owner or administrator by blood or marriage, who require such services.

Advisory Council A group formed to provide recommendations about specific units and items

Affordable Housing Housing for which monthly rents or monthly mortgage payments, including taxes, insurance, and utilities, do not exceed 30 percent of that amount which represents the percentage of the median adjusted gross annual income for the households or persons indicated in Section 420.0004, F.S. Affordable housing definitions that are prescribed by other affordable housing programs administered by either the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development or the State of Florida may be used by local governments if such programs are implemented by the local government to provide affordable housing.

## DEFINITIONS

Agricultural uses

activities within land areas which are predominantly used for the cultivation of crops and livestock including: cropland; pastureland; orchards; vineyards; nurseries; ornamental horticulture areas; groves; confined feeding operations; specialty farms; and silviculture areas.

Airport

A tract of land or water that is maintained for the landing and takeoff of aircraft and for receiving and discharging passengers and cargo and that usually has facilities for the shelter, supply and repair of planes

Airport facility

any area of land or water improved, maintained or operated by a governmental agency for the landing and takeoff of aircraft, or privately owned paved runways of 4,000 or more feet in length, and any appurtenant area which is used for airport buildings, or other airport facilities or rights-of-way.

Alteration

Any change or expansion in the size, configuration, or location of a structure; or any change or expansion in the use of a structure or lot, from a previously approved or legally existing size, configuration, location, or use.

Amendment

Any action of a local government which has the effect of amending, adding to, deleting from or changing an adopted comprehensive plan element or map or map series, including an action affecting a prior plan or plan amendment adoption ordinance, but shall not mean a legislative act which only codifies local legislation or makes corrections, updates and modifications of the capital improvements element concerning costs, revenue sources, acceptance of facilities or facility construction dates consistent with the plan as provided in subsection 163.3177(3)(b), F.S., and corrections, updates, or modifications of current costs in other elements, as provided in subsection 163.3187(2), F.S. Throughout this chapter, references to a plan or comprehensive plan shall also be deemed to refer to a plan amendment.

American Community Survey

An ongoing U.S. Census Bureau statistical survey that samples a small percentage of the population every year -- giving communities the current information they need to plan investments and services.

Ancillary Facilities

The building, site and site improvements necessary to provide support to a School Board's Education Program including, but not limited to vehicle storage and maintenance, warehouses or administrative buildings

## DEFINITIONS

Applicant For the purpose of school concurrency, any person or entity undertaking a residential development

Appropriation The City Council's legal authorization for the City to make expenditures and incur obligations for specific purposes. The amount and time when the appropriation may be expended are usually limited.

Area Median Income Established by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), means the median gross income earned by a family of four within a given Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or county.

Areas subject to coastal flooding The areas delineated by the regional or local Hurricane Evacuation Plan as requiring evacuation.

Arterial road A roadway provides service which is relatively continuous and of relatively high traffic volume, long trip length, and high operating speed. In addition, every United States numbered highway is an arterial road.

Assessed Valuation The County Property Appraiser's estimation of the Fair Market Value of real estate or other property. This valuation is used to determine taxes levied upon the property.

Attached Home Rear yard buildings which share common side walls. Attached homes may be town-homes or condominium units.

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## DEFINITIONS

Attendance Boundary

The geographic area which is established to identify the public school assignment of students residing within that area

Auto Dependent Design

The construction of buildings and development to accommodate the car as the predominant and most reasonably available method of transportation i.e.: drive through windows, plentiful parking located in front of entrances; wide road lanes with the elimination of on-street parking, sidewalks, and street trees; and large intersections. The codification of auto design standards in engineering regulations makes the car the principal means of transport for all necessary trips, thereby inhibiting the construction of mixed uses and compact development

Available Capacity

Existing school capacity which is available within a Concurrency Service Area including any new school capacity that will be in place or under actual construction, as identified in the first three years of the School District's 5-year Work Program

Base Flood Elevation

That elevation as established by FEMA, expressed in feet above mean sea level, to which flooding can be expected to occur on a frequency of once in every 100 years, or which is subject to a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

Bernice Russel Community  
Development Corporation  
(BRCDC)

A group composed of local community activists that are committed to revitalizing the historic Trabue Woods Neighborhood

Bicycle and Pedestrian Ways

Any road, path or way which is open to bicycle travel and traffic afoot and from which motor vehicles are excluded.

Breastworks

Term usually applied to temporary fortifications, often an earthwork thrown up to breast height to provide protection to defenders firing over it from a standing position.

## DEFINITIONS

*Budget*

A plan of financial operation embodying an estimate of proposed expenditures for a given period (usually a single fiscal year) and the proposed means of financing. The budget, once adopted, is the legal authorization to expend city funds during the fiscal year. The budget may be amended during the fiscal year by the governing body and/or management, in accordance with procedures specified by law, charter, and/or administrative rules and regulations.

*Build Out*

The completed construction of all phases of a development as allowed by all Ordinances which regulate an area. The scale of build out can be from a single lot to the entire City's jurisdiction.

*Buildable Area*

The portion of a lot remaining after required yards have been provided

*Building*

Any structure having a roof supported by columns or by walls, and intended for shelter, housing or enclosure of persons, animals or property. The connection of two buildings by means of an open porch, breezeway, passageway, carport or other such open structure, with or without a roof, shall not be deemed to make them one building.

*Building Footprint*

The land area on which a building is located or proposed for location.

*Building line*

The line formed by the facades of buildings which creates a frame defining the public realm. Respecting building lines means to place walls or landscaping in such a manner as to continue the frame where there is an absence of buildings.

*Building Permit*

A permit obtained from the City which sets the inspection schedule and construction techniques for a particular project and specified use in accordance with adopted building codes and other prevailing standards for construction, and includes the City's necessary approval.

*Building Setback Line*

A line establishing the minimum allowable distance between the nearest part of any building, including eaves and overhangs, but excluding porches, bay windows, covered porches, decks, and patios, to the nearest edge of a street right-of-way, property line, or easement line, when measured perpendicular thereto.

## DEFINITIONS

Building Type

The standard classification of building construction as All yard, Side-yard, Rear-yard, Court-yard, and Special Purpose types.

Build-To Line

The line at which construction of a building is to occur on a lot. A build-to line runs parallel to the front property line and is established to create an even building facade line on a street.

Built-Upon Area

The portion of a development project that is covered by impervious or partially impervious cover including buildings, pavement, gravel areas [e.g. roads, parking lots, paths], recreation facilities [e.g. tennis courts], etc. [Note: Wooden slatted decks and the water area of a swimming pool are considered pervious.]

Capital Budget

The portion of each local government's budget which reflects capital improvements scheduled for a fiscal year.

Capital Improvement

Physical assets constructed or purchased to provide, improve or replace a public facility and which are large scale and high in cost. The cost of a capital improvement is generally nonrecurring and may require multi-year financing. For the purposes of this rule, physical assets which have been identified as existing or projected needs in the individual comprehensive plan elements shall be considered capital improvements.

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

A financial plan for construction of physical assets such as buildings, streets, sewers, etc. The plan extends over several future years indicating the beginning and ending date of each project, the amount to be expended in each year and the method of financing those expenditures.

Capital Lease

An agreement conveying the right to use property, plant, or equipment usually for a stated period of time where the lessee assumes all the risks and rewards of ownership.

Capital Outlays

Outlays for the acquisition of or addition to fixed assets which are durable in nature. Such outlays are charged as expenditures through an individual department's operating budget and do not include those provided for in the capital improvement program. The asset will have a unit cost of \$1,000 or more and a useful life in excess of one year.

## DEFINITIONS

### Capital Projects

Any program, project, or purchases with a useful life span of 10 years and a cost of at least \$5,000 or major maintenance and repair items with a useful life span of five years.

### Certificate Of Appropriateness (CA)

A certificate stating that work to be done on a landmark structure and/or within a Historic District meets the criteria which maintains the structure as historic and a contributing structure to the District.

### Certificate of Occupancy (CO)

A certificate allowing the occupancy or use of a building and certifying that the structure or use has been constructed or will be used in compliance with this Ordinance and all other applicable regulations

### Charter School

An alternative public school authorized pursuant to Section 1002.33, F.S. and built to meet the State Requirements for Educational Facilities standards when used as a Proportionate Share Mitigation Option

### Civic Uses

Uses intended to serve as public gathering places. Such uses include governmental offices, post offices, and non-profit or charitable clubs and organizations.

### Class Size Reduction

As provided in Article IX, Section I, of the Florida Constitution, as amended, a provision to ensure that by the beginning of the 2010 school year there are a sufficient number of classrooms in a public school so that: 1. The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in a public school classrooms for pre-kindergarten through grade 3 does not exceed 18 students; 2. The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms for grade 4 through 8 does not exceed 22 students; and 3. The maximum number of students who are assigned to each teacher who is teaching in public school classrooms for grades 9 through 12 does not exceed 25 students

### Cluster Development

The grouping of buildings in order to conserve land resources and provide for innovation in the design of the project including minimizing stormwater runoff impacts. This term includes nonresidential development as well as single-family residential and multi-family developments.



## DEFINITIONS

<u>Cluster Housing</u>	A development design technique that concentrates buildings in specific areas on a site to allow remaining land to be used for recreation, common open space, or the preservation of historically or environmentally sensitive features.
<u>Clustering</u>	The grouping together of structures and infrastructure on a portion of a development site.
<u>Coastal Area</u>	The 35 coastal counties and all coastal municipalities within their boundaries designated by the state land planning agency. These local governments are listed in the document entitled “Local Governments Required to Include Coastal Management Elements in Their Comprehensive Plans,” dated July 1, 1986, and available from the Department upon request. The local governments listed in the document and any other communities that incorporate subsequent to July 1, 1986, and meet the criteria in Section 380.24, F.S., shall also be included in the coastal area.
<u>Coastal High Hazard Areas</u>	The evacuation zone for a Category 1 hurricane as established in the regional hurricane evacuation study applicable to the local government.
<u>Code Enforcement</u>	Enforcement of the locally adopted building, housing, electrical, plumbing, subdivision and zoning codes and/or ordinances.
<u>Commercial Use</u>	All retail sales or wholesale business establishments marketing goods and services. Examples include retail shops, restaurants, hotels/motels/inns, convenience stores, etc.
<u>Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)</u>	A Federal program which provides annual grants to communities to carry out community development activities directed toward neighborhood revitalization, economic development and improved community facilities and services.

## DEFINITIONS

### Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)

The Community Redevelopment Agency is a revenue generating mechanism used to finance capital improvements in a neighborhood suffering from blighted conditions. As the property is improved, the difference between the original tax assessment and the revised assessment is returned to the CRA fund.

### Complete Streets

### Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

This report is prepared by the Finance Department. It is usually referred to by its abbreviation, and summarizes financial data for the previous fiscal year in a standardized format. The CAFR is organized by fund and contains two basic types of information: a balance sheet that compares assets with liabilities and fund balance; and an operating statement that compares revenues with expenditures

### Comprehensive Plan

As provided by Section 163.3164(4), F.S., as amended, a plan that meets the requirements of 163.3177 and 163.3178, F.S.

### Concurrency

As provided for in the Florida Administrative Code Rule 9J-5.003, the necessary public facilities and services to maintain the adopted level of service standards are available when the impacts of development occur

### Concurrency Service Area (CSA)

A geographic area in which the level of service for a school of each type is measured when an application for residential development is reviewed for school concurrency purposes

### Congregate Housing

Any Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services licensed building or buildings, section of a building, or distinct portion of a building, residence, private home, boarding home, home for the aged, or other place, whether operated for profit or not, which undertakes through its ownership or management to provide, for a period exceeding 24 hours, housing, food service, and one or more personal services for adult resident clients, not related to the owner or administrator by blood or marriage, who require such services.

## DEFINITIONS

Contiguous

Abutting directly or immediately adjacent to a boundary or separated only by a street, railroad or public utility right-of-way.

Controlled Access Highway

A roadway, according to State and Federal guidelines, designed for through traffic only with access connections at selected interchanges of public roads, with no direct access from private roads or drives.

Core Facilities

The areas within an educational facility that are used to support the classrooms. These spaces include, but are not limited to: the media center, cafeteria, gymnasium, multi-purpose space, and administration

Cost Burdened Household

A household that pays more than 30% of their gross income towards housing, including utility costs.

Day Care Center

A place where daytime care is provided to 6 or more children who are not the legal wards or foster children of the attendant adult within an occupied residence.

Dedication

A fee simple transfer of land ownership to a homeowners association, governmental unit or agency, or non-profit land trust or conservancy for a specified purpose. Because a transfer of property rights is entailed, dedication must be made by written instrument and is completed with an acceptance.

Density

An objective measurement of the number of people or residential units allowed per unit of land, such as residents or employees per acre.

Density Gross

The number of dwelling units on the entire area of a tract or parcel of land.

## DEFINITIONS

Density, Net

The number of dwelling units on a tract or parcel of land minus the area of public rights-of-way, areas of flood hazard, lakes or water bodies, or wetlands under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

Federal agency responsible for ensuring housing development

Department or Agency

The Florida Department of Community Affairs.

Depreciation

The decrease in value of physical assets due to use and the passage of time.

Detached Home

Alley-yard or side-yard buildings which function as a principal residential for one or two families.

Developer

The owner, occupant, person, or entity developing a parcel or tract of land.

Development

The initiation, construction, change, or enlargement of any use or structure, the disturbance of land through the removal of ground cover, or the division of land into two or more parcels. Any land disturbing activity which adds to or changes the amount of impervious or partially impervious cover on a land area or which otherwise decreases the infiltration of precipitation into the soil

Development of Regional Impact (DRI)

A large scale development, the permitting of which is processed through Regional Planning Council with approvals of various state agencies.

## DEFINITIONS

Development Order

As provided by Section 163.3164(7), F.S., as amended, any order granting, or granting with conditions, and application for a development permit

Development Permit

As provided by Section 163.3164(8), F.S.

Development Review Committee (DRC)

The Development Review Committee comprises representatives from the City's Community Development Department, Public Works Department, Utilities Department, Police Department, and Fire Department. The DRC is the permitting body for many site plans and special events in City parks and streets. The DRC also provides staff review for zoning actions, plan amendments, and changes to the land development regulations.

Development Review Table

A table used by the School Board to compare the projected students from proposed residential developments to the CSAs available capacity programmed within the first three years of the current five-year capital planning period

District

An area delineated on the Zoning Map which sets forth standards and guidelines for all development within.

Drip Line

An imaginary vertical line extending from the outer most portion of the tree canopy to the ground.

Driveway

A private corridor intended for ingress and egress to a property and for the off-street travel of automobiles. Parking areas are separate from driveways, though the two may be combined

Duplex

A detached single family structure containing 2 dwelling units located on a lot in common ownership.

## DEFINITIONS

Dwelling

A building or portion thereof, provides complete and permanent living facilities for one family. This term shall not apply to a hotel, motel, guest house, or other structures designed for transient residence.

Dwelling Unit

A room or rooms connected together containing sleeping and sanitary facilities and one kitchen constituting a separate, independent housekeeping establishment for a family, for owner occupancy or rental or lease on a weekly, monthly or longer basis, and physically separated from the other room or dwelling units which may be in the same structure.

Easement

A grant by the property owner of a strip of land for a specified purposes and use by the public, a corporation, or persons, such as for utilities.

Educational Facility

The buildings and equipment, structures and special educational use areas that are built, installed, or established to serve educational purposes only

Educational Plant Survey

A systematic study of schools conducted at least every five years and submitted to the DOE for review and validation. The survey includes and inventory for existing educational and ancillary plants, and recommendations for future needs

Elderly Housing

A one or two person household in which the head of household or spouse is at least 62 years of age.

Enclave

Any unincorporated improved or developed area that is enclosed within and bounded on all sides by a single municipality.

Encroachments

Any portion of a structure or appurtenance extending beyond a designated zoning setback, easement, or public right-of-way.

## DEFINITIONS

Encumbrances

Commitments of funds for contracts and services to be performed. When encumbrances are recorded, available appropriations are correspondingly reduced.

Enterprise Funds

Funds established to account for operations, which are financed and operated in a manner similar to private enterprises. The intent is that the expense of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis (including depreciation) to be financed or recovered primarily through user fees.

Environmentally Sensitive Lands

Area of land or water which are determined necessary by the local government, based on locally determined criteria, to conserve or protect natural habitats and ecological systems. Nothing in this definition shall be construed to prohibit silvicultural operations which employ the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Best Management Practices as revised in 1993.

Esplanade

A wide pedestrian walk formal in design which runs parallel to a waterfront. An esplanade may be made of pavers, asphalt, crushed gravel, grass, wood decking, or concrete.

Essential Services

Publicly or privately owned facilities or systems for the distribution of gas, electricity, steam, or water, the collection and disposal of sewage or refuse; the transmission of communications; or similar functions necessary for the provision of public services. Radio transmission facilities for use by ham radio operators or two-way radio facilities for business or governmental communications shall be deemed accessory uses and not essential services, provided no transmitter or antenna tower exceed 180 ft in height

Estimated Revenues

Projections of funds to be received during the fiscal year.

Estuary

Means a semi-enclosed, naturally existing coastal body of water in which saltwater is naturally diluted by fresh water and which has a connection with oceanic waters, including bays, embayments, lagoons, sounds and tidal streams.

## DEFINITIONS

Evacuation Routes

Means routes designated by county civil defense authorities or the regional evacuation plan for the movement of persons to safety in the event of a hurricane.

Evaluation and Appraisal Report

An evaluation and appraisal report as adopted by the local governing body in accordance with the requirements of Section 163.3191, F.S.

Exempt Local Government

A municipality which is not required to participate in school concurrency when meeting all the requirements for having no significant impact of school enrollment, per Section 163,3177(12)(b), F.S., or because it has received a waiver from the Department of Community Affairs per Section 163.31777(l)(c), F.S.

Existing Development

Structures, buildings, site specific plan or other projects that are completely built or that at a minimum have established a vested right as of the effective date of this ordinance based on at least one of the following being satisfactorily proven to the Department of Community Development for the specific development in question:

Existing Lot [Lot of Record]

A lot which is part of a subdivision, a plat of which has been recorded in the Clerk of Court prior to the adoption of this ordinance, or a lot described by metes and bounds, the description of which has been so recorded prior to the adoption of this ordinance.

Extent

The amount of development, including the area or size in acres

Facade

The vertical surface of a building which is set along a frontage line. The elevation of a facade is the vertical surface area. Facades are subject to visual definition by building height, setback lines, recess lines [a line prescribed for the full width of the facade above which the facade sets back, the location of which is determined by the desired height to width ratio of the fronting space or by a desired compatibility with existing buildings], and transition lines.

Fair Market Rent (FMR)

An estimated figure established by HUD for use in all HUD-funded programs. FMRs are gross rent estimates of shelter rent and the cost of utilities (except telephone services). The FMRs established indicated the dollar value at with 40% of the standard rental units rent.



## DEFINITIONS

Fair Share Impact Fees

Fees paid when a building is built or expanded. The fees are based on the projected impact to City services and infrastructure. The revenues are used for capital improvements made to the City.

Family

One or more persons occupying a single dwelling unit, provided that unless all members are related by blood or marriage or adoption, no such family shall contain over five persons, but further provided that domestic servants employed or living on the premises may be housed on the premises without being counted as a family or families.

Family Care Home

A home with support and supervisory personnel that provides room and board, personal and habilitation services in a family environment for not more than six residents.

FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency]

The agency responsible for the promulgation and maintenance of official Flood Hazard Boundary Map and/or Flood Insurance Rate Maps.

Financial Feasibility

As provided in Section 163.3164(32), F.S., as amended, sufficient revenues are currently available or will be available from committed funding sources for the first 3 years, or will be available from committed or planned funding sources for years 4 and 5, of a 5-year capital improvement schedule for financial capital improvements, such as ad valorem taxes, bonds, state and federal funds, tax revenues, impact fees, and Applicant contributions, which are adequate to fund the projected cost of the capital improvements identified in the comprehensive plan necessary to ensure that adopted level of service standards are achieved and maintained within the period covered by the 5-year schedule of capital improvements

Fines and Forfeits

Fines and forfeits are derived from penalties imposed for the commission of statutory offenses, violation of lawful administrative rules and regulations and for the neglect of official duty. These revenues include court fines, confiscated property, and parking violations.

Fiscal Year

The 12-month period to which the annual budget applies. The City's fiscal year begins October 1 and ends September 30.

## DEFINITIONS

Fixed Assets

Assets of a long-term character which are intended to continue to be held or used, such as land, building, and improvements other than buildings, machinery and equipment.

Flood Plains

Areas inundated during a 100-year flood event or identified by the National Flood Insurance Program as an A Zone or V Zone on Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps.

Floodprone Areas

Areas inundated during a 100-year flood event or areas identified by the National Flood Insurance Program as an A Zone on Flood Insurance Rate Maps or Flood Hazard Boundary Maps.

Floodway Area

Any site designated by the Federal Emergency Management Authority [FEMA] as susceptible to flooding, and shown on the official Flood Hazard Boundary Map and/or Flood Insurance Rate Maps for the Punta Gorda area. All development within a flood hazard area as so defined, shall conform to the provisions of this Ordinance.

Floodway Fringe Area

The portion of the flood hazard area not in the floodway.

Florida Inventory of School Houses (FISH) - Permanent Capacity

The report of the permanent capacity of existing public school facilities. The FISH capacity is the number of students that may be housed in a facility (school) at any given time based on a percentage of the total number of existing student stations and a designated size for each program

Franchise Fees

Fees levied by the City in return for granting a privilege, which permits the continual use of public property such as city streets.

Frontage

The lot boundary which coincides with a public thoroughfare or space. The facade of a structure facing the street.

## DEFINITIONS

Full Time Equivalent (FTE)  
Student Count - Fall  
Semester

A fall semester count of all "full-time equivalent" students, present to Section 1011.62, F.S.

Fund

A fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts recording cash and other financial resources along with all related liabilities and residual equities or balances and related changes. These accounts are segregated for the purpose of carrying on specific activities or attaining certain objectives in accordance with special regulations, restrictions, or limitations.

Fund Balance

The resources available for appropriation in accordance with the prescribed basis of budgeting. Accordingly, only undesignated and/or unencumbered resources are considered fund balance for budget purposes.

General Fund

The fund used to account for all governmental functions not required to be separately recorded by laws or governmental policy. Most of the essential governmental services such as police, fire, public works, and general administration are provided by the General Fund.

Goal

The long-term end toward which programs or activities are ultimately directed.

Governing Body

The Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County, the City Council of Punta Gorda, or any other chief governing body of a unit of local government, however designated, or any combination of such bodies as provided by Section 163.3164(9) F.S.

Government Finance  
Officers Association (GFOA)

GFOA is the professional association of state/provincial and local finance

Governmental Agency

As provided by section 163.3164 (10) F.S.

## DEFINITIONS

Grade

The height of the top of the curb, or if no curb exists, the height of the edge of pavement in the lane of travel adjacent to a building, structure, or sign.

Grants (G)

Funds given to the City by foundations, corporations, governments, small business and individuals which fund a specific project and require some level of reporting.

Group Home

A facility which provides a living environment for unrelated residents who operate as the functional equivalent of a family, including such supervision and care as may be necessary to meet the physical, emotional and social needs of the residents. Adult congregate living facilities comparable in size to group homes are included in this definition. It shall not include rooming or boarding homes, clubs, fraternities, sororities, monasteries or convents, hotels, residential treatment facilities, nursing homes, or emergency shelters.

Habitable

Habitable means a structure that is suitable for living, see Dwelling Unit

Habitable Vehicle

Habitable vehicle means any vehicle, motorized or otherwise, designed, converted or arranged in such manner as to be capable of being inhabited or dwelt in. Such vehicles shall include but are not limited to vans, step vans, conventional recreational vehicles, campers, motor homes and mobile homes.

Health Care Facility

A facility or institution, whether public or private, principally engaged in providing services for health maintenance and the treatment of mental or physical conditions. Health care facilities include general or specialty hospitals, public health centers, diagnostic centers, treatment centers, rehabilitation centers, extended care facilities, long-term care facilities, residential health care facilities, outpatient clinics and dispensaries. They may include laundries, cafeterias, gift shops, laboratories and medical offices as accessory uses.

Historic Overlay District

Established to preserve and protect Punta Gorda's locally designated historic districts and landmarks, which are among the City's most valued and important assets.

## DEFINITIONS

Historic Preservation  
Advisory Board (HPAB)

An officially appointed Advisory Board of the City of Punta Gorda whose primary responsibility is to advise City Council on all matters of historical importance.

Historic Resources

Districts or sites containing properties listed on the Florida Master Site File, the National Register of Historic Places, or designated by a local government as historically, architecturally, or archaeologically significant.

Historic Structure

Any structure designated or eligible for designation on the National Register for Historic Places, Florida Master Site File, or local listing.

Homeless

Those individuals or families which do not have a fixed place to sleep at

Homeless Person

An individual who lacks a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. (FS 420.621)

Homeownership

Ownership of fee simple title or a 99 year leasehold interest in a one to four unit housing dwelling or in a condominium unit, or equivalent form of ownership.

Homestead Exemption

Pursuant to the Florida State Constitution, the first \$25,000 of assessed value of a home, which the owner occupies as principal residence, is exempt from the property tax.

Hotel/Motel/Inn

A building or group of buildings containing sleeping rooms for rental or occupancy to temporary guests.

## DEFINITIONS

Household

Mean one or more persons occupying a housing unit.

Housing

A residence including manufactured housing, permanent housing for disabled or homeless persons, transitional housing, single room occupancy housing (SROs), and group homes. Housing units generally do not include emergency shelters (including shelters for disaster victims) or facilities such as nursing homes, convalescent homes, hospitals, residential treatment facilities, correctional facilities and student dormitories.

Hurricane Shelter

A structure designated by local officials as a place of safe refuge during a storm or hurricane.

Hurricane Vulnerability Zone

The areas delineated by the regional or local hurricane evacuation plan as requiring evacuation. The hurricane vulnerability zone shall include areas requiring evacuation in the event of a 100-year storm or Category 3 storm event.

Hybrid Bike Path

A hybrid bike path shall be a minimum of 14 feet wide, but no wider than 14 feet 9 inches, not including the gutter. Hybrid bike paths must have standard FDOT markings.

Income Categories

Detailed descriptions used to examine the housing needs of households. Distinguishes among extremely-low-income households (those with incomes below 30 percent of median income), other very-low-income households (those with incomes between 31 and 50 percent of median income), and other low-income households (those with incomes between 51 and 80 percent of median income).

Independent Living Facility

A residential development that is limited to occupancy by elderly persons and/or persons with disabilities. Such a facility shall provide: (a) dwelling units with complete kitchen facilities; (b) supportive services such as meals, personal emergency response systems, recreation and transportation services, and (c) design features such as wider doorways and hallways, accessible-ready bathrooms and lower light switches.

## DEFINITIONS

Industrial Uses and Development

Any non-residential use that requires a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System [NPDES] permit for an industrial or stormwater discharge or involves the use or storage of any hazardous materials or substances or that is used for the purpose of manufacturing, assembling, finishing, cleaning or developing any product or commodity.

Infrastructure

Those man-made structures which serve the common needs of the population, such as: sewage disposal systems; potable water systems; potable water wells serving a system; solid waste disposal sites or retention areas; stormwater systems; utilities; piers; docks; wharves; breakwaters; bulkheads; seawalls; bulwarks; revetments; causeways; marinas; navigation channels; bridges; and roadways.

Infrastructure Surtax

Tax which allows for the financing, planning and constructing of infrastructure; acquiring land for public recreation or conservation purposes; purchase of vehicles or equipment with a five-year life expectancy (including emergency service vehicles and the equipment to outfit them).

Institutional Uses

Large scale civic and semi-civic uses such as elementary and secondary schools, colleges, hospitals, assisted living residences, churches, convents, monasteries, hospices, and other long-term medical care facilities.

Intensity

An objective measurement of the extent to which land may be developed or used, including the consumption or use of the space above, on or below ground; the measurement of the use of or demand on natural resources; and the measurement of the use of or demand on facilities and services.

Interest Income

Revenue associated with the City cash management activities of investing fund balances.

Intergovernmental Revenue

Funds received from federal, state and other local governmental sources in the form of grants, shared revenues, and payments in lieu of taxes.

Internal Service Funds

Funds established for the financing of goods or services provided by one department to other departments within the City on a cost- reimbursement basis.

## DEFINITIONS

Interstate Highway A controlled access highway which is part of the Federal Interstate Highway System.

Land Development Regulations (LDR) LDR consist of zoning and subdivision regulations together with other code sections that govern the development of land such as the landscape code, sign code, maintenance and appearance code, building code, etc. The LDR's are required by statute to be implement the comprehensive plan.

Land Use Segregation The practice of prohibiting mixed use development or close proximity of residential and non-residential uses. This is accomplished through standards which emphasize the separation of all uses and the buffering and screening of dissimilar uses from one another. The highly negative impacts of such practices result in auto dependent design which demands greater land area coverage to accommodate cars.

Large Family Household A family household with five or more members.

Level of Service An indicator of the extent or degree of service provided by, or proposed to be provided by a facility based on and related to the operational characteristics of the facility. Level of Service shall indicate the capacity per unit of demand for each public facility.

Level of Service (LOS) Standard As provided for in the Florida Administrative Code Rule 9J-5.003, an indicator of the extent or degree of service provided by, or proposed to be provided by, a facility based on and related to the operational characteristics of the facility

Licenses and permits Revenue derived from the issuance of local licenses and permits including professional & occupational licenses, building permits & other miscellaneous permits.

Local Government Charlotte County and/or the Cities located within its boundary pursuant to Section 163.3164(13), F.S.



## DEFINITIONS

Local road

A roadway providing service which is of relatively low traffic volume, short average trip length or minimal through traffic movements, and high volume land access for abutting property.

Lot

A parcel of land whose boundaries have been established by some legal instrument such as a recorded deed or a recorded map and which is recognized as a separate legal entity for purposes of transfer of title which is occupied or capable of being occupied by a building or group of buildings devoted to a common use, together with the customary accessories and open spaces belonging to the same.

Maintained Easement

A recorded or legally established right of way or easement made of crushed gravel, pavement, or graded and cleared of brush, so as to permit access by all vehicles.

Manufactured Home

A residential manufactured home meeting the definition in Section 320.01, F.S.

Manufactured Home Park

A parcel or subdivision of land to accommodate manufactured housing per the provisions of this ordinance.

Manufactured Housing

A closed structure, building assembly, or system or subassemblies, which may include structural, electrical, plumbing, heating, ventilating or other service systems manufactured in manufacturing facilities for installation or erection, with or without other specified components, as a finished building or as part of a finished building, which shall include but not be limited to residential, commercial, institutional, storage and industrial structures. Manufactured housing may also mean, at the option of the manufacturer, any building of open construction made or assembled in manufacturing facilities away from the building site for installation, or assembly and installation, on the building site, and which has also been certified to comply with the state department of veteran and community affairs. The term manufactured housing does not include mobile homes. The term manufactured housing shall be synonymous with modular housing.

## DEFINITIONS

### Manufacturing, Heavy

The assembly, fabrication, production or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily have greater than average impacts on the environment, or that ordinarily have significant impacts on the use and enjoyment of other properties in terms of noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare, or health or safety hazards, or that otherwise do not constitute “light manufacturing,” or any use where the area occupied by outdoor storage of goods and materials used in the assembly, fabrication, production or processing exceeds 25 percent of the floor area of all buildings on the lot. “Heavy manufacturing” shall include, but not be limited to, the following: enameling, lacquering, or the plating or galvanizing of metals; foundries or mills producing iron and steel products; industrial chemical manufacture; meat packing plants; mixing plants for concrete or paving materials, and manufacture of concrete products; oxygen manufacture and/or storage; pottery, porcelain, and vitreous china manufacture; poultry dressing for wholesale; pressure treating of wood; stonecutting; tire recapping and re-treading; tobacco products manufacture; tobacco stemming and re-drying plants. This shall include resource extraction and recycling and salvage operations.

### Manufacturing, Light

The assembly, fabrication, production or processing of goods and materials using processes that ordinarily do not create noise, smoke, fumes, odors, glare, or health or safety hazards outside of the building or lot where such assembly, fabrication, production or processing takes place, where such processes are housed entirely within a building, or where the area occupied by outdoor storage of goods and materials used in the assembly, fabrication, production or processing does not exceed 25 percent of the floor area of all buildings on the lot. This shall not include uses that constitute “heavy manufacturing”, resource extraction, or recycling and salvage operations.

### Marina

Marina means the placement and construction of structure and facilities on a parcel of land intended to establish as the principal use of such land the lease, rental or sale of boat docks located in a directly abutting Marine Park (MP) zoning district. All marinas shall at a minimum provide for permanent, on-site amenities to include: Restroom facilities, shelter from inclement weather, phone service, water and sewer service, trash collection, security lighting, emergency vehicle access and such other amenities as shall be required by the Development Review Committee. All marinas must meet the development standards contained in these zoning regulations (e.g. lot size, lot width, lot depth, etc.)

### Marine Habitat

Areas where living marine resources naturally occur, such as mangroves, seagrass beds, algal beds, salt marshes, transitional wetlands, marine wetlands, rocky shore communities, hard bottom communities, oyster bars or flats, mud flats, coral reefs, worm reefs, artificial reefs, offshore springs, nearshore mineral deposits, and offshore sand deposits.

## DEFINITIONS

<u>Maximum School Utilization</u>	The use of student capacity in each CSA to the greatest extent possible, based on the adopted level of service and the total number of permanent students stations according to the FISH inventory, taking into account special considerations such as, core capacity, special programs, transportation cost, geographic impediments, court ordered desegregation, and class size reduction requirements to prevent disparate enrollment levels between schools of the same type (elementary, middle, high) and provide an equitable distribution of student enrollment district-wide
<u>Medical Office</u>	See Health Care Facility
<u>Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)</u>	The Charlotte County - Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization, performs transportation planning functions that allocate federal, state, and local funds to road, bridge, and other transportation related projects
<u>Minerals</u>	All solid minerals, including clay, gravel, phosphate rock, lime, shells (excluding live shellfish), stone, sand, heavy minerals, and any rare earths, which are contained in the soils or waters of the state.
<u>Mixed Use</u>	The presence of residential and nonresidential uses within the same complex or same building. Mixed use can also refer to different categories of nonresidential uses such as institutional, retail, and office within the same complex of building. The advantage of mixed uses is the promotion of architectural compatibility and pedestrian scaled environments.
<u>Mixed-Use Development</u>	The presence of residential and nonresidential uses within the same complex or same building. Mixed use can also refer to different categories of nonresidential uses such as institutional, retail, and office within the same complex of building. The advantage of mixed uses is the promotion of architectural compatibility and pedestrian scaled environments.
<u>Mobile Home</u>	A structure transportable in one or more sections, which is eight body feet or more in width and which is built upon an interval chassis and designed to be used as a dwelling when connected to the required utilities and includes the plumbing, heating, air conditioning, and electrical systems contained therein. For the purpose of determining length, the length of a mobile home is the distance from the exterior wall nearest to the drawbar and the coupling mechanism to the exterior of the wall at the opposite end of the home where such walls enclose living or other space.

## DEFINITIONS

Modular Home

A dwelling unit which is constructed in compliance with Building Code requirements and composed of components substantially assembled in an off-site manufacturing plant and transported to the building site for final assembly on a permanent foundation. See manufactured housing.

Motor Fuels (Gas tax)

Source of funding used for transportation projects. These taxes are also used to operating and maintenance costs of roads.

Multi-Family

Three or more attached single family dwelling units located on a single

Multi-use Complex

A group of separate buildings operating under a common name or management; a single building containing multiple uses where there are specific exterior entrances for individual uses; or a group of uses on separate but adjoining properties that request treatment as a multi-use complex.

Natural Groundwater  
Aquifer Recharge Areas

“Natural groundwater recharge areas” or “groundwater recharge areas” means areas contributing to or providing volumes of water which make a contribution to the storage or regional flow of an aquifer.

Neighborhood Commercial  
Use

Commercial activities which include retail sales establishments, restaurants, inns, and convenience stores which are designed and/or operated to service the daily needs of the residents of the surrounding neighborhood.

Neighborhood Park

A park which serves the population of a neighborhood and is generally accessible by bicycle or pedestrian ways.

Neighborhood Residential  
(NR)

A City zoning District that provides for residential development surrounding the traditional town center and its regional extensions. It preserves the traditional building pattern of mixed residential development, which historically has been integrated to form a vibrant and cohesive neighborhood unit.

## DEFINITIONS

### Neighborhood Stores

All neighborhood stores shall have at least two occupiable stories with at least 50% of the habitable area of the building dedicated to residential or office use. The remainder of the building may be used for neighborhood commercial uses. The building may contain additional uses including a cafe, a contract post office, an automatic bank teller and a newsstand.

### Non-Ad Valorem Assessment

A fee levied on certain properties to defray all or part of the cost of a specific capital improvement or service deemed to benefit those properties. The value of the property is not considered when calculating a Non-Ad Valorem Assessment. Instead, the cost of the service or facility is allocated proportionately to the benefited properties in a defined area. It is sometimes referred to as a Special Assessment. Generally, this is collected by the Tax Collector's Office on the annual consolidated tax bill like Ad Valorem Taxes.

### Non-Permanent Structure

Improvements that are easily removed by hand and are not joined together by any permanent bonding device such as nails, screws or mortar or by any other permanent bonding method.

### Non-Residential Development

All development other than residential development, agriculture and silviculture.

### Objective

A specific, measurable, intermediate end that is achievable and marks progress toward a goal.

### Office Use

Professional, service, and governmental occupations within a building or buildings which do not generally involve the on-site sale of goods to customers.

### Off-Street Parking

Parking which occurs on a lot and not on a street or other public right of way.

## DEFINITIONS

<u>Open Space</u>	Any area which does not consist of buildings, streets, right of ways, parking, or easements, and serves as a passive or active recreational area, as conservation land for important vistas and topographic features, or as pervious cover for watershed requirements. Definitions and design standards in this Ordinance categorize open space by type.
<u>Operating Expenses</u>	Expenditures for goods and services, which primarily benefit the current period and not defined as either personal services or capital outlays.
<u>Operating Lease</u>	A lease that is paid out of current operating income rather than capitalized.
<u>Ordinance</u>	A formal legislative enactment by the City that carries the full faith and effect of the law within the boundaries of the City unless it is in conflict with any higher form of law, such as state or federal.
<u>Outparcel</u>	A parcel of land associated with and located within a shopping center or multi-tenant non-residential development, which is designated on an approved site plan as a location for a structure with an intended use such as, but not limited to banks, savings and loans, dry cleaners, service stations, vehicle repair garages, offices, restaurants, retail establishments, or combination of uses thereof.
<u>Overcrowded Household</u>	A household containing more than one person per room.
<u>Overlay District</u>	A set of regulations which add an additional layer of design provisions to an underlying use district.
<u>Park</u>	Land which is used or intended for use for active or passive public recreation

## DEFINITIONS

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Parking Area

All the area in square footage of land designated for the storage of cars. The parking area also includes all areas for storage and trash facilities.

Partial Evaluation and Appraisal Report

An evaluation and appraisal report which focuses on selected issues or elements that may only be submitted by a municipality with fewer than 5,000 residents or a county with fewer than 50,000 residents pursuant to a written agreement with the Department and in accordance with the requirements of Section 163.3191(12), F.S.

Pedestrian Oriented Development

Development which accommodates the needs of the pedestrian. Such development will have parking to the side or rear of a building, will mix uses and provide them in proximity to one another, will allow the pedestrian the option or choice of not having to use a car to accomplish certain trips, and will provide a variety of interesting and detailed streetscapes which balances the needs of the pedestrian and the car.

Perennial Stream or River

Streams or rivers which flow year round.

Permanent Classroom

An area within a school that provides instructional space for the maximum number of students in core-curricula courses who are assigned to a teacher, based on the constitutional amendment for class size reduction and that is not movable

Permanent Student Station

The floor area in a permanent classroom required to house a student in an instructional program, as determined by the FDOE

Permitted Uses

Uses allowed to occur by right within a designated zoning or other planning district

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## DEFINITIONS

Persons Who Have Special Housing Needs

A persons who have incomes not exceeding moderate-income and who because of particular social economic, or health related circumstances have greater difficulty acquiring or maintaining affordable housing. Such persons may, for example, encounter resistance to their residing in particular communities, increased housing costs resulting from a unique need and high risk of institutionalization. As defined by HUD these individuals include: persons with developmental disabilities; persons with mental illness/chemical dependency; persons with AIDS and HIV disease; runaway and abandoned youth; migrant and seasonal farm-workers; refugees; elderly and disabled adults.

Pier and Pier Facility

Any structure extending into the water from the shore, whether floating or fixed.

Planning and Zoning Fees

Charges for the filing and processing of various development permits such as rezoning, zoning variances and special exemptions. Fees established by ordinance.

Plat

A map or plan of a parcel of land.

Platted

A lot surveyed and recorded at the County Clerk's office.

Policy

The way in which programs and activities are conducted to achieve an identified goal.

Program Capacity

The capacity of a school once the space needs are met for programs including, but not limited to, English Language, programs for students with disabilities and programs for gifted students have been addressed



## DEFINITIONS

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Projected Expense The estimated expense through the end of the current fiscal year for a respective budget line item.

Property Tax Another term for Ad Valorem Tax. See Ad Valorem Tax.

Property taxes An Ad Valorem Tax; a tax levied on assessed value of real & personal property within the City and not expressly exempted.

Proportionate Share Mitigation An applicant improvement or contribution identified in a binding and enforceable agreement between the Applicant, the School Board and the Local Government with jurisdiction over the approval of site plan, subdivision plan, plat for functional equivalent provided compensation for the additional demand on public school facilities caused by the residential development of the property, as set forth is Section 163.3180(13)(e), F.S.

Proposed New Residential Development Any application for new residential development or any amendment to a previously approved residential development which results in an increase in student impacts

Public Anything owned or operated by the federal government, state government, or any political subdivision.

Public Access The ability of the public to physically reach, enter or use recreation sites including beaches and shores.

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## DEFINITIONS

Public Alley

A public way permanently reserved as a secondary means of access to abutting property.

Public Recreation Sites

Sites owned or leased on a long-term basis by a federal, state, regional or local government agency for purposes of recreational use.

Public Safety Station

Police, fire and rescue stations

Public Street

Any public right of way used for vehicular traffic that is permanently maintained by the City or State of Florida and is open to all traffic.

Public Transit

Passenger services provided by public, private or non-profit entities such as the following surface transit modes: commuter rail, rail rapid transit, light rail transit, light guideway transit, express bus, and local fixed route bus.

Public Utilities

Above ground or underground publicly licensed utilities including water, sanitary sewer collection and distribution line, natural gas, cable television, stormwater drainage, or electrical services and any associated structures such as pumping stations, treatment plants, transformer stations.

Punta Gorda Housing Authority (PFHA)

A public body corporate and politic established pursuant to State law; it is not a Federal agency. PGHA has a contractual relationship with HUD to implement programs established by Congress according to federal laws and regulations. The Federal government, through its annual budget process, provides funds to operate these programs.

Realia

Objects or activities used to relate classroom teaching to the real life especially of peoples studied.

## DEFINITIONS

Recreation

The pursuit of leisure time activities occurring in an indoor or outdoor setting.

Recreational Facilities

An area of land or combination of land and water resources for public use that is developed for active and/or passive recreational pursuits with various manmade features that accommodate such activities. Such areas shall be designed in the form of playgrounds, parks, squares, greenbelts, and parkways. They shall be designed to serve the immediate neighborhood in which they are located, or can be regional in scope, serving several neighborhoods.

Recreational Uses

Activities within areas where recreation occurs

Regional Park

A park which is designed to serve two or more communities.

Relocation Housing

Those dwellings which are made available to families displaced by public programs, provided that such dwellings are decent, safe and sanitary and within the financial means of the families or individuals displaced.

Remote Docking Facilities

A dock or multiple docks where no principal use exists on the upland property directly adjoining the facility or the adjacent property does not meet the minimum development standards contained in these regulations for development. Remote docking shall also include the anchoring or docking of any live aboard boat in the MP district

Reserves

A portion of the fund balance legally segregated for specific purpose

Resident Population

Inhabitants counted in the same manner utilized by the United States Bureau of the Census, in the category of total population. Resident population does not include seasonal population.

## DEFINITIONS

Residential Development

Buildings for residential use such as attached and detached single-family dwellings, apartment buildings, condominiums, townhouses, cottages, etc. and their associated outbuildings such as garages, storage buildings, gazebos, etc. Residential development includes group homes and family care homes.

Residential Uses

Activities within land areas used predominantly for housing.

Retention [Detention] Basin

Engineered facilities for storing or detaining rain water runoff from a site. Retention delays the flow off a site to prevent flooding. Detention stores water on a site to allow time for pollutants precipitate out of the runoff. This cleans the water before it is allowed to flow to nearby surface waters.

Revenue

Additions to assets which do not increase any liability or represent the recovery of expenditure; do not represent the cancellation of certain liabilities or decreases in assets; and do not represent contributions of fund capital in enterprise and internal service funds.

Revenue Financing

Debt issued that is backed by a specific user fee revenue source (non ad-valorem)

Rezoning

Rezoning is an ordinance amendment processed whereby a property owner petitions to change the zoning classification of his property on the zoning map, or an ordinance changing the requirements for a particular zoning classification, thereby affecting all properties so designated on the zoning map

Right-of-way

Land in which the state, a county, or a municipality owns the fee simple title or has an easement dedicated or required for a transportation or utility use.

Rookery

A colony of breeding animals

## DEFINITIONS

School

A public or private institution for education or learning including athletic or recreational facilities, which does not include lodging.

School Board

The governing body of the School District, a political subdivision of the State of Florida and a body corporate pursuant to Section 1001.40, F.S.

School Board 5-Year District  
Facilities Work Program

School Board's annual comprehensive capital planning document, that includes long range planning for facility needs over a five-year, ten-year and twenty-year planning horizon. The adopted School Board's Five-Year Work Program and Capital Budget as authorized by Section 1013.35, F.S.

School Capacity Availability  
Determination Letter  
(SCADL)

Based upon a School Impact Analysis (SIA), a letter prepared by School Board staff, identifying if school capacity is available to serve a residential project, if capacity exist for each school type, and whether the proposed development is conceptually approved or vested

School District of Charlotte  
County

The School District created and existing present to Section 4, Article IX of the State of Florida Constitution

School Impact Analysis (SIA)

A detailed report which evaluates a development plan for a proposed residential development and identifies the anticipated student impact from the development of the level of service standard within the Concurrency Service Area for each school type

Seasonal Population

Part-time inhabitants who utilize, or may be expected to utilize, public facilities or services, but are not residents. Seasonal population shall include tourists, migrant farmworkers, and other short-term and long-term visitors.

Services

The programs and employees determined necessary by local government to provide adequate operation and maintenance of public facilities and infrastructure as well as those educational, health care, social and other programs necessary to support the programs, public facilities, and infrastructure set out in the local plan or required by local, state, or federal law.

## DEFINITIONS

*Severely Cost Burdened* A household that pays more than 50% of their gross income towards housing, including utility costs

*Shall* Used to indicate a mandatory action.

*Should* Used to indicate an action which is strongly advised.

*Significant Vegetation* A large canopy tree over 18 inches in diameter at breast height which displays a root zone, canopy, and structure characteristic of the particular species and is in good health and vigor.

*Single Family Residential* Any development where: no building contains more than one dwelling unit, every dwelling unit is on a separate lot, and where no lot contains more than one dwelling unit [exception: rental studios and apartments]. Such uses include family care homes and group homes as defined in this chapter.

*SLOSH* A computerized numerical model developed by the National Weather Service (NWS) to estimate storm surge heights resulting from historical, hypothetical, or predicted hurricanes by taking into account the atmospheric pressure, size, forward speed, and track data. These parameters are used to create a model of the wind field which drives the storm surge.

*Small Family Household* A non-elderly family household with two to four members.

*Solid Waste* Sludge from a waste treatment works, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility or garbage, rubbish, refuse, or other discarded material, including solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous material resulting from domestic, industrial, commercial, mining, agricultural, or governmental operations.

## DEFINITIONS

Solid Waste Facilities

Structures or systems designed for the collection, processing or disposal of solid wastes, including hazardous wastes, and includes transfer stations, processing plants, recycling plants, and disposal systems.

Special Assessment

Another name for Non-Ad Valorem Assessment.

Special Revenue Funds

To account for revenues derived from specific sources which are restricted by law or policy to finance specific activities.

Special Surface Water Protection Overlay District (SSWPOD)

The SSWPOD covers Punta Gorda's Shell Creek and Prairie Creek watershed in unincorporated Charlotte County. This is by interlocal agreement with Charlotte county, and it protects the area from development activities that could potentially threaten the City's water supply. The City's

Standard

Structures which are sound, usually new or well preserved, requiring only minor repairs or periodic maintenance are classified standard.

State Housing Initiative Partnership

A program created through the William E. Sadowski Affordable Housing Act 1992 which allows for a minimum amount of money each year to be used at the discretion of the governing body for affordable housing. The County oversees the distribution of these funds.

Statute

A written law enacted by a duly organized and constituted legislative body.

Storm Water Runoff

Rain which falls onto impervious surfaces and is not absorbed into the ground immediately. Storm water runoff carries pollutants off of paved surfaces into streams and rivers, and causes flooding by speeding up the rate of water flow into streams and rivers.

## DEFINITIONS

Stormwater

The flow of water which results from a rainfall event.

Stormwater Drainage Facilities

The system of inlets, pipes, channels, ditches and catch basin used to collect and transport stormwater.

Stormwater Facilities

Manmade structures that are part of a stormwater management system designed to collect, convey, hold, divert, or discharge stormwater, and may include stormwater sewers, canals, detention facilities and retention facilities.

Street

A dedicated and accepted public right-of-way for vehicular traffic. The dedication of half streets at the perimeter of a new subdivision is prohibited. If circumstances render this impracticable, adequate provision for the concurrent dedication on the remaining half of the street must be furnished by the subdivider. Where there may exist a half street in an adjoining subdivision, the remaining half shall be provided by the proposed development.

Structure

Anything constructed or erected, including but not limited to buildings, which requires location on the land or attachment to something having permanent location on the land.

Student Generation Rate (SGR)

A rate used to calculate the number of students by school type (elementary, middle, high) and housing type (single-family, multi-family, etc.) that can be anticipated from a new residential development

Subdivision

All divisions of a tract or parcel of land into 3 or more lots, building sites, or other divisions for the purpose of sale or building development and shall include all division of land involving the dedication of a new street or a change in existing streets.



## DEFINITIONS

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Sub-Standard

Structures which need extensive repairs to be made suitable for habitation.

Suburban Sprawl

The name given to development designed according to segregated use zoning standards, and auto dependent criteria concerning access and parking. The resultant development provides for a low density landscape of independently designed uses connected by a system of hierarchical streets which do not provide through access. A majority of the land in this model is relegated to street and parking surfaces, and although the building density and population may be low, the amount of usable open space is minimal to none, and traffic congestion is common.

Sufficiency Review

Department review of an adopted evaluation and appraisal report to determine whether it has been submitted in a timely fashion and whether it contains components in accordance with the prescribed criteria in Section 163.3191, F.S., and this rule chapter.

Suitability

The degree to which the existing characteristics and limitations of land and water are compatible with a proposed use or development.

Supplemental Requests

Budget requests by Departments for new positions, new equipment, and/or program expansions.

Support Documents

Any surveys, studies, inventory maps, data, inventories, listings or analyses used as bases for or in developing the local comprehensive plan.

Sustainable

The ability to accommodate and maintain population growth and economic expansion through efficient use of municipal infrastructure and services.

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## DEFINITIONS

*Tax Increment Financing*

Known as a TIF, it is a tool used for redevelopment and community improvement projects; often used as a financing mechanism for municipalities.

*Taxable Valuation*

The value used for computing the ad valorem taxes levied against property. The taxable value is the assessed value less any exemptions allowed by law. The most common exemption is the \$25,000 homestead exemption allowed, if the owner uses the property as the principal residence.

*Taxes*

Compulsory charges levied by a government for the purpose of financing services performed for the common benefit. This term does not include specific charges made against particular persons or property for current or permanent benefits, such as special assessments. Neither does the term include charges for services rendered only to those paying such charges as for example, sewer service charges.

*Temporary Classroom*

A movable classroom facility, not considered permanent capacity by the School Board, including but not limited to portable classrooms

*The Local Planning Agency (LPA)*

The Local Planning Agency is a body required by Chapter 163.F.S. to be designated by the local government to oversee the comprehensive plan process and make recommendations to the governing body. In Punta Gorda, as in most communities, the Planning Commission serves this function.

*The Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)*

The Metropolitan Statistical Area is a census-defined area for cities and their surrounding urbanized area. A variety of data is reported at the MSA level. Punta Gorda's MSA includes all of Charlotte County.

*The State Housing Initiative Program (SHIP)*

Administered by the Florida Housing Agency, as part of Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO), and subsidizes in various ways housing that is affordable to low-and moderate-income persons

*Tiered Level of Service*

A graduated level of service by school type, used over time to achieve an adequate and desirable level of service at the end of a specified period of time, as permitted by the Florida Statutes

## DEFINITIONS

Trabue Woods Economic Development Corporation (TWECDC)

A group composed of local community activists that are committed to revitalizing the historic Trabue Woods Neighborhood.

Trabue Woods Initiative

A grassroots collaboration that is proposing to refocus area efforts to form a community wide association.

Tract

All contiguous land and water bodies under single or diverse ownership being developed as a unit consisting of one or more parcels or lots.

Traditional Neighborhood

A Traditional Neighborhood incorporates the best in design principles to produce compact, mixed use, pedestrian scaled, sustainable communities

Transfer of Development Rights

A governmentally recognized right to use or develop land at a certain density, or intensity, or for a particular purpose, which is severed from the realty and placed on some other property.

Urban Area

An area of or for development characterized by social, economic and institutional activities which are predominantly based on the manufacture, production, distribution, or provision of goods and services in a setting which typically includes residential and nonresidential development uses other than those which are characteristic of rural areas.

Urban Sprawl

Urban development or uses which are located in predominantly rural areas, or rural areas interspersed with generally low-intensity or low-density urban uses, and which are characterized by one or more of the following conditions: (a) The premature or poorly planned conversion of rural land to other uses; (b) The creation of areas of urban development or uses which are not functionally related to land uses which predominate the adjacent area; or (c) The creation of areas of urban development or uses which fail to maximize the use of existing public facilities or the use of areas within which public services are currently provided. Urban sprawl is typically manifested in one or more of the following land use or development patterns: Leapfrog or scattered development; ribbon or strip commercial or other development; or large expanses of predominantly low-intensity, low-density, or single-use development.

## DEFINITIONS

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*User Fee* Charges for specific services assessed only to those using such services.

*Utility funds* Funds established for financing utility facilities.

*Utility Impact Fees* Fees paid when new development is projected to impact the City services and infrastructure. The revenues are used for capital improvements made to the required utilities.

*Utilization* A ration showing the comparison of the total number of students for each school type enrolled to the overall capacity of a public school facility within a Concurrency Service Area (CSA)

*Vocational School* A secondary or higher educational facility primarily teaching usable skills that prepare students for jobs in a trade and meeting the state requirements as a vocational facility.

*Walk* A narrow strip of concrete, or other approved materials not to exceed 5 feet in width and extending from the rear property line to the rear of the required yard and used only for the purpose of getting from one point to another by a “direct” method.

*Warehouse or Distribution* The operation of a facility for the principal use of storing of goods, materials, trailers, cars not currently for sale, or boats or for the distribution of goods and materials to another location. This shall include structures or buildings associated with the operation of such principal use but does not include manufacturing, or industrial incidental storage of raw materials used by the business on-site or finished product of the business made on-site.

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## DEFINITIONS

Waterfront Lot

A lot which abuts a water body.

Wetlands

Areas defined as wetlands under the jurisdiction of the US Army Corps of Engineers and subject to State and Federal regulation and protection. Wetlands, generally include, swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas characterized by alluvial soils, vegetation or groundwater saturation.

Zoning District

See District