



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT MARCH 8, 2019

City Manager

- **Gilchrist Park Waterfront Activity Center** – Dover Kohl will conduct a charrette Mar. 13, 5:00 pm at the Charlotte High School Cafeteria regarding conceptual scenarios to consider for the area currently housing the Punta Gorda Boat and Bayfront Center.
- **Citywide Master Plan Charrettes** – [REGISTER TODAY](https://www.puntagordamasterplan.com/new-events) Join us for an informative presentation on city planning & community revitalization. Following this presentation community members will work with members of the Dover-Kohl team to draw and describe their ideas for the future of Punta Gorda. Base maps, visual preference exercises, and other design tools will be used to facilitate the discussion. Charrettes will be held on Mar. 11 at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. The Work in Progress Presentation will be held Mar. 15 at 4:30 p.m. at the same location. Register for these sessions and view the schedule for the Open Design Studios to be conducted in the Laishley Park Community Room at <https://www.puntagordamasterplan.com/new-events>.
- **Master Plan Budgetary and Economic Analysis**- Dover-Kohl's sub consultant Partners for Economic Solutions presented its initial economic and budgetary analysis at the Mar. 6 Council meeting. Pertinent information for Punta Gorda is highlighted below:
 - ✓ Median household income is \$59,507 and median net worth is \$336,593.
 - ✓ Economies with few industries (i.e. Punta Gorda) are highly susceptible to economic shocks.
 - ✓ Only 9% of Punta Gorda workers live in the City.
 - ✓ Commercial market potential from 2019 to 2030 is up to 250,000 in office square feet, 150,000 in retail square feet, and 200 hotel rooms.
 - ✓ Residential market potential to 2030 is up to 930 single family homes, 420 multi-family rental units, and 750 condominiums.
 - ✓ Punta Gorda operating reserves are well below national standards and similar sized municipalities in Florida.
 - ✓ Revenue potential from incremental property taxes by 2030 range from \$1.7 to \$2.9 million for general fund operations, and \$86,300 to \$161,400 for capital improvements.
 - ✓ Current land development regulations increase the share of the residential tax burden, currently at 88.7%. At full development, the residential tax burden will be 89.2%, residential alone 96.7%, and single-family alone 90.0%.
 - ✓ Increased density results in increased revenue per acre ranging from \$6,293 to \$8,593 for single-family, \$20,177 to \$41,699 multi-family, and \$26,832 to \$53,662 condominium. The difference in revenue per acre is due to surface or structured parking and detached versus attached homes.

Initial economic recommendations are achieve the City's sustainability goals through better balance and diversity; grow to keep downtown healthy and competitive; plan for a full range of housing types; and emphasize mixed-use, infill, walkable communities and connectivity. View the full report at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/home/showdocument?id=9109>.

- **Pickleball** – The City will be moving forward with installation of sound barrier material on two sides of the Gilchrist Park pickleball courts to mitigate noise emanating from play. In addition, City Council appointed a seven-member fact finding committee to develop approaches for a more long term solution to pickleball activity within the City.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
March Events		Fishermen’s Village	www.fishville.com/events/
March Events		Burnt Store Presbyterian Church	www.bspconline.org/news.html
3/7-3/10	Punta Gorda Boat Show	City Marketplace	smugglersevents.com
3/9-3/10	Sullivan Street Craft Fair	Sullivan Street	puntagordachamber.com/
3/9	City Wide Garage Sale	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
3/9	Socks for Kids Car Show	First Baptist Church	admin@fbcpuntagorda.org
3/9-3/10	Peace River Seafood Festival	Laishley Park	teresadesguin@iheartmedia.com
3/15-3/16	Premier Auto Auction	Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center	https://premierauctiongroup.com/
3/16-3/17	Peace River National Art Show	Laishley Park	http://www.visualartcenter.org/
3/17	St. Patrick’s Day	Celtic Ray	https://celticray.net/

Lot Mowing Program

- Lot mowing crews have completed mowing the following areas; The area East of 41 and the area behind Dunkin Donuts (E. Marion Ave, E. Olympia Ave, Narranja St, E. Henry St, and Cooper St.), Downtown and Historic District (W. Marion Ave., W. Olympia Ave., Shreve St., and Harvey St.), Burnt Store Isles (Monaco Dr., Tripoli Blvd., Madrid Blvd., and Macedonia Dr.), Burnt Store Meadows (Areas of Tamiami Tr., N. Blue Sage, S. Blue Sage, Royal Poinciana, and Gold Tree), PGI (Magdalena Drive, Via Veneto, W. Henry Street, Appain Drive, and Columbian Drive), and PGI Bird Section (Almar Albatross Dr., Whippoorwill Blvd, and Turtle Dove Blvd).

Urban Design

- Mar. 4 and Mar. 5 the City of Punta Gorda and the Charlotte Harbor Events and Conference Center hosted a technical training workshop sponsored by Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) District 1 on Form Based Codes. This workshop was tailored to professionals in land use planning and transportation planning/engineering at the FDOT and within area local governments. The FDOT’s interest in Form Based Codes is related to Complete Streets policies which require the FDOT to consider, really for the first time, the land uses and context of the communities thru which the state transportation network passes. For more information on FDOT complete streets program see their informative brochure at: https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/roadway/completestreets/files/fdot-completestreets-brochure.pdf?sfvrsn=b7c1dd93_4

- Mar. 5 Smart Growth Punta Gorda hosted a lecture on Form Based Codes at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association (PGICA). With approximately 70 residents in attendance, City of Punta Gorda Chief Planner Mitchell Austin provided an informative presentation on what Form Based Codes are and how they might be a good tool for helping Punta Gorda manage development to maintain our unique waterfront small town charm. Attendees had many great questions during the extended question and answer session. Don't be surprised if you hear something about Form Based Codes from your fellow residents and table mates at the Citywide Master Plan charrette next week. The City is anticipating large crowds for the Monday and Friday sessions. Visit the project website to sign up at <https://www.puntagordamasterplan.com/new-events>. Visit <https://formbasedcodes.org/definition/> for more information on Form Based Codes.



- Staff attended the Gulf Coast Partnership Stakeholders monthly meeting. The Gulf Coast Partnership is a community-wide initiative to identify best practices to meet the needs of the homeless and those at risk of homelessness, forge a community consensus, and implement strategies to raise the quality of life for all Charlotte County residents.

Items discussed included:

- A recap of the 2019 Leaders Breakfast and possible tweaks for the 2020 Leaders Breakfast.
- An announcement of a meeting date for the Scoring and Evaluation Team for review of applications for State funding of Homelessness programs.
- Reviewed and approved the Charlotte County Continuum of Care (CoC) Action Plan.
- Discussed the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Developments (HUD) funding announcement for CoC grant awards. We were fully awarded 5 of the 6 projects submitted or a total of \$258,810.00 which was \$53,000.00 more than last year. Projects included operation of a Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), Rapid Re-Housing programs, Domestic Violence Coordinated Entry System, and a CoC Planning project.
- Reviewed a Dashboard Report system that has been implemented to monitor monthly progress of current funded programs.
- Reviewed the Performance Ranking of Homeless Continuums of Care by the National Homeless Information Project. In the category of Small Cities, the Charlotte County CoC was ranked 7th best out of 272 other communities. The Charlotte County CoC scored a ranking of High in all but one of the Service Performance Measures, receiving a strong Medium for permanent housing retention.

Congratulations to Angela Hogan and the entire Gulf Coast Partnership.

Public Works Department

Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 53,000 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 81.7% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 66.3% of the project has been closed out with grading and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 3,825 feet per month. Crews filled 27 depressions in Punta Gorda Isles and patched two sea wall caps. Crews removed two debris items.

	Work underway on Projects	Work completed on Projects	*Number of Projects per Zone
PGI-NE1	43, 48-55, 59, 60, 88, 89	1 – 42, 44 - 47	91
PGI-NE2	52 – 60, 62 -70	1 – 51, 61	83
PGI-NW1	24, 34 – 38, 40, 42	1 – 23, 25 - 33, 39, L1	55
PGI-NW2	39 - 45, 56, 62 – 77	1 – 38, L1 – L3	87
PGI-SE	38 - 39, 41, L4, L6, L7, L9	1-30, 32 -35, 37, 40, 42-44, L1- L3, L5, L8, L10, L11	55
PGI-SW	39 - 43	1 - 38, 47	47
Harborwalk	0	1	1
BSI-N	1-3	4	11
BSI-S	9 - 11	1 – 8	11

**Each project may consist of multiple lots*

Engineering

- City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – JRL Construction completed sodding at 2125-2201 Padre Island Dr., 2625-2701 Deborah Dr. and 3309-3319 Antigua. To date, the swale regrading project has completed work at 312 properties totalling 217,900 square feet of grading/sodding.

- Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – Concrete blocks are on site with placement commencing this week.

- AC Freeman House ADA Ramp Installation** – Site formwork and layout is occurring. The forms for the sidewalk were spot checked for slope and cross-slope prior to concrete placement.

- Paving Program – Street Resurfacing** – Resurfacing is complete on the following list of streets: Coral Tree, Paspalum, Acalypha, Ryan Blvd., La Costa Island Ct., Allen St., Burland St., Hazel St., Brown Ave., Fitzhugh and E. Virginia Ave. Permanent pavement markings are scheduled to complete within the next 2 weeks. Paving on Ida Avenue and E. Charlotte Ave. will be scheduled for milling and resurfacing after sewer lines repairs are complete.



Right of Way

- Sidewalk installation along Milus between Showalter and E. Charlotte Streets continues.

Police Department

- The March Do the Right Thing ceremony was held at City Hall. Congratulations to this month's winners Broderick Keegan, Landon Tobolski, Leah Gohl, Tyler Chapin, and William Ogert for choosing to do the right thing!



Fire Department

- This Sunday, March 10th at 2:00 AM remember to set your clocks ahead one hour. Also remember to change your **Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detector batteries**. Make sure your alarm is working by activating the safety test button and replace your smoke alarms with new devices every 10 years. More than 2,200 people die each year in house fires and about 400 deaths occur due to CO poisoning. 70% of those deaths did not have working smoke or CO alarms in their homes. Don't let this happen to you. Smoke detectors should be installed on every level of the home and inside and outside of each sleeping area. Help keep your family safe by making sure you have working alarms. If you need help installing your batteries this season, please contact the **City of Punta Gorda Fire Department** at (941) 575-5529.



Utilities Department

R.O. Project



Jones Loop Force-Main project update

- The Jones Loop Force Main project consists of two parts; the installation of the pipe line including drilling under I-75 and driveways, and the replacement construction of a sewage pumping station (lift station) located at Knights Drive. The pipe for the force main has to be construct first as it will be used as bypass piping when the new lift station is constructed. All 12” and 16” force main piping has been installed except 2 road crossings. Future on-going pipe installation activities will include testing of the pipeline and right of way restoration. Construction of lift station 60 replacement will begin next.

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 34.8 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 4.9 MG daily average.
- During the rainy season the plant treats low total dissolved solids water from the creeks and stores approximately 200 million gallons in Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells located at the plant site. This is known as the injection cycle. The last injection cycle began June 7, and ended Sept. 6; Injection Total 198 Million Gallons. Current condition is Recovery. Recovery started Feb. 19 at 1.0 MGD each.
- Rainfall in Feb. 2018 1.50” Feb. 2019 3.40” Mar. 2018 .09” Mar. 2019 .10”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “hard” – Grains of Hardness 12 ppm – Total hardness 205 ppm
- TDS for Mar. 7– Current 396 ppm, Low 305 ppm, High 649 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 508 ppm
- Reservoir Information for Mar. 7 – Current 5.21’, Record Low 4.95’, Record High 5.86’, 54 Year Average 5.20’

Wastewater Collections

- A gravity sewer replacement project on Retta Esplanade began Feb. 27 with a section of Retta Esplanade being closed, a portion of the asphalt being removed, and dewatering equipment set up. Excavation work will begin on March 4. The section of Retta Esplanade between McGregor St and Chasteen St. will be closed to thru traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists for the remainder of March while the underground utility lines are being replaced

Finance Department

- There are approximately 650 meters left to be changed out in order to complete the automated meter project. The meters are expected to arrive in mid-March from the manufacturer. Upon arrival, National Metering Systems crews will once again be in the area changing out meters. Work is progressing on the Citizen’s Portal, which will provide water customers with the ability to view the consumption on their meter, set alerts for peak consumption and so much more, using a smart phone or computer!

City Clerk

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

- Code Enforcement Board (One alternate vacancy) - Meets the 4th Wednesday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven member board with two alternate members. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Hears and decides alleged violations of the City Code of Ordinances.

New Businesses

- All persons, firms or corporations engaging in business or occupation within the City of Punta Gorda are required to obtain a Local Business Tax (LBT) Receipt in accordance with Chapter 12 of the Punta Gorda City Code. As part of our effort to promote economic development and vitality in our area, we offer the following list of new or transferred business within our community this week:
 - Amber Renee Tabb – Tattoo Artist at Elysium Piercing and Tattoo and Piercing Gallery 1205 Elizabeth St. #F1
 - Family Grill LLC – 2705 Tamiami Tr. #216
 - Punta Gorda Pet Spa – 2825 Tamiami Tr. #B3
 - Sifrit Sports Rehabilitation – 2905 Tamiami Tr.
 - Stingrays Bar & Grill (Inside Muscle Car City) 10175 Tamiami Tr.
 - TMD Homestead LLC – Vacation Rental – 7200 N. Blue Sage

Transferred Business's

- Storybook Academy Inc. has changed ownership and it is now “Storybook Learning Academy” - 272 E Virginia Ave.
- Florida Community Bank is under new ownership and is now Synovus Bank – 125 Nesbit St.