



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT MARCH 22, 2019

City Manager

- **BSI Undergrounding** – Florida Power and Light (FP&L) has been authorized and paid to conduct an engineering study to determine the design and costs for the transfer from an overhead system to an underground wiring delivery system to the Burnt Store Isles Community. It was requested and anticipated by the City of Punta Gorda and the Burnt Store Isles Association that the project particulars would be completed during the fourth quarter of 2018 to provide ample time present the information to the community during the first quarter of 2019. Due to the number of projects in the FP&L queue the results will not likely not be available until mid-fourth quarter of 2019. The Underground Wiring Committee will continue to meet with the City officials to identify, clarify, and take action on tasks associated with the progression of the project.
- **Sunseeker Ground Breaking** – Mayor Prafke, Vice-Mayor Matthews and Council Member Carey attended the Mar. 20 ground breaking ceremony for the Sunseeker Resort. Details about the Sunseeker project can be viewed at <https://www.sunseekerresorts.com/>.
- **FY 2020 Budget Public Input** – The City will hold a community conversation on Mar. 28, 5 p.m. at the PGI Civic Association to garner input into next fiscal year's budget priorities. The public is welcome to attend and provide their thoughts and suggestions for services, capital investment and neighborhood improvements. Staff will summarize input received for City Council consideration during the process to develop a FY 2020 financial plan.
- **Citywide Master Plan Results of Charrettes** – Dover Kohl & Partners Charrette Week events had outstanding participation from the community. Over 1,000 people have had their thoughts and opinions heard regarding the future of Punta Gorda during the Kick-off Sessions, Open Design Studios, Focus Group Sessions, website comments and the Work In Progress Presentation. The five big ideas that were identified by participants are; make downtown a vibrant and attractive place, celebrate Charlotte Harbor and welcome more boating, diversify housing types, fully embrace walking and biking, encourage strategic commercial development. Residents view Punta Gorda's top strength as quality of place and sense of community. This was followed by Charlotte Harbor and boating. There was also a conceptual design showed for lighting the bridge that was very well received by the participants. The presentations including results of the polling at the event are available for review at <https://www.puntagordamasterplan.com>. These meetings are just the beginning of the process of engagement for development of the Punta Gorda Citywide Master Plan. Future opportunities to be involved will be shared in the Weekly Highlights Report.



- **PGIslander Canal Clean-Up** – The annual PGIslander supported canal clean-up was a great success. The weather on Mar. 9 was perfect and allowed 41 volunteers to spend several hours cleaning up the precious canal system. The volunteers worked from kayaks, small dinghies and run-abouts. There were 17 boats and one kayak that participated and once again provided 100% coverage of the canal system! Members of the PGIslanders were joined by the Giardina family from the Newcomers Club. Several grandchildren also joined in the clean-up. A few boats also took on the clean-up of two zones to provide assure a full clean-up of the canals. Many neighbors came out to assist the volunteers with hauling debris to the curb and provided cold beverages. Volunteers gathered 26 bags of trash and debris. There was a large amount of plastic bottles, Styrofoam cups, aerosol cans and plastic sheeting/bags. Additionally a lot of coconuts, large palm fronds, several dead rabbits and a four foot long piling were removed and placed curb side for pick up by the City. All in all there appeared to be less large trash items than in 2018. The kayak volunteer bravely loaded his vessel with 15 large coconuts and one bag of trash! After the clean-up 32 people gathered at the PGICA pavilion for a nice lunch sponsored by the Civic Association. Regina Buckley and her staff planned the luncheon and also prepared the ad for the Commentator. Cathy Miller, Public Works Canal Maintenance Supervisor, provided the trash bags.



March 9, 2019

PGISLANDERS SUPPORTED CANAL CLEAN-UP

Upcoming Events

- **Eyes on Seagrass Citizen Scientists Needed-** Apr. 11 at the Charlotte County Eastport Environmental Campus 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Citizens needed to document the health and status of seagrass in upper Charlotte Harbor. To learn more or register contact Betty Staugler at (941) 764-4346.

Date	Event	Location	Contact
March Events		Fishermen's Village	www.fishville.com/events/
March Events		Burnt Store Presbyterian Church	www.bsponline.org/news.html
3/22-3/23	TEAM PG Pedal & Play	Laishley Park	www.pedalandplayinparadise.com
3/23-3/24	TNT Arts & Crafts Festival	City Marketplace	tnteventsinc@yahoo.com
3/23	TEAM Punta Gorda Golf Scramble	St. Andrews Golf Club	www.teampuntagorda.org
3/23	Harbor Walk for Hunger	Fishermen's Village	www.htlchurch.org/
3/29	Veterans Tribute	Military Heritage Museum	https://freedomisntfree.org/
3/30-3/31	End of Season Arts & Crafts Show	City Marketplace	www.mypromotions.com/
3/30	Peace River Revival	Laishley Park	www.edgewatereventsllc.com/
3/31	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	musclecarcity.net/events/
4/2	Downtown Hoedown for the Troops	City Marketplace	smugglerevents.com
4/6	Relay for Life	Laishley Park	relayforlifecharlottecounty
4/7	Vendor & Craft Fair with Easter Bunny	Laishley Park	www.localladiessouthflorida.com/
4/7	Springfest 5k	Laishley Park Pavilions	www.swflymca.org

Lot Mowing Program

- Lot mowing crews will begin a new mowing cycle on the week of Mar. 25.

Urban Design

- Staff is working with Taylor Engineering on the Florida Resilient Coastline Program Grant (awarded to the City in Feb. 2019) to Update the 2009 Climate Adaptation Plan and develop a Living Shoreline Element. These planning documents will help staff plan for the effects of climate change, such as rising sea levels, flooding events, erosion and ecosystem changes. As the project continues, staff will be meeting with the consultant bi-monthly to discuss the progress of the plan. This week's meeting included discussion regarding the City facilities and the City's low elevation. You may see the consultant walking around using their RTK survey equipment, the latest technology available in surveying, to take some finished first floor elevations for key city buildings. This will assist the consultant in 1.) Preparing their report for the City facilities vulnerability and 2.) Develop strategies to recover quickly from disasters and to adapt to future conditions of climate change.
- Climate Adaptation Plan Workshop will take place on Apr. 5, 10 a.m. at the Laishley Park Community Room, 120 Laishley Court. Calling all residents & stakeholders! Participate in planning Punta Gorda's future, contribute your thoughts and ideas on Punta Gorda's climate adaptation planning efforts. Learn how residents and stakeholders drafted the 2009 Climate Adaptation Plan. Be a part of the update! Share your ideas! Find out how Living Shoreline could help protect our City from the slow rise of the seas and the next storm. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Public Works Department

Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 53,004 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 86.7% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 70.8% of the project has been closed out with grading and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 3,930 feet per month. Crews filled 10 depressions in Punta Gorda Isles and patched one sea wall cap. Crews removed some debris from Candia/Ponce.

	Work underway on Projects	Work completed on Projects	*Number of Projects per Zone
PGI-NE1	48-55, 57, 59, 60, 62, 70, 84, 88, 89	1 – 47	91
PGI-NE2	59 – 60, 62 -74	1 – 58, 61	83
PGI-NW1	24, 34 – 38, 40 - 43	1 – 23, 25 - 33, 39, L1	55
PGI-NW2	43 - 45, 56, 62 – 82	1 – 42, L1 – L3	87
PGI-SE	36, 38, L4, L6, L7, L9	1-30, 32 -35, 37, 39-44, L1-L3, L5, L8, L10, L11	55
PGI-SW	39 - 45	1 - 38, 47	47
Harborwalk	0	1	1
BSI-N	1-3,5	4	11
BSI-S	10 - 11	1 – 9	11

**Each project may consist of multiple lots*

Canal Maintenance

- Ponce Deleon Inlet Dredging** – Beginning the week of Mar. 18 through Mar. 22 (weather and equipment operation permitting), the Ponce Inlet is scheduled to be dredged. The contractor will off load dredge material at the vacant lot at the southerly end of Colony Point and then the material will be transported to another location by dump trucks.



Engineering

- **City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – The rainy weather this week slowed production by JRL Construction. Work is underway along Casey Key Dr. to complete punchlist work and will begin next week between 1205-1241 Pine Siskin Drive.
- **Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – Roof framing is underway. Underground electrical and plumbing conduits are in place under the building slab.
- **AC Freeman House ADA Ramp Installation** – Demolition is complete with sidewalk and ramp foundations in place. Work continues on ADA ramp.
- **Vietnam Memorial E. Retta Parking** – Work to construct parking along E. Retta at the Vietnam Memorial Wall will be completed next week.
- **Sidewalk Projects** – Swale regrading and sod placement scheduled to be complete by Apr. 5 along Milus between Showalter and E. Charlotte Streets.
- **Minor Paving** – City Council awarded Sunland Paving Company the contract for minor paving and asphalt repairs.
- **Paving Program** – Due to the subcontractors backlog schedule thermo striping is anticipated to occur in Apr.



Police Department

- Registration for the Punta Gorda Police Department's Jammers Youth Basketball League's 2019 season is now open! All students who will be between the ages of 10 and 13 as of Jun. 8, are welcome to participate. This program is completely sponsored by local businesses and community members, so there is no cost to the players or their families. To register a student, please visit www.pgpdjammers.com. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor and supporting this program, please contact Lieutenant Justin Davoult at jdavoult@cityofpuntagordafl.com or by calling (941) 575-5525. Here are some important dates to remember:



Apr. 30 – Registration Closes
May 11 – Mandatory Skills Assessment (Punta Gorda Middle School)
Jun. 8 – First Game
Jul. 27 – Final Tournament

Games will be held Saturdays between Jun. 8 and Jul. 27. Practices will be held at the discretion of the coaches. Please sign up early as space is limited.

Utilities Department

Groundwater R.O. Construction Update



Week 38- The main building of the Groundwater R.O. Plant

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. The pipeline installation is complete crews continue to work on crossings and site restoration including; sodded restored in the area 2,295 feet west of Taylor Road. Installation of well points for dewatering at Jones loop and Piper Road for the “Jack and Bore” crossing. Pressure testing of the pipeline was started on Mar. 21. The contractor continues to work with FP&L to establish power at the new lift-station site.

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 34 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. 52 MG recovered.
- Rainfall in Mar. 2018 .9” Mar. 2019 .1.70”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “hard” – Grains of Hardness 14 ppm – Total hardness 239 ppm
- TDS for Mar. 21– Current 410 ppm, Low 377 ppm, High 650 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 513 ppm
- Reservoir Information for Mar. 21 – Current 5.34’, Record Low 4.88’, Record High 6.51’, 54 Year Average 5.25’

Wastewater Collections

- Replacement of the gravity sewer main was started on Mar. 18 at the intersection of Berry Street and Retta Esplanade. Work is anticipated to be completed by the end of the week of Mar. 22.

Finance Department

- National Metering Services will be returning to the area to resume meter change-outs in late Apr. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the metering project, please do not hesitate to contact the Billing and Collections office at pgcollections@cityofpuntafordafl.com or (941) 575-3360. Staff will be happy to assist you.

City Clerk

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

- **Burnt Store Isles Canal Advisory Committee** – (One Vacancy) Meets the 2nd Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be resident of Burnt Store Isles. Five member board. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Makes recommendations to City Council on effective maintenance of existing canals, waterways and navigable channels within the district, together with the maintenance and reconstruction of seawalls. Holds public hearings and makes final decision on petitions for special permit to the provisions of Section 6-6(c) of the City Code of Ordinances.
- **Historic Preservation Advisory Board** – (One Vacancy) Meets the 4th Thursday at 9:00 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven member board with two alternate members. Two members must reside within the Historic District. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Identifies for the City Council historically significant structures and sites that should be considered for designation as a “Local Historic Landmark” or be nominated for listing on the Florida Master Site File and the National Register of Historic Places. Makes recommendations of the policies for the protection of historically significant structures and sites. Makes recommendations to staff with regard to certificates of appropriateness for any demolition, variance, sign or relocation of structures. Promotes public awareness of historic archaeological preservation and its community benefits.