



Florida's Harborside Hometown

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT MARCH 29, 2019

### City Manager

- **Buckley's Pass** – City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Apr. 3, 1:00 p.m. at the Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center, in order to receive public input and consider approval of a special assessment to pay for design, permitting, legal costs, economic study, land acquisition, mitigation, administrative expenses and construction of the navigational channel. An overview of the project, proposed assessments and alternatives to be considered based on public input received to-date can be viewed at [www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=9058](http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/Home/ShowDocument?id=9058).
- **Public Safety Boat** – At its Apr. 3 meeting, City Council will consider acquisition of a new Public Safety marine patrol/rescue boat, thereby replacing the un-operable boat damaged by the New Year's Eve accident. The City anticipates purchase costs to be paid for by our insurance carrier.
- **Climate Adaptation Plan Workshop** – Calling all residents & stakeholders! Participate in planning Punta Gorda's future, contribute your thoughts and ideas on Punta Gorda's climate adaptation planning efforts. This workshop will take place on Apr. 5, 10 a.m. at the Laishley Park Community Room, 120 Laishley Court. 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! See the attached flyer and participate in the online survey: <http://www.buildcommunityresilience.com/PuntaGorda/Default.aspx>
- **Friends of Punta Gorda Library** – A note from Katie Mazzie, Friends of the Punta Gorda Library, *"The Friends of the Punta Gorda Library have always appreciated the City of Punta Gorda's support for the new Punta Gorda Charlotte Library. The City donated the land on Shreve Street, prepared the property for the building and provided additional funding to the County to ensure the exterior of the building was in keeping with the historic area. As you know, the Friends of the Punta Gorda Library donated \$50,000 to assist with an enhanced exterior. At the time we made presentations to the City and the County offering this funding, we stated we had funds set aside to help with interior furnishings. On March 21, 2019, the Board of Directors of the Friends of the Punta Gorda Library voted to spend \$155,000 to purchase interior furnishings for the new library. This donation includes funding the Friends Bookstore and Office, the children and youth area and the teen area. We have asked that the teen area be designated the Mary Knowlton Teen Room as Mary was determined the new library should have a space to entice our area teens to the library. We have also asked the County to partner with us so that once the new library is open we will host a gala celebrating this new beautiful building. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to thank the City Council and the Punta Gorda Citizens for their ongoing support of the new library."*



- **Pickle Ball Committee** – At the recommendation of the newly formed Pickle Ball Committee, the City has contracted with a local qualified provider to conduct an acoustic study, based on scientifically accepted standards and guidelines, to quantify both the level and intensity of repetitive noise associated with Pickle Ball play at Gilchrist Park both pre and post installation of the planned sound absorbing material with the goal of demonstrating the degree to which abatement is effective. The scope of work also includes data analysis and reporting of findings. The fee for service is \$125.00 per hour and a not-to-exceed-estimate of \$850.00.
- **FY 2020 Budget** – The City held a community conversation regarding priorities for the FY 2020 financial plan. Approximately 50 residents of Punta Gorda provided input on a variety of revenue and expenditure suggestions covering such items as from millage rate, fees, infrastructure improvements and employee salaries. Staff will provide a more detailed list of those suggestions in the Apr. 5 weekly report.

### Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
<b>March &amp; April Events</b>		Fishermen’s Village	<a href="http://www.fishville.com/events/">www.fishville.com/events/</a>
<b>March &amp; April Events</b>		Burnt Store Presbyterian Church	<a href="http://www.bspconline.org/news.html">www.bspconline.org/news.html</a>
3/29	Veterans Tribute	Military Heritage Museum	<a href="https://freedomisntfree.org/">https://freedomisntfree.org/</a>
3/30	Peace River Revival	Laishley Park	<a href="http://www.edgewatereventsllc.com/">www.edgewatereventsllc.com/</a>
3/30-3/31	End of Season Arts & Crafts Show	City Marketplace	<a href="http://www.mypromotions.com/">www.mypromotions.com/</a>
3/31	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	<a href="http://musclecarcity.net/events/">musclecarcity.net/events/</a>
4/6	Downtown Hoedown for the Troops	City Marketplace	<a href="http://smuggersevents.com">smuggersevents.com</a>
4/6	Relay for Life	Laishley Park	<a href="http://relayforlifefcharlottecounty">relayforlifefcharlottecounty</a>
4/7	Vendor & Craft Fair with Easter Bunny	Laishley Park	<a href="http://www.localladiessouthflorida.com/">www.localladiessouthflorida.com/</a>
4/7	Springfest 5k	Laishley Park Pavilions	<a href="http://www.swflymca.org">www.swflymca.org</a>
4/13	SVDP Annual Golf Outing	St. Andrews Golf Club	<a href="mailto:golf4svdp@gmail.com">golf4svdp@gmail.com</a>
4/13	City Wide Garage Sale	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com">frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com</a>
4/13	1 <sup>st</sup> Annual Punta Gorda Spring Festival	Great Lawn at Four Points	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com">frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com</a>

### Lot Mowing Program

- City mowers have begun mowing the following areas; Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.), PGI (Bal Harbor Blvd, Deborah Dr., Ryan Blvd, and Suzi St.), PGI (Magdalena Drive, Via Veneto, W. Henry Street, Appain Drive, and Columbian Drive) and PGI Bird Section (Almar Dr., Albatross Dr., Whippoorwill Blvd, and Turtle Dove Blvd).

## Urban Design

- There were several items on the agenda at the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting this Monday; however, the most animated discussion revolved around the recent serious crash at Tamiami Trail (US 41) and Aqui Esta Drive. This unfortunate crash highlighted the issues that this intersection has at handling peak travel demand during the high season. The Florida Department of Transportation along with City and Charlotte County staff will be looking into the existing site conditions and crash history to determine what if any corrective actions may be taken to reduce the crash risks at this intersection.
- The City’s Comprehensive Annual Performance Evaluation Report (CAPER) is available for viewing in Urban Design offices. The CAPER provides the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) a review and critique of the previous fiscal year’s performance within the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG). If you are interested, please contact David Hilston, Chief Planner at (941) 575-3321 or at [dhilston@cityofpuntagordafl.com](mailto:dhilston@cityofpuntagordafl.com)

## IT Department

- GIS project implementation continues to make progress. Public Works has developed Full Motion Video capability that will allow staff to respond to resident drainage concerns in a timely manner with comparison photos indexed for easy retrieval. Also, a new Lot Mowing web application is nearing completion. This tool will allow residents to access vacant lot mowing and edging data by address to quickly see if a vacant lot is in the City Lot Mowing Program and mowing schedule information. GIS continues to be a leading tool for making government operate efficiently.

## Public Works Department

### Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 53,004 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 89.4% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 71.0% 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 26 depressions in Punta Gorda Isles and patched nine sea wall caps. Crews removed debris from canals.

	Work underway on Projects	Work completed on Projects	*Number of Projects per Zone
PGI-NE1	48-55, 57, 59, 60, 62, 70, 84, 85, 88, 89	1 – 47	91
PGI-NE2	60, 62 -74	1 – 59, 61	83
PGI-NW1	34 – 38, 40 - 51	1 – 33, 39, L1	55
PGI-NW2	45, 46, 56, 62 – 84	1 – 44, L1 – L3	87
PGI-SE	L4, L6, L7, L9	1-30, 32 - 44, L1- L3, L5, L8, L10, L11	55
PGI-SW	39 - 46	1 - 38, 47	47
Harborwalk	0	1	1
BSI-N	1-3, 5	4	11
BSI-S	0	1 – 11	11

*\*Each project may consist of multiple lots*

## Canal Maintenance

- **Ponce Deleon Inlet Dredging** – Ponce Inlet dredging complete.

## Engineering

- **Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – Interior block work continues. Underground electrical and plumbing conduits are in place under the building slab.
- **City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 326 properties totaling 227,100 square feet of grading/sodding. Work was completed this week between 1644-1664 Casey Key Dr. and 1211-1241 Pine Siskin Dr. Work will begin next week between 5028-5046 La Costa Island Ct. and along the west side of Milus St. between E. Charlotte and Showalter Ave.
- **AC Freeman House ADA Ramp Installation** – Framework for the ADA ramp continues.
- **Minor Paving** – The cost proposal to pave the Utility repair areas along W. Retta Esplande has been received. Pending is a signed Statement of Work, Schedule of Work, Press Release and Purchase Order Insurance.
- **Vietnam Memorial E. Retta Parking** – Asphalt was placed on Mar. 26; parking space striping work was scheduled to be completed by Apr.



## Police Department

- All around the world, Special Olympics has a formidable and caring legion of protectors and supporters: the law enforcement community. The signature event of the law enforcement community's year-round support is the annual Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Florida. This year our Torch Run is scheduled for Apr. 17. The run will begin at the Punta Gorda Crossings Publix at 9 a.m. Runners will travel North on Tamiami Trail, make a brief stop at the Charlotte Harbor School, and continue on to the Quesada Commons Publix. Several local Special Olympic Athletes participate in this run by riding their bicycles next to the law enforcement runners. It is always a treat for the participants to see members of the community alongside the roadway cheering them on. More information: <https://specialolympicsflorida.org/get-involved/law-enforcement-torch-run/>



## Fire Department



Did you know that Florida has the unfortunate distinction of being the national leader in annual boating fatalities? A majority of fatalities every year are boaters that are reported swimmers who fall overboard and drown. These deaths can be easily prevented by wearing a lifejacket. Wearing a lifejacket can mean the difference between a fun day on the water and becoming a statistic. Don't believe it could happen to you? It happens in Florida to an average of one person each week who never thought it could happen to them either. This is where the Wear It Florida campaign comes in to play. The campaign goal is clear and simple: to increase the number of recreational boaters who consistently wear a life jacket while on the water.

### **Common Misconceptions Associated with Life Jacket Wear**

- 1. I'm a great swimmer! Why would I need to bother with a life jacket?**  
Even the greatest swimmers aren't always ready to be thrown overboard and a quick look at boating safety statistics make that quite evident. Typically over half of Florida's boating fatalities each year are due to falls overboard and boaters entering the water unprepared.
- 2. I'm not a kid; I'm an experienced boater. I know what I'm doing.**  
Age and experience don't float. They also are not good indicators of whether you would survive an unexpected fall overboard. On average about one half to two thirds of Florida's annual boating fatalities are men over the age of 30 with over 100 hours of experience on the water.
- 3. It is just too hot out to wear something so bulky and uncomfortable!** The availability of inflatable life jackets has made wearing a lifejacket more comfortable as they are less bulky and constrictive. An inflatable life jacket has twice the buoyancy of a traditional orange horseshoe life jacket and is less than half the size! The biggest problem with inflatable jackets is forgetting that you are wearing them in the first place.
- 4. Who will notice if I wear a life jacket?** Everyone will notice when you are not around because you didn't wear it. Your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews will follow the example you set whether it is good or bad. Make yourself a good example by practicing safe boating habits- WEAR IT

## **Utilities Department**

### **Groundwater R.O. Construction Update**



Week 39- Started construction on the pipeline to connect the existing 2.0 Million Gallon tank to the blend basin.

### **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. Crews pressure tested the force main from Burntstore Road to Knights Drive and Piper Road to Knights Drive and then from Knights Drive to lift station 60. All the tests passed. The new force main was then connected to existing force main on the Burntstore Road end and Knights Drive. The contractor has installed well point pumps for dewatering in preparation for the jack and bore under the road at Piper Road and Jones Loop.

### **Water Treatment Plant Operations**

- 37.5 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 5.3 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. 69 MG recovered.
- Rainfall in Mar. 2018 .9” Mar. 2019 .170”
- 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. 28– Current 429 ppm, Low 410 ppm, High 671 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 528 ppm
- Reservoir Information for Mar. 28 – Current 5.19’, Record Low 4.87’, Record High 6.70’, 54 Year Average 5.23’

## City Clerk

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

- **Firefighters' Pension Board** – Meets quarterly and as called in Council Chambers. Five members – two City residents, two firefighters and one at-large as appointed by the Board. Two year terms – no maximum. Financial disclosure required. Charged with management of the Firefighters' Pension Fund.
- **Historic Preservation Advisory Board** – (One Vacancy) Meets the 4th Thursday at 9 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.
- **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.

### **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:
  - Allied Medical of SW Florida, 150 W McKenzie Street
  - Backyard Clothing Co, 7387 Satsuma Drive
  - Few of My Favorite Things, 212 W Virginia Avenue, Unit 111
  - Homeguard Homesafe LLC, 10294 Shadow Run Ct
  - Mallen Vacation Rental, 3812 Tripoli Blvd
  - Minard Vacation Rental, 588 Macdonia Drive