



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT APRIL 19, 2019

City Manager

- **I75 Military Signage** – As a result of governmental cooperative efforts including those of our City's and County's legislative delegation along with the Governor's Office, FDOT is working to sign both the Vietnam Memorial Wall as well as the Military Heritage Museum at the US 17 interchange. Regulations limit the number of destinations that FDOT can sign at any interchange, but thankfully there are two available spaces that can be used by these two destinations. Thank you to all who helped with this important accomplishment.
- **Institute for Elected Municipal Officials** – Council Member Carey was presented with a Certificate of Completion of the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials hosted by the Florida League of Cities. The training is an intensive academic program that assists with effectively meeting the requirements of the role of Council Member and gives a comprehensive overview of Florida municipal government.
- **Buckley's Pass** – City staff met with five condominium associations regarding methodology for water access units assigned to each complex. In addition, benefitted properties will start receiving their prepayment notices during the week of Apr. 22.
- **1% Local Option Sales Tax Committee** – City Council is forming a 1% Sales Tax Committee to discuss and vet projects for placement on the Primary or General Election 2020 ballot. The committee will consist of a representative from each of the neighborhood associations, the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce, the Arts Community and a History representative. Council will also appoint a member from their respective districts. The designees must be year around full-time residents of the City of Punta Gorda. The committee will convene initially in July of 2019 and meet in the City Hall Chambers once, or twice a month as necessary preceding the primary and or general election in 2020. The goal is to have recommended sales tax projects presented to Punta Gorda City Council in March of 2020. Charlotte County is undertaking a similar process to identify and vet projects to be on the County sales tax list.
- **FY 2020 Budget** – City Council worked through a list of general fund budget alternatives at its Apr. 17 meeting. Gaining initial approval were such service level enhancements as additional oversight and training within our Fire Advanced Life Support program; addition of a Police Community Engagement Team to focus on City "hot spots" and special enforcement efforts; additional dispatcher to handle volume of calls and allowing Supervisor to focus more on quality assurance reviews; computer support for daily issues that arise; and line and grade inspections related to new construction and drainage program. Budget alternatives will continue to be scrutinized, developed and evaluated over the next two months prior to City Council setting a tentative millage rate in July when property tax values are available from the County Property Appraiser.



Upcoming Events

| Date | Event | Location | Contact |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| April & May Events | | Fishermen's Village | www.fishville.com/events/ |
| April & May Events | | Burnt Store Presbyterian Church | www.bspconline.org/news.html |
| 4/18-4/20 | Home & Garden Show | Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center | www.charlotteharborecc.com |
| 4/20 | Monthly Car Show | Muscle Car City | http://musclearcity.net/events/ |
| 4/20 | Beyond the Looking Glass A Night of Philanthropy | Laisley Park | www.charlottecf.org/ |
| 4/20 | April in Paris | PGI Civic Association | www.pgica.org |
| 4/27 | Punta Gorda Block Party | Downtown Punta Gorda | www.puntagordablockparty.info/ |
| 4/28 | Monthly Auto Flea Market | Muscle Car City | musclearcity.net/events/ |
| 5/2 | National Day of Prayer | City Hall Annex | www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/home |
| 5/3-5/5 | Hibiscus Festival | City Marketplace | www.thehibiscusfestival.com |
| 5/4 | Suncoast Living Health & Wellness Expo | Fishermen's Village | www.fishville.com/events/ |
| 5/5 | Cinco de Mayo Celebration | PGI Civic Association | www.pgica.org |

Lot Mowing Program

- Lot mowing crews will begin a new mowing cycle on the week of Apr. 29.

Urban Design

- The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) recently announced the National Coastal Resilience Fund for 2019. NFWF will make investments to restore and strengthen natural systems so they can protect coastal communities from the impacts of storms, floods, and other natural hazards and enable them to recover more quickly, while also enhancing habitats for important fish and wildlife populations. One category of awards being funded by NFWF covers final project design and permitting for on-the-ground projects like a living shoreline project. If awarded this funding will be used to support the preparation of conceptual designs, engineering plans, continued and expanded stakeholder engagement efforts, detailed cost estimates, robust communications with permitting officials at various levels of government, and other related tasks to position projects for restoration-ready implementation. The City will be the lead applicant with the partners participating as co-applicants. Pre-Proposals are due May 20.

Public Works Department

Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 52,932 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 96.2% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 76.5% of the project has been closed out with grading and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 4,635 feet per month. Crews filled 15 depressions in Punta Gorda Isles and patched two sea wall caps. Crews removed some debris from canals. Crews poured 15, 12.5 foot seawall panels

Engineering

- Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – The electrical rough-in passed Building Dept. inspection. Electrical installations continue. The concrete footer for the seawall has been placed with block work scheduled this week. The louvers have been installed. Sheet rock placement is scheduled for placement on the interior ceiling next week along with painting. Grade work and sidewalk forming is also scheduled next week.
- Minor Paving** – Beginning the week of Apr. 22 through Apr. 30, weather depending, paving is scheduled on Retta Esplanade Ave. between McGregor Ave and Berry St. The road will be open to local traffic only. Detours and impact to traffic are to be anticipated. Hours of operation will be between 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. When driving in the area, motorists are encouraged to drive with extreme caution and be alert for workers in the rights-of-way. For additional information on this project, please contact Linda Sposito, Sr. Project Manager, City of Punta Gorda Public Works Department at (941) 575-5060 between the business hours of 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.
- City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 345 properties totalling 253,300 square feet of grading/sodding. Work was completed this week along the south side of Acline Road in front of Fire Station 2, 1101-1117 La Salina Ct., 3801-3825 Whippoorwill Drive and 1643 Suzi. Work locations for next week include 3439-3451 Nighthawk Ct., 930-1010 Via Formia, 1507-1519 Oriole Ct. 5011 Key Largo
- AC Freeman House ADA Ramp Installation** – Trex decking installation is occurring. Sanding and painting spindles in the shop are near complete. Handrail and spindle installations are scheduled.

| | Work underway on Projects | Work completed on Projects | *Number of Projects per Zone |
|------------|---|---|------------------------------|
| PGI-NE1 | 55, 57-67, 70, 84, 85, 88, 89 | 1 – 54, 56 | 91 |
| PGI-NE2 | 68 -82 | 1 –67 | 83 |
| PGI-NW1 | 34, 37, 40 - 54 | 1 – 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, L1 | 55 |
| PGI-NW2 | 45 - 47, 56, 60, 61, 63, 64, 66, 71 -84 | 1 – 44, 62, 65, 67 – 70 L1 – L3 | 87 |
| PGI-SE | L4, L6, L7, L9 | 1-30, 32 - 44, L1- L3, L5, L8, L10, L11 | 55 |
| PGI-SW | 39, 42 – 44, 46 | 1 - 38, 40, 41, 45, 47 | 47 |
| Harborwalk | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| BSI-N | 2-3, 5- 8, 10 | 1, 4 | 11 |
| BSI-S | 0 | 1 – 11 | 11 |

**Each project may consist of multiple lots*

Police Department

- The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the positions of Public Safety Dispatcher and Police Officer. Applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on May 15. Public Safety Dispatcher testing will be held on May 20. Police Officer testing will be held from May 21 through May 23. To apply visit www.puntagordapolice.com and select “Employment Opportunities.” For more information, contact Lieutenant Dylan Renz at (941) 575-5503 or by email at drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com.
- It’s National Public Safety Telecommunications Week and the Punta Gorda Dispatch team was officially recognized by proclamation of the City Council at the Apr. 17 meeting. Dispatchers handled 28,975 administrative calls, 7,538 911 calls and 44,648 police assists in 2018.



Fire Department

The Punta Gorda Fire Department responded to assist Charlotte County Fire Rescue for a residential fire in Windmill Village that destroyed one home and damaged two others. Punta Gorda Fire responded quickly with Truck-1, Engine-2, a Battalion Chief, and Operations Chief. CCFR additionally responded with 2 Battalion Chiefs, 1 Deputy Chief, 2 Captains and Engines 1, 5, 6, 7, and 8, Tanker 6, and Rescues 5 and 32. Prior to arrival a large column of black smoke was visible while enroute and first arriving units on scene found one home fully engulfed in flames with smoke showing from a second home. CCFR Battalion Chief immediately directed crews to protect the houses on both sides of the fire. Despite great efforts by the men and women on scene, the extreme heat caused extensive damage to the neighbor’s house on the right. Thankfully, no one was injured by the fire.



Utilities Department

Groundwater R.O. Construction Update



Week 42- Scaffolding set up for the forming of the new 2 million gallon storage tank



Week 42- Forming panels installed for the new 2 million gallon storage tank.

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 constructed first as it will be used as bypass piping when the new lift station is constructed.

The Contractor pressure tested the pipe inside of the jack and bore casing. The pipe passed the pressure test. The contractor then connected pipe to previous tested pipe on south side of Jones Loop road. Restoration including the laying of sod on the east side of Taylor Road and east of I-75 on the south side of Jones Loop Road was completed.

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 37.3 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. ASR 3 Stopped at 50% Recovery. 104 MG recovered.
- Rainfall in Apr. 2018 1.2” Apr. 2019 .70”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “ very hard” – Grains of Hardness 15 ppm – Total hardness 256 ppm
- TDS for Apr. 18– Current 371 ppm, Low 371 ppm, High 612 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 534 ppm
- Reservoir Information for Apr. 18 – Current 5.17’, Record Low 4.74’, Record High 5.82’, 54 Year Average 5.11’

Finance

- National Metering Systems crews have returned to complete the replacement of existing one and a half inch meters with new meters capable of transmitting automated meter reads. A total of 106 meters were replaced the week of Apr. 8 leaving approximately 350 meters to go for project completion.

City Clerk

Candidate Packets Now Available

- Candidate packets are now available through the City Clerk’s Office, City Hall, 326 West Marion Avenue; however, candidate forms can be obtained online from the Division of Elections website at <https://dos.myflorida.com/elections>. Jun. 17 at (noon) is the first day candidates can qualify for the Nov. 5 City Election for the purpose electing two (2) Councilmembers, one each from Districts #3 and #5. Qualifying ends at noon on Jun. 21. Councilmembers serve a two (2) year term. For information or questions regarding qualifying, please contact Karen Smith, City Clerk, at (941) 575-3369 or email pgclerk@cityofpuntafordafl.com. Questions regarding voter registration, vote-by-mail ballots or precinct and polling information should be directed to the Charlotte County Supervisor of Elections Office at (941) 833-5400.

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.
- Planning Commission (Two alternate vacancies) - Meets the 4th Monday at 2 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven member board with two alternate members. Three year terms – maximum of three terms. Makes recommendations to City Council with regard to amending, extending or adding to the comprehensive plan for the physical development of the City, platting or subdividing land within the City and adopting and amending a zoning ordinance.
- Police Officers’ Pension Board (One vacancy) - Meets quarterly and as called in Council Chambers. Five members – two City residents at large, two police officers and one member appointed by the Board. Four year terms – no maximum. Charged with management of the Police Officers’ Pension Fund.

- Punta Gorda Housing Authority (Two vacancies) - Meets the third Thursday at 8:30 a.m. at the PGHA Community Room, 340 Gulf Breeze Avenue, Punta Gorda. Must be a resident of Charlotte County. At least one commissioner shall reside within the Housing Authority's jurisdiction and receive rent subsidy through a program administered by the Authority. Seven member board. Four-year terms – no maximum. Financial disclosure required. The mission of the Housing Authority is to provide decent, safe and sanitary affordable housing.