

**WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT  
MAY 3, 2019**

**City Manager**

- **Seawall Restoration Reimbursement** – The City received its third payment from FEMA and the State to reimburse expenses related to seawall restoration from Hurricane Irma. The \$3.6 million payments now brings the total reimbursement to-date at \$13.1 million.
- **Ponce Park Redesign** – City Council approved two contract amendments. One is to evaluate the condition of the seawall, fishing pier and boardwalk and recommend repairs as necessary. The second amendment is to evaluate whether to move forward with application for a letter of map revision (LOMR) that, if successful, will result in the wildlife center and park restroom facilities being moved out of the velocity zone thereby decreasing construction costs.
- **Mural Ribbon Cuttings** – The Friends of Gilchrist Park Playground will host a ribbon cutting for the playground murals on May 30 at 5:30 p.m. at the playground restroom area. The Punta Gorda Historic Mural Society will hold a ribbon cutting on Jun. 20 at 5 p.m. for the Tails from the Harbor mural under the US41 southbound bridge.



- **Buckley's Pass** – Construction bids are out and due back at the end of May. Staff will evaluate bids received and place on a future Council agenda. In addition, as of May 2, the City has received \$251,387.49 in pre-payments of the assessment.
- **Veteran's Park Phase II** – Staff met with representatives of the Vietnam Memorial Wall group to refine cost estimates for Phase II improvements within the park – parking and streetscape, honor walk, mural wall plaza, Purple Heart memorial, donors' plaza and gazebo ceremonial plaza. City Council will consider timing and funding at its May 15 meeting.

## Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
	<b>May Events</b>	Fishermen's Village	<a href="http://www.fishville.com/events/">www.fishville.com/events/</a>
	<b>May Events</b>	Burnt Store Presbyterian Church	<a href="http://www.bspconline.org/news.html">www.bspconline.org/news.html</a>
5/3	Cinco de Mayo Celebration	PGI Civic Association	<a href="http://www.pgica.org">www.pgica.org</a>
5/3-5/5	Hibiscus Festival	City Marketplace	<a href="http://www.thehibiscusfestival.com">www.thehibiscusfestival.com</a>
5/4	Suncoast Living Health & Wellness Expo	Fishermen's Village	<a href="http://www.fishville.com/events/">www.fishville.com/events/</a>
5/8	TEAM PG Educational Signs Dedication	Gilchrist Park	<a href="https://teampuntagorda.org/">https://teampuntagorda.org/</a>
5/11	City Wide Garage Sale	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com">frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com</a>
5/11	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Key Lime Festival	Fishermen's Village	<a href="http://www.fishville.com/events/">www.fishville.com/events/</a>
5/15	Lunch with Admiral Chambers of the U.S.S. Midway	Military Heritage Museum	<a href="https://freedomisntfree.org/">https://freedomisntfree.org/</a>
5/16	Third Thursday Wine Walk	Downtown Punta Gorda	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com">frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com</a>
5/18	Mental Health Awareness Walk	Laishley Park	<a href="http://www.cbhcf.org/events/">www.cbhcf.org/events/</a>
5/18	Monthly Car Show	Muscle Car City	<a href="http://musclearcity.net/events/">http://musclearcity.net/events/</a>

## Lot Mowing Program

- City mowers are currently 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

- Staff participated in the Gulf Coast Partnership (GCP) Stakeholders meeting for May. The following items were discussed:
  - State funding scores for Challenge grants, Emergency Shelter Grants (ESG) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families grants (TANF) were discussed. The GCP Continuum of Care (CoC) group came away with the highest grant award at just under a half million dollars. Congratulations!
  - A wrap-up discussion of the 2019 Legislative session.
  - A discussion of the 2019 "Point in Time" Homeless Census. For more information regarding this years "Point in Time" Census, please contact the GCP at 1-800-435-7352.
  - A discussion of a recent outbreak of Hepatitis A in Florida and the need to remain vigilant in practicing good physical hygiene practices. For more information please contact the Florida Department of Health at (941) 624-7200.

- City Staff met with the Nature Conservancy’s (TNC) philanthropy Gift Planning Leadership Team who meet annually to look at potential future projects. The Nature Conservancy’s donors are a dedicated and inspiring group of people who ensure TNC’s conservation work gets done. Part of the discussion with the group was the Tiki Point Living Shoreline project at the Four Points Hotel, as well as other living shorelines projects and grant opportunities. Included was the City’s development of a living shoreline element as part of the climate adaptation plan revision effort and the continued protection of the Charlotte Harbor Estuary.

## Public Works Department

### Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 52,932 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 98.4% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 79.9% of the project has been closed out with grading and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 4,620 feet per month. Seawall work continues in all six zones of PGI and in BSI. The table below summarizes the status of the program. The corresponding sequence maps can be found on the City’s website here:

<http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/public-works/storm-related-seawall-failures>.

### SEAWALL PROGRESS SUMMARY

Zone	Work underway on Projects	Work not yet started on Projects
PGI-NE1	57-68, 70, 85, 86, 89-90	56, 69, 71-84, 87, 88
PGI-NE2	71 -82	0
PGI-NW1	44 – 46, 52 - 54	0
PGI-NW2	45 - 47, 53 -56, 59 – 62, 80 -84	48 – 52, 57 -58
PGI-SE	L3, L4,	0
PGI-SW	43 – 44, 46	0
Harborwalk	0	0
BSI-N	5 - 10	11
BSI-S	0	0

\*Each project may consist of multiple lots.

- Crews filled 35 depressions in Punta Gorda Isles.

### Engineering

- **Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – Electrical installations continue. The seawall block work is in place. Sheet rock placement on the interior ceiling with stucco is occurring. The surveyor laid out the sidewalk. The water line, back flow preventer and sewer lines are in place to 90%.
- **Minor Paving** –. Paving along the utility trenches on W. Retta Esplanade between McGregor and Chasteen and at the intersection of Berry St. is complete.



- **City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 371 properties totalling 267,300 square feet of grading/sodding. Work was completed this week at 5011 Key Largo, 1629-1641 Red Wing, 1600-1606 Bobolink, 1605-1641 Bobolink and 930-1010 Via Formia. Work next week will include 3506-3530 Dipper Ct., 3906-3912 Turtle Dove Blvd., 1301 Osprey Dr. and 2195-2215 Palm Tree. Total sod installed 267,300 sq. feet with 198,550 sq. ft. of Floratam (74.3%) and 68,750 sq. ft of Bahia (25.7%)
- **AC Freeman House ADA Ramp Installation** – Decking is complete with hand rail and spindle installations near completion. The aluminum handrail installation dates are pending. Primer and painting continues.
- **Alligator Creek pedestrian Bridges along US 41 NB – FDOT ROW** – A Pre-Construction teleconference meeting was held for City, Consultant and the engineer of record staff to discuss project design questions prior to construction. Pending is award of the construction contract.
- **Wooden Pathways & Piers** – City staff met with MCG to outline pier pile jacket work for Harborwalk behind the Justice Center and Pier near the Hospital. A SOW will be issued before work can begin.



## **Fire Department**

- The Fire Department would like to remind our residents that we are less than 30 days from the start of the 2019 Hurricane season. Hurricane Season Begins June 1 -- Severe weather can happen anytime and anywhere, especially in Florida. According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 40 percent of hurricane landfalls in the United States happen here. Hurricane season begins in a few weeks so Floridians should learn now how they're going to remain alert over the six-month period. There are many easy ways residents can connect with local officials to receive up-to-date information about severe weather such as hurricanes.
  - Go online to the Florida Division of Emergency Management at [FloridaDisaster.org/AlertFlorida](http://FloridaDisaster.org/AlertFlorida). From there residents can sign up for electronic severe weather alerts specific to their community.
  - Buy a weather radio, preferably one that uses batteries and has crank-power capabilities. Radios provide continuous updates and weather-related safety information from a resident's closest National Weather Service office.
  - Call the FDEM State Assistance and Information Line, or SAIL, at (800) 342-3557. FDEM activates the toll-free hotline during emergencies.
  - Connect with local emergency managers on social media. Every Florida County has an emergency management office and many are active on social media. Residents may search for and follow their community's office on Twitter or Facebook to interact with them and get severe weather updates.



- Connect with FDEM on social media. Follow FDEM on Twitter @FLSERT and find them on Facebook at facebook.com/FloridaSERT.
- Enable Wireless Emergency Alerts on mobile devices. Many cell phones are capable of receiving automatic WEAs that provide local emergency alerts. Residents can receive WEAs at all times since cell network congestion does not affect messages and providers offer the service for free.
- Pay attention to local media. Local radio and television are great sources for continuous weather updates and advisories.

## **Utilities Department**

### **Groundwater R.O. Financing Update**

- City Manager sent letter to the Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) requesting an additional \$2.2 million in grant funding for the project. The request is to account for a misunderstanding contained in the District's third party review which created an overestimate of the cost per gallon for the 4.0 million plant project. In addition, the City believes the District should support the additional grant monies due to proposed minimum flow regulations for Shell Creek and our septic-to-sewer initiative that would decrease the amount of nutrients entering into Charlotte Harbor through groundwater.

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



Week 44 – Crews began block work at the RO building.

### **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. Florida Power and Light relocated power pole at lift station 60. Valves installed on existing force main for new lift station and dewatering of the excavation area at lift station 60 has begun for the replacement wet well.



Excavation being done and shoring being installed for new lift station structure.

### **Water Treatment Plant Operations**

- 38.1 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 5.5 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 Storage. Storage started Apr. 24. ASR 3 stopped at 50% Recovery. ASR 4 stopped at 57%. 108 MG recovered.
- Rainfall in Apr. 2018 1.2” Apr. 2019 1.230” May 2018 16.7” May 2019 0.00”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “ very hard” – Grains of Hardness 12 ppm – Total hardness 205 ppm
- TDS for May 2– Current 368 ppm, Low 368 ppm, High 624 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 516 ppm
- Reservoir Information for May 2 – Current 5.09’, Record Low 4.55’, Record High 5.67’, 54 Year Average 5.06’

### **Finance**

- During the week of Apr. 22, 83 one and one half inch meters were changed out, leaving approximately 167 to be done.

### **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](mailto: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](#))**

- Planning Commission (One alternate vacancy) - 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.
- 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.

**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:

- ARI Production Company, 402 Ida Avenue
- Lakeshore Consulting Group LLC, 976 Bal Harbor Blvd.