



Florida's Harborside Hometown

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT MAY 10, 2019

### City Manager

- **FY 2020 Budget** – Staff will present updates on the Sanitation, Building, Laishley Marina, Gas Tax and Five Year Road Paving Program at the May 15 Council meeting. All funds are balanced. An increase of \$0.42 per month is proposed to cover the contractual increase in recycling services. Utilities and Canal Maintenance Funds will be presented at the June Council meetings, and the Community Redevelopment Area is scheduled for July.
- **Citywide Master Plan Community Engagement Event** – On June 18 from 5 p.m. - 6 p.m., the City will be having a Citywide Master Plan Preview Community Engagement Event at the Charlotte Harbor Event Center. Our Urban Design Senior Planner will be sharing an update of visual images and an overview of ideas from Dover, Kohl & Partners. The intent is to:
  - View work in progress images provided by Dover Kohl & Partners
  - Understand the impact of proposed ideas
  - Garner feedback for Dover Kohl & Partners
  - Get public input on the prioritization of projects.

There is no charge to attend and no need to pre-register.

- **Police Body Camera Initiative** - The FY 2019 Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program promotes the safety of law enforcement officers and citizens by strengthening the means for evidence capture and by contributing to improved justice outcomes. Both formal research publication and testimonials by law enforcement executives have shown that body worn cameras, when properly implemented, contribute myriad benefits to law enforcement organizations, their personnel, and the communities they serve. Body worn cameras use can have a moderating effect on citizens' behavior; has been shown to reduce use-of force incidents and citizen complaints; and can help strengthen mutual respect and civility in citizen police interactions. Submittal of a grant application to provide 50% funding support will be considered at the May 15 Council meeting.
- **Barron G. Collier Bridge Dedication Plaque**- Area resident Helen Shirley contacted the City Manager's office earlier in 2019 indicating that she had a plaque of some historical significance that she wished to donate to the City. The plaque was uncovered by Mrs. Shirley and her daughter in the late 1970's when the old Barron Collier Bridge was being demolished. The plaque was discarded along the shoreline in the dirt adjacent to the demolition zone. Seeing the plaque several times over the course of a month Mrs. Shirley and her daughter recovered the plaque, and took it home for safe keeping. The plaque they recovered in the late 1970's stayed safe in their home until March 2019, when Mrs. Shirley entrusted it to City staff for the consideration of the Donation Review Committee.



- **Economic Development Partnership** - At the monthly meeting of the Economic Development Partnership (attended by Mayor Prafke, Vice Mayor Matthews and City Manager), State Representative Michael Grant gave a summary of the \$91.1 billion State budget and significant policy-related bills passed by the State Legislature. At the May 15 Council meeting, City Lobbyist Jerry Paul will provide his summary of the what transpired during the recent legislative session.

## 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>
5/11	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.cbhcfll.org/events/">www.cbhcfll.org/events/</a>
5/18	Monthly Car Show	Muscle Car City	<a href="http://musclearcity.net/events/">http://musclearcity.net/events/</a>
5/21	PGI Car Club Cars & Coffee	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	<a href="mailto:billtucker@earthlink.net">billtucker@earthlink.net</a>
5/25	Downtown Bash	Taylor St	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com">frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com</a>
5/26	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	<a href="http://musclearcity.net/events/">musclearcity.net/events/</a>
5/27	Run to the Wall of Southwest Florida	Laishley Park Gazebo	<a href="mailto:runtothewallofswfl@aol.com">runtothewallofswfl@aol.com</a>

## Lot Mowing Program

- City mowers have completed 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 Dr., Via Veneto, W. Henry Street, Appain Drive, and Columbian Drive), and PGI Bird Section (Almar, Albatros, Whippoorwill Blvd, and Turtle Dove Blvd).

## Urban Design

- Staff attended the Trees & Storms: Lessons Learned in Orlando through the International Society of Arboriculture. The class focused on the most important lessons from previous tropical storms and hurricanes. These storm events have given increased insights into how urban trees are impacted. The lessons included the choosing of storm resistant species; how to design a preventive program and urban spaces to avoid catastrophe next time; how to plant and prune to minimize damage as well as how to reduce impacts from the next hurricane.

- A new bill dealing with tree removal is going into effect on July 1. This bill says that a local government may not require a notice, application, approval, permit, fee, or mitigation for the pruning, trimming, or removal of a tree on residential property if the property owner obtains documentation from an arborist certified by the International Society of Arboriculture or a Florida licensed landscape architect that the tree presents a danger to persons or property. It also states that a local government may not require a property owner to replant a tree that was pruned, trimmed, or removed in accordance with this section. There is an exception to the bill for mangrove protection to ss. 403.9321-403.9333. A zoning amendment will be required to amend the current City requirements to satisfy the new legislation. If you would like more information about the bill visit <http://flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2019/01159>.
- Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) Board held their regularly scheduled meeting May 6. In addition to approving the current 5-year Transportation Improvement Program, the MPO Board approved the contract and scope of services for the 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP). The LRTP is the principal planning document of the MPO and guides transportation development for projects funded with Federal and State funds. The 2045 LRTP will be under development over the course of the next year for adoption in October of 2020. Be on the lookout for opportunities over the coming year to provide citizen input into this important process. For more information about the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO visit them online at: <https://ccmpo.com/wp/>
- City staff met with staff from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) with week to discuss their upcoming planning project for the US 41 corridor in Charlotte County. This plan is an innovative process developed by FDOT District 1 (Southwest Florida) to assist the State in implementing their complete streets policy. The FDOT complete streets policy is based on context sensitive design principals, in other words making sure the way the road works matches up with the way the land around the road is used. The plan for the US 41 corridor will be the first such plan for District 1. FDOT will be hosting, along with their partners at Charlotte County, City of Punta Gorda, and the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO, a series of stakeholder meetings and public workshops in the coming months to fully develop the plan which will serve as a vision for the future of the corridor.

## **Public Works Department**

### **Canal Maintenance**

- An estimated 52,932 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 99.3% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 83.2% of the project has been closed out with grading

<b>Zone</b>	<b>Work underway on Projects</b>	<b>Work not yet started on Projects</b>	<b>*Number of Projects per Zone</b>
<b>PGI-NE1</b>	<b>57-68, 70, 85, 86, 89-90</b>	<b>56, 69, 71-84, 87, 88</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>PGI-NE2</b>	<b>71 -82</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>82</b>
<b>PGI-NW1</b>	<b>44 – 46, 52 - 54</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>PGI-NW2</b>	<b>45 - 47, 53 -56, 59 – 62, 80 -84</b>	<b>48 – 52, 57 -58</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>PGI-SE</b>	<b>L3, L4,</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>PGI-SW</b>	<b>43 – 44, 46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>47</b>
<b>Harborwalk</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>BSI-N</b>	<b>5 - 10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>BSI-S</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>

and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 4,240 feet per month. Seawall work continues in all six zones of PGI and in BSI. The table 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>. Crews also filled 31 depressions in PGI and patched six seawall caps/seams. Crews also repaired channel marker mirror on Marker 9 at Ponce De Leon Channel.

## Engineering

- **Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – Concrete sidewalk was placed and finished this week. Interior primer and painting is occurring. Hardee board is scheduled for installation next week.
- **Paving Program** – Staff is working with the Utilities Division on pave ready roads and preparing Statements of Work to be issued to the Paving Contractor.
- **City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 379 properties totaling 273,750 square feet of grading/sodding. Work was completed this week at 3506-3530 Dipper Ct., 3906-3912 Turtle Dove Blvd. and 1301 Osprey Dr. . Work scheduled next week will conclude in PGI at 2195-2215 Palm Tree and then move into Burnt Store Meadows beginning at 7410-7424 S. Moss Rose.
- **AC Freeman House ADA Ramp Installation** – Handrail and spindle installations are underway. Primers, wood fill and paint continues.
- **Historic District Street Sign Toppers** – Public Works has received partial shipment of historic district sign toppers, street signs and hardware. Right of Way staff will begin assembly and installation of the street signs and the toppers next week.



## Police Department

- The Final Do the Right Thing for the 2018-2019 school year was held on May 2. The final winners were for Elementary School, Dylan Jones, the Middle School was Tyler Chapin, and High School was Leah Gohl and William Ogert. Do the Right Thing is a program adopted by the Punta Gorda Police Department in 1995 and is working to instill positive attitudes and self-esteem in local youth by publicly recognizing them for their achievements, whether their accomplishments involve academics, athletics, community service, conservation, or any other effort where a child is trying his or her best to “do the right thing”.



Dylan Jones- Elementary



Tyler Chapin-Middle



Leah Gohl and William Ogert- High

## Fire Department

The Punta Gorda Fire Department had an overnight visit from a victim of a recent home fire. Mo Mo the dog was loved up by the firefighters and had a blast spending the night at the fire station. Mo Mo was equally as happy to return to her owner's arms on Friday. Many residents have reached out in willingness to help the family find shelter. We are happy to report that the family has found a place to stay and Mo Mo can come too!



## Utilities Department

- **Septic to Sewer** – Staff met with consultants to review financial assumptions. Consultant to revise modeling and plan for June presentation before Utility Advisory Board.

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



Week 44 – Construction of the plant building continues

## 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 installation of the pipe for the force main has been completed and connected. This week the contractor set the bottom and sides of the wet well for the new lift station.



Photo of wet well construction

## Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 33.2 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 4.8 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 May 2018 16.7” May 2019 0.60”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “ very hard” – Grains of Hardness 13 ppm – Total hardness 222 ppm
- TDS for May 9– Current 405 ppm, Low 388 ppm, High 592 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 518 ppm
- Reservoir Information for May 9 – Current 5.09’, Record Low 4.39’, Record High 5.54’, 54 Year Average 5.18’

## Finance

- During the week of Apr. 29, 66 one and one half inch meters were changed out, leaving approximately 101 one and a half inch meters and multiple meters of various sizes still to be done.
- Buckley’s Pass payments through May 10, total \$462,554.50.

## **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@cityofpuntagordafl.com](mailto:pgclerk@cityofpuntagordafl.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 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:

- Harbor Home Builders, 2412 Magdalena Drive