



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT JULY 26, 2019

City Manager

- **Seawall Restoration Reimbursement** – The City received an additional \$800,000 in reimbursement from FEMA and the State of Florida for work completed in restoring seawalls damaged during Hurricane Irma. This brings the total reimbursement to-date at \$20.4 million.
- **County Commission Community Redevelopment Area Update** – City Manager provided the Charlotte County Commission with an overview of the Punta Gorda Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) financial position and multi-year fiscal forecast. The Commission focused on property tax revenue, debt payments for Laishley Park and Herald Court Centre and when the debt will be retired. Per agreement with the County Commission, the Punta Gorda CRA will sunset once property tax revenue from both the County and City are sufficient to make the final debt payment, which is currently projected to be around 2028.
- **Citywide Master Plan Draft Presentation** – Aug. 21 at 5 pm Dover Kohl & Partners will present the Draft Citywide Master Plan to the community at the Charlotte Harbor Events Center. Registration is not required and Punta Gorda stakeholders are welcome.
- **Strategic Planning** – City Council and staff will host a strategic planning session on Aug. 28 at 5 pm at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association to gather stakeholder input for the FY2020 Strategic Plan. All community stakeholders are welcome to participate.
- **1% Sales Tax Committee** – The committee met on Jul. 19 to begin discussions about project recommendations for future sales tax revenues. Conversations focused on necessary project information and format the committee needs information to be presented in to make informed decisions. Beginning discussion about creating a process for introducing additional project suggestions for consideration also took place. Staff is putting together the requested information regarding sales tax projects, already in progress, in advance of the Sept. meeting.
- **Waffle House** – On Monday, the Building division issued a permit for the Waffle House restaurant to be constructed at the corner of US41 and E. McKenzie Street (1228 Tamiami Trail). This project was brought to the Development Review Committee and approved in the fall of 2016.
- **Buckley's Pass** – Payments totaling \$1,886,192.24 have been received through and including Jul. 25. The City will process a change order on the contract due to supply sourcing delay. The new completion date is estimated to be early Feb. Project updates can be found at <http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/capital-projects/buckley-s-pass-additional-harbor-access>.

FEMA



Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
7/27	Cocktails for a Cause Pub Crawl	Downtown Punta Gorda	cjfanky@hotmail.com
7/27	Beeswax Wrap Workshop	Punta Gorda City Hall	smoen@chnep.org
7/28	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	http://musclearcity.net/events/
7/30	Finishing Your Book with James Abraham	PGI Civic Association	www.pgica.org/
8/3	August Rummage Sale	The Society of St. Vincent De Paul Sacred Heart Church	www.svdpusa.org/
8/6	Finishing Your Book with James Abraham	PGI Civic Association	www.pgica.org/
8/10	Tiki Fest	Fishermen's Village	www.fishville.com/events/
8/15	Third Thursday Wine Walk	Downtown Punta Gorda	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
8/17	Monthly Car Show	Muscle Car City	http://musclearcity.net/events/
8/24	Arts in August	Fishermen's Village	www.fishville.com/events/
8/25	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	http://musclearcity.net/events/

Lot Mowing Program

- City mowers will completed mowing the following areas; East Side and the area behind Dunkin Donuts (E. Marion Ave, E. Olympia Ave, Narranja St, E. Henry St, and Cooper St.), Downtown and Historic District (W. Marion Ave., W. Olympia Ave., Shreve St., and Harvey St.) and PGI (Bal Harbor Blvd, Deborah Dr., Ryan Blvd, and Suzi St.).
- City mowers are currently mowing the following area of Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.).

Urban Design

- **Planta Gorda** – The City has been celebrating Arbor Day for 24 years. In 2018 trees were planted but the program was cancelled. In the hopes of rejuvenating the celebration, a local businesswoman (who wishes to remain anonymous) has suggested a new program that will include other businesses and volunteers in future years. The event (Planta Gorda) will be held on Apr. 24, 2020 at Gilchrist Park, Area 1 to enhance the area and provide additional shade to the event lawn area. Hopefully this new Arbor Day Celebration will be the start of a new Punta Gorda tradition.



Public Works Department

Engineering

- **Pavement Rejuvenation** – Beginning the week of Aug. 1 through Aug. 8 (weather and equipment operations permitting) Pavement rejuvenation application is scheduled on the following roadways:
 1. Cooper St. from Airport Rd. to Taylor Rd.
 2. Marion Ave. from Tropicana to DiVinci Dr.
 3. Trieste Dr. from Palermo to the cul-de-sac
 4. Portofino Dr. from Monaco Dr. to the cul-de-sac
 5. Palermo Dr. from Portofino Dr. to the cul-de-sac
 6. Henry St. from Shreve St. to Garvin Dr.
 7. St. Girons Ct. from St. Girons Dr. to the cul-de-sac
 8. St. Girons Dr. from Madrid Blvd. to the cul-de-sac
 9. San Pietro Ct. from Madrid Blvd. to the cul-de-sac
 10. Licata Ct. from Monaco Dr. to the cul-de-sac
- **Alligator Creek pedestrian bridges along US41 NB-FDOT Right of Way** – The Media Release has been prepared notifying the public that the US 41 Multi-use trail will be closed for the contractors work starting Aug. 5, until further notice. The work area will be north and south of the north fork Alligator Creek Bridge. Pedestrians are requested to seek alternate routes. The next Bi-weekly meeting is scheduled on Aug. 12 at 10 a.m.
- **Citywide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 442 properties totaling 326,750 square feet of grading/sodding. Sodding was completed this week at 123-137 Acalypha, 7417-7447 S. Blue Sage and 335 W. William, Excavation and grading is underway at 7131-7191 N. Plum Tree and will then move to locations on Schefflera in Burnt Store Meadows.
- **Harborwalk at Justice Center boardwalk & Pier at Adrienne St.** – Five pilings will be repaired at Adrienne St. pier. Sixteen pilings will be repaired on the boardwalk near the justice center. Work is expected to take 30 days. Users may experience intermittent closures.
- **Goldstein Street Bricking between Marion and Olympia Ave.** – The contractors schedule has been impacted due to: weather, high water table and equipment break down. Pending is an updated schedule for work to resume.
- **ADA Interior Signage & Wayfinding** – Staff attended a pre-submittal meeting on Jul 23. Submittals are due Aug. 5.

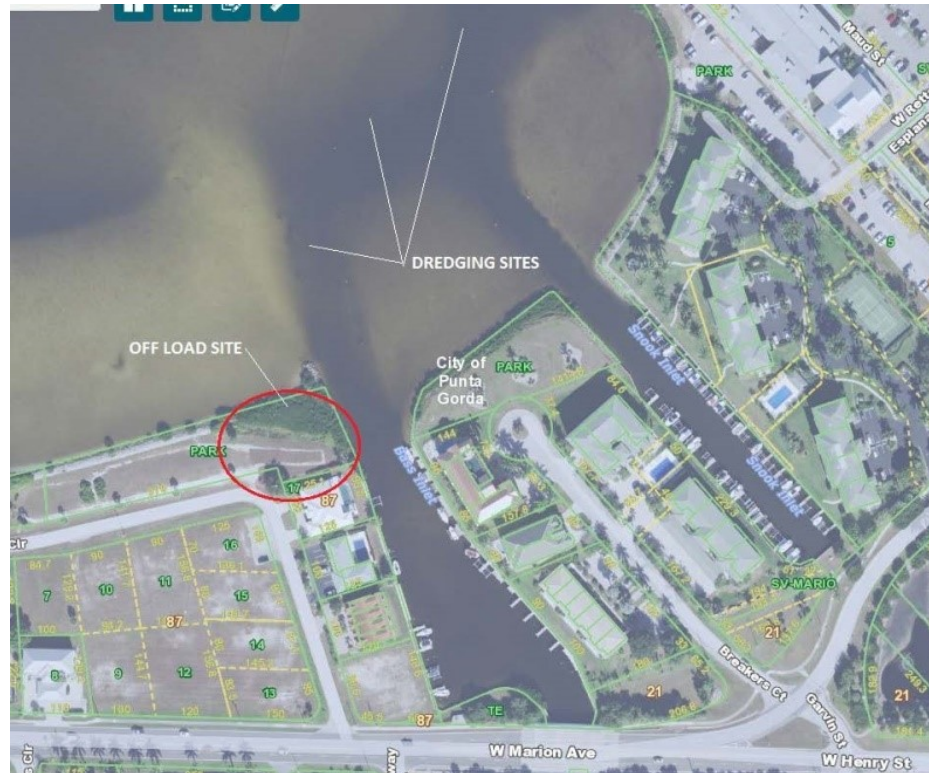
Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 52,936 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. There has been a 4.5% length increase of replaced seawall due to unforeseen damage. The additional damage brings the estimated total up to 55,335 feet. To date, 99.5% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 94.7% of the project has been closed out with grading and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 1,770 feet per month. Crews also filled 36 depressions in PGI and three seawall caps. Table 1 represents the progress made in each of the zones. 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>.

Table 1

Zone	Work underway on Projects	Work not yet started on Projects	Number of Projects Per Zone
PGI-NE1	0	0	90
PGI-NE2	0	0	82
PGI-NW1	0	0	54
PGI-NW2	50, 58	0	87
PGI-SE	0	0	55
PGI-SW	0	0	47
Harborwalk	0	0	1
BSI-N	8, 9	0	11
BSI-S	0	0	11

- Beginning the week of Aug. 5 through Aug. 23 (weather permitting), the Bass and Snook Inlet is scheduled to be dredged. The contractor will off load dredge material at the easterly end of Breakers Park and the material will be transported to another location by dump trucks. Boaters are asked to please use caution in this area during construction.



For additional information on this project, please contact Canal Maintenance Supervisor, Cathy Miller, Punta Gorda Public Works Department at (941) 575-5050 between the business hours of 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.

Fire Department

Water Safety

According to the USA Swimming Foundation (USASF), Florida leads the nation with the most child drownings in 2017 with 51 fatal child drownings in pools or spas. Drowning is considered the leading cause of unintentional death for children between ages 1 and 4 nationwide. So how do we decrease the chances of child drownings?

The following safety tips offer recommendations to keep children safe:

- USASF states swimming lessons can reduce the likelihood of drowning by 88% but other safety precautions should also be taken
- Never take your eyes off your children while in or around water even if they are wearing a life vest, water wings (inflated arm rings) or using innertubes.
- Properly fitted life vests should be worn by children when boating
- Never become distracted by cell phones, computers or books
- If you have a child who can't swim, keep them within arms reach when in the water
- Ensure pools are properly secured with a fence or cover so children cannot wander into the pool unintentionally.
- Empty all tubs, buckets, and kiddie pools immediately after use
- Learn CPR by reaching out to the Punta Gorda Fire Department at 941-575-5529, where classes are offered quarterly at no cost

Keep our children safe by making swimming pool and water safety a priority!

For more on water safety for kids you can also visit:
https://www.safekids.org/watersafety?gclid=CjwKCAjwsdfZBRAkEiwAh2z65j75zPj26TC1Fs4pfX4u5niA15MeNhgT_uWPfumGI6Xs94HP-TMG4xoCABAQAvD_BwE



Police Department

- The Jammers Basketball League had their final tournament this week, which was sponsored by the Punta Gorda Rotary Club. All six teams faced off in a single elimination tournament. This season was dedicated to the memory of Rich Simpson, who was a dear friend to the police department and a dedicated member of the Jammers program for many years. A huge thanks to the Lieutenant Davoult, the League Commissioner, and all of the coaches, players, and parents who helped make this a successful and fun season! The Exit Realty Black Team coached by Officer Chris Owensby was the winner of the first Rich Simpson Championship Award! Congratulations to Officer Owensby and the Black Team!



- The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Police Officer testing will be held from Sept. 3 through Thursday, Sept. 5. Applications must be submitted prior to 4:00 p.m. on Aug. 28. 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@cityofpuntagordaf1.com.

- Upon the passing of George L. Chapoutot, the PUNTA GORDA POLICE OFFICER ENDOWMENT FUND was created in honor of himself and his dedication to public service. The Charlotte Community Foundation will administer this Designated Fund, designed to assist current officers and those wishing to become officers within the Punta Gorda Police Department with training and other educational assistance. Chief Davis shared, “We are proud to assist in carrying on the legacy of Retired Chief Chapoutot. We share his vision and commitment to having a well-educated and well-trained police force. We believe that this endowment fund will go a long way in helping to ensure that our officers and recruits have the means to receive that education and training.”

Utilities Department

Utilities Administration

- In honor of Dr. A. P. Black, the Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators Association (FEPCOA) selects an Operator in Water, an Operator in Wastewater, a Systems Operator, (including storm water and reclaimed water systems) whose outstanding personal performance is deserving of special recognition by the FWPCOA Board of Directors. This year Tom Spencer from the water treatment plant is the recipient of the award in water operations.

Groundwater R.O. Construction Update

- **Week 56** – Completing the connection between the filters and the blend basin.



A report containing the previous month’s progress as well as a 30 day look ahead may be found on the City of Punta Gorda website under the City Capital Improvement Projects link:

<http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/government/capital-projects/ponce-park-redesign/cip-projects>

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 41.7 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 5.9 MG daily average
- Peace River Manasota regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect – Sending water at a rate of .5 million gallons per day, started Jul. 16.
- Rainfall in Jul. 2018 6.80” and Jul. 2019 7.8”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “hard” – Grains of Hardness 10 ppm – Total hardness 171 ppm
- TDS for Jul. 25 – Current 363 ppm, Low 220 ppm, High 512 ppm, Year Avg. 380 ppm
- Reservoir Jul. 25 – Current 5.52’, Record Low 4.99’, Record High 6.63’, Year Avg. 5.49’

Water Distribution

- City of Punta Gorda Water Distribution Division forces have taken over completion of the AMI meter change out program. Last week crews changed out 16 meters with the new AMI meters. Of the 13,204 total water meters in the city, only 24 remain (residential and approximately 8 large commercial meters) to complete the project. The project is 99% complete.

City Clerk

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

- Historic Preservation Advisory Board – (One alternate vacancy) Meets the 4th Thursday 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. 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.
- Punta Gorda Housing Authority – (One resident Commissioner vacancy) 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.
- Utility Advisory Board – (One vacancy) Meets the fourth Monday at 9 a.m. in City Council Chambers. Must be City resident. Seven member board. Three-year terms, maximum of two terms. Makes recommendations to City Council with regard to, but not limited to, revisions to the utility construction standards, alleged billing discrepancies and review of utility drawings.
- Board of Zoning Appeals – (One vacancy) Meets the 4th Tuesday at 4 p.m. in City Council Chambers. City residency required. Seven member board with two alternate members. Three year terms - maximum of three terms. Financial disclosure required. Makes recommendations to City Council on variances to City Code.
- Code Enforcement Board – (Two vacancies) 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.

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:
 - ✓ Promotional Marketing Online, 2705 Tamiami Trail, Unit 315
 - ✓ Marciniak Vacation Rental, 329 West Virginia Avenue