



APPENDIX D

Public Workshop Summary



Punta Gorda Climate Adaptation Plan Update

April 5, 2019

PUBLIC WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Workshop Purpose: Inform the public of the City's previous Climate Adaptation Plan and the status of the current project to update the plan, source public input to help prioritize vulnerable historic and publicly owned properties, share information about adaptation options, specifically living shorelines

Attendees: Mitchell Austin, Joan LeBeau – City of Punta Gorda; Jennifer Hecker – CHNEP; Angela Schedel, Jenna Phillips – Taylor Engineering; Dianne Rosensweig – ESA; Videojournalist from WINK; approximately 20 citizens in attendance (see attached sign-in sheet and photos)

Materials: sign-in sheets, 6 Easels, 6 City map posters, packing tape (to stabilize easels), 18 smaller maps (11x17) for each table, 2 Easel pads, 6 markers, 4 packs of colored sticky flags, 12 packs of medium post-it notes, 25 pens, 2 laptops, HDMI cord, laser pointer, backup projector, 2 outdoor signs

Snacks: napkins, small plates, fruit, pastries, serving spoons, cups, stirrers, sugar, creamer (with ice pack), coffee, filter and coffee pot

Timeline: 8:00-9:30 – Set-up of the room: round tables, chairs, computer, projector, easels, rectangular tables for snacks and sign-in sheets; Snack table set-up: start the coffee brewing early; Place on tables: two of each type of map, post-it note pads, pens

9:30-10:05 – Greeting attendees, filling in sign-in sheets, socializing, snacks, filling out survey via laptop

10:05-10:25 – (Joan) Introduction of workshop and key people; (Jenna) Explain purpose of today's workshop, goals of the project, overview of Taylor Engineering's expertise, review results of online survey (30 respondents as of 11PM on April 4, 2019)

10:25-10:45 – (Angela) Discuss sea level rise trends and forecast, present overview of methodology and data from preliminary vulnerability assessment, explain how public input will be gathered

10:45-11:05 – Public input and stretch/bio break. 3 "stations" for public inputs

1. Laptop (manned by Dianne) on back table for filling out survey
2. Easels with maps showing publicly owned properties with 1.5' and 3' sea level rise, easel with "Top 10 List" of these vulnerable properties. Use sticky flags for public to select their top 2 out of

the list of 10 (or use post-its to write in ones they think we missed). Use sticky flags to indicate areas of flooding concern on the map.

- Easels with maps showing all historic properties (both public and private) with 1.5' and 3' sea level rise, easel with "Top 10 List" of these vulnerable properties. Sticky flags for public to select their top 2 out of the list of 10 (or use post-its to write in ones they think we missed). Use sticky flags to indicate areas of flooding concern on the map.

11:05-11:25 – (Angela) Wrap up of public input on easels, reflections of concerns heard during discussion with attendees, introduce resilience, adaptation options

11:25-11:45 – (Jenna) Present living shoreline definition and show examples, Conclusion, Thank you's

11:45-12:00 – Formal presentation complete, questions and one-on-one conversations with attendees

Public Input: Attendees voted using sticky flags to indicate which of the properties listed were their top 2 priorities to protect from sea level rise and coastal flooding. The "Top 10 List" of vulnerable properties was selected based on a preliminary vulnerability analysis which compared each building's Finished Floor Elevation to the 1.5 foot and 3 foot sea level rise scenarios. The City planners helped the consultant to whittle the list down to the most vulnerable, given their unique knowledge of the City and its properties.

The tally of votes, including one write-in candidate, is summarized in the tables below:

Historic Properties		Publicly-Owned Properties	
Property	Votes	Property	Votes
Old City Hall	6	Wastewater Station - Henry St.	11
Railroad Depot	4	County Grace St Annex	5
Charlotte High School	3	Cooper St Recreation Center	3
History Park	2	Fire Station III - Aqui Esta	3
County Courthouse	2	County Visual Arts Center	2
PG Women's Club	2	Oak Tree Village - Public Housing	1
Blanchard House Museum (added by attendees)	2	Charlotte High School	1
A.C. Freeman House	1	PG Boat Club	0
Ice House	1	Bayfront Center YMCA	0
Smith Arcade	0	County Tax Collector's Office	0
First National Bank	0		

Public Input (cont.): During discussions around the easels, several attendees noted that Critical Infrastructure was missing from the “Top 10 Lists” and used post-it notes to add assets which were important to them. Once the formal public input time concluded, the consultant explained the rationale for leaving out the Critical Infrastructure. The reasoning for the planned omission of the list of Critical Infrastructure points back to the purpose of the workshop. To best value the public’s time, the consultant chose to list only the Top 10 most vulnerable publicly-owned and historic properties, as these are unique to the City of Punta Gorda. Critical Infrastructure assets are similar between municipalities and are already identified on maps on the city and county websites. The elevation and location of these assets are known, as well as the City’s prioritization of these assets. The list of Critical Infrastructure which the workshop attendees were concerned about protecting from sea level rise is summarized in the table below:

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE	
Property	Votes
Fresh Water Supply (ie. Shell Creek Reservoir)	6
Hospital	4
Post Office	2
Punta Gorda Police Station	2
Electrical Power	1
Charlotte County Jail	1

Final Notes: Comments from the attendees were positive. The attendees wanted more information about how to protect their residences. They were less concerned about the City and County’s vulnerable properties and wanted to know what actions the City was planning which might help to protect their houses. Several were concerned about their seawalls being overtopped or scoured behind due to sea level rise and coastal flood events.

After the workshop, the City received positive media attention from WINK in the form of an online article and video which aired on the evening news.

April 5, 2019 Public Workshop Photos











Results of Online Survey



Flood Risk Survey | Punta Gorda, FL

How are you affiliated with Punta Gorda?

Full-time resident

How would you characterize the [flood hazard](#) risk for your community?

No Risk

How would you characterize the [sea level rise](#) risk for your community?

No Risk

Do you think your [home](#) is at risk from [flooding](#)?

No

Do you know what [adaptation planning](#) is?

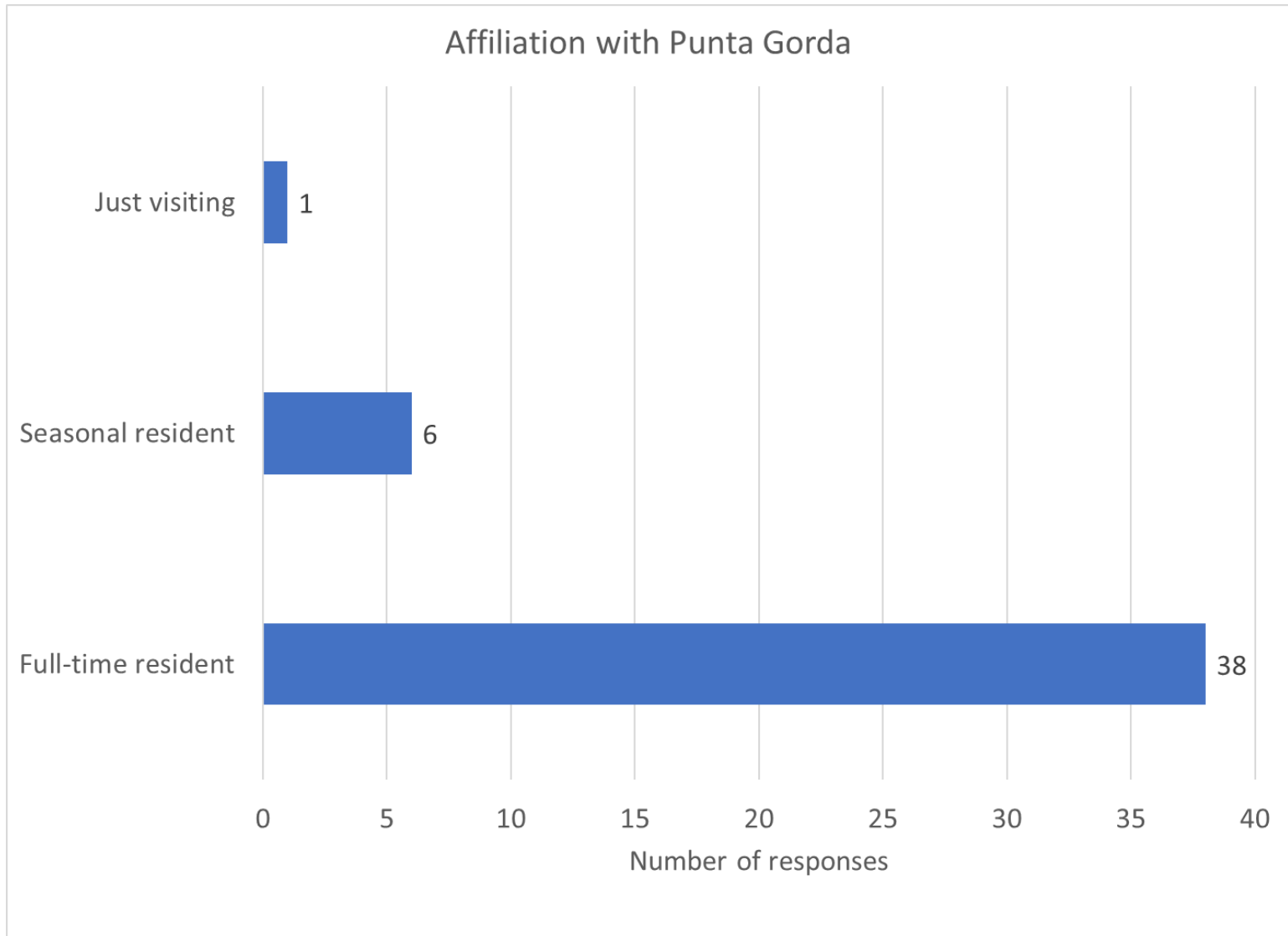
No

Does your city have an [adaptation plan](#)?

No

Survey was active March 26 through May 30, 2019 and received 45 responses

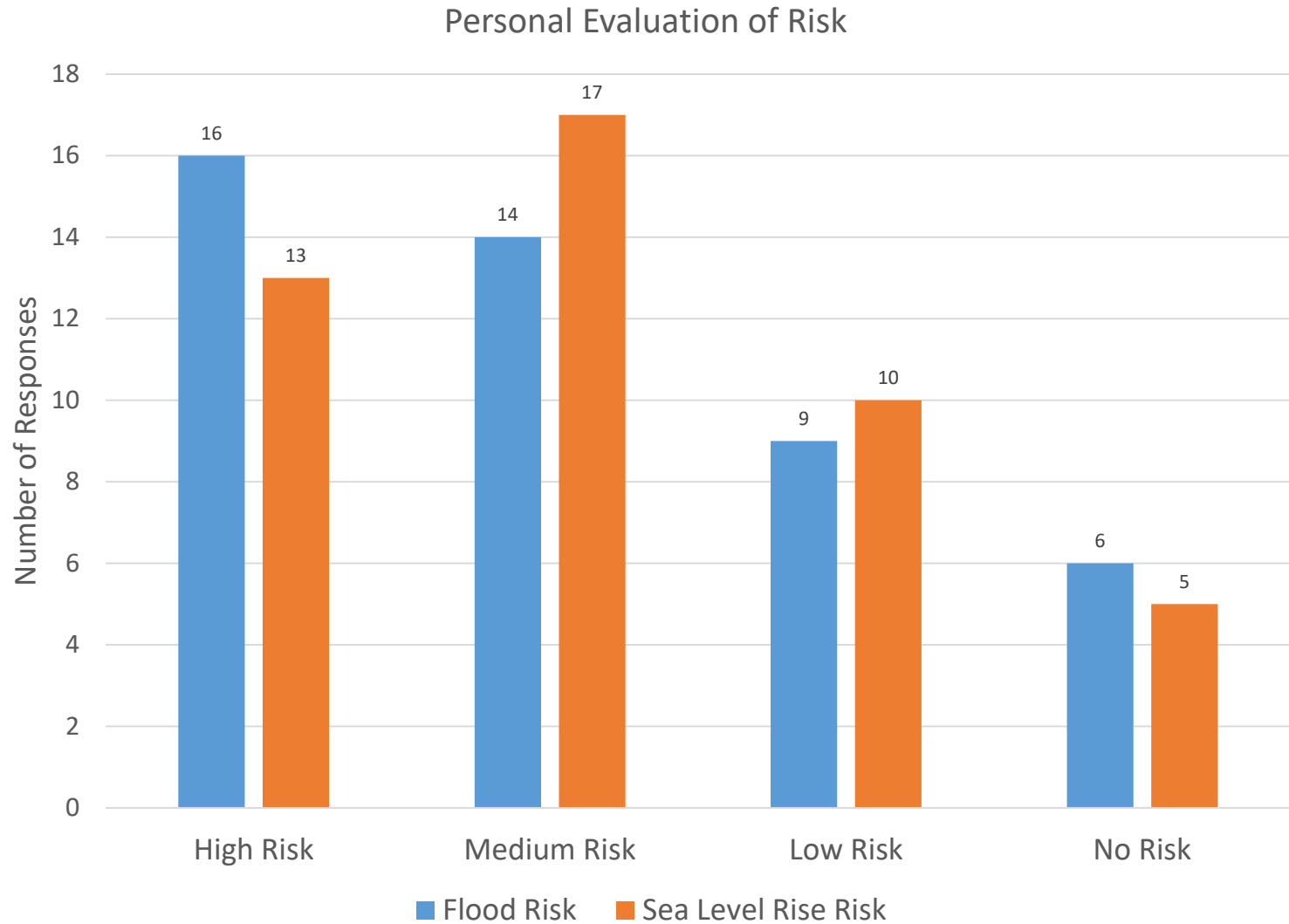
Preliminary Survey Results



Preliminary Survey Results

- How would you characterize the **flood hazard** risk for your community?
- How would you characterize the **sea level rise** risk for your community?

Preliminary Survey Results



Preliminary Survey Results

- Do you think your home is at risk of flooding?
Yes = 58% , No = 42%
- Do you know what adaptation planning is?
Yes = 40% , No = 60%
- Do you know what a living shoreline is?
Yes = 49% , No = 51%

Preliminary Survey Results

- Does your city have an adaptation plan?
Yes = 27% , No = 73%
- Is the city doing enough to plan for sea level rise?
Yes = 20% , No = 80%

City of Punta Gorda Adaptation Plan



Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
Charlotte Harbor National Estuary Program
Technical Report 09-4

8/14/2009

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Preliminary Survey Results

