



Florida's Harborside Hometown

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT MARCH 1, 2019

City Manager

- **Gilchrist Park Waterfront Activity Center** – Dover Kohl will conduct a charrette March 13, 5:00 pm at the Charlotte High School Cafeteria regarding conceptual scenarios to consider for the area currently housing the Punta Gorda Boat and Bayfront Center.
- **Citywide Master Plan Charrettes** - Join us for an informative presentation on city planning & community revitalization. Following this presentation community members will work with members of the Dover-Kohl team to draw and describe their ideas for the future of Punta Gorda. Base maps, visual preference exercises, and other design tools will be used to facilitate the discussion. At the end of the workshop, a spokesperson from each table will report their table's findings and major points to the entire assembly. Charrettes will be held on March 11 at 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. at First United Methodist Church. The Work in Progress Presentation will be held March 15 at 4:30 p.m. at the 1st United Methodist Church. Register for these sessions and view the schedule for the Open Design Studios at <https://www.puntagordamasterplan.com/new-events>.
- **Waterfront Development Master Plan** – The Punta Gorda Boaters Alliance will present its recommended Waterfront Development Master Plan at the March 6 City Council meeting. The Plan encompasses a myriad of water-related activities, programs and initiatives to further Punta Gorda as a boating community and destination. An attachment to the agenda item includes comments from the Historic District Homeowners Association <http://novuspublic.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/CoverSheet.aspx?ItemID=16135&MeetingID=1759>.
- **Historic Pictures** – A new art installation featuring photos of historic hotels in Punta Gorda and the City of Punta Gorda Florida's Harborside Hometown has been placed in the Punta Gorda Airport.



- **State of the City** - Mayor Prafke and City Manager presented the 2019 State of the City before the Charlotte County Republican Club. After highlighting financial and economic trends, capital projects status updates and branding initiatives, the Mayor and City Manager answered questions regarding Western Michigan, seawall assessments and code compliance.
- **FY 2020 Budget** – City staff will hold a community conversation on March 28, 5:00 pm at the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association to garner input into next fiscal year's budget priorities.

- **Peace River Wildlife Center (PRWC)** – PRWC seeking to lease city-owned property on Dundee Road adjacent to South County Park for the construction of a hospital and rehabilitative center for native wildlife. The property is in unincorporated Charlotte County and will require rezoning approval for the intended use. Currently, only water is available at the site. The nearest possible wastewater tie-in would be in South County Park, which would also require County consent. Under the proposed lease, PRWC would be solely responsible for all construction costs and utility connection fees. The Center’s administrative offices, visitor’s center, gift shop and wildlife viewing cages will still remain in Ponce Park. City Council will discuss the lease at its March 6 meeting.

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
March Events		Fishermen’s Village	www.fishville.com/events/
March Events		Burnt Store Presbyterian Church	www.bsponline.org/news.html
3/2	Garage Sale	Burnt Store Presbyterian Church	office@bsponline.org
3/2-3/3	Spring Arts & Crafts Show	Muscle Car City	www.mypromotions.com/index.html
3/3	12 th Annual Taste of Punta Gorda	Laishley Park	www.tasteofpuntagorda.org
3/7-3/10	Punta Gorda Boat Show	City Marketplace	smugglersevents.com
3/9-3/10	Sullivan Street Craft Fair	Sullivan Street	puntagordachamber.com/
3/9	City Wide Garage Sale	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com
3/9	Socks for Kids Car Show	First Baptist Church	admin@fbcpuntagorda.org
3/9-3/10	Peace River Seafood Festival	Laishley Park	teresadesguin@iheartmedia.com

Lot Mowing Program

- Lot mowing crews have completed edging the following areas: The area East of 41 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 and Harvey)
- Lot mowing crews have completed mowing the following areas: Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.) and PGI (Bal Harbor Blvd, Deborah Dr., Ryan Blvd, and Suzi St.).

Urban Design

- Staff was invited by the office of Senator Rubio to participate in a stakeholder meeting on the South Atlantic Coastal Study Stakeholders Meeting. This study will address sea level rise impacts to the State of Florida and look at coastal vulnerability to develop a roadmap for infrastructure improvements and other adaptations to mitigate the impacts of projected future coastal changes. The study area includes more than 50% of Florida’s landmass, including the entire coastline, and therefore, most of its population. This “Vision Meeting”, was hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, in partnership with Federal agencies and non-governmental organizations. The study will conduct regional analyses of coastal risk throughout the Corps’ South Atlantic Division and will identify measures to address vulnerabilities. The meeting partners discussed information regarding the partners, the proposed study scope and the study schedule. A draft document is expected sometime in 2021. Staff will update progress as the project continues.

Public Works Department

Canal Maintenance

- An estimated 53,000 feet of seawall was damaged during Hurricane Irma. To date, 80.1% of this seawall has been replaced with new wall; 64.8% of the project has been closed out with grading and sod complete. The current combined pace (three month average) of the contractors is 3,825 feet per month. Crews filled 23 depressions in Punta Gorda Isles and patched one sea wall cap.

Engineering

- City wide Drainage Swale Regrading** – JRL Construction has completed rough grading and excavation at 2125-2201 Padre Island Dr., 2625-2701 Deborah Dr. and at 3309-3319 Antigua. Fine grading and sodding will be completed early next week as weather and conditions permit. Coral Tree, Paspalum, Acalypha are complete with the exception of striping

	Work underway on Projects	Work completed on Projects	*Number of Projects per Zone
PGI-NE1	43, 46 – 53, 60, 88, 89	1 – 42, 44, 45	91
PGI-NE2	52 - 69	1 – 51	83
PGI-NW1	24, 31 – 38, 40	1 – 23, 25 - 30, L1	55
PGI-NW2	39 - 45, 56, 62 – 75,	1 – 38, L1-L3	87
PGI-SE	21, 35, 38, 39, 41, 43, 44, L4, L6, L9	1-20, 22 -30, 32- 34, 37, 40, 42, L1- L3, L5, L10, L11	55
PGI-SW	28, 39-43	1 - 27, 29 – 38, 47	47
Harborwalk	0	1	1
BSI-N	1, 2	4	11
BSI-S	9 - 11	1 – 8	11

**Each project may consist of multiple lots*

- Gilchrist Area 1-Restrooms** – The underground plumbing and electrical under the restroom is in place, inspected and concrete placed in the foundation and floor slab.
- Minor Paving** – The Award Recommendation has been signed and forward to Procurement for formal processing.
- AC Freeman House** – Demolition and construction has commenced.
- Paving Program – Street Resurfacing** – Milling and resurfacing has commenced on the following list of streets: Ryan Blvd., La Costa Island Ct., Allen St., Burland St., Hazel St., Brown St., Fitzhugh Ave., Coral Tree, Paspalum, Acalypha, E. Virginia between US 41 North and South.
- Vietnam Memorial E. Retta Parking** – Work to construct parking along E. Retta at the Vietnam Memorial Wall is ongoing. The stabilized base material for the parking spaces is in place and installation of curbing and sidewalks are scheduled to be complete during the week of Mar. 1, weather permitting.



Right of Way

- Crews continue with installation of catch basins/pipes for sidewalks along Milus between Showalter and E. Charlotte Streets.

Sanitation:

- Slow Down To Get Around:



1. Slow Down

We have all been there, so when you are behind that garbage truck on your way to work, school or home, make sure you slow down and stop if required so that your waste and recycling workers can complete their jobs safely.

2. Look For Workers

Make sure that your eyes are peeled and you have looked for workers before you try to pass a garbage or recycling truck.

3. Check For Traffic

Before you try to pass a truck, ensure that you have checked for traffic coming in the opposite direction before going around the truck. This protects the garbage truck driver as well as yourself from any potential accidents.

4. Avoid Distractions

Make sure you don't text and drive. Keep your eyes on the road - not the radio, changing your GPS, or looking for that "thing" that fell between the seats.

Remember these tips and together we can all get home safely.

Police Department

- The department's new VIP Bike Patrol will soon be out and about in our community! The VIP Bike Patrol is made up of volunteers who are experienced cyclists and who have received specialized training in bicycle safety, bicycle education, and bicycle and pedestrian laws. The purpose of this new team is to add yet another layer of



department presence on our bicycle and pedestrian pathways, in our residential neighborhoods, and our commercial districts. VIP Bike Patrol members will be available to assist the public, provide education and safety information, conduct parking enforcement, and report suspicious activity or potential safety concerns to officers.

Fire Department

- Fire Department personnel attending the Libby Schafer book signing at CopperFish Books this week. Libby's latest book *Our Brothers' Keepers: For Those Who Have Forgotten and Those Who Never Knew* which recounts the experiences of first responders and survivors of 9/11. The last chapter highlights the Punta Gorda Fire Department for providing exceptional customer service to our residents. The event was very well attended including Councilmember Carey, Chief Briggs and Carlo Gargiulo (PGFD Chaplain and 9/11 survivor).



Utilities Department

- State Senator Albritton met with Punta Gorda City Manager, Southwest Florida Water Management District Executive Director and Peace River Regional Water Authority Executive Director to review status of the City's Groundwater Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Plant and Authority's Pipeline Interconnect projects.

R.O. Project



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. The contractor has installed Approximately 700 feet of bell and spigot 16 inch pipe. The 16 inch pipe has been completed to Piper Road. The Jack and bore still needs to be done for the Jones Loop crossing at Piper Rd. Crews installed 108 feet of 12 inch bell and spigot pipe on Knights Drive for new lift station. To date 92% of the pipework is now complete.

Water Treatment Plant Operations

- 34.8 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 4.9 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 at 1.0 MGD each.
- Rainfall in Feb. 2018 1.50” Feb. 2019 1.30”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “hard” – Grains of Hardness 11 ppm – Total hardness 188 ppm
- TDS for Feb. 21– Current 381 ppm, Low 256 ppm, High 659 ppm, 10 Year Avg. 551 ppm
- Reservoir Information for Feb. 28 – Current 5.29’, Record Low 4.93’, Record High 6.20’, 54 Year Average 5.23’

Wastewater Collections

- A gravity sewer replacement project on Retta Esplanade began Feb. 27 with a section of Retta Esplanade being closed, a portion of the asphalt being removed, and dewatering equipment set up. Excavation work will begin on March 4. The section of Retta Esplanade between McGregor St and Chasteen St. will be closed to thru traffic, pedestrians and bicyclists for the remainder of March while the underground utility lines are being replaced

Finance Department

- There were no retrofits or change outs of water meters completed this week.

City Clerk

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.

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:
 - Vacation Rental owned by Global Resort Homes - 2115 Cassino Ct.