

## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT AUGUST 16, 2019

### City Manager

- **PLAN Punta Gorda- 2019 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. The Draft Citywide Master Plan is available for review at [www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/home/showdocument?id=9655](http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/home/showdocument?id=9655). The report contains an introduction to the process used, a review of existing conditions and key issues, a brief history of growth and good changes, the big ideas as developed during the Charrette process, the key focuses areas and a plan for implementation and ongoing engagement. After careful analysis of the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities for the City of Punta Gorda, Dover Kohl & Partners is recommending the development of a greater variety of housing, increasing the amount and density of multi-family development and building more housing in and near downtown. They go on to encourage using urban design and place-making to generate more activity and attract more businesses to the downtown and historic district. Consideration should also be given to revising the land development regulations and the development approval process. These actions are anticipated to create good development. Good development would:
  - ✓ Build infill development
  - ✓ Create compact development in downtown spaces
  - ✓ Develop a mix of uses
  - ✓ Establish a range of residential building types
  - ✓ Improve the walkability and bikeability of streets and rails
  - ✓ Create good public spaces in the shape of plazas and parks
  - ✓ Attract more visitors

Preserving community character and economic development were the two most discussed topics during the Public Design Charrette. It became increasingly evident to Dover Kohl & Partners that Punta Gorda residents are committed to preserving and enhancing the small town charm of the City. If the Citywide Master Plan is to be successful, growth needs to occur in ways that still keep Punta Gorda small and beautiful. Feedback is welcome at the Aug. 21 event and by written comment at <https://www.puntagordamasterplan.com/engage/> the presentation is being videotaped and will be available on the City website the week of Aug. 26.

- **Florida League of Cities** – Mayor Prafke, Vice-Mayor Matthews and Council Representatives Carey and Cummings are attending the League of Cities Annual Conference in Orlando Aug. 15-17. Governor DeSantis provided an inspiring address on Aug. 16.
- **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.



- **Property Tax Notices** – Residents will begin receiving their proposed property tax notices the week of Aug. 19. City budget public hearings will take place Sep. 4 and 18 at 5:01 p.m. in City Council Chambers.
- **Buckley’s Pass** – Payments totaling \$1,910,005.44 have been received through and including Aug. 15.
- **City Council Meeting** – At the upcoming Aug. 21 City Council meeting, the following items will be considered:
  - ✓ Gilchrist Park Phase 2 Renovations – award of construction for harborwalk, park renovations and parking from Gazebo to Bayfront Center/Boat Club.
  - ✓ Veterans Park Phase II Renovations – award of construction for donors plaza, Purple Heart Memorial, mural wall plaza, gazebo ceremonial area, parking and streetscaping.
  - ✓ Airport Road MURT Design – award of contract to design multi use recreational trail along Airport Road from US 41 to Cooper Street. Design contract for MURT from Airport to Marion to follow.
  - ✓ Ponce Park 60% Design Review – discussion regarding updated construction estimates to complete renovations at Ponce Park to include utilities, restroom, pavilions, playground, parking, landscaping and seawall/boardwalk/pier deficiencies.
  - ✓ Septic to Sewer Financial Plan – presentation of financial plan to transition from septic to centralized sewer in City’s utility service area for properties that reside in unincorporated Charlotte County.
  - ✓ Historic City Hall Building Evaluation – update on initial evaluation of City Hall rehabilitation needs and further actions recommended to be taken to assess hazardous materials and chemical and petrographic analysis.

### Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Location	Contact
8/16-8/18	Punta Gorda Woodstock	Charlotte Harbor Event & Conference Center	<a href="http://puntagordawoodstock.com/">http://puntagordawoodstock.com/</a>
8/17	Monthly Car Show	Muscle Car City	<a href="http://musclearcity.net/events/">http://musclearcity.net/events/</a>
8/24	Arts in August	Fishermen’s Village	<a href="http://www.fishville.com/events/">www.fishville.com/events/</a>
8/25	Monthly Auto Flea Market	Muscle Car City	<a href="http://musclearcity.net/events/">http://musclearcity.net/events/</a>
9/11	MHM Hosts Patriot Day Event to Commemorate 9/11	Military Heritage Museum	<a href="http://www.freedomisntfree.org">www.freedomisntfree.org</a>
9/14	Nick’s Kid Show & Safety Day	Fishermen’s Village	<a href="http://www.fishville.com/events/">www.fishville.com/events/</a>
9/14-9/15	Sullivan Street Craft Fair	Sullivan Street	<a href="http://puntagordachamber.com">http://puntagordachamber.com</a>
9/17	PGI Car Club Cars & Coffee	1133 Bal Harbor Blvd	<a href="mailto:billtucker@earthlink.net">billtucker@earthlink.net</a>
9/19	Third Thursday Wine Walk	Downtown Punta Gorda	<a href="mailto:frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com">frontdesk@puntagorda-chamber.com</a>
9/19	Charlotte High School Homecoming Parade	Taylor Street	<a href="http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/">http://chs.yourcharlotteschools.net/</a>
9/20	Recovery Candlelight Vigil	Lashley Park	<a href="https://www.cbhcf.org/events/">https://www.cbhcf.org/events/</a>

## **Lot Mowing Program**

- City mowers are currently mowing the following are, but are delayed by the rain: PGI (Magdalena Drive, Via Veneto, W. Henry Street, Appain Drive, and Columbian Drive) and Colony Point (Colony Point Dr., W. Marion Ave., Socorro Dr., and Coronado Dr.)

## **Urban Design**

- Staff participated in the Resilient Florida: Planning, Policy and Practice Workshop, the first statewide workshop and networking event for Florida's resilience community of local government elected officials, planners, floodplain managers, climate change adaptation professionals, natural resource managers and park managers. Urban Design Staff presented what the City is doing in regards to adaptation planning concepts and strategies. The City recently received a grant from the Florida Resilient Coastline Program for an update to the 2009 Climate Adaptation Plan and a Living Shoreline Element. Both will be presented to City Council in October.
- The City has received our official population estimate for 2019 from the University of Florida, Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) who are under contractual agreement with the Florida Legislature to produce such estimates. BEBR has estimated that as of Apr. 1 the City of Punta Gorda has 19,961 permanent residents. These estimates are one of the key elements in determining the distribution of state revenue-sharing funds authorized under the Revenue Sharing Act of 1972.
- The Planning Commission will meet on Aug. 26 at 2 p.m. The agenda includes the PLAN Punta Gorda- 2019 Citywide Master Plan Draft review. No formal action will be taken on the agenda item.

## **Public Works Department**

### **Engineering**

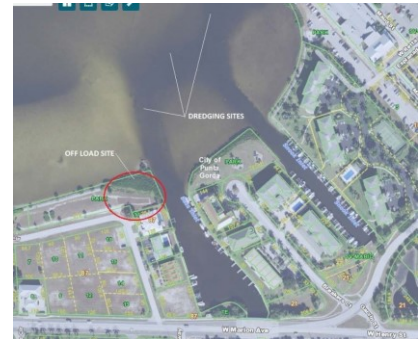
- **Chasteen Street Maintenance Paving** – Beginning the week of Aug. 19 through Aug. 23, weather depending, maintenance paving is scheduled on Chasteen St. between Marion and Olympia avenues. This work is necessary due to the poor condition of the street. The road will be restored to historic street bricks in a later year. The road will be open to local traffic only.
- **Alligator Creek pedestrian bridges along US41 NB-FDOT Right of Way** – The contractor mobilized to the site and commenced work on Aug. 5. Utility line relocations are occurring. Erosion control measures, Maintenance of traffic devices, survey and layout, clearing and grubbing, utility locates and potholing is taking place. Preparing to construct the crane pad and set pile template. The work area is north and south of the north fork Alligator Creek Bridge. Pedestrians are requested to seek alternate routes.
- **Pavement Rejuvenation** – Pavement Technology has notified the City that they are postponing the schedule for pavement rejuvenation, due to the heavy rains which have been impacting their schedule. They will be rescheduling with the City of Punta Gorda in September when the weather should be more stable.
- **Harborwalk at Justice Center Boardwalk and Pier at Adrienne St.** – Adrienne Street Pier structural repairs have been completed. Work is about 50% complete at Justice Center boardwalk. This section of Harborwalk remains closed as pile jacket work progresses under the boardwalk.



- **Goldstein Street Bricking between Marion and Olympia Ave.** – Damaged concrete curbing demo and replacement is scheduled this week, weather depending. Sand and bricking will be scheduled accordingly.
- **Veterans Park Phase II** – Staff will be presenting an award recommendation to City Council at the Aug. 21 City Council meeting.
- **Citywide Drainage Swale Regrading** – To date JRL Underground has completed work at 452 properties totaling 334,800 square feet of grading/sodding. As soon as conditions permit and Bahia sod becomes available work will continue at 7355-7369 and 7376-7390 Schefflera as well as 321-329 W. Virginia. Due to heavy inland rains that have flooded sod fields the contractor has been unable to obtain Bahia sod for work along these streets. The next locations for grading include 417-426 Vitex, 7512-7518 Dracena, 7316-7340 S. Blue Sage

### **Canal Maintenance**

- **Bass and Snook Inlet** – Dredging continues at the Bass and Snook Inlets (weather permitting) work is expected to be completed by next week. 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.
- **Seawall Restoration Project** – All of the seawall panels have been installed for the Hurricane Irma seawall restoration project. The only items left to complete the project are: PGI-NW2 sequence number 50 sod and sequence 58 cap, backfill and sod. Crews filled 22 depressions and performed three seawall cap and seam patches. Crews removed debris from the canal in two locations and surveyed one channel market.



### **Fire Department**

- **Severe Weather Tips Before the severe weather strikes** –
  - ✓ Develop a disaster plan for you and your family for home, work, school, and when outdoors [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) has more planning tips on how to put together disaster supply kits.
  - ✓ Identify a safe place to take shelter or to evacuate.
  - ✓ Know the county you live in or visit and what part you are located in. Also know your zone and know what that means. Find your zone by visiting <https://www.charlottecountyfl.gov/services/emergencymgmt/Pages/Know-Your-Zone.aspx>.
  - ✓ Keep a highway map with you in the event you must evacuate, and cell service fails.
  - ✓ Have a NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver unit with a warning alarm tone and extra batteries for back-up to receive warning bulletins.
  - ✓ Watch for signs of approaching storms.
  - ✓ If severe weather threatens, check on people who are elderly, very young, or disabled. Don't forget about pets and farm animals.

The following sites will also provide further safety related tips for specific types of events:

- ✓ Tornado - <http://www.spc.noaa.gov/faq/tornado/index.html>
- ✓ Hurricane Storm Surge - [https://www.weather.gov/media/owlie/surge\\_intro.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/owlie/surge_intro.pdf)

## Police Department

- **VIP Program** – The Volunteers In Policing (VIP) program contributed a total of 847.5 hours of volunteer time to the City of Punta Gorda during the month of Jul. 2019. Our Records Department Volunteers contributed 185 hours and generated \$302.50 in fingerprinting revenue. Our Administrative Volunteers contributed 172.5 hours. Our Volunteers on Patrol, Marine Patrol, and Bike Patrol contributed a total of 335.5 hours. Our volunteers are an absolutely vital part of this police department and we appreciate them greatly! Members of the community interested in volunteering with the police department are encouraged to contact the Volunteer Staff Coordinator at [vip@cityofpuntagordafl.com](mailto:vip@cityofpuntagordafl.com) or (941) 575-5536.



- **Police Officer Testing** – The Punta Gorda Police Department is currently accepting applications for the position of Police Officer. Police Officer testing will be held from Sep. 3 through Sep. 5. Applications must be submitted prior to 4 p.m. on Aug. 28. To apply visit [www.puntagordapolice.com](http://www.puntagordapolice.com) and select “Employment Opportunities.” For more information, contact Lieutenant Dylan Renz at (941) 575-5503 or by email at [drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com](mailto:drenz@cityofpuntagordafl.com).

## Utilities Department

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

- **Week 59** – Work continues on the plant building.



## **Water Treatment Plant Operations**

- 43.9 MG of water was delivered to the distribution system with a 6.3 MG daily average
- Peace River Manasota Regional Water Supply Authority Emergency Interconnect – Sending water at a rate of 2.0 million gallons per day, started Jul. 16.
- Rainfall in Aug. 2018 15.1” and Aug. 2019 5.20”
- Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. Current Condition “moderately hard” – Grains of Hardness 9 ppm – Total hardness 154 ppm
- TDS for Aug. 14 – Current 212 ppm, Low 212 ppm, High 469 ppm, Year Avg. 317 ppm
- Reservoir Aug. 14 – Current 6.13, Record Low 5.10’, Record High 6.18’, Year Avg. 5.54’

## **City Clerk**

### **Election Information**

- Candidate Campaign Treasurer’s Reports for all 2019 General Election reporting periods through Aug. 9 (due date Aug. 16) are available by contacting the City Clerk’s Office at (941) 575-3369 or [pgclerk@cityofpuntafordafl.com](mailto:pgclerk@cityofpuntafordafl.com).

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

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

### **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:
  - ✓ All Fiberglass Repairs Service, 1726 Steadley Avenue
  - ✓ Lori Hope Oberther, Cosmetologist, Salon Art Works, 210 Taylor Street, Unit 111
  - ✓ MSW Litigation Support Service, 265 East Marion Avenue
  - ✓ Noir The Nail Bar, 615 Cross Street, Unit 1106