



WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 2012

City Manager

- At its January 18 meeting, City Council reached consensus on the following 2 discussion items:
 - ✓ Move forward with an ordinance to limit outside vending to parks, special events & farmers' markets and by special exception with criteria elsewhere in the city. In addition, parades will not be allowed to have stationary vendors as part of the event. In the interim, Council established a moratorium on additional vendors.
 - ✓ Amend the parks fee resolution to waive fees up to \$150 for rental of park areas to active military personnel.

Staff will develop the ordinance and resolution language and present them at a future meeting for approval.

- In October 2011, Ripken Design was retained by the County (with other study funding partners as the City and private sector) to develop a feasibility study of a new sports complex to replace existing facilities located at North Charlotte Regional Park. The draft final report was recently released which recommends construction of a new 6 field baseball complex that will give the County a complex capable of hosting local, state and regional tournament events and provide additional space for local youth activities. The economic impact ranges from a low estimate of \$6.4 million visitor spending and 68 new jobs created to a high estimate of \$12.2 million spending and 130 jobs created. The new complex in combination with development of an entertainment district at Murdock Village would create a unique baseball destination that will entice teams to return year after year. The feasibility study is under review by all interested parties.
- City Manager presented an overview of major strategic plan and capital projects initiatives underway by the City organization to attendees at the Isles Yacht Club lecture series. Inquiries were made about future dredging of strategic inlets, ring around the city progress, key development parcels (former LOOP & City Marketplace) and West Mooring Field.
- The FY 2012 Strategic Plan Progress Report for the period October 2011 through January 2012 is available for viewing on the City's website www.pgorda.us under *What's New*. On a related note, the City is still seeking input from the community into improving the effectiveness of delivering services by developing priorities for the next strategic plan in sync with community desires. The questionnaire can be completed on the City's website also under *What's New*. Responses are due 2/15/12.
- Punta Gorda Airport Update – plans are moving forward on development of an expanded passenger terminal to accommodate increased traffic. Administrative offices will be relocated to a different site on airport property to make room for the expansion. Relocation of offices is expected to start by June/July and expansion thereafter. Funding for the expansion will come from grants and airport capital funds.

Public Works Department

Engineering:

- **Burnt Store Road Widening:** For public information inquiries, contact Charlotte County Public Works Project Manager, Gary Grossman at (941) 575-3600.
- **Downtown Flooding Phase 2:** City staff and the Engineering Consultant met with representatives from the Army Corp of Engineers 1/19/12 to discuss downtown flooding projects.
- **Mary St. On-Street Parking (9 spaces):** Construction layout performed by engineering staff. Locates were called in and underground utilities exposed to witness exact depth and location.
- **Boat Basin (adjacent to the Punta Gorda Boat Club):** The permit application for floating docks was submitted to Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). The permit was received from the Army Corp of Engineers for dredging. Amendments to the City's lease with the Boat Club are under review.
- **Public Works/Utilities Campus Vehicle Wash:** The drainage valve was refitted to work with the available power supply on site. The electrical work is finished except for a few small items. The connection from the shed to the FPL transformer is complete and the shed has electricity.

Punta Gorda Isles Canal Maintenance:

- The second annual seawall assessment has commenced in PGI. The assessment is currently taking place in the northeast quadrant, which is east of Bal Harbor and north of Aqui Esta. Three folks in a center console boat with City markings may be seen close to the seawalls during these the inspections.
- Seawall installation is underway at 2829 Don Quixote and on Bal Harbor between Via Dolce and Via Bianca.
- Seawall cap work was completed at 3418 & 3424 Nighthawk Ct. Work has commenced to replace the seawall cap at 3439 Nighthawk Ct., 1513, 1519 & 1522 Oriole Ct. and 3324 Antigua.
- Backfill work completed at 3924-3925 La Costa Island Ct. and 3600 Bal Harbor Blvd.
- Sod was installed at 300 Coronado, 3517 Oriole, 1011 Henry, 1108 Rum Cay, 1546 Kinglet, 3324 Trinidad, 3612 Bon Aire, 2826 & 2828 Sancho Panza, 3657 & 3663 Aruba and 325 Bel Aire.
- Sinkholes were filled at 24 locations.
- City crews repaired seawall caps at 14 locations throughout PGI and BSI.

Burnt Store Isles Canal Maintenance:

- The second annual seawall assessment was completed in BSI.
- A seawall cap replacement was done at 546 Macedonia.

Right-of-Way:

- Crews installed pavement markers at the crosswalks on Shreve St. as part of the Multi-Use Recreational Trail project, in front of the Punta Gorda Isles Civic Association.
- Began removing concrete foundation at Marion Ave. & Taylor St. to allow brick paver installation.

Growth Management Department

Upcoming Events

- The annual Winter Sullivan Street Arts & Craft Show is being held January 21-22, on Sullivan St. between W. Retta Esplanade and W. Virginia Ave., show hours are 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. Contact the PG Chamber (941) 639-3720 or www.puntagordachamber.com.
- T-N-T Events, Inc. is hosting the Fishermen's Village Arts & Craft Show, January 21-22, at Fishermen's Village. Hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and Noon to 6 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, contact Andy (352) 875-4437 or www.tnteventsinc.com.
- Join the Southwest Florida Honor Flight for the 3rd Annual Collector Car Show, Sunday, January 22, in Laishley Park. For additional information, contact Don (941) 685-9163.
- January 28, join the St. Vincent De Paul for the annual Walk for the Poor at Sacred Heart Church, 211 W. Charlotte Avenue. For information, contact Joe (941) 286-8045.
- The Punta Gorda CRA and Charlotte Harbor CRA request your presence at the 4th Annual Hands Across the Harbor 8K Run/5K Walk, with 10 and 20 mile bicycle rides, on January 28, 2012. For information and registration forms, contact Ron at (941) 505-8880 or visit <http://ci.punta-gorda.fl.us/fest/festival.html>.
- Festa! Italia is back for their 2nd year in Laishley Park, January 28-29. Festival hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. For additional information, contact Michael (941) 769-2221 or www.festaitalianapg.com.
- February 11, 2012, join Smuggler's Event Management for the inaugural Charlotte Harbor Chili Challenge & Beer Festival, in Laishley Park. Event hours are 11 am to 10 pm. For additional information, contact Smuggler's Event Management, (941)637-5953 or www.smugglersevents.com.
- Join the Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce, February 18-19, 2012, for the annual Wine & Jazz Festival in Laishley Park. For tickets and concert information, contact the PG Chamber (941)639-3720 or www.puntagordachamber.com.
- February 18, 2012 in Gilchrist Park, join friends and family for the Nancy Lynch Cancer Benefit. Live music from 12 noon to 4 pm. For information, contact Julie, (941)815-6209.
- The Punta Gorda Rotary Club will host the annual Taste of Punta Gorda, Saturday, February 25, 2012 in Laishley Park from 11 am to 4 pm. For information, contact Tom Beck (941)575-2388.
- The Florida Warbird Squadron 24 will be holding its 3rd Annual Warbird Weekend on Saturday, 2/25 from 10 am-5 pm and Sunday, 2/26 from 10 am-3 pm at the Punta Gorda Airport. The event will feature a Static Warbird Display of over 50 classic planes and flyovers. Rides will be available by History Flight in the B-25, T-6, and Stearman Warbirds. This is a fundraiser for veteran's organizations. A donation of \$8 per person or \$15 for family (adults/children) is requested. The Florida Warbird Squadron 24 is a 501(c)(3) non profit organization. Go to www.floridawarbirds.org or call 941-639-6188 for details.

Fire Department

- Operations Chief attended a meeting of the Citizens Advisory Board for Charlotte Regional Medical Center. These meetings provide an opportunity for board members to offer feedback to hospital administration from members of the community. Hospital staff made a presentation on new services being offered to the community, including new surgical procedures utilizing state of the art equipment, specifically the "DaVinci surgical arm".



Police Department

- "The Cougars", Charlotte County Special Olympic Basketball team, will take on "The Force", Punta Gorda Police Department Team, at 3:30 on Sunday, January 22, 2012, in the gymnasium at South County Regional Park. The Cougars have been practicing over the past three months with the coaching assistance of Telecommunicator Gloria Sepanik and it has been reported that they are going to take down The Force. "*We are ready!*" stated Jerry, point guard for The Cougars, while smiling from ear to ear; and the team unanimously agreed. After the event, The Teams will "break bread" over Pizza, donated from Pizza Hut in celebration of their win. The public is invited to come support these kids in their attempt to take down your local police officers!
- On March 17, 2011, Punta Gorda Police investigated a violent armed bank robbery Suncoast Federal Credit Union. Detectives arrested the perpetrator on April 8, 2011 in Tampa. It was determined that the suspect had been previously convicted for several other bank robberies throughout the United States and had served several years in prison. Police secured a conviction in this case with the assistance of the United States Attorney's Office and the perpetrator has been sentenced to 24 years in Federal Prison.



Utilities Department

Administration

- A review of the 2011 year end statistics shows that the 2011 rainfall as recorded at the Water Treatment Plant was 41.45 inches. This number is 12.16 inches lower for the year than the average annual rainfall of 1987 through 2011. The lowest annual rainfall on record was in 2007 with 27.01 inches total rainfall.

Engineering

- **Bal Harbor Construction:** On 6/17/11, Utility work began to include construction of new 12" water main and new 12" wastewater force main on the east side of Bal Harbor Blvd. between Marion Ave. and Aqui Esta. Final completion is now anticipated in March 2012.

Two Week Look Ahead

Week of January 23: Complete Phase 2 water services, test Phase 2 water main and force main, temporary pavement repair Phase 2 side streets.

Week of January 30: Install Phase 2 water main at Bal Harbor and Aqui Esta intersection, begin Phase 2 drainage, grade Phase 2 sidewalks.

Water Treatment Plant

- Plant Operations: Jan 2011 Rainfall- 2.60" and Jan 2012 Rainfall, so far - 0.00". Currently the treated water has 17 grains of Total Hardness. Hardness is a measurement of calcium and magnesium ions naturally occurring in the raw water. At the current level the City's water is considered "very hard".
- Reservoir Information: Current Level – 5.06'; Record High for Jan 19 – 5.76'; Record Low for Jan 19 – 4.89'; and 45 Year Average for Jan 19 – 5.19'.

City Clerk

- Volunteers interested in serving on the City's Advisory Boards & Committees can download an [Appointment Information Form](#) from the City's website and submit same to the City Clerk's Office for consideration.

Current Board & Committee Vacancies

- Punta Gorda Isles Canal Advisory Committee (PGI CMAC) - Meets the 3rd Monday at 1:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers. Makes recommendations to City Council on effective maintenance of existing canals, waterways and navigable channels within the district, together with the maintenance and reconstruction of seawalls. Holds public hearings and makes recommendations on petitions for special permits to the provisions of Section 6-6(c) of the City Code of Ordinances.

Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

- Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (BPAC) - Charlotte County residents are being sought to voluntarily serve as a representative of the BPAC. Open positions are: Mid County, West County and Bicycle Business Representative. The purpose of the BPAC is to provide recommendation on bicycle and pedestrian pathways, including their planning and completion. Deadline to for submitting application is **Thursday, January 31, 2012**. Your letter or email of interest stating the positions for which you are qualified to represent should be sent to: Charlotte County-Punta Gorda MPO, 25550 Harbor View Road, Suite 4, Port Charlotte, FL 33980. Fax: 941-883-3534 Email: office@ccmpo.com.