A large, stylized graphic in the background featuring a yellow sun with rays and a green leaf, both partially obscured by a light blue wave-like shape at the bottom.

Punta Gorda Utility District Boundary Codification and Utility Transfer Act

December 16, 2025



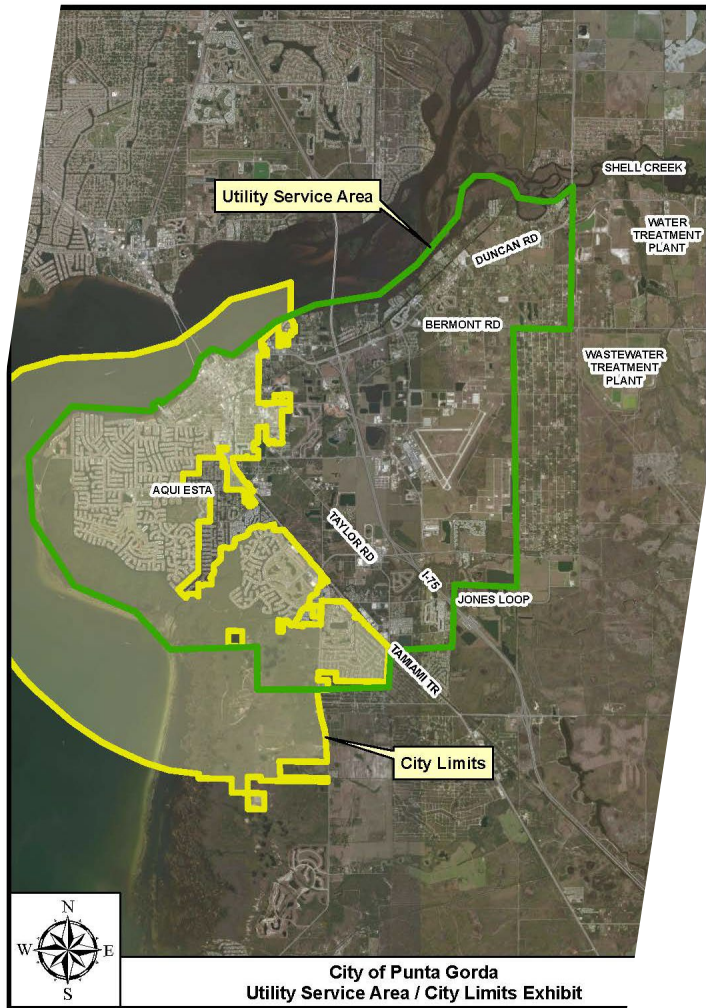
CHARLOTTE COUNTY
FLORIDA

Timeline

12/5/2025	Draft language received by county staff
12/5/2025	Draft language provided to the Board of County Commissioners
12/9/2025	Discussion during Administrator's Comments at the Regular Board of County Commissioners meeting
12/9/2025	City of Punta Gorda held a special meeting to discuss the proposed bill
12/11/2025	Charlotte County schedules a Special Meeting for 12/15/2025 to discuss the proposed bill
12/11/2025	City of Punta Gorda sends letter objecting to the bill to Representative Vanessa Oliver, copied to the Board of County Commissioners.
12/15/2025	Special meeting of the Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners
12/17/2025	Charlotte County Legislative Delegation meeting to be held at 10am to discuss local bill.

Key provisions of the Bill

- Codifies the boundary of the Punta Gorda Utilities District to the existing corporate limits of the City of Punta Gorda.
- Authorizes the County to immediately assume responsibility for potable water utility service.
- Authorizes the County to defer the transfer of wastewater (sewer) functions.
- Requires the City to continue to provide wastewater services until such time the transfer of functions occurs.



City of PG Utilities Service Area

Overview of Charlotte County Utilities

- The county's infrastructure is robust, well maintained, and because of strong capital planning initiatives and detailed financial planning, is well positioned to handle the future growth of the county.
- Potable water - Peace River Manasota Regional Water Authority (PRMRWA) and via the Burnt Store Potable Water Treatment Plant.
 - Reservoir 3 – County to take an additional 3mgd
 - Burnt Store currently operating 8 hours per day – could move to 24
- Wastewater is processed at various facilities throughout the service district.
 - East Port – Expansion underway
 - Burnt Store – Temporary expansion in construction, permanent expansion in design
 - West Port – Expansion in design

Analysis – Timing and Logistics

Potable Water

- The county does not have any direct interconnects with the Punta Gorda Utilities District. Modeling, planning, design and construction of a combination of interconnects, new lines and associated infrastructure would be needed to ensure a smooth transition for customers.
- Logistically, staff would explore a combination of connections utilizing both the allocation from PRMWSA, and expansion of potable water production at the Burnt Store plant through extension of hours of operation.

Analysis – Timing and Logistics

Wastewater

- The bill does defer the transfer of wastewater utilities functions to a later date following one or more interlocal agreements to define the terms, conditions and transition procedures.
- Staff would anticipate the Burnt Store plant would handle the wastewater from this area. This would include new lines and assessment and possible acceleration of future plant expansions to ensure adequate capacity.

Analysis – Unknowns (not an exhaustive list)

- Asset data to include maps, design, easements, condition assessments, maintenance history and any planned maintenance and/or replacement schedules.
- Customer data to include number, type, usage, and billing history.
- Planned expansions and capital improvements for the area in question.
- Developers' agreements, future commitments and any cost share agreements for new and expansionary infrastructure.
- Any required mandatory connections, compliance issues etc.
- Any permitting applicable to the transfer area.

Analysis – Fees

- The County and the City have very different fee structures, and it is anticipated that there will be impacts to both existing users and proposed users within the proposed transfer area. A detailed analysis is needed to determine the fiscal impact of this transfer on the customers of the system.

Analysis – Costs

(not an exhaustive list)

- Planning, modeling, design, permitting and construction of infrastructure needed for both potable water and wastewater systems.
- Staffing costs to add additional operating time to the Burnt Store Potable Water Treatment Plant
- Impacts/ cost implications on both the existing expansion project for the Burnt Store Water Treatment Plan and future expansions.
- Operational costs associated with added a new area and several thousand customers to include metering, billing, maintenance and operations.

Proposed Amendments to Language

- Add language to clarify that the City can continue to own and must maintain its assets outside of the new District limits so long as necessary to provide continuity of service for their customers.
- Require that the City and the County, within 180 days of the bill becoming law, enter into one or more interlocal agreements to effectuate the transfer. The first interlocal agreement should memorialize the steps needed to develop a fully executable transition plan.

Proposed Amendments to Language (cont.)

- Require, within 365 days of the act becoming law, joint or separate reports to the Charlotte County Legislative Delegation including the fully executable transition plans for both potable water and wastewater utility functions including a funding plan.
- Require that the City of Punta Gorda continue to provide service to both existing and new customers until such time that the transfer is complete and allow for interlocal agreements between the City and County as needed. This section is to recognize there may be needed interlocal agreements to allow for bulk service of water in the interim.

Discussion and Direction

