
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

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RECREATION GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal 1.1.0: To provide a system of recreational facilities, open spaces and activities that are varied and dispersed throughout the City.

Objective 1.1.0: To maintain a level of service for public parks of at least four (4) acres (of developed park land) per 1,000 population within the City.

Policy 1.1.1: The City shall maintain this level of service by implementing either the Park Dedication Ordinance or the Master Parks Plan.

| <u>TYPE</u> | <u>SERVICE RADIUS</u> | <u>ESTIMATED BUILD-OUT ACRES</u> | <u>MAX. POP SERVE/ SITE</u> |
|--------------|-----------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Neighborhood | Up to 1/2 Mile | 455* | 5,300 |
| Community | Up to 3 Miles | 237 | 50,000 |
| Regional | Broward County | 180.5 | Broward Co Resid. |
| Total: | | 872.5 | |

*Includes 57 ac. ESL sites

Policy 1.1.2: Neighborhood parks serve the population of a neighborhood and are generally accessible by bicycle or pedestrian ways. The parks are designed to provide opportunities for residents in the immediate area, to partake in recreational activities and may include but not be limited to facilities such as tennis courts, basketball courts, picnic areas, bike paths, shuffleboard, nature study areas, jog/walk trails, fishing docks, racquetball courts, open play areas, ball fields, and tot lots.

Policy 1.1.3: Community parks are located near major roadways and designated to serve the needs of more than one neighborhood. They will be primarily designed to provide opportunities for people to partake in structured, organized activities and may include but not be limited to facilities such as formal baseball/softball fields, soccer/football fields, swimming pool/areas, basketball courts, community centers, tennis courts, picnic areas, jog/walk trails, nature study areas, and tot lots. A secondary function of a community park can be to provide additional neighborhood activities or passive conservation areas.

Policy 1.1.4: The City's regional park shall serve all residents of Broward County. A variety of major facilities such as baseball, basketball,

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soccer/football and tennis complex, stadium, aquatic center, nature center, and other are anticipated as well as complementary picnic type facilities to provide a diversity of recreational opportunities.

Policy 1.1.5: A map entitled "City of Coral Springs Recreation and Open Space" shall be made a part of the Plan to reflect parks and locations. The map shall be maintained by the Community Development Department and generally identify existing and future park site locations along with parks that may be developed with high intensity lighting.

Policy 1.1.6: Future park development will incorporate the neighborhood park needs of the older neighborhoods of the city, which were developed prior to the Master Parks Plan.

Policy 1.1.7: The City will continue to provide organized leisure programs and facilities that consider the needs of age groups including the elderly and handicapped.

Policy 1.1.8: During the process of neighborhood park planning, the City will provide appropriate notification to the public that plans are being considered for development on the specific sites and provide an opportunity for public comment prior to approval of these plans.

Policy 1.1.9: During the site plan review process, the City's staff shall ensure provision of adequate open space and buffers are created to protect the compatibility of adjacent natural resources or outdoor recreational activities and facilities from adverse impacts that may result from uses or activities occurring on adjacent lands. Protection techniques shall include but not be limited to dense landscaping, walls, setbacks, shading, berms or restricting the proximity of incompatible uses [as defined in Chapter 163, Florida Statutes].

Policy 1.1.10: Recognizing that the City is substantially "built out", the City of Coral Springs municipal boundaries shall serve as its urban service area boundaries for the purpose of providing outdoor recreation within the urban service area.

Goal 2.0.0: All park sites and facilities shall be accessible to all Coral Springs residents.

Objective 2.1.0: All lands dedicated to the City for recreational purposes, as a result of new residential development shall be accessible to all Coral Springs residents by public rights of way.

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Policy 2.1.1: New park sites established as required park dedication shall be located so that at least 25 percent of the perimeter is contiguous to public road rights-of way. When a site is determined by the City to have unique features that should be preserved, this criteria may be waived. However, adequate public access will be maintained.

Policy 2.1.2: The City's publicly owned natural areas, environmental preserves, parks and recreational facilities shall be accessible by all motorized and non-motorized means of transportation and provide access [to handicapped] for all residents in accordance with applicable accessibility standards.

Policy 2.1.3: The City shall link all public parks, community centers, schools, and outdoor recreation facilities with separate bikeway corridors.

Objective 2.2.0: The City will continue to incorporate and implement a safe and enjoyable bikeway/walkway system as new residential development is being formally reviewed via the platting process in accordance with the City's Master Bikeway/Walkway Plan.

Policy 2.2.1: Bikeways/walkways should be designed to link parks recreational facilities and other public facilities with nearby residential areas.

Policy 2.2.2: Ample and secure bicycle parking shall be provided for all City-owned public facilities.

Policy 2.2.3: Ample and secure bicycle parking will be encouraged at schools, libraries, and recreational and other non-residential areas.

Objective 2.3.0: The City shall preserve and maintain historically significant buildings and landmarks as determined by the City Commission.

Policy 2.3.1: A selection process, which includes public input, shall be established by the City Commission and implemented by City staff. The results of the selection process shall be provided to the City Commission for final approval.

Policy 2.3.2: Historically significant buildings and landmarks within the City shall be preserved and maintained when practical and economically feasible as determined by the City Commission.

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Policy 2.3.3: The City shall research grant possibilities, which are designed for preservation and/or renovation of historical landmarks.

Goal 3.0.0: The City will continue to provide safe and adequate open space and recreation facilities for all Coral Springs residents.

Objective 3.1.0: All park sites within existing and future designated local areas of particular concern and urban wilderness areas will be designed for controlled recreational use.

Policy 3.1.1: All environmental impact report conditions of Federal, State and County approval shall be incorporated into the evaluation of the potential for controlled recreational use of the areas.

Policy 3.1.2: Recreational uses within these areas shall be planned and designed so as to prevent disruption of the ecological systems within those areas.

Policy 3.1.3: Access to recreational areas within sensitive lands will be controlled by security fencing limited hours of operation and supervised activities.

Policy 3.1.4: The City will ensure that local areas of particular concern and urban wilderness areas will be so designated. (See Map 8-1 Natural Resources)

Policy 3.1.5: The City shall place passive recreational facilities furniture or displays in all public parks including but not limited to exterior furniture, equipment, walkways, boardwalks, benches, tables, interpretive display trails and wildlife observation areas.

Objective 3.2.0: Each year the City shall pursue public, private and other financial resources to be used for the development of recreational opportunities at the local level.

Policy 3.2.1: The City shall promote the "Adopt-a-Park" program with civic groups, homeowners associations, private citizens and corporations.

Policy 3.2.2: The City shall establish and maintain a forum for active involvement of individuals, public and private organizations in park planning, funding, development and maintenance.

Policy 3.2.3: The City will continue to pursue cooperative long-term agreements with the Broward County School Board to lease school

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facilities for public recreation purposes as applicable.

Policy 3.2.4: Whenever regional park dedication is required, the City will work with the County to maximize the benefit to the local residents.

Policy 3.2.5: Establish and maintain standards for delivery of public recreation services and products by private entities on parks.

Objective 3.3.0: Three community park sites designated as activity based parks shall be developed prior to population build-out.

Policy 3.3.1: As population continues to grow with the City, the third community park will be developed at the northeast corner of Coral Springs Drive and Westview Drive.

Policy 3.3.2: The City shall continue to research and make application for County, State and Federal grants and private foundations to fund facility development.

Objective 3.4.0: Development of Regional Park shall be completed by January 1, 2000 as per the amended Master Park Plan Agreement.

Policy 3.4.1: The City shall be the owner of the Regional Park and will be responsible for all maintenance and upkeep related to the continued operation of the Regional Park.

Policy 3.4.2: The nature of the Park will be that of a Regional Park, and will be open for use by all residents of Broward County on an equal basis.

Policy 3.4.3: There shall be three primary uses developed as set forth in the Conceptual Development Plans jointly developed by Broward County and the City. The three primary uses are: picnic grounds, sports field complex and swimming pool complex. Any substantial changes to the Conceptual Development Plan shall be approved by Broward County.

Objective 3.5.0: Efficient use of City revenues to provide recreation and open space facilities and services will be annually assessed.

Policy 3.5.1: Park dedication requirements for residential development, whether in the form of land or cash in lieu of land, shall be addressed by the City at time of the platting review process as provided for the Municipal Code.

Policy 3.5.2: Monies acquired as cash in lieu of park land as set forth in

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the Municipal Code shall be appropriated to benefit the public near the area of the new development in acquiring land or developing facilities as deemed appropriate by the City Commission.

Policy 3.5.3: The City shall continue to pursue grants, matching funds, and other available financing mechanisms, as may be appropriate and cost-effective, to provide recreation and open space at acceptable levels of service. The primary purposes for conserving and acquiring open spaces shall include but not be limited to:

1. Preserve, protect and enhance natural areas and functions.
2. Rectify land use conflicts associated with antiquated subdivisions.
3. Correct vested land uses on private property that became non-conforming as a result of adoption or readoption of either the City's or County's Comprehensive Plans or Land Development Regulations.
4. Ensure the preservation of unique geological or historical sites.
5. Ensure the preservation of rare or threatened vegetative communities.
6. Ensure the protection of listed endangered and threatened aquatic or animal species or significant habitats of listed species.
7. Ensure the protection and enhancement of natural ecosystems located along wetland, lake or canal shorelines.
8. Provide greater outdoor recreational open space opportunities and enjoyment for the City's residents such as nature trails, playgrounds, waterway trails and interpretive displays.
9. Restore or enhance degraded natural areas included but not limited to removal of non-native vegetation, reforestation or creation of aquatic grass beds, weed control and restoration of natural hydrology and indigenous vegetation.
10. Ensure the protection or enhancement of surface and groundwater quality.
11. Provide natural greenway corridors within or adjacent to environmentally sensitive lands, waterways or other parcels of land to allow for public access such as vehicles, pedestrians, emergency equipment and bicyclists into all publicly owned recreational areas.
12. Assist in meeting, maintaining or improving the City's adopted recreation level of service standards.
13. Provide greater consistency with and implement existing resource protection plans such as the South Florida Water Management District's existing resource planning and management plans.

Policy 3.5.4: The City shall utilize a five-year Capital Improvements Plan. The Capital Improvements Plan shall be consistent with regional and local

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plans.

Policy 3.5.5: The City shall prepare an annual Capital Improvements Program, which outlines capital improvements expected over the ensuing year. The Local Planning Agency shall review the program and judge its consistency with the Comprehensive Plan and the five-year Capital Improvements Plan.

Policy 3.5.6: The City shall ensure that any expansion or extension of services is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Policy 3.5.7: Coral Springs will maintain a concurrency management system to ascertain whether necessary facilities identified within the Capital Improvements Element are being constructed in accordance with the schedule.