

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal R 7 The City shall provide private and public parks, recreation facilities and open space at the adopted level of service to meet the health, safety and welfare needs of City citizens.

OBJECTIVE

R 7.1 The City's system of neighborhood parks, recreation facilities and open space shall be maintained through year 2025 to meet the cultural, social and athletic needs of the City as determined by its recreation levels of service.

Policies

R 7.1.1 The City shall adopt and maintain the level of service standard of 3.5 acres per 1,000 population for neighborhood parks:

R 7.1.2 The City shall adopt and maintain the following level of service for recreation facilities (all population is permanent population):

Freshwater Beach	0.5 ac per 1,000 population
Basketball Court	1 per 2,000 population
Equipped Play Area	1 per 1,000 population
Urban Jogging / Hiking Trail	1 per 5,000 population
Tennis Court	1 per 2,000 population
Volleyball Court	1 per 1,000 population
Dog Park	1 per 2,000 population
Covered Picnic Area	1 per 1,000 population

R 7.1.3 The City shall adopt and maintain a level of service standard of 2.5 acres per 1,000 population for open space.

R 7.1.4 During the development review and permit process, the City will require developers of tracts to provide open space areas and neighborhood parks.

The City will apply the adopted level of service for Neighborhood Parks and Open Space to new developments within the City that develops more than 10 dwelling units. The application of the adopted LOS shall be made on a per

unit basis by multiplying the number of units by the household size for the City.

Neighborhood parks and open space created as a result of a development plan may be located within the development and limited in use to the residents of the community. Lands external to the development may be provided. The City shall not be responsible for the construction of improvements or maintenance of facilities provided as a result of development unless the property is made available to the City and such responsibility is accepted.

- R 7.1.5 The City will maintain existing parks, recreation facilities and open space within the City in good in order to continue to make facilities available to the public at the adopted level of service.
- R 7.1.6 Recreation sites that include environmentally sensitive lands and are developed for any recreation use other than passive enjoyment of the natural environment shall be designed to locate all non-passive activities such that the preservation or conservation of environmentally sensitive lands is maintained.
- R 7.1.7 The City will coordinate its efforts with surrounding counties in preserving the public access to lakes in the area and within the City.
- R 7.1.8 The City shall update the inventory of parks, recreation facilities and open space annually in its Annual Capacity Statement to determine the continued adequacy of the facilities to meet the level of service standard (quantity) and to determine its maintenance priorities for the upcoming year.
- R 7.1.9 The City shall require development that abuts the Palatka-Lake Butler State (PLB) Trail to preserve all trees 4” in caliper or greater that lie within 40 feet of the right of way line for the Trail in order to retain existing shade cover. Development adjacent to the Trail shall be required to provide two times the number of shade trees otherwise required in the vehicular use area buffer that lies adjacent to the right of way for the PLB Trail.
- R 7.1.10 The City will continue to pursue grants and matching funds to complete Natural Park and recreation Park and to improve the level of service of recreation facilities available to its residents-

OBJECTIVE

- R 7.2 Preserve public access to the City’s parks, recreation and open space, including Keystone Beach to meet the recreational needs of City residents and visitors.

Policies

- R 7.2.1 Development or activities which reduce public access to parks, recreational facilities or open space from ~~via~~ existing access routes shall be prohibited from obtaining a development permit or order, unless such change is demonstrated to promote the public health, safety and welfare and/or aesthetics of the City.
- R 7.2.2 The City shall provide bicycle racks at each park and at Natural Park (open space).

OBJECTIVE

R 7.3 The City shall ensure the provision of open space by the City at the adopted level of service levels and require all new residential and non-residential development to provide open space within each development and preserve environmentally sensitive areas and native habitats.

Policies

- R 7.3.1 The City shall require a minimum of 20 percent open space within new residential and non-residential development; a maximum of 40 percent of the open space may consist of areas dedicated to stormwater retention.
- R 7.3.2 The City shall include incentives within the Land Development Regulations that serve to encourage private residential and non-residential developments to provide additional parks, open space and recreation facilities in order to improve the quality of life of the residents of the City .