

4. PARKS, RECREATION, OPEN SPACE AND CONSERVATION ELEMENT

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4. PARKS, RECREATION & CONSERVATION ELEMENT

PURPOSE

The Parks, Recreation and Conservation Element (PRE) catalogs the existing public and private recreation, open space and conservation areas and facilities within the Town, analyzes the inventory of recreation and open space to project an appropriate level of service standard, promotes the conservation, conscientious use, and protection of natural resources within the Town, formulates goals, objectives, and policies to protect and preserve existing recreational and conservation areas, and provides guidelines for acquiring additional recreation, open space and conservation areas within the Town to maintain a minimum level of service for the community.

PARKS AND RECREATION

Current Facilities Analysis

Currently there are fifty (50) public parks and recreational sites serving the Town, as described in Table 1. There are both Activity and Resource parks, with “neighborhood, community, and regional” service levels. “Activity Parks” are parks dedicated to active recreational pursuits such as baseball, soccer, basketball, etc. “Resource Parks” are parks dedicated to passive uses such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, and bird watching. As noted in the Table, the total acreage of parks in the Town is 1,834 acres. Figures 1, 2 and 3 (Appendix D) identify all parks and recreational sites, including equestrian and recreational trails, located within the Town. Figure 1 indicates the service level of the neighborhood parks with circles depicting the service area. The service level of Community and Regional Parks are not depicted on the map, as those service areas extend beyond the Town limits and would overlap substantially, making the map illegible.

Thirty-seven (38) of these parks are owned and maintained by the Town, five (5) parks are leased by the Town, and seven (7) parks are owned and maintained by the State or the County. Only six (6) of the parks are “Regional” parks. The rest are “Community” and “Neighborhood” parks. Figure 1 located herein describes the service area of each of the community and neighborhood parks.

The Town is known for its extensive trails systems. Figure 3 indicates the existing recreational trails throughout the Town, as of 2007. Figure 4 indicates the existing equestrian trails within the Town. While the equestrian trails are located in the western portions of Davie, as that portion of the Town is more rural in nature, with extensive open space tracts, the recreational trails extend throughout the entire Town, and have been developed consistent with the Broward County Greenways Master Plan.

Table 1: Parks, Recreation and Open Space Sites

Park/Recreation Site	Acreage	Ownership	Type	Service Level	BCLUP acreage**
Bergeron Park	4.79	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	4.79
Bergeron Rodeo Arena & Grounds	18.61	Davie	Activity	Community	18.61
Berman Park	2.88	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	2.88
Betty Booth Roberts Park	4.97	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	4.97
Liberty Park	2.41	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	2.41
Davie Pine Island Park	108.76	Davie	Activity	Community	108.76
Davie Town Hall	2.95	Davie	Activity	Community	2.95
Driftwood Estate Park	5.00	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	5.00
Joy Yoder Equestrian Center	4.44	Davie	Activity	Community	4.44
Lange Park	3.17	Davie	Resource	Neighborhood	3.17
Oakhill Equestrian Park	9.63	Davie	Activity	Community	9.63
Old Davie School & Addition	6.45	Davie	Activity	Community	6.45
Palomino Park	2.46	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	2.46
Orange Park	0.42	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	0.42
Potter Park and P.A.L.	4.19	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	4.19
Reflections Park	4.26	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	4.26
Shenandoah Park	17.00	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	17.00
Wes Griffin Park	3.88	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	3.88
SW 36th Court Park	0.13	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	0.13
East Davie Nature Park	2.78	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	2.78
Veterans Park	1.83	Davie	Resource	Community	1.83
Waterford Park	5.03	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	5.03
The Park at Waverly	10.10	Davie	Activity	Neighborhood	10.10
Governor Leroy Collins Park & Addition	85.71	Davie	Resource	Community	85.71
Berman Preserve	36.10	Davie	Resource	Community	36.10
Falcon's Lea Park	3.80	Davie	Resource	Community	3.80
Faulk	4.95	Davie	Resource	Community	4.95
Ivanhoe FPL Easement	30.96	Davie	Resource	Community	30.96
Math Iglar	1.55	Davie	Resource	Community	1.55
Robbins Lodge/Park	157.62	Davie	Resource	Community	157.62
S.W. 7 th Place Open Space	.41	Davie	Resource	Neighborhood	.41
Sunny Lakes Bird Sanctuary & Expansion	19.03	Davie	Resource	Neighborhood	19.03
Davie Wetland Preserve	115.00	Davie	Resource	Community	115.00
Westridge	39.89	Davie	Resource	Community	39.89
Wolf Lake	48.45	Davie	Resource	Community	48.45
Silver Oaks	7.0	Davie	Activity	Community	7.0
Batten's Farm	10.0	Davie	Resource	Community	10.0
Devine Property	8.06	Davie	Resource	Community	8.06
Owl Lookout Park	4.12	Davie	Resource	Community	4.12
Flamingo Road Open Space – SW 14 St.	3.62	Davie	Resource	Community	3.62
Flamingo Elementary Ballfields	4.50	Davie Lease	Activity	Community	4.50
Silver Lakes Rotary Nature Park	39.49	Davie Lease	Resource	Community	39.49
Tree Tops Park	243.31	Florida/BCC/SFWMD*	Resource	Regional	10.00
Linear Park	36.00	Florida/BCC/SFWMD*	Resource	Community	36.00

Park/Recreation Site	Acreege	Ownership	Type	Service Level	BCLUP acreege**
Long Key Natural Area	153.61	Florida/BCC/SFWMD*	Resource	Regional	10.00
Vista View Park & Addition	269.27	Florida/BCC/SFWMD*	Resource	Regional	10.00
Pine Island Ridge	131.58	Florida/BCC/SFWMD*	Resource	Regional	10.00
Pond Apple Slough	130.26	Florida/BCC/SFWMD*	Resource	Regional	10.00
TOTAL ACREAGE	1,810.43				932.4

* Florida means, the State of Florida; BCC means the Broward County Commission; SFWMD means the South Florida Water Management District.

**Based on the Comprehensive Plan’s population estimate for 2010 of 96,305, the County requires 288.9 acres of parks and open space to meet its LOS standard. As noted above, total park acreage consistent with the BCLUP is 932.4 acres. As a result of the Sunforest Apts (1.8 acres) and RAC density (9.5 acres) land use plan amendments approved in 2010, an additional 11.3 acres of parks and open space was generated. As noted above, sufficient park acreage exists to accommodate the additional dwelling units permitted by these amendments.

Level of Service Standard

The parks and recreation level of service (LOS) standard established in the Town of Davie’s Comprehensive Plan is 10 acres per 1,000 population. Based on the 2008 population estimate of 93,482 contained in the Future Land Use Element (FLUE) Data, Inventory and Analysis (DIA), the Town would need to provide 935 acres of parks to meet its LOS standard. As the Town already contains 1,783.6 acres of parks, the LOS standard has been met and exceeded.

Analysis of Future Needs

The Town will continue to meet and exceed its LOS standard of 10 acres per 1,000 in population throughout the planning period (2018), even without any additional parks and open space. However, in 2005, the Town residents approved a \$25 million bond for open space.

A typical LOS standard for parks and recreational lands is between 3 and 5 acres per 1,000 in population. Thus, the Town’s current LOS of 10 acres per 1,000 in population is twice that of the average municipality. In addition, each new open space and park facilities carries with it an ongoing and continual maintenance cost. For these reasons and more, it is recommended the Town maintain its current LOS for parks and open space, and focus the remainder of the Open Space Bond monies on the interconnection of Town and regional facilities, and to create a network of trails and open space for the Town and its residents.

Future Park Planning/Capital Improvements

Given the current adopted LOS for parks and open space, the current park acreage is adequate through the planning period of 2018.

Additionally, several policies have been included in the Goals, Objectives and Policies (GOPs). Included in the GOPs is a policy requiring the preparation of a parks master plan. This master plan should include a strategy for the acquisition, development and maintenance of parkland. In addition, a policy has been added to the GOPs requiring the land development regulations be amended to include

evaluation criteria for the purchasing and development of parks and open space. Consideration of the costs in money and resources of the ongoing maintenance of the property is to be included in the evaluation criteria.

As recommended in the 2005 Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR), policies are proposed for the Park, Recreation and Conservation Element to encourage the pursuit of additional parcels, to purchase strategic parcels for the completion of the Town's trail network, to improve the maintenance of the trails and open space, to plan for the long term stability of the Town's parks, trails, and open space, to continue to partner with other organizations when identified parcels become available, to continue to coordinate with the County to ensure the trail networks interconnect, and to work with adjacent municipalities on regional parks and trails issues. As part of the EAR-Based amendments, a comprehensive map of current resources has been included.

These strategies, in concert with the projects included in the proposed Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements (SCI), will allow the Town to meet its park needs and goals through the next planning timeframe.

CONSERVATION

Below is an analysis of the wetlands located within the Town of Davie. The other categories of the conservation element, such as wildlife, air quality and surface waters have not been modified from the 2000 update of the Comprehensive Plan. Therefore, no additional analysis of these items was conducted as part of EAR-based amendments.

Wetlands

Wetlands are generally classified as areas where the water table is near or above the surface, except during extended dry periods. Wetlands are typically adjacent to natural water bodies and man-made lakes, and in low-lying depressions, and have poorly drained, level, organic, or marl soils. Wetlands provide needed habitat for aquatic and land species, including migrating birds. Wetlands also provide storage areas for stormwater, and a "natural filtration system" to cleanse the water.

Figure 1 shows the location of different types of wetlands within the Town. Projects within jurisdictional wetland areas are required to obtain all required Federal, State and County permits, and provide mitigation as necessary. As can be seen on the map, there are relatively few designated wetlands within the Town. The few that do exist are predominantly scattered throughout the southwest portion of the Town. Therefore, wetlands are not likely to pose any significant constraints to development and redevelopment within the Town of Davie.

Trees

In 2006, the Florida Department of Agriculture Division of Forestry awarded an Urban and Community Forestry Hurricane Grant to the Town of Davie. This grant was awarded in order for the Town to assess and restore tree canopy lost as a result of the 2004 and 2005 hurricanes. The Town recently completed

the projects associated with this grant, including the inventorying of all Town-maintained trees and planting of 48 trees.

Specifically, the Town conducted an assessment of those trees maintained on Town-owned property and right-of-way. Approximately 8,800 trees were located using GPS (Global Positioning System), and features such as the tree type and current condition were collected. A policy has been added to the Comprehensive Plan amendments requiring Town staff to maintain this inventory as trees are planted or removed.

Existing Potable Water Sources

The Town of Davie provides potable water production and distribution to only a portion of its residents. In order to provide complete coverage throughout the Town, potable water service is also provided by Tindall Hammock Irrigation and Soil Conservation District, City of Hollywood, City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and the City of Sunrise. The Biscayne Aquifer is the current source of potable water for all of Broward County, including the Town of Davie. However, the Town has developed an Alternative Water Supply Plan (AWSP) which includes the expansion of the existing wastewater treatment plant, the construction of a new wastewater treatment facility and a reverse osmosis water treatment plant. More detail on the new facilities and the AWSP is provided in the Infrastructure Element Data, Inventory and Analysis (DIA) Report.

Existing and Projected Potable Water Capacity and Demand

A detailed discussion of potable water demand over the planning horizon is given in the Infrastructure Element Data, Inventory and Analysis (DIA) Report. Table 2A and 2B below show the results of the analysis of projected potable water demand through 2030 for the Town of Davie utilities service area and all other utilities service providers within the Town.

**Table 2A: Town of Davie Service Area
Estimated Population and Future per Capita Demand**

Year	Projected Population	GPD	Population-Based Avg. Day Demand (MGD)	Peak Factor	Total Max. Day Demand (MGD)
2015	29,627	145	4.30	1.503	6.46
2020	31,915	145	4.63	1.503	6.96
2025	33,526	145	4.86	1.503	7.30
2030	34,899	145	5.06	1.503	7.61

Source: Broward County Planning and Redevelopment Division 2014 Municipal TAZ Data

**Table 2B: Town of Davie Service Providers’ Utility Service Area
Estimated Population and Future per Capita Demand**

UTILITY	YEAR	POPULATION	WATER DEMAND (MGD)
BROWARD ⁽¹⁾ 192 gpd	2015	523	0.13
	2020	528	0.14
	2025	525	0.14
	2030	532	0.14
FT. LAUDERDALE ⁽²⁾ 170 gpd	2015	528	0.10
	2020	530	0.10
	2025	527	0.10
	2030	534	0.10
HOLLYWOOD ⁽³⁾ 114 gpd (low) 140 gpd (high)	2015	1,768	0.20 low / 0.25 high
	2020	2,005	0.23 low / 0.28 high
	2025	2,111	0.24 low / 0.30 high
	2030	2,156	0.25 low / 0.30 high
SUNRISE ⁽⁴⁾ 116 gpd	2015	57,500	6.67
	2020	59,500	6.90
	2025	60,100	6.97
	2030	59,800	6.94
Tindall Hammock Irrigation and Soil Conservation District (THISCD) ⁽⁵⁾	2015	1,706 ERC	.469
	2020	2,331 ERC	.641
	2025	2,616 ERC	.719
	2030	2,901 ERC	.798

- (1) Broward County Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2014)
- (2) City of Fort Lauderdale 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2014)
- (3) City of Hollywood Water Supply Plan Potable Water Sub-Element (2015)
- (4) DRAFT City of Sunrise 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan (2014)
- (5) DRAFT THISCD 10-Year Water Supply Facilities Work Plan Update (2015)

The combined capacity of all utility providers within the Town of Davie will exceed the projected demand and is more than sufficient to provide potable water service to the Town’s residents throughout the planning period. Specifically, the Town of Davie Utilities has increased its total capacity to approximately 10 MGD with the opening of the new reverse osmosis plant.

It should be pointed out, though, that the other service providers are responsible for maintaining an acceptable level of service for potable water throughout the planning period. Furthermore, the Town of Davie does not have any jurisdiction over these five potable water providers.