

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

Goal: To ensure the provision and maintenance of parks, recreational areas and open space to meet the needs of the existing and future residents of Wakulla County.

Objective 1: The County will implement and maintain a system of parks and recreation program that meets the needs of the County's population by maintaining a level of service (LOS) standard of five (5) acres of developed recreation per thousand (1000) population (or fraction thereof). ~~The intent of the policies in the element include a means to assess the adequacy of the Plan in regulating land uses and development and to provide the County with guidance in the creation of standards and guidelines to meet identified needs.~~

Policy 1.1: -

The County shall ~~consider~~ establishing and collecting impact fees to raise revenues to purchase land and develop or improve parks.

Policy 1.2: -

~~All acquisitions of and physical improvements to park and recreational facilities estimated to cost twenty five thousand (\$25,000.00) dollars or more shall be scheduled in the Capital Improvements Element.~~

Policy 1.23: -

The County shall preserve and maintain existing parks and recreation facilities through the use of adequate operating budgets and proper management techniques.

Policy 1.34: -

~~The level of service standard for recreation shall be five (5) acres of developed recreation per(1000) thousand population (or fraction thereof).~~ Developed recreation land, for purposes of meeting the LOS standard, shall include any land containing playgrounds, playfields, fields for organized sports, recreation halls, tennis courts, swimming pools, and similar facilities, boat ramps, multiuse bike trails and necessary parking and service uses and surrounding passive open space.

Policy 1.45: The County shall complete a bicycle, pedestrian and recreation open space master plan for the unincorporated areas of the County by 2012 to adequately plan for future recreational needs and to facilitate the acquisition of funding from non-County sources.

Objective 2: ~~Ensure The County shall assure~~ that adequate open spaces are provided. ~~The intent of the policies in the element include a means to assess the adequacy of the Plan in regulating land uses and development and to provide the County with guidance in the creation of standards and guidelines to meet identified needs.~~

Policy 2.1: -

The County shall adopt Land development eCodes which include recreation areas and specific open space definitions and standards.

Policy 2.2: -

The County shall, at least annually in connection with the preparation of the annual budget, review the availability of land which can be acquired to increase open space. The review of land development proposals shall include the evaluation of open space areas which exhibit unique natural character and which can be acquired through dedication.

Policy 2.3: -

The County shall revise its Land Development Codes to require that the land uses and activities involved in areas adjacent to beaches and water bodies shown on the Future Land Use Map be arranged so as to facilitate access by the public to such beaches and water-bodies. Where ~~such private~~ development occurs, utilizes the planned unit development, DRI, or FUD permitting process, provision shall be made for dedication of such access to the public access or preservation of access to such beaches or waterbodies shall be dedicated by dedication to a private organization established for the purpose of maintaining the access.

Objective 3: ~~By 1995, a~~ All suitable public recreation facilities ~~should will~~ have automobile, bicycle and pedestrian facilities access when feasible and will provide access facilities for the elderly and for individuals with disabilities; ~~handicapped and elderly access facilities. The intent of the policies in the element include a means to assess the adequacy of the Plan in regulating land uses and development and to provide the County with guidance in the creation of standards and guidelines to meet identified needs.~~

Policy 3.1: -

~~By December 1992, t~~The County shall revise its land development codes to require the addition of designated bicycle lanes or paved shoulders to new or newly-paved private roads in subdivisions where such roads provide access to parks and/or open space.

Policy 3.2: -

The County shall provide ~~handicapped accessible~~ parking spaces for individuals with disabilities and barrier-free access for all County operated recreation facilities.

Policy 3.3: -

Wheelchair accessible areas will be provided at all County spectator seating areas.

Objective 4: Adequately maintain pPublic parks and recreation facilities in Wakulla County ~~shall be maintained regularly~~ to prevent and/or reduce accidents or the need for repairs or replacements. ~~The intent of the policies in the element include a means to assess the adequacy of the Plan in regulating land uses and development and to provide the County with guidance in the creation of standards and guidelines to meet identified needs.~~

Policy 4.1:—

Parks and recreation facilities shall be designed so that children's play areas are at least one hundred (100) feet away from vehicular access points or are separated by a fence or appropriate barrier.

Policy 4.2:—

Funding to correct existing or potential safety hazards or to retrofit facilities to meet guidelines detailed in the ADA Standards for Accessible Design will have priority over all other recreation projects.

Policy 4.3: The County shall develop and implement a system for recording the number and type of accidents and injuries that occur at County provided and maintained recreational areas or open spaces.

Objective 5: To The County will improve and coordinate efforts with all levels of government, government and with the private sector to provide recreational opportunities by undertaking the following program of activities. ~~The intent of the policies in the element include a means to assess the adequacy of the Plan in regulating land uses and development and to provide the County with guidance in the creation of standards and guidelines to meet identified needs.~~

Policy 5.1:—

The County ~~should~~ould maintain a joint agreement between the Wakulla County Recreation Department and the Wakulla County School Board concerning the joint use of parks and recreational Facilities.