

DRAFT

OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION ELEMENT

GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

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GOAL OSR-1 PROVISION OF EXCELLENT PARKS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDE EXEMPLARY PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WHICH ENHANCE QUALITY OF LIFE, PROVIDE FOR RECREATION AND INTERACTION WITH OTHERS, AND PROMOTE WELL BEING FOR THE CITIZENS OF THE CITY.

GOAL OSR-2 PARK SAFETY AND ACCESS

ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF PARKS, OPEN SPACES, RECREATION FACILITIES, INCLUDING BEACHES AND SHORES.

GOAL OSR-3 OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION, RETENTION & PRESERVATION

PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION, RETENTION, AND ENHANCEMENT OF OPEN SPACES AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE LANDS.

GOAL OSR-4 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

PROMOTE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO ACQUIRE, MAINTAIN, AND ENHANCE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FACILITIES.

WHAT IS THE PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT?

The Parks and Recreation Element describes the City of Delray Beach's plan for ensuring a high quality system of open space, recreation facilities and programs are provided now and to meet future projected demands and recreation trends.

Parks and recreation are interconnected in varying degrees to other elements of the Comprehensive Plan. Far beyond the provision of leisure activities, quality parks and recreation programs foster economic benefits by promoting tourism, and revitalizing communities by creating safer, more desirable neighborhoods. Community open spaces expand cultural ties through the provision of public art and the celebration of historic venues providing a unique sense of place for the community that promotes civic pride and engagement. The provision and maintenance of parks and open space support sustainability efforts through the protection and preservation of natural resources. The provision of recreation opportunities throughout the City promotes, healthier lifestyles, improving the mental and physical wellbeing of the citizens.

Delray Beach is a diverse community whose fabric is a rich blend of cultures, ages, and both seasonal and year-round residents. While the diverse needs, interests, and experiences of Delray Beach residents enrich the City, it also provides challenges on how to best to serve the varied needs and desires of all residents. To ensure that a high quality of life remains a priority for current and future generations, it is necessary that the park system addresses the growing population and demographic changes, and changes in cultural trends and interests to continue to provide exemplary parks and recreation services into the future.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Delray Beach provides for and maintains a variety of safe and enjoyable recreation opportunities on nearly 500 acres of parkland located within the City. The City's parks and open space inventory consists of both private and public sites for recreation, nature preserve areas, community centers, parks and open spaces, playgrounds, beaches, and public access to beaches, and waterways.

The location of the City of Delray Beach along the Atlantic coast with the natural features of the Atlantic Ocean and Intracoastal Waterway, coupled with a climate perfect for the enjoyment of outdoor activities, has enabled the development of exemplary parks, open spaces, and recreation facilities within the city. Providing and facilitating access to public open space through high quality systems of parks, greenways and other natural areas is a major step towards creating and maintaining active, healthy communities.

The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for the coordination, planning and operation of a comprehensive recreational, beautification and parks maintenance program. The department manages 50 parks and recreation facilities throughout the City. The City of Delray Beach's park system is comprised of a wide range of spaces, including athletic fields, neighborhood parks, community parks, beach and oceanfront parks, swimming pools, tennis courts, golf courses, community centers, nature preserve areas,

Recreation areas can be classified as either "resource based" or "activity based". Resource based facilities exist around natural resources such as beaches and lakes, and are generally used for hiking, swimming, boating, picnicking, and other activities adaptable to the resource. Activity based facilities are built for a particular activity, such as tennis or baseball. Recreation facilities can also be classified as active or passive cultural facilities and marina.

The City provides 184 acres of activity based recreation facilities, excluding golf courses. An additional 293 acres are considered resource based, including the municipal beach, conservation parcels, and the golf courses. Not counted in these totals, but contributing to the recreation and open space inventory of the City, are specialty facilities such as nature centers, cultural facilities, schools whose recreation facilities are available to the community under joint use agreements, and the Lake Ida Park and Delray Oaks Preserve both of which are managed and operated by Palm Beach County.

The City's Park Network System comprises of the following park types:

Neighborhood Parks: The smallest class of park, neighborhood parks are generally less than five (5) acres in size, and in many cases are more than one (1) acre in size. Recreational facilities are typically few in number due to size constraints and are developed according to the demands and character of the specific neighborhoods that they serve. Access is primarily pedestrian-oriented with no support facilities such as parking lots or restrooms provided. Examples of these neighborhood parks include Cornel Park and the Rev J.W. H Thomas Jr. Park. **Photo of neighborhood parks**

Community Parks: Community parks are usually more than five acres but less than 25 acres in size, providing active and, to a lesser degree, passive recreational facilities to population areas within three (3) miles of the facility. Recreational facilities include play areas, small groups of lighted fields or courts suitable for programmed activities, and community centers. Bicycle and automobile parking areas and pedestrian paths provide access to the facility. **Photo of Catherine Strong Community Park**

District Parks: District parks are generally greater than twenty-five (25) acres in size and primarily provide active recreational facilities and, to a lesser degree, passive recreational facilities. Recreational facilities typically include groups of lighted fields or courts suitable for scheduled athletic league activities, exercise trails and support facilities such as restrooms and concessions with bicycle and automobile parking areas and pedestrian path systems to accommodate park users. Special facilities such as recreation centers,

competition swimming pools, golf courses, and boat ramps and docks may also be provided within district parks.

The Robert P. Miller Park and Lake Ida Park (owned by Palm Beach County) are examples of district parks which offer different activities but intrinsically serve a broader community and purpose. **Photos highlighting the athletic fields at Miller Park**

Special Facilities Park: The special use classification covers a broad range of parks and facilities oriented towards a single-purpose use, such as, the municipal beach, golf courses and the cemetery. Other facilities such as cultural facilities, marine facilities, greenways and linear parks and preserve areas are also incorporated within the special facilities parks category. **Photos Delray Beach Golf Course**

Cultural Facilities: The City's cultural facilities are the Cason Cottage, the Delray Beach Center for the Arts at Old School Square, the Sandoway Discovery Center and the SD Spady Cultural Arts Museum. **Photos SD Spady Cultural Arts Museum and Sandoway Discovery Center**

Boat and Marine Facilities: Delray Beach waterfront assets include the municipal beach, the Intracoastal Waterway, several lakes and canals. The promotion of recreation and marine facilities is a major priority of the city's park system. These facilities include the City Marina, and boat/marine access facilities located at Knowles Park, Lakeview Park and Mangrove Park. **Photos Knowles Park**

Greenway/Linear Parks: These parks are primarily located along the streets and provide interest, public art and unique landscape features. Four greenway/linear parks are located within the City and include the I-95 Gateway Parks, the Martin Luther King Drive Public Plaza, Pioneer Park and the Beach Promenade, which is also incorporated within the municipal beach. **Photos I-95 and Atlantic Avenue**

Preserve Area Parks: Preserve Area Parks are natural areas protected for their environmental or ecological value and preserved and managed for conservation purposes. Improvements are usually limited to the provision of nature trails. The Delray Oaks Preserve (owned by Palm Beach County), Lake Ida Open Space, Leon Weekes Environmental Preserve and the Donnelly Tract are four Preserve Area Parks within the City of Delray Beach. **Photos Leon Weekes Environmental Preserve**

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT
GOALS, OBJECTIVES, AND POLICIES

GOAL OSR 1 PROVISION OF EXCELLENT PARKS AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

PROVIDE EXEMPLARY PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES WHICH ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE, PROVIDE FOR RECREATION AND INTERACTION WITH OTHERS, AND PROMOTE THE WELL BEING OF THE CITY

Objective OSR 1.1: Level of Service

The City will initiate a study to establish and adopt a Local Level of Service Guideline criteria for the calculation of the amount and types of parks, open space and recreation facilities that should be provided to serve the community.

Policy OSR-1.1.1 The City will explore criteria other than per capita measurements in the development of the Local Level of Service Standard Guidelines that more effectively measure the provision of park and recreation services to residents in all areas.

Policy OSR-1.1.2 The City will complete the Local Level of Service Guideline within 3-5 years.

Policy OSR-1.1.3 The City will provide and maintain a variety of parks, open spaces and recreation facilities that serve the city's current and future population based on the adopted Local Level of Service Guideline criteria.

Objective OSR 1.2: Park and Recreation Facilities and Programming

The City shall provide and maintain diverse parks, high quality recreation facilities and programming that is tailored to the needs of the community.

Policy OSR-1.2.1 The City will continue to provide a variety of recreational facilities and services that contribute to the health and well-being of all residents.

Policy OSR-1.2.2 The City will develop a platform for residents to identify recreational needs and interests.

Policy OSR-1.2.3 The City will periodically review trends in park and recreation facility use and adapt plans and investments to respond to changing community needs.

Policy OSR-1.2.4 The City will consider the varied cultural and demographic needs of the community in park and recreational facility design and promote public involvement in all aspects of park and recreation planning.

Policy OSR-1.2.5 The City will ensure that public park facilities include activities targeted toward a variety of age ranges.

Policy OSR-1.2.6 The City will evaluate parks in terms of age-friendly features such as connectivity, adequate shade, drinking fountains, and sufficient seating.

Policy OSR-1.2.7 Park, recreation, and open space facilities shall be designed to provide for accessibility by handicapped persons in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements and shall ensure playground areas are equipped with ADA accessible play equipment.

Policy OSR-1.2.8 Parks and trails shall be designed to incorporate fitness stations.

Policy OSR-1.2.9 The City will continue to support and expand programs for youth activities such as those provided at the 505 Teen Center.

Policy OSR-1.2.10 “Little Free Libraries” shall be provided in City parks to promote and increase access to reading materials for all ages.

Policy OSR-1.2.11 The City shall encourage the multi-functional use of recreation and open spaces to efficiently meet community needs.

Policy OSR-1.2.12 The City shall provide additional park, recreation, and open space facilities through enhancement of existing facilities, major capital improvements, and the provision of new services to geographic areas which do not have facilities readily available to them. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.2.13 The City, through the Parks and Recreation Department, shall place a priority on the provision of facilities for activities which serve all residents of the community and which can be achieved through redevelopment of existing park areas, enhancing existing facilities, and adding specialized items such as playgrounds to existing facilities. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.2.14 All parks, open spaces, and areas designated for recreation shall be designed using industry best-practice standards.

Objective 1.3 OSR Special Studies

The City shall promote and prioritize the following identified specific projects and studies.

Policy OSR-1.3.1 The City will continue to investigate the feasibility for the development of an additional Community Center located west of I-95. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.3.2 The City will investigate the feasibility of the development of athletic fields located west of I-95.

Policy OSR-1.3.3 As part of the preparation of Strategic Task Team Neighborhood Action Plans, the City shall evaluate the possibility of improving existing parks and establishing additional parks (neighborhood or “pocket parks”) in the area for which the plan is being prepared. The evaluation should include identification of vacant or surplus parcels, and strategies to assure that neighborhood residents and organizations determine the parameters of the park. Such strategies should strongly encourage participation of neighborhood associations and stakeholders as the identification, advocacy, design, and organizing forces.

Policy OSR 1.3.4 **By 2021**, the City will evaluate need for, and feasibility of, the expansion of the Delray Beach Tennis Center based on growing interest.

Policy OSR 1.3.5 **By 2020**, the City will create an inventory of residual parcels, rights-of-way, and municipally-owned land that are appropriate for parks, open spaces or recreation purposes and evaluate the potential to improve and use these spaces.

Objective OSR 1.4 Capital Funding

The City shall prioritize funding and capital improvement projects which are consistent with the master plan and other adopted plans, as may be amended from time to time.

Policy OSR-1.4.1 The City will adopt the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and any subsequent updates, to establish the framework for decision makers in the planning and rehabilitation of parks and recreation facilities in Delray Beach and to ensure that the park offerings are aligned with community needs and values.

Policy OSR-1.4.2 The City will adopt the Beach Master Plan and any subsequent updates, to establish the framework for decision makers in for coastal area conservation, open space, and recreation facilities planning, to ensure that the coastal recreation offerings are aligned with community needs and values.

Policy OSR-1.4.3 The City will support parks and open space development compatible with the recommendations of “The Set” Transformational Plan.

Policy OSR-1.4.4 Funds shall be allocated from the General Fund, on an annual basis, for implementing the recommendations of the adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Policy OSR-1.4.5 Projects that are identified within the adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan shall receive priority funding.

Policy OSR-1.4.6. The City shall prioritize projects that eliminate a current deficiency; that add new recreational experiences; and, give value to the community by improving safety, aesthetics and services.

Policy OSR-1.4.7 Whenever the accomplishment of one or more of the activities cited can be achieved through major investment in an existing facility, such a situation shall be a justification for raising the priority of the major capital improvement on the capital improvement list. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.4.8 The priority of a specific project may move up if it is funded from a dedicated revenue source and said funding is sufficient to accommodate the improvement. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.4.9 The priority of a specific project may move up if it is funded from a contribution from the private sector, or external public sources, or area development/redevelopment can be coordinated with its construction providing a cost-effective benefit. **Policy carried forward**

Objective OSR-1.5 Private Development Requirements

The provision of recreation facilities and programs for the future well-being of the City is a joint responsibility of both the public and private sectors. Developers shall provide sufficient and appropriate recreational facilities serving new development, as expressed in the following policies: **Policy carried forward**

Policy-OSR 1.5.1 For residential developments, tot lots and recreational areas, serving children from toddlers to teens, shall be a feature of all new housing developments as part of the design to accommodate households having a range of ages. This requirement may be waived or modified for residential developments located in the downtown area and for infill projects having fewer than 12 units. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.5.2 The City will explore the creation of a park impact fee for new non-residential developments.

Policy OSR-1.5.3 The City recognizes that public art has broad public benefits and will conduct a study to determine the feasibility of an impact fee for “art in public spaces” for new developments.

Policy OSR-1.5.4 The City will encourage the siting of appropriate private recreational facilities within the City through the provision of innovative, quality development proposals. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-1.5.5 Where a developer provides park, recreation, or open space facilities for the general public, such facilities shall be planned and located so as to maximize public accessibility.

Policy OSR-1.5.5 **By 2025**, the Parks and Recreation Department shall maintain in perpetuity an inventory of private recreation facilities including provided amenities.

Policy OSR-1.5.6 New developments within the downtown area shall provide and maintain publicly accessible open space features to enrich the urban environment.

GOAL OSR 2 PARK SAFETY AND ACCESS

ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF OPEN SPACES, RECREATION FACILITIES, BEACHES, AND SHORES.

Objective OSR 2.1 Park Safety

The City will promote the physical safety of park patrons through appropriate physical design and infrastructure improvements.

Policy OSR-2.1.1 The City, along with Parks and Recreation facilities, shall employ Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles that promotes natural surveillance and open visibility.

- Representatives from the Police Department shall review all site plan applications to ensure compliance with Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.
- Development review process shall include review of lighting, fencing, security cameras, surveillance and similar safety aspects.
- The City, in partnership with public safety departments, shall conduct a safety analysis and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design review of all existing park facilities and identify strategies to increase real and perceived safety.

Policy OSR-2.1.2 The City will evaluate the need for additional lighting in public open spaces and recreation paths, using Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design principles.

Policy OSR-2.1.3 The City will provide for adequate fencing of public park facilities, to protect patrons, while avoiding barriers to natural surveillance.

Policy OSR-2.1.4 Evaluate the need for, and feasibility of, security cameras and surveillance technology in public open spaces.

Policy OSR-2.1.5 The City will work in partnership with the Delray Beach Police Department to provide patrol of parks throughout operating hours.

Policy OSR-2.1.6 All parks will provide permanent canopies, pavilions, or other open-air structures to be used as shelters from inclement weather.

Objective OSR 2.2 Park Accessibility and Connectivity

The City will improve multimodal connections and accessibility to parks and open space and recreation facilities to facilitate safe access for all users.

Policy OSR-2.2.1 The City will support expansions of multi-modal transportation systems and networks operated by the City and County, to link major residential developments with parks, open spaces and recreation facilities. Improvements within ¼ mile of parks, open spaces, and recreational area shall be prioritized.

Policy OSR-2.2.2 The City will strive to develop a scenic recreational network for pedestrians and bicyclists. This network will make use of existing resources where possible, such as canal rights-of-way and alleys.

Policy OSR-2.2.3 The City will assess multi-modal systems/networks city-wide to determine areas of missing links and inadequate infrastructure.

Policy OSR-2.2.4 The City will improve recreation opportunities west of I-95 by continuing providing bicycle and pedestrian connectivity between amenities.

Policy OSR-2.2.5 The City will prioritize the installation of street trees and sidewalks in areas that lack public parks.

Policy OSR-2.2.6 The City will continue to ensure safe access to parks and open spaces is provided in areas where the population relies more heavily on alternative modes of transportation and create connections between neighborhoods, transit networks, and employment centers.

Policy OSR-2.2.7 The City will actively plan interconnected greenway corridors (trails) that links parks, golf courses, canals, and natural areas throughout the City.

Policy OSR-2.2.8 The City will continue to expand access to public waterways through multimodal transit networks.

Policy OSR-2.2.9 The City will consider standardizing identification signs for its park facilities, and improve the wayfinding system by developing a standardized system for directing drivers, cyclists, and pedestrians to parks and other points of interest.

Policy OSR-2.2.10 The City will continue to support and expand safety education programs offered by the Palm Beach County Schools, Palm Beach Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO), and other agencies for both children and adults.

Objective OSR 2.3 Beach, Waterways and Natural Areas Access

Existing public access to beach areas and the Intracoastal Waterway shall be retained and enhanced with emphasis placed upon ensuring beach accessibility for residents of Delray Beach, while protecting the natural environment. This objective shall be accomplished through the following. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-2.3.1 Current access points and pathways to the beach shall be enhanced through the policies, which implement the Goals, Objectives, and Policies of the Coastal Management Element and the Conservation, Sustainability, and Resilience Element.

Policy OSR 2.3.2. The high quality of the Municipal Beach shall be maintained by limiting beach concessions to those under contract to the City to provide recreational amenities for beach visitors, limited to rental of chairs, umbrellas, cabanas, and boogie boards. All other concessions are prohibited. Cooking, smoking, and pets are prohibited on the beach.”

Policy OSR-2.3.3 The City will ensure that public access (i.e. trails, wildlife observation areas, etc.) is provided on publicly owned natural areas for the public use and enjoyment of the site. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-2.3.4 The City will prohibit the abandonment of existing public rights-of-way along the Intracoastal Waterway to maintain public access to this waterway for current and future generations.

Policy OSR-2.3.5 The City will continue to encourage public recreational use of waterways and create multimodal connections to waterbodies including canals.

GOAL OSR 3 OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION, RETENTION & PRESERVATION
PROVIDE FOR THE ACQUISITION, RETENTION, AND
ENHANCEMENT OF OPEN SPACES AND ENVIRONMENTALLY
SENSITIVE LANDS.

Objective OSR 3.1 Open Space Acquisition

The City will employ multiple strategies for the acquisition of land for public parks and open space.

Policy OSR-3.1.1 Study the feasibility of creating a Transfer of Development Rights (TDRs) program to aid in open space land acquisition.

Policy OSR-3.1.2 Explore the feasibility of establishing a land trust for park land by:

- 1) Inventorying and mapping all City-owned vacant lots,
- 2) Engaging communities in key park-deficient areas and conducting vacant lot assessments.

Policy OSR-3.1.3 Explore developing a policy to promote land-swaps to protect environmentally sensitive land.

Policy OSR-3.1.4 The City will pursue funds from various sources including Federal, State, and County agencies and private providers for the acquisition, preservation, and maintenance of open space and recreation facilities.

Policy OSR-3.1.5 Work with the Community Redevelopment Agency to identify properties that would be suitable for park development within the CRA boundaries.

Policy OSR-3.1.6 Encourage endowments and donations for open space and recreation facilities.

Policy OSR-3.1.7 Strive to expand the parkland area and ensure that there is no net loss of public open space and recreation areas.

Objective OSR 3.2 Tree Canopy

The City tree canopy will be preserved and enhanced.

Policy OSR-3.2.1 By 2025, the City will conduct a formal study of the existing tree canopy and adopt strategies to protect and enhance the canopy. The study shall evaluate canopy coverage in both public rights-of way and on private properties by neighborhood to determine areas with inequitable coverage. The City shall monitor the tree canopy and produce a biennial report on the condition of the tree canopy.

Policy OSR-3.2.2 City will establish a goal for tree canopy coverage within parks and open space areas and actively increase tree plantings on an annual basis to mitigate the heat island effect and provide City-wide beautification.

Policy OSR-3.2.3 Park and open spaces shall be design to preserve stands and clusters of mature trees, and to require planting of appropriate and storm-resilient species.

Policy OSR-3.2.4 Prioritize expanding the tree canopy within the public rights-of-way in neighborhoods that are largely developed with few opportunities to establish new parks and open space.

Objective OSR-3.3 Conservation and Natural Areas

Natural and environmentally sensitive areas shall be protected and preserved through the following policies.

Policy OSR-3.3.1 The Land Use Map shall identify as "conservation" the following areas which shall be preserved: **Policy carried forward**

- The FIND parcels 645, and 650 along the Intracoastal;
- The Leon Weekes Environmental Preserve;
- Delray Oaks; and
- The Donnelley Tract on Palm Trail.

Policy OSR-3.3.2 The Open Space (OS) and Open Space and Recreation (OSR) Zone Districts of the Land Development Regulations shall be applied to "Recreation", "Open Space" and "Conservation" parcels. The OS Zone shall provide for distinct standards applicable to open space lands and to conservation lands. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-3.3.3 As a part of the City's ongoing beach nourishment program, existing pedestrian accesses to the beach shall be maintained and enhanced (**See Conservation Policy**). **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-3.3.4 The City will continue to preserve and protect naturally occurring habitats such as beaches, dunes, and coastal vegetation.

Policy OSR-3.3.5: Open spaces and recreation facilities shall be designed to minimize the impact of human activities on natural systems.

Policy OSR-3.3.6 The City will explore providing certain development incentives in the Land Development Regulations, in exchange for the provision and maintenance of open spaces, recreation facilities, naturally occurring habitats and environmentally sensitive land.

Policy OSR-3.3.7 The City will remove invasive, and nuisance vegetation from protected native habitats and preservation and conservation areas. Removal of said vegetation shall be maintained in perpetuity.

Objective OSR 3.4 Vistas and Streetscapes

The retention and creation of vistas, streetscapes and open space areas is vital to enhancing the aesthetics of the City, which shall be accomplished through the following:

Policy OSR-3.4.1 Open space areas, when developed within a subdivision, shall be located so that they provide a view corridor for the general public. Common areas which are a part of new developments shall be located contiguous to the external street system shall provide a view corridor. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-3.4.2 The City will continue its on-going street beautification efforts, including programs such as Adopt-A-Tree, landscaping upgrades as part of street construction projects, and an emphasis on providing sufficient funds to maintain existing landscaping at a high level. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-3.4.3 New developments shall provide central focal points at entries and landscape buffers along the external (arterial, collector) streets which service them. Back-lotting of individual homes along such streets should be allowed only when special landscape buffers are provided between the rear yard walls or fences and the right-of-way. **Policy carried forward**

Policy OSR-3.4.4 The City will maintain public rights-of-way that provide view corridor or vistas to water bodies and, whenever possible, provide features such as benches, landscaping, and trash receptacles to enhance the areas as pocket parks.

Objective OSR 3.5 Urban Open Spaces

The City shall determine downtown areas in need of public open space, and methods to provide open space at a scale that is consistent with the scale and character of downtown.

Policy OSR-3.5.1 By 2025, the City will determine if there is a need for an open space and recreational within the downtown area, assessing current amenities and determining future needs.

Policy OSR-3.5.2 The City will ensure a range in greenspace and civic open spaces throughout the downtown.

Policy OSR-3.5.3 The City will create a strategy and the necessary partnerships to, on a temporary basis, convert vacant lots within the downtown to useable open space, which may include temporary installations.

Policy OSR-3.5.4 By 2025, The City will adopt a policy addressing parklets, which are areas converted from on-street parking spaces to small, useable parks.

Policy OSR-3.5.5 Greenspace and open space within the downtown shall be designed to the highest industry standards and incorporate cultural and social elements.

Policy OSR-3.5.6 New developments within the downtown area shall provide and maintain publicly accessible civic open space features to enrich the urban environment.

Policy OSR-3.5.7 The City will consider offering potential bonuses in the land development regulations for developments within the downtown area that dedicate a meaningful portion of their site as public open space, exceeding the minimum civic open space requirements, and designing the area as a park or plaza consistent with the Land Development Regulations.

Objective OSR 3.6 Sustainability

The City will evaluate creative methods to incorporate and implement sustainable practices and green infrastructure within the City's park.

Policy OSR-3.6.1 The City will explore and identify suitable locations for urban agriculture and community gardens within parks and on appropriate public lands.

Policy OSR-3.6.2 The City will support creative approaches to managing gardens, such as support by educational institutions or volunteer management by community organizations.

Policy OSR-3.6.3 Evaluate the implementation of green infrastructure to capture and retain storm water and encourage on-site retention. Park areas shall be considered for this purpose.

Policy OSR-3.6.4 Explore locations for bio-swales, including their use in pocket parks as part of a flood-control management system.

Policy OSR 3.6.5 Evaluate the role of alleyway systems and their potential as part of bike trails, recreation and open space, and sustainable systems.

Policy OSR 3.6.6 The extension of reclaimed water to all parks shall be a high priority

GOAL OSR 4 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

PROMOTE PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO ACQUIRE, MAINTAIN, AND ENHANCE OPEN SPACE AND RECREATION FACILITIES.

Objective OSR 4.1 Public Partnerships

The City will coordinate with other public entities to expand the park and recreation experiences of all residents.

Policy OSR-4.1.1 The City, through the Parks and Recreation Department, shall continue its formal relationship and programs with the Palm Beach County School District for the joint use of school grounds for active sports, utilization of facilities, and for the creation of educational programs such as use of the nature and interpretative trails.

Policy OSR-4.1.2 Coordinate with the South Florida Water Management District and the Lake Worth Drainage District to develop agreements allowing greenway corridors within canal rights-of-way.

Policy OSR-4.1.3 The City will strive to expand grant funding opportunities offered by the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) and other potential sources.

Objective OSR 4.2 Private Sector Participation

The City will work with the private sector to encourage participation in programming and maintenance of open spaces.

Policy OSR-4.2.1 The City shall develop a policy for joint use agreements with private sector and non-profit organizations to expand programming at private amenity locations.

Policy OSR 4.2.2 The City shall be proactive in partnering with other community organizations, including religious and social organizations, to join in the effort to provide leisure programs and activities for the community as a whole.

Policy OSR-4.2.3 The City shall explore partnership opportunities with “Keep Palm Beach Beautiful” and shall support the organization’s County-wide efforts.

Policy OSR-4.2.4 The City shall encourage programs such as “adopt-a-street” “adopt-a-park” and “adopt-a-beach” to help maintain and beautify the City parks and beaches.

Policy OSR-4.2.5 The City shall encourage non-profit organization recreation development through the provision of incubator spaces.

Policy OSR-4.2.6. The Parks and Recreation Department shall continue to facilitate and encourage the accommodation of programs to fulfill the community's need for arts and cultural activities with the assistance of private and quasi-public groups.

Policy OSR-4.2.7 The City will continue to develop and sponsor programs for youth activities through partnerships with private and non-profit organizations.

Policy OSR-4.2.8 The City will partner with local artists to provide more opportunities to activate public open spaces through permanent and temporary art installations.

Policy OSR-4.2.9 City will explore the feasibility of providing pop-up parks, which may include temporary art installations on vacant lots within downtown.

Objective OSR 4.3 Citizen Outreach and Events

The City will expand its public outreach programs to the citizens through the following policies:

Policy OSR-4.3.1 Employ a wide range of outreach methods for the convenience and to respond to the diverse communication preferences of the citizens.

Policy OSR-4.3.2 Expand the outreach and marketing of City parks, using existing and new social media platforms to increase user participation.

Policy OSR-4.3.3 On a regular basis, the City will evaluate park and recreation preferences, changing needs, and emerging trends through the assessment of usage, surveys and other methods.

Policy OSR-4.3.4 Engage community leaders, stakeholders, and residents in the planning and design of park facilities.

Policy OSR-4.3.5 Explore opportunities to collaborate with private homeowners associations to utilize their facilities to expand recreation activities and programming to the community, especially in areas without a large number of public parks.

Policy OSR-4.3.6 Encourage citizens to volunteer within the parks and recreation system by offering opportunities to be involved in recreational and resource programming, youth athletic coaching, park clean-up efforts, habitat restoration and special event support.