



# City of Palm Coast

## RECREATION & PARKS FACILITIES MASTER PLAN



**GLATTING JACKSON KERCHER ANGLIN**  
we plan and design livable communities

in strategic association with:

Dickinson Consulting Inc.

*January 2009*

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## PART I: INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 The Role of Parks and Open Spaces

In recent decades, many cities have rediscovered the important role that parks and open spaces play in a city's development. Much literature has been written on the environmental, social, and financial benefits of parks and through these studies the definition of parks systems has evolved to be more than just playgrounds and ball fields.

The modern parks and open space system is comprised of all of the publicly owned and controlled land within a City, and if planned well it can establish a framework for future development. This framework, often referred to as the “public realm”, includes all of the City's streets, trails, parks and natural areas, civic sites, and cultural areas. A well-planned, designed, and constructed public realm can significantly improve the quality of life for existing residents; attract new residents, visitors, and business to the city; and position the City to better accommodate new growth and development in the future.

Not only does this Recreation and Parks Master Plan strive to enhance the city's existing park system and provide a blueprint for the future development of parks, open spaces, greenways, trails, and pedestrian oriented streets, it also strives to play a leading role in achieving the 2020 Vision for the City of Palm Coast:

*“...to be a unique and vibrant city recognized for its: exceptional quality of life; attractive job opportunities, diversified housing, and superbly designed commercial areas; valued natural, recreational, and cultural resources; exemplary public facilities and services; responsible growth and fiscal planning responsiveness to meeting the diverse needs of the citizens; friendly and welcoming manner towards visitors, residents, and businesses.*

To achieve this, the Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Master Plans looks back into the past to develop an understanding of the conditions that have led to the present and builds a comprehensive roadmap for the desired future quality of life. The Master Plan includes the following:

**Part I: Introduction** – Provides a brief history of the Palm Coast Park System, early and modern history, environmental background, and existing/future land use.

**Part II: Needs Assessment** – Details and analyzes the findings from anecdotal, quantitative, and qualitative techniques.

**Part III: Vision** – Describes the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision for the City of Palm Coast.

**Part IV: Implementation** – Delineates a realistic strategy for the funding and implementation of the Vision.

*“All great cities in the world, where people want to live, have a great park system.”*

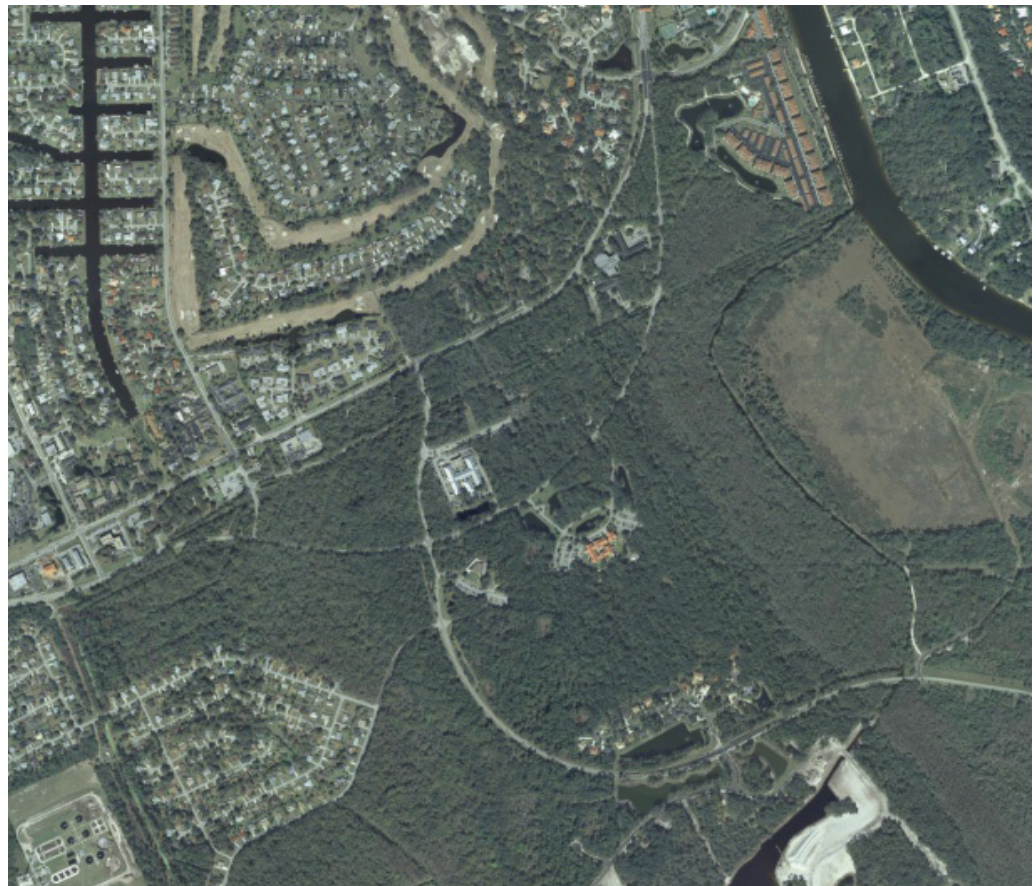
Dr. John Crompront,  
Texas A&M University

## 1.2 Environmental Background

As with all communities, Palm Coast's history starts long before any people were in the area. Geologically, the area is part of the Anastasia Formation that runs intermittently along Florida's east coast. The Formation is essentially a giant deposit of coquina, which would later prove to be an important building material for settlers. No elevation within Palm Coast is above forty-five feet, and the area's hydrology is characterized by a shallow water table and poor drainage.

Prior to the creation of Palm Coast, the land contained most of the plants systems present in northern Florida. About eleven different plant communities existed, most in an elongated shape and running parallel with the ocean. The presence of certain plant communities was highly correlated with elevation, and the greatest variation was found closer to the coast. Almost two thirds—about 62%—of the area was covered in Pine Flatwoods, which consists mainly of Slash Pine, Longleaf Pine, Pond Pine, Saw Palmetto, Wiregrass, and xeric oaks. The next most common plan community was Cypress Swamps and Bayheads, which covered about 14% of the area; the rest of the land was a mixture of Oak-Cabbage Palm, Mixed Hydric Hardwoods, San Pine Scrub, Longleaf Pine/Turkey Oak, and a touch of Coastal Strand.

Today, most of these plant communities have been replaced by residential development from the past twenty years, but pockets still exist, predominantly in the eastern portion of Palm Coast. In fact, Palm Coast newest Parks, such as Palm Coast Linear Park and the proposed Waterfront Park have made it a priority to preserve these areas for residents to enjoy. However, because so much has been urbanized so quickly, only areas that are very difficult to build upon remain relatively undisturbed, such as Long Creek, Graham Swamp and Hulett Swamp.



**Figure 1.1**  
*Aerial of Eastern Palm Coast around Palm Coast Linear Park where Pockets of Pine Flatwoods, Mixed Hardwoods, Cypress Swamps and Bayheads Still Remain*



## 1.3 History and Historic Sites

*When the Palm Coast property was getting underway as a Planned Unit Development, a number of studies were required because of its large scale. One of particular importance is the Phase I Results of the Palm Coast Resource Assessment, completed in 1977. This report, along with resources from the Florida Master Site Files and Herbert Hiller's **Highway AIA: Florida at the Edge**, provided the bulk of information about Palm Coast's history.*

### Early History

The first peoples who inhabited the Palm Coast area were likely Paleo-Indians, but the area tends to be associated with later peoples from the northern St. Johns Region. Specifically, the tribe most closely tied to northeast Florida is the Eastern Timucua. The sub-group of Timucuan most closely tied to present-day Palm Coast area is the Agua Dulce, or “Fresh Water Indians”. Archaeological sites have provided evidence of a seasonally nomadic lifestyle, but this practice evolved into more permanent settlements later. The crops the Agua Dulce cultivated were probably maize, beans, pumpkins, cucumbers, citrus, and gourds, but they also relied heavily on shellfish and other water-based creatures. Buildings were typically round structures made of wood with a relatively open frame and palmetto-thatched roofs. An occasional granary was constructed of stone and earth.

These early people of northeast Florida were fairly isolated for some time, but by the 1300s archaeology show some evidence of Mississippian cultural influences such as building truncated pyramids and using sheet copper. By the 1500s, archaeological studies revealed that European goods were making their way into the communities of the St. Johns and the Timucuan. Near Palm Coast, St. Augustine was settled around 1565, and Christian missionaries began trying to convert the native peoples in 1583. The coming of European influence signaled the beginning of the Agua Dulce's demise; by the 1730s, records indicate that the Agua Dulce tribe was no longer in existence.



**Figure 1.2**  
*Archaeological Sites*

### Existing Conditions: Archaeological Sites

There are only a handful of known archeological sites within the Palm Coast boundaries. The *Cultural Resource Assessment (Assessment)* study reported four sites within ITT's land holdings: the Wadsworth Midden, the Eatman Mound, King's Road Mound, and Bon Terra Farm. However, once Palm Coast became a city, its boundaries only contained one such site: Eatman Mound. Located on Long Creek, the Eatman Mound was once about four feet high and up to 60 feet in diameter, but was destroyed by bulldozing around the time of the *Assessment* was written—only small human bone fragments and bits of pottery could be recovered.

### European and American Settlement

Northern Florida was one of the very first areas in the United States to be settled by Europeans. Britain briefly controlled the area after it gained Florida in 1763 and managed to construct the King's Road from the St. Mary's River to New Smyrna Beach, which was the major form—and in places, the only form—of transportation in the area. After suffering defeat during the American Revolution, Britain lost its Florida territories to Spain.



**Figure 1.3**  
*Spanish Land Grants Plantations*

However, Spain had trouble populating its new land; in order to stimulate growth, the King issued a Royal Order in 1790 allowing the governor of Florida to authorize land grants to foreigners if they met certain conditions. About twenty such land grants were issued in the Palm Coast area, and many of these settlers cultivated their land successfully into plantations. The plantations were located along ½ mile to one-mile strip along the west side of the “Back Bay” area, which benefitted from a rich estuary environment. They were large enough to grow high quality cotton and produce sugar. When the United States gained control of Florida in 1821, it recognized the property rights of the plantation owners. Prominent plantations in the Palm Coast vicinity were named St. Josephs, Mala Compra, Bella Vista, Long’s Plantation, and Pellicer.

The plantations prospered until the late 1820s, when tensions escalated between the Americans and the Seminole Tribes, resulting in the Second Seminole War. In a number of raids, the Seminoles burned down almost all of the Palm Coast area plantation structures, killed a number of owners, and took others prisoner. The survivors of the raids all moved to St. Augustine for better protection, and the 1840 United States Census showed no one living in present-day Flagler County.

Very little development happened between the Second Seminole War and the 1880s when the railroads first came to Florida. The state of Florida gave control of much land in present-day Flagler County to five private companies, who in turn agreed to improve the “Swamp and Overflowed Lands.”

Unlike every other county in Florida, Henry Flagler’s railroad jogged inland away from the coast to reach Palatka, and did not return to the coast until connecting to New Smyrna Beach. This effectively kept the area’s coastline off the radar of many real estate development and kept growth near Palm Coast to a minimum. Finally in 1925 “Ocean Shore Boulevard” (aka AIA) was built, but it was too late to capitalize on the height of the Florida real estate boom. Flagler County remained agricultural throughout the first half of the twentieth century.

## Existing Historic Sites

There are very few known historic structures of significance in Palm Coast today. This is probably due to two factors: the rather complete destruction of the Spanish land grant plantations in the 1800s, and the focus of rail transportation further west in the county.

### Florida Master Site File Sites (2008)

The Florida Master Site File is the most up-to-date statewide database of historic structures and sites. According to January 2008 data, there are four existing historic structures in Palm Coast, three of which are clustered together into a complex. The “Strawn Agricultural Complex” is a circa 1925 complex of three agricultural warehouses that are potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places and for a local register.

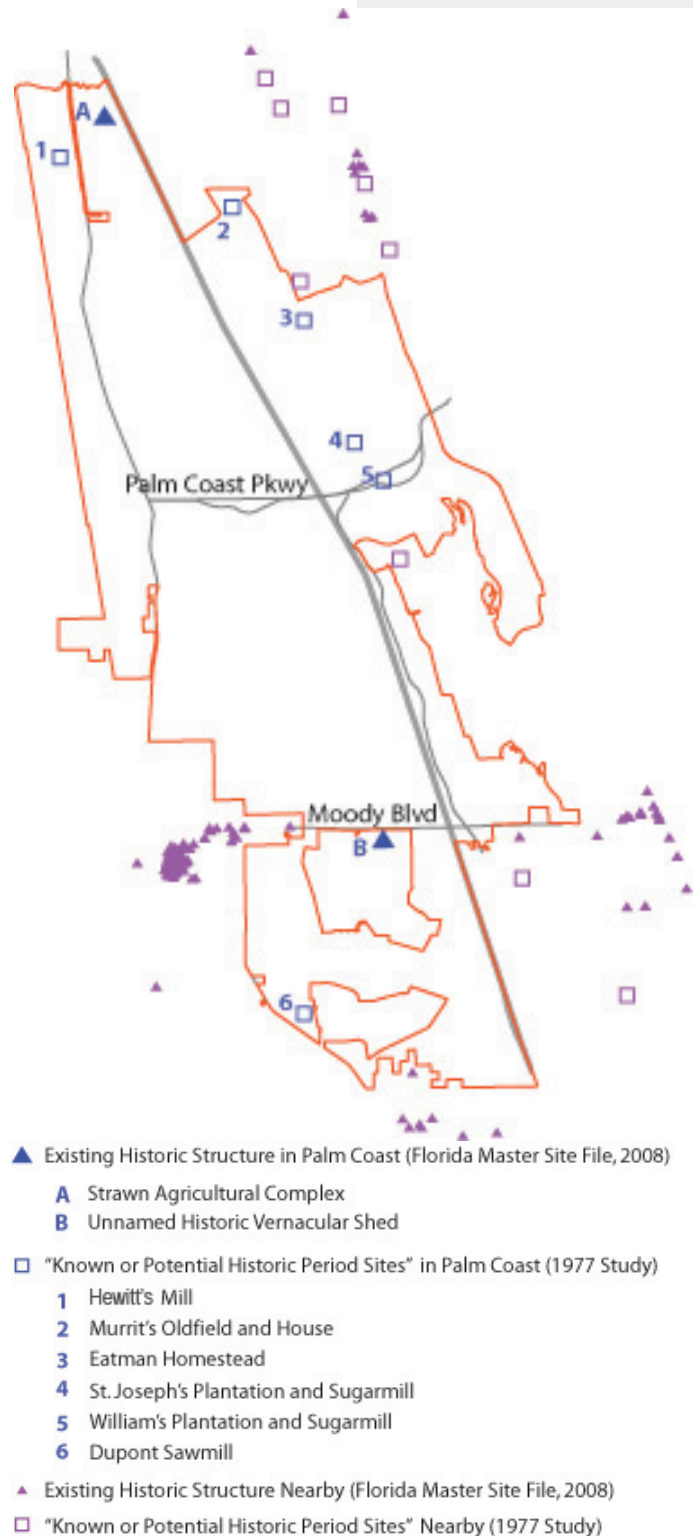
A fourth historic structure—a circa 1935 frame vernacular shed—in Palm Coast is located near Moody Boulevard and Jarosz Street. This has been determined to be ineligible for an historic register.

### Historic Sites Noted in the *Cultural Resource Assessment* (1977)

According to the Cultural Resource Assessment, there were six “known or potential historic period sites” within the Palm Coast Area in 1977. The northernmost site is Hewitt’s Mill, which was noted on a map from the 1800s but little else is known of it. Moving south is Murrit’s Old Field and House and the Eatman Homestead, which was formerly part of the Long Plantation and had over 600 acres of citrus groves and cattle pasture. Close to present-day Palm Coast Parkway NE are the probable sites of St. Joseph’s plantation and sugar mill—one of the most frequently mentioned Florida plantations in historic records—and the William’s plantation and sugar mill. A final site is noted in the far south and is named Dupont Sawmill; no details were provided in the *Assessment*.

None of these six sites appear to match the four sites contained in today’s Master Site File, described above. The likely explanation for this mismatch is that the four sites in the Master Site File were not considered old enough in 1977 to be designated historic; furthermore, the definition of what is historic has also been expanded since the 1970s to be more inclusive of everyday, vernacular structures.

**Figure 1.4**  
*Historic Structures in and around Palm Coast*



### Recent History: The Development of Palm Coast

Throughout much of the twentieth century, Flagler County was a quiet, predominantly rural place. Elsewhere in Florida, teams of developers were beginning to create large-scale communities aimed at northern retirees on modest budgets. Finally in the late 1960s, ITT began looking at property in Flagler County. At the time, the county was so undeveloped that people believed the land ITT was eyeing would be used for timber harvesting. But ITT had something different in mind: a new planned unit development (PUD) called Palm Coast. They undertook massive infrastructure projects, such as building a toll bridge across the Intracoastal and constructing miles and miles of canals and waterways. They built roads, sewer, power, and telephone lines, and organized the development into sections that could be distinguished by the first letter of the road names: P, R, or F.



**Figure 1.5**  
*Early Residents  
of Palm Coast*

Palm Coast at first attracted a modest population, and by 1990 had about 18,000 people. At this point, ITT felt that the growth levels had stagnated so it sold 13,000 acres to Palm Coast Holdings. ITT also sold land to a developer to create Grand Haven and the community's fifth golf course. By 1999, the population had risen to 32,732 people. By 2004 the population had burgeoned to 50,000; just two years later, the City witnessed an amazing jump to 70,000 people in 2006.

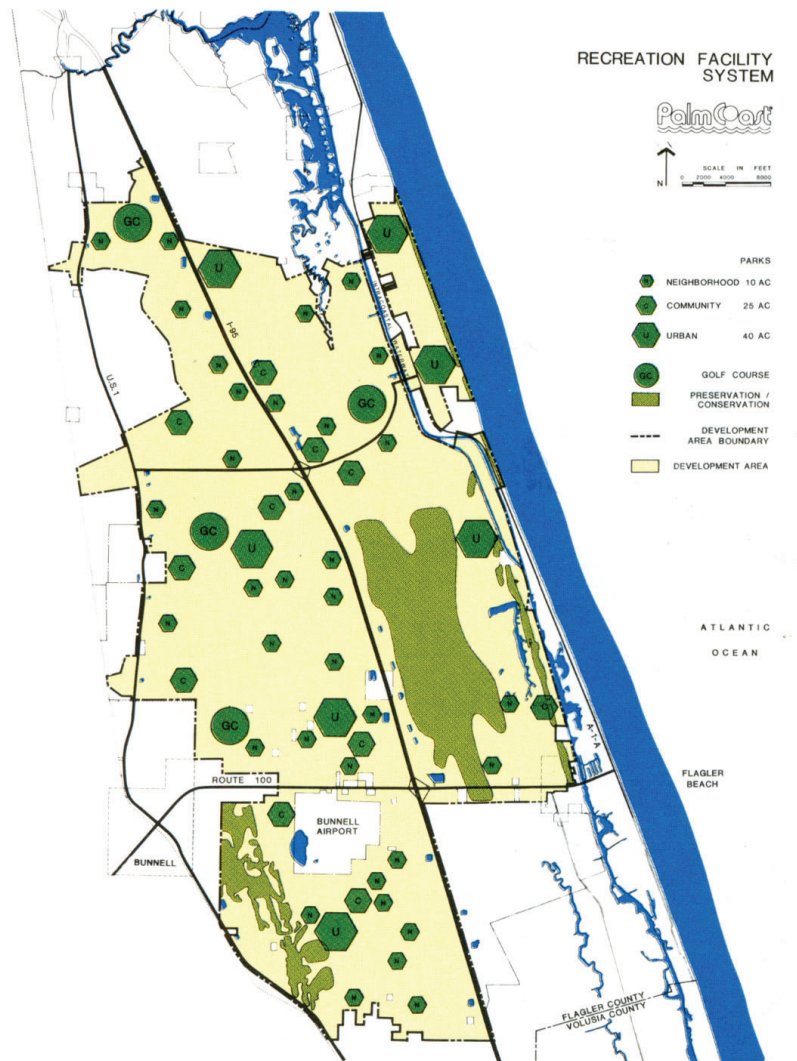
Today, Palm Coast is the dominant physical and political entity in Flagler County.



## 1.4 History of the Palm Coast Park System

The history of Palm Coast as an ITT development set the framework for today's Parks, Open Space, and Recreation System. Originally, Palm Coast was intended to be a relatively self-sustaining community with such community systems in mind as commercial, education, recreational and other public activities. Extensive planning was conducted for all these systems in an effort to develop a balanced and environmentally friendly community for the approximately 224,000 people projected to live in Palm Coast.

For the parks and recreation system, land was allotted for a full range of facilities from small tot lots to nature trails and preserves. Sites were dispersed throughout the community to optimize accessibility and encourage use by residents. Potential park sites were initially located and left to be planned in the future as development occurred; the idea was to develop the parks only when the need for access and the existing population was in place. While this was a sound approach, unfortunately only some of the reserved parcels were developed into parks - most of these parcels were eventually lost to private ownership. The land that did remain in public ownership is the existing parks system for Palm Coast and the starting point for this master plan.



**Figure 1.6**  
*Recreation Facility System  
 for Palm Coast,*  
*Source: Palm Coast CLUP,*  
*Vol. 5*



## 1.5 Palm Coast Today

Most of Palm Coast's infrastructure remains the same as it was planned for in the 1970's. However, the components within that infrastructure and the forces behind them are changing. As one of the most progressively new planned communities in Florida, Palm Coast was originally planned to be a relatively self-sustaining community of about 224,000 people. It is no wonder why the City's current population of about 70,000 enjoys a high quality of life. Although the city was planned for a diverse population, the City originally attracted those who were looking to retire; and the City's amenities were planned and developed to meet the needs of that particular demographic. In recent years however, Palm Coast has attracted a younger demographic seeking that same, high quality of life enjoyed by long time residents. Instead of being a homogenous retirement community, the City has become home to a variety of families with diverse recreational needs and desires.

Over the last several years, the Parks Department has been working very hard to meet the needs and desires of its diverse population. Seven of the eleven existing parks have been developed in recent years and there are four planned for development. The City has developed a Bicycle Pedestrian Master Plan to provide linkages to parks and schools. While all these new parks and initiatives provide residents with a high quality recreation experience, many of the older parks and infrastructure are lagging behind. Due to the manner by which Palm Coast was planned, park sites are limited, unevenly spread across the city, and some are not large enough to meet the active recreation needs of the community. Pedestrian access and linkages to parks from neighborhoods is limited and in some cases compromised. With no public transportation system in place and an existing disconnected sidewalk network, many Palm Coast residents are forced to drive to parks; even if they might live within walking distance.

Some of the proposed development patterns in Palm Coast are also changing. Rather than creating more homogenous single use neighborhoods, many of the proposed developments in Palm Coast are planned as Mixed-Use Development where residents can meet a variety of their daily needs within walking distance. Some streets are being planned and designed as "complete streets" that provide residents with multi-modal transportation opportunities and many of the larger developments are building greenways and trails that will connect to future city planned greenways and trails. However, with loose parks and open space requirements and no design guidelines for new parks in place, the City could potentially miss out on providing residents with new quality parks and open spaces that provide effective and usable open spaces that meet the needs of the community.

As part of the process of attracting new business to the city, Palm Coast must continue to offer a high quality of life to its residents. The task of this Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan is to begin to plan for and build a beautiful, sustainable, and equitable green infrastructure that will enhance the daily life of residents and also help guide the future development Palm Coast.

## Demographics

Palm Coast has evolved from a small retirement community to an urbanizing city: not only has the population grown but the types of people moving in have changed in their demographic make-up.

The following series of charts details general demographics for the city of Palm Coast; where available, charts contain data from 2000 as well as projected 2013 numbers, which can help determine population trends. The data source for all statistics is Claritas. Claritas is considered a world leader in market research and used by a variety of industries including financial services, media and communications, retail, real estate, restaurants, and others to provide a clear picture of prospective customers.

Claritas data is based on figures obtained through a variety of government agencies including the U.S. Census, U.S. Postal Service and Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight; local government agencies and non-governmental sources such as Equifax, Valassis, ADVO, and the National Association of Realtors. Although the projections below may differ from those obtained through the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR), U.S. Census, and the American Community Survey (ACS), it provides a general understanding and view of the demographics of the City. As discussed later in this section, this data is then used to identify general lifestyle segments within the population that provide further insight into potential parks and recreation needs. This data will be taken into consideration and balanced with the findings of the Needs Assessment for use during the Visioning of the City of Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan.

## Population

In 2008, Palm Coast had an estimated population of 63,899. Chart 1.1 shows the great leaps in population from 1990 – 2000, and from 2000 -2008. Growth from 2008 until 2013 is expected to happen at a lower rate than recent levels, but is still quite fast compared to the national rate of growth (4.9%). Racially, the City is predominantly white (81.33%), but there is a sizable Black/African-American population (12.07%). Both of these figures are similar to the nation as a whole, but there are fewer people in Palm Coast that identify themselves as Latino/Hispanic (9.56%) than the nationwide figure (15.2%)

TOTAL POPULATION	
1990 Population	16,998
2000 Census	32,732
2008 Estimate	63,899
2013 Projection	83,727
Growth 1990 - 2000	92.56%
Growth 2000 - 2008	95.22%
Growth 2008 - 2013	31.03%

**Chart 1.1**  
*Population Trend*

**Chart 1.2**  
*Race and Ethnicity  
in 2008*

2008 Population By Race	63,899	%
White Alone	51,970	81.33%
Black/African-American Alone	7,715	12.07%
American Indian Alone	146	0.23%
Asian Alone	1,493	2.34%
Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	14	0.02%
Some Other Race	1,063	1.66%
Two or More Races	1498	2.34%
Hispanic/Latino	6,109	9.56%
Not Hispanic/Latino	57,790	90.44%

Chart 1.3 shows Palm Coast's population by age, roughly grouped into ages ranges that tend to have similar parks and recreation needs. There is a substantial population of older age groups in the city, which will likely bear on the types of parks and recreation facilities most needed by today's residents.

**Chart 1.3**  
*Population  
by Age in 2008*

2008 Population by Age	63899	%
Age 0 - 4	2872	4.49%
Age 5 - 9	2920	4.57%
Age 10 - 14	3236	5.06%
Age 15 - 17	2254	3.53%
Age 18 - 24	4972	7.78%
Age 25 - 44	17012	26.62%
Age 45 - 59	10437	16.33%
Age 60 - 74	12150	19.01%
Age 74+	8026	12.56%

## Households

The household is the most important unit of the Census: it shows not only levels of growth, but also gives a better indicator of how people are living. The number of households in Palm Coast have increased in step with the overall population, and have even grown more: this is indicated through the gradual drop in average household size over the past twenty years.

The city is also a very stable one: over 85% of its housing is owner-occupied, which is indicative of a population investing in the community. This stability is reflected in the percentage of family households, which comprises 77.48% of the population. Chart 1.7 also shows a population that is growing increasingly wealthy, from an average income of \$51,313 in 2000 to a projected \$68,445 in 2013.

**Chart 1.4**  
*Household Trend*

Households		Average Size
1990 Census	6,999	2.43
2000 Census	13,628	2.40
2008 Estimate	27,807	2.30
2013 Projection	37,449	2.24

2008 Tenure of Occupied Housing		27807
Owner-Occupied	23887	85.90%
Renter-Occupied	3920	14.10%

**Chart 1.5**  
*2008 Tenure of Occupied Housing*

2008 Household Types		27807
Family Households	21542	77.48%
Non-Family Households	6265	22.53%

**Chart 1.6**  
*2008 Types of Households*

2008 Est. Household Income	13943	2000	27807	2008	37449	2013
Less than \$15,000	1449	10.39%	2210	7.95%	2607	6.96%
\$15,000 - \$24,999	2093	15.01%	3154	11.34%	3582	9.57%
\$25,000 - \$34,999	2001	14.35%	3650	13.13%	4501	12.02%
\$35,000 - \$49,999	2883	20.68%	5234	18.82%	6378	17.03%
\$50,000 - \$74,999	3131	22.46%	6300	22.66%	8616	23.01%
\$75,000 - \$99,999	1274	9.14%	3584	12.89%	5130	13.70%
\$100,000 - \$149,999	698	5.01%	2507	9.02%	4519	12.07%
\$150,000 - \$249,999	331	2.37%	875	3.15%	1530	4.09%
\$250,000 - \$499,999	68	0.49%	221	0.79%	433	1.16%
\$500,000+	15	0.11%	72	0.26%	153	0.41%
<b>Average Household Incomes</b>	<b>\$51,313</b>		<b>\$61,454</b>		<b>\$68,455</b>	
Housing Units	14,929		31,149		41,986	

**Chart 1.7**  
*Household Income Trend*

## Lifestyle

Different people have different parks and recreation needs – but can these be parsed out through demographics? It is not solely dependent on age, household size, income level, place of residence, or ethnicity. It is a combination of all of these characteristics which begin to inform a population's general lifestyle.

The Random House Dictionary defines lifestyle as the following: “the habits, attitudes, tastes, moral standards, economic level, etc., that together constitute the mode of living of an individual or group”. One advantage of using Claritas for demographic analysis is that it takes a combination of Census statistics and combines them with consumer behavior data to create general lifestyle profiles. These profiles, titled PRIZM segments, provide a snapshot of typical lifestyles across the nation. What makes this such a powerful tool is that any geography's population—right down to a block in a neighborhood—can be understood in terms of lifestyle patterns.

A “Lifestage” segmentation analysis was run for the City of Palm Coast. This particular type of segment looks at ways of living based on the stage of life of the head householder. According to the analysis, 59.59% of Palm Coast's population's is part of the “Mature Years” lifestage, 34.15% as “Younger Years”, and only 5.97% as family lifestages. In tandem with the data presented above, this indicates a very large percentage of couples that live in the City, most of which are empty nesters or older couples without children.

**Chart 1.8 Analysis**

*PRIZM Lifestage  
Segmentation*

After almost a phenomenal two-decade growth spurt, Palm Coast must now begin to retrofit the community to meet the recreation and parks needs of its existing and future population. Not only are there more people, but younger people are gradually replacing retirees in the community, household sizes are getting smaller, and incomes are rising. The population is larger and more diverse, and the parks system must become larger and more diverse to reflect this.

It is important to note the results of Palm Coast's lifestyle segmentation analysis. One look at the lifestyle descriptions and it is clear that the predominant lifestyles tend to be very "small town" in nature. As Palm Coast continues to grow and urbanize, there will likely be conflicts between wanting to maintain a more traditional small town approach to life with a city that is becoming larger, busier, denser, and more diverse in lifestyle types. One task for Palm Coast's Recreation and Parks Master Plan is to find ways that will foster smaller communities within the larger community, and also enhance access to recreational facilities popular amongst these groups such as fishing, camping, and boating. Another task is to begin preparing for a greater percentage of families in the areas, as the "Younger Years" couples begin to turn into families requiring more child-friendly facilities.



## PART II: NEEDS ASSESSMENT

## 2.1 Introduction to the Needs Assessment

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessments are used to determine community needs or “gaps” between existing and ideal conditions, including parks, recreation facilities, programs, operations and maintenance. There is no standard methodology or single, authoritative source regarding how to properly conduct a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment, but by using many different types of analyses, the major needs of a community tend to become clear.

Needs Assessments are not ends unto themselves, but are conducted to form the basis for decisions regarding the location and size of needed parks and open spaces; the types of recreation facilities and programs that should be provided; phasing priorities; and funding/implementation strategies. Specifically, planners, urban designers, park designers and other planning professionals most commonly use the findings from a Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessment to:

- *Determine residents’ level of satisfaction with existing facilities, programs and services;*
- *Determine community needs, priorities and preferences for various types of parks, facilities and/or programs; and*
- *Determine residents’ willingness and/or preferences to fund needed improvements, facilities and/or programs.*

### Types of Techniques

A variety of techniques are commonly used in Parks, Recreation and Open Space Needs Assessments. One concept that is particularly useful is the idea of “triangulation,” or approaching needs from at least three different vantage points. An assessment conducted solely from the vantage point of organized sports leagues, for example, may indicate that additional sports fields are the highest priority in a community. Yet the reality may be (and often is) that safe bikeways and quiet sitting areas are more important than sports fields to most residents. Thus the practice of triangulation helps to insure a more accurate assessment of community needs.

**Observational techniques** are sometimes the most valid assessment tools, but probably the least scientific. Site visits and photographs, phone calls and/or conversations with facility and/or program participants, personal observations, discussions with parks and recreation staff and other types of similar discussions and observations provide information that cannot be calculated.

**Qualitative techniques** involve talking with a wide cross-section of community residents and stakeholders in order to identify common themes, needs and interests. While not as scientific and objective as quantitative techniques (see below), qualitative techniques can provide some real insights into community issues, “hidden agendas” and emotions. Planners should first identify the community leaders, activists and providers who should be included in the process, and then select the appropriate technique(s) for each. Alternative qualitative forums and techniques include:

- Staff interviews/workshops
- Interviews with elected officials and/or community leaders
- Interviews with representatives of public school boards, non-profit organizations and other parks and recreation providers
- Focus group meetings with teens, adults, seniors, youth sports leagues, adult leagues and/or other special interest groups
- Workshops with elected officials, staff, advisory groups, neighborhood residents, steering committees and/or other community representatives

**Quantitative techniques** often have the greatest credibility, because most people have faith in numbers and formulas. However, numbers can be manipulated to support various positions so quantitative techniques should never be used alone to determine community needs and priorities. Of all of the quantitative techniques, the telephone survey is the most accurate and reliable. If conducted correctly, using a qualified statistician/professional researcher who can determine the appropriate sample size and design the most effective survey tool, the telephone survey can yield results that most closely reflect the opinions and feelings of community residents.

One particularly important set of quantitative techniques is Level of Service (LOS) Analyses. Inherently, Level of Services analyses are about community-wide equity: are parks in the community equitably distributed? Are the parks of uniform quality, or do some neighborhoods have parks with better amenities? Is there equal access to recreation programs?

There are five major ways to measure parks and recreation Level of Service in a community:

- **Acreage** - Measuring acreage in a ratio to the community's population (acres/1000 residents)
- **Facilities** - Measuring facility capacity in a ratio to the community's population, and comparing against a standard or guideline
- **Access** - Measures distance or travel time to parks and facilities. The best Access LOS Analyses use the existing roadway and pedestrian network to determine access, rather than "as the crow flies" radii around facilities
- **Quality** - Measures distribution of quality facilities across the community
- **Programming** - Measures access to recreation programs across the community

### **Techniques Used for the City of Palm Coast Needs Assessment**

The following needs assessment techniques were used for City of Palm Coast:

#### **2.2 Observational Techniques**

##### 2.2.1 Site Visits

#### **2.3 Qualitative Techniques:**

- 2.3.1 Council and Mayor Workshop
- 2.3.2 Interview with City Manager
- 2.3.3 Leisure Services Advisory Committee Workshop
- 2.3.4 Public Workshop
- 2.3.5 Focus Group Workshops
- 2.3.6 Youth Workshop

#### **2.4 Quantitative Techniques:**

- 2.4.1 Telephone Survey
- 2.4.2 Acreage LOS
- 2.4.3 Facility LOS
- 2.4.4 Access LOS
- 2.4.5 Quality LOS
- 2.4.6 Program LOS

Additionally, two (2) previous studies and surveys by the City of Palm Coast were reviewed as part of this needs assessment.

- 2.4.7 Palm Coast Citizen Survey
- 2.4.8 Report of the Community Center Study Committee

The next section details the results of each technique, and section 2.5 summarizes the findings from all techniques and the pertinent previous Palm Coast studies.

## 2.2 Observational Techniques

### 2.2.1 Site Visits

There are two different scales at which a parks system can be evaluated. The first is the large scale: what qualities does Palm Coast's existing system have, and what does it lack? The second scale is at the site level: an examination of each park's proximity, access, and linkages; its comfort and image, and its uses and sociability.

#### 2.2.1.1 System Evaluation

In the second half of the twentieth century, most people believed that the function of a parks system was to simply provide space for recreation. While this is still a major objective for a parks system, there has been a large leap forward in understanding the multiple functions—and benefits—that a well-planned parks system can offer. Now when we think of an ideal system, we look for the following characteristics:

#### Community Identity

- Central gathering spaces and easily-identified civic buildings for public events;
- Public art and signage integrated throughout the system to create sense of place;
- A broad range of social, cultural, recreation and wellness programs;
- Celebration and access to heritage resources;
- Parks planned as catalysts for neighborhood stabilization and /or redevelopment;
- Involvement and grooming of civic leaders and champions;

#### Equitable Access

- "Walk-to" parks that are easily accessible to every resident;
- Equitably distributed system of sports complexes and other special use facilities;
- Community centers easily accessible to every resident;
- An interconnected network of boulevards, parkways, streets, greenways and trails designed as a community-wide system of linear parks;
- Pedestrian, bicycle and transit access to every public park and open space;

#### Protection of the Natural Environment

- +/- 50% of parks space preserved in natural or maintained open space;
- Safe, convenient access to rivers, lakes and streams;
- Natural areas protected as conservation lands with appropriate/equitable public access;
- Greenbelts surrounding urban development areas to contain sprawl and to buffer agricultural or environmental lands;
- Parks designed to reduce energy and water consumption, thereby serving as models for sustainable development;

#### Responsible Planning and Administration

- Co-location and joint use of schools, libraries and parks;
- Well designed and maintained facilities;
- Municipal, County, State, Federal, corporate, and non-profit partnerships;
- Neighborhood and community level public involvement; and
- A community-building mindset.

Source: Glatting Jackson Kercher Anglin, Inc

**Figure 2.1**  
*Proposed Town Center  
Central Park*



With the characteristics of the ideal parks system in mind, the following observations were made about the developed Palm Coast Parks System.

### **Community Identity**

**Central gathering space and easily-identified civic buildings for public events:** The City does not currently have a central gathering space. Holland Park and Palm Coast Community Center have historically been considered as major centers within the park system but neither have the space to become civic hearts. The recently built Town Center Central Park within the SR100 Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) will potentially serve as the City’s central gathering space, especially with the completion of the amphitheater and City Hall proposed to be built around it. The Town Center Cultural Arts Center and Town Center Community Center within walking distance from the park will also serve to strengthen its function as the civic heart of the community.

**Public art and signage integrated throughout the system to create sense of place:** The City currently has very little to no public art. While park signage is in place, it is not consistent between the newer and older parks.

**A broad range of social, cultural, recreation and wellness programs:** The City has done an excellent job of providing residents with a variety of cultural, recreational and wellness programs ranging from sports development programs, to dancing, and art lessons.

**Celebration and access to heritage resources:** Although Palm Coast is a fairly young city, it has some very interesting modern history that has shaped its development. Much of the heritage and cultural history lies in the surrounding and older towns of Bunnell, Flagler Beach, and Marineland. County and State Parks such as Princess Place Preserve and the Florida Agricultural Museum respectively, have done an excellent job of capturing and celebrating this heritage and cultural history while some of the modern-day Palm Coast history has remained untold.

**Parks planned as catalysts for neighborhood stabilization and /or redevelopment:** A full range of park facilities were originally planned for Palm Coast, ranging from small tot lots to nature trails and preserves. While these facilities were intended to be dispersed throughout the City to optimize accessibility and encourage resident usage, their future development was contingent on the relative need of the surrounding community for access the existing population distributions, as well as future growth areas. Furthermore, it appears that equitable access to neighborhood parks was not one of the principles used in the planning of Palm Coast. Due to these factors, there are many neighborhoods in Palm Coast that lack land for neighborhood parks.

**Involvement and grooming of civic leaders and champions:** The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee is extensive and effective—the civic leadership evident is a strong point in the City’s system.



## Equitable Access

**“Walk-to” parks that are easily accessible to every resident:** Because of the existing roadway network, not all parks are easily accessible; furthermore, some neighborhoods lack a park altogether and are isolated from nearby parks because of busy roadways acting as barriers.

**Equitably distributed system of sports complexes and other special use facilities:** Palm Coast has one sports complex, four developed special use facilities and five that are planned for development in the next 20 years. Overall, one of the strengths of the park system is the equitable distribution of all these facilities. The extreme southern portion of the City is the only area that does not have access to some type of special use facility.

**Community centers easily accessible to every resident:** Palm Coast Community Center is the only true community center in Palm Coast. While Holland Park and Palm Coast Linear Park offer multi-purpose rooms, they don't provide all the amenities typically found in community centers and they are located within the same area. While a community center has been planned for SR100 CRA, the northern, central, and western portions of the City remain without access to a community center.

**An interconnected network of boulevards, parkways, streets, greenways and trails designed as a community-wide system of linear parks:** Many of the parkways in Palm Coast have excess right of way that provide the potential for the development of tree-lined boulevards and multi-purpose paths. The rest of the City however, lacks suitable infrastructure for non-motorized traffic; particularly within the neighborhoods. Although the City's Pedestrian/ Bicycle Master Plan will provide pedestrian connectivity to schools and parks, many of the neighborhoods lack sidewalks that will connect to this proposed system. Furthermore, some of the parkways are so wide and fast, that they serve as barriers that discourage pedestrian connectivity.

**Pedestrian, bicycle and transit access to every public park and open space:** The city boasts four great trails /greenways: Palm Coast Linear Park, Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Path and the newly built US-1 Multi-Purpose Path. The City also recently completed a Pedestrian/ Bicycle Master Plan that will provide pedestrian connectivity to school and parks. Some of the more recently developed parks have good pedestrian links, but sidewalks start and end abruptly in neighborhoods and do not always extend into parks. Transit access is unavailable in the City.

## Protection of the Natural Environment

**+/- 50% of parks space preserved in natural or maintained open space:** Many of the newly built and designed park facilities do have preserved natural areas. While some of these areas are fully embraced as valuable resources to the park system, others are not. However, Palm Coast's older facilities have very little natural or maintained open space. Due to limited parkland and the growing demand for park facilities, most of the open spaces have been used for some kind of active/ programmed recreational use. Typical of rapidly urbanizing communities, informal and maintained open space (e.g. open multi-purpose lawns) is lacking within the park system.

**Safe, convenient access to rivers, lakes and streams:** Despite the large number of canals and waterways in the City, there are no existing public access points. However, the City is in the process of developing water access points at Long's Landing Estuary and Waterfront Park. Additionally, city residents can go to various county parks that provide water access. These county parks are Bings Landing and Herschel King Sr. Park.

**Natural areas protected as conservation lands with appropriate/equitable public access:** St. Johns Water Management District, Flagler County, and the State have various conservation areas near and around the City that provide appropriate public access. Within the City's neighborhoods, there are also a number of sites that are currently designated as Conservation Lands. Where appropriate, access to these lands is provided. However, there are a few areas within the City that are designated as Conservation and Greenbelt Lands where public access is not available.

**Greenbelts surrounding urban development areas to contain sprawl and to buffer agricultural or environmental lands:** Although parts of the City of Palm Coast are adjacent to wetland or conservation areas that could serve as a Greenbelt around the City, there is no official policy regarding sprawl or active measures taken by the City to curb sprawl.

**Parks designed to reduce energy and water consumption, thereby serving as models for sustainable development:** While many of the older parks were not designed to reduce energy and water consumption, many of the newer parks are. The preservation of natural areas and the use of xeriscape/ native plant materials in open and buffer areas have minimized the need for water and maintenance in some facilities.

### **Responsible Planning and Administration**

**Co-location and joint use of schools, libraries and parks:** An integral component of Palm Coast parks and open space system is the co-location of schools and parks. Many of the City's largest parks are located adjacent to or on school property. However, access to most, if not all school athletic fields after school hours is typically not permitted.

**Well designed and maintained facilities:** Across the board, park facilities are well-maintained and newer parks exhibit thoughtful design. Older parks need to be updated.

**Municipal, County, State, Federal, corporate, and non-profit partnerships:** The City has worked with various agencies and corporations to provide the residents of Palm Coast various recreational programs. Most notably, the Daytona State College, the County and The Hershey Company. The City has a good relationship with the county since most of the City's parks were inherited from the school board. During this study, the relationship was strengthened to allow the use of school facilities after school hours, for the City's after school youth programs. Another recreational provider within the City, the Flagler County Adult Education Program, competes with the City for many of its recreational programs. The City should continue to work with the County to strengthen existing relationships and look to create new partnerships with federal, corporate and non-profit partnerships.

**Neighborhood and community level public involvement:** The level of public involvement and participation is similar to comparable cities in Florida.

**A community-building mindset:** There appears to be momentum in the City's leadership for the further development of Palm Coast, both economically and in terms of quality of life.

**System Observation Findings:**

The existing City of Palm Coast's Recreation and Parks system has the following strengths:

- Proposed central gathering space and easily-identified civic buildings for public events;
- A broad range of social, cultural, recreation and wellness programs.
- Involvement and grooming of civic leaders and champions
- Equitably distributed system of sports complexes and other special use facilities;
- Planned pedestrian and bicycle access to every public park and open space;
- New parks provide +/- 50% of parks space preserved in natural or maintained open space;
- Natural areas protected as conservation lands with appropriate/equitable public access;
- New parks designed to reduce energy and water consumption, thereby serving as models for sustainable development
- New well-designed and maintained facilities;
- Co-location of school and parks
- Neighborhood and community level public involvement;
- A community-building mindset

The system exhibits the following weaknesses:

- Public art is not integrated throughout the system to create a sense of place;
- There is very little celebration of and access to heritage resources;
- Parks do not appear to be planned as catalysts for neighborhood stabilization and /or redevelopment;
- "Walk-to" parks are not easily accessible to every resident
- Community centers are not easily accessible to every resident;
- There is a fragmented network of boulevards, parkways, streets, greenways and trails;
- Older parks do not have +/- 50% preserved in natural or maintained open space;
- Older parks are not designed to reduce energy and water consumption
- Older parks need to be renovated;
- Few safe access points to rivers, lakes and streams
- No greenbelt surrounding urban development areas to contain sprawl and to buffer agricultural or environmental lands;
- Lakes, wetlands, and other natural areas are not integrated into the system;
- Joint use agreements with schools do not provide access to school athletic facilities;
- Municipal, County, State, Federal, corporate, and non-profit partnerships need to be strengthened.

### **2.2.1.2 Individual Site Evaluations**

Glatting Jackson visited each of the City's parks, and evaluated the existing condition of each park using the following criteria:

#### **Proximity/Access/Linkages:**

- Is the park visible from a distance?
- Can someone easily walk into the park?
- Is there transit access?
- Does the park have clear signage and information?

#### **Comfort & Image:**

- What is the first impression someone has of the park?
- Would someone feel safe at the park alone?
- Is the park clean and well-kept?
- Are there comfortable places to sit?
- Does the park provide protection from bad weather?

#### **Uses and Activities & Sociability:**

- Is there a mix of things to do at the park?
- Is the park busy with people or empty?
- Is there a sense of pride and ownership?
- How much of the space is used versus parts that are unused?

Source: Project for Public Spaces

Following is the evaluation for each park.

## Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park

**Park Classification:** Neighborhood Park | 40% Programmed, 60% Self-Directed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Developed and Undeveloped Single-Family Residential

**Park Components:** Playground, Softball/Baseball Field, Tennis Court, Basketball Court, Multi-Purpose Open Space, Walking Trail

### Summary:

Due to its large size, 12.5 Acres, Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park offers the surrounding residents a variety of recreational opportunities that accommodates all ages and encourage an active and social environment. Although the park promotes a welcoming, attractive and safe impression for users, there is no direct access from neighborhoods to the north and those proposed on the east.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

The park is conveniently located off one of Seminole Woods Neighborhood's main roads. Although conveniently accessible to the homes to the south via crosswalks and sidewalks, there is no direct and convenient pedestrian access to the neighborhoods directly to the north and those proposed to the east due to the presence of residential lots that back onto the park. However, the Park does have consistent signage, a clear gateway from the road, and regulatory signage that informs users about parks rules.

### Comfort & Image:

Overall, the park is inviting and fairly well maintained. Its open character provides users with a feeling of safety. The nature walk along the back of the park is located behind a densely vegetated understory. This creates a secluded and removed sensation from the rest of the park which for some may be intimidating. While most of the sitting areas are comfortable and pleasant, the playground area offers very little shade. Some of the finer, more ornamental landscape areas could benefit from more attention in the form of weeding and litter pick-up.

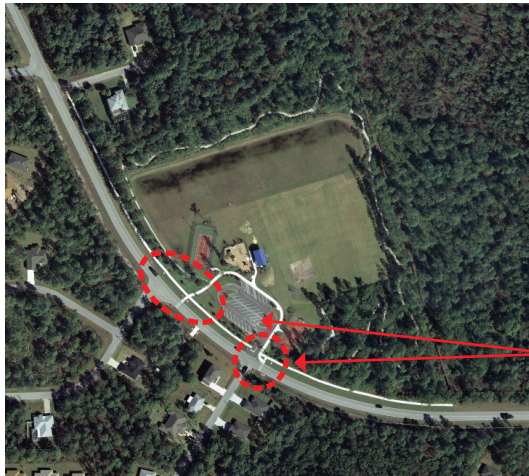
### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park provides residents with a good mix of recreational opportunities for children, adults, and seniors. All the facilities are well spaced and compatibly located in a manner that fosters an active and social environment for the neighborhood.



**Figure 2.2**

*Seminole Neighborhood Park*



**Figure 2.3**

*Aerial of Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park*

*Pedestrian access points and visibility into the park are limited to one side of the park*



**Figure 2.4**

*Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park Playground*

*Lack of shade creates a potentially uncomfortable environment for users*



## Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve

**Park Classification:** Neighborhood Park | 100% Self-Directed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Developed and Undeveloped Single-Family Residential, Lake

**Park Components:** Informal Boat Launch

**Figure 2.5**  
*Bird of Paradise  
Nature Preserve*



**Figure 2.6**  
*Bird of Paradise  
Nature Preserve*

*Lack of sidewalks force  
residents to walk along the  
road to reach the park.*



**Figure 2.7**  
*Bird of Paradise  
Nature Preserve*

*An informal boat|canoe|kayak  
launch is the only amenity  
offered in the park.*



### Summary:

Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve is an undeveloped site that has the potential to be a great Neighborhood Park for the Indian Trails Neighborhood. As of now, however, its only facility is an informal boat/canoe/kayak launch so the site lacks sociability and things to do.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages

There are no sidewalks that extend from the park into the neighborhood, so users must either walk along the roadside shoulder or drive to the park. The water access from the informal boat/canoe/kayak launch, however, is a unique amenity for a neighborhood park and provides residents on the water to reach the park via a canoe/ kayak, or boat.

### Comfort & Image

Although the park is consistently and routinely maintained, its lack of development creates a rather desolate, uninviting feeling. Despite its attractive setting, its existing appearance does little to enhance or compliment the neighborhood.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability

The park's uses are limited to an informal boat launch, bank fishing, and open views into the lake as residents drive by the park. The open lawn areas could potentially provide for multi-purpose and informal active recreation opportunities but the uneven surface creates for potentially unsafe play conditions.

## Belle Terre Park | Frieda Zamba Pool

**Park Classification:** Community Park | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Elementary and Middle School, Developed/Undeveloped Single-Family Residential

**Park Components:** Restrooms, Pool, Tennis Courts, Racquetball Courts, Soccer/ Football Field

### Summary:

Belle Terre Park & the Frieda Zamba Pool have many of Palm Coast's most desired recreation facilities and programs within a small space. Visibility and connectivity to the park is very limited and creates problems during peak usage hours. Additionally, certain areas in the park are in need of maintenance and restoration, which creates a potentially uninviting and unsafe park setting. Many of the park's facilities, including the multi-purpose rooms and the pool, have been well used over the years and are approaching the end of their life cycle.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages

Belle Terre Park is located in the heart of the Pine Lakes Neighborhood. Because of its location between single-family residential lots and Wadsworth Elementary School and Buddy Taylor Middle School, its access is limited to a single vehicular and pedestrian entrance off Parkview Drive. During peak park hours, local neighborhood travel potentially suffers from community traffic that is backed up from this singular park access point. Neighborhood pedestrian access is also limited to this entrance. Visibility into the park from Parkview Drive is narrow and somewhat awkward. The main entrance into the Frieda Zamba Pool is also awkward: the front of the building faces the back of the park and does very little to promote "eyes on the park". Parking for the Belle Terre Park and for the Frieda Zamba Pool is limited, and the former drop-off area for the pool and community center is now used as a service drive.



**Figure 2.8**

*Belle Terre Park | Frieda Zamba Pool*

*Access into the park is limited to one entrance.*

*No access is permitted to additional school fields.*

*Park | Pool is "crammed" between schools and residential homes.*



**Figure 2.9**

*Belle Terre Park | Frieda Zamba Pool*

*Retention Pond is not treated as an amenity for the park.*



**Figure 2.10**

*Belle Terre Park | Frieda Zamba Pool*

*Views and pedestrian access points into the park are limited.*



**Figure 2.11**  
Belle Terre Park |  
Frieda Zamba Pool

*Racquetball Court walls  
and fencing are in need of  
enhancements.*



### Comfort & Image

Certain facility components within the park, such as the racquetball court walls, tennis court fences, and the banks along the retention pond to the east of the park appeared to be either damaged, aging, and/or in need of restoration. Park furnishings were also noted to be either outdated, damaged, or inconsistent with other park facilities. All these factors created an unattractive and uninviting park setting.

The Frieda Zamba Pool area, however, was very well maintained. Furnishings were clean and for the most part internally consistent. The Community Center, pool offices, and restrooms, although very well maintained, do appear to be tired and outdated.

**Figure 2.12**  
Belle Terre Park | Frieda  
Zamba Pool

*Frieda Zamba pool office is  
functional but outdated.*



### Uses and Activities & Sociability

Belle Terre has one of the highest concentrations of facilities of any of the Palm Coast parks. The City uses the multi-purpose room to run many of its programs and the pool offers residents with a variety of much desired programs and activities for all ages.

The City was in the process of completing the

soccer/ football field which will do much more to draw users into the park and promote a strong sense of activity and sociability. Ease in sociability could be even improved by providing direct access to the sports fields of Buddy Taylor Middle School.

Despite the fact that many of the amenities and facilities need physical improvements, there were a number of people using the park. These users helped to promote a sense of safety and invitation that served to draw other users into the park.

**Figure 2.13**  
Belle Terre Park | Frieda  
Zamba Pool

*The building and its facilities  
are reaching the end of  
their life-cycle.*



## Holland Park

**Park Classification:** Community Park | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Single-Family Residential

**Park Components:** Community Center, Restrooms, Picnic Pavilions, Baseball Field, Football/Soccer Field, Basketball Court, Racquetball Courts, Tennis Courts, Volleyball Courts, Dog Park, Playground.

### Summary:

Holland Park is a small site that packs in a number of facilities and programs for the residents on the eastern side of the City of Palm Coast. This has led to a close proximity between facilities, which compromises the quality of the experience for users. Increased activity within the park has led to overuse and the condition of many of the parks facilities and furnishings is poor. The overall tired and outdated appearance of the park has created the impression of unsafe and uninviting space

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Holland Park is located in the southern portion of the Palm Harbor Neighborhood and is completely surrounded by single-family residential homes. Its location within the neighborhood is usually not recommended for a community park since the active nature of the facilities typically offered by these larger parks (i.e. lighted ball fields, dog parks, basketball courts, etc.) become a source of nuisance and discomfort for the adjacent residents—especially when the homes back onto the park, which hinders “eyes on the park” that keep it feeling safe. The only visual access is limited to the main park entrance off Florida Park Drive and two narrow pedestrian access points off Farragut Drive and Farrington Lane. In the case of the entrance off Farrington Lane, views into this narrow threshold are obstructed by the racquetball courts. Signage is limited, inconsistent, and in some cases damaged and unmaintained.

Getting into and around the park is also not easy for disabled users. Some of the sidewalks leading into the park are damaged and impede ADA Access into the park. ADA Access to the various facilities within the park is also limited in some areas due to broken and interrupted sidewalk network.



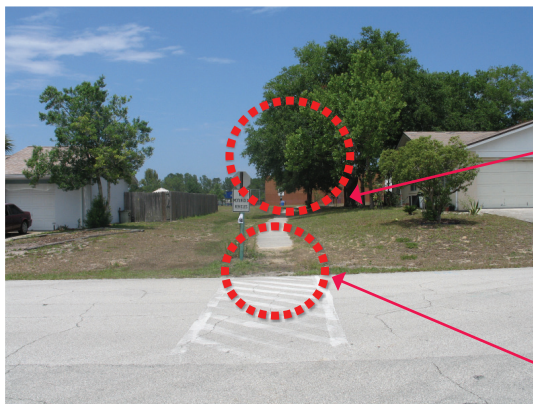
**Figure 2.14**  
*Holland Park*

*The “Front Door” into Holland Park appears tired and in need of improvements*



**Figure 2.15**  
*Holland Park*

*Holland Park contains facilities that are typically not compatible with single-family homes that back onto a park.*



**Figure 2.16**  
*Holland Park - Pedestrian access point from Farrington Lane*

*Visibility into the park is blocked by the location of the racquetball courts.*

*ADA access into the park is obstructed.*



**Figure 2.17**  
*Holland Park*

*Many of the park furnishings and equipment are in need of capital improvements.*



**Figure 2.18**  
*Holland Park*

*Lawn areas are in need of irrigation to enhance the appearance of the park*



**Figure 2.19**  
*Holland Park*

*The Youth Center at Holland Park provides children with a variety of recreational opportunities which increases sociability and partnership potential for the park.*



### **Comfort & Image:**

Due to the mix and variety of its facilities and location, Holland Park enjoys a great deal of use—probably too much in fact. This high level of use has taken a toll on the park's appearance.

Although the park is regularly maintained, most areas require capital improvements to enhance the parks image. Many of the landscape areas appear dry, damaged and/ or unmaintained. Most of the park furnishings, including signs, fencing, and equipment are past the end of their life-cycle and need replacement. The dirt parking lot becomes an issue during heavy rains and also contributes to the dilapidated appearance of the park. All these factors contribute to an uninviting and unsafe park setting. Similar to Belle Terre Park, the one factor that counteracts this unsafe feeling is the quantity of users in the park on peak hours. These users help promote a sense of safety and sociability that serves to draw other users into the park.

### **Uses and Activities & Sociability:**

Holland Park provides residents with a variety of activities for users of all ages during all hours of the day. Due to the lack of parkland in the area, the City has placed numerous facilities within the park which keeps the park very busy. Even though this overuse has led to the park deterioration, Holland Park continues to be a major recreational and social hub for the surrounding neighborhoods. Community activities and events are held regularly in the park and the presence of the Youth Center makes this park a popular destination for children.

## Palm Coast Community Center

**Park Classification:** Community Park | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Arterial Roadway, Undeveloped Lands, Multi-Family Residential, Commercial

**Park Components:** Community Center, Basketball Court, Playground, Community Gardens

### Summary:

Palm Coast Community Center is the central hub for the Recreation and Parks Department. The Park Director's office is located here and many of the recreation programs offered by the City are organized and provided at this location. The Center also is the venue used for City Council meetings, which limits the use of the largest hall in the building. Despite the fact that the parking lot consumes more than 60% of the site, parking still becomes an issue during meetings. Storage space is also limited within the building and demand for additional space is increasing.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Palm Coast Community Center is ideally situated off one of Palm Coast's "Main Street;" Palm Coast Parkway. The Community Center is well connected to the most popular greenway in the city which provides great pedestrian connectivity to Palm Coast Linear Park. Although Palm Coast Parkway is not a fast street in this area, the lack of crosswalks discourages pedestrian access to the neighborhoods north and south of the Center. Vehicular access on the other hand is convenient and efficient. Signage is visible for traffic heading westbound but not as visible for traffic heading eastbound.

### Comfort & Image:

The Community Center is a simple building and although its architecture is outdated, the building is well-maintained. The landscape in the front of the building looks tired and the dumpsters located on the sidewalks in front of the basketball courts are not only an eye sore, but also impede pedestrian circulation. The back of the site has a beautiful oak tree canopy that provides a comfortable setting for the playground and picnic tables. The site furnishings are not consistent with other parks and are reaching the end of their life cycle.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

Palm Coast Community Center is a daily social and recreational hub for the community. The center stays very busy during most of the day and enjoys the most use during the summer months and after school hours.



**Figure 2.20**  
*Palm Coast Community Center*

*Entrance into Palm Coast Community Center appears tired and outdated.*



**Figure 2.21**  
*Palm Coast Community Center*

*Visibility and awareness of the community center is limited to those traveling westbound on Palm Coast Parkway.*



**Figure 2.22**  
*Palm Coast Community Center*

*Dumpsters are an eye sore and impede sidewalk access.*



## Palm Coast Linear Park

**Park Classification:** Special Use Facility | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Arterial Roadway, Conservation, Commercial, Educational

**Park Components:** Restrooms, Concession, Group Pavilions, Bocce Courts, Shuffleboard Courts, Playground, Walking Trails.

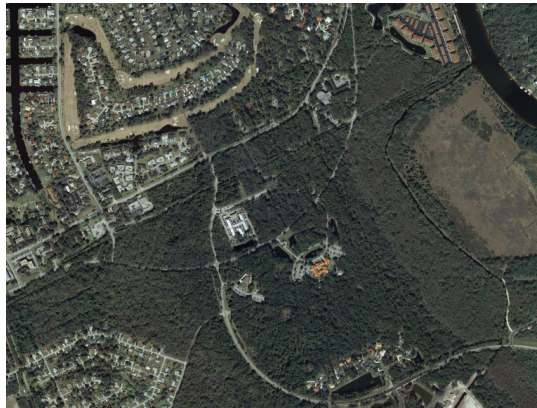
**Figure 2.23**  
*Palm Coast Linear Park*

*Palm Coast Linear Park is very well integrated into the site creating a pleasant environment for park users.*



**Figure 2.24**  
*Palm Coast Linear Park*

*Palm Coast Linear Park is secluded within the division of Palm Coast Parkway.*



**Figure 2.25**  
*Palm Coast Linear Park*

*Palm Coast Linear Park's signage program is exemplary and should be emulated in the rest of the City's parks.*



### Summary:

Palm Coast Linear Park provides the Recreation and Parks Department with the design standard that all the parks in the City should be held to. Remotely tucked into the preserve area between the divided Palm Coast Parkway, the park's character blends beautifully with its surroundings. The signage is helpful, attractive, and consistent with the character of the park, but additional signage off Palm Coast Parkway would inform visitors and new residents of the park's existence. Although well-connected to the city's most popular greenway, the lack of visibility into the park is a concern for many residents. Pedestrian access to neighborhoods directly to the north and south is limited and inconvenient.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Palm Coast Linear Park is located in between the divided Palm Coast Parkway. Its location, although conveniently connected to Palm Coast Community Center and the St. Joe Canal Greenway, is somewhat hidden and secluded. The park contains an excellent signage program however; its presence remains virtually unnoticed by traffic on Palm Coast Parkway. Pedestrian connectivity to the neighborhoods to the north and south is not very convenient and visibility is limited. Access to water—although well designed—remains virtually impossible due to water fluctuations.

### Comfort & Image:

As one of the newest additions to the Palm Coast Park System, Palm Coast Linear Park is one of the system's most inviting parks. The park is well maintained, its character blends nicely with its surroundings, and all the spaces were thoughtfully planned and designed to enable users to enjoy the comforts of the beautiful tree canopy. Within the parks space, visibility is such that park users feel safe while other users are present. However, for the lone user, the parks secluded nature can be a deterrent.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

The park becomes very busy during the morning and afternoon hours when many residents use the parks trails. The shuffleboard courts appear to receive the least amount of use.

## Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail

**Park Classification:** Open Space/ Trail | 10% Programmed, 90 % Self-Directed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Arterial Roadway, Developed and Undeveloped Single-Family Residential

**Park Components:** Multi-Purpose Trail, Vita Course, and Benches

### Summary:

Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Path is a heavily used asphalt path along the excess right-of-way of Pine Lakes Parkway. The path does not have canopy cover and during the morning and afternoon hours, using the path becomes very hot and unpleasant. During the evening hours however, the trees along the western and southern edge of the path cast long shadows that shade the path creating a comfortable micro-climate for users to enjoy. There is no convenient or direct access from the neighborhoods to the path. Landscape beds along the path do not appear to be maintained.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Path is in close proximity to the adjacent Pine Lakes Neighborhood, but the lack of crosswalks and direct access to the path creates unsafe pedestrian crossings conditions for users.

### Comfort & Image:

Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Path is fairly well maintained. Some of the planting beds however, require more attention to detail. The asphalt is in good condition but there is no shade during the morning and afternoon hours which creates a very hot and unpleasant environment. Additionally, there are very few pedestrian scale elements along the path. The light poles along Pine Lakes Parkway are scaled for a major thoroughfare promoting high speeds and are not of a friendly, human scale.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

The width of the multi-purpose path along with its smooth surface provides users with a variety of ways to exercise and recreate. Users can enjoy the path via rollerblades, skateboards, or bicycles and by walking, jogging, running, etc. The vita course and various sitting areas along the path provide residents with opportunities to relax rest and socialize with other trail users.



**Figure 2.26**

*Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail*

*Path lacks canopy and pedestrian scale elements.*

*Highway scale elements foment high speeds along Pine Lakes Parkway which compromise user experience.*



**Figure 2.27**

*Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail*

*Pedestrian connections to the path from adjacent neighborhoods are not available.*



**Figure 2.28**

*Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail*

*Landscape areas along the path are in need of maintenance.*



## Heroes Memorial Park

**Park Classification:** Special Use Facility | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Arterial, Utility, Developed and Undeveloped Single-Family Residential

**Park Components:** Commemorative Stones, Flag Poles, Walking Paths, Seat Walls.

**Figure 2.29**  
*Heroes Memorial Park*

*Heroes Memorial Park has an attractive presence off Palm Coast Parkway.*

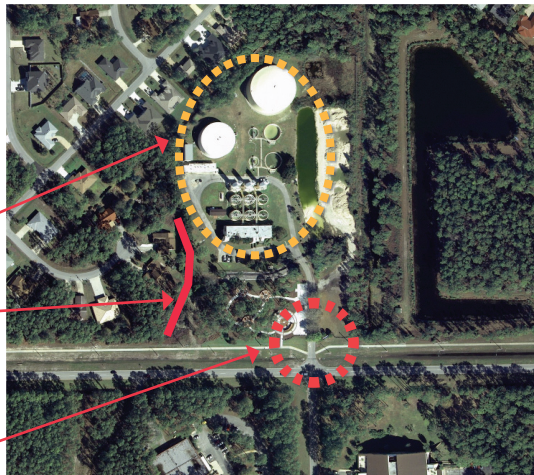


**Figure 2.30**  
*Heroes Memorial Park*

*Integration of the park with the Water Utility Plant could provide an interesting environmental education component to the park.*

*No direct access for residents to the North.*

*Pedestrian connection is limited to a sidewalk off Palm Coast Parkway.*



**Figure 2.31**  
*Heroes Memorial Park*

*Sitting areas are attractive but lack human comforts.*



### Summary:

Heroes Memorial Park is a testament to all the family members and residents of the City of Palm Coast that have given their lives while serving America. The park is very visible to drivers heading west bound on Palm Coast Parkway but is not conveniently connected to the neighborhoods surrounding it. Opportunities for sociability and activities in the park are very limited and although the park is in excellent conditions and maintained well overall, it could benefit from better maintenance of some of the finer, more ornamental landscape elements. The park functions more as a symbolic or ceremonial place than park for recreation.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Although highly visible from Palm Coast Parkway and well connected to the sidewalk network along this major corridor, Heroes Memorial Park is not conveniently connected to the Indian Trails Neighborhood located to its north and west. The lack of crosswalks on Palm Coast Parkway and pedestrian bridges over the canals bordering the Pine Lakes Neighborhood to the south makes access from the neighborhood to the park very difficult, dangerous, and extremely inconvenient for pedestrians. Its location and overall lack of neighborhood access promotes users to use their vehicles to reach the park.

### Comfort & Image:

Heroes Memorial Park offers visitors a great first impression: the park is very clean, overall

well maintained, and visually aesthetically pleasing. Some of the small planting beds could benefit from better maintenance. Although the park is highly visible from Palm Coast Parkway, the high speed of the parkway along does not promote eyes on the park, nor are there any homes or stores fronting the site. Sitting areas are limited to brick seat walls that are attractive and fairly well shaded but are not comfortable. The park does not offer protection from inclement weather.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

The park's uses are limited to walking and, although uncomfortably, sitting. Other than the occasional visitor, the park only becomes active during memorial ceremonies and special events.

## Indian Trails Sports Complex

**Park Classification:** Special Use Facility | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Arterial, Educational, Preservation, and Single-Family Residential

**Park Components:** Restrooms, Concession, Group Pavilions, Multi-Purpose Fields, Softball Fields, Football/ Soccer Fields, Playground.

### Summary:

The Indian Trails Sports Complex provides residents of Palm Coast with a number of active recreational fields. The park is more accessible by vehicle than by pedestrians. Overall, the park is fairly well maintained. However, certain areas could benefit from more attention to detail and more space is required for maintenance storage. Schools adjacent to the park could provide additional recreational uses that the park currently does not offer.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

The Indian Trails Sports Complex is located on the western edge of town easily accessible via Belle Terre Parkway. Pedestrian access across Belle Terre is limited to a signalized intersection that can be very intimidating to cross. Visibility into the park from the parkway is limited due to a preserve area located on the eastern edge of the park. Within the sports complex, signage is good and the facilities are easily accessed via the sidewalk network.

### Comfort & Image:

Overall, the sports complex is fairly well-maintained. Certain landscape areas along the softball fence lines and adjacent to the playgrounds could use more attention to detail in the form of trimming, edging, and weeding. Certain turf areas have been severely damaged due to heavy foot traffic. The playground's black soft surface in combination with the lack of shade trees creates for a very hot and unpleasant space. Since there is no formal maintenance shed, the Parks Department currently stores all maintenance equipment in a tractor trailer or leaves the equipment out. This becomes an eyesore for the park. Park furnishings, although functional, are not consistent with other parks and do very little to enhance the appearance of the park.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

Although strictly a sports complex, the playground, multi-purpose fields, and group pavilions provide added activities for the sports complex; schools adjacent to the park could provide additional activities that are not currently available to park users. The park remains fairly active during the week and is fully in use during the weekend. Some parents were seen waiting in their cars while their children played sports, which may indicate a lack of facilities and amenities geared towards adults.



Figure 2.32

Indian Trails Sports Complex

*Indian Trails Sports Complex provides ample space for teams, players, and spectators to gather and setup.*

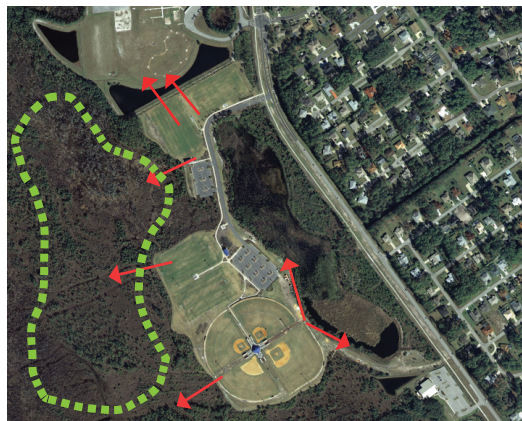


Figure 2.33

Indian Trails Sports Complex

*No access to adjacent school fields and conservation lands limit opportunities for added activities and opportunities for sociability.*



Figure 2.34

Indian Trails Sports Complex

*Small landscape areas have been severely worn out due to heavy pedestrian traffic.*



## Palm Coast Tennis Center

**Park Classification:** Special Use Facility | 100% Programmed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Preservation, and Single-Family Residential, Mixed-Use

**Park Components:** Tennis Pro-shop, Restrooms, Pavilion, and Tennis Courts

**Figure 2.35**

*Palm Coast Tennis Center*

*Palm Coast Tennis Center provides users with a high quality tennis experience not typical in many cities.*



**Figure 2.36**

*Palm Coast Tennis Center*

*Although functional, the 10' high chain link fence creates for an uninviting appearance.*



**Figure 2.37**

*Palm Coast Tennis Center*

*Shade and shelter from the sun and inclement weather are limited.*



### Summary:

Although it is an almost new facility, the Palm Coast Tennis Center is very close to reaching full capacity. Vehicular access into the park is only available to traffic traveling northbound on Belle Terre and there is no pedestrian access across Belle Terre and along the eastern side of the road. Despite a lack of visibility from the road, the Tennis Center continues to be heavily used with room for expansion.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Located across the Cypress Knoll Neighborhood and Pine Grove Neighborhood, the Palm Coast Tennis Center is difficult to access and is hidden from the road. The Tennis Center can only be accessed by traffic traveling northbound on Belle Terre since there is no median cut to enable southbound traffic to enter the park. Visibility into the park is difficult—the facility is hidden behind a fire station affording no eyes on the park and no presence on the parkway. Pedestrian access into the park off Belle Terre is difficult since there are no sidewalks along eastern side of Belle Terre and no crosswalks or signalized pedestrian crossings to the sidewalk along the west side of the road.

### Comfort & Image:

As users enter the parking lot of the Tennis Center they are greeted with ten-foot high chain links that surround the compound. Access into the Tennis Center is through the clubhouse which is too small to serve as anything more than an office. Besides the clubhouse, pavilion, and tennis court

shelters, the grounds have very little protection from the sun and inclement weather. The Tennis Center is fairly well maintained with attention to detail needed in certain landscape areas.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

The Tennis Center remains a single use facility. The park offers a variety of tennis programs for groups of all ages and different skill levels. There is sufficient space around the park for future facilities to be included and the adjacent fire station provides potential partnership opportunities.

## Town Center Central Park

**Park Classification:** Special Use Facility | 100% Self-Directed

**Adjacent Land Uses:** Undeveloped Mixed-Use

**Park Components:** Open space and trails

### Summary:

Town Center Central Park is one of four (4) facilities that will be built as part of the SR 100 Community Redevelopment Area. In its current state, the park offers opportunities for walking along the urban trail and sitting on the grass to read, picnic, or relax. As the space develops, the park will become an urban park surrounded by City Hall, an amphitheater, and various mixed use buildings. These buildings should be designed so they have eyes on the park and serve to activate the space rather than have their backs facing the park.

### Proximity | Access | Linkages:

Town Center Central Park is located in the heart of the SR 100 Community Redevelopment Area. At build-out, about 70% of the area immediately surrounding the park will be developed to include the City of Palm Coast City Hall, parking, an amphitheater, and various mixed use buildings and restaurants that will surround the park. The buildings surrounding the park should face the park in order to promote a safe and active urban park. Town Center currently has a great sidewalk network in place that will provide good pedestrian connectivity to the rest of the development.

### Comfort & Image:

In its current state, Town Center Central Park is very well maintained. The area is currently desolate so the lone user might feel uncomfortable and unsafe with nothing else around. Currently there is no protection from inclement weather and no places to sit.

### Uses and Activities & Sociability:

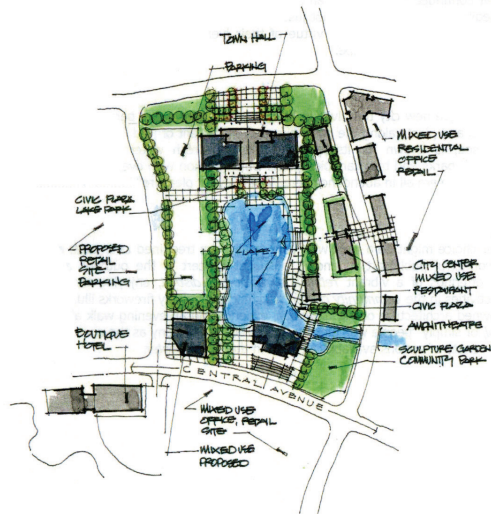
At the moment, activities in Town Center Park are limited to walking along the multi-purpose urban trail and sitting on the grass to read, relax, or have a picnic. The undeveloped space around the park enables large special events to take place with plenty of parking for large crowds. The park is also dog friendly. As the area develops, Town Center Park will become an urban park and civic park for the City with an amphitheater to host concerts and special events as well as provide opportunities to read, relax, socialize and enjoy outdoor dining at one of the several restaurants proposed in the area.



**Figure 2.38**

*Town Center Central Park*

*Town Center Central Park provides the City with a great space for civic events.*



**Figure 2.39**

*Town Center Central Park*

*Proposed buildings surrounding the park should face the park to provide eyes on the park.*



**Figure 2.40**

*Town Center Central Park*

*Dog clean-up stations add another layer of sociability opportunities.*

### Summary of Park Visits and Observations:

The Recreation and Parks Department has been working very hard over the last several years: out of the eleven parks that were visited, six of them were built within recent years and there are plans in place for the development of four more. Concurrently, Palm Coast has grown in population, bringing more and more demands on its Recreation and Parks System.

#### Many Parks are Over-Developed – Need More Parkland

It was apparent that the limited availability of large parcels of parkland has posed a challenge for the Parks Department's ability to provide for larger, more land-intensive recreational facilities such as baseball, softball, soccer, and football fields. To fill the needs and demand of the City of Palm Coast's growing population, the Parks Department has used every space available in the larger community parks to provide for these uses. This is most apparent in Holland and Belle Terre Park where the number of facilities in relatively small sites creates overcrowded parks. In some cases, this has led to the overuse and deterioration of these facilities. In addition to deteriorating facilities, the recreational experience is also compromised when there are too many facilities placed too close together.

#### Need to Renovate/ Upgrade Some Existing Parks

Several of the parks, particularly the ones that have been around the longest (i.e. Frieda Zamba Pool, Holland Park, Palm Coast Community Center, and Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail) are in need of capital improvements or renovations. Some of these facilities, in particular Holland Park and Belle Terre Park / Frieda Zamba Pool have components within the parks that are reaching the end of their life cycle and due to their age and overuse need replacement.

#### Need to Provide Better Pedestrian/ Bicycle Access to Parks

Many of the City's parks, although conveniently located, lack direct and convenient access points to their adjacent neighborhoods, and force users to either drive to the park or walk along the roadways.

#### Need Better Visibility

A number of Palm Coast's parks also need improved visibility, both from the roadways that provide access to them and from adjacent residences and other uses that can provide "eyes on the park". Currently, some parks are screened by trees, blocked by other buildings or facilities, or encased by the back of residential lots.

#### Need Better Partnerships

Many of Palm Coast's Community Parks are located next to Schools which provides a great opportunity for strong interlocal agreements between the City and the School District. During this study, the relationship between the City and the School District was strengthened to allow the use of school facilities after school hours for City after school youth programs. Although access to the City's after school youth programs are limited to the children that attend that particular school, the agreement is a step in the right direction. The City should continue to work with the School District to look for mutually beneficial ways to provide greater access to school facilities and minimize the duplication of services. There are also some parks located next to other City buildings and facilities such as fire stations and utility plants which could provide mutually beneficial partnership opportunities.



## 2.3 Qualitative Techniques

### 2.3.1 Council and Mayor Workshop

On June 11, 2008, Glatting Jackson conducted a workshop with the Palm Coast City Council and Mayor. In a group exercise, the elected officials indicated the following:

#### High Priority Parks and Recreation Needs

- Community Centers/Senior Center (joint)
- Access to water, piers, kayak/canoe launches
- Joint-use with schools
- Sidewalks and trails (ten year + program)
- Better distribution of parks south of SR 100

#### Other Needs

- Dog parks
- Cultural Centers
- Collaboration with State Agricultural Museum
- Teen Center (in conjunction with schools, Community/Senior Center)
- More versatile aquatics facility
- Clay tennis courts, clubhouses
- Neighborhood parks
- Park impact fees
- Environmentally sensitive lands program (EEL)

In order to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system, Palm Coast's elected officials expressed interest in park impact fees, obtaining funding from FRDAP grants, using a bond to construct a Community Center, and Tax Increment Funds. It was also stressed that the public needs to know that this is a long range plan.

### 2.3.2 Interview with City Manager

Following the City Council and Mayor Workshop, the Palm Coast City Manager Jim Landon was interviewed. Landon noted a number of priority parks and recreation needs: more trails and sidewalks; neighborhood parks for basic recreation uses; community centers; a better aquatics complex; access to the water, both on the Intercoastal Waterway and the canals; more coordination of recreational programs; and the need for a better repair and replacement program to renovate existing parks and facilities.



### **2.3.3 Leisure Services Advisory Committee Workshop**

On June 12, 2008 the project team met with five members of the Palm Coast Leisure Services Advisory Committee. Committee members were asked to list the parks and recreation needs for the City; afterwards, they participated in a prioritization exercise. The results are below; numbers in the parentheses indicate the number of people who “voted” for a certain facility as a priority.

#### **High Priority Parks and Recreation Needs:**

- Community & Recreational Center (5)
- Cultural Arts (2)
- Hiking/Jogging/Fitness Trails (2)

#### **Other Parks and Recreation Needs:**

- Boaters, Fish Park and Marina (1)
- Baseball and Softball Fields (1)
- Sidewalks (1)
- Covered Playgrounds (1)
- Playgrounds/Tot Lots
- Fishing Piers
- Senior Center
- Aquatic Center
- Special Events/Amphitheater
- Skateboard Park
- Multi-Sports Stadium
- Unpaved/Paved Bicycle Trails
- Gymnasium
- Football/Soccer/Rugby Fields
- Paintball Park
- Racquet/Handball Courts
- Therapeutic Recreational Facilities

The Committee also supported the use of a number of funding sources, including user fees, a sales tax, donations, fundraising, grants, impact fees, a bond referendum, and corporate sponsorship.

### 2.3.4 Public Workshop

Glatting Jackson facilitated a public workshop on the evening of June 11, 2008 to hear residents' recreation needs and priorities; approximately 100 people attended. After a brief presentation on parks system planning, the participants were asked to list Palm Coast's recreation needs, and then participate in a prioritization exercise where each person had three "votes" to indicate their top priority needs.

Following is the list of needs identified by the residents; numbers in parentheses indicate the number of people who "voted" for a facility as a top priority. It is important to note that there was a large representation from both the Friends of Swimming and Citizens on the Waterways groups:

- Aquatics Facility (37)
- Marinas and Boat Ramps (35)
- Youth or Community Center (25)
- Boat Destination (24)
- Paved Bike Trails (21)
- Physical Fitness Trails Paved (20)
- Partnership w/ Schools and County (18)
- Multi Purpose Arts & Center (12)
- Tennis Courts (12)
- Large Playground (9)
- Fishing Pier (9)
- Golf Course (7)
- Multi Sports Stadium (7)
- Canopy over BOCC Courts (5)
- Dog Park/Separate (6)
- YMCA (5)
- Regulation Baseball (6)
- Land Acquisition for Connectivity (5)
- Ocean Access (4)
- Large Multi Purpose Fields (4)
- Canoe/Kayak Launch (4)
- Gymnasium (4)
- Separate Skate Park (3)
- Soap Box Derby Track (2)
- Equestrian (0)
- Regulation Softball (0)

Participants also noted that they wanted more recreation programs, specifically infant swimming, teen dances/mixers, holiday boat parties, and youth activity programs—especially in the evenings.

In general, participants agreed that funding through grants, public/private partnerships, and Tax Increment Financing (TIF) should be pursued. Approximately 30% of the residents were supportive of funding improvements through a bond measure. A smaller number (12) indicated a willingness to pay increased property taxes.

### 2.3.5 Focus Group Meetings

In addition to public workshops, it is useful to meet with stakeholders and other groups who have specialized interests and needs in the parks and recreation system. Typically, these are sports leagues, local arts groups, and others who use the parks on a frequent basis.

Glatting Jackson met with the following groups/organizations:

- Flagler United
- Palm Coast Little League
- Friends of Swimming
- Afro-American Caribbean Heritage Organization
- Friends of Golf
- Fury Softball/Baseball
- Matanzas High School Athletics
- Citizens on the Waterways
- Palm Coast Civic Association
- Flagler County Youth Soccer Association (FCYSA)
- Gargiulo Art Foundation
- Palm Coast/ Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment
- Flagler County Art League
- Friends of Tennis
- Flagler Premier Soccer
- Dog Park Group

The chart following summarizes each group's priority needs; full text from the focus group interviews can be found in [Appendix A – Meeting Minutes](#).

**Chart 2.1**  
*Summarized Group  
Priority Needs*

Group/Organization	Parks and Recreation Needs
<b>Flagler United</b>	5 -6 additional lighted soccer fields over the next five years or light 7 existing school fields for Flagler United Dedicated soccer complex would be preferred, either new or conversion of existing Indian Trails Complex Better coordination with schools and use of fields
<b>Palm Coast Little League</b>	2 regulation fields 4 Little League baseball fields 2 softball fields All lighted with additional parking Flexible park space that can be used for practice fields
<b>Friends of Swimming</b>	Aquatics Complex (currently in 5-year CIP) with 50m competition pool, therapeutic pool, dive well, water park, multi-purpose building
<b>Afro-American Caribbean Heritage Organization</b>	Places to walk: sidewalks, bike paths, walking trails Picnic areas Meeting places (Senior Centers) Fishing Piers
<b>Friends of Golf</b>	Palm Harbor Golf Course as a public course Youth golf program Aquatics, water park Bike path on Whiteview, Royal Palm, Rymfire

Group/Organization	Parks and Recreation Needs
<b>Fury Softball/ Baseball</b>	Softball Complex with minimum of 4 fields More sports complexes in general for all sports 4 fields in addition to minimum of 4 new fields
<b>Fury Softball/ Baseball</b>	Softball Complex with minimum of 4 fields More sports complexes in general for all sports 4 fields in addition to minimum of 4 new fields
<b>Matanzas H.S Athletics</b>	Aquatics Complex with competition pool Community Center with gym
<b>Citizens on the Waterways</b>	Municipal marina with slips for transient boats, fueling facility, pump-out facility, dock-master, ship's store, boater's lounge, fishing dock, boat launch, parking, anchorage, restaurant, dry stack storage Maritime education center Commercial dock for construction
<b>Palm Coast Civic Association</b>	Community Center, including Senior Center
<b>Flagler County Youth Soccer Association (FCYSA)</b>	30 fields within next five years (for soccer and lacrosse); 10 – 15 lighted Will need restrooms, concession, office space to accompany new fields Aquatics Facility Multi-purpose Sports Complex Cultural Amphitheater
<b>Gargiulo Art Foundation</b>	Exhibition space for artists and shows, envisioned as part of Arts and Entertainment Center
<b>Palm Coast/ Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment</b>	Arts and Entertainment Center
<b>Flagler County Art League</b>	Arts Center with gallery space, classrooms, sculpture gardens, classes, space for artists-in-residence, youth programs
<b>Friends of Tennis</b>	Expand existing tennis complex with 2 more clay courts and 4 hard courts over next three years Expand existing temporary clubhouse to create a larger Player Center with meeting/classrooms, pro shop, showers and lockers, kitchen/vending, café, storage
<b>Flagler Premier Soccer</b>	Need practice fields, tournament venues for weekends 8 full-size fields, 4 small fields for tournaments. Need to be lighted
<b>Dog Park Group</b>	Larger space at dog park for multiple dog “pods” ADA accessibility More benches, trees, dog wash areas, dog play equipment

### **2.3.6 Youth Workshop**

The City of Palm Coast facilitated a youth workshop on Monday June 23, 2008 to obtain children's recreation needs and priorities; approximately 100 children from the City's Summer Camp Program participated. The children were asked to list what they thought were Palm Coast's recreation needs, and then participate in a prioritization exercise where each child had three "votes" to indicate their top priority needs.

Following is the list of needs identified by the children; numbers in parentheses indicate the number of youth who "voted" for a facility as a top priority:

- Paintball Park (42)
- Water Park (37)
- Dodge Ball Park (33)
- Fishing Piers (18)
- Aquarium (13)
- Huge Playground/ w hiding area (12)
- Horseback Riding (12)
- Ice Hockey Ring (11)
- BMX Track (10)
- Dog Park (9)
- Basketball Courts (7)
- Swimming Pool/ Aquatic Center (6)
- Skateboard Park (6)
- Canoeing (6)
- Camping (5)
- Nature Trails Unpaved (4)
- Picnic Area (4)
- Shuffleboard (3)
- Baseball/Soft Ball Fields (2)
- Volley Ball Court (2)
- Soccer Fields (2)

The children also noted that they wanted more recreation programs, specifically an Easter Hunt Program, Halloween Carnival, Hay Riding Program, and Play Station Tournaments which the City currently holds.

## 2.4 QUANTITATIVE TECHNIQUES

### 2.4.1 Telephone Survey

Haysmar, Inc., a research and analysis firm hired by Glatting Jackson conducted a telephone survey in June, 2008 to determine the attitudes and opinions of City of Palm Coast residents regarding the existing parks and recreation system. The survey reached a total of 274 residents, with a fairly even age distribution. Based on Palm Coast's population and the sample size, the overall findings have a confidence interval of, at least, 5.9% at the 95% confidence level. Thirteen questions were asked; selected questions and their most common responses (with percentage of respondents in parentheses) are below. **A full set of survey data and text is available in Appendix B.**

**Question:** *"In what type of recreational facility do you or does anyone in your household presently participate in?"*

- |                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| • Bicycle Riding                  | (14.1%) |
| • Jogging or Walking for Exercise | (13.7%) |
| • Swimming                        | (11.2%) |
| • Other                           | (8.4%)  |
| • Golf                            | (7.5%)  |
| • Fishing                         | (6.9%)  |
| • Tennis                          | (4.5%)  |
| • Volleyball                      | (4.5%)  |
| • Boating                         | (4.3%)  |
| • Going to the Beach              | (3.5%)  |
| • Baseball/Softball               | (3.4%)  |
| • None/Don't Participate          | (2.8%)  |
| • Basketball                      | (2.6%)  |
| • Soccer                          | (2.2%)  |

**Question:** *"From the following list of park facilities, which do you use most often?"*

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • St. Joe Walkway/ Palm Coast Linear Park | (23.2%) |
| • None of the Above                       | (18.0%) |
| • Holland Park                            | (15.0%) |
| • Frieda Zamba Swimming Pool              | (8.4%)  |
| • Palm Coast Community Center and Park    | (8.2%)  |
| • Belle Terre Park                        | (6.4%)  |
| • Indian Trails Sports Complex            | (5.2%)  |
| • Central Park Town Center                | (3.9%)  |
| • Palm Coast Tennis Center                | (3.0%)  |
| • Heroes Memorial Park                    | (2.7%)  |
| • Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve        | (2.3%)  |
| • Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park        | (2.3%)  |
| • Holland Park Youth Center               | (1.4%)  |

**Question:** *"How often do you use the city parks?"*

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| • Regularly (once a week or more often) | (31.0%) |
| • Occasionally (once a month or so)     | (32.1%) |
| • Seldom (once or twice a year)         | (14.2%) |
| • Rarely or never                       | (22.6%) |

*Analysis: There is not one major recreation activity enjoyed by many of Palm Coast's residents. The most popular activities are informal, such riding bicycles or jogging/walking for exercise. Only very small percentages seem to take part in organized sports.*

*Analysis: By far the most popular park is the St Joe Walkway/Palm Coast Linear Park. The next most popular response is "none of the above", which indicates that people are either not using the park facilities, or going elsewhere for their parks needs. This is congruent with the other very low reported usage of park facilities such as Heroes Memorial Park and Palm Coast Tennis Center, which may indicate that there are things about these sites that are unappealing to residents, or that people simply don't know about them.*

*Analysis: The majority of Palm Coast residents use the parks at least once a month, but almost one quarter of residents "rarely or never" use the parks.*



*Analysis: The facilities that Palm Coast needs the most are those that are either linkages—such as sidewalks, paved bicycle trails, or jogging trails—or places where people gather like teen centers, community centers, and performance centers. The need for organized sports facilities is very low, which is reflected in the current recreation activities that households participate in. Overall these results are very common in communities across Florida, and indicate a place that is urbanizing. They also indicate a community where people want alternative ways to move around, and want to connect with their neighbors.*

*Question: “Now I am going to name several types of recreation facilities. As I name them, I want you to tell me if you think that the City of Palm Coast needs more of the facility, if there are already enough, or if are too many of the type of recreation facility I name. You can also say you “just don’t know.”*

Facility	Need More
• Sidewalks	(69.3%)
• Youth / Teen Centers	(66.4%)
• Cultural Centers / Museums	(58.8%)
• Special Events Area / Outdoor Amphitheater	(56.6%)
• Bicycle Riding / Skating Trails - Paved	(55.1%)
• Community / Recreation Centers	(54.7%)
• Performance Center / Auditorium	(50.7%)
• Physical Fitness / Jogging and Hiking Trails - Paved	(50.0%)
• Senior Citizen Center	(48.5%)
• Fishing Piers	(48.2%)
• Swimming Pools / Aquatic Centers	(46.4%)
• Hiking / Nature Trails - Unpaved	(45.6%)
• Covered Playgrounds	(44.9%)
• Picnic Areas	(44.9%)
• Gymnasiums	(44.2%)
• Canoeing or Kayaking Launches or Trails	(42.7%)
• Multi-Purpose Sports Stadium	(40.9%)
• General “Multi-Purpose” Play Fields	(39.8%)
• Playgrounds or Tot lots	(39.8%)
• Racquetball / Handball Courts	(39.4%)
• Skateboard Parks	(37.2%)
• Volleyball Courts	(36.9%)
• Marina/ Boater Destination	(34.3%)
• Dog Parks	(33.9%)
• Camping Sites	(33.2%)
• Roller Hockey Rinks	(33.2%)
• Boat Ramps	(31.4%)
• Basketball Courts	(31.0%)
• Therapeutic Recreational Facilities	(30.7%)
• Shuffleboard Courts	(27.7%)
• Bicycle Trails - Unpaved	(25.2%)
• Equestrian Center	(23.7%)
• Baseball/ Softball Fields	(23.4%)
• Paintball Parks	(22.3%)
• Horseback Riding Trails	(21.9%)
• Golf Courses	(21.5%)
• Soccer	(19.3%)
• Football	(18.2%)
• BMX Tracks	(17.5%)
• Tennis Courts	(16.1%)
• Rugby Fields	(10.9%)

**Question:** *Which age groups do you think are most in need of additional recreation services?*

- Youth (23.0%)
- Teens (46.0%)
- Adults (8.4%)
- Seniors (16.8%)

**Analysis:** *Typical of many communities initially built for a population of retirees, the group that needs the most facilities is teens, followed by youth.*

**Question:** *If you want the City to provide additional facilities or programs, which type of additional revenue source would you support for their development and/or maintenance?*

- User Fees (40.5%)
- Sales Tax (15.5%)
- Property Tax (10.9%)
- Some Other Way (28.8%)
- I am not willing to pay additionally for parks (4.7%)

**Analysis:** *Residents favor user fees to fund parks improvements. Despite having a population where almost one quarter of the people do not participate in recreation, only 4.7% of the respondents were not willing to pay additionally for parks system improvements.*

## 2.4.2 Acreage LOS

Acreage of park land per 1000 residents remains the most common technique of expressing equal opportunity, even though conditions and needs vary greatly between neighborhoods. However, the underlying principle for Acreage LOS is that most communities believe that significant open space should be set aside for recreation, environmental protection, aesthetics and health. There is no universally accepted methodology that defines what is a minimally acceptable number of acres per 1,000 residents—it is up to each community to determine what is appropriate for its own needs and circumstances.

Communities also must define what “counts”: should private golf courses and conservation lands be counted towards the LOS analysis? Or just publicly-owned parkland? The City of Palm Coast analysis below is based on the following criteria and assumptions:

- City of Palm Coast LOS Standards from the Comprehensive Plan, which call for 5 acres of activity-based parkland/1000 residents and 3 acres of resource-based parkland/1000 residents
- The Palm Harbor Golf Course acres are not included
- Population projections are based on those provided to the City by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida.

Acreage Level of Service is calculated by taking the total population and dividing it by the number of parks acres. This number is helpful because it can help Palm Coast compare itself to other communities. A second set of numbers indicates the acres needed to meet the City’s LOS standard set out in the Comprehensive Plan, and the calculation of the year’s surplus or deficiency in acres. These numbers give an idea of the actual amount of park land that is needed in Palm Coast. Also, it is important to know the LOS for acreage of developed parks only, because it is a good indicator for how the parks are truly serving the population in terms of current recreation. However, including undeveloped land in the LOS calculation is also important because it may have environmental and/or aesthetic benefits, and represents what the City already has to work with. Thus, both are included in this analysis but in separate columns.

The following charts illustrate the City of Palm Coast’s Acreage Level of Service for 2007, and also for 2010, 2015, 2020, and 2030 based on population projections. City standards are highlighted in blue, and deficiencies are noted in red text. **A breakdown of the City’s park acreage can be found in the Appendices.**

### Acreage LOS: 2007

As of 2007, there was already a deficiency in parks acreage if only developed parkland is counted. The deficiency is greatest in activity-based parkland. If undeveloped parkland is taken into account, the City of Palm Coast had a surplus of parks acreage, especially in resource-based parkland.

**Chart 2.2**  
*Acreage LOS: 2007*

Level of Service Analysis   Acreage									
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2007</b>								
<b>Population:</b>	<b>70,376</b>								
	City of Palm Coast LOS Standard (Acres/1,000 people)	Acres Needed to meet City Standard	Developed Parkland ONLY			PLUS Undeveloped Parkland			
			Actual Acres of Developed Parkland	2007 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency	2007 Actual LOS (Acres/1,000 people)	Undeveloped Acres of Parkland	2007 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency Including Undeveloped Parkland	2007 Actual LOS with Undeveloped Parkland (Acres/1,000 people)	
<b>Activity Base Parkland</b>	5	351.88	190.5	-161.38	2.7	199.54	38.16	5.5	
<b>Resource Base Parkland</b>	3	211.13	170.51	-40.62	2.4	330.25	289.63	7.1	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>563.01</b>	<b>361.01</b>	<b>-202.00</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>529.79</b>	<b>327.79</b>	<b>12.7</b>	

### Acreage LOS: 2010

In 2010, the deficiency of developed parkland continues to worsen; even when counting undeveloped parkland—which assumes that the City develops almost 200 acres in less than two years—the City of Palm Coast will just be meeting its standard for Activity based parkland.

**Chart 2.3**  
*Acreage LOS: 2010*

Level of Service Analysis   Acreage									
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2010</b>								
<b>Population:</b>	<b>77,832</b>								
	City of Palm Coast Standard (Acres/1,000 people)	Acres Needed to meet Standards	Developed Parkland ONLY			PLUS Undeveloped Parkland			
			Actual Acres of Developed Parkland	2010 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency	2010 Actual LOS (Acres/1,000 people)	Undeveloped Acres of Parkland	2010 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency Including Undeveloped Parkland	2010 Actual LOS with Undeveloped Parkland (Acres/1,000 people)	
<b>Activity Base Parkland</b>	5	389.16	190.5	-198.66	2.4	199.54	0.88	5.0	
<b>Resource Base Parkland</b>	3	233.50	170.51	-62.99	2.2	330.25	267.26	6.4	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>622.66</b>	<b>361.01</b>	<b>-261.65</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>529.79</b>	<b>268.14</b>	<b>11.4</b>	

**Acreage LOS: 2015**

By 2015, if no additional parkland is developed, the City of Palm Coast will have a deficiency of over 296 acres of activity-based parkland; even if undeveloped parks slated for activity-based parkland are developed, Palm Coast will still be over 96 acres short of meeting their LOS standard of 5 acres/1000 people.

**Chart 2.4**  
*Acreage LOS: 2015*

Level of Service Analysis   Acreage								
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2015</b>							
<b>Population:</b>	<b>97,309</b>							
	City of Palm Coast LOS Standard (Acres/1,000 people)	Acres Needed to Meet City Standards	Developed Parkland <b>ONLY</b>			PLUS Undeveloped Parkland		
			Actual Acres of Developed Parkland	2015 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency	2015 Actual LOS (Acres/1,000 people)	Undeveloped Acres of Parkland	2015 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency Including Undeveloped Parkland	2015 Actual LOS with Undeveloped Parkland (Acres/1,000 people)
Activity Base Parkland	5	486.55	190.5	-296.05	2.0	199.54	-96.51	4.0
Resource Base Parkland	3	291.93	170.51	-121.42	1.8	330.25	208.83	5.1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>778.47</b>	<b>361.01</b>	<b>-417.46</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>529.79</b>	<b>112.33</b>	<b>9.2</b>

**Acreage LOS: 2020**

In 2020, Palm Coast's population is projected to be 115,658. If no other parks are developed by this time, Palm Coast will be almost 388 acres behind its standard in activity-based parkland, and over 176 acres behind in resource-based parkland. When undeveloped parkland is factored in, there will still be a deficiency of 188 acres of activity-based parkland, but a surplus of 154 acres of resource-based parkland. Overall, with undeveloped parkland included, Palm Coast will be 35 acres shy of its standard of 8 acres per 1,000 residents.

**Chart 2.5**  
*Acreage LOS: 2020*

Level of Service Analysis   Acreage								
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2020</b>							
<b>Population:</b>	<b>115,658</b>							
	City of Palm Coast LOS Standard (Acres/1,000 people)	Acres Needed to Meet City Standards	Developed Parkland <b>ONLY</b>			PLUS Undeveloped Parkland		
			Actual Acres of Developed Parkland	2020 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency	2020 Actual LOS (Acres/1,000 people)	Undeveloped Acres of Parkland	2020 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency Including Undeveloped Parkland	2020 Actual LOS with Undeveloped Parkland (Acres/1,000 people)
Activity Base Parkland	5	578.29	190.5	-387.79	1.6	199.54	-188.25	3.4
Resource Base Parkland	3	346.97	170.51	-176.46	1.5	330.25	153.79	4.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>925.26</b>	<b>361.01</b>	<b>-564.25</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>529.79</b>	<b>-34.46</b>	<b>7.7</b>

**Acreage LOS: 2030**

By 2030, the trends seen in the 2020 Acreage LOS will have continued to the point where the City has a total deficiency of 316 acres—even when undeveloped parkland is included in the equation. If no parks are developed between the present and 2030, the largest deficiency (546 acres) will be in developed activity-based parkland. This put this deficiency into perspective, it is about the size of 364 soccer fields.

**Chart 2.6**  
*Acreage LOS: 2030*

Level of Service Analysis   Acreage								
<b>Year:</b>	<b>2030</b>							
<b>Population:</b>	<b>150,851</b>							
	City of Palm Coast LOS Standard (Acres/1,000 people)	Acres Needed to Meet City Standards	Developed Parkland <b>ONLY</b>			PLUS Undeveloped Parkland		
			Actual Acres of Developed Parkland	2030 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency	2030 Actual LOS (Acres/1,000 people)	Undeveloped Acres of Parkland	2030 Acreage Surplus/ Deficiency Including Undeveloped Parkland	2030 Actual LOS with Undeveloped Parkland (Acres/1000 people)
<b>Activity Base Parkland</b>	5	754.26	190.5	-563.76	1.3	199.54	-364.22	2.6
<b>Resource Base Parkland</b>	3	452.55	170.51	-282.04	1.1	330.25	48.21	3.3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1206.81</b>	<b>361.01</b>	<b>-845.80</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>529.79</b>	<b>-316.01</b>	<b>5.9</b>

*Acreage LOS Findings – Priority Needs: Palm Coast needs to develop more activity-based parkland as soon as possible, and begin to acquire more parkland for activity-based parks by the year 2015. The City also needs to develop more resource-based parks soon, but appears to have enough undeveloped land for this purpose until 2030.*



### 2.4.3 Facility LOS

Facility LOS expresses “equal opportunity” through the availability of recreational facilities. Like Acreage LOS, it is typically calculated in terms of facilities per population, such as the Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) guideline of 1 baseball field per a maximum of 10,000 people.

Currently, the City of Palm Coast has Level of Service standards for recreational facilities in its Comprehensive Plan. For the analysis below, the number of Palm Coast’s facilities is compared against the SCORP guidelines for recreation facilities. The analysis is useful, but it must be stated that these are guidelines based on statewide usage, and may not directly pertain to Palm Coast. They also do not contain guidelines for some of the facilities that communities tend to need most, particularly sidewalks, community centers, outdoor amphitheaters, and general neighborhood parks. *A breakdown of the City’s park facilities can be found in the Appendices.*

			SURPLUS/DEFICIENCY BY YEAR			
POPULATION SERVED per facility	ACTIVITY	City of Palm Coast FACILITIES	2007	2010	2015	2020
POPULATION ESTIMATE			70,376	77,832	97,309	115,658
5,000	Bicycling (miles)	6	-8	-10	-13	-17
6,750	Camping (acres)	0	-10	-12	-14	-17
5,000	Boat Ramps (lanes)	0	-14	-16	-19	-23
5,600	Fishing (800' of pier)	0	-13	-14	-17	-21
6,750	Hiking (miles)	2	-8	-10	-12	-15
5,000	Horseback Riding (miles)	0	-14	-16	-19	-23
6,000	Picnicking	2	-10	2	-14	-17
5,000	Baseball/Softball	4	-10	-12	-15	-19
5,000	Basketball	4	-10	-12	-15	-19
6,000	Football/Soccer/Rugby	8	-4	-5	-8	-11
10,000	Multi-Purpose Field	4	-3	-4	-6	-8
50,000	Golf (18 holes)	0	-1	-2	-2	-2
10,000	Raquetball/Handball	6	-1	-2	-4	-6
6,000	Shuffleboard	4	-8	-9	-12	-15
25,000	Swimming Pool	1	-2	-2	-3	-4
2,000	Tennis	17	-18	-22	-32	-41
6,000	Volleyball	2	-10	-11	-14	-17

**Chart 2.7**  
*City of Palm Coast Facilities*  
*LOS: 2007-2020*

Based on SCORP guidelines, the City of Palm Coast needs more of every facility. This is a direct reflection of the Acreage LOS that showed a deficiency in acres of developed activity-based parkland: in order to have enough facilities, parkland must be developed.

Despite the fact that the chart indicates large deficiencies in all areas, some of these may not be accurate. For instance, according to SCORP guidelines Palm Coast needs at least fourteen more miles of horseback riding trails, and ten more acres of camping. These facilities, however, may not even be desired by residents to be an urbanizing place such as Palm Coast. “Real” deficiencies are more likely to be the need for thirteen (13) more fishing piers, ten (10) more basketball courts, eight (8) more miles of bicycle trails, and three (3) more multi-purpose fields.

#### **2.4.4 Access LOS**

One shortfall of the Acreage LOS and Facilities LOS techniques is that they only deal in total quantities of acres or facilities and say nothing about distribution. Access LOS fills this gap by expressing LOS as the service area—either a distance or an amount of time—served a park facility. The distance or travel time standards should be based on the development patterns, street networks, bicycle/pedestrian networks, transit access, demographics, climate, and other variables in the community.

The City of Palm Coast already has established service area distances for parks facilities in its Comprehensive Plan; ½ mile for neighborhood parks and 3 miles for community parks. Using these standards, each park's access LOS was mapped.

##### **Map 2.1: ½ Mile Access Area to Developed, Undeveloped, and Proposed DRI Parks**

The ½ mile distance has been shown by multiple sources as the maximum distance that most people are willing to walk to a neighborhood park. Map 2.1 shows ½ mile radii around each developed, undeveloped, and proposed DRI park. The radii are based on the actual road network, and barriers such as I-95 and the Palm Coast Parkway, block comfortable pedestrian travel, therefore truncating some of the service areas.

The map shows that there is fairly equal distribution of neighborhood parks throughout Palm Coast, but that there is a need for many more to fill in the gaps. Even with the inclusion of parkland that is not yet developed, approximately 85% of the City's residents are beyond a ½ mile access area to a neighborhood park. The southern portion of the City (excluding the DRI's) is the area in most need of neighborhood park facilities.

##### **Map 2.2: 3-Mile Access Area to Developed, Undeveloped, and Proposed DRI Community Parks**

Community parks, which are usually many times larger and have more facilities than neighborhood parks, have a greater service area because it is assumed people are willing to drive to them. The City of Palm Coast has established a 3-mile distance standard for these types of sites, as well as for the sports complex (See Map 2.2).

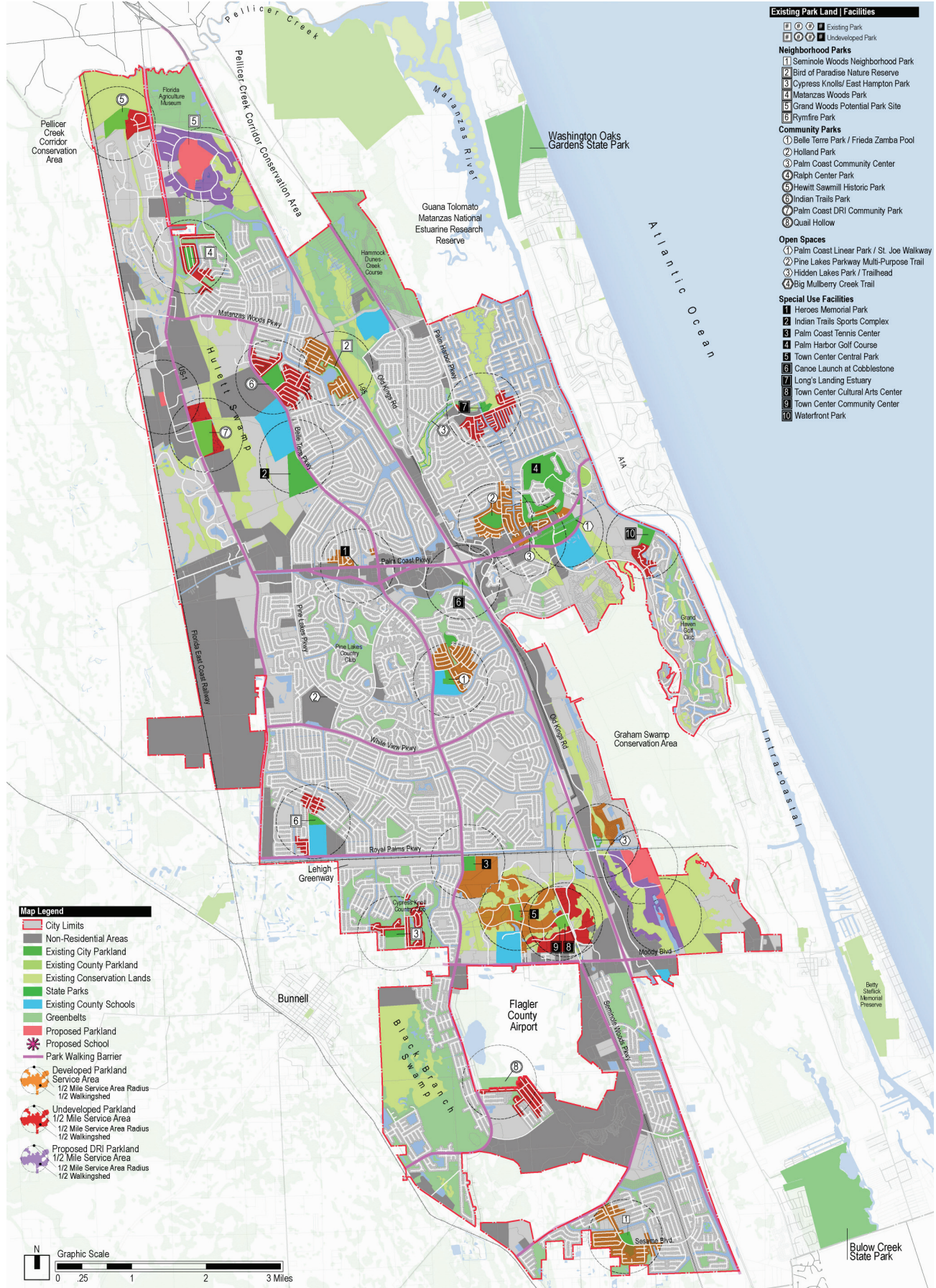
Map 2.2 shows that much of Palm Coast is within a 3-mile trip along the road network to a community park. Existing community parks provide a lot of service close to the center of the city, but fail to reach the very fringes.

##### **Map 2.3: 3-Mile Access Area to Indian Trails Sports Complex**

In its Comprehensive Plan, the City of Palm Coast has established a 3-mile access area to its sports complexes. Currently, the only park site that would qualify as a sports complex is the facility at Indian Trails, which provides service to approximately 20% of Palm Coast.

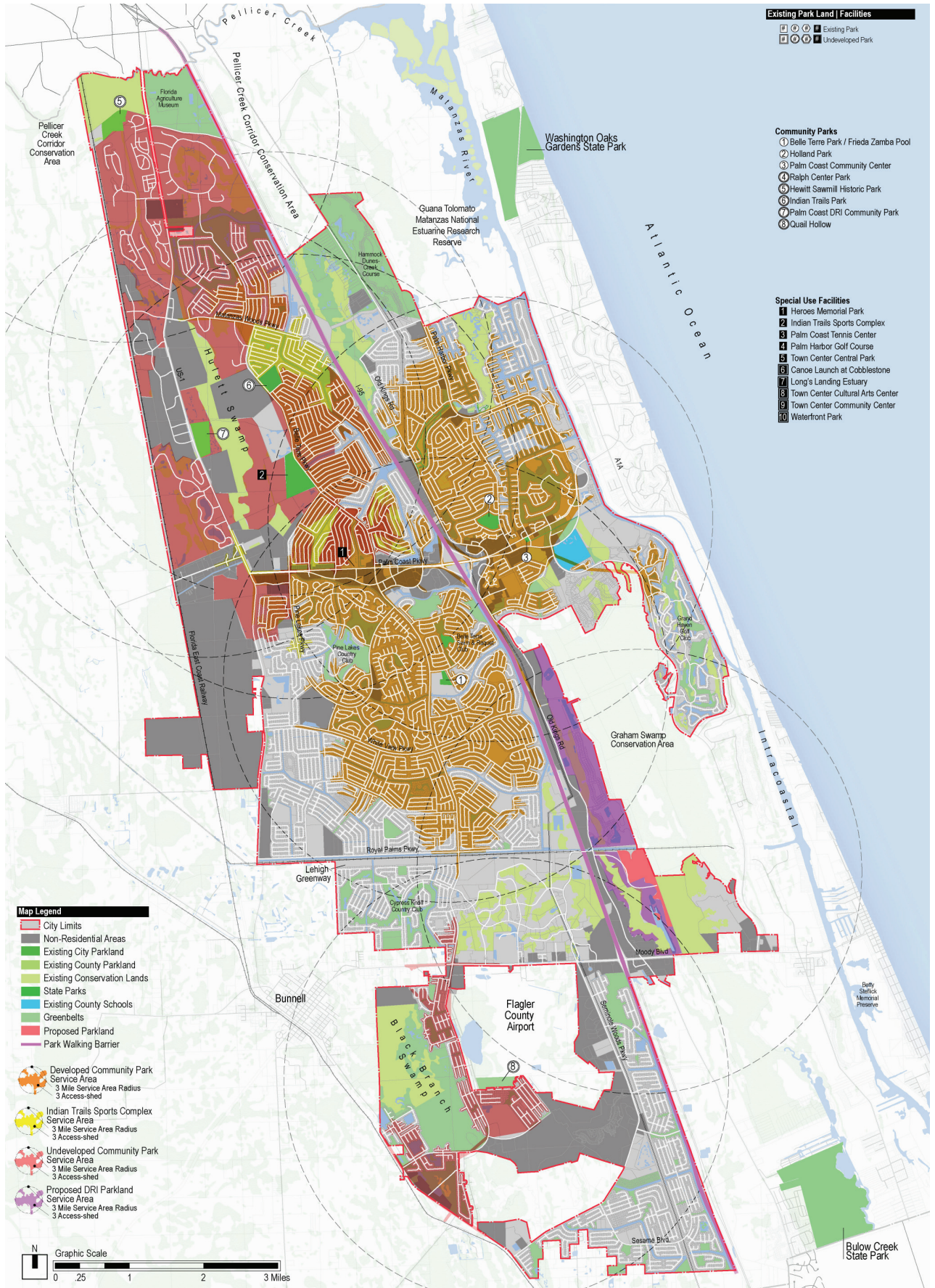


**Map 2.1: 1/2 Mile Access to Developed, Undeveloped, and Proposed DRI Parks**



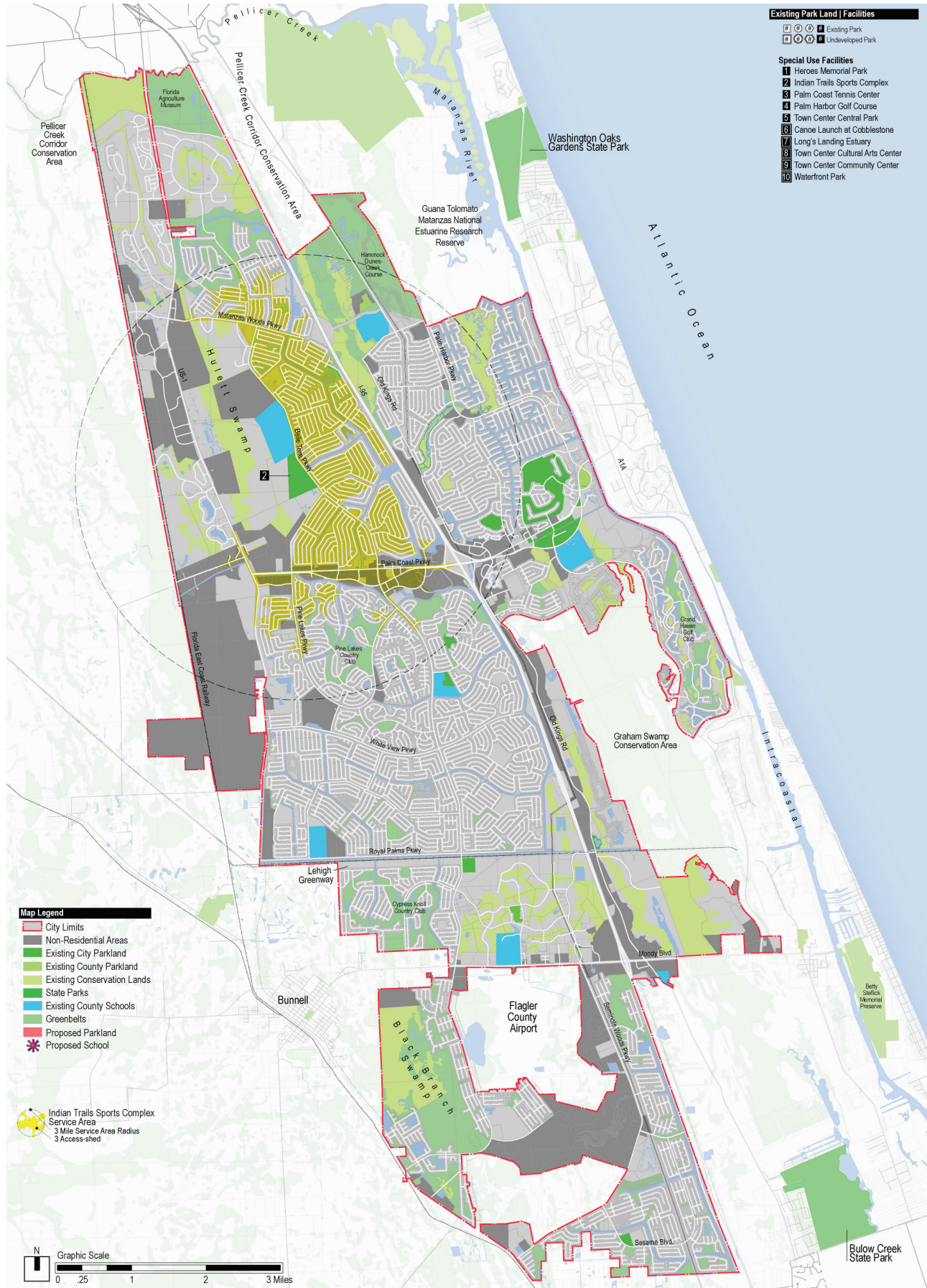


*Map 2.2: 3-Mile Access Area to Developed, Undeveloped, and Proposed DRI Parks*





*Map 2.3: 3-Mile Access Area to Sports Complex*



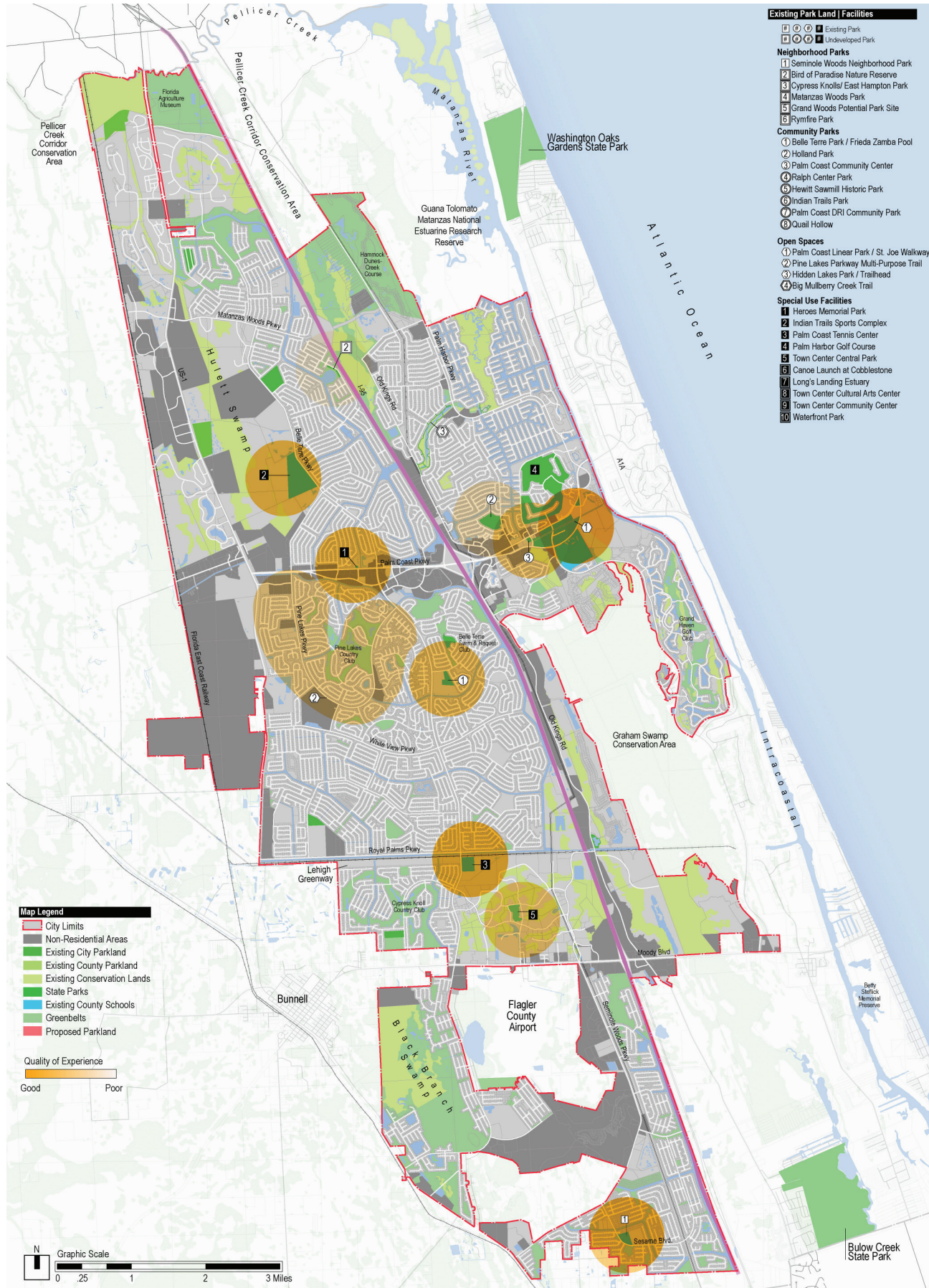


### **2.4.5 Quality LOS**

Equal opportunity can also be measured in terms of equitable access to quality recreational experiences. Map 2.4 incorporates the results from the site observations (Section 2.2) and expresses each park site in terms of the quality of experience offered there. The evaluation of experience is based on three aspects of the site: proximity/access/linkages, comfort & image, and uses and activities & sociability. High quality parks, such as the Palm Coast Linear Park and the Palm Coast Tennis Center, are represented in the darkest shade of orange. More average park experiences, such as those offered by the Palm Coast Community Center and Belle Terre Park, are expressed as a medium shade of orange, whereas lower quality experiences are represented by the lightest shade.

The Quality LOS analysis shows a rather unequal distribution of quality experiences. There is a relatively high concentration of good quality experiences along Palm Coast Parkway and Belle Terre Parkway. Areas that are not along major arterials do not tend to have quality experiences nearby, which may indicate a relatively low quality of experiences at more neighborhood-oriented parks.

**Map 2.4: Quality LOS**



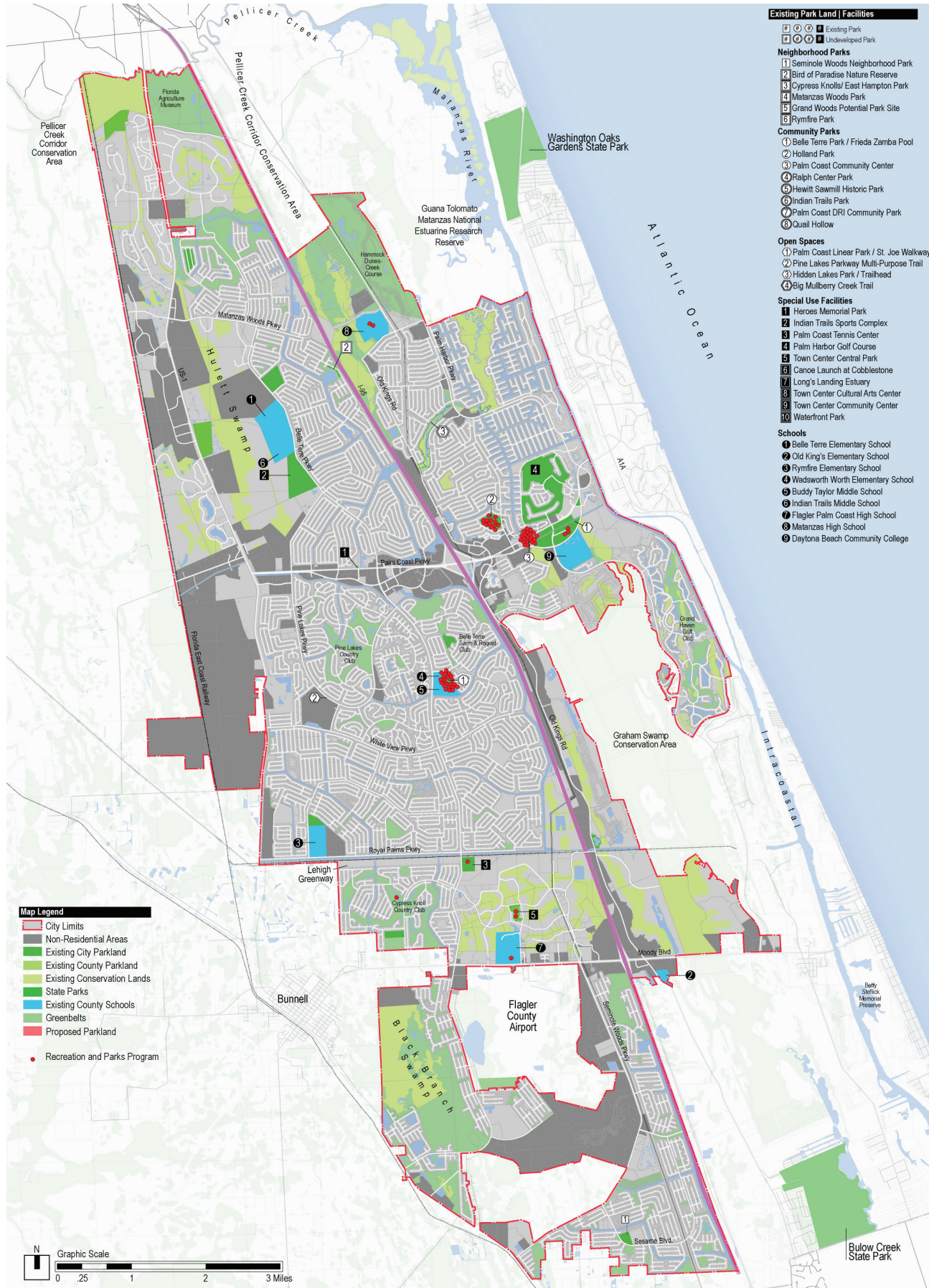
#### **2.4.6 Program LOS**

Program LOS is simply an expression of the distribution of recreation programming opportunities throughout a community, including youth, teen and adult programs and services. It goes hand-in-hand with Facility LOS and Access LOS, and it should be kept in mind that inequity in program opportunities may be a function of access or facilities, rather than programming offerings or events.

On the following page, Map 2.5 shows where the City of Palm Coast currently operates recreational programs. Similar to the Quality LOS—and very likely related—the highest concentration of programs is at sites along or near the Palm Coast Parkway. Another large cluster of programming is focused at Belle Terre Park. Outside of these two places, there is very little programming in Palm Coast, making it difficult for a majority of residents to access the recreation programs offered by the City. This finding may have implications for bicycle/pedestrian access as well as program offerings.



**Map 2.5: Programs LOS**





### 2.4.7 Palm Coast Citizen Survey

Since 2002, the City of Palm Coast has completed an annual Citizen Survey run collaboratively by the National Research Center Inc (NRC) and the International City/County Management Association (ICCMA). Not only does it inform decision-makers about current opinions, the survey also shows trends over time since its inception in the City in 2002. The survey also compares the findings in Palm Coast with other similar “benchmark” communities across the nation.

In the 2008 survey, a total of 490 surveys were returned and tabulated. The survey’s primary objective is to identify community strengths and weaknesses and service strengths and weaknesses through surveying residents. This is achieved via questions in eight different categories, many of which are in some way relevant to parks, recreation, and open space. Results in each category are discussed below as they pertain to City of Palm Coast parks and recreation needs:

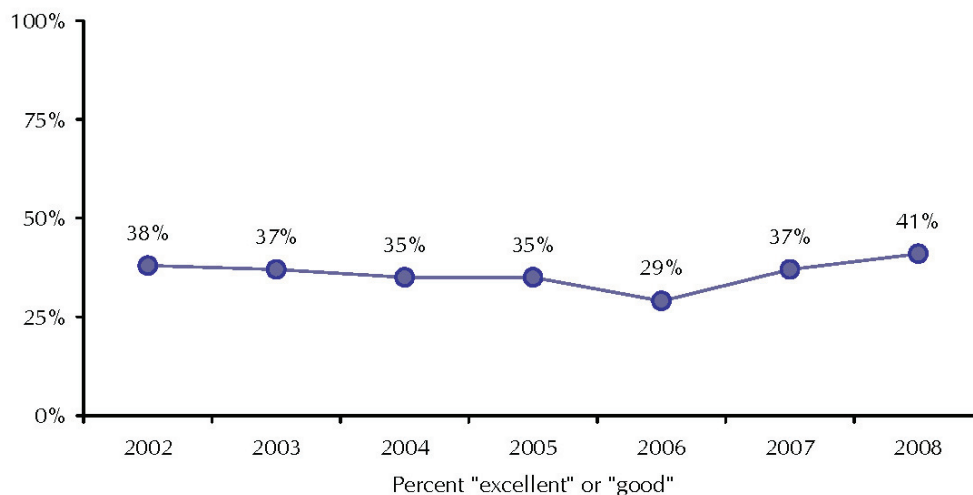
**Community Quality:** The chart below details the ratings of overall quality of life in Palm Coast. While the city has in effect received a satisfaction rate of 73% of its citizens, the rate is a marked decline from its 2002 figure of 82%. This erosion in quality of life may be linked to the sharp rise in population that the City experienced in this same time period and likely indicates the need for parks and recreation facilities to catch up to a greater demand.

**Chart 2.8**  
*Ratings of Overall  
Community Quality by Year*

Ratings of Overall Community Quality by Year							
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
The overall quality of life in Palm Coast	73%	71%	73%	75%	82%	80%	82%
Your neighborhood as a place to live	81%	80%	86%	86%	88%	88%	86%
Palm Coast as a place to live	80%	77%	80%	83%	86%	84%	86%
Percent "excellent" or "good"							

**Recreation and Wellness:** Residents gave recreation services mixed reviews. In this 2008 survey, only 41% of residents rated the community recreational opportunities as excellent or good, which is an improvement from previous years but still below satisfaction levels in other communities.

**Chart 2.9**  
*Ratings of Recreation  
and Wellness*



- Only 57% of residents used Palm Coast recreation centers in 2008 (compared to 73% in 2002), but 79% visited a neighborhood park or city park. City parks themselves fare well in terms of satisfaction, with 76% of residents rating them as excellent or good, and most people are also happy with recreation programs or classes (66%) and recreation centers or facilities (62%). On the surface these may seem like oddly high numbers given that only 41% of residents were happy with community recreational facilities. The higher percentages do not include the “don’t know” responses in the survey, so it in effect excludes those who do not participate in recreation activities or visit the Palm Coast Parks. **What the survey is really saying is that the general population is not extremely satisfied with recreation opportunities, but those who visit the parks and participate in the city’s recreation programs are overall satisfied.**

There are a couple of major implications in this for parks and recreation planning. One possible issue is that residents may not be aware of all of the parks and recreation services available, so marketing of parks and offerings may need to be improved. A second issue could be that the City lacks the recreational programs and facilities that would attract this sizable portion of the population that does not participate.

**Community Design:** Palm Coast residents were asked about the ease in different modes of transportation around the City, the services that come with transportation infrastructure, and their mode of travel to get to work. The survey found that only 45% of respondents rated Ease of Bicycle Travel as excellent or good and 46% respondents rated Ease of Walking as excellent or good. Even fewer people are pleased with vehicular travel along major arterials: only 32% rated traffic flow on major streets as excellent or good. The majority of respondents indicated that they are happy with transportation-related services such as street cleaning, but only 32% rated street lights. The implication for parks and recreation is clear: getting around Palm Coast is not easy. More quality bicycle trails and sidewalks need to be developed and interconnect to provide alternatives to automobile travel.

**Public Safety:** Overall, residents feel safe in Palm Coast. An impressive 92% feel safe in their neighborhood during the day, and 88% feel safe in the downtown area. Feelings of safety decrease sharply after dark: 70% feel safe in their neighborhoods after dark, while only 62% feel safe in downtown after dark. Although these percentages are comparable to other communities, they may indicate is the need for safety lighting in park facilities, and better street lighting in general.

**Environmental Sustainability:** The survey found that 71% of Palm Coast’s residents think that the quality of overall natural environment in the city is excellent or good. Air quality also rates highly, with 79% of the residents being pleased with it. Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands, and greenbelts rates lower, with only 56% saying it is excellent or good. Only 46% of respondents felt positively about storm drainage services—quite low compared to other city services such as recycling (84%) and garbage collection (86%). Parks and open spaces planning can make significant improvements in these areas, including the preservation of more natural or open lands, and also the implementation of high quality storm water design in parks and along corridors.

**Community Inclusiveness:** A new question in the 2008 survey asked residents to rate “sense of community”. In Palm Coast, 58% rated the sense of community as excellent or good. While this is similar to other communities, it is still not a very high percentage and may indicate that there is a lack of public places to gather.

Many (78%) rated Palm Coast as an excellent or good place to retire, but only 61% said it was an excellent or good place to raise children—which is no doubt related to that lack of affordable quality child care (only 27% of respondents were happy in this area). These results are not surprising considering Palm Coast's origins as a planned retirement community; what it means for parks system planning now is that the City must become more family friendly. Parks and open spaces may need more facilities and equipment for children and programs may need to be expanded. There may also be an opportunity for the parks department to provide more summer programming for children to help ameliorate the City-wide shortage of affordable child care.

**Chart 2.10**  
*Ratings of "Services Provided  
for Population Subgroups"*

Ratings of Quality of Services Provided for Population Subgroups by Year							
	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Services to seniors	52%	50%	52%	59%	62%	56%	61%
Services to youth	34%	26%	25%	32%	28%	20%	21%
Percent "excellent" or "good"							

Overall, satisfaction with service to youth is low at 34%, but is a large improvement since 2002 when it was at 21%. Conversely, services to seniors is currently at 52% satisfaction rate, but has dropped from 61% in 2002. This may indicate that Palm Coast is becoming more family-friendly, but perhaps at the expense of seniors. Parks and recreation programming needs to find a balance in providing high quality services to both of these groups.

**Social Engagement:** 55% of Palm Coast residents report that they speak with their neighbors "several times a week" or "every day", and an addition 23% say that they speak or visit with their neighborhoods "several times a month." This seems to indicate a healthy level of neighborhood networking, but it is unclear if this network extends past the neighborhood to a more community-wide or city-wide scale.

#### 2.4.8 Report of the Community Center Study Committee

In November, 2005 the Palm Coast City Council held a referendum on two bond issues: the approval of a special obligation bond of \$22 million for the construction of a new city hall complex, and a \$10 million bond for the development and construction of two senior/community centers. Both failed to pass, but the latter failed by just a three to two margin. This prompted a closer look in the need for a Community Center, and a study was undertaken by a citizen committee.

The *Community Center Study Committee Report* of June 8, 2006, was based on a number of analysis techniques: a household questionnaire, a survey that went out to community organizations that provide resident services, an analysis of the 2005 National Citizens Survey, an interview with the Facility Clerk at the Palm Coast Community Center, visits to existing teen centers, citizen input from Committee Meetings, and direct interviews with other stakeholders.

Results of the study are unclear. The household questionnaire for example—which consisted of 3244 returned surveys—indicated that 46% of residents think Palm Coast needs a new community center, 29% do not think there is a need, but that 25% are undecided. Furthermore, the report was completed over three years ago; since then, the community has grown a great deal in population, and demand for additional recreation services is likely to be higher. It would seem that there is indeed community interest in a new community center, but a facilities program would need to be carefully thought out.

## 2.5 Needs Assessment Summary

The following chart illustrates the findings from the Needs Assessment techniques discussed in the previous sections. The column under the Telephone Survey shows the percentage of residents who believe that there is a need for additional facilities. The columns under the other Needs Assessment techniques list the facilities noted as “Priority Needs” (red dots) by participants as well as “Needed More Of” (orange dots).

Based on the findings from the Needs Assessment, primary community priorities (those believed to be needed by a majority of participants) include:

- Sidewalks
- Youth/ Teen Centers
- Bicycle/ Skate Trails
- Community Centers
- Fitness Jogging Trails
- Bicycle Trails – Paved

Other facilities that were identified as needed secondary priorities based on the various needs assessment techniques used include:

- Cultural Centers/ Museums
- More Parks
- Access to Water
- Strengthen School Partnerships

These needs are very consistent with a fast-growing, urbanizing community. In similar communities across the state and beyond, the trend is that people want better linkages and alternative ways to get around. More and more people also want better places where they can gather as a community for special events, meetings, or just general socializing. One priority need that is specific to Palm Coast however is Access to Water, which reflects the city’s great water resources that are not fully utilized as recreational amenities.

Based on the telephone survey, other priority needs include:

- Outdoor Amphitheater
- Performance Center/ Auditorium



**Chart 2.11**  
*Needs Assessment  
Summary Chart*

*Primary community  
priorities are indicated by  
light blue highlight*

*Secondary community  
priorities are indicated by  
green highlight*

<b>Parks and Recreation Facilities</b>		Percent of Residents Saying "Need More"	Telephone Survey	Site Visits	Council & Mayor Workshop	City Manager Interview	LSAC Workshop	Public Workshop	Focus Group Meetings	Youth Workshop	LOS Analysis	PC Citizens Survey 2008	2006 Community Center Study
			"Priority Facility" ● "Need More Of" ●										
Sidewalks	69.3%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Youth/ Teen Centers	66.4%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Cultural Centers/ Museums	58.8%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Outdoor Amphitheater	56.6%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Bicycle/ Skate Trails - Paved	55.1%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Community Recreation Centers	54.7%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Performance Center/ Auditorium	50.7%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Fitness Jogging Trails - Paved	50.0%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Senior Citizens Center	48.5%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Fishing Piers	48.2%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Swim Pool/ Aquatics Center	46.4%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Hiking/ Nature Trails - Unpaved	45.6%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Covered Playgrounds	44.9%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Picnic Areas	44.9%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Gymnasium	44.2%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Canoe/ Kayak Facilities	42.7%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Multi-Purpose Sports Stadium	40.9%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Multi-Purpose Play Fields	39.8%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Playgrounds	39.8%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Racquet/ Handball Courts	39.4%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Skateboard Parks	37.2%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Marina Facilities	34.3%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Dog Parks	33.9%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Boat Ramps	31.4%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Therapeutic Recreation Centers	30.7%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Shuffleboard Courts	27.7%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Baseball/ Softball Fields	23.4%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Equestrian Center	23.7%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Paintball Parks	22.3%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Equestrian Trails	21.9%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Golf Course	21.5%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Soccer	19.3%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Football	18.2%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
BMX Track	16.1%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Tennis Courts	17.5%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Rugby Fields	10.9%	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
YMCA		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
More Parks		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Renovate Existing Parks		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Access to Water		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Strengthen School Partnership		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	

PART III: VISION

## 3.1 Introduction to Vision

The Vision for the City's Recreation and Parks Facilities System is consistent with the Vision Statement outlined in the City's Comprehensive Plan. As stated in the Comprehensive Plan, it is a Vision that expresses the City's *"Ideal future - a future that focuses on preserving and enhancing the natural environment and quality of life that initially attracted the current residents"*:

*"Palm Coast strives to be a unique and vibrant Intercity recognized for its..."*

- Exceptional quality of life
- Attractive job opportunities, diversified housing, and superbly designed commercial areas
- Valued natural, recreational, and cultural resources
- Exemplary public facilities and services
- Responsible growth and fiscal planning
- Responsiveness to meeting the diverse needs of the citizens
- Friendly and welcoming manner towards visitors, residents and businesses"

Because the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision is so broad and comprehensive – including parks, conservation areas, streets, trails and bikeways, civic centers and special use/ activity centers – it can also have a significant positive impact on the "Building Blocks" of the City's Vision, as described in the Comprehensive Plan:

- "Education
- Public Safety and Health
- Economic and Community Development Opportunities
- Protection of Natural Resources and Environmental Eco Systems
- Development of Parks Recreational Facilities, Greenways and Open Spaces
- Preservation of Suburban Character in Existing Areas
- Promotion of Mixed Use in Appropriate Areas
- Fiscal Planning
- Enhanced Traffic Circulation
- Maintain and Upgrade Public Facilities and Infrastructure
- Community Image"

In short, the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision is not just a Vision for parks and recreational facilities - it is a Vision for the community Palm Coast wishes to become over the next 50 years.

## 3.2 Criteria

The following Recreation and Parks Facilities System criteria were established to guide the development of the Vision, and to assist the City in the development and management of the System. A great Recreation and Parks Facilities System includes:

### Community Identity

- Central gathering spaces and easily-identified civic buildings for public events;
- Public art and signage integrated throughout the system to create sense of place;
- A broad range of social, cultural, recreation and wellness programs;
- Celebration and access to heritage resources;
- Parks planned as catalysts for neighborhood stabilization and /or redevelopment;
- Involvement and grooming of civic leaders and champions;

### Equitable Access

- “Walk-to” parks easily accessible to every resident;
- Equitably distributed system of sports complexes and other special use facilities;
- Community centers easily accessible to every resident;
- An interconnected network of boulevards, parkways, streets, greenways and trails designed as a community-wide system of linear parks;
- Pedestrian, bicycle and transit access to every public park and open space;

### Protection of the Natural Environment

- +/- 50% of parks space preserved in natural or maintained open space;
- Safe, convenient access to beaches, rivers, lakes and streams;
- Natural areas protected as conservation lands with appropriate/equitable public access;
- Greenbelts surrounding urban development areas to contain sprawl and to buffer agricultural or environmental lands;
- Parks designed to reduce energy and water consumption, thereby serving as models for sustainable development;

### Responsible Planning and Administration

- Co-location and joint use of schools, libraries and parks;
- Well designed and maintained facilities;
- Municipal, County, State, Federal, corporate, and non-profit partnerships;
- Neighborhood and community level public involvement; and
- A community-building mind set.



## 3.3 Focus

While the scope of the Recreation and Parks Facilities System is broad and comprehensive, as outlined above, two key objectives have emerged from the planning process:

- 3.3.1 Improve Connectivity – pedestrian, bicycle and vehicular – throughout the community
- 3.3.2 Provide More Social Centers and Activities – places where the community comes together for recreation, education and interaction

### 3.3.1 Improve Connectivity

The need for improved connectivity is an obvious symptom of the community's growth into a City and its attendant problems with traffic congestion. It is also a vestige of the City's suburban heritage and development pattern with winding streets, loops, cul-de-sacs, and intersecting canals.

Connectivity will be improved primarily through the redevelopment of the City's streets – over time – into “complete streets” that serve the total needs of the community. Initially designed as rural or suburban roads, the City's streets now need to play a much more vital role in both transportation and recreation, serving the needs of pedestrians, joggers, skaters, bicyclists, kids, seniors, drivers, sightseers, visitors and others. Elements of “complete streets” include:

- Well-marked travel lanes
- Cross walks
- Bike lanes
- Wide sidewalks and bike paths
- Street trees
- Directional (way-finding) signs
- Street lights

Connectivity can also be improved through new “network connections” – new trails, sidewalks or even roads that connect previously unconnected roads. A prime example is the construction of a new sidewalk that connects a residential cul-de-sac or street with a park or community center, allowing residents to walk or bicycle from their home to the park instead of driving (and adding to traffic congestion Figure 3.2).

Connectivity also includes making the best use of the City's incredible canal system, including 46 miles of freshwater canals and 23 miles of saltwater canals, for both recreation and transportation. While the vision respects the privacy of homeowners along the canals, it also identifies new opportunities for water access for canoeing, kayaking, and fishing.



**Figure 3.1**  
*Proposed Location for  
Pedestrian Connection through  
Cul-de-sac*



**Figure 3.2**  
*Proposed Pedestrian  
Connection through  
Cul-de-sac*

Finally, connectivity also includes the construction of new trails and greenways that traverse the City, creating multiple transportation and recreation opportunities for residents and visitors. Corridors, such as the 16 mile long FPL easement, will ultimately serve as the backbone of the City's bicycle/ pedestrian network.

### **3.3.2 Provide More Social Centers and Activities**

A natural result of the City's maturation from a suburban retirement community to a vibrant City is the need and demand for more specialized social, cultural and recreation activities and centers. The sheer number of advocacy groups in Palm Coast - the Friends of Tennis, the Friends of Boating, the Friends of the Arts, the Friends of Swimming, etc – is testimony to the interest in upgrading City facilities and programs to the level of other great cities throughout Florida and the United States. Therefore the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision includes numerous new or upgraded social and activity centers, including:

- Community Centers and Gymnasiums
- Cultural Arts Center
- Waterfront Park
- Aquatics Center
- Expanded Tennis Center
- Central Park

## 3.4 Vision

Based on the criteria and focus areas outlined previously, as well as the findings from the Existing Conditions Analysis and the Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment (Section 2), Glatting Jackson and City staff developed a long range vision for the City's Recreation and Parks Facilities System that includes five (5) primary elements:

Community-wide Facilities:

- 3.4.1 Bicycle and Pedestrian Paths, Trails
- 3.4.2 Community Parks
- 3.4.3 Community Centers
- 3.4.4 Special Use Facilities

Neighborhood Facilities:

- 3.4.5 Neighborhood Parks and Mini-Parks

Following is a description of each element:

### COMMUNITY-WIDE FACILITIES

#### 3.4.1 Bicycle and Pedestrian Paths, Trails

Improved connectivity is a major focus of this Vision. And one of the easiest ways to improve connectivity is through the development of an interconnected network of sidewalks, bikeways and trails.

The key guiding principles of the proposed Bicycle and Pedestrian System include:

- Connect kids and families from neighborhoods to schools, parks and open green space;
- Provide opportunities for both recreation and transportation;
- Fill in gaps in bus service to schools (1 mile – elementary schools, 2 miles - middle/high schools);
- Create a hierarchy of facilities that include bike routes (shared roads); bike lanes (on-road); bike paths (off-road, within R.O.W); and trails (off-road, outside of road R.O.W, including utility easements, canals, etc);

Specific project examples include the following:



*Map 3.1: City of Palm Coast Pedestrian/ Bicycle Master Plan*





### 3.4.1.1 Pedestrian Pathways

The City of Palm Coast previously developed a Pedestrian/ Bicycle Master Plan that establishes a framework of pedestrian paths connecting neighborhoods to parks, schools, and commercial centers. (Map 3.1) Located along the City's parkways and major thoroughfares, these pathways are usually six feet wide and are separated from streets by swales and lawn areas. Figure 3.3 shows an example of one of these pathways located along the Palm Coast Parkway. Many such pathways are either built, under construction or in the planning stages.

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes to build upon this plan by:

- 1) adding more pathways to the network
- 2) making them more safe, convenient, comfortable and attractive.

Specific recommendations include expanding the pathways to eight feet wherever possible, installing shade trees to create a continuous tree canopy, improve landscaping, installing site furnishings and pedestrian lighting, and developing a signage and wayfinding system for the City's parks, civic centers and other major destinations. Eventually the City should develop a Parkways, Streets, and Public Realm Beautification Program that provides uniform design guidelines for these improvements.



**Figure 3.3**  
*Existing Pedestrian Pathway  
Along Palm Coast Parkway*



**Figure 3.4**  
*Proposed Enhanced Pedestrian  
Pathway Along Palm Coast  
Parkway*







### 3.4.1.2 Bike Routes (Shared Roads)

Bike Routes are roads within the existing neighborhoods that are designated as shared roads and serve to connect residents within the neighborhoods to the City's proposed Bicycle and Pedestrian System as shown in Map 3.2



Figure 3.4  
Shared Use Roads

These shared roads do not require the installation of sidewalks but instead use elements such as signage, street trees, speed bumps, and pavement markings to alert motorists and cyclists that they are sharing the road (Figure 3.4). These improvements help to calm vehicular traffic, making the roads safer for bicyclists and pedestrians.

Further studies need to be conducted to identify the elements or the combination of elements best suited for the successful designation and implementation of these shared roads in the City of Palm Coast. Factors that need to be taken into consideration include, traffic volumes, ingress/ egress points, points of intersection, site visibility, street curvature, speeds, and public opinion. Specific elements that could be implemented include the following:

- Signage - Signs that identify the streets as a shared road and provide instructions to drivers (Figure 3.5).
- Sharrow Road Markings - Placed along the edge of the roadway, these marking indicate that cyclist and pedestrians are allowed full use of the travel lane but encourage cyclist and pedestrians to allow a safe passing width for automobiles (Figure 3.6).
- Roadway Edge Striping - The use of color in striping the roadway edges helps to alert motorist to the presence of other street users and to calm traffic. This color-striped edge is not a formal bike lane but it does mark the street as having special status in accommodating or even completing a bicycle route in the city-wide network (Figure 3.7)
- Road Diets - Reduce the expanse of asphalt from 24 feet wide ( 12 foot lanes) to 18 - 22 feet wide ( 9 - 11 foot lanes).
- Street Trees - Street trees appear to have a traffic calming benefit by causing motorists to believe the space is tighter and more restrictive. Trees also provide a comfortable micro climate enhancing the pedestrian experience.
- Furnishings - Pedestrian oriented furnishings placed along the edge of the roadway (i.e. mail boxes, benches, etc) remind drivers that they are sharing the road with pedestrians and therefore need to be cautious.



Figure 3.5  
Shared Use Road Signage



Figure 3.6  
Sharrow Road Marking

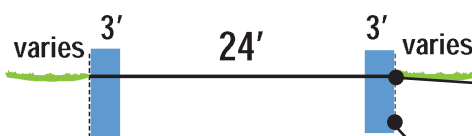


Figure 3.7  
Roadway Edge Striping

Main travel lanes should remain unstriped on these streets to signal a safe clear width for emergency vehicles and slow-speed passing automobiles.

Color treatment of bicycle and pedestrian 'zone' helps to distinguish it to motorist and calm traffic behaviors







### 3.4.1.3 Greenways and Trails

A system of greenways and trails with multi-purpose paths and nature trails along power line easements, canal banks, and the edges of conservation areas will provide residents with both transportation alternatives and recreation opportunities throughout the City.

Map 3.3 shows the proposed location of these greenways and nature trails. The 16 mile FPL Greenway will be the backbone of the proposed system connecting residents from the City's north-eastern and south-eastern limits to the City's new; Town Center. The Lehigh Greenway, which connects to the FPL Greenway, will connect residents in the south-western portion of the City to Town Center and the Graham Swamp Conservation Area.

A system of nature trails and boardwalks for activities, such as walking, hiking, wildlife viewing, off-road bike riding, etc., will not only provide residents with access to natural areas but also a finer grain of bicycle/ pedestrian connectivity to parks, schools, neighborhoods, and commercial areas. The City should work with proposed new developments such as the SR 100 Community Redevelopment Area, Sawmill Creek, and Palm Coast Park to expand and connect to the City's trails network.



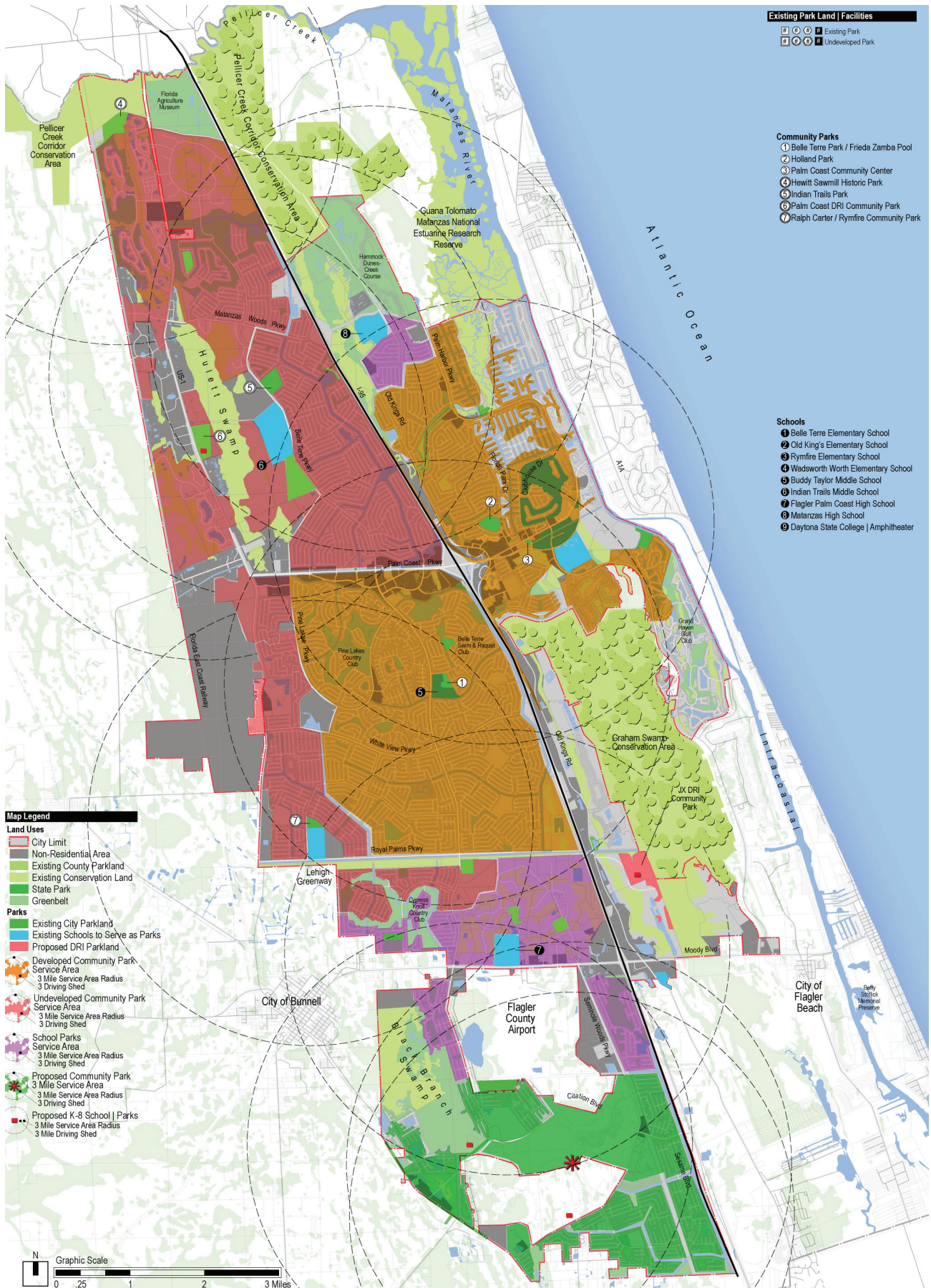
**Figure 3.8**  
*Existing FPL Easement*



**Figure 3.9**  
*Proposed FPL Easement*



Map 3.4: Community Park System





### 3.4.2 Community Parks

Community Parks are where residents go to socialize and recreate with the larger community, whether it's to play ball, have a picnic, take a class, swim in the pool, or enjoy a concert or art show. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) states that a community park serves a “broader purpose” than a neighborhood park, and its “focus is on meeting community based recreation needs, as well as preserving unique landscape and open spaces” (Mertes & Hall, 1996). Community Parks are significantly larger than a Neighborhood Park – typically between 20 and 50 acres – and can serve several neighborhoods. These larger-scale parks should be located within communities such that no resident of that area should have to walk, bike, or drive further than three miles to get to the park. To maximize access and minimize disruption from lights, noise, and traffic, a Community Park should serve several neighborhoods and ideally be located on a major community road such as a Parkway or Boulevard. Facilities generally include the basic elements of a neighborhood park in addition to multiple recreation fields and sports courts. However, the specific facilities to be located in a Neighborhood Park should be primarily determined by a public process that engages the community's residents. Figure 3.10 graphically depicts a prototypical community park. The mix of recreational facilities may change slightly over time to meet the needs of changing demographics.

A recent trend in Community Park design is to fill up all of the available space with recreation facilities such as ball fields, dog parks, skate parks, etc. This is apparent in Holland Park and Belle Terre Park where there are many facilities in a relatively small area. This is due, in part, to the high cost of land and increasing demands for specialized facilities to house highly organized sports groups. 50% of a Community Park's area should be maintained as passive, multi-purpose open space to allow for a variety of formal and informal recreation opportunities.

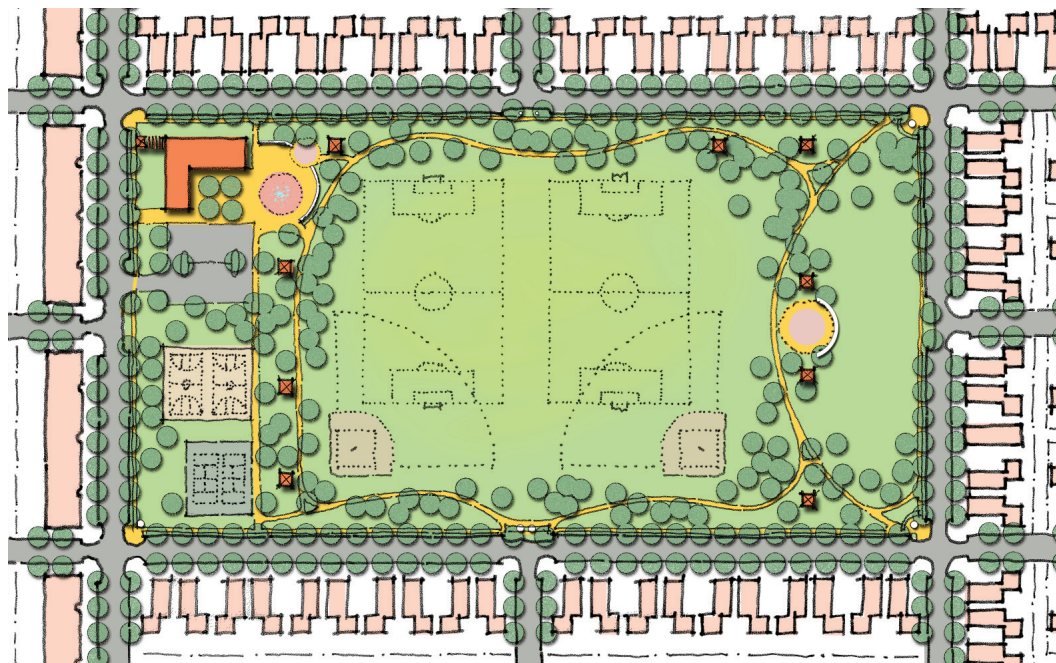


Figure 3.10  
Community Park

The City of Palm Coast has developed two Community Parks; Holland Park and Belle Terre Park. The City recently renovated Belle Terre Park, and has plans to renovate Holland Park. However, both of these facilities are currently heavily used and will not be able to meet the recreational needs of the anticipated 80,000 new residents expected by the year 2030. To meet these future needs, the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision includes several new Community Parks. Principles guiding the development of the Community Parks System include:



- Every resident should have access to a community park within 3 miles of their home;
- High School facilities should function as community parks after school hours and on weekends;
- New community parks should be co-located with high schools wherever possible;
- Community parks should be located off major community roads such as Parkways and Boulevards and linked to the City's pedestrian and bicycle system;
- Community park sites should exhibit physical characteristics appropriate for both active and passive recreation uses;
- New community park sites should be acquired in areas where they help preserve unique community landscapes;

The proposed Community Parks System (Map 3.4) includes: three new Community Parks on existing City sites; two new Community Parks in proposed developments, greater public access to existing high schools, and one new Community Park. As these new parks are planned for development, the City should engage the residents of the surrounding neighborhoods in the park planning and design process to determine the type and number of facilities that should be included in the park. All of these sites contain significant conservation areas which should be protected and integrated into the park designs. Opportunities for nature based, passive recreation such as nature trails, boardwalks, and interpretive signage and exhibits that celebrate the cultural and ecological history of the site and the City, should also be integrated into the planning and design of the parks.

New Community Parks on existing City sites include: Hewitt Sawmill Historic Park, Indian Trails Park, and Ralph Carter / Rymfire Community Park.

Proposed new Community Parks to be constructed in new developments include the Palm Coast Park DRI Community Park, and JX Property DRI Community Park. Improvements to the Palm Coast Park DRI Community Park are proposed to be built by the developer while improvements to the JX Property DRI Community Park will be built by the City.

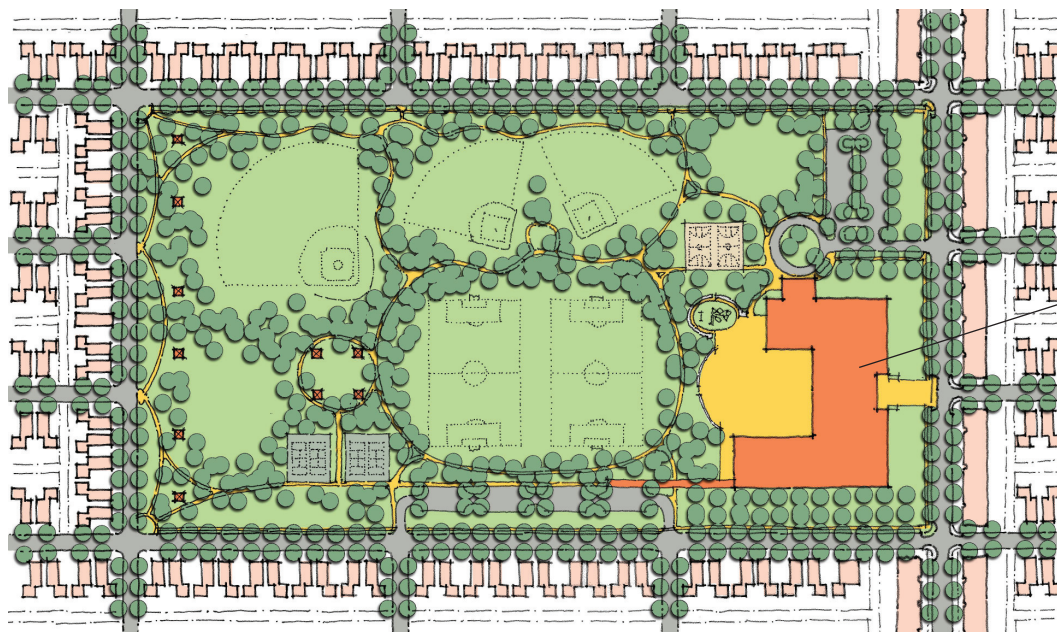
New K-8 Schools are proposed to be developed adjacent to or on the Palm Coast Park DRI and JX DRI properties. This provides an opportunity to for the City and the School District to work together and develop School-Parks (Figure 3.11). The City should work with the School District and the developer to plan and design these facilities in such a way that they meet the recreation needs and desires of the surrounding communities while addressing the access and safety concerns of the School District. Both these sites present opportunities for nature-based recreation.

In addition to these potential new School-Parks, the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes public access to the recreational facilities at Matanzas High School, Indian Trails Middle School, Flagler Palm Coast High School, and Buddy Taylor Middle School. These facilities currently have sports fields that are under-utilized during certain days of the week and summer months. Granting the public access to these facilities after school hours and during the summer would provide residents with much needed sports fields, and provide additional recreational opportunities.

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision also proposes the development of one new Community Park in the southern portion of the Palm Coast. The City has two options in developing this facility:

- Look to acquire 20 to 50 acres of land in this portion of the city for the development of a new Community Park.
- Work with the School District in the acquisition, planning, and design of one of the two proposed future K-8 Schools planned for the southern portion of the city.

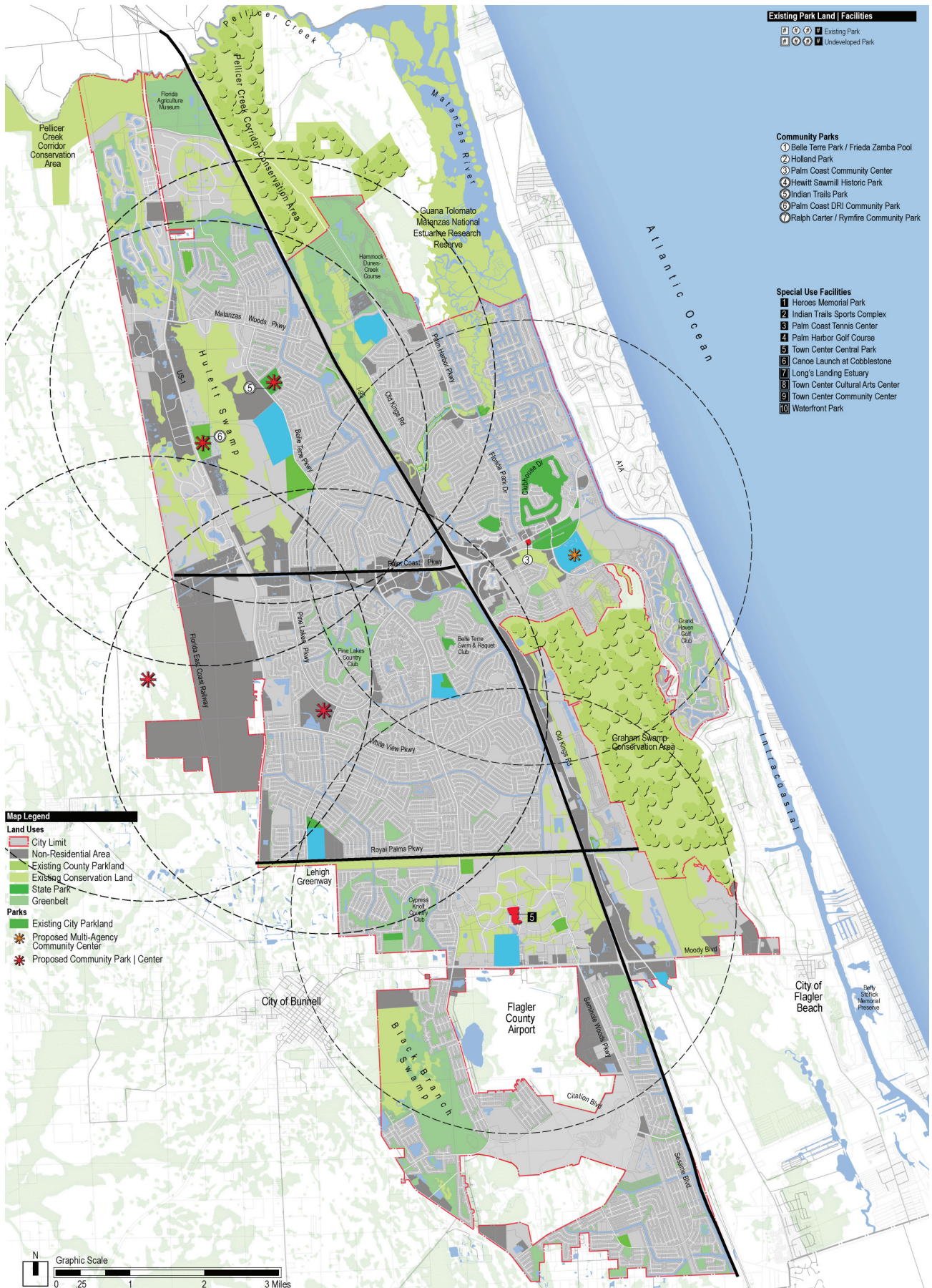
This school could be develop as a School-Park. Identifying these opportunities early in the planning process will not only ensure that sufficient funding is allocated for the project but will also provide opportunities for the mutually beneficial design of the facility. This facility should be designed to meet recreational needs of the community and address the School District's safety and access concerns.



**Figure 3.11**  
*Community School - Park*

School Building



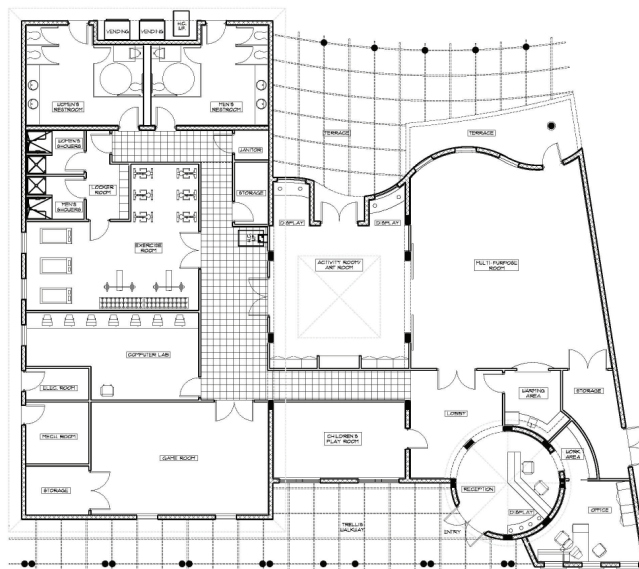




### 3.4.3 Community Centers

Community Centers serve the recreational, educational and social needs of residents of all ages and abilities, and are often located in Community Parks. Community Centers range in size from 5,000 sq. ft. to 30,000 sq. ft. or larger depending on the demand for programs and activities. Figure 3.12 shows an example of a 15,000 sq. ft. Community Center that includes two multi-purpose rooms, a computer lab, an exercise room, a locker room, restrooms, administrative offices, and storage spaces.

The City of Palm Coast currently has one Community Center, the Palm Coast Community Center and one multi-purpose center at Frieda Zamba Park. The Palm Coast Community Center is the central hub for Recreation and Parks Department. Many of the City's cultural, recreational, and wellness programs are held in this facility. However, versatile use of the rooms in the center is limited. The Community Center is home to the Parks and Recreation Department administrative offices and its largest multi-purpose room is the venue for large City Council meetings. Parking is an issue during large meetings and storage space within the building is becoming scarce. Recreation, cultural and wellness programs are also offered from the Frieda Zamba multi-purpose center. Like the Palm Coast Community Center, the Frieda Zamba multi-purpose center is aging and needs to be renovated. As the population of city continues to grow, these two centers will not be able to meet the demands of residents.



**Figure 3.12**  
15,000 sq. ft. Typical  
Community Center

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the development of four (4) new Community Centers, based on the following principles:

- Provide a Community Center in each “sector” of the City, North, Central, South and East;
- Provide one central +/- 30,000 sq. ft. Community Center with a gymnasium in a central location in the City.
- Provide +/- 15,000 sq. ft. Community Center in the Northern, Central, and Southern sectors of the City
- Provide a splash play area in each Community Center
- Sites should be co-located with schools wherever possible

Map 3.5 shows the potential locations of the new Centers. The Community Centers in the northern and central sector are proposed to be a 15,000 sq. ft. with a splash play area. Potential development sites in the northern sector include Indian Trails Park and the proposed Palm Coast DRI Community Park. The City should analyze these sites to determine which is better suited for development. Analysis should include location of the Community Center building, ancillary facilities, parking, storm drainage and space for future expansion.

Potential development sites in the central sector include the 120 acre undeveloped parcel off of Pine Lakes Parkway and White View Parkway and in the Rayonier DRI Property. Similar to the north sector, the City should analyze both sites to determine which is better suited for development.

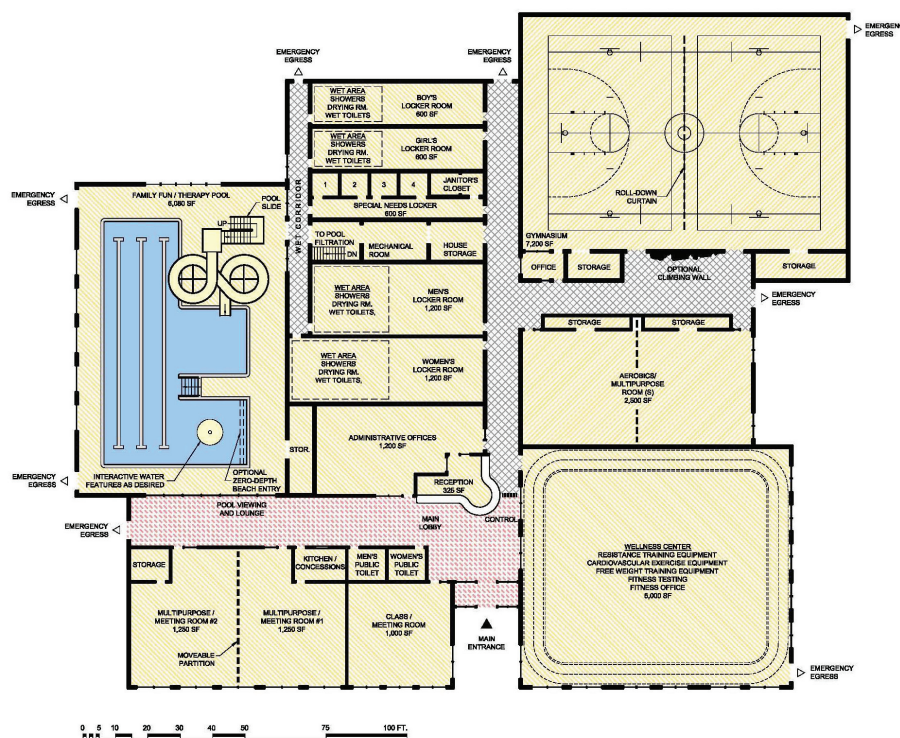
The southern sector of the City will be served by a new 15,000 sq. ft. Community Center in the Town Center.

The eastern sector of the City could potentially be served by a multi-agency community center developed in partnership with the City of Palm Coast, Daytona State College, and a non-profit organization like the YMCA or Boys and Girls Club. The Daytona State College and the YMCA have already approached the City of Palm Coast and have demonstrated an interest in developing a community center on Daytona State College property (Figure 3.13).

The benefit of developing a multi-agency community center is that the City would not have to be fully responsible for all the capital, maintenance, and operational costs associated with the development of the community center. The overall cost for the facility would be shared among all three agencies. The concern in developing such a partnership is that one agency might hold more control over the community center than another creating conflicts that could impact users.

**Figure 3.13**  
Proto-typical 40,000 sq.ft.  
YMCA Community Center  
and Aquatics Facility.  
Potential facilities include:

- Administration
- Adult Locker Rooms
- Aerobics/ Multipurpose Studio
- Family/ Fun Natatorium
- Gymnasium
- Multipurpose Room(s)
- Sauna and Steam Rooms
- Special Needs Locker Room
- Teen/ Older Adult Area
- Therapy/ Instructional Natatorium
- Wellness Center
- Youth Locker Rooms



This type of partnership however is not new to central Florida. A notable example is the Lake Nona YMCA Family Center located in Orlando, Florida. This facility was developed in partnership with three private and two public entities: Lake Nona Property Holdings, Inc., Orlando Regional Healthcare System, the City of Orlando, the Central Florida YMCA, and Orange County Public Schools.

This multi-agency community center provides users with multiple benefits. Due to the various agencies involved, a diversity of programs and recreational opportunities that cater to a larger cross section of the community are available, tax payer funds were saved, and the completion of the North Lake Park Community Elementary School was completed much quicker than if the County would have constructed it. The City of Orlando provides the space; Lake Nona Development provides the landscaping and design; the YMCA provides quality health and wellness programs for the entire family, and the school provides learning with a variety of resources it would not otherwise have.

The City of Palm Coast should work with the Daytona State College and the YMCA to establish an agreement for the development, maintenance, and operation of this facility that is best suited for the residents of Palm Coast. The existing Palm Coast Community Center site could either be sold to help pay for the YMCA center, or used to meet other community needs. One idea is to use the existing Center as a day care center for City and Daytona State College staff.

Another potential site for the development of the community center is the old Players Club Tennis Facility located off Palm Coast Parkway. This site could be purchased by the City and swapped with the Daytona State College site proposed for the community center to allow the College to be a stakeholder. Feasibility studies would have to be conducted to determine which alternative would be best suited for the City of Palm Coast.





### 3.4.4 Special Use Facilities

While Community Parks and Centers meet a broad range of recreation, educational and social needs, Special Use Facilities are planned and designed for very specific uses, based on the needs of various constituencies. The City of Palm Coast currently has four built Special Use Facilities including Heroes Memorial Park, Indian Trails Sports Complex, Palm Coast Tennis Center, and Town Center Central Park. Proposed new Special Use Facilities include a Cultural Center, Outdoor Amphitheater, Aquatics Center, Marina, Water Access, Athletic Fields, Dog Parks. Guiding principles for these facilities include:

#### 3.4.4.1 Cultural Center/ Museum

- Celebrate and interpret history, culture of community through parks, open spaces, historical sites;
- Use interpretive kiosks, signs, exhibits throughout the parks system;
- Provide a central Cultural Center/ Museum;

#### 3.4.4.2 Outdoor Amphitheaters

- Provide central gathering/ performance spaces for outdoor concerts, festivals, celebrations, etc;

#### 3.4.4.3 Aquatics Center

- Provide a centrally located Aquatics Center to serve all residents;
- Provide “satellite” wet play areas in conjunction with Community Centers to serve neighborhoods;

#### 3.4.4.4 Marina

- Provide a centrally located marina facility to meet residents’ basic boating needs, including fuel, docks, ship’s store;

#### 3.4.4.5 Water Access: Canoe/ Kayak Ramps, Boat Ramps, Fishing Piers

- Provide public access to both freshwater and saltwater for fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, canoeing, kayaking, etc wherever possible;

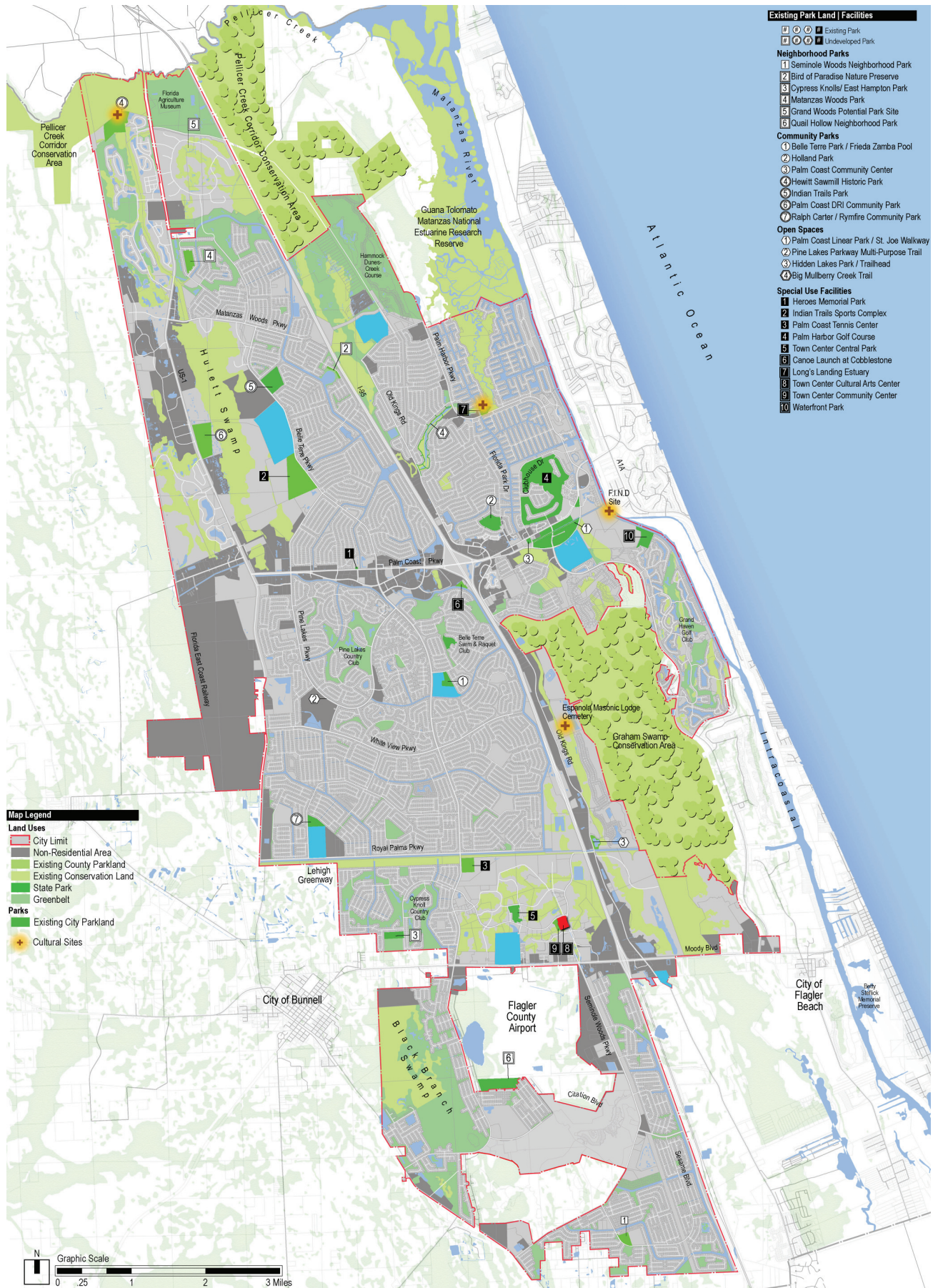
#### 3.4.4.6 Athletics: Fields, Courts, Complexes

- Provide adequate athletic fields and courts to meet residents’ needs;
- Fields to be constructed as part of sports complexes – not community parks – to minimize noise, lights, parking and other negative impacts in the parks, and to provide more multi-purpose open space;

#### 3.4.4.7 Dog Parks

- Provide two centrally located Leash-Free Dog Parks in the northern and southern portions of the City.
- Selected Neighborhood and Community Parks designated as Dog Friendly Parks.

Map 3.6: Cultural Centers/ Museum Map





### 3.4.4.1 Cultural Centers/ Museum

A new Cultural Center and Museum is being proposed by the non-profit Palm Coast/ Flagler Foundation for the Arts & Entertainment. The group's goal is to create a premier Arts destination for residents, visitors, and performing groups.

The Dennis Fitzgerald Performing Arts Center is an existing Flagler/Palm Coast High School facility with a dual use for school activities and public entertainment. The Flagler Auditorium hosts a season of touring Broadway shows and professional musical and theatrical performances, as well as sponsored community events.

The Culture Center & Museum is proposed to be located in Palm Coast's New Town Center. At approximately 88,000 sq. ft., the facility will house two art galleries, television studio, dressing rooms, gift shop, artist workshop rooms, children's center and two banquet rooms. The proposed "Turntable Divisible Auditorium" will feature a unique theater design divided into up to three different sound proof venues of either 1625, 1250, or 375 seats.

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision also proposes the development of smaller scaled, site specific elements that will celebrate the cultural as well as ecological history of the City. These elements can be interpretive kiosk, signs, exhibits or even public art that inform residents of the history of the City or particular significance of the site. Proposed locations for these elements include Hewitt Sawmill Historic Park, Long's Landing Estuary, the F.I.N.D site, and the Espanola Masonic Lodge Cemetery. As future parks are developed, the City should look for opportunities to establish these elements within the parks.

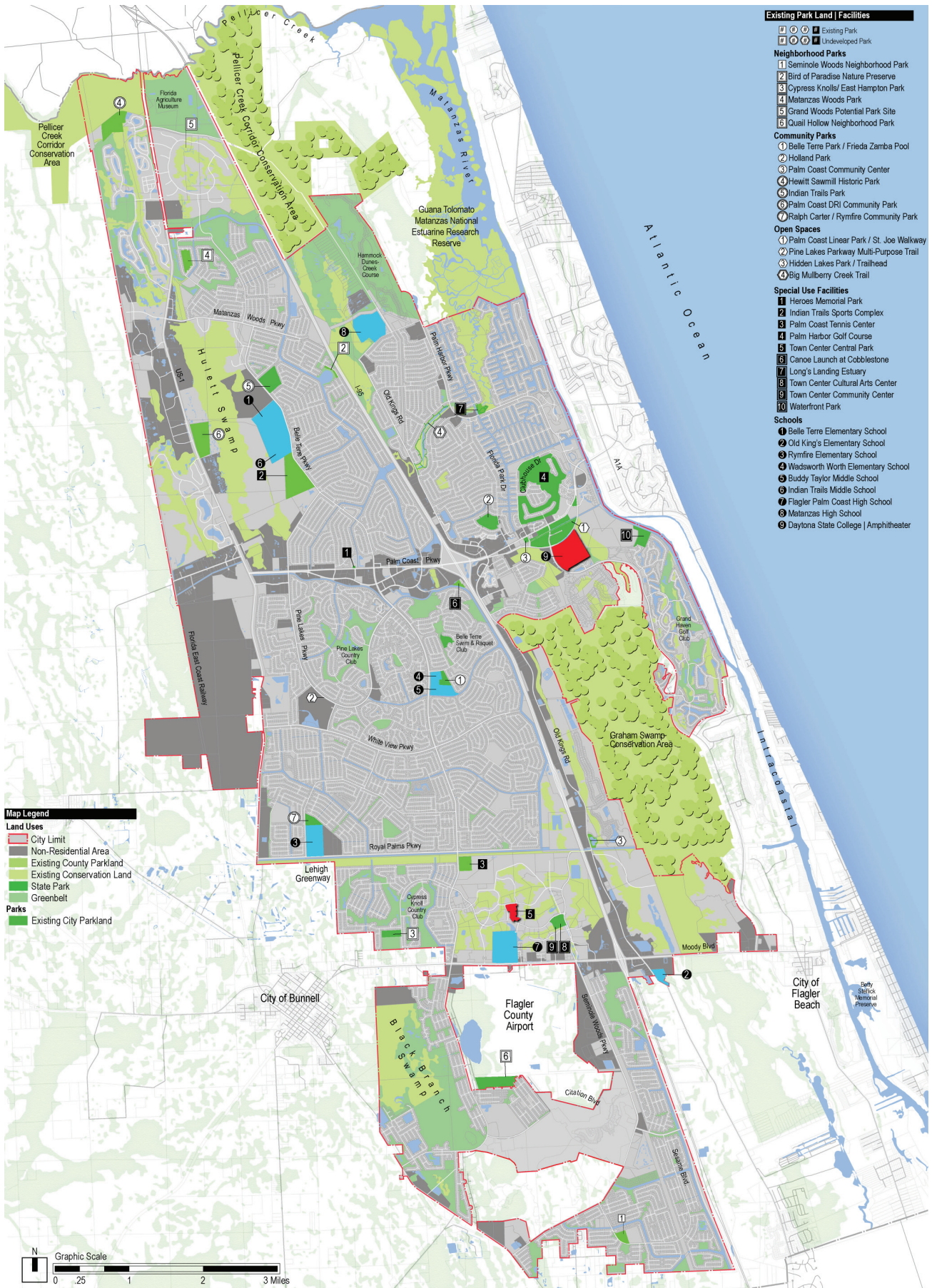


**Figure 3.14**  
*Public Art in San Diego*



**Figure 3.15**  
*Interpretive Kiosk in  
Palm Coast Linear Park*







### 3.4.4.2 Outdoor Amphitheaters

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision identifies the need for two Amphitheaters to serve the residents of Palm Coast (Map 3.7). The Daytona State College's Palm Coast Campus located off Colbert Lane in the eastern portion of the City, currently provides the City of Palm Coast with access to their Amphitheater. The City is also proposing the development of a new Amphitheater to be located in the Town Center Central Park. This facility was completed during this study.

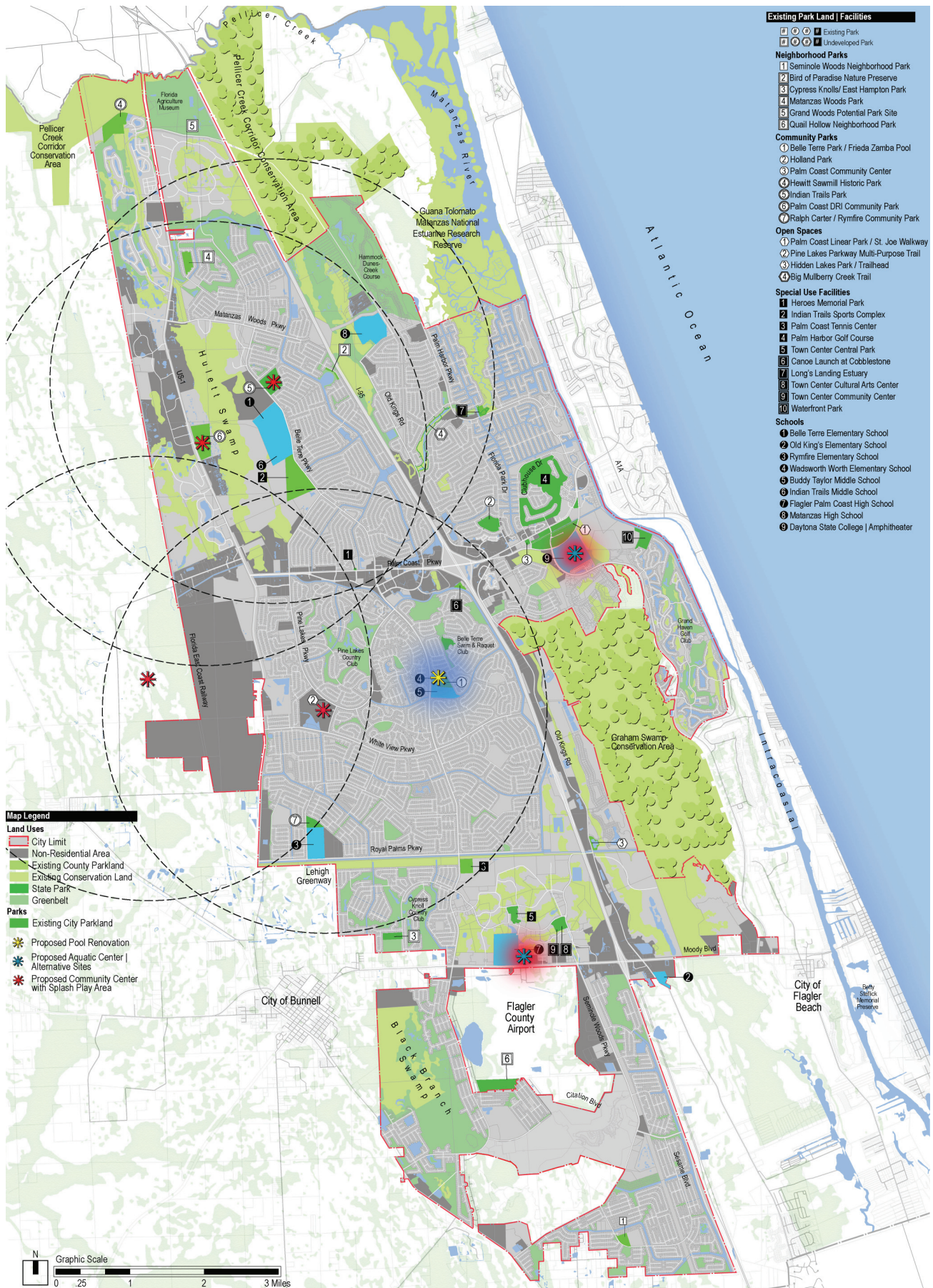


**Figure 3.16**  
*The Alan Smolen Center  
Amphitheater located in the  
Daytona State College*



**Figure 3.17**  
*Town Center Amphitheater*







### 3.4.4.3 Aquatics Center

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposed three types of facilities to provide access to aquatics: a centrally located Aquatics Facility, a renovated pool facility at the Frieda Zamba Pool, and splash-play areas in each of the four sectors of the City.

The proposed Aquatics Facility will be located in the Palm Coast Town Center. The City has an opportunity to work with the Flagler County School District and Flagler Palm Coast High School to develop a Regional Competition and Community Recreation Aquatics Center. During the Needs Assessment process, the “Friends of Swimming” identified the Coral Springs Aquatic Complex and Fitness Center as an example of the type of aquatics facility desired. This 8-acre facility includes an Olympic-sized competition pool, a diving well with diving platforms, a 25 meter by 25 meter practice pool/ community pool, a concession stand, covered patio spaces, large pool deck with movable lounge chairs, and a 5,000 sq. ft. fitness center with locker rooms and meeting rooms. A smaller example of an aquatics facility is the Barracuda Bay Aquatic Center built by the City of Riviera Beach. This 4-acre facility provides residents with a 25-yard competition pool, an interactive aquatics play pool, a water slide pool, a concession stand, lockers and storage rooms.

The existing Frieda Zamba Pool, located in the Belle Terre Neighborhood, is currently the only public pool in the City of Palm Coast. Although very well maintained, the pool and pool buildings are heavily used and approaching the end of their life cycle. Elements in need of renovation include the staff office spaces, lockers, restrooms and meeting rooms.

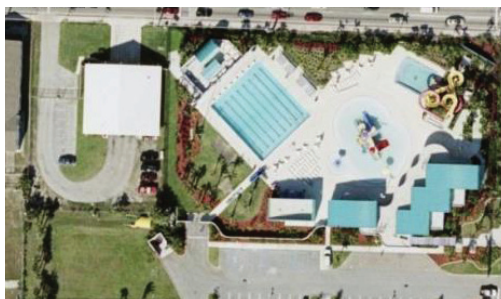
The Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan also proposes the development of splash-play areas at three of the proposed Community Centers in the four sectors of the City. These play areas may include interactive fountains, spray-jets, and/or wet-play elements.



**Figure 3.18**  
*Frieda Zamba Pool*



**Figure 3.19**  
*Coral Springs Aquatic Complex*

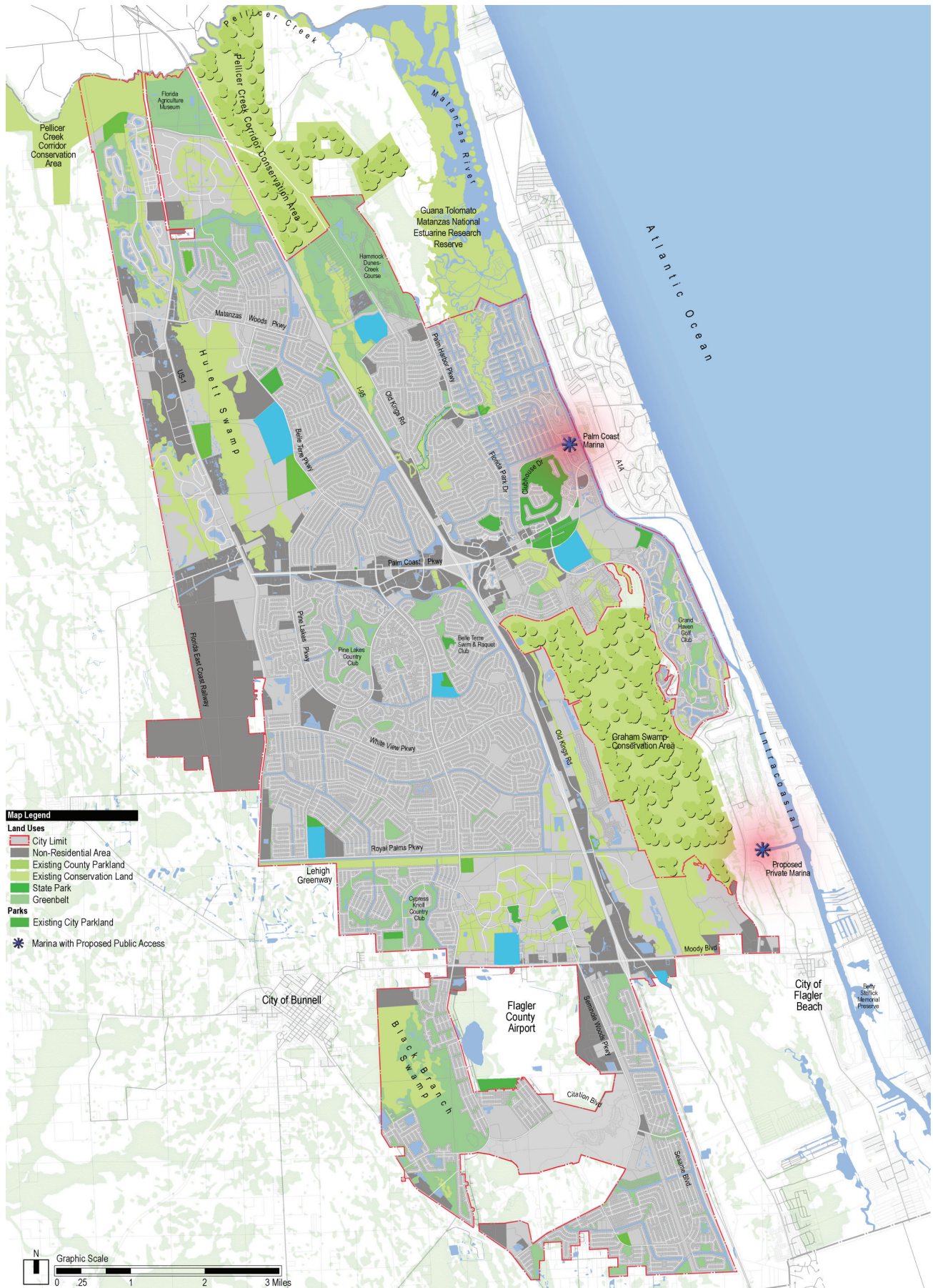


**Figure 3.20**  
*Barracuda Bay Aquatics Center*



**Figure 3.21**  
*Splash Play Area*





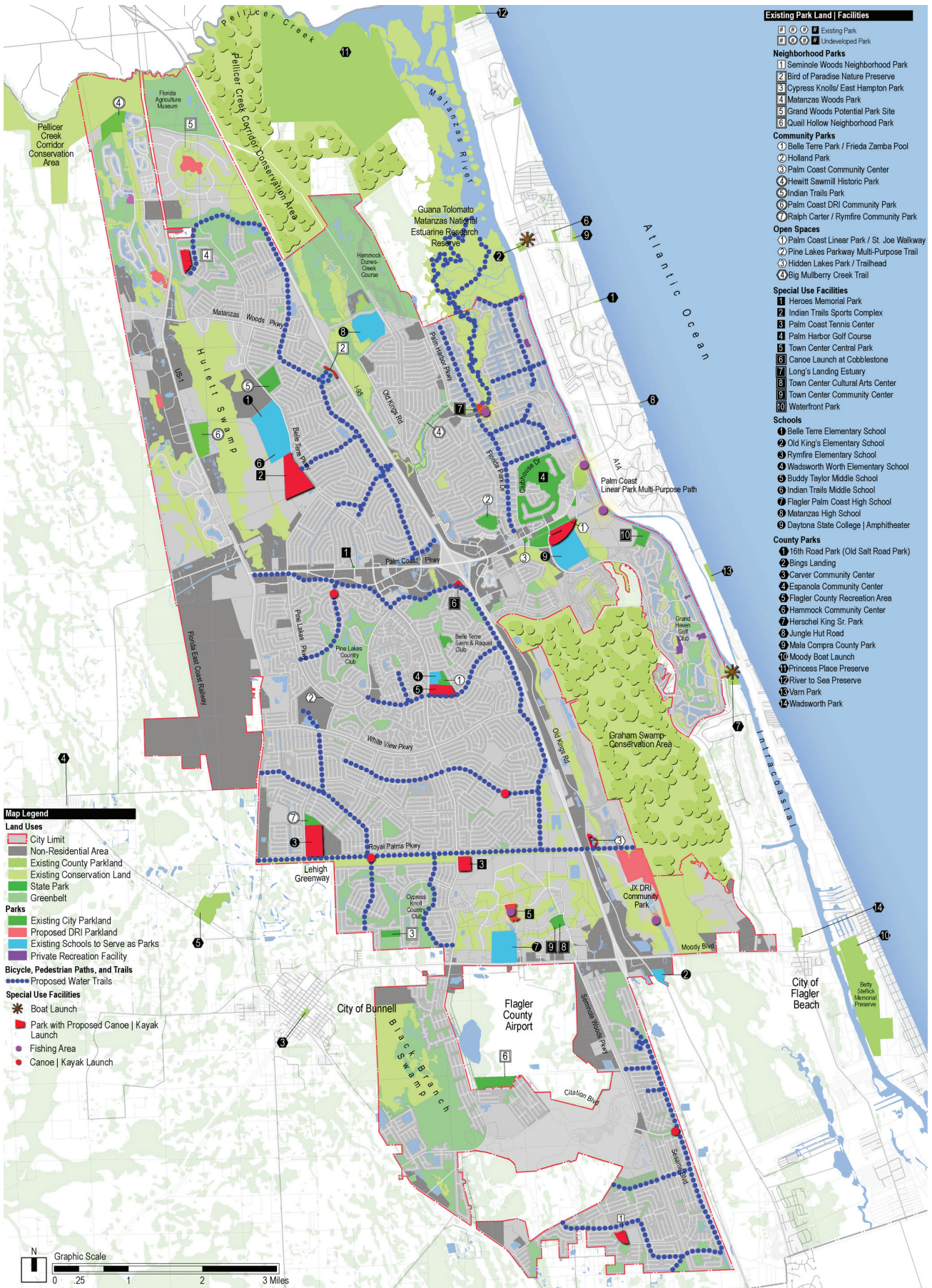


#### 3.4.4.4 Marina

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes access to two Marinas for City of Palm Coast residents: an existing Palm Coast Marina and a proposed private marina to be developed on the west side of the Intracoastal near the old Palm Coast Industrial Park (Map 3.9). Both of these Marinas are/ will be privately owned with a number of slips to be lease or subsidized by the City for public use. The City should work with the developer of the new proposed Marina to provide boat docks, boat slips, a fuel station, a ship store, and boat ramps for public use.



**Figure 3.22**  
*Palm Coast Marina*





### 3.4.4.5 Water Access: Canoe/ Kayak Ramps, Boat Ramps, Fishing Piers

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes public access to both freshwater and saltwater for fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, canoeing, kayaking, etc. wherever possible. Boat ramps are currently provided by the County in Bings Landing and Herschel King Sr. Park. Piers for fishing and wildlife viewing are proposed for Long's Land Estuary, Waterfront Park, along the multi-purpose path that runs next to the Intracoastal Waterway by Palm Coast Linear Park, and in the proposed JX Property DRI Community Park.

Access to Palm Coast's canal system is also proposed in the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision. Typical of many planned communities in Florida, the City of Palm Coast was planned with an extensive network of canals that were strategically planned as part of the neighborhood's drainage systems. This system of canals also provides residents with opportunities for canoeing and kayaking; both for recreation and as a secondary mode of transportation.

The Recreation and Parks Vision identifies various canal corridors that have the potential to be used for recreation and transportation. A few of these canals run alongside some of the City's parks, providing residents with an alternative mode of transportation to reach these facilities. These parks are identified as potential sites to provide canoe/kayak launches. In the neighborhoods where parks do not have access to the canals, canoe and kayak launches are proposed at the intersection of selected canals and neighborhood roads. Launch sites in either of these locations can be provided by simply clearing a small area of the bank and providing gravel or even a net of PVC pipes to help slide the canoes into the water (Figure 3.23). A more complex alternative would be to build a small dock, fixed or small floating, which extends into the water (Figure 3.24). The City should conduct a feasibility study to determine which canals are suitable for navigation as well as which sites are appropriate for the development of canoe/kayak launches.

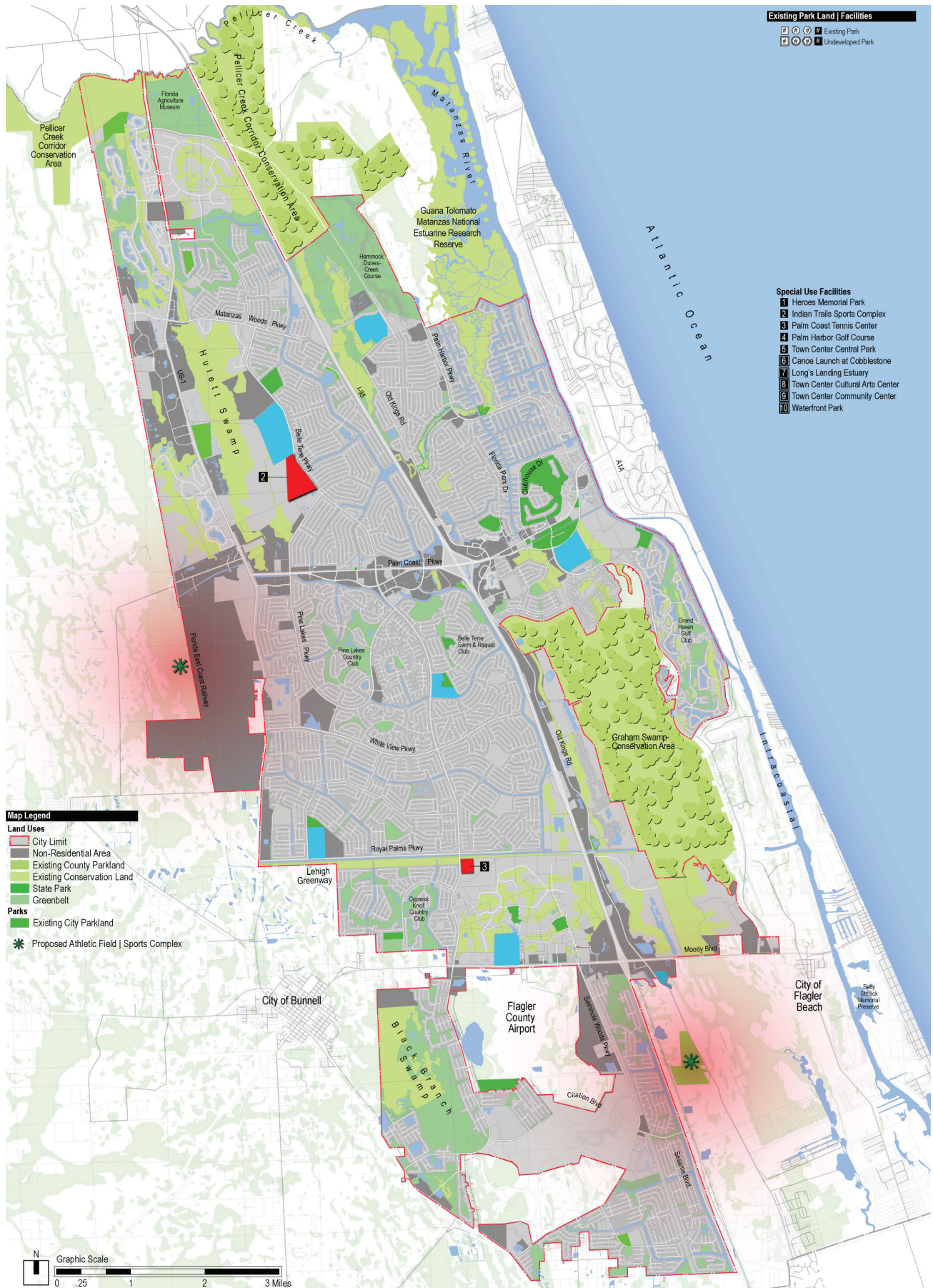


**Figure 3.23**  
*PVC Pipe Net  
Canoe Launch*



**Figure 3.24**  
*Dock Canoe Launch*







**Figure 3.25**  
*Landfill Site with Sports Complex*

### 3.4.4.6 Athletics: Fields, Courts, Complexes

Competitive league sports such as baseball, softball, soccer, and football are currently played at the Indian Trails Sports Complex and the Flagler County Recreation Area/ Flagler County Fairgrounds. The fields are near or at capacity with little room to accommodate the needs of the anticipated new residents. The proposed new community parks should be capable of meeting the needs for practice and pick-up games, but competitive sports create too many impacts (lights, noise, and traffic) to be placed in community parks. Therefore the City needs to provide additional sites for sports complexes and practices fields.



The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes two locations for the development of athletic fields, courts, and potential Sports Complexes. The closed County landfill site located off Old King's Road outside City limits on the south-eastern portion of the City provides a great location for the development of multi-purpose fields and open spaces. These fields will provide the City's resident's and sport leagues with practice or competition fields (Figure 3.25). The City should work with the County in the planning, design and development of this site.

The Rayonier DRI located in the western portion of the City is another location where the City could provide additional fields. This area located away from the City's existing residential areas is a great location for a Regional Sports Complex (Figure 3.26). Approximately 60 acres of land would be necessary to build a sports complex that has four soccer/ football fields, four baseball fields, and four softball fields. This Sports Complex could even be integrated into the community with Commercial Uses and High-Density Residential Uses proposed adjacent to the park.

**Figure 3.26**  
*Regional Sports Complex*



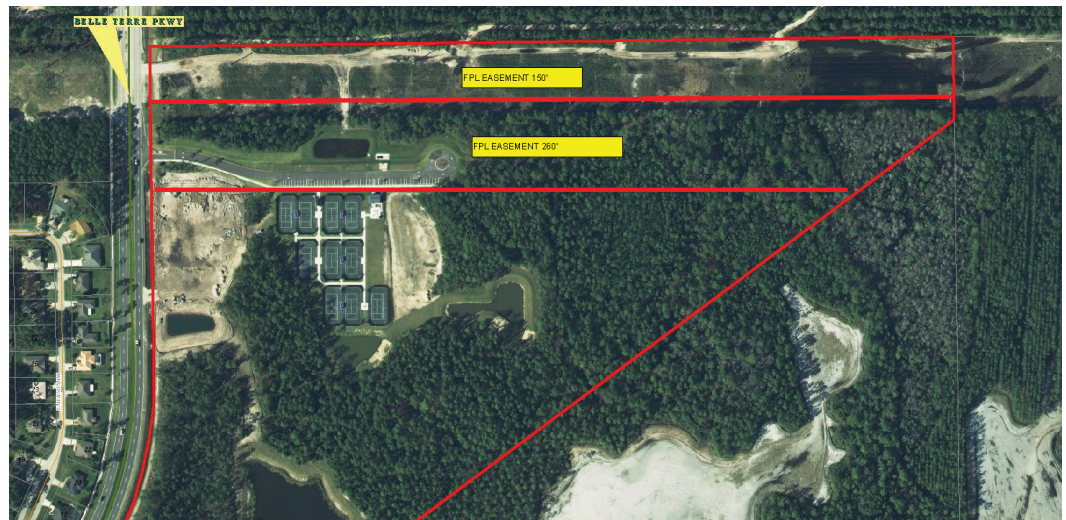
The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision also proposes the expansion of the Palm Coast Tennis Center. As the City continues to grow, the existing tennis facility will not be able to meet the recreational tennis needs of the community. Presently, the facility is near the United State Tennis Association (USTA) recommendations for maximum players per court; the center currently has ten courts with approximately 325 members, the maximum ratio according to the USTA is one court per 35 members.

Proposed expansions include the development of two additional clay courts and four hard courts as well as a permanent Player Center to replace the temporary clubhouse. The Player Center should include the following elements:

- Pro Shop with administrative offices
- Mens and womens locker rooms with showers
- Multi-purpose rooms/ classrooms
- Kitchen/ vending Area
- Storage building

The 260' FPL Easement to the north of the tennis center also provides the City with additional space for soccer fields or multi-purpose open spaces. Trails should be provided to connect the expanded center to the Palm Coast Town Center.

**Figure 3.27**  
*FPL Easement that provides  
additional recreational space*





### 3.4.4.7 Dog Parks

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the enhancement of the Holland Park Dog Park and the development of one additional Leash-Free Dog Park to be located in the southern portion of the City. Selected neighborhood and community parks around the city should serve as dog friendly parks, providing residents with the opportunity to walk their dogs within a close proximity of their home. Parks identified as dog friendly parks should require that dogs remain leashed at all times. Dog clean up stations should be located within the park and residents should be required to clean up after their dogs. The City should work with local residents and park users to determine which parks are best suited to be designated as dog friendly parks.

Approved improvements to the Holland Park Dog Park include the addition of lights, water, and irrigation. Additional elements to be considered in the future include additional benches, chairs, dog play structures, and a dog wash area.

A new Leash-Free Dog Park is proposed to be developed in the new community park to be located in the southern portion of the City. Elements to be considered as part of the dog park include the development of multiple dog pens for the separation of small, medium, and large dogs, dog wash areas with drains, trash receptacles and dog clean up stations, pavilions and shade structures, benches and picnic tables, and dog agility equipment. As the community parks is planned and designed, the City should work with residents to identify specifics needs and desires.



Figure 3.28  
*Dog Wash with Drain*



Figure 3.29  
*Dog Water Fountain*

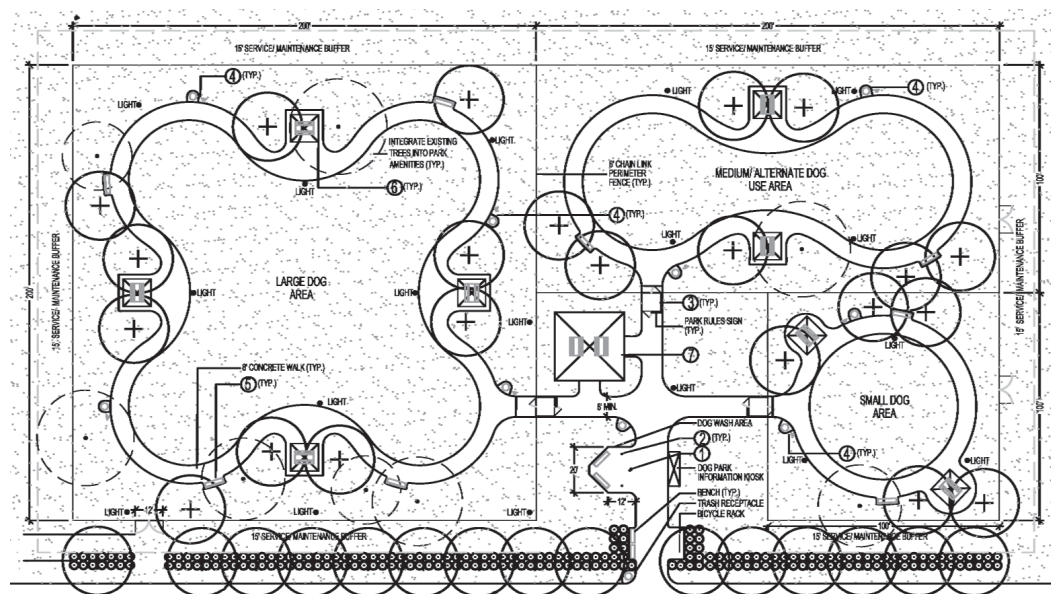
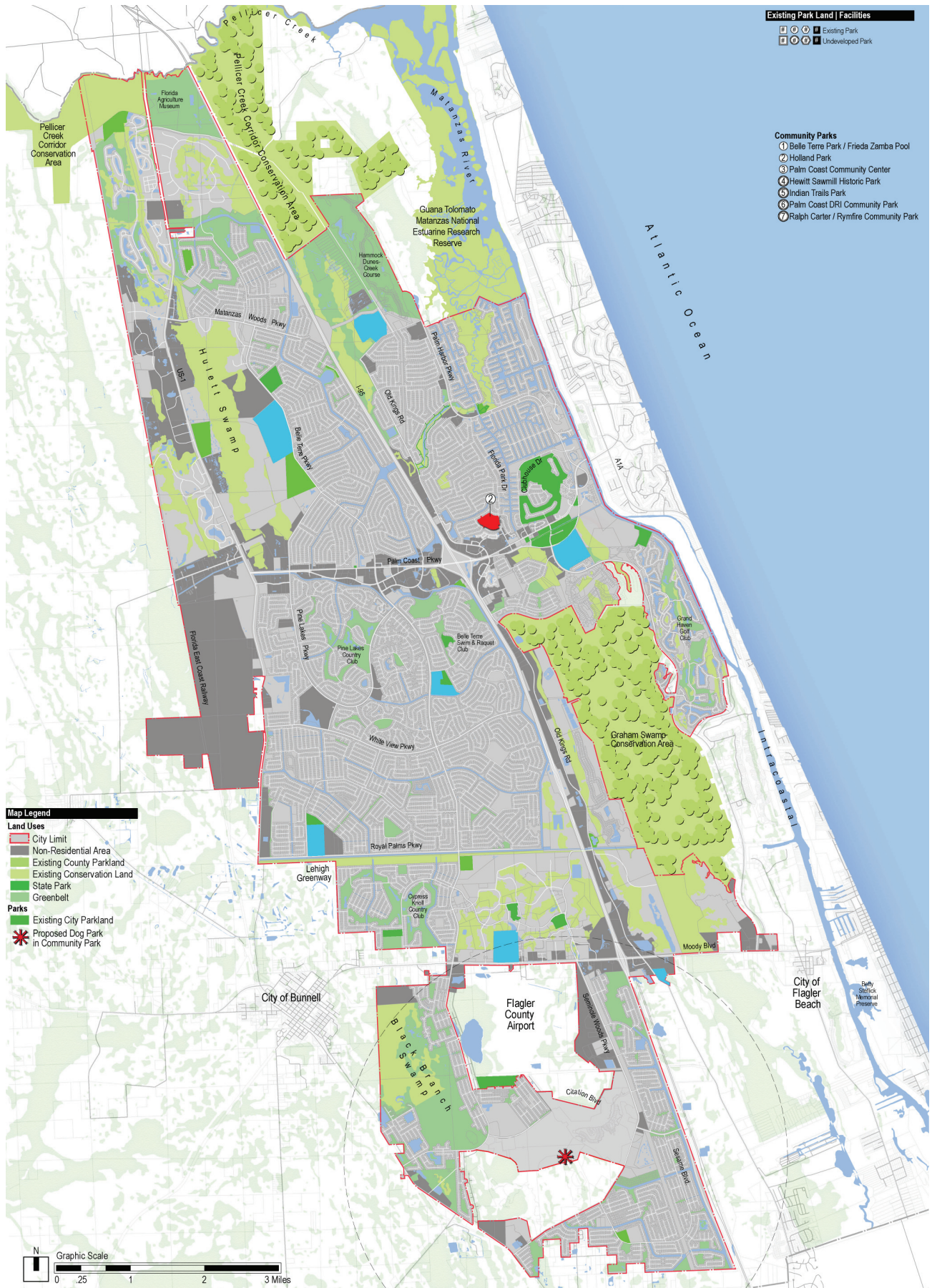


Figure 3.30  
*Prototypical Dog Park*



*Map 3.12 Dog Park Map*



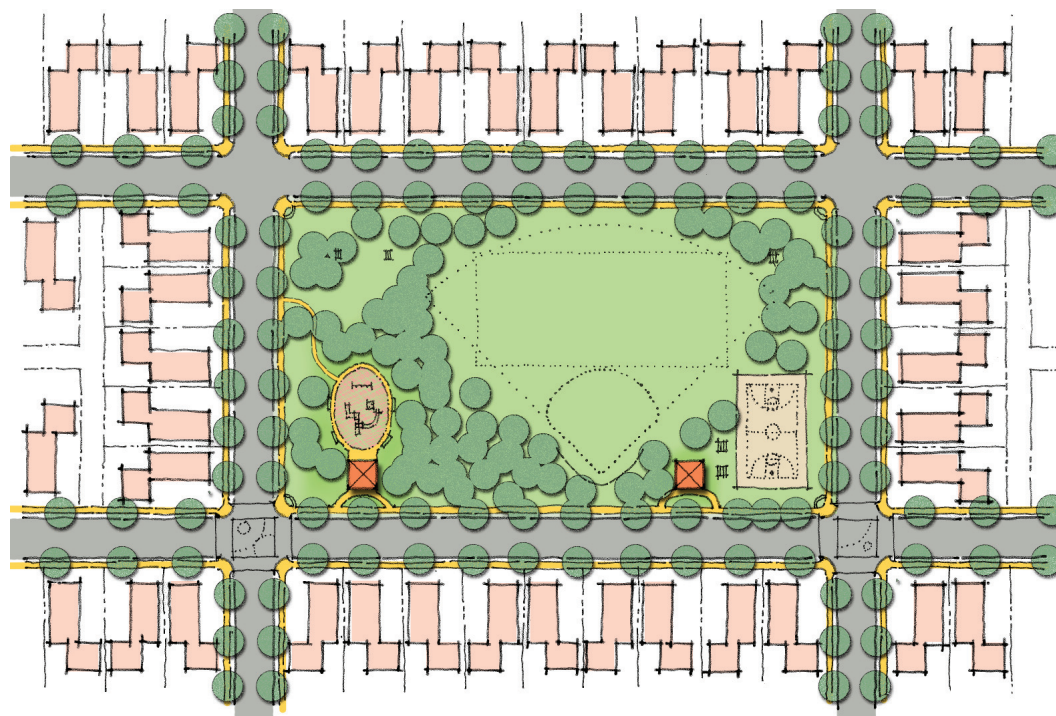


## NEIGHBORHOOD FACILITIES

### 3.4.5 Neighborhood Parks and Mini-Parks

The purpose of Neighborhood Parks is to provide close-to-home, within walking and bicycling distances of residents' homes, social and recreational opportunities. Residents should have to walk no further than  $\frac{1}{4}$  or  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from their homes to get to a Neighborhood Park. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) refer to the Neighborhood Park as "the basic unit of the parks system and serves as the recreational and social focus of the neighborhood" with a "focus on informal active and passive recreation" (Mertes & Hall, 1996) and optimal size being between 5- 10 acres. As the focal point of the neighborhood, Neighborhood Parks serve as the first order of social interaction for local residents and provide recreation for young children. Facilities generally include an open play space, picnic tables, benches, shade trees, restrooms, a playground, walking paths, a water fountain and a picnic pavilion/ shade structure. (Figure 3.31)

Neighborhood Parks do not need to be publicly owned. A private community recreation area can also serve as a Neighborhood Park for community residents. Typically these are developed within planned communities to serve their members only and are usually comprised of a swimming pool, one or two tennis courts, a playground, a basketball court and some open grass areas. Often they also include a clubhouse or recreation room for indoor programs, activities, games, and receptions. Several existing and proposed communities within the City of Palm Coast receive their primary recreation service through such facilities, and they must be considered as important elements of communities' parks and open space system.

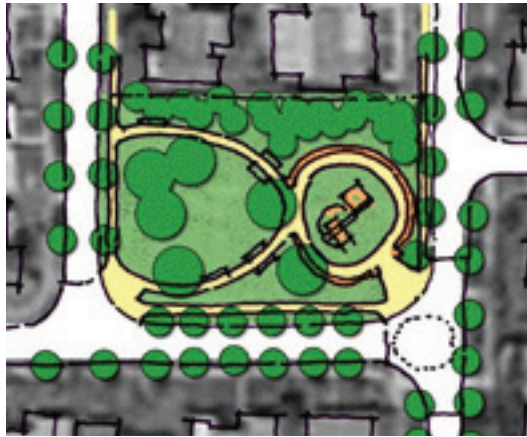


**Figure 3.31**  
*Prototypical  
Neighborhood Park*



The City of Palm Coast is comprised of fifteen neighborhoods (Map 3.12). Most of these neighborhoods are larger than 1 mile from edge to edge and do not offer residents a walk-to neighborhood recreational space within ½ mile of their home. With limited publicly owned, undeveloped open space within some of these neighborhoods, providing every resident with a traditional Neighborhood Park of 5 – 10 acres within ½ mile may be an unrealistic and very expensive endeavor for the City. The 5-10 acres model would be viable for Greenfield Developments and other new developments but not for redevelopment of an existing site. For the issue of redevelopment, the City may consider providing Mini-Parks as an alternative.

**Figure 3.32**  
Prototypical Mini-Park



four contiguous, undeveloped parcels of land that could be developed into a Mini-Park. This Mini -Park may even be used as catalyst for neighborhood redevelopment in areas where the areas are beginning to deteriorate. Elements of a Mini-Park may include a small multi-purpose lawn and a tot lot or multi-purpose court, a pavilion or any other small recreational facility desired by the neighborhood. The City should work with interested neighborhoods and resident groups to identify the facilities desired in the proposed parks.

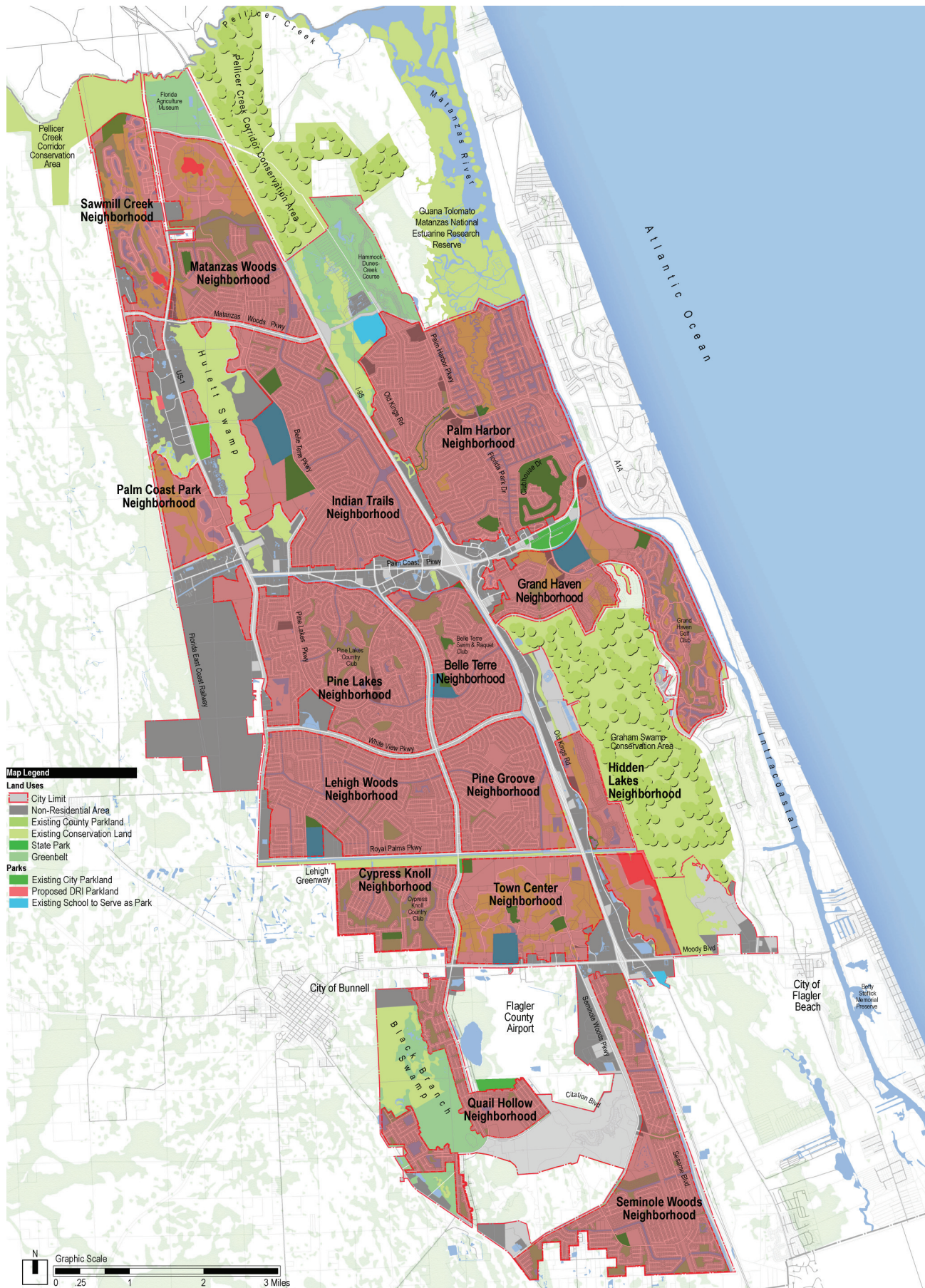
In order to provide residents with walk-to, close-to-home recreational opportunities, the Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision takes a holistic view of each individual neighborhood and identifies various existing elements as well as potential opportunities to provide residents with a variety of recreational activities.

The City of Palm Coast Guiding principles of the Neighborhood Parks System include:

- Every “neighborhood” (e.g. Palm Harbor, Indian Trails, Grand Haven, Pine Lakes, etc) should have an accessible parks system that meets residents’ needs;
- Every school should function as a park after school hours and on weekends;
- New parks should be co-located with schools wherever possible;
- Existing neighborhoods should not be “forced” to accept parks they don’t want;

Following is a description of the proposed Neighborhood Park Systems for each of the fourteen neighborhoods:

*Map 3.12 Neighborhoods Map*







**Figure 3.33**  
*Sawmill Creek Neighborhood Park System*

extensive conservation areas within the development. This pedestrian system will not only provide residents with a variety of transportation alternatives to access the different uses within the neighborhood but will within themselves, provide residents with a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities such as walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, skating etc.

### 3.4.5.1 Sawmill Creek Neighborhood

Sawmill Creek is part of a DRI and is a proposed planned community located in the northwestern corner of the City. The proposed community will provide residents with a private 18-hole golf course and a private clubhouse with various recreational opportunities accessible to members. As discussed earlier, even though private facilities are not accessible to the general public, they provide residents with vital social and recreational opportunities and should therefore be considered part of the neighborhood's park system. The developer of Sawmill Creek will also build a public Neighborhood Park co-located with a proposed K-8 School to be built within the next five years. The City should work with the School District in the planning and design of this park. This school-park will provide residents in the southern portion of the neighborhood with a walk-to, close-to-home park.

Located in the northern part of the neighborhood is the City's proposed 20 acre Hewitt Sawmill Historic Community Park. The park should be developed to include typical Neighborhood Park recreational facilities. As the community is designed, the City should encourage the developer to build a system of "complete streets" (streets that have bike lanes and wide shaded pathways), greenways, and nature trials throughout the



### 3.4.5.2 Matanzas Woods Neighborhood

Located just east of the Sawmill Creek Neighborhood, the Matanzas Woods Neighborhood is one of the original neighborhoods planned by ITT. Part of the development program for this neighborhood included the Matanzas Woods Neighborhood Park. Once developed, this park will provide residents living with ½ mile of the park walk-to, close-to-home recreational opportunities. The City should work with residents of the neighborhood to determine the proposed program for the park. A pedestrian access point and a bridge over the canal along the eastern side of the park should be built as part of the park's development. This will allow and encourage residents east of the canal to walk to the park.



- DRI Neighborhood Park
- Nature Trails
- Pedestrian Pathways
- Pedestrian Connection/Bridge
- Matanza Woods Neighborhood Park
- Bike Routes
- New Park

**Figure 3.34**  
*Matanzas Woods Neighborhood Park System*

The northern portion of the Matanzas Neighborhood is part of the Palm Coast Park DRI. This development will provide a Neighborhood Park for residents living within ½ mile of the park. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the acquisition of land for a new Neighborhood Park or Mini Park in the south-eastern area of the neighborhood. This will provide residents in that area with walk-to, close to home recreational opportunities. A large undeveloped parcel east of Laramie Drive is an ideal location for this park. The City should work with the residents in this area to identify the need for a park facility; available parkland; determine the types of facilities needed/ desired by area residents; pursue funding through grants, special assessments, general fund and or other resources; design and construct the park in accordance with City standards, and to provide maintenance and security.

Lakeview Boulevard will provide residents with opportunities for pleasure walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, skating, etc. through its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. London Drive and Laramie Drive will be designated as Bike Routes (shared streets) making these roads viable for safe public use while providing residents with safe access to the neighborhood's primary multi-modal corridor; Lakeview Boulevard. The City should encourage the developer to build nature trails in the conservation areas around the proposed DRI Neighborhood Park to enhance walkable access to the park and provide opportunities for passive and nature based recreation.

DRI Neighborhood Park

Palm Coast Park  
DRI Community Park  
and K-8 School

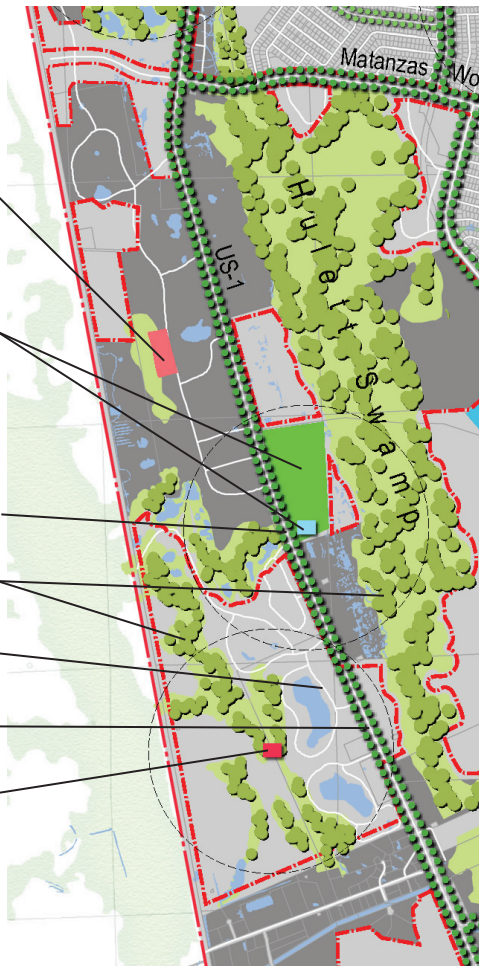
Critical Pedestrian  
Crossing Areas/  
Park Zone

Nature Trails

“Complete Streets”

Pedestrian Pathways

New Park



**Figure 3.35**  
*Palm Coast Neighborhood  
Park System*

### 3.4.5.3 Palm Coast Park Neighborhood

Palm Coast Park Neighborhood is a DRI proposed planned community. Comprised predominantly of commercial land uses and the Hulett Swamp, the neighborhood contains very few residential areas and is bisected by US Highway 1. The residential areas within the neighborhood will be recreationally served by a neighborhood park proposed by the developer on the western portion of the neighborhood and by the Palm Coast Park DRI Community Park. This 40 acre Community Park will be co-located adjacent to a K-8 School. The Community Park should be developed to provide typical neighborhood park recreational facilities. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the development of another Neighborhood Park in the southern portion of the neighborhood. Proposed nature trails within the conversation areas around this neighborhood will enhance walkable access to the proposed park while providing residents with opportunities for passive and nature based recreation. The City should encourage the developer to build a system of “complete streets” (streets that have bike lanes and wide shaded pathways) that will provide residents with the alternative to walk or bike to the park along pedestrian friendly corridors. These streets will also provide opportunities for walking, jogging, biking, skating, rollerblading, etc.

US Highway 1 is the neighborhood's main transportation corridor and should be designed to accommodate various modes of transportation. US Highway 1 will provide residents with opportunities for pleasure walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, skating, etc. through its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. “Park Zones,” or areas where traffic is forced to slow down, should be established in areas along US Highway 1 that traverse park facilities. These Park Zones, or critical pedestrian crossings areas, will make US Highway 1 a safe, crossable street that serves to unify the neighborhood as opposed to divide it. Similar to School Zones, Park Zones may include traffic calming initiatives in key areas such as flashing lights, signage, special paving, pavement markings, reduced lane widths, or tighter tree spacing that visually and psychologically alert motorists to slow down.

A system of nature trails and boardwalks for passive recreation activities such as walking, hiking, wildlife viewing and other such nature based activities should be provided within the Hulett Swamp. Connections to this system of nature trails should be provided from the neighborhoods developed along the edge of the swamp and from the Palm Coast DRI Community Park. This trail system will also provide an excellent opportunity for interpretive signage that tells of the City's development history in this area as well as Hulett Swamp's local and regional ecological history and significance.





**Figure 3.36**  
*Indian Trails Neighborhood  
Park System*

#### 3.4.5.4 Indian Trails Neighborhood

Located east of the Hulett Swamp, the Indian Trails Neighborhood is home to one of the City's most popular parks; Indian Trail Sports Complex. Adjacent to the sports complex are two public facilities with the potential to be tremendous recreational assets to the neighborhood; Indian Trails Middle School and Belle Terre Elementary School. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes that these two facilities be integrated with the sports complex to provide the Indian Trails Neighborhood with a variety of recreational facilities. The recreational facilities of Belle Terre Elementary School and Indian Trails Middle School should be open to the public after school hours and connected to the sports complex. Nature trails and boardwalks that connect to Hulett Swamp will supplement residents' active recreational needs with nature based passive recreational opportunities. The schools may even use the trails, boardwalks and interpretive signs of the swamp as extensions of their classroom.

Similar to US Highway 1, “Park Zones” should be established along Belle Terre Parkway in the areas that traverse these facilities to allow residents to safely cross and walk to these facilities. Proposed pedestrian pathways/ new network connections at the end of various Cul-de-sac’s will allow residents to easily walk or bicycle from their home to these facilities instead of driving and adding to traffic congestion. Similar connections are proposed in various parts of the neighborhood to enhance walkability and access to other recreational facilities.

Belle Terre Parkway will provide residents with opportunities for walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, etc. through its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. Selected streets within the neighborhood will be designated as Bike Routes (shared streets) making them viable for safe public use while providing residents with safe access to the neighborhood's primary multi-modal corridor; Belle Terre Parkway.

The Recreation and Park Facilities Vision also proposes the development of Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve and Indian Trails Park to provide residents with walk-to, close-to-home recreational opportunities. Heroes Memorial Park should be expanded and integrated with the City of Palm Coast's Water Treatment Plant and the Flagler County Public Library. Environmental and water treatment educational opportunities through interpretive signage and/ or guided tours can be provided within the water treatment facility and additional recreational facilities can be developed in the lands adjacent to the library.







**Figure 3.37**  
*Palm Harbor Neighborhood  
Park System*

### 3.4.5.5 Palm Harbor Neighborhood

The Palm Harbor Neighborhood is one of the most populated neighborhoods in Palm Coast with very little undeveloped open space remaining. Unique to this neighborhood are the many canals that provide homeowners with access to the Intracoastal Waterway. The Neighborhood is also home to one of the City's oldest and most heavily used parks, Holland Park. The park is beginning to show signs of deterioration and over-use. A renovation of the park is proposed. Long's Land Estuary, a special use facility located on the northern portion of the neighborhood is planned for development and once completed, will provide residents with resource based recreational opportunities such as canoe/ kayaking, fishing, nature viewing, and access to a nature center. The Mulberry Branch Trail and Trailhead will provide residents with opportunities for walking, jogging, hiking and nature viewing along the nature trails, elevated boardwalks, and concrete paths. Interpretive kiosks will educate users on the significance and sensitivity of the site's wetlands and ecology. The Palm Harbor Golf Course is in the process of being renovated and once completed, will provide the City of Palm Coast with a public, daily fees golf course.

Many of the residents living to the north currently lack, walk-to, close-to- home recreational opportunities. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision addresses this need by proposing the development of three new neighborhood parks, a new K-8 School-Park, and the establishment of an inter-local agreement granting public access to Matanzas High School after hours. Two of the proposed neighborhood parks are to be constructed on the 300' wide FPL Greenway that traverses the neighborhood. Pedestrian pathways and new network connections proposed along various parts of the FPL Greenway will provide residents with direct access to the greenway and parks. This greenway corridor will become the backbone of the City's greenways and trails system connecting residents in the Palm Harbor Neighborhood to Town Center and, to the south, the Seminole Woods Neighborhood. Pedestrian access within the neighborhood as well as recreational opportunities such as walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, etc. will be further enhanced by the development of bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks along Palm Harbor Parkway, Florida Park Drive, Old King's Road, and Clubhouse Drive. Bike Routes (shared streets) along selected corridors will safely connect residents from their homes to all the proposed facilities and make the roads safe and viable for recreation and socialization.

### 3.4.5.6 Grand Haven Neighborhood

The Grand Haven Neighborhood is composed predominantly of the Grand Haven Community and the Hidden Lakes Community. Grand Haven provides its residents with a private 18-hole golf course, private clubhouse, neighborhood open spaces, recreational facilities, and boat access to the Intracoastal Waterway. Hidden Lakes built the City a Passive Park and Trailhead that provides residents with passive recreational opportunities such as walking, hiking, and nature viewing as well as access to the Graham Swamps nature trails. Waterfront Park, planned for development along the northeastern edge of the neighborhood will provide residents with public access to water, a fishing pier, an environmental educational center, and a network of walking, hiking, and biking trails that will connect to the City's most popular park and greenway; Palm Coast Linear Park. A proposed K-8 School-Park off Colbert Lane will provide residents living in the central portion of the neighborhood access to a Neighborhood Park. The City should work together with the School District for the planning and design of this facility.

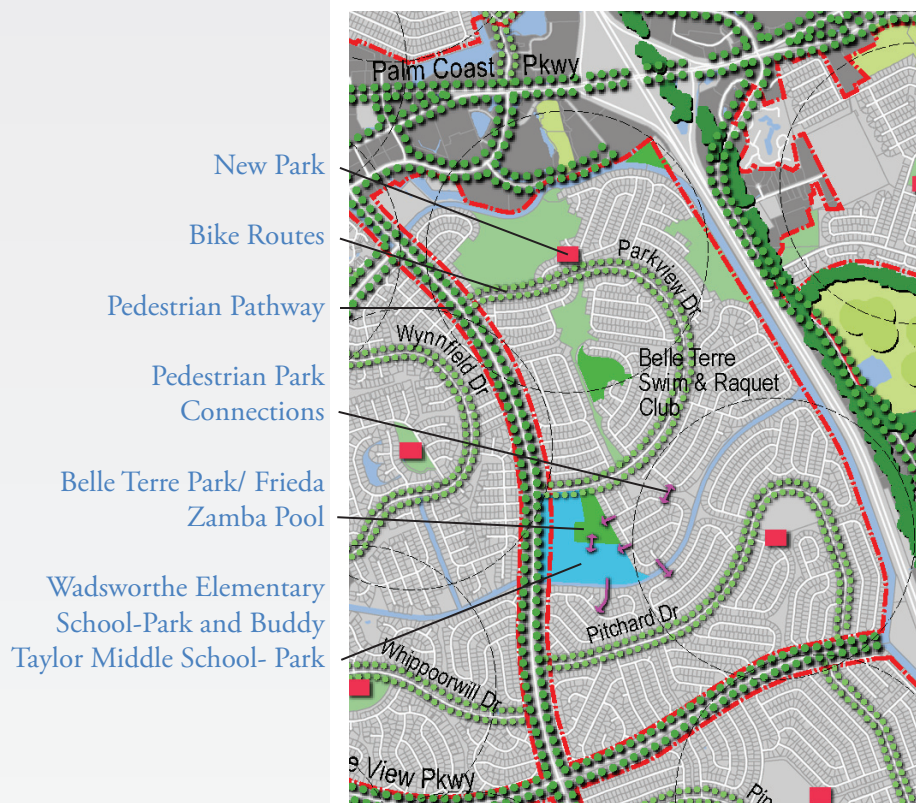
The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the development of a Neighborhood Park on the western portion of the neighborhood to provide residents in that area with a walk-to, close-to-home recreational space. Colbert Lane will provide residents with bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks for pleasure walking, jogging, biking, skating, rollerblading, etc., and will safely connect residents to Palm Coast Linear Park and the Graham Swamp Greenway.

Extending along the northern edge of the Graham Swamp Conservation Area, the Graham Swamp Greenway will connect residents to the FPL Easement Greenway as well as to the Graham Swamp's network of nature trails. This system of nature trails should be augmented with boardwalks and off-road trails that will provide residents with opportunities for nature based recreation such as hiking, wildlife viewing, mountain biking, etc. This trail system will also provide an excellent opportunity for interpretive signage that tells the City's development history in this area as well as the Graham Swamp's local and regional ecological history and significance.



**Figure 3.38**  
*Grand Haven Neighborhood  
Park System*





**Figure 3.39**  
*Belle Terre Neighborhood  
Park System*

### 3.4.5.7 Belle Terre Neighborhood

Located in the geographical center of the City of Palm Coast, The Belle Terre Neighborhood is home to the City's only community Pool; the Frieda Zamba Pool. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the renovation of the pool and buildings. Adjacent to the pool is the Belle Terre Community Park which provides residents with a variety of community and neighborhood recreational opportunities. Similar to the Indian Trails Neighborhood, two public schools are located next to Belle Terre Park/ Frieda Zamba Pool that if combined with this park facility, would become a tremendous asset to the neighborhood.

The Recreation and Park Facilities Vision proposes the development of an inter-local agreement with the schools that would grant public access to their recreational facilities after school hours.

Furthermore, pedestrian pathways/ new network connections are proposed along the eastern and southern edges of these facilities allowing residents to easily walk or bike from their home to these facilities instead of driving (and adding to traffic congestion).

In order to provide the remainder of the neighborhood with walk-to, close to home recreational spaces, two new Neighborhood Parks or Mini Parks are proposed on the northern and southern portions of the neighborhood. The City should look into establishing an agreement with the Belle Terre Swim & Racquet Club to allow residents living with ½ mile of the park, access to its various recreational facilities.

Bike Routes (shared streets) in selected roads within the neighborhood will safely connect residents to the parks and school facilities while making these streets viable for public use. The Belle Terre Parkway will provide residents with transportation alternatives as well as additional opportunities for walking, biking, jogging, skating, rollerblading, etc. along its wide shaded sidewalks and bike lanes.



### 3.4.5.8 Pine Lakes Neighborhood

Residents living in the Pine Lakes Neighborhood currently enjoy walking, biking, jogging, skating, rollerblading, etc., along the Pines Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Path. Golfing is also available in the semi-private Pine Lakes Country Club. However, the neighborhood lacks walk-to, close to home recreational spaces for children and families. The Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose path lacks shade trees and other human scale streetscape elements. Furthermore, direct and safe accesses from the neighborhoods to the multi-purpose path are not available. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision looks to enhance the Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Path

by installing shade trees at a spacing that encourages the development of a continuous tree canopy and installing pedestrian lights for safety. Cross walks are proposed at all the residential streets that connect to the Parkway providing residents with safe access to the multi-purpose path.



New Park

Bike Routes

Pine Lakes Parkway  
Multi-Purpose Trail

**Figure 3.40**  
*Pine Lakes Neighborhood  
Park System*

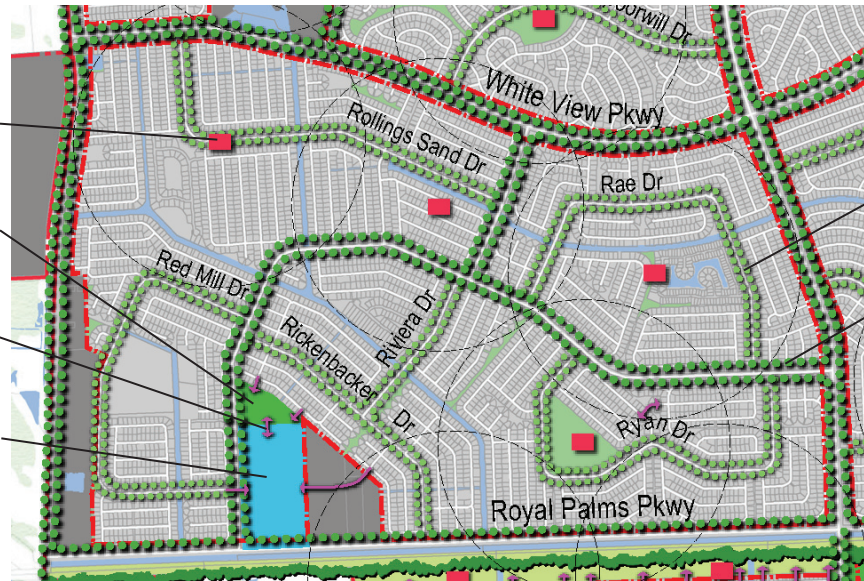
Bike Routes (shared streets) in selected roads within the neighborhood will safely connect residents to the five proposed Neighborhood Parks or Mini Parks that will provide residents with close to home neighborhood recreational opportunities such as playground facilities, informal open spaces for playing catch, throwing a Frisbee, sun bathing, picnicking, etc. As in the other neighborhoods where walk-to, close to home recreational spaces are proposed, the City should work with the residents in this area to identify the need for park facilities; available parkland; determine the types of facilities needed/ desired by area residents; pursue funding through grants, special assessments, general fund and or other resources; design and construct the park in accordance with City standards, and provide maintenance and security.

New Park

Ralph Carter/ Rymfire  
Neighborhood Park

Pedestrian Park  
Connections

Rymfire Elementary  
School-Park



Bike Route

Pedestrian  
Pathway

**Figure 3.41**  
*Lehigh Woods Neighborhood  
Park System*

### 3.4.5.9 Lehigh Woods Neighborhood Park

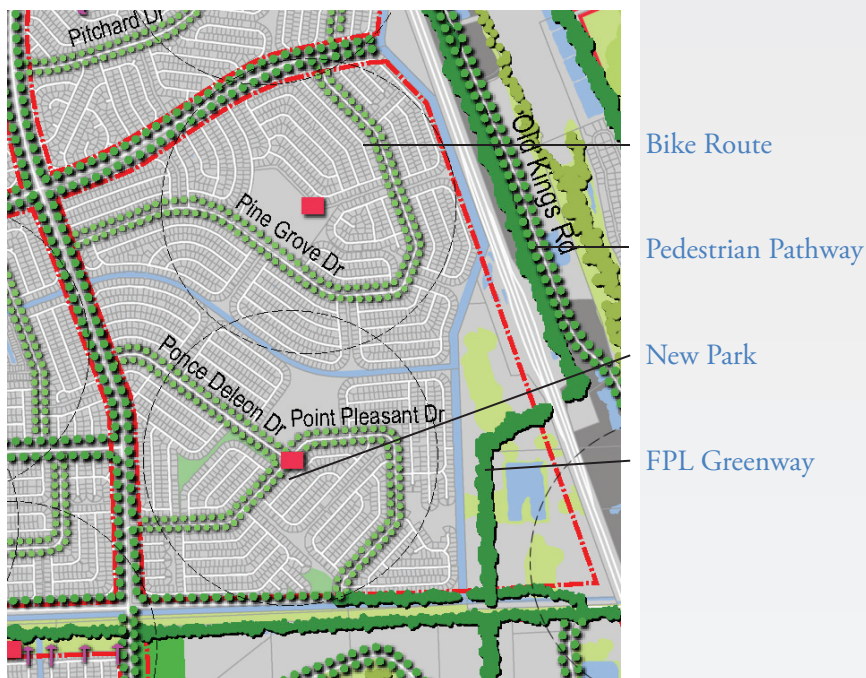
The Lehigh Woods Neighborhood does not currently have any open spaces for recreation and social engagement. Once developed, Ralph Carter Park/ Rymfire Park will provide residents living within ½ mile of the park with walk-to, close-to-home recreational opportunities. Developing an inter-local agreement with Rymfire Elementary School and allowing public access to the school's recreational facilities will supplement the recreational opportunities offered in Ralph Carter/ Rymfire Park. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision looks to enhance walkability and access to the park and school by proposing pedestrian pathways/ new network connections along the edges of the facilities. These connections will allow residents living next to the park to easily walk or bicycle from their home to these facilities instead of driving and adding to traffic congestion.

The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision also proposes the development of four new walk-to, close-to-home recreational open spaces. Rymfire Drive, White View Parkway, and Royal Palm Parkway will provide residents with opportunities for walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, skating, etc. through its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. Selected streets within the neighborhood will be designated as Bike Routes (shared streets) making these streets viable for safe public use while providing residents with safe access to Rymfire Drive and ultimately Ralph Carter/ Rymfire Park and Rymfire Elementary School.

### 3.4.5.10 Pine Grove Neighborhood

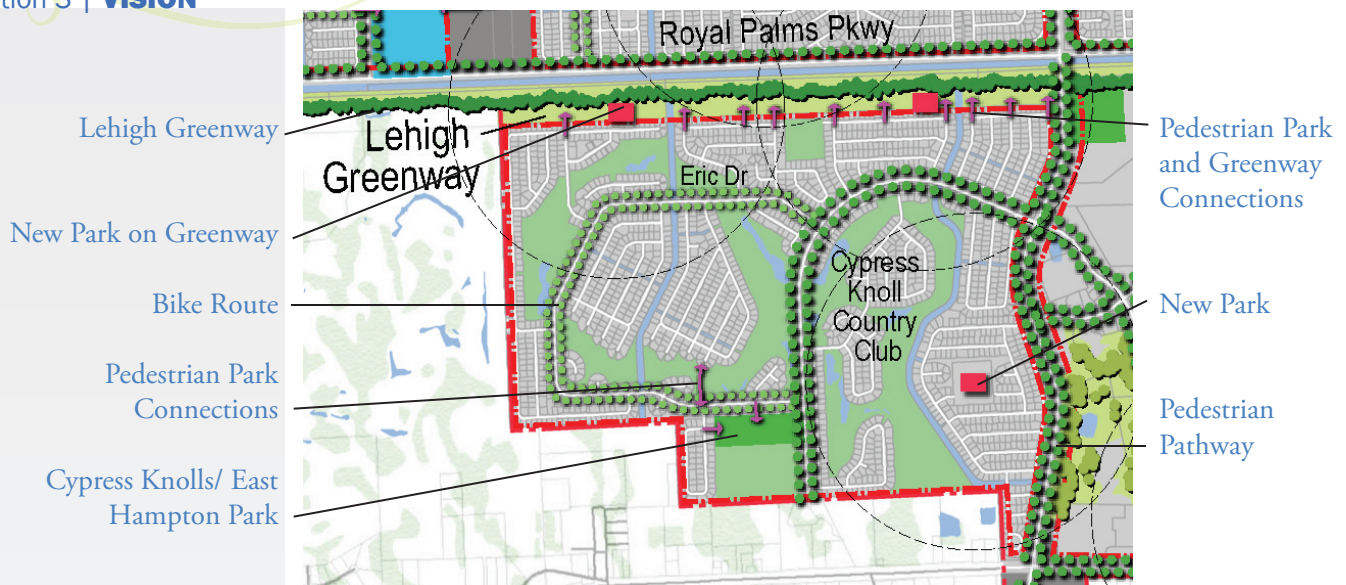
Like Lehigh Woods Neighborhood, the Pine Grove Neighborhood does not currently have any open spaces for residents to recreate or socially engage. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the development of two walk-to, close-to-home recreational open spaces. Potential locations for these facilities are the two large undeveloped parcels off Pine Grove Drive on the north, and Ponce Deleon Drive and Point Pleasant Drive on the south. The City should work with the residents in this area to identify the need for park facilities; determine the types of facilities needed/ desired by area residents; pursue funding through grants, special assessments, general fund and or other resources; design and construct the park in accordance with City standards, and provide maintenance and security.

White View Parkway and Royal Palm Parkway will provide residents with opportunities for pleasure walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, skating, etc. through its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. Selected streets within the neighborhood will be designated as Bike Routes (shared streets) making these roads viable for safe public use while providing residents with safe access to the proposed recreational open spaces.



**Figure 3.42**  
*Pine Grove Neighborhood  
Park System*





**Figure 3.43**  
*Cypress Knoll Neighborhood  
Park System*

### **3.4.5.11 Cypress Knoll Neighborhood**

The Cypress Knoll Neighborhood is predominately comprised of the Grand Club Cypress Golf Course. Once developed, the Cypress Knoll/ East Hampton Neighborhood Park will provide residents living within ½ mile with a walk-to, close-to-home recreational open space. Access and walkability to this proposed park could be enhanced by providing a pedestrian connection through the golf course and along the edges of the park. A proposed walk-to, close-to-home recreational open space is proposed along the eastern edge of the neighborhood.

The proposed Lehigh Greenway running along the northern edge of the neighborhood provides residents with great opportunities for recreation and local and regional connectivity. The width of the corridor allows ample space for the development of two, walk-to, close-to-home recreational open spaces along the greenway. Proposed pedestrian pathways/ new network connections along the greenway will provide residents living to the south easy and direct access to the greenway and the Neighborhood Parks or Mini Parks without having to travel out of the neighborhood onto Belle Terre Parkway. The Lehigh Greenway will provide Cypress Knoll residents with access to the Palm Coast Tennis Center, Town Center and the FPL Greenway. As in the Palm Coast Park Neighborhood and the Indian Trails Neighborhood, a Park Zone should be developed at the intersection of Belle Terre Parkway and the Lehigh Greenway to provide safe access while traveling along the Lehigh Greenway. This Park Zones may include traffic calming initiatives in the form of flashing lights, signage, special paving, pavement markings, reduced lane widths, or tighter tree spacing that visually and psychologically alert the motorist of the pedestrian crossing.

Within the Cypress Knolls Neighborhood, East Hampton Boulevard will provide residents with opportunities for pleasure walking, jogging, biking, rollerblading, skating, etc. through its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. Eric Drive will be designated as a Bike Route (shared street) making this roads viable for safe public use.



**Figure 3.44**  
*Town Center Neighborhood Park System*

### 3.4.5.12 Town Center Neighborhood

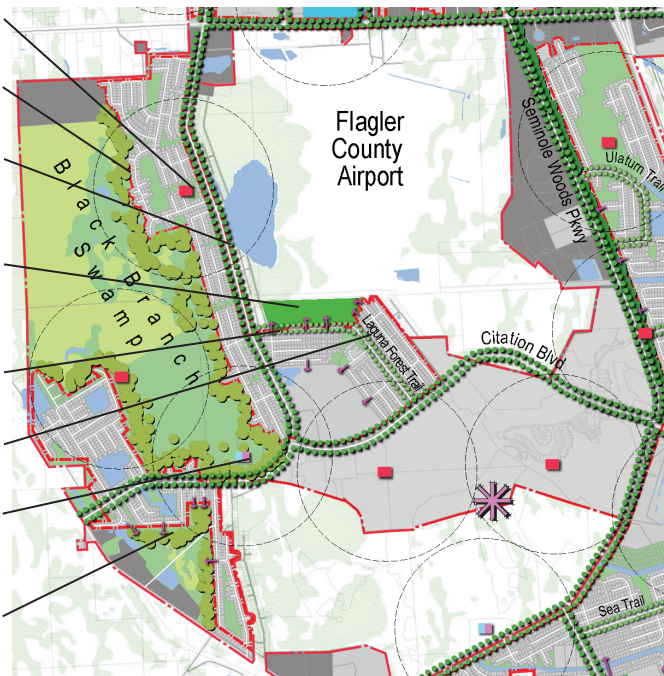
Poised to be the heart and center of the City of Palm Coast, Town Center Neighborhood will provide residents with a variety of recreational opportunities. Existing facilities include the Palm Coast Tennis Center and Town Center Park. Proposed park facilities include an Amphitheater, a Cultural Arts Center/ Museum, a Community Center, an expanded Tennis Center, and a passive park in the proposed JX DRI Property.

These facilities will be connected by a network of wide shaded sidewalks and nature trails through the conversation areas that weave through the development. These nature trails also provide opportunities for interpretive signage and kiosks that celebrate the cultural and ecological history of the City and/ or site. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes the development of an inter-local agreement that will allow public access to Flagler Palm Coast High School after school hours. This will provide residents living within the Town Center access to active and resource intensive recreational activities such as baseball, football, and soccer within walking distance from their homes.

The FPL Greenway will run along the eastern portion of the neighborhood. This greenway will provide local and regional connectivity to and from the Town Center as well provide opportunities for residents to jog, bike, rollerblade, skate, walk, etc. The Lehigh Greenway along the north edge of Town Center will connect to the FPL Greenway and will provide residents with access to the proposed passive park located east of I-95. This park will provide residents with nature based recreational opportunities such as canoe/ kayaking, fishing, bird watching, hiking, etc. A K-8 school is proposed within this park space. The City should also work with the Flagler County School District in planning and designing the facility in a way that fulfills the recreational and social needs of both the City and the School District. The City should also establish an inter-local agreement with the school that grants public access to the school's recreational facilities after school hours.

### 3.4.5.13 Quail Hollow Neighborhood

Located around the Black Branch Swamp, the Quail Hollow Neighborhood is proposed to provide residents with a variety of passive and active recreational opportunities. The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision proposes a system of nature trails and boardwalks within and along the edge of the Black Branch Swamp that will provide residents with passive recreational opportunities such as walking, hiking, wildlife viewing and other such nature-based recreational activities. This trail system will provide an excellent opportunity for ecologically and



New Park  
Nature Trail  
Pedestrian Pathway  
Quail Hollow Neighborhood Park  
Pedestrian Park Connections  
Bike Route  
Proposed K-8 School-Park  
Pedestrian Nature Trail Connections

**Figure 3.45**  
*Quail Hollow Neighborhood Park System*

geographically oriented interpretive signage that talk about the Black Branch Swamp's local and regional ecological history and significance. This system of nature trails and boardwalks will connect residents to the proposed K-8 School that is planned off Belle Terre Parkway. The City should work with the School District and plan this school as a Community Park to be accessible to the public after school hours and in the summer. The proposed system of trails, boardwalks and interpretive signs provide the school with an excellent opportunity to connect students with the nature. The Black Branch may become an extension of the classroom providing teachers with the opportunity to use these facilities and augment their natural science curriculums.

The Recreation and Park Facilities Vision proposes the development of four new, walk-to, close-to-home recreational open spaces. As the southeastern portion of the neighborhood develops, two of these parks could be provided by private development. The City should work with future developers to ensure that the proposed parks are designed to meet the existing and anticipated needs of the neighborhood's residents. Parks should be designed as flexible as possible to accommodate a diverse mix of users, activities, and events.

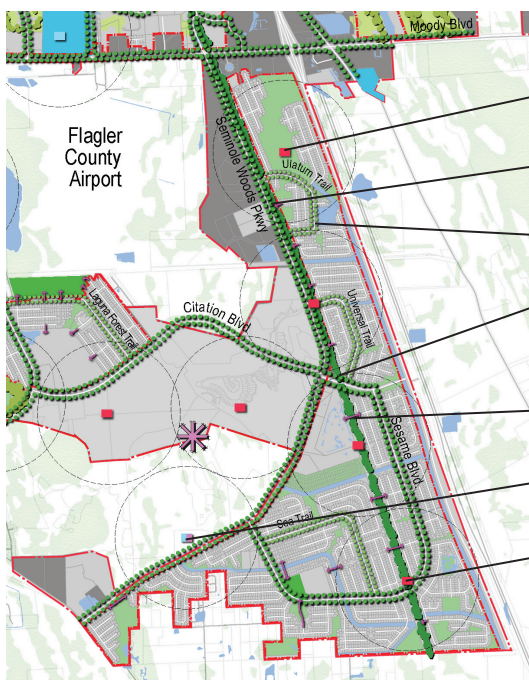
Once developed, Quail Hollow Neighborhood Park will provide walk-to, close to home recreational opportunities for residents living with 1/2 of the park. Proposed pedestrian pathways/ new network connections along the southern and eastern edges of the park will provide residents with direct access to the park encouraging residents to walk to the park as opposed to driving. A Community Park is proposed for development to serve the southern portion of the City of Palm Coast. The park should be developed to include neighborhood park recreational opportunities for residents living within 1/2 mile of it's future location.

Citation Boulevard and Belle Terre Parkway will provide residents with walking, biking, jogging, skating, rollerblading and other such recreational opportunities along its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. Laguna Forest Trail will be designated as a Bike Route (shared streets) that will make this road safe and viable for public use. Residents walking or biking along Belle Terre Parkway and Citation Boulevard will be able to safely access Quail Hollow Neighborhood Park through this street.



### 3.4.5.14 Seminole Woods Neighborhood

The Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park System Vision capitalizes on the neighborhood's most unique linear asset; the FPL Greenway as a major recreation and alternative transportation resource for the neighborhood. Running north-south along the entire length of the neighborhood, the FPL Greenway will provide residents in Seminole Woods with a variety of active and passive recreational opportunities. Residents will be able to walk, run, jog, rollerblade, skate, etc. along the greenway's multipurpose path. Four of the six proposed walk-to, close-to-home recreational open spaces are proposed to be developed along the corridor which is roughly 300' wide. Proposed pedestrian pathways/ new network connections along various parts of the greenway will provide residents with direct and easy access from their homes to the greenway and the proposed recreational open spaces. The FPL Greenway will also provide residents with transportation alternatives to reach Town Center and as far north as Matanzas High School and even the Princess Preserve. Rather than drive to Town Center, families and children can ride safely along the greenway to reach this and many of the City's other centers.



- New Park
- Pedestrian Pathway
- Bike Route
- FPL Greenway
- Pedestrian Greenway/ Park Connections
- Proposed K-8 School Park
- New Park on Greenway

**Figure 3.46**  
*Seminole Woods  
Neighborhood Park System*

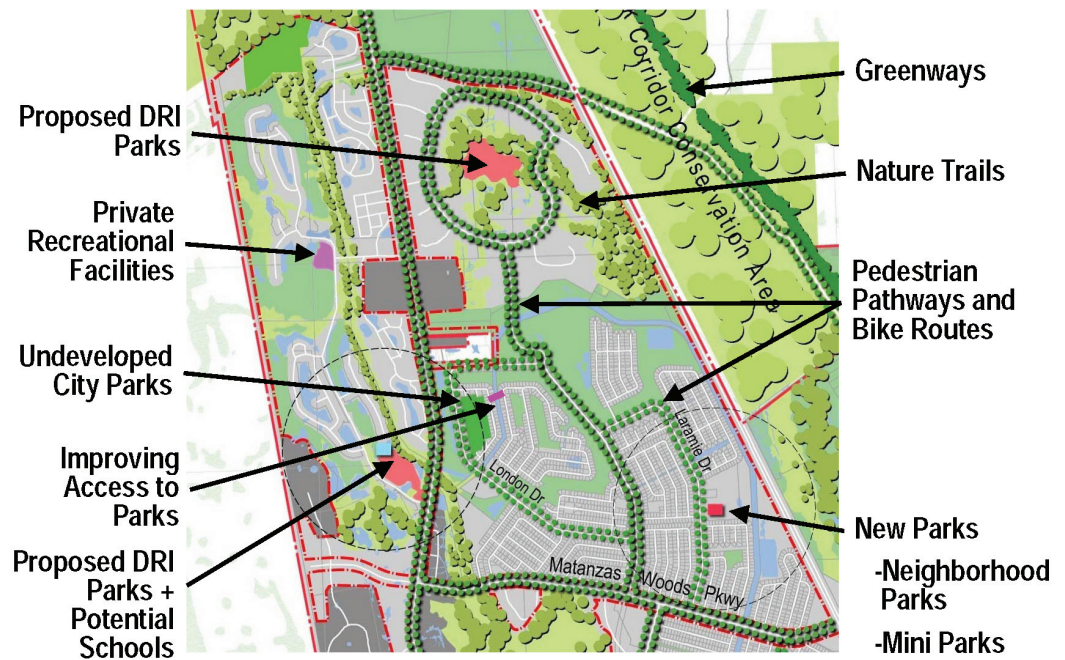
The Recreation and Parks Facilities Vision also proposes the addition of several new pedestrian paths/ new network connections to Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park. These proposed connections will allow existing and future residents in the east and north sides of the park to easily walk or bike to the park rather driving through the many circuitous roads.

A proposed K-8 School off Seminole Woods Parkway is proposed to provide residents in the western portion of the neighborhood with a walk-to, close to home recreational open space. The City should work with the School District in acquiring and developing the land as a joint-use school-park, providing residents with public access to the school recreational facilities after school hours.

Seminole Woods Parkway and Sesame Boulevard will provide residents with walking, biking, jogging, skating, rollerblading and other such recreational opportunities along its bike lanes and wide shaded sidewalks. Selected streets within the neighborhood including Ulaturn Trail, Universal Trail and Sea Trail will be designated as a Bike Route (shared street), making these roads safe and viable for public use.

The City of Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan is poised to do more than just meet the recreation needs of its current and future residents; the Plan envisions enhancing the public realm of the city, from small neighborhood parks in neighborhood park systems to the creation of a network of “complete streets,” trails and greenways. By balancing community needs for recreational services and enhancing the area’s quality of life, the Recreation and Park Facilities Master Plan can take a leadership role in steering the future of the City of Palm Coast.

**Figure 3.47**  
*Components of a Neighborhood Park System*





Map 3.13 City of Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan





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## PART IV: IMPLEMENTATION

## 4.1 Implementation Strategy

The proposed improvements shown on the Parks and Recreation Vision are estimated to cost approximately \$492 million in 2008 dollars (Exhibits 4.1). Few communities have the resources to implement such an ambitious program; therefore it is important to prioritize improvements based on 1) the findings from the Needs Assessment, and 2) a realistic estimate of available levels of funding.

On September 3, 2008 Glatting Jackson and City staff met to develop an Implementation Strategy for the Parks and Recreation System. The agenda for the meeting included a review of the Parks and Recreation Vision and estimate of costs; review of potential funding sources; review of priority community needs; and development of a phasing strategy. Following is a summary of the discussion and the proposed Implementation Strategy:

### Available Funding

Current and projected funding sources for the City's parks and recreation system include:

General Capital Fund – Sidewalks, Trails	\$500,000 / yr
General Capital Fund – Parks	\$500,000/ yr
Park Impact Fees	\$500,000/ yr
Development Grants (FRDAP, FIND, Greenways and Trails, Misc)	\$500,000/ yr
Florida Communities Trust (FCT) (Acquisition)	\$500,000/ yr
Flagler County Environmentally Sensitive Lands (ESL)	\$100,000/ yr
Florida Boating Improvement Fund	\$20,000/ yr
 TOTAL ANNUAL ESTIMATED FUNDING	 \$2,620,000/ yr
 TEN YEAR ESTIMATED FUNDING	 \$26,200,000

In addition to the funding sources outlined above, projects within the City's Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) are eligible for Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds. Current TIF funds have been committed to the City's Central Park, Bulldog Drive and sidewalk improvements. In the future, however, it is anticipated that TIF funds could be used to finance projects within the Town Center area such as the proposed Community Center and Aquatics Center, particularly if the economy and the housing market improve.

### Priority Needs

Available funds should be directed towards the improvements that serve as many residents as possible. The Needs Assessment process (Part 2 of this report) indicates that top community priorities include:

- Sidewalks
- Youth/ teen centers
- Bicycle/ skate trails
- Community recreation centers
- Fitness/ jogging trails
- Cultural centers/ museums
- Additional park land
- Access to water
- School partnerships



## Phasing Strategy

Based on the available funding and priority needs outlined above, following is a proposed allocation of funds for five year periods FY 2009 - 2013 and FY 2014 – 2019:

Project:	Budget:	Phase:	Funding Source(s):
1. Renovation of Existing Parks	\$4 M	FY 2009/ 2013	Capital Fund, Grants
2. New Park Land Acquisition	\$4 M	FY 2009/ 2010	FCT, Impact Fees, Grants
3. Bicycle, Pedestrian, Street Enhancements	\$5 M	FY2009/ 2014	Capital Fund, Grants, Impact Fees

TOTAL FY 2009/ 2013 FUNDING \$13 M\*\*\*

Project:	Budget:	Phase:	Funding Source(s):
1. Waterfront Park Development	\$1 M	FY 2014/ 2015	Capital Fund, Grants, Impact Fees, Boating Improvement Fund
2. Bicycle, Pedestrian, Street Enhancements	\$5 M	FY2009/ 2019	Capital Fund, Grants, Impact Fees
3. Longs Landing Development	\$2 M	FY 2015/ 2016	Capital Fund, Grants, Impact Fees
4. Town Ctr Community Center	\$5 M	FY 2016/ 2018	Capital Fund, Grants, Impact Fees, Possible TIF Funds

TOTAL FY 2014/ 2019 FUNDING \$13 M\*\*\*

\*\*\*Note: Budgets include “soft costs” such as survey, geotechnical, design and construction services

The City should review and update this Phasing Strategy annually, and seek opportunities to advance high priority projects through partnerships with the School Board, County, developers and others. The City should also periodically conduct surveys and other needs assessment techniques (every 2 – 3 years) to verify residents’ spending priorities.

## CITY OF PALM COAST

December 29, 2008

## RECREATION AND PARKS FACILITIES MASTER PLAN ORDER OF MAGNITUDE OPINION OF PROBABLE COST

## INITIAL COSTS - DESIGN, PERMITTING, AND CONSTRUCTION

Item No.	Item	Quantity	Unit	Unit Price	Total Price	Description	Estimate Source
<b>A. Trails and Pedestrian Paths</b>							
1.	Land Acquisition (Pedestrian Connections)						
	Residential Homes	3	EA	\$200,000	\$600,000	1/3 Acre Home Site to Provide Connections to Parks and Neighborhoods	Flagler County Property Appraiser
	Residential Lots	60	EA	\$70,000	\$4,200,000	1/3 Acre Lots to Provide Connections to Parks and Neighborhoods	Flagler County Property Appraiser
2.	Development						
	Corridor Beautification	86	Mile	\$240,000	\$20,640,000	Landscape and Irrigation Enhancements, Furnishing and Lighting Upgrades	Glatting Jackson
	City Wide Signage and Wayfinding Enhancement	1	Allowance	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	City-Wide Gateway Signs, Neighborhood Signs	Glatting Jackson
	Street Trees along Major Streets	86	Mile	\$200,000	\$17,200,000	80 Gal. Shade Trees @ 40' On Center	City of Palm Coast
	Pedestrian   Bicycle Park Connections	63	EA	\$15,000	\$945,000	Sidewalks and Amenities	Glatting Jackson
	Pedestrian   Bicycle Park Connections - Bridges	7	EA	\$100,000	\$700,000	8' Wide, 65' Span Bridge and Footings	Glatting Jackson
	Multi-Purpose Paved Trail	18.3	Mile	\$1,000,000	\$18,300,000	12' Asphalt Paved Trail, Grading, Utilities, Gateway Signage and Landscaping	Glatting Jackson
	Bicycle Pedestrian Paths	170	Mile	\$211,200	\$35,904,000	8' Concrete Paths, 4" Thick (Built by the City)	City of Palm Coast
	Shared Roads/Bicycle Routes - Pavement Marking	37.5	Mile	\$5,280	\$198,000	Shared Use-Road Pavement Markings Every 500' and Signage	Glatting Jackson
	Shared Roads/Bicycle Routes - Street Trees	37.5	Mile	\$200,000	\$7,500,000	80 Gal. Shade Trees @ 40' On Center	Glatting Jackson
	Multi-Purpose Un-Paved Trail	30	Mile	\$50,000	\$1,500,000	Selective Clearing and Grubbing, Signage and Wayfinding	Glatting Jackson
<b>Trails and Pedestrian Path Totals</b>					<b>\$112,687,000</b>		
<b>Recurring Operation and Maintenance Costs (Annual)</b>					<b>\$2,157,740</b>	2% of Development Costs	Glatting Jackson
<b>B. Neighborhood Parks</b>							
1.	Land Acquisition						
	New Neighborhood Park Sites	25	EA	\$750,000	\$18,750,000	5 Acres @ \$150,000 per Acre	Flagler County Property Appraiser
	New K-8 School Park Acquisition	4	EA	\$750,000	\$3,000,000	5 Acres @ \$150,000 per Acre	Flagler County Property Appraiser
2.	Development						
	New Neighborhood Park	33	EA	\$1,250,000	\$41,250,000	Informal Ball Field, Open Play Area, Playground, Basketball Court, Picnic Area @ \$250,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
	New K-8 School   Park Facility Development	6	LS	\$625,000	\$3,750,000	50% Cost Share with School District Based on Development Cost of a New Neighborhood Park	Glatting Jackson
	Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve	1	EA	\$500,000	\$500,000	CIP Budge Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast
	Cypress Knoll Neighborhood Park	1	EA	\$750,000	\$750,000	CIP Budge Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast
	Matanzas Woods Neighborhood	1	EA	\$600,000	\$600,000	CIP Budge Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast
	Quail Hollow Neighborhood Park	1	EA	\$1,250,000	\$1,250,000	Informal Ball Field, Open Play Area, Playground, Basketball Court, Picnic Area @ \$250,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
	Grand Woods Neighborhood Park	1	EA	-	-	Built by Developer	Developer
	Rymfire / Ralph Carter Neighborhood Park	1	EA	\$500,000	\$500,000	CIP Budge Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast
<b>Neighborhood Park Totals</b>					<b>\$70,350,000</b>		
<b>Recurring Operation and Maintenance Costs (Annual)</b>					<b>\$1,458,000</b>	3% of Development Costs	Glatting Jackson

C. Community Parks						
1. Land Acquisition						
Southern Community Park Site	1	EA	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	20 Acres @ \$150,000 per Acre on the Western Portion of the City (Provided by Developer)	Flagler County Property Appraiser
2. Development						
New Community Park	1	EA	\$3,750,000	\$3,750,000	20 Acre Community Park, 50% of the Site Intensely developed with Ball Fields, Soccer, Tennis, Basketball, Playground, Picnic Shelters, Restrooms, Maintenance Building, Parking, Dog Park, Multi-Purpose and Passive Use Trails at a Total Cost of \$375,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
Hewitt Sawmill Historic Park	1	EA	\$3,750,000	\$3,750,000	20 Acre Community Park, 50% of the Site Intensely developed with Ball Fields, Soccer, Tennis, Basketball, Playground, Picnic Shelters, Restroom, Maintenance Building, Parking, Passive Use Trails at a Total Cost of \$375,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
Indian Trails Park	1	EA	\$5,250,000	\$5,250,000	28 Acre Community Park, 50% of the Site Intensely developed with Ball Fields, Soccer, Tennis, Basketball, Playground, Picnic Shelters, Restroom, Maintenance Building, Parking, Passive Use Trails at a Total Cost of \$375,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
Palm Coast DRI Community Park	1	EA	\$7,500,000	\$7,500,000	40 Acre Community Park, 50% of the Site Intensely developed with Ball Fields, Soccer, Tennis, Basketball, Playground, Picnic Shelters, Restroom, Maintenance Building, Parking, Passive Use Trails at a Total Cost of \$375,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
JX DRI Community Park	1	EA	\$22,500,000	\$22,500,000	120 Acre Community Park, 50% of the Site Intensely developed with Ball Fields, Soccer, Tennis, Basketball, Playground, Picnic Shelters, Restroom, Maintenance Building, Parking, Passive Use Trails at a Total Cost of \$375,000 per Acre	Glatting Jackson
3. Renovation						
Holland Park Renovation	1	EA	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	CIP Budgeted Cost	City of Palm Coast
Buddy Taylor Middle School	1	Allowance	\$75,000	\$75,000	Allowance for Access and Field Improvements	Glatting Jackson
<b>Community Park Totals</b>				<b>\$47,825,000</b>		
<b>Recurring Operation and Maintenance Costs (Annual)</b>				<b>\$2,241,250</b>	5% of Development Costs	Glatting Jackson



**D. Community Centers**

1. Development						
Northern Community Center	1	EA	\$4,250,000	\$4,250,000	15,000 Sq. Ft. Community Center and Splash Play Area (\$250.00 per Sq.Ft. and \$500,000 for Splash Play Area)	Glatting Jackson
Central Community Center	1	EA	\$4,250,000	\$4,250,000	15,000 Sq. Ft. Community Center and Splash Play Area (\$250.00 per Sq.Ft. and \$500,000 for Splash Play Area)	Glatting Jackson
Town Center Community Center	1	EA	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	CIP Budgeted Cost	
<b>Community Center Totals</b>			<b>\$13,500,000</b>			

**Community Center Alternate**

1. Development						
East Community Center   Multi-Agency Partnership	1	EA	\$5,000,000	\$5,000,000	Cost Share with YMCA for a 40,000 Sq. Ft. Community Center and Aquatic Facility (\$250.00 per Sq.Ft. and \$5,000,000 for Aquatic Facility divided by Daytona State College, YMCA, and the City of Palm Coast)	Glatting Jackson
<b>Community Park Alternate Sub Total</b>			<b>\$5,000,000</b>			
<b>Community Park Total with Alternate</b>			<b>\$18,500,000</b>			
<b>Recurring Operation and Maintenance Costs (Annual)</b>			<b>\$925,000</b>	5% of Development Costs	Glatting Jackson	

**F. Special Use Facilities**

1. Development							
Big Mulberry Creek Trail	1	LS	\$1,400,000	\$1,400,000	CIP Budget Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast	
Long Landing's Estuary	1	LS	\$2,000,000	\$2,000,000	CIP Budget Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast	
Town Center Cultural Arts Center	1	LS	\$13,040,000	\$13,040,000	SR Community Redevelopment Plan CIP Projected Cost	City of Palm Coast	
Waterfront Park	1	LS	\$1,600,000	\$1,600,000	CIP Budget Estimated Cost	City of Palm Coast	
Town Center Aquatic Center	1	LS	\$11,325,000	\$11,325,000	SR Community Redevelopment Plan CIP Projected Cost	City of Palm Coast	
Landfill Site Practice Sports Fields	1	LS	\$6,500,000	\$6,500,000	50% Cost Share with County for a 65 Acre Park with Practice Fields, Parking, Passive Use Trails, and Restrooms at a Cost to the City of \$100,000 per Acre		
Sports Complex	1	LS	\$22,500,000	\$22,500,000	60 Acres Developed with Ball Fields, Soccer/Football Fields, Parking, Concession Building, and Restrooms at a Total Cost of \$375,000 per Acre		
2. Renovation   Expansion							
Town Center Central Park	1	LS	\$1,238,000	\$1,238,000	SR Community Redevelopment Plan CIP Projected Cost for Park Enhancements	City of Palm Coast	
Frieda Zamba Pool Renovation	1	LS	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	Building and Restroom Renovations (5,000 Sq.Ft @ 125.00 per Sq.Ft.) Deck Space Improvements, New Amenities, Pump Room Enhancements	City of Palm Coast	
Palm Coast Tennis Center - Player Center	1	LS	\$3,250,000	\$3,250,000	10,000 Sq.Ft Center @ \$250.00 per Sq.Ft. and \$750,000 CIP Budget Estimated Cost	Glatting Jackson	
Canoe   Kayak Launch	13	EA	\$20,000	\$260,000	Stairs and Floating Dock	Glatting Jackson	
Special Use Facility Totals				\$64,613,000			
Recurring Operation and Maintenance Costs (Annual)				\$5,169,040	8% of Development Costs	Glatting Jackson	
Grand Total				\$492,012,000			
Total Annual Estimated Operations & Maintenance Costs				\$11,951,030			

**Note:**

To Account for Inflation, Following are the Inflation Factors and Present Day Costs (PDC) Multipliers that are Applied to the Florida Department of Transportation Work Programs for Highway Construction Costs Expressed in 2008 Dollars.  
 2009 - 0% - 1.000 | 2010 - 5% - 1.050 | 2011 - 4.5% - 1.097 | 2012 - 4.0% - 1.141 | 2013 - 3.5% - 1.181 | 2014 - 3.3% - 1.220 | 2015 - 3.3% - 1.260 | 2016 - 3.3% - 1.304 | 2017 - 3.3% - 1.345 | 2018 - 3.3% - 1.389 | 2019 - 3.3% - 1.435

PART V: APPENDICES



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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 10, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast Recreational and Parks Facilities Master Plan

Location: City Manager's Office

Purpose: Kick-Off Meeting/Goals Objectives and Expectations

Compiled By: David Barth

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### Expectations for Project:

- Reasonable, doable work product, not sit on shelf
- Identify appropriate LOS
- Walkability, access
- Basis for impact fees (long range vision)
- Basis for comprehensive plan policies, including definition of neighborhood parks, etc.
- Implementation program, tied information CIP/Annual budget
- Don't start from scratch; include five year C.I.P.
- Dovetail w/CRA; coordinate w/BO, Wilson Miller (due in July)
- Guiding principles for new annexation areas, reflecting new development patterns





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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 11, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast Recreational and Parks Facilities Master Plan

Location: City Hall

Purpose: Council and Mayor Workshop

Compiled By: David Barth

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### Needs/Priority (✓=Priority)

- ✓ Community Centers/Senior Center (joint)
- ✓ Access to water-Piers, Kayakers, ok
  - Dog Parks
  - Cultural Centers
  - State Agricultural Museum (collaborate)
  - Teen Center (in conjunction w/schools, community and senior center)
- ✓ Joint use with schools
  - More versatile aquatics facility
- ✓ Sidewalks and Trails (ten year + program)
  - Clay tennis courts, clubhouse
  - Neighborhood Parks
- ✓ Better distribution, i.e. of SR 100
  - Park impact fees
  - Environmentally sensitive lands program (EELS)
  - Find, FRDAP, etc.
  - Bond (community centers)
  - Remind Public that this is a long range plan
  - TIF Funds



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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 10, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Master Plan

Location: City Manager's Office

Purpose: City Manager Interview

Compiled By: David Barth

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Priority Needs (in no particular order):

1. **Trails and Sidewalks** – Probably will not be able to change all of the rural road sections. A good example for major collectors and arterials, however, is the new Central Avenue in the Town Center
2. **Neighborhood Parks** - Streets are not adequate places for kids to play, need Neighborhood Parks for basic use, e.g. Miami-Dade plan
3. **Community Centers**
4. **Aquatics Complex** – Synchronized swimming is the catalyst, e.g. New Port Richey
5. **Access to Water** - Intracoastal waterway, canals
6. **Recreational Programs** – Need to coordinate with the School Board (see Adult Education brochures); need to set up a meeting with the School Board Planner, Carolyn Morgan
7. **Repair and Replacement Program** – Need to renovate existing parks and facilities



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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 12, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast Recreational and Parks Facilities Master Plan

Location: Palm Coast Community Center

Purpose: Leisure Services Advisory Committee Workshop

Compiled By: Carlos Perez

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### Needs/Priorities

Sidewalks (1)  
Covered Playgrounds (1)  
Playgrounds/Tot Lots  
Boaters, Fish Park and Marina (1)  
Cultural Arts (2)  
Fishing Piers  
Senior Center  
Aquatic Center  
Special Events/Amphitheater  
Skateboard Park  
Multi-Sports Stadium  
Unpaved/Paved Bicycle Trails  
Baseball and Softball Fields (1)  
Gymnasium  
Community & Recreational Center (5)  
Football/Soccer/Rugby Fields  
Hiking/Jogging/Fitness Trails (2)  
Paintball Park  
Racquet/Handball Courts  
Therapeutic Recreational Facilities





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### **Funding Sources Supported by Committee**

- User Fees
- Sales Tax
- Donations
- Fund Raising
- Grants
- Impact Fees
- Bond Ref
- Corporate Sponsorship



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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 11, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast

Location: Palm Coast Community Center

Purpose: Public Workshop

Compiled By: David Barth

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### Recreational Needs/Priorities

Aquatics Facility (37)  
Physical Fitness Trails Paved (20)  
Youth or Community Center (25)  
Gymnasium (4)  
Marinas and Boat Ramps (35)  
Multi Sports Stadium (7)  
Boat Destination (24)  
Multi Purpose Arts & Center (12)  
Large Playground (9)  
Canopy over BOCC Courts (5)  
Dog Park/Separate (6)  
Separate Skate Park (3)  
Equestrian (0)  
Paved Bike Trails (21)  
Soap Box Derby Track (2)  
Fishing Pier (9)  
YMCA (5)  
Regulation Baseball (6)  
Regulation Softball (0)  
Land Acquisition for Connectivity (5)  
Partnership w/schools and county (18)  
Golf Course (7)  
Tennis Courts (12)  
Ocean Access (4)  
Large Multi Purpose Fields (4)  
Canoe/Kayak Launch (4)



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### **Public Workshop Programs Desired**

- Infant Swimming Research
- Teen Dances/Mixers
- Boat Safety
- Holiday Boat Parties
- Youth Activity Programs
- Youth Evening Programs

### **Funding Sources**

- Property Taxes (12)
- Grants (All)
- Bonds (32)
- Public/Private Partnerships (All)
- Tiff Funding (All)





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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 11-12, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast Recreation and Parks Master Plan

Location: Holland Park Multi-Purpose Room

Purpose: Focus Group Meetings

Compiled By: David Barth and Carlos Perez

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1. Rich Weber, Reggie Monsanto: Flagler United
  - Need to list soccer, football, rugby separately in survey
  - Need to geo-code survey?
  - 250 kids in Flagler United; 800 in Flagler County Youth Soccer. Most are Palm Coast residents
  - More kids play soccer in Palm Coast, only have multi-purpose fields; more kids play soccer than any other sport
  - Need to better coordinate with schools to maximize the use of school fields; invest in lights, etc on existing fields?
  - FU has access to 7 City multi-use fields (4 lighted), 2 more coming on board w/ Belle Terre Park (not lighted). Also 2 more lighted fields planned (14 teams for 7 fields)
  - Will need 5 - 6 additional lighted soccer fields over the next five years **OR**  
light seven (7) existing school fields for Flagler United (not including FCYS)
  - Dedicated soccer complex would be preferred, either new or conversion of existing Indian Trails complex; would create revenue opportunities for maintenance, economic development, tax revenues, etc
  - Compete w/ Lacrosse, Flag Football for tournament fields, lighted fields
  - Flagler County Youth Soccer uses Flagler County Wadsworth Park w/ ten lighted fields



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- Centrally located complex is acceptable; City is improving sidewalks and bike paths, will make it easier for kids to get to practice/ games
- Funding: Flagler United could contribute to funding through increased fees, concession revenues, sponsorships, etc to offset costs of field maintenance, lights if City pays for capital costs

2. Fred Lewers, Reid Marcey: Palm Coast Little League

- Currently playing at Indian Trails, has four fields (2 Little League, 1 softball, 1 regulation baseball, all lighted); also use Holland Park (1 baseball, 1 softball, unlighted)
- Currently have 500 kids, estimate majority are City residents
- Play approximately 700 games per year, spring and fall; competing with other baseball organizations in Palm Coast
- In next 5 years, will need 2 more regulation fields (90' bases, 300'+ fences); 4 more little league baseball fields; 2 more softball fields; all lighted; additional parking
- No more room at Indian Trails, parking is inadequate
- Don't know of any sites available for a sports complex
- Funding: Can provide volunteers for special projects, e.g. raising funds for new building at Indian Trails
- Indian Trails is nice, appreciated by out-of-town teams
- Building new Ralph Carter Park, will have multi-purpose fields; could convert to practice fields?
- Add lights to Holland Park fields?

3. Judi Rich, Mike Rich, Tom Gillin, Darlene Pardiny: Friends of Swimming

- Trying to get City, County, School Board together to build Aquatics Complex
- Aquatics Complex is in 5-year CIP; +/- \$9 million; includes 50 meter competition pool w/ bulkhead, therapeutic pool, dive well, water park, locker/ multi-purpose/ concession/ restroom building; need 5+ acres incl. 2 acres for facilities, 2 acres for parking (200 spaces), 1+ acre for open space, etc; review comparables to confirm acreage needs, including parking



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- Comparables include Coral Springs Aquatics Complex (954-345-2121), Sarasota YMCA
- See Wilson Miller CRA Plans for possible locations of complex in Town Center
- Potential Town Center Community Center/ Aquatics Complex?
- Existing Frieda Zamba Community Pool also used by local swim teams, not room for free swim, recreation
- Often turning kids away from existing pool due to capacity
- Funding: Potential contributors include School Board, City, County, DBCC, Palm Coast Holdings
- City of Palm Coast will probably manage the facility; need to confirm

4. Muriel Mullings, Harold Mullings: Afro-American Caribbean Heritage Organization

- Have 150 members (100 paid)
- Other ethnic organizations include the African American Cultural Society, United Caribbean, others
- Have Caribbean night, Black Heritage Festival (last Saturday in February)
- Members are mostly senior citizens; use Holland Park for picnics, use Clubhouse Drive Community Center for monthly meetings, use Frieda Zamba pool for exercise programs
- Need more areas to walk, bicycle; sidewalks, bike paths, walking trails
- Need more picnic areas
- Need more meeting places, e.g. Senior Center
- Need more fishing piers

5. Friends of Golf: Carl

- City was given Palm Harbor Golf Course by Centex
- Pines, Cypress and Matanzas Woods Golf Courses are all private
- Friends of Golf would like to revive Palm Harbor Golf Course as a public course





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- Golf course renovation undergoing permitting process; permit not necessary
- City going out for bids to renovate (has adequate funds), looking for golf course management company
- If golf course is built, have no other unmet needs

6. Fury Softball/ Baseball (Travel League, Competitive): Cory Donahue

- Needs more Sports Complexes, i.e. Baseball Fields, Softball Fields, Soccer, Football)
  - There are only 15 softball/ baseball fields for roughly 10,000 kids (guess).
- Softball Complex (Min. 4 Fields, for youth tournament play 8) with Concession, Meeting. Convert Indian Trails to Baseball Complex (Cullman?, Alabama Complex is a great comparable for a facility that they would need. Palm Coast is in a central location from Georgia and South Florida and could be a great draw for competitive facilities.
  - Only 1 in the City (Indian Trails), 4 in the County, which is where they play now.
- Including adult leagues, 8 fields
- Equitable time in Indian Trails Sports Complex (they get crumbs)
  - County has about 20-30 teams playing in their fields
- City to small by encouraging small tournaments charging them small fees to begin developing City interest and overtime show them how they can make money from them and develop a proposal.
- When market picks up, have developers build a softball complex.

7. Ken Seybold, Corinne LaFountain: Matanzas High School Athletics

- Two high schools in Palm Coast: Matanzas, Flagler Palm Coast
- Need an Aquatics Complex, competition pool
- Need a Community Center including gym
- May have land available at Matanzas High School for Community Center
- School planner is Gene Tanner



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- Need a second sports complex (near Flagler Palm Coast High School)
8. Phil Lowe, Bill Sulser, Barry Kipnis, Claudia Towne, Jim Potochick, Jim NeJame, Dave MacDonald, John and Mary Slattery, Ed Caroe, Asa Cohen:  
Citizens on the Waterways
- Need a municipal marina, including slips for transient boats, fueling facility, pump-out facility, dock-master, ship's store, boaters lounge, fishing dock, boat launch and parking, anchorage, restaurant, dry stack storage
  - Need a maritime education center
  - Need a commercial dock for construction
  - Proposed site is 20+ acre Waterfront Park, north of Grand Haven
  - Comparables include Vero Beach muni-marina, Titusville muni-marina
  - Study was done by Leisure Services Advisory Committee
  - F.I.N.D. has 140 acres adjacent to park; willing to lease 30+ acres to City, maybe more
  - Estimated 5,280 registered boaters in Flagler County
  - Operated by private management firm
  - 100% financing by Federal Boating Infrastructure Grant (B.I.G.) program (75%), State B.I.G. (25%)
  - Existing public boat ramps include Flagler Beach ramp at SR 100, ramp at Herschel King Sr. Park, ramp at Bing's Landing on A1A
  - Existing Palm Coast marina provides fuel, minimum dock space (7 spaces), pump-out, ship store, etc; boat ramp permanently closed
  - City may take over PC marina if owners ever default
  - If existing marina is ever shut down, no nearby fueling, docking, pump-out facilities; nearest facility is +/- 30 miles away
  - Private marina(s) do not serve all public needs, e.g. transient docks for visitors
  - Palm Coast saltwater canal system is 2<sup>nd</sup> largest system in Florida
  - Freshwater canal system is under-utilized



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9. Raleigh Stockton: Palm Coast Civic Association

- Need another Community Center, including senior center, where others can interact

10. Ernest Toth, Becky Mitchell: Flagler County Youth Soccer Association (FCYSA)

- Two seasons, 1200 kids/ year, 20 weeks/ year
- Currently playing September to November, March to May
- Play at Flagler County Wadsworth Park: 4 full size fields, 6 mid-size fields (all lighted); also have baseball, softball, lacrosse
- Also have a VIP League for disabled kids
- Expect to serve 2400 kids within the next five years
- Need another 30 fields within the next five years for both soccer and lacrosse practice, say 10- 15 lighted in fall/ winter; need adequate restrooms, concession, office space
- Old County landfill sites south of SR 100 on Old Kings Road may be potential for soccer fields as part of closure process; Ernest will investigate
- Lacrosse has no dedicated fields
- Wellington Sports Complex is a nice comparable
- Need Aquatics Facility
- Need Multi-purpose Sports Complex
- Need cultural amphitheater, perhaps in conjunction with Sports Complex

11. Arlene Volpe, Tom Gargiulo: Gargiulo Art Foundation (visual arts)

- Need exhibition space for artists, shows; envisioned as part of Arts and Entertainment Center
- Currently use amphitheater at DBCC, Center Stage
- Do 6 shows/ year at DBCC, recognize artist-of-the-year
- 2 permanent collections in process at library, DBCC
- Trying to get sculptures in City parks
- Need support from other arts organizations, City, County





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#### 12. Glenn Grube: Palm Coast/ Flagler Foundation for the Arts and Entertainment

- 1850 members and growing
- Project 600 – 700 events per year; provide space and training for artists and performers
- Need Arts and Entertainment Center, e.g. Chandler Center for the Arts, Clayton County Arts and Entertainment Center
- Have an agreement with City to lease 8+ acre site in Town Center
- Community Center proposed to be constructed adjacent to Arts Center; multiple use of space, parking (750 spaces)
- Estimated costs \$27,000,000 - \$30,000,000
- Aquatics Center, Tennis Center, Arts and Entertainment Center are all eligible for estimated \$181 million in TIF funds over the next 16 years (CRA established in 2004)
- First project in CRA will be Bulldog Drive extension, est. \$6 million

#### 13. Liz Monaco, Flagler County Art League

- In existence for 30 years, focus on the visual arts
- 250-300 artists, majority are retired
- Art in the Park is an annual event at Community Center on PC Parkway, last 6 years, includes outdoor venues, collaboration w/ City Parks and Recreation
- Have outgrown current venue, esp. parking; do not have own facility
- Need an Arts Center w/ gallery space, classrooms, sculpture gardens, etc: place for Artists-in-Residence, youth programs; need affordable work space
- Offer classes at Hammock Beach Community Center
- Needs are more immediate than Arts and Entertainment Center; currently analyzing space/ land needs, estimate need facility the same size as the PC Community Center
- Comparable is Atlantic Center for the Arts in New Smyrna Beach



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#### 14. Stewart Manthey: Friends of Golf

- Need to get Palm Harbor GC up and running as soon as possible
- Need youth golf program
- Need kids aquatics, water park
- Need bike path on Whiteview, Royal Palm, Rimfire (same type of path as Pine Lakes Parkway)
- Other golf courses in town are private or semi-private, rates will go up, demand will grow
- Need golf and tennis to attract professionals to area; also need golf and tennis for young people

#### 15. Bill Hepburn, George Libonate: Friends of Tennis

- Need to expand existing complex, including 2 more clay courts and 4 hard courts over the next two - three years
- Need to expand existing temporary clubhouse to create a larger Player Center w/ meeting/ class rooms, pro shop, showers and lockers, kitchen/vending areas, café, storage building
- Currently have ten courts for 325+/- members; max ratio according to USTA is one court/ 35 members
- Could offer after-school/ tutorial program for middle school kids, summer programs, etc
- All teams go outside to buy uniforms; could retain revenues with larger Center
- Part of three-phase plan: Phase 1 constructed 2007; Phase 2 - clubhouse/ Players Center (2,000 – 2,500 s.f.) + six courts; Phase 3 - four additional courts, stadium court
- Comparables include the Trails, the PC Players Club, Florida Tennis Center (Daytona Beach)

#### 16. Leo Goretti, Mike Hale: Flagler Premier Soccer

- Just broke away from AYSO, in early stages
- Want to provide competitive, affordable soccer w/ less travel, less time commitment from parents
- Only do tournaments; doing minimum five tournaments/ year, three games each



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- FUI has competitive league
- Currently serve about 50 kids
- Need practice fields, tournament venues (Saturday/ Sunday)
- Need 8 full-size, 8 mid-size, 4 small fields to host a tournament ; all fields need to be lighted
- Potential sites include new practice fields at Ralph Carter Park
- Majority of kids are in Palm Coast, some in Flagler County
- Need affordable hotels to host a tournament
- Wellington Sports Complex is a good comparable (soccer and lacrosse); 18+ fields, building
- Need other facilities, as well, including shooting range
- Need inlet to Ocean

17. Dog Park Group : Jay, Jim, Ken

- Extend Dog Park to the Road to allow for the creation of multiple dog pods.
- Lights, Water, Irrigation (which has been approved), extend sidewalk from the west entrance to the east, make ADA Accessible.
- More Shade Trees, Benches, Chairs, dog play structures, dog wash area.
- Dog Parks needs to be separate/ buffered from active facilities.
- Dog Park to remain in Holland Park
- Proposed Park Plan appears to reduce Existing Dog Park size which is heavily used and therefore unacceptable.
- Dog Park is an asset to the town and increases marketability.





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*WE PLAN AND  
DESIGN LIVABLE  
COMMUNITIES*

## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 23, 2008

Project: City of Palm Coast

Location: City of Palm Coast Community Center

Purpose: Youth Workshop

Compiled By: City of Palm Coast

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### Summer Camp Workshop

Theme Park  
Nature Trails unpaved/paved (4)  
Fishing Pier (18)  
Paintball Park (42)  
Community Center  
Camping (5)  
Halloween Carnival  
BMX Tracks (10)  
Skateboard Park (6)  
Rugby Field  
Multi-Purpose Stadium  
Basketball (7)  
Baseball/Soft Ball Fields (2)  
Dog Parks (9)  
Golf/Driving Ranges  
Indoor Event Area  
Huge Playground/w hiding area (12)  
Water Park (37)  
Covered Playground  
Airsoft Park ??????  
Science Museum  
Soccer Fields (2)  
Swimming Pool/Aquatic Center (6)  
Horseback Riding (12)  
Picnic Area (4)  
Dodge Ball Park (33)  
Easter Hunt Program



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Canoeing (6)  
Hay Ride Program  
Aquarium (13)  
Volley Ball Court (2)  
PS Tournaments  
Shuffleboard (3)  
Ice Hockey Ring (11)  
Spring Beach Camp



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*COMMUNITY  
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## **Meeting Minutes**

Project: City of Palm Coast Recreational and Parks Facilities Master Plan

Meeting Date: July 29, 2008

Location: City Hall

Purpose: Visioning Workshop

Attendees: Ray Tyner, Beau Falgout, John Jackson, Carl Cote, Mike Judd, Jose Papa, Bob Dickinson, Carlos Perez, Dave Barth

Compiled By: Dave Barth

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## **Agenda:**

1:00 pm Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review

1:15 Review, Consensus re: Needs Assessment Findings

1:30 Guiding Principles, Alternative Scenarios

4:00 Adjourn

## **Guiding Principles, Alternative Scenarios:**

### **1. Sidewalks, Trails, Bikeways**

#### **Principles:**

- Connect kids, families from neighborhoods to schools, parks, open green space
- Provide opportunities for both recreation and transportation
- Fill in gaps in bus service to schools (1 mile – elementary schools, 2 miles - middle/ high schools)

#### **Direction:**

- Do not try to provide neighborhood scale sidewalks, bikeways





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- Build on the existing bicycle/ pedestrian plan; add more network, including residential collector roads
- Hierarchy to include bike routes (shared roads); bike lanes (on-road); bike paths (off-road, within R.O.W); and trails (off-road, outside of road R.O.W, including utility easements, canals, etc)
- Show major corridors – e.g. FPL, Lehigh, etc – as part of long range vision

## **2. Community Centers**

Principles:

- Provide a +/- 30,000 sf Community Center w/ gymnasium, on +/- 5 acre sites, in each “sector” of the City: North, Central, South and East; approximately within 3 miles of every resident (Carlos to verify distance)
- Sites should be co-located with schools wherever possible

Direction:

- Show potential sites/ corridors (see map) for four (4) Community Centers, including Indian Trails/ DRI site, Town Center site
- Show school sites
- Central Community Center to have gymnasium; others could be added later

## **3. Cultural Center/ Museum**

Principles:

- Celebrate and interpret history, culture of community through parks, open spaces, historical sites

Direction:

- Show a central Cultural Center/ Museum at the Town Center
- Show historical sites throughout the City



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- Recommend interpretive kiosks, signs, exhibits throughout parks system

#### **4. Outdoor Amphitheater**

Principles:

- Provide central gathering/ performance spaces for outdoor concerts, festivals, celebrations, etc

Direction:

- Show existing DBCC site, proposed Town Center site

#### **5. Aquatics Center**

Principles:

- Provide a centrally located Aquatics Center to serve all residents
- Provide “satellite” community pools in conjunction with Community Centers to serve neighborhoods

Direction:

- Show options of renovating existing pool to create Aquatics Complex or acquiring new site
- Town Center is not best location

#### **6. Marina**

Principles:

- Provide a centrally located marina facility to meet residents’ basic boating needs, including fuel, docks, ship’s store

Direction:

- Existing marina is adequate to meet residents’ needs
- City to work with Centex to ensure public access for perpetuity; Ray to provide copy of PUD agreement



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- City to encourage/ assist in redevelopment of existing site, including renovation of public boat ramp, development of restaurants and shops, etc

## **7. Water Access: Canoe/ Kayak Ramps, Boat Ramps, Fishing Piers**

Principles:

- Provide public access to both freshwater and saltwater for fishing, boating, viewing, canoeing, kayaking, etc wherever possible

Direction:

- See map for canoe/ kayak access to creeks, canals
- Intracoastal not desirable for canoeing/ kayaking due to heavy/ high speed boat traffic
- Show County boat ramps
- Show renovation of marina boat ramp
- Show fishing piers/ access at Waterfront Park, Longs Landing, "Troll Park" (under the bridge), JX DRI property (SR 100) (Tuscany Village)

## **8. Neighborhood and Community Parks**

Principles:

- Every "neighborhood" (e.g. Palm Harbor, Indian Trails, Grand Haven, Pine Lakes, etc) should have an accessible parks system that meets residents' needs
- Every school should function as a park after school hours and on weekends
- New parks should be co-located with schools wherever possible
- Existing neighborhoods should not be "forced" to accept parks they don't want

Direction:





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- City to work with School Board to retrofit existing schools with playgrounds, other neighborhood park facilities and equipment
- Consider starting a Neighborhood Park Assistance Program to work with neighborhoods that want to build new parks
- Design a “hybrid” system of neighborhood and community parks to meet the needs of each neighborhood, making the best use of existing parks; do not superimpose typical park standards across the entire City
- Recommend that the City eventually conduct workshops in each of the 11 or 12 “neighborhoods” to discuss specific needs

## **9. Athletics: Fields, Courts, Complexes**

Principles:

- Provide adequate athletic fields to meet residents’ needs
- Fields to be constructed as part of sports complexes – not community parks – to minimize noise, lights, parking and other negative impacts in parks, and to provide more multi-purpose open space

Direction:

- Provide centrally located sports complexes on major arterial roads
- Show landfill site, US 1 site, other potential sports complex sites



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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 10, 2008

Location: Palm Coast Community Center

Purpose: Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan Draft Vision  
Presentation to Leisure Services Advisory Committee (LSAC)

Attendees: LSAC Board Members  
John Jackson - City of Palm Coast  
Jose Papa - City of Palm Coast  
Residents from the Community

Compiled By: David Barth

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Glatting Jackson presented the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Draft Vision to the City of Palm Coast's Leisure Services Advisory Committee for their comments. After the presentation to LSAC, Glatting Jackson conducted a Public Workshop and presented the Master Plan to residents from the Community. Following are the comments received from the two groups.

### LSAC Comments:

1. LSAC committee requested that Glatting Jackson provide an example of Tri-Party community center agreement in the report. Example that Glatting Jackson is aware of is Lake Nona, City of Orlando.

### Public Comments:

1. Tennis Center expansion should be a higher priority
2. Add Palm Harbor golf course to improvements
3. Move Longs Landing "up" on priority list; make a major access point
4. Add water/ canal access on 50 acre cobblestone village site
5. Other priorities, Tennis, higher priority than bike/pedestrian facility?
6. Consider players club site for community center rather than DBSC; consider land swap?



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7. If partner with DBSC, make aquatics facility large enough to meet friends of swimming needs
8. Re: allocate monies towards cultural arts/community center
9. Need dark area (paved) for astronomy club w/o tree canopy; need restroom
10. Community center (s) should be a top priority, particularly to provide activities for teenagers
11. What are the specific plans for the southern portion of town?  
Glatting Jackson addressed the question by describing the improvement proposed in the various neighborhoods in the southern portion of town.
12. Need to encourage youth to play tennis
13. Move council presentation after planning board?





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## Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: December 10, 2008

Location: Palm Coast Community Center

Purpose: Recreation and Parks Facilities Master Plan Draft Vision  
Presentation to Planning and Land Development Review Board  
(PLDRB)

Attendees: PLDRB Board Members

Compiled By: Carlos Perez

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Glatting Jackson presented the Parks and Recreation Facilities Master Plan Draft Vision to the City of Palm Coast's Planning and Land Development Review Board for their comments. After receiving comments from the Board, the public was invited to provide comments. Following are the comments received from the two groups.

### **PLDRB Comments:**

1. Identify proposed locations for additional Dog Parks. The only dog park in Palm Coast is in Holland Park and as the population continues to grow, additional parks will be necessary.

### **Public Comments:**

1. The City should work with private developers to provide public access to water through their developments and not disrupt connectivity.
2. The City should design parks in such a way that they provide great photo opportunities for users.
3. 5,000 boaters in Palm Coast still need a Boat destination. Marina's are not good enough.

# City of Palm Coast Recreational Facilities and Parks Master Plans

[illegible]

## City of Palm Coast Recreational Facilities and Parks Master Plans

[illegible]



**CITY OF PALM COAST - RECREATIONAL AND PARKS NEEDS ASSESSMENT  
TELEPHONE QUESTIONNAIRE – JUNE 2008**

*Hello, I'm calling on behalf of the City of Palm Coast. We are conducting a survey of Palm Coast residents to determine the types of park, recreation, and open space facilities that are, or should be, provided by the City. The results are confidential and will be used only in the planning for future parks and recreation opportunities for your community. This will only take about 7 minutes. Let me start by asking:*

1. According to our records, you live within the limits of Palm Coast. Is that correct?

- 1. ☐ YES Continue
- 2. ☐ NO Terminate

2. Are you 18 years old or older?

- 1. ☐ YES Continue
- 2. ☐ NO Ask to speak with someone who is;  
when they take the phone start from the beginning

3. What type of recreational activities do you or anyone in your household presently participate in? Please name all that you can think of and include the activities of all members of your family.

*(Do not read. Mark all the activities that the respondent initially offers, after the initial answer prompt once then proceed to the next question)*

- 1. None/ Don't Participate
- 2. After School Program
- 3. Baseball/ Softball
- 4. Basketball
- 5. Beach
- 6. Bicycle Riding
- 7. BMX
- 8. Boating
- 9. Bocce Ball
- 10. Camping
- 11. Canoeing or Kayaking
- 12. Community/ Recreation Activities
- 13. Disc Golf
- 14. Dog Park
- 15. Equestrian Center
- 16. Exercise at a Fitness Center or Gym
- 17. Football/ Flag Football
- 18. Fishing
- 19. Free Play – Playground, Open Space
- 20. Golf
- 21. Hiking
- 22. Horseback Riding
- 23. In-line Skating
- 24. Jogging or Walking for Exercise
- 25. Lacrosse

- 26. Mountain Biking
- 27. Nature Study, Bird watching
- 28. Off –Highway Vehicle Riding
- 29. Paintball
- 30. Picnicking
- 31. Racquetball/ Handball
- 32. Roller Hockey
- 33. Rugby
- 34. Shuffleboard
- 35. Skateboarding
- 36. Soccer
- 37. Summer Camp
- 38. Swimming
- 39. Tennis/ Volleyball
- 40. Therapeutic Recreation
- 41. Trips/Outings
- 42. Visiting a Museum

**Attending a/an . . .**

- Indoor Concert or Performance
- Outdoor Festivals, Performances and/or  
Special Events
- Senior Citizen Center
- Youth /Teen Center
- 43. Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. From the following list of park facilities, which do you use most often?

*(Rotate order and read the list, mark all parks named by respondent)*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Palm Coast Tennis Center             | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Holland Park Youth Center                |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Palm Coast Community Center and Park | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve         |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Frieda Zamba Swimming Pool           | 10. <input type="checkbox"/> St. Joe Walkway/ Palm Coast Linear Park |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Indian Trails Sports Complex         | 11. <input type="checkbox"/> Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park        |
| 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Belle Terre Park                     | 12. <input type="checkbox"/> Central Park Town Center                |
| 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Heroes Memorial Park                 |  |
| 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Holland Park                         |  |

## 5. How frequently do you use the City Parks?

*(Read the list and mark one)*

1. ☐ Regularly (once a week or more often)
2. ☐ Occasionally (once a month or so)
3. ☐ Seldom (once or twice a year)
4. ☐ Rarely or never

6. Thanks. Now I am going to name several types of recreation facilities. As I name them, I want you to tell me if you think that the City of Palm Coast needs more of the facility, if there are already enough, or if are too many of the type of recreation facility I name. You can also say you “just don’t know.” Let me start with: *(Rotate the order but keep in groups of 12 or 13; and keep the interjections at those breaks. Say every item except “other,” code that only if offered by the respondent.)* [For reviewers: See note about grouping at Q3.]

	Need More	Have Enough	Have Too Many
<b>User–Oriented (Active Recreation) Facilities:</b>			
Baseball/ Softball Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Basketball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycle Riding / Skating Trails - Paved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycle Trails - Unpaved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Boat Ramps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BMX Tracks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camping Sites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Canoeing or Kayaking Launches or Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community / Recreation Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Covered Playgrounds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural Centers / Museums	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dog Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Equestrian Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fishing Piers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[say] That is a lot to start with. Let’s take a quick break then proceed. Ready? Do we . . .

	Need More	Have Enough	or Have Too Many
Football	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Soccer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Rugby Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
General “Multi-Purpose” Play Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Golf Courses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Gymnasiums	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hiking / Nature Trails - Unpaved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical Fitness / Jogging and Hiking Trails - Paved	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Horseback Riding Trails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi-Purpose Sports Stadium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marina/ Boater Destination	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paintball Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Performance Center / Auditorium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Picnic Areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

[say] Just a few more, I'll stop for a moment to let you collect your thoughts. O.K. let's move on. Do we.

**Need More    Have Enough    or Have Too Many**

Playgrounds or Tot lots	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Racquetball / Handball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Roller Hockey Rinks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senior Citizen Center	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Shuffleboard Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sidewalks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Skateboard Parks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Special Events Area / Outdoor Amphitheater	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Swimming Pools / Aquatic Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tennis Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Therapeutic Recreational Facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Volleyball Courts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth / Teen Centers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other</b> _____			

7. Thanks. We just went through a list of forty-one different recreational facilities; which of those are the **three** most important to you and your family? (*Do not read. Mark all the activities that the respondent offers*)

Baseball/ Softball Fields	Golf Courses
Basketball Courts	Gymnasiums
Bicycle Riding / Skating Trails - Paved	Hiking / Nature Trails – Unpaved
Bicycle Trails - Unpaved	Physical Fitness / Jogging and Hiking Trails - Paved
Boat Ramps	Horseback Riding Trails
BMX Tracks	Marina/ Boater Destination
Camping Sites	Multi-Purpose Sports Stadium
Canoeing or Kayaking Launches or Trails	Paintball Parks
Community / Recreation Centers	Performance Center / Auditorium
Covered Playgrounds	Picnic Areas
Cultural Centers / Museums	Playgrounds or Tot lots
Dog Parks	Racquetball / Handball Courts
Equestrian Center	Roller Hockey Rinks
Fishing Piers	Senior Citizen Center
Football	Shuffleboard Courts
Soccer	Sidewalks
Rugby Fields	Skateboard Parks
General “Multi-Purpose” Play Fields	



Special Events Area / Outdoor Amphitheater  
Swimming Pools / Aquatic Centers  
Tennis Courts

Therapeutic Recreational Facilities  
Volleyball Courts  
Youth / Teen Centers  
**Other**\_\_\_\_\_

8. If you want the City to provide additional facilities or programs, which type of additional revenue source would you support for their development and/ or maintenance?"

1. ☐ Additional user fees (fees charged to use a facility or participate in a program)
2. ☐ Additional sales tax
3. ☐ Additional property taxes
4. ☐ Other\_\_\_\_\_
5. ☐ I am not willing to pay additionally for parks

9. Which age groups do you think are most in need of additional recreation services in Palm Coast?  
(Prompt, mark only one response)

1. ☐ Youth;
2. ☐ Teens;
3. ☐ Adults; or,
4. ☐ Seniors.

10. How would you rate the MAINTENANCE of Palm Coast's parks and other recreational facilities?  
Would you say it was . . . (Prompt, mark only one response)

1. ☐ Excellent;
2. ☐ Good;
3. ☐ Satisfactory;
4. ☐ Not very good; or,
5. ☐ Poor.

11. How would you rate the QUALITY OF THE RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCE available at Palm Coast's parks and recreational facilities? Would you say it is . . . (Prompt, mark only one response)

1. ☐ Excellent;
2. ☐ Good;
3. ☐ Satisfactory;
4. ☐ Not very good; or,
5. ☐ Poor.

12. Which of these age groups includes you?

1. ☐ 18-24
2. ☐ 25-29
3. ☐ 30-39
4. ☐ 40-49
5. ☐ 50-59
6. ☐ 60-69
7. ☐ 70+
8. ☐ refused

13. And finally, is there one thing would you like to tell us about Palm Coast's Recreation and Parks facilities?

---

*Thank you for your participation - we greatly appreciate your help.*

City of Palm Coast Survey of Residents  
Responses by Age - June 2008

**3 In what type of recreational activities do you or does anyone in your household presently participate? (645 total responses)**

<i>(includes only activities stated by respondents)</i>	18-49 n=195	50-59 n=200	60-69 n=146	70+ n=104	All Resps
6 Bicycle Riding	11.8%	17.0%	15.8%	10.6%	14.1%
24 Jogging or Walking for Exercise	8.2%	17.5%	15.1%	15.4%	13.7%
38 Swimming	13.3%	11.0%	8.9%	9.6%	11.2%
47 Other	8.7%	5.0%	8.2%	15.4%	8.4%
20 Golf	3.1%	8.0%	9.6%	12.5%	7.5%
18 Fishing	6.7%	7.5%	4.8%	8.7%	6.9%
39 Tennis/ Volleyball	5.1%	3.5%	4.8%	3.8%	4.5%
8 Boating	4.6%	5.0%	4.8%	1.9%	4.3%
5 Beach	3.6%	3.0%	4.8%	2.9%	3.5%
3 Baseball/ Softball	6.2%	3.5%	1.4%	1.0%	3.4%
1 None/ Don't Participate	1.5%	1.5%	4.1%	5.8%	2.8%
4 Basketball	4.1%	3.0%	0.7%	1.9%	2.6%
36 Soccer	4.6%	1.5%	1.4%	0.0%	2.2%
30 Picnicking	1.5%	1.5%	2.1%	1.9%	1.7%
21 Hiking	2.6%	1.5%	0.7%	1.0%	1.5%
14 Dog Park	0.5%	2.5%	1.4%	0.0%	1.2%
16 Exercise at a Fitness Center or Gym	0.0%	1.0%	2.7%	1.9%	1.2%
44 Outdoor Festivals, Performances, Special Events	1.0%	1.5%	0.7%	1.0%	1.2%
11 Canoeing or Kayaking	1.5%	1.5%	0.7%	0.0%	1.1%
17 Football/ Flag Football	2.1%	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%	1.1%
19 Free Play – Playground, Open Space	1.5%	0.5%	1.4%	0.0%	0.9%
10 Camping	1.5%	0.0%	0.7%	1.0%	0.8%
12 Community/ Recreation Activities	0.5%	0.0%	2.1%	1.0%	0.8%
31 Racquetball/ Handball	1.5%	0.5%	0.7%	0.0%	0.8%
23 In-line Skating	0.5%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
35 Skateboarding	1.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
2 After School Program	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%
9 Bocce Ball	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.2%
13 Disc Golf	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.2%
22 Horseback Riding	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
26 Mountain Biking	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
32 Roller Hockey	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%
41 Trips/Outings	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.2%
42 Visiting a Museum	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.2%
43 Indoor Concert or Performance	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.2%
45 Senior Citizen Center	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.2%

**3a "Other" RECREATONAL ACTIVITIES. (56 respondents gave 66 responses)**

	18-49 n=24	50-59 n=11	60-69 n=14	70+ n=17	All Resps
Percent of age category that responded	33.3%	14.1%	21.5%	30.4%	
Individual, active pursuits	41.7%	45.5%	7.1%	23.5%	30.3%
Walking	12.5%	36.4%	50.0%	17.6%	25.8%
Individual, passive pursuits	25.0%	0.0%	21.4%	5.9%	15.2%
Team or group active pursuits	12.5%	9.1%	0.0%	17.6%	10.6%
Gardening	4.2%	9.1%	0.0%	17.6%	7.6%
Group passive pursuits	0.0%	0.0%	21.4%	11.8%	7.6%
None	4.2%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%	3.0%

66 Total Responses



City of Palm Coast Survey of Residents  
Responses by Age - June 2008

**4 From the following list of park facilities, which do you use most often?**

	18-49 n=136	50-59 n=117	60-69 n=98	70+ n=82	All Resps
10 St. Joe Walkway/ Palm Coast Linear Park	19.9%	23.9%	28.6%	22.0%	23.6%
13 None of the Above	13.2%	19.7%	16.3%	25.6%	18.2%
7 Holland Park	14.7%	14.5%	11.2%	20.7%	15.2%
3 Frieda Zamba Swimming Pool	10.3%	11.1%	6.1%	3.7%	8.5%
2 Palm Coast Community Center and Park	8.8%	4.3%	11.2%	8.5%	8.3%
5 Belle Terre Park	5.1%	4.3%	12.2%	3.7%	6.5%
4 Indian Trails Sports Complex	9.6%	7.7%	0.0%	1.2%	5.3%
12 Central Park Town Center	3.7%	4.3%	3.1%	4.9%	3.9%
1 Palm Coast Tennis Center	3.7%	1.7%	4.1%	2.4%	3.0%
6 Heroes Memorial Park	2.2%	1.7%	1.0%	7.3%	2.8%
9 Bird of Paradise Nature Preserve	2.9%	3.4%	2.0%	0.0%	2.3%
11 Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park	2.9%	2.6%	3.1%	0.0%	2.3%
8 Holland Park Youth Center	2.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.0%	1.4%

433 Total Responses

**5 How frequently do you use the City Parks?**

	18-49 n=72	50-59 n=78	60-69 n=65	70+ n=56	All Resps
1 Regularly (once a week or more often)	47.2%	26.9%	29.2%	19.6%	31.0%
2 Occasionally (once a month or so)	25.0%	41.0%	26.2%	35.7%	32.1%
3 Seldom (once or twice a year)	12.5%	10.3%	24.6%	8.9%	14.2%
4 Rarely or never	15.3%	21.8%	20.0%	35.7%	22.6%

271 Total Responses

**8 If you want the City to provide additional facilities or programs, which additional revenue source would you support for their development and/or maintenance?**

	18-49 n=72	50-59 n=78	60-69 n=65	70+ n=56	All Resps
1 User fees	43.1%	46.2%	38.5%	32.1%	40.5%
2 Sales tax	23.6%	11.5%	9.2%	16.1%	15.0%
3 Property tax	6.9%	12.8%	13.8%	10.7%	10.9%
4 Some other way	25.0%	26.9%	33.8%	30.4%	28.8%
5 I am not willing to pay additionally for parks	1.4%	2.6%	4.6%	10.7%	4.7%

271 Total Responses

**8a Summary of "Other" responses to ADDITIONAL REVENUE SOURCES.  
(77 respondents gave 77 responses. Only 76 stated age.)**

	18-49 n=18	50-59 n=21	60-69 n=20	70+ n=17	All Resps
Percent of age category that responded	25.0%	26.9%	30.8%	30.4%	
Not sure	22.2%	38.1%	35.0%	17.6%	28.6%
Cut City expenses elsewhere	16.7%	9.5%	10.0%	11.8%	13.0%
Tax or govt. funding source not mentioned in the survey	16.7%	14.3%	15.0%	5.9%	13.0%
Combination of taxes and fees	5.6%	9.5%	10.0%	23.5%	11.7%
Bonds	0.0%	19.0%	5.0%	17.6%	10.4%
Tax or govt. funding source mentioned in the survey	11.1%	4.8%	5.0%	11.8%	7.8%
County, State or Federal money	11.1%	4.8%	5.0%	5.9%	6.5%
Donations, fundraisers	16.7%	0.0%	5.0%	5.9%	6.5%
Don't increase taxes or spending	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%	2.6%

76 Total Responses

City of Palm Coast Survey of Residents  
Responses by Age - June 2008

**6 Now I am going to name several types of recreation facilities. As I name them, I want you to tell me if you think that the City of Palm Coast needs more of the facility, if there are already enough, or if are too many of the type of recreation facility.**

	18-49 n=72	50-59 n=78	60-69 n=65	70+ n=56	All Resps
Percent saying "need more"					
34 Sidewalks	80.6%	67.9%	67.7%	58.9%	69.3%
41 Youth / Teen Centers	73.6%	69.2%	63.1%	57.1%	66.4%
11 Cultural Centers / Museums	77.8%	64.1%	44.6%	44.6%	58.8%
36 Special Events Area / Outdoor Amphitheater	68.1%	59.0%	52.3%	44.6%	56.6%
3 Bicycle Riding / Skating Trails - Paved	63.9%	62.8%	47.7%	42.9%	55.1%
9 Community / Recreation Centers	50.0%	60.3%	52.3%	55.4%	54.7%
27 Performance Center / Auditorium	48.6%	56.4%	46.2%	51.8%	50.7%
22 Physical Fitness / Jogging and Hiking Trails - Paved	55.6%	57.7%	36.9%	48.2%	50.0%
32 Senior Citizen Center	29.2%	50.0%	58.5%	58.9%	48.5%
14 Fishing Piers	51.4%	55.1%	49.2%	33.9%	48.2%
37 Swimming Pools / Aquatic Centers	59.7%	52.6%	27.7%	42.9%	46.4%
21 Hiking / Nature Trails - Unpaved	55.6%	51.3%	35.4%	39.3%	45.6%
10 Covered Playgrounds	70.8%	47.4%	36.9%	19.6%	44.9%
28 Picnic Areas	44.4%	50.0%	46.2%	37.5%	44.9%
20 Gymnasiums	61.1%	47.4%	27.7%	37.5%	44.2%
8 Canoeing or Kayaking Launches or Trails	52.8%	46.2%	38.5%	28.6%	42.7%
24 Multi-Purpose Sports Stadium	51.4%	48.7%	32.3%	26.8%	40.9%
18 General "Multi-Purpose" Play Fields	45.8%	35.9%	38.5%	39.3%	39.8%
29 Playgrounds or Tot lots	56.9%	46.2%	27.7%	23.2%	39.8%
30 Racquetball / Handball Courts	41.7%	47.4%	29.2%	35.7%	39.4%
35 Skateboard Parks	50.0%	41.0%	27.7%	26.8%	37.2%
40 Volleyball Courts	52.8%	42.3%	29.2%	17.9%	36.9%
25 Marina/ Boater Destination	43.1%	34.6%	30.8%	25.0%	34.3%
12 Dog Parks	30.6%	39.7%	38.5%	25.0%	33.9%
7 Camping Sites	45.8%	37.2%	21.5%	25.0%	33.2%
31 Roller Hockey Rinks	41.7%	37.2%	24.6%	28.6%	33.2%
5 Boat Ramps	37.5%	33.3%	30.8%	23.2%	31.4%
2 Basketball Courts	47.2%	29.5%	24.6%	19.6%	31.0%
39 Therapeutic Recreational Facilities	20.8%	42.3%	29.2%	28.6%	30.7%
33 Shuffleboard Courts	23.6%	35.9%	20.0%	30.4%	27.7%
4 Bicycle Trails - Unpaved	37.5%	25.6%	12.3%	25.0%	25.2%
13 Equestrian Center	30.6%	25.6%	18.5%	16.1%	23.7%
1 Baseball/ Softball Fields	26.4%	23.1%	26.2%	17.9%	23.4%
26 Paintball Parks	38.9%	32.1%	3.1%	10.7%	22.3%
23 Horseback Riding Trails	30.6%	26.9%	10.8%	14.3%	21.9%
19 Golf Courses	18.1%	21.8%	30.8%	16.1%	21.5%
16 Soccer	25.0%	16.7%	16.9%	19.6%	19.3%
15 Football	29.2%	19.2%	10.8%	12.5%	18.2%
6 BMX Tracks	29.2%	16.7%	9.2%	14.3%	17.5%
38 Tennis Courts	20.8%	12.8%	15.4%	16.1%	16.1%
17 Rugby Fields	15.3%	14.1%	6.2%	7.1%	10.9%

City of Palm Coast Survey of Residents  
Responses by Age - June 2008

**6a Summary of "Other" responses to the need for various TYPES OF FACILITIES.  
(87 respondents gave 108 responses. Only 107 stated age.)**

	18-49 n=43	50-59 n=29	60-69 n=22	70+ n=13	All Resps
Percent of age category that responded	59.7%	37.2%	33.8%	23.2%	
Facilities and/or activities for kids, teens, youth	16.3%	20.7%	27.3%	0.0%	17.6%
Need more: individual interests	14.0%	3.4%	13.6%	23.1%	12.0%
Too much golf	7.0%	10.3%	4.5%	15.4%	8.3%
More swimming accommodations	9.3%	10.3%	4.5%	0.0%	7.4%
General outdoor open areas	7.0%	10.3%	9.1%	0.0%	7.4%
Large indoor facility (several specific uses suggested)	9.3%	6.9%	4.5%	0.0%	6.5%
Specific hobbies	4.7%	3.4%	9.1%	15.4%	6.5%
More golf courses	2.3%	3.4%	9.1%	15.4%	5.6%
Specific commercial ventures	11.6%	0.0%	4.5%	0.0%	5.6%
Bicycle accommodations	7.0%	6.9%	0.0%	0.0%	4.6%
Too much tennis	2.3%	6.9%	4.5%	0.0%	3.7%
Sidewalks	2.3%	3.4%	4.5%	7.7%	3.7%
Boating accommodations	0.0%	10.3%	4.5%	0.0%	3.7%
Too much of something specific or just too much	4.7%	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%	3.7%
Public transportation	2.3%	0.0%	0.0%	7.7%	1.9%
Miscellaneous comments	0.0%	3.4%	0.0%	7.7%	1.9%

107 Total Responses

**10 How would you rate the MAINTENANCE of Palm Coast's parks and other recreational facilities? Would you say it was . . .**

	18-49 n=72	50-59 n=78	60-69 n=65	70+ n=56	All Resps
1 Excellent	23.6%	28.2%	23.1%	25.0%	24.8%
2 Good	47.2%	51.3%	53.8%	48.2%	50.4%
3 Satisfactory	11.1%	17.9%	18.5%	19.6%	16.4%
4 Not very good	12.5%	0.0%	3.1%	1.8%	4.4%
5 Poor	5.6%	1.3%	0.0%	1.8%	2.2%
6 Don't Know	0.0%	1.3%	1.5%	3.6%	1.8%

271 Total Responses

**11 How would you rate the QUALITY OF THE RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCE available at Palm Coast's parks and recreational facilities? Would you say it is . . .**

	18-49 n=72	50-59 n=78	60-69 n=65	70+ n=56	All Resps
1 Excellent	8.3%	14.1%	7.7%	12.5%	10.6%
2 Good	38.9%	46.2%	52.3%	51.8%	46.7%
3 Satisfactory	29.2%	28.2%	30.8%	17.9%	27.0%
4 Not very good	16.7%	6.4%	3.1%	5.4%	8.0%
5 Poor.	4.2%	1.3%	1.5%	3.6%	2.6%
6 Don't Know	2.8%	3.8%	4.6%	8.9%	5.1%

271 Total Responses



City of Palm Coast Survey of Residents  
Responses by Age - June 2008

**7 We just went through a long list of different recreational facilities. I would appreciate it if you would think back through that list for a moment and tell me which three of those you feel are most important to you and your family?**

	18-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All
<i>(includes only activities stated by respondents)</i>	<u>n=207</u>	<u>n=216</u>	<u>n=166</u>	<u>n=137</u>	<u>Resps</u>
34 Sidewalks	10.1%	7.4%	7.8%	5.8%	8.0%
41 Youth / Teen Centers	6.3%	6.9%	9.0%	11.7%	8.0%
3 Bicycle Riding / Skating Trails - Paved	6.3%	9.3%	8.4%	5.8%	7.6%
42 Other	5.8%	4.6%	6.6%	10.2%	6.7%
37 Swimming Pools / Aquatic Centers	5.8%	5.6%	4.8%	5.1%	5.4%
32 Senior Citizen Center	1.0%	3.2%	5.4%	13.1%	4.9%
19 Golf Courses	2.4%	4.6%	7.2%	5.1%	4.6%
22 Physical Fitness / Jogging and Hiking Trails - Paved	3.4%	5.1%	6.0%	2.2%	4.2%
36 Special Events Area / Outdoor Amphitheater	2.9%	5.6%	2.4%	4.4%	4.0%
21 Hiking / Nature Trails – Unpaved	2.9%	5.6%	2.4%	2.2%	3.4%
5 Boat Ramps	3.4%	3.7%	3.6%	2.2%	3.3%
29 Playgrounds or Tot lots	6.3%	2.3%	2.4%	0.0%	3.0%
4 Bicycle Trails - Unpaved	1.0%	4.2%	3.6%	2.9%	2.9%
9 Community / Recreation Centers	2.4%	1.4%	1.8%	5.1%	2.7%
14 Fishing Piers	1.4%	2.3%	3.6%	3.6%	2.6%
28 Picnic Areas	1.4%	1.9%	3.6%	2.9%	2.3%
1 Baseball/ Softball Fields	2.9%	0.9%	2.4%	2.2%	2.0%
27 Performance Center / Auditorium	1.4%	2.3%	2.4%	2.2%	2.0%
2 Basketball Courts	2.4%	1.9%	1.8%	0.7%	1.8%
24 Marina/ Boater Destination	2.4%	2.3%	1.2%	0.7%	1.8%
10 Covered Playgrounds	3.4%	0.9%	1.8%	0.0%	1.6%
11 Cultural Centers / Museums	1.9%	1.4%	0.6%	2.9%	1.6%
12 Dog Parks	1.0%	1.9%	3.0%	0.7%	1.6%
8 Canoeing or Kayaking Launches or Trails	2.4%	1.4%	1.2%	0.0%	1.4%
38 Tennis Courts	1.9%	1.9%	1.2%	0.0%	1.4%
20 Gymnasiums	1.0%	1.9%	0.6%	1.5%	1.2%
25 Multi-Purpose Sports Stadium	1.9%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	1.1%
30 Racquetball / Handball Courts	1.9%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	1.1%
35 Skateboard Parks	1.9%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	1.1%
15 Football	2.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.7%	1.0%
39 Therapeutic Recreational Facilities	1.4%	0.5%	1.8%	0.0%	1.0%
26 Paintball Parks	1.4%	0.9%	0.0%	0.7%	0.8%
18 General “Multi-Purpose” Play Fields	0.0%	0.5%	1.2%	1.5%	0.7%
7 Camping Sites	1.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
16 Soccer	0.5%	0.5%	0.0%	1.5%	0.5%
31 Roller Hockey Rinks	0.5%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
40 Volleyball Courts	1.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%
13 Equestrian Center	1.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
23 Horseback Riding Trails	0.5%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%
6 BMX Tracks	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%

726 Total Responses

City of Palm Coast Survey of Residents  
Responses by Age - June 2008

**9 Which age groups do you think are most in need of additional recreation services?**

	18-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All Resps
	<u>n=72</u>	<u>n=78</u>	<u>n=65</u>	<u>n=56</u>	
1 Youth	37.5%	16.7%	18.5%	19.6%	23.0%
2 Teens	47.2%	53.8%	41.5%	37.5%	46.0%
3 Adults	4.2%	10.3%	15.4%	3.6%	8.4%
4 Seniors.	5.6%	11.5%	21.5%	33.9%	16.8%
5 None, Don't Know, Refused	5.6%	7.7%	3.1%	5.4%	5.8%
271 Total Responses					

**13 And finally, is there one thing would you like to tell us about Palm Coast's Recreation and Parks facilities? (141 respondents gave 153 responses. Only 151 stated age.)**

	18-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All Resps
	<u>n=44</u>	<u>n=43</u>	<u>n=35</u>	<u>n=29</u>	
Percent of age category that responded	<u>61.1%</u>	<u>55.1%</u>	<u>53.8%</u>	<u>51.8%</u>	
Doing very well	15.9%	18.6%	25.7%	24.1%	20.9%
Suggestions for additional facilities	20.5%	25.6%	5.7%	17.2%	18.3%
Need more for kids, teens, youth	20.5%	20.9%	17.1%	10.3%	17.6%
Security; maintenance issues	13.6%	7.0%	8.6%	6.9%	9.2%
Suggestions\comments about City's mgt. approach	4.5%	4.7%	14.3%	17.2%	9.2%
Suggestions to improve current parks	9.1%	4.7%	11.4%	6.9%	7.8%
They are well maintained	4.5%	4.7%	8.6%	3.4%	5.2%
More for senior citizens	0.0%	4.7%	8.6%	3.4%	3.9%
public transportation; sidewalks	4.5%	4.7%	0.0%	0.0%	2.6%
Miscellaneous comments	2.3%	4.7%	0.0%	3.4%	2.6%
Want more nightlife, commercial attractions	4.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.3%
Should have better information about parks & activi	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.9%	1.3%
151 Total Responses					

**Respondents' ZIP Codes**

	18-49	50-59	60-69	70+	All Resps
	<u>n=72</u>	<u>n=78</u>	<u>n=65</u>	<u>n=56</u>	
32137	38.9%	47.4%	41.5%	44.6%	43.4%
32164	61.1%	52.6%	58.5%	55.4%	56.6%
271 Total Responses					

# City of Palm Coast Recreational Facilities and Parks Master Plans

ACTIVITY BASED PARKS (acres)	Park Name	Ownership	PARK TYPE	Support Structures	Support Structures										Fields and Courts	Other Facilities										Access and Trails	Access and Trails																				
					Community Center	Restrooms	Concession	Group Picnic Pavilion	Gymnasium	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Area	Stadium	Multi-Purpose Fields (# Fields)	Baseball (# Fields)		Softball (# Fields)	Batting Cages	Football / Soccer (# Fields)	Bocce Ball - (# Courts)	Basketball - 1/2 size(# Courts)	Basketball (# Courts)	Racquetball (# Courts)	Rollerhockey (# Courts)	Tennis (# Courts)	Volleyball (# Courts)		Open play Area	Swimming Pool (# Facilities)	Aquatics Center (# Facilities)	Dog Park (# Parks)	Golf Course_9 hole course (# )	Golf Course_18 hole course (# )	Horseshoes (# Courts)	Shuffleboard (# Courts)	Skate Park (# Parks)	Beach Access (# Miles)	Campsite (# Acres)	Boat Ramp (# Ramps)	Picnic Area < 2 tables (# Areas)	Playground (# Play Areas)	Beach Parking (# spaces)	Water Access ( Non Beach )	Multi-Purpose Path (# Miles)	Equestrian Trail (# Miles)	Exercise Trail (# )	Nature Trail (# )	Running Track (Y / N)
47.98	Palm Coast Tennis Center	City	SPECIAL USE FACILITY	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
10.90	Belle Terre Park/ Frieda Zamba Pool	City	COMMUNITY PARK	.	1	1	.	4	.	2	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	2	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.2	.	.	.	.	.		
1.00	Heroes Memorial Park	City	SPECIAL USE FACILITY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.		
26.75	Holland Park - James F. Holland Memorial Park	City	COMMUNITY PARK	.	1	3	.	1	.	4	.	.	.	2	2	.	2	4	.	3	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
50.37	Indian Trails Sports Complex	City	SPECIAL USE FACILITY	.	.	3	1	2	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.2	.	.	.	.	.	
4.79	Palm Coast Community Center Park	City	COMMUNITY PARK	.	1	1	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
	Palm Coast Linear Park/ St. Joe Walkway	City	ESL/ OPEN SPACE	.	.	1	1	3	.	.	3	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	2.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
160.00	Palm Harbor Golf Course	City	SPECIAL USE FACILITY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
7.56	Pine Lakes Parkway Multi-Purpose Trail	City	OPEN SPACE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
13.12	Ralph Carter Park	City	COMMUNITY PARK	.	.	1	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	0.5	.	.	.	.	.		
12.40	Seminole Woods Neighborhood Park	City	NEIGHBORHOOD PARK			1		1						1		1			1													1						0.5									
15.63	Town Center Central Park		SPECIAL USE FACILITY																																												
350.50	TOTAL DEVELOPED PARK LAND BY CLASSIFICATION				3	12	2	13	0	8	3			0	6	2	3	0	8	3	0	5	6	0	17	2	0																				
521.01	TOTAL DEVELOPED PARK LAND																																														
	Big Mullberry Creek Trail	City	OPEN SPACE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Bird of Paradise Nature Reserve	City	NEIGHBORHOOD PARK	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
14.59	Cypress Knoll/ East Hampton	City	COMMUNITY PARK	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
32.71	Indian Trails Park	City	COMMUNITY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
56.48	JX Propoerties - DRI			.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	JX Propoerties - DRI			.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
1.52	Canoe Launch at Cobblestone	City	SPECIAL USE FACILITY	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Longs Creek/ Loungs Landing	City	ESL/ OPEN SPACE	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
12.40	Matanzas Woods	City	COMMUNITY CENTER	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
40.00	Palm Coast DRI Community Park	City	COMMUNITY PARK	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.																												



## City of Palm Coast Recreational Facilities and Parks Master Plans

[illegible]



**GLATTING JACKSON KERCHER ANGLIN**

we plan and design livable communities

in strategic association with:

Dickinson Consulting Inc.