

**Recreation  
&  
Open Space Element  
Goals, Objectives & Policies**

# Recreation & Open Space Element Goals, Objectives and Policies

163.3177(6)(e)

## ROS Overall Goal

To provide adequate open space, parks and recreation facilities to serve the needs of all Bunnell residents.

## Level of Service Standards for Parks

### ROS Objective 1.1

To ensure adequate lands are provided for parks, the City shall utilize level of service standards for parks and other criteria specific to population, park size and location. For purposes of implementing this objective, the City may utilize parklands under the jurisdiction of Flagler County and public parks provided within residential developments.

### ROS Policy 1.1.1

To ensure that park facilities keep pace with the impacts of sustained growth and to plan for future parks and open space facilities, the City adopts the following level of service standards (LOS):

- Neighborhood Parks: LOS standard of 1 acre per 1,000 people
- Community Parks: LOS standard of 3 acres per 1,000 people
- Regional Parks: LOS standard of 30 acres per 1,000 people

### ROS Policy 1.1.2

The City of Bunnell shall utilize the following guidelines for determining the type and location for parklands:

- Neighborhood Parks: A facility that is located in or adjacent to neighborhoods and is no greater than one-half mile from those residents. The minimum size of a neighborhood park is 1 acre. Typical facilities provided include playgrounds, multi-purpose courts, picnic areas, walkways, benches and pavilions and open or free play areas.
- Community Parks: A facility designed to serve more than one neighborhood. Located no more than three (3) mile service radius in urban areas and six (6) mile service radius in rural areas. Typical facilities found in community parks are designed to serve the entire family and include both passive and active recreation opportunities such as playground areas, indoor recreation facilities, sport-specific fields, swimming pools, paved multi-purpose courts, picnic areas, and open or free play areas.

- **Regional Parks:** A resource-based park that focuses on natural features and is typically coupled with other environmentally sensitive lands for enhanced protection. The minimum size of a regional park is fifty acres and is within a sixty minute drive. Resource-based parks are typically located near a specific natural feature: river, forest or lake; activities include camping, canoeing, fishing, and equestrian.

### **ROS Policy 1.1.3**

The Land Development Code shall address standards for park development and improvements, which shall include buffering, landscaping, parking and siting facilities.

### **ROS Policy 1.1.4**

The City shall utilize the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) as a guideline to assist in the evaluation of existing facilities and siting new parks and improvements.

## **Natural Areas and Open Space**

### **ROS Objective 1.2**

The City shall protect, enhance and expand natural areas and open spaces.

#### **ROS Policy 1.2.1**

The City shall continue to investigate and utilize local, state and federal funding programs to enhance, acquire and expand recreation and open space facilities and natural reservations.

#### **ROS Policy 1.2.2**

The City shall actively pursue coordination with Flagler County to encourage that the County future land use map provides for areas to be reserved for neighborhood and community parks in the vicinity of Bunnell.

#### **ROS Policy 1.2.3**

The City shall encourage greenways and a recreational trail system that provide extensions or connections to existing adjacent municipality, county and state trails.

#### **ROS Policy 1.2.4**

The City shall maximize the use of existing recreation space by promoting recreation activities and programs.

### **ROS Policy 1.2.5**

The City shall utilize community meetings and surveys to assess the use of existing facilities and recreation preferences.

### **ROS Policy 1.2.6**

The City shall work towards coordinating with Flagler County, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP), St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) to encourage the acquisition and management of environmentally sensitive open space.

## **Park Maintenance**

### **ROS Objective 1.3**

The City shall maintain and improve all City parks in a manner that is consistent with the recreation needs of City residents and shall maximize the potential of the individual facilities.

#### **ROS Policy 1.3.1**

The City's parks and recreational facilities shall be renovated and/or upgraded as needed to provide improved recreational opportunities.

#### **ROS Policy 1.3.2**

The City shall maintain an inventory of the location, size, condition and amenities available at each public park. This inventory shall be updated annually.

## **Joint Use of Facilities**

### **ROS Objective 1.4**

The City shall continue to coordinate with the public and private sector to avoid duplication of recreation facilities. This shall include provisions for joint use of school board or other public agencies' recreation facilities to meet the recreation demands of the City's citizens.

#### **ROS Policy 1.4.1**

The City shall coordinate with private developers to provide public recreation facilities within their development.

#### **ROS Policy 1.4.2**

The City shall utilize the LOS standards to recommend recreation improvements located within

private developments.

### **ROS Policy 1.4.3**

The City shall strengthen coordination with the Flagler County School Board, including consideration of an interlocal agreement, to allow the use of school board facilities by the general public.

### **ROS Policy 1.4.4**

The City shall pursue an interlocal agreement with the County and adjacent municipalities for the purpose of using their parks for organized recreation activities for Bunnell residents.

## **Accessibility**

### **ROS Objective 1.5**

Within the planning timeframe, all recreation and open space areas shall be evaluated as to their accessibility to all Bunnell residents regardless of physical condition, age or economic condition as outlined in the uniform federal accessibility standards.

#### **ROS Policy 1.5.1**

All City parks and open space shall provide unobstructed access, when reasonably possible, through the following procedures:

- Existing facilities shall be evaluated and improved, if necessary, within the planning timeframe.
- Any new roadway or sidewalk construction required to access future sites shall be improved to engineering standards established in the Land Development Code.

#### **ROS Policy 1.5.2**

Any park undergoing renovation shall incorporate wheelchair and bicycle access.

#### **ROS Policy 1.5.3**

Within the planning timeframe, bicycle racks and park benches shall be provided at all recreation sites.