

**COLLIER COUNTY  
GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

**Prepared By  
Collier County Planning Services Department  
Comprehensive Planning Section**

**Prepared for  
COLLIER COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
Adopted October, 1997**

**AMENDMENTS TO COLLIER COUNTY GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN  
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Date Amended</b>	<b>Ordinance No.</b>
<b>**</b>	<b>October 28, 1997</b>	<b>Ordinance No. 1997-53</b>
<b>(I)</b>	<b>December 16, 2003</b>	<b>Ordinance No. 2003-67</b>
<b>(II)</b>	<b>January 25, 2007</b>	<b>***Ordinance No. 2007-15</b>
<b>(III)</b>	<b>October 14, 2008</b>	<b>Ordinance No. 2008-59</b>

**\*\*\*Based on 2004 EAR, Evaluation and Appraisal Report**

**\*\* This is the EAR-based amendment (1996 EAR). Due to the magnitude of the changes - which included reformatting the entire Element, affecting every page of the Element - a Roman Numeral is not assigned.**

**\* Indicates adopted portions  
Note: the support document will be updated as current information becomes available.**

**(III) = Plan Amendment by Ordinance No. 2008- 59 on October 14, 2008**

**(II) INTRODUCTION:**

**(II)** Chapter 163.3177(6)(e), Florida Statutes, requires each local government comprehensive plan to have “A recreation and open space element indicating a comprehensive system of public and private sites for recreation, including, but not limited to, natural reservations, parks and playgrounds, parkways, beaches and public access to beaches, open spaces, and other recreational facilities.” However, Chapter 9J-5.014, Florida Administrative Code, which formerly contained the Florida Department of Community Affairs’ “Minimum Standards” for review of local Recreation and Open Space Elements, has been deleted. Thus, while the Recreation and Open Space Element remains a requirement for local comprehensive plans in the State of Florida, the format and contents of such an Element may be tailored to local needs, provided that the intent of the Statute is met. This Recreation and Open Space Element was recently updated, as recommended by the Community Character/ Smart Growth Advisory Committee, by Ordinance No. 2003-67, adopted on December 16, 2003, to further implement the Collier County Community Character Plan and “Smart Growth” principles.

**(II)** The Recreation and Open Space Element is divided into three sections, each of which is guided by a specific goal. These three sections are:

- The general provision of parks, recreation facilities and open space areas for the use and enjoyment of Collier County residents and visitors.
- The development of a countywide neighborhood park system.
- The development of a countywide regional and community park system.

**(II)** Within Collier County government, the responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the above goals is assigned to the Collier County Parks and Recreation Department, which is part of the Public Services Division.

**(II) = Plan Amendment on January 25, 2007 by Ordinance 2007-15  
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES  
RECREATION & OPEN SPACE ELEMENT**

**GOAL 1: PROVIDE SUFFICIENT PARKS, RECREATION FACILITIES AND OPEN SPACE AREAS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF RESIDENTS AND VISITORS OF COLLIER COUNTY.**

**OBJECTIVE 1.1:**

Continue to ensure that a comprehensive system of parks and recreation facilities is available from among facilities provided by the County, other governmental bodies and the private sector.

**(II) Policy 1.1.1:**

Collier County hereby adopts the following level of service standards for facilities and land owned by the County or available to the general public:

**LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD:**

- (II) A.** 1.2882 acres of community park land/1,000 population (unincorporated)
- (II) B.** 2.9412 acres of regional park land/1,000 population
- (II) C.** Recreation facilities – Facilities in place, which have a value (as (X) defined) of at least \$270.00 per capita of population. A Construction Cost Index (CCI) adjustment will be used to determine the construction cost of facilities planned. The CCI that will be used will be the prior year of the County's fiscal year budget.
  - (II) 1.** Value will be arrived at using the per unit values for each facility type available in the County, as set forth in the Annual Update and Inventory Report (AUIR), applying the values to the number of each facility type, adding up all values and dividing the total by the County population.
  - 2.** Where recreation facilities provided by other governmental bodies or the private sector are available through arrangement with the County to the public on a convenient basis, they shall be considered in measuring in-place facility value.

**Policy 1.1.2:**

Encourage the continuation and expanded use of public school and other public and private facilities by the general public to maximize the benefit from available facilities.

**Policy 1.1.3:**

Ensure that economically disadvantaged individuals will not be restricted from any participation due to financial hardships.

**Policy 1.1.4**

Acquire suitable lands for new park sites in areas where major population growth is expected.

**(II) = Plan Amendment adopted on January 25, 2007 Ordinance No. 2007-15**

**Policy 1.1.5:**

Continue to correct or improve existing parks and recreation facilities deficiencies which are necessary in order to meet the level of service standards.

**Policy 1.1.6:**

The County shall continue to establish and implement a program with appropriate criteria to designate or acquire open space areas and natural reservations.

**OBJECTIVE 1.2:**

Protect designated recreation sites and open space from incompatible land uses through development of appropriate design criteria and land use regulations.

**Policy 1.2.1:**

Continue to update land development regulations outlining specific definitions and standards applying to recreation and open space land provisions for natural reservations and open space.

**(II) Policy 1.2.2:**

The proper Collier County Zoning District for all County-owned parks and recreational sites shall continue to be P, Public Use, or the equivalent zoning designation within a Planned Unit Development.

**OBJECTIVE 1.3:**

Continue to ensure that all public developed recreational facilities, open space and beaches and public water bodies are accessible to the general public.

**(II) Policy 1.3.1:**

County-owned or managed parks and recreation facilities shall have automobile, bicycle and/or pedestrian access, where the location is appropriate and where such access is economically feasible.

**(II) Policy 1.3.2:**

Collier County shall continue to ensure that access to beaches, shores and waterways remains available to the public. Further the County will develop a program to assess the availability of land for the creation of new access points, and a method to fund the necessary land acquisition.

**OBJECTIVE 1.4:**

Continue formal mechanism to improve and coordinate efforts among levels of government and the private sector in order to provide recreational opportunities.

**(II) Policy 1.4.1:**

Through the land development review process, Collier County shall continue to encourage developers to provide recreation sites and/or facilities within residential and mixed use Planned Unit Developments (PUDs).

**(II) = Plan Amendment adopted on January 25, 2007 Ordinance No. 2007-15**

**(II)(III) Policy 1.4.2:**

Collier County shall continue to coordinate the provision of recreational facilities and activities with other governmental jurisdictions that own or operate such facilities and activities within, or adjacent to, Collier County. Said governmental entities shall include, but not necessarily be limited to:

- (II) U.S. Department of Commerce, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 U.S. Department of the Interior, The National Park Service  
 The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks  
 Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Forestry  
 Lee County, Florida  
 Hendry County, Florida  
 Broward County, Florida
- (III) Miami-Dade County, Florida  
 Monroe County, Florida  
 The South Florida Water Management District, Big Cypress Basin Board  
 The Collier County School Board  
 The City of Naples, Florida  
 The City of Marco Island, Florida  
 Everglades City, Florida  
 The City of Bonita Springs, Florida

(II) **OBJECTIVE 1.5:**  
 Through the PUD monitoring process, Collier County shall continue to enforce developer commitments for the provision of parks, recreation facilities and open space.

(II) **Policy 1.5.1:**  
 Collier County shall maintain a current inventory of recreational facility commitments made by developers through the development review process.

(II) **Policy 1.5.2:**  
 Collier County shall enforce developer commitments for recreational facilities and open space through appropriate actions of County agencies.

**OBJECTIVE 1.6:**  
 Whenever possible and practical, utilize County owned property for recreational uses.

**Policy 1.6.1:**  
 Continue to coordinate inventory of properties with appropriate County and State agencies to determine availability for recreation uses.

(I)(II) **GOAL 2:**  
**THE COUNTY SHALL PROMOTE A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK SYSTEM TO MEET THE RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF RESIDENTS WITHIN THE COUNTY.**

(III) = Plan Amendment by Ordinance No. 2008-59 on October 14, 2008

(I)(II) **OBJECTIVE 2.1:**  
 By the year 2010, the County Parks and Recreation Department will identify general areas where neighborhoods might request sites for future neighborhood parks.

(I)(II) **Policy 2.1.1:**

The Parks and Recreation Department will identify those sites or general areas for neighborhood parks with citizen input to determine the types of recreational facilities particular communities would like to see within their neighborhoods.

**(I)(II) Policy 2.1.2:**

The County shall amend the Land Development Code to require the developer of a residential PUD, or a PUD having a residential component, to provide its residents and guests with a suitable neighborhood park, as determined on a case-by-case basis, which is, as required by Policy 5.4 in the Future Land Use Element, compatible with the surrounding development.

**(I)(II) Policy 2.1.3**

New neighborhood parks will be carefully sited and intentionally integrated into existing residential neighborhoods, and shall be designed according to the principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED), where these principles are appropriate and economically feasible. Neighborhood parks may also be co-located with churches, schools, or other recreational facilities.

**(I)(II) Policy 2.1.4:**

The County shall investigate the utilization of tax credits or other incentives for property owners who wish to dedicate land to the County to meet the recreational needs of neighborhood parks.

**(I)(II) Policy 2.1.5:**

The County shall encourage the development of pedestrian pathways and bike lanes from the surrounding residential communities to park sites.

**(I) GOAL 3: THE COUNTY SHALL DEVELOP A COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL PARK SYSTEM TO PROVIDE USEABLE OPEN SPACE TO MEET THE RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF RESIDENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY.**

**(I)(II) OBJECTIVE 3.1:**

By the year 2010, the Parks and Recreation Department will develop a Community and Regional Park Plan to provide larger parks and recreational facilities as well as passive open space within a 15 to 20 minute drive of residents within the coastal Urban Designated Area, the Immokalee Urban Designated Area, and Northern Golden Gate Estates (this excludes Conservation designated areas, Agricultural/Rural designated areas, Southern Golden Gate Estates, and the outlying Urban Designated Areas of Copeland, Port of the Islands, Plantation Island and Chokoloskee). This plan will include the identification of future community and regional park sites (or general areas), park improvements, cost estimates, and potential funding sources. The principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) will be integrated into the planning and development of the Community and Regional Park sites.

**(II) = Plan Amendment adopted on January 25, 2007 by Ordinance No. 2007-15**

**(I)(II) Policy 3.1.1:**

The Parks and Recreation Department will acquire land to meet the needs of the Community and Regional Park Plan, including sufficient land to allow for a portion of these sites to remain in passive open space.

**(I)(II) Policy 3.1.2:**

The Parks and Recreation Department will be responsible for the design and construction of all new community and regional parks.

**(I)(II) Policy 3.1.3:**

The County shall continue to partner with Collier County Public Schools to co-locate parks in conjunction with new school sites as such sites are identified and developed and/or to provide County recreational programs at Collier County Public Schools' facilities.

**(I)(II) Policy 3.1.4:**

The County shall continue to update parks and recreation impact fees to keep pace with increased land acquisition and development costs for the establishment of community and regional parks.

**(I)(II) Policy 3.1.5:**

The County shall investigate the utilization of tax credits or other incentives to encourage property owners to dedicate land to the County to meet the recreational needs of community and regional parks.

**(I)(II) Policy 3.1.6**

The County shall encourage the development of pedestrian pathways and bike lanes from the surrounding residential communities to park sites where general public access can be supported.

**(I)(II)(III) Policy 3.1.7**

By the year 2010, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Transportation Services Division will investigate the utilization of the existing canal and power line easements to create a greenway system within the coastal Urban Designated Area, the Immokalee Urban Designated Area, and Northern Golden Gate Estates (this excludes Conservation designated areas, Agricultural/Rural designated areas, Southern Golden Gate Estates, and the outlying Urban designated areas of Copeland, Port of the Islands, Plantation Island and Chokoloskee).

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