



# COLLIER COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

January 2011

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACS = American Community Survey

AMI = Area Median Income

AUIR = Annual Update and Inventory Report

CAT = Collier Area Transit

CIE = Capital Improvements Element

ESRI = Environmental Systems Research Institute

LOS = Level of Service

LOSS = Level of Service Standard

LRTP = Long Range Transportation Plan

TAZ = Traffic Analysis Zone



## Executive Summary

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The purpose of this Executive Summary is to provide an overview of each section of the Collier County 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

## SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

The Collier County Parks and Recreation Department's focus is to provide the public, both residents and visitors, with unique recreation experiences. The County's parks and recreation facilities contribute to the health of the community's residents, enhance the integrity and quality of the natural environment, and attract visitors to the community, thereby contributing to local tourism and economic development. To optimize the County's existing parks and recreation resources and assets, as well as to strategically plan for the immediate future, the County has retained Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc. (TOA) to assist in the preparation of a 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan (referred to hereinafter as the Master Plan). The results of this short-term Master Plan will be folded into the County's Master Mobility Plan to be conducted in 2011. The Master Mobility Plan will be a longer-term vision plan for the County, identifying and coordinating infrastructure needs, including those for parks and recreation, necessary to serve the County's projected build-out population.

## SECTION 2: DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

An analysis of demographic conditions is pertinent to the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The county's demographic and socioeconomic profile provides insight into the composition of the county's population, enhancing the understanding of citizen needs and providing a framework for the needs and analysis and, ultimately, a list of recommendations. Demographic and socioeconomic variables reviewed as part of this analysis include:

- Population estimates and growth projections
- Age
- Income

The demographic analysis completed for the Master Plan provides the following conclusions:

- Historically, the majority of population growth in Collier County has occurred within the traditionally urbanized area. To a lesser extent, population growth will continue in this area, mainly through infill and redevelopment; however, the highest concentration of growth and new development over the next five years is projected to occur in the Golden Gate Estates area, then extending into the Immokalee and Ave Maria areas in the subsequent five-year period.
- Although population growth is projected to occur in Collier County, especially east of CR 951, very minimal increases in overall population density are projected over the next 10 years.

- Currently, nearly 75 percent of Collier County's residents are younger than age 65. Based on previous trends, the average age of Collier County residents is expected to increase in the future, along with the percentage of residents age 65 years and older. However, the overall population of Collier County is projected to continue growing, and there is no supporting data to suggest that this trend will be sustained indefinitely. The trending age increases over the past 20 years are likely attributed to the "baby boomers" reaching retirement age.
- A comparison of age data between 1990 and 2009 indicates the following:
  - There is an increased percentage of residents under 5 years of age in the northwest area of the county and a decreased percentage in the urbanized area.
  - The area northeast of Naples has experienced a decline in the total percentage of residents between 5 and 19 years of age, while The Estates area has maintained a consistently high percentage of residents between 5 and 19 years.
  - The percentage of total population within the 20-64 years age category has declined with the exception of the far northeast county, far northwest county, east of Naples, and The Estates area.
  - The majority of persons within the 65 years or older age category live in the urbanized areas of Collier County. Within the urbanized area, there appears to be increased percentages of residents age 65 and older in the central area, while the area east of CR 951 maintains the lowest percentage of residents age 65 and older.
- Collier County's median household income continues to grow at a faster pace than Florida's. In Collier County, the highest rate of growth is observed in household income greater than \$75,000.
- Areas with median household incomes of \$50,000 or less are mainly located in the greater Immokalee area, East Naples (in particularly south of US 41), and the area surrounding I-75/west of CR 951. These areas also stand out as those with higher percentages of households with an average income of 80 percent or less of the AMI.

## SECTION 3: EXISTING AND PLANNED INVENTORY

The residents of and visitors to Collier County are provided a significant selection of parks and recreation facilities and activities, ranging from beach access to trails and open space to active recreation facilities. Current inventories for several different types of parks and recreation facilities are provided, including:

- Water Access
- Resource-Based Parks (Federal and State Park Land)
- Conservation Land
- User-Oriented Parks (Regional and Community Parks)
- Undeveloped Park Land/Planned Capital Improvements

The purpose of this Master Plan is to identify and prioritize user-oriented type parks, which are provided by Collier County, the School District Board of Collier County (through interlocal agreement), and the municipalities within Collier County. Consistent with the County's planning practices, recommendations for this Master Plan will consider only community and regional parks within Collier County, as neighborhood parks are designed to serve a small geographic area and are being provided more frequently by developers to serve a subdivision.

In addition, the current inventory of resource-based park land is likely to remain constant, and the inventory of conservation land may increase incrementally as the county grows towards its estimated build-out population of approximately 950,000 residents. As such, the existing resource-based park land will serve not only the current population but the build-out population as well.

In September 2010, Collier County released an updated Boat and Beach Access Report, the purpose of which is to assess Collier County's performance in providing beach access and boat launch facilities to County residents and visitors. This report looks at the county's existing boat and beach access inventory, existing and projected capacity needs, and level of service (LOS). In addition to current projects to expand the access to open water and the beaches, the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report include several recommendations improvements. Therefore, to not duplicate effort concerning planning for boat and beach access cites, the recommendations included in the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report are incorporated into the Master Plan.

Collier County has identified regional park land acquisitions planned over the next 10 years in its 2010 Annual Update and Inventory Report (AUIR). There are no proposed community park land acquisitions identified in the 2010 AUIR. It is important to note that the planned regional park land acquisitions are not land purchases, but are an interdepartmental transfer, lease, or developer contribution. Therefore, these acquisitions are not direct expenditures within the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan.

The County Parks and Recreation Department has identified several capital projects planned for the next 10 years, should funding be available. These are major projects and do not include minor capital projects (e.g., parking lot expansion, additional restroom facility, etc.) These projects include:

- Develop Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park
- Develop Manatee Community Park

- Construct Eagle Lakes Community Center and Swimming Pool Complex
- Develop Vanderbilt Extension Community Park
- Acquire beach and boat access

## SECTION 4: NEEDS ANALYSIS

An analysis was conducted to determine the needs of Collier County park land and recreation facilities over the next 10 years. The needs analysis consists of three parts:

- Analysis of park land needs
- Analysis of driving distance to parks and recreation facilities (drive-time analysis)
- Current utilization of recreation facilities

The results of the needs analysis are used to develop the Master Plan recommendations. The results of the needs analysis also are compared to the input received from the focus group (discussed in Section 5) to validate the Master Plan recommendations or to determine if additional needs identified by the focus group should be considered.

### Park Land Needs Analysis

Based on a review of the regional park acreage planned to be acquired by the County over the next 10 years, as provided in the County's 2010 Annual Update and Inventory Report (AUIR), it is determined that Collier County will be very close to meeting the required 2020 regional park acreage based on the adopted LOS. Over the next 10 years, the County will continue to exceed the required community park acreage thru its existing inventory. However, the location of the planned park land acquisitions is equally, if not more important than the quantity of land to be acquired.

Of the 302.5 acres of regional park land planned to be acquired by 2020, approximately 83 percent is located in areas of the highest projected growth over the next 10 years. This indicates that the County is effectively planning for future population growth by proactively acquiring regional park land concurrent with areas of future growth.

In addition, based on a comparison of location of planned parks and recreation capital projects relative to projected population growth, the County has identified capital projects that are consistent with areas of future growth within Collier County.

### Drive-Time Analysis

Collier County's Growth Management Plan, Recreation and Open Space Element includes Objective 3.1 targets a 15-20 minute drive time to community parks, regional parks, and open space within the coastal Urban Designated Area, the Immokalee Urban Designated Area, and Northern Golden Gate Estates.

To determine if the above currently is being met, a drive-time analysis was completed for the following:

- Regional and Community Parks (combined)
- Athletic Fields
- Hard Courts
- Aquatic Recreation Facilities
- Miscellaneous Facilities

Because of the extensive parks and recreation system in Collier County, a significant portion of the county's current residents and visitors have access to at least one, if not more, parks and associated recreation facilities within a 15-20 minute drive time. As such, for purposes of this Master Plan, the drive-time analysis was expanded to show the differential drive time for several tiers: 0-5 minutes, 5-10 minutes, 10-15 minutes, 15-20 minutes, and greater than 20 minutes.

Results of the drive-time analysis indicate the following.

## Future Park Land

- Area of Immediate Need –The drive time analysis indicates that the coverage area of existing community parks relative to existing county population is very good; however, a significant portion of the existing population lacks the presence of a regional park, including The Estates, Corkscrew, and Immokalee. Regional park land planned to be acquired over the next 10 years, including Big Corkscrew Island, Pulling Park, and Big Cypress, could address the lack of regional park land in these areas.
- Area of Future Growth – Population projections indicate future growth along the US 41 corridor. The County is proposing development of a passive park (Manatee Community Park) along US 41 south of CR 951 that would serve many of the existing and future residents along this portion of the US 41 corridor. Collier-Seminole State Park is located off US 41 south of CR 92; however, there are no active recreation facilities (i.e., athletic fields, hard courts, aquatic facilities, etc.) at this state park, and future development along this corridor likely will result in a need for additional active recreation facilities in this area. As such, the County should evaluate if the acreage at Manatee Community Park is sufficient to provide both passive and active facilities, or if additional community park land along the US 41 corridor is needed to provide additional “active” recreational facilities.
- Area of Future Growth – Population projections indicate future growth in the surrounding Everglades Boulevard. Future regional parks, including Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress, will provide park land and recreational facilities in proximity to this area.

## Athletic Fields and Hard Courts

- Area of Immediate Need –The drive time analysis indicates that the coverage area of existing athletic fields and hard courts relative to existing county population is very good. There are few areas with existing population that are not within 15 minutes of an athletic field or hard court.
- Area of Future Growth – Athletic fields and hard courts located at future community parks such as Manatee Community Park or another future community park located further south along US 41 will address facility needs related to future population growth along US 41.
- Area of Future Growth – Athletic fields and hard courts located at future regional parks such as Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress will address facility needs related to future population growth surrounding Everglades Boulevard and also help to alleviate usage at existing facilities.

## Aquatic Facilities

- Area of Immediate Need – An aquatic facility is needed to serve the existing population of northern Golden Gate Estates. This currently populated area is just outside the urban area of the county and has limited access to any of the existing public aquatic facilities. The inclusion of an Interactive Water Feature or Splash Play Area at the proposed Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park would provide northern Golden Gate Estates with a local aquatic facility.
- Area of Immediate Need – The drive-time analysis indicates that an aquatic facility is needed to serve the residents of Marco Island, which would fall under the responsibility of the City of Marco Island.
- Area of Future Growth – An aquatic facility, such as an Interactive Water Feature or Splash Play Area, located at future community parks such as Manatee Community Park or another future community park located further south along US 41 will address facility needs related to future population growth along US 41.
- Area of Future Growth – An aquatic facility, such as an Interactive Water Feature or Splash Play Area, at future regional parks such as Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress will address aquatic facilities needs related to future population growth surrounding Everglades Boulevard.

## Miscellaneous Facilities

- Area of Immediate Need – Miscellaneous recreation facilities (i.e., recreation centers, playgrounds, multi-use trails, etc.) are needed to serve the existing population of northern Golden Gate Estates. This currently populated area is just outside the urban area of the county and has limited access to miscellaneous facilities at other parks. The inclusion of facilities such

as recreation centers, playgrounds, and multi-use trails at the proposed Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park would relieve this deficit.

- Area of Future Growth – Miscellaneous recreation facilities (e.g., recreation centers, playgrounds, and multi-use trails) located at future community parks such as Manatee Community Park or another future community park located further south along US 41 will address facility needs related to future population growth along US 41.
- Area of Future Growth – Miscellaneous recreation facilities, such as recreation centers, playgrounds, multi-use trails, etc., at future regional parks such as Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress will address aquatic facilities needs related to future population growth surrounding Everglades Boulevard.

## Utilization Analysis

The drive-time analysis provides information as to whether the inventory of existing user-oriented parks, as well as recreational facilities within those parks, are located in areas that provide reasonable access to the majority of County residents. However, the need for recreational facilities should not only be determined by the location of existing facilities, but the extent to which these facilities are currently being used.

To examine the current utilization of the County's recreational facilities, usage information provided by Collier County Parks and Recreation Department was reviewed. The County currently maintains weekly usage information for athletic fields at County community and regional parks. Therefore, utilization analyses were conducted for baseball/softball/little league fields and football/soccer/multi-use fields for parks where utilization data are collected and available for analysis.

For purposes of the utilization analysis, athletic fields are defined as being "over-utilized" if usage is at or exceeds 95 percent of available hours. The utilization analysis also looks at usage both on a quarterly as well as annual basis. The results of the analysis indicate the following:

- Baseball and softball fields in Collier County are not currently experiencing utilization issues based on annual utilization data, with the exception of softball fields at Vineyards Community Park; however, baseball and softball fields at certain parks were over-utilized based on quarterly data.
- There are moderate annual utilization issues for little league and multi-use fields.
- There are significant annual utilization issues for football/soccer fields throughout Collier County.

## SECTION 5: FOCUS GROUP

As part of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan effort, a focus group meeting was conducted to gain input from a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties. The goal of the focus group was two-fold: first, to provide educational information on the Master Plan process to selected participants, and second, for participants to then identify and prioritize the parks and recreation needs of Collier County over the next 10 years. A total of 74 individuals were invited to attend the focus group, representing a wide variety of agencies, organizations, and interests. Overall, 27 participants attended the focus group, which was held in the Exhibit Hall at North Collier Regional Park on Thursday, October 14, 2010.

The reoccurring themes of the focus group included the following related to parks and recreation:

1. What do we want?
2. Where and when do we want it?
3. How do we get there?

Input received from the focus group participants is used to confirm the results of the Needs Analysis discussed in Chapter 4 and to determine if any additional recommendations should be considered for the Master Plan.

**What do we want?** – Focus group participants indicated that they would like to see the County maintain the high quality of parks, facilities, and programs currently being provided, while maximizing use of existing land for additional active and passive facilities. While noting that County financial resources are becoming more strained, participants did indicate they would like to see more staff presence at parks and more emphasis on maintaining the existing assets.

**Where and when do we want it?** – When removing land acquisition at Vanderbilt Beach from consideration, due to it being funded by a separate dedicated funding source, Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park was the top priority for future capital projects for three out of the four break-out groups. The general consensus of the break-out groups indicated that development of Vanderbilt Community Extension and Manatee Community Park is not needed within the next 10 years and these projects have a lower priority than development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park or construction of a community/fitness center and swimming pool at Eagle Lakes Community Park.

**How do we get there?** – The focus groups agreed that the County should continue to leverage existing local revenue sources for parks (i.e., impact fees, tourist development council, and grants/other miscellaneous revenue sources), especially since impact fees are mainly used to pay the County's current parks and recreation debt. The participants had varying support for the potential local revenue sources presented during the focus group, and even those participants who personally supported one or more of the potential revenue sources for parks expressed doubt about any widespread support for a

new tax or assessment given the current economy. However, the groups did agree that the County should pursue user fees and income from sporting events and tournaments to help fund park capital and maintenance needs.

## SECTION 6: MASTER PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of the demographic analysis and needs analysis, as well as input received by the focus group participants, the following strategic recommendations are included in the Collier County 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

### Development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park

The need for development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park is based on the following.

- The development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park will address the lack of regional park presence in a significant area of the county, including The Estates, Corkscrew, and Immokalee, which accounts for approximately one-half of the County's current residential population.
- This park will serve an area that is projected to have the most significant population growth in the county over the next 10 years.
- This park will provide relief to over-utilized football/soccer and multi-use fields as well as help prevent over-utilization of other facilities.
- There is currently no aquatic recreation or miscellaneous facilities available within this area.

When removing beach land acquisition from consideration, due to it being funded by a separate dedicated funding source, Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park was the top priority for three out of the four break-out groups. These three groups cited a need for a regional park in northern Golden Gate Estates to serve both the existing and projected population in this area. The focus group participants confirm the findings of the Demographic and Needs Analyses, which indicate that a regional park is needed to serve Golden Gate Estates.

### Construction of Community/Fitness Center and Pool at Eagle Lakes Community Park

Collier County is currently seeking a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to help fund the construction of a community/fitness center and swimming pool at Eagle Lakes Community Park. As discussed below, the community/fitness complex and swimming pool have been identified as separate priorities.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The need for a new community/fitness center and pool complex is based on the following:

- A community/fitness center would provide benefit to the current population within the south/east Naples area. Demographic and socioeconomic data were reviewed specific to the service area of this community center as outlined in the County's CDBG package.
- The demographics within the immediate area support the need for a community center. The area to be served by this community center is a lower income area, with a higher person-per-household and younger-aged residents.
- While there is not a swimming pool, there is a splash park located at Eagle Lakes Community Park. Given the need for a community center in this area and lack of available funding both constructing and operating new county facilities, priority for constructing improvements at Eagle Lakes Community Park should be placed on the community/fitness center.

## Additional Athletic Fields to Serve Existing Population

The results of the utilization analysis indicate that the following:

- The Immokalee area is experiencing over-utilization of little league, football/soccer, and multi-use fields. Additional athletic fields are needed in this area to provide relief.
- There is over-utilization of football/soccer fields countywide. The development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park will provide relief to over-utilized football/soccer fields in the Estates area. In addition, the placement of football/soccer fields at Manatee Community Park will provide relief to over-utilize fields in the east/south Naples area.
- There is over-utilization of football/soccer fields in the north Naples area (north of Pine Ridge Road). Additional football/soccer fields are needed in this area to provide relief.

## Continue to Optimize Interlocal Agreements for School Sites

Collier County Parks and Recreation Department and the School District Board of Collier County currently have interlocal agreements at several school sites to maximize the use of county assets for both recreation and educational facilities. Although the School District Board of Collier County is not planning to construct any new schools in the near future, it is recommended that when new school construction occurs, each new school site should be evaluated, designed, and constructed to maximize the potential for co-location of recreational and educational facilities.

## Development of Manatee Community Park

Should Manatee Community Park be developed as a passive park, it is likely that projected population growth along the US 41 corridor beyond the 10-Year Master Plan horizon will require additional active recreation facilities, such as athletic fields, hard courts, Splash Park, etc., in this area. In addition, football/soccer fields at the existing parks north along US 41 (i.e., Eagle Lakes and East Naples Community Parks) are currently over-utilized and therefore additional football/soccer fields are already needed in this area. Although active facilities are currently not part of the conceptual design, it is apparent that additional football/soccer fields are currently needed to serve this area and the need for additional active facilities will increase as population growth in this area occurs. As such, it is recommended that this park be developed in two phases, with the first phase consisting of athletic fields needed to provide relief to existing park in this area and the second phase consisting of additional facilities required to serve future growth as it occurs.

## Development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park

The development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park is tied to the extension of Vanderbilt Beach Road. In addition, Vanderbilt Extension Community Park is located on the periphery of a concentrated area of projected population growth. For the next 10 years, the development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park should provide park land and recreational facilities needed to serve both existing population and future growth within this immediate area. Given that development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park is a priority, development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park should occur once more extensive population growth west of Vanderbilt Extension Community park occurs

## Recommendations from 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report

In addition to current projects to expand the access to open water and the beaches, the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report includes the following recommendations, which are incorporated into the Master Plan as follows.

### 1. Barefoot Beach Preserve

Not exceeding the carrying capacity of this park is a primary objective because of its status as a nature preserve. However, a dock and pier can be provided to the inland side of the island to accommodate waterborne visitors while protecting the beach and dunes. This area will also allow provide visitors a better view the mangrove habitat, which presently is only accessible by canoe/kayak. Pickup locations can be at Cocohatchee Park and Conner Park.

### 2. Beach and Boat Access

Beach access can be viewed from two perspectives – the number and amount of beach access points and the effectiveness of each of those locations. Although no standards exist for the number of public beach access points a County should have, Collier County has been

aggressively working to increase the number and location of its public beach access points. This, however, has met with limited success because of the high cost and low availability of suitable locations.

It is recommended that the County continue to pursue its current acquisition policy but at the same time aggressively pursue revisions to the Land Development Code that permits greater public beach access.

### 3. Parking and Transportation Service for Beach Access

The number of beach parking spaces currently meets the countywide 1:150 parking space to permanent residents recommended ratio suggested by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. If additional parking is required at the more popular beach parks or during the busy season, the County should consider providing beach access through a combination of:

- o Exploring an extended Collier Area Transit (CAT) operation along Gulf Shore Drive to increase service to the beach access points along Vanderbilt Beach.
- o Developing a business plan to provide tram service during peak use periods between Conner Park and the Vanderbilt Beach garage to feed our most popular beaches using existing underused public access points.

### 4. Beach Parking Fees

Collier County has adopted a policy of free beach parking with a beach parking pass. If this system were changed to require both residents and visitors alike to purchase daily, monthly, or annual passes, then approximately \$1M to \$3M would become available to fund the operational needs of meeting existing and future levels of service.

### 5. Boat Launch and Boat Trailer Parking

Boat ramp lanes are not adequate for the peak periods of weekends and holidays for the number of boat users in Collier County. Even with the additional new lane at Bayview Park, the County is operating with a two-lane deficit in 2011. This deficit will grow by one lane in 2013 to 2015 timeframe and increase to five additional ramp lanes in 2020.

Boat trailer parking presently is inadequate, and even with programmed parking increases, the County has a significant parking space deficit based on current ramp capacity. This deficit is a county wide average and does not account for peak usage or chronic shortages at popular ramp locations such as Bayview, Caxambas, or Cocohatchee.

The County should continue to pursue expanding the existing boat parks and parking where appropriate. Additionally, strategic acquisition of desirable boat launch sites should continue.



## Section 1 - Introduction

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## INTRODUCTION

The Collier County Parks and Recreation Department's focus is to provide the public, both residents and visitors, with unique recreation experiences. The County's parks and recreation facilities contribute to the health of the community's residents, enhance the integrity and quality of the natural environment, and attract visitors to the community, thereby contributing to local tourism and economic development. To optimize the County's existing parks and recreation resources and assets, as well as to strategically plan for the immediate future, the County has retained Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc. (TOA) to assist in the preparation of a 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan (referred to hereinafter as the Master Plan). The results of this short-term Master Plan will be folded into the County's Master Mobility Plan to be conducted in 2011. The Master Mobility Plan will be a longer-term vision plan for the County, identifying and coordinating infrastructure needs, including those for parks and recreation, necessary to serve the County's projected build-out population.

Consistent with the Mission of Collier County's Parks and Recreation Department, the master planning process is designed to ensure that Collier County's legacy of parks and open spaces will continue well into the future.

*"To promote health and wellness, alternative leisure activities, community involvement through recreation, sports, awareness of the environment, and providing special events that bring the Collier County community together in a fun atmosphere." – Mission of Collier County Parks and Recreation*

## COMMUNITY PROFILE

Collier County, located in southwest Florida along the Gulf of Mexico, was incorporated by the Florida Legislature in 1923 from portions of Lee and Monroe counties. There are three municipalities within Collier County: Everglades City, Marco Island, and Naples, which is the County seat. In 2009, Collier County was ranked as the 15<sup>th</sup> most populous county in Florida, with 1.8 percent of the state's total population. Collier County is the second largest county in Florida, with approximately 2,025 total acres, although a significant portion of this area is designated as either federal or state park land or as conservation land. Collier County is rich in geographic diversity, from the beaches to the Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park. Collier County's beaches, tropical climate, and rich geographic and biological diversity make it one of the premier tourism and retirement destinations within the United States.



Collier County, FL

## SERVICE AREA

Collier County Parks and Recreation provides community and regional parks that are available to all residents and visitors of Collier County. As such, this Master Plan considers the entire county as a single service area.

## REPORT ORGANIZATION

In addition to this Introduction, the Collier County 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan includes the following sections:

### **Section 2 – Demographic Analysis**

Section 2 provides a demographic and socioeconomic profile of Collier County and includes an analysis of historic and projected trends of variables such as population growth, population density, age composition, and average household income.

### **Section 3 – Parks and Recreation Inventory**

Section 3 provides detailed information about the regional and community parks currently available in Collier County as well as planned parks and recreation capital projects being considered by the County in the near term.

### **Section 4 – Needs Analysis**

Section 4 documents the assets and constraints of the existing system and assesses the current and future needs of the County's parks and recreation system.

### **Section 5 – Focus Group Summary**

Section 5 documents the results of a focus group conducted on October 14, 2010, where a variety of parks and recreation stakeholders provided information relating to the needs and prioritization for incorporation into this master planning process.

### **Section 6 – Master Plan Recommendations**

Section 6 brings together the results of the analysis and public input and presents a set of strategic recommendations regarding short-term parks and recreation planning for Collier County.



## Section 2 – Demographic Analysis

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## PURPOSE OF THE DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

An analysis of demographic conditions is pertinent to the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan. The county's demographic and socioeconomic profile provides insight into the composition of the county's population profile, enhancing the understanding of citizen needs and providing a framework for the needs and analysis and, ultimately, a list of recommendations. However, as part of this analysis, it is important to recognize that certain data sources, such as the U.S. Census, count only Collier County's resident population and do not consider seasonal residents or visitors to the county. Therefore, findings from the demographic analysis include adjustments or assumptions to account for the profile of the county's peak season population, which includes both seasonal residents and visitors.

## POPULATION ESTIMATES AND GROWTH PROJECTIONS

As with the rest of Florida, Collier County experienced tremendous population growth over the past decade, including a 33 percent increase in population since 2000, compared to a 17 percent increase for Florida as a whole. Table 2-1 and Figure 2-1 present the historical and projected permanent population for both Collier County and Florida. While Collier County consistently has had a higher annual growth rate than Florida since 1990 and is projected to continue this trend over the next 10 years, population projections indicate that the differential annual growth between the county and Florida is decreasing.

Collier County's population is projected to increase 66 percent, more than Florida, between 2010 and 2020.

For planning purposes, Collier County uses peak seasonal population to plan for the need of its capital facilities, including parks and recreation. As documented in its Annual Update and Inventory Report (AUIR), the County develops its peak seasonal population figures by adjusting the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) medium-range projections by a 20 percent seasonal adjustment factor. In the AUIR, Collier County uses countywide population figures to determine the regional park acreage need, based on the adopted level of service (LOS), while using the unincorporated county population to determine the community park acreage need. Therefore, for reference, Table 2-2 presents a comparison of the county's historical and projected permanent and peak seasonal population figures for both the entire county and the unincorporated county only. Since the county's peak seasonal population is projected using a constant adjustment factor, the annual growth rates for the county's peak seasonal population mirror those of its resident population.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Table 2-1

## Collier County and Florida

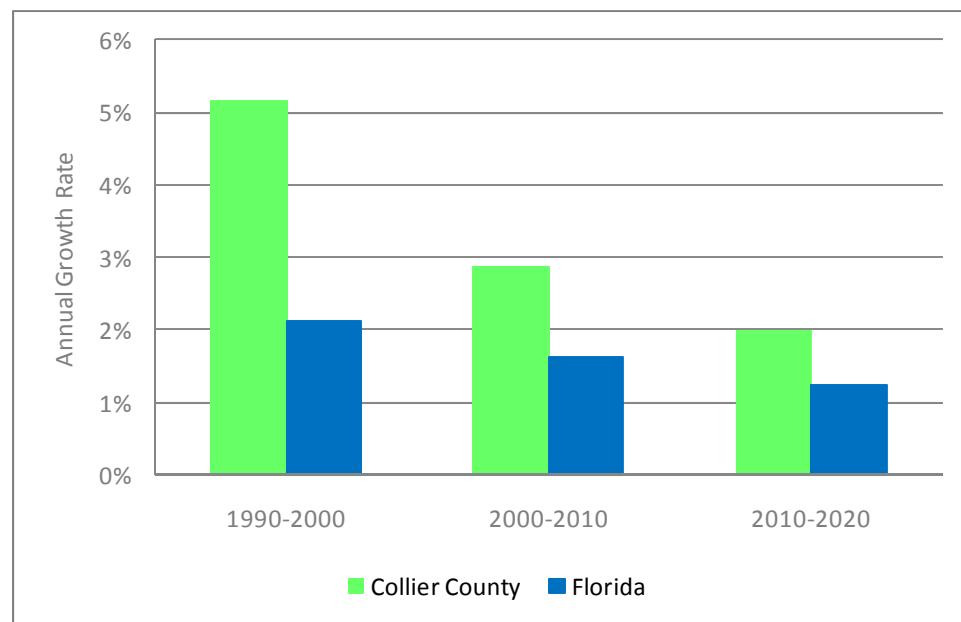
### Historical and Projection Population Growth (2000-2020)

Year	Collier County <sup>(1)</sup>		Florida <sup>(2)</sup>	
	Population Figure	Growth Rate	Population Figure	Growth Rate
2000	251,377		15,982,824	
2001	264,475	5.2%	16,330,224	2.2%
2002	277,457	4.9%	16,674,608	2.1%
2003	292,466	5.4%	17,071,508	2.4%
2004	306,186	4.7%	17,516,732	2.6%
2005	317,788	3.8%	17,918,227	2.3%
2006	326,658	2.8%	18,349,132	2.4%
2007	333,858	2.2%	18,680,367	1.8%
2008	332,854	-0.3%	18,807,219	0.7%
2009	333,032	0.1%	18,750,483	-0.3%
2010	333,600	0.2%	18,773,400	0.1%
2011	339,786	1.9%	18,989,914	1.2%
2012	346,087	1.9%	19,208,925	1.2%
2013	352,505	1.9%	19,430,462	1.2%
2014	359,042	1.9%	19,654,554	1.2%
2015	365,700	1.9%	19,881,200	1.2%
2016	373,518	2.1%	20,147,131	1.3%
2017	381,504	2.1%	20,416,619	1.3%
2018	389,660	2.1%	20,689,712	1.3%
2019	397,990	2.1%	20,966,458	1.3%
2020	406,500	2.1%	21,246,900	1.3%

(1) Source: Collier County Comprehensive Planning Section (June 11, 2010).

(2) Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research, University of Florida.

Figure 2-1  
Collier County and Florida Historical and Projected Annual Growth Rate Trends (1990-2020)



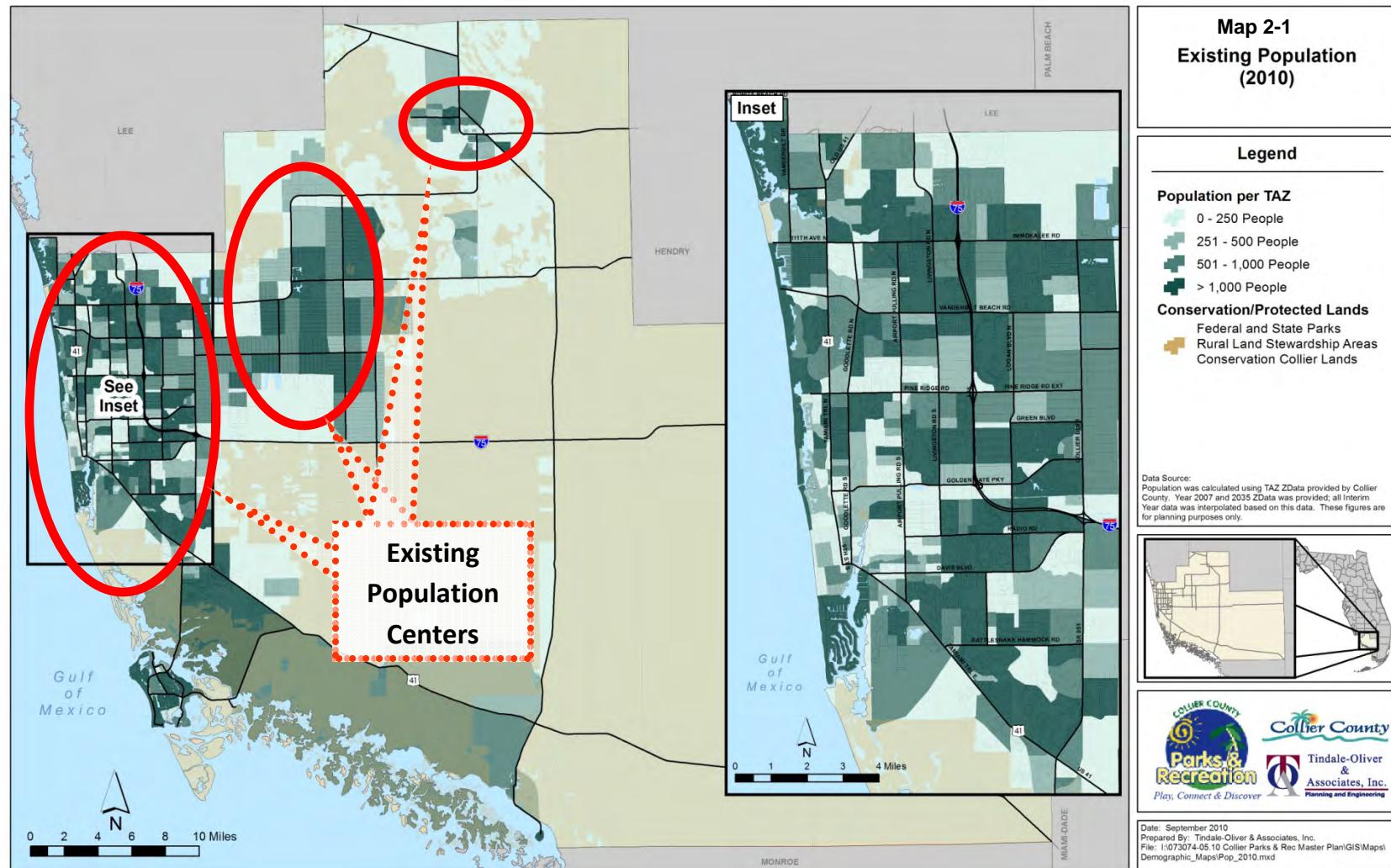
**Table 2-2**  
**Collier County Permanent and Peak Seasonal**  
**Historical and Projected Population (2000-2020)**

Year	Countywide		Unincorporated County	
	Resident Population	Peak Season Population	Resident Population	Peak Season Population
<b>2000</b>	251,377	309,511	221,139	265,366
<b>2001</b>	264,475	325,159	233,460	280,152
<b>2002</b>	277,457	341,954	246,971	296,365
<b>2003</b>	292,466	359,191	260,948	313,137
<b>2004</b>	306,186	374,384	273,382	328,058
<b>2005</b>	317,788	386,668	283,283	339,940
<b>2006</b>	326,658	396,310	290,866	349,039
<b>2007</b>	333,858	400,027	293,611	352,333
<b>2008</b>	332,854	399,532	293,421	352,104
<b>2009</b>	333,032	399,979	294,152	352,983
<b>2010</b>	333,600	404,032	297,266	356,719
<b>2011</b>	339,786	411,524	303,062	363,674
<b>2012</b>	346,087	419,155	308,971	370,764
<b>2013</b>	352,505	426,928	314,994	377,993
<b>2014</b>	359,042	434,845	321,134	385,361
<b>2015</b>	365,700	443,531	327,886	393,463
<b>2016</b>	373,518	453,013	335,272	402,326
<b>2017</b>	381,504	462,698	342,824	411,388
<b>2018</b>	389,660	472,590	350,544	420,653
<b>2019</b>	397,990	482,694	358,438	430,126
<b>2020</b>	406,500	492,410	366,008	439,209

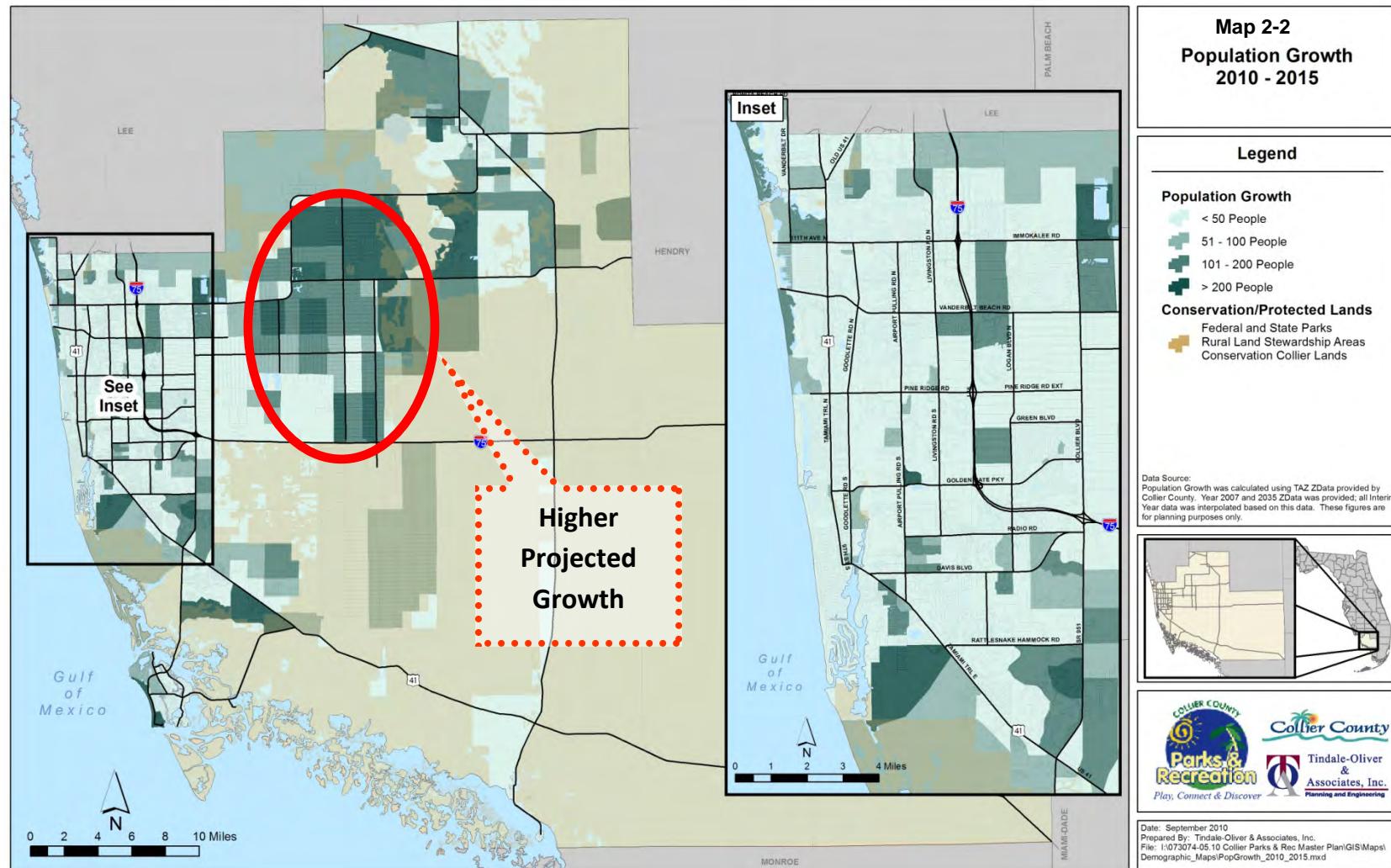
Source: Collier County Comprehensive Planning Section  
(June 11, 2010).

The permanent population estimates and projections developed by BEBR are countywide figures, while the peak population projections developed by the County are developed for each municipality and planning area. To analyze population growth at a smaller geographic sub-unit, the socioeconomic data developed for the ongoing Collier County 2035 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) are used, which illustrates the population projections by Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ). Map 2-1 illustrates where the existing (2010) population of Collier County is by TAZ, and the projected population growth of Collier County over the next 10 years is illustrated in Maps 2-2 and Map 2-3.

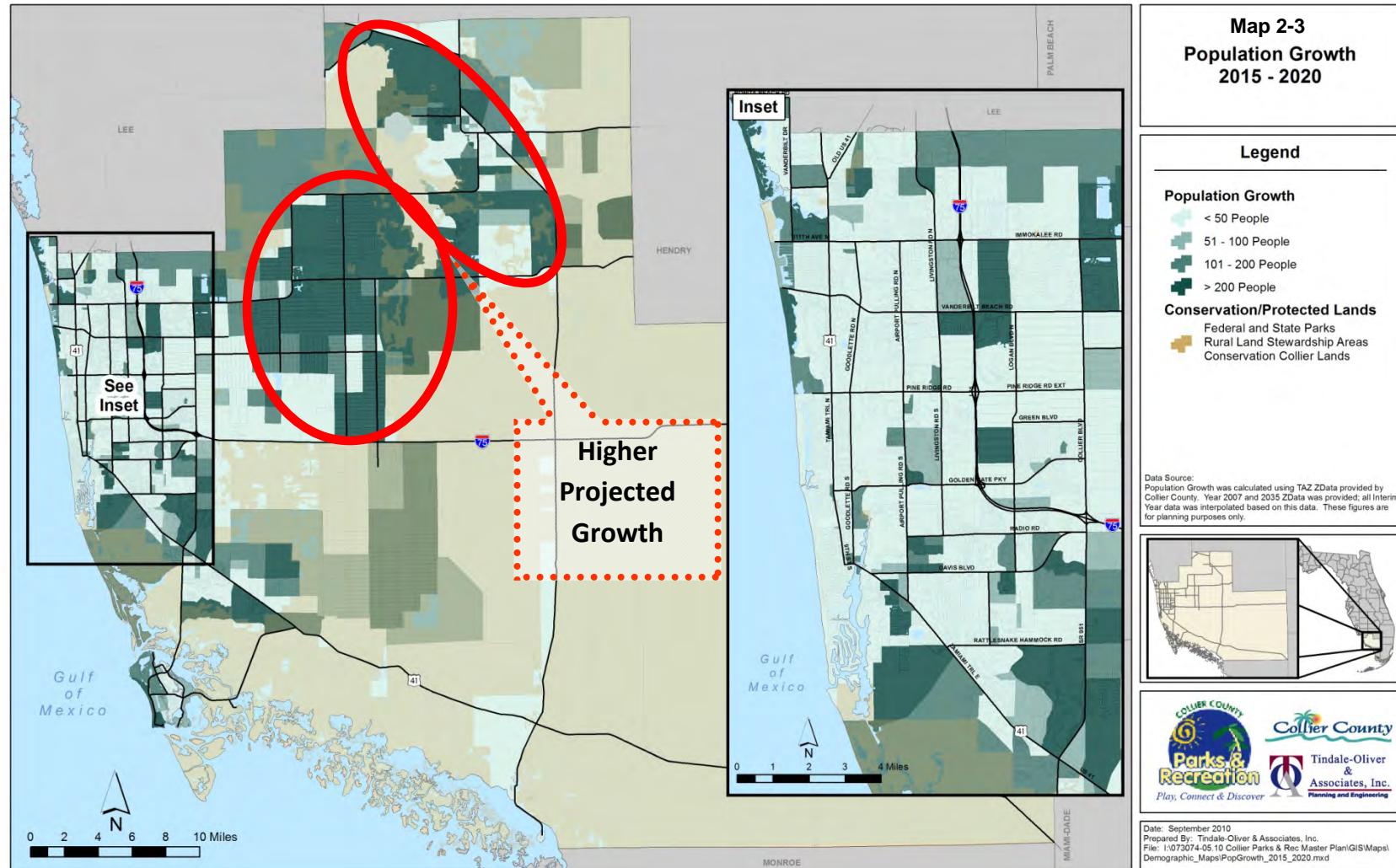
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

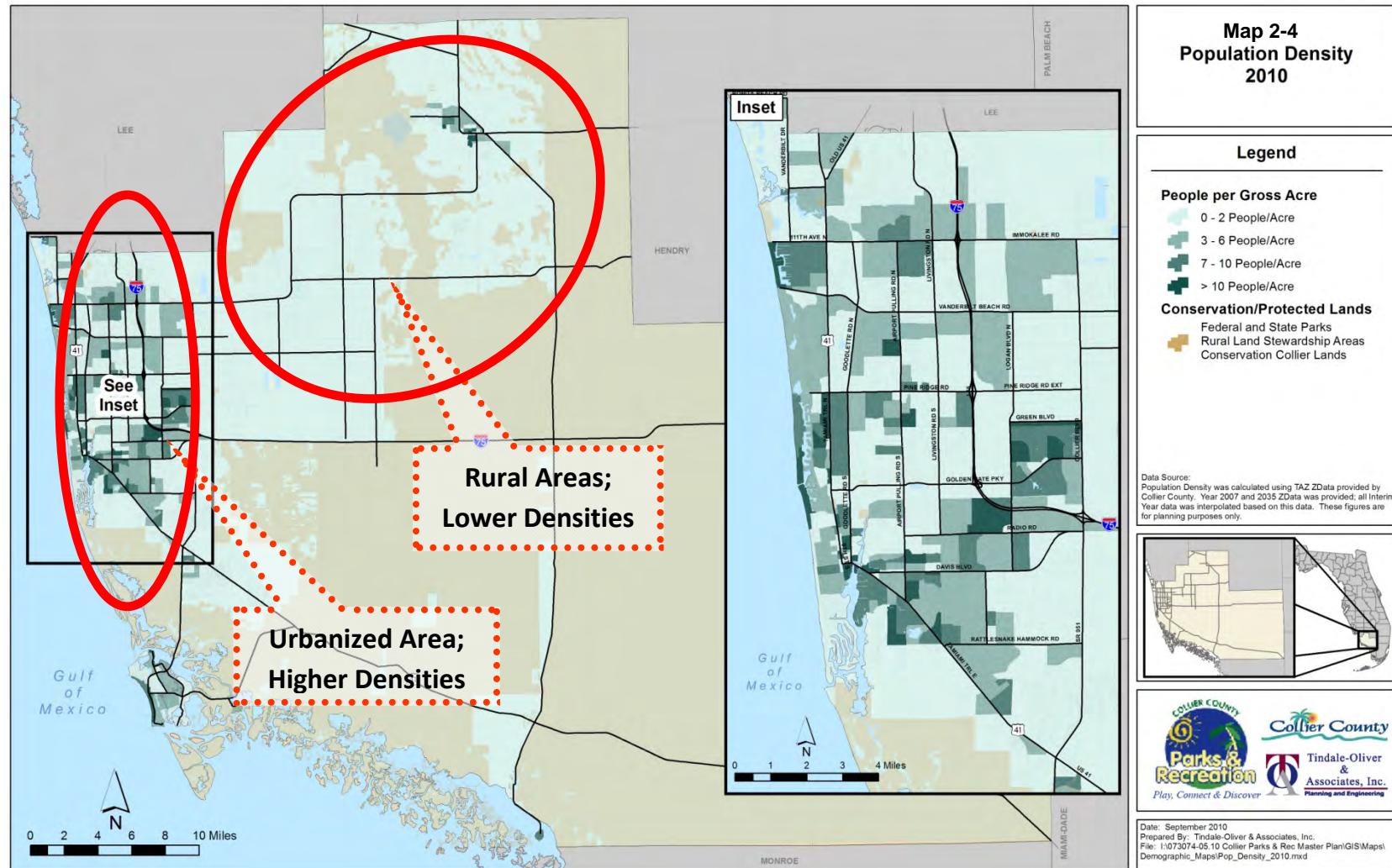


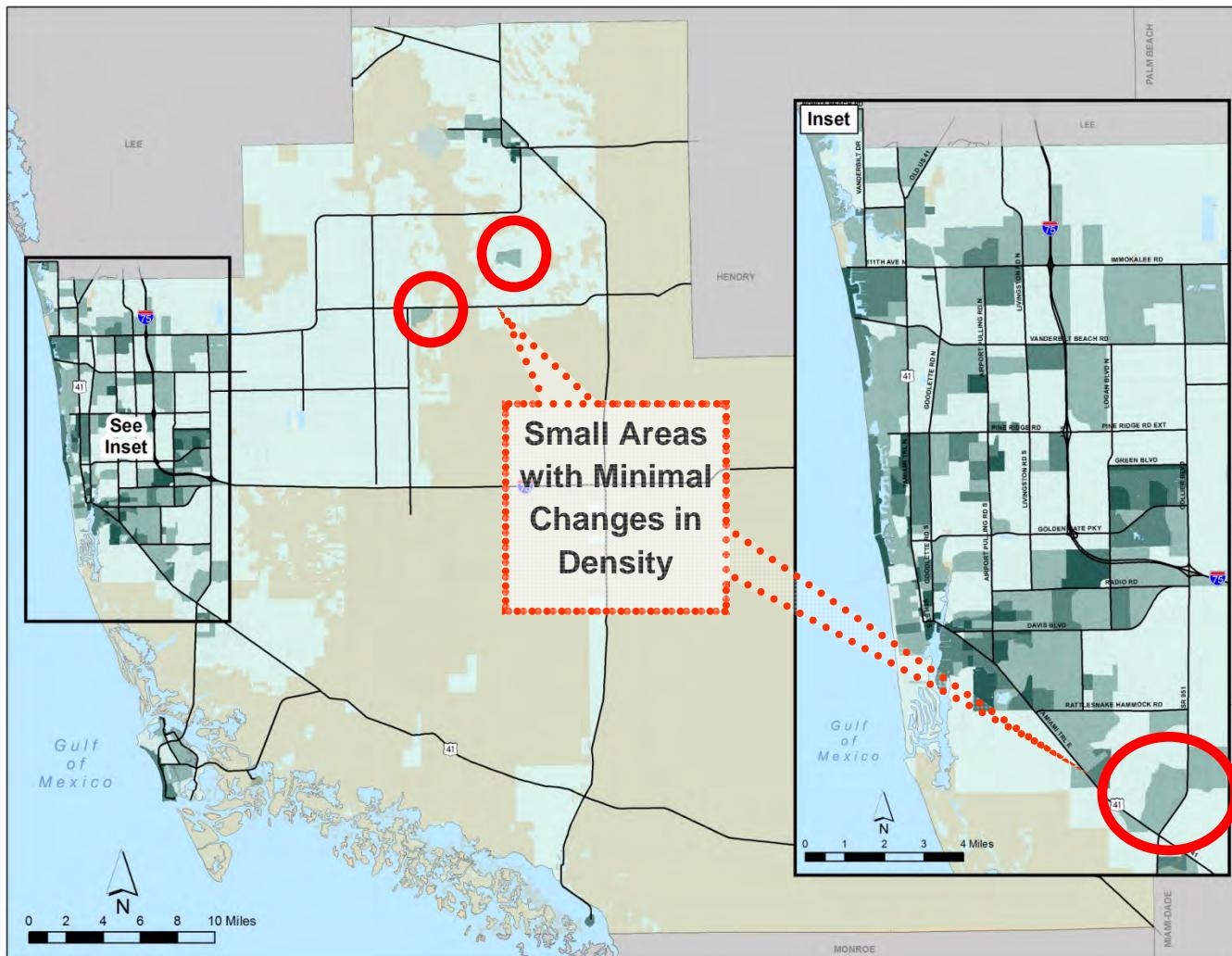
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan







**Map 2-5**  
**Population Density**  
**2020**

## Legend

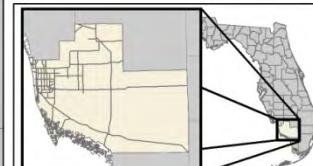
### People per Gross Acre

- 0 - 2 People/Acre
  - 3 - 6 People/Acre
  - 7 - 10 People/Acre
  - > 10 People/Acre

### **Conservation/Protected Lands**

-  Federal and State Parks  
Rural Land Stewardship Areas  
Conservation Collier Lands

**Data Source:**  
Population Density was calculated using TAZ ZData provided by Collier County. Year 2007 and 2035 ZData was provided; all Interim Year data was interpolated based on this data. These figures are for planning purposes only.



Date: September 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
File: I:\\073074-05.10 Collier Parks & Rec Master Plan\\GIS\\Maps\\  
Demographic Maps\\Pop\_Density\_2020.mxd

Currently, the majority (approximately 73%) of the county's population lies west of CR 951 in what is the more urbanized area. However, as shown, the highest concentration of growth over the next five years is projected to occur in the Golden Gate Estates area, then extending into the Immokalee and Ave Maria areas in the subsequent five-year period. The urbanized area is projected to experience a lower population growth during the 10-year period.

It is important to look at not only absolute population growth, but also the projected change in population and housing unit densities. Maps 2-4 and 2-5 illustrate the existing population density for 2010 and 2020, respectively. Overall, the County does not project a significant increase in its population densities over the next 10 years. Between 2010 and 2015, slight increases in densities are projected within pocket areas west of CR 951, as well as within and surrounding Immokalee. In addition, between 2015 and 2020, slight increases in densities in the Ave Maria and Orange Tree areas also are projected.

As part of the demographic analysis, a review of the absolute growth of dwelling units and dwelling unit densities between 2010 and 2020 also was completed. As expected, the housing unit trends during this 10-year period closely mirror the population trends.

## AGE

While the benefits of parks and recreation span every age and demographic component, the age profile of a community's residents can have a direct impact on its parks and recreation facility needs. To understand this impact, a review of both the historical age trends of the county, as well as the current age composition of the county's residents was undertaken.

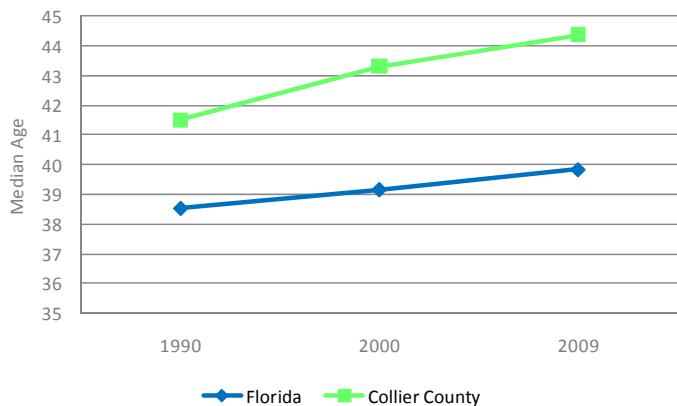
Age is one of the most important demographic factors for determining parks and recreation facility needs.

As presented in Table 2-3 and Figure 2-2, the median age in both Collier County and Florida has been trending upward since 1990, with Collier County's median age growing at a slightly faster rate than Florida's.

**Table 2-3 and Figure 2-2**  
**Median Age (1990, 2000, 2009)**

Year	Florida	Collier County
1990	38.5	41.5
2000	39.2	43.3
2009	39.8	44.4

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2009 American Community Survey.



As presented in Table 2-4 and Figure 2-3, currently the highest percentage of Collier County's residents are between the ages of 20 and 64 years. In Collier County, the most significant shift in age distribution since 1990 reflects an exit of the "baby boomer" generation from the middle-age into the 65+ age bracket.

Statewide, the percent of total population under 5 years and those 65+ years is declining, while collectively the percent of population between 5 and 64 years is increasing. In Collier County, the percent of total population under 5 years mirrors Florida and is showing a slight decline. In addition, the percent of total population from 5 to 19 years appears to be growing slightly. The percentage of population from 20 to 64 years is declining at an increasing rate; however, the most pronounced growth of residents is in the category of 65+ years, likely reflecting the attraction of the county as a premier retirement destination. However, it is important to note that, as of 2009, approximately 73 percent of Collier County's residents are still younger than 65.

**Table 2-4**  
**Distribution of Age by Category (1990, 2000, 2009)**

Age Category	Florida			Collier County		
	1990	2000	2009	1990	2000	2009
Under 5 years	7.8%	7.1%	6.3%	7.1%	6.4%	6.3%
5 to 19 years	16.9%	18.1%	18.2%	14.9%	15.3%	16.1%
20 to 64 years	56.9%	57.2%	58.3%	55.3%	53.9%	50.7%
65 years and older	18.3%	17.6%	17.3%	22.7%	24.4%	26.9%

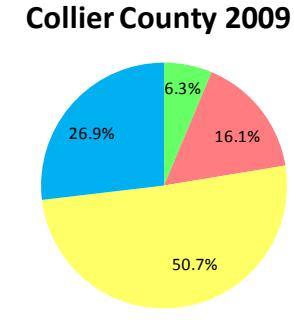
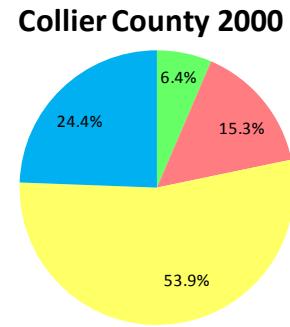
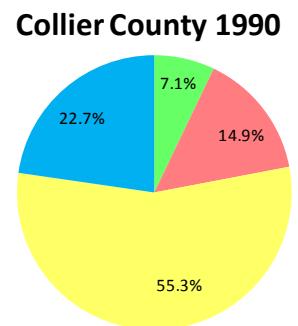
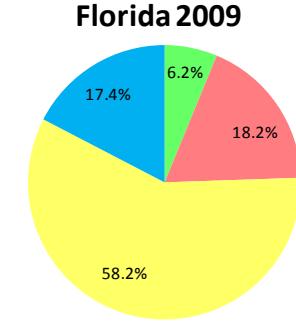
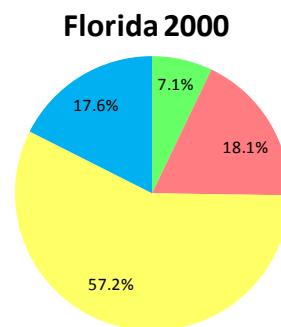
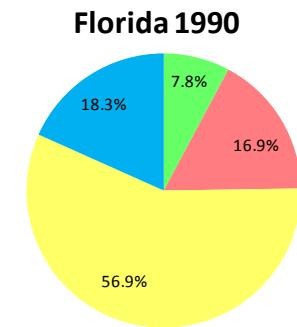
Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2009 American Community Survey

The decennial Census provides data in geographic units known as Block Groups, allowing the data to be mapped at smaller geographic intervals. Although the U.S. Census Bureau develops interim estimates for a number of its decennial Census variables as part of the American Community Survey (ACS), the ACS does not include data for geographic units smaller than Collier County. Therefore, to analyze the distribution of 2009 age data throughout Collier County, the 2009 age data by Census Block Group developed by Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) is used.

Maps 2-7 through 2-10, as listed below, present the age distribution in Collier County by Census Block Group as follows:

- Map 2-6a: Percent of Population Under 5 Years Old (1990)
- Map 2-6b: Percent of Population Under 5 Years Old (2009)
- Map 2-7a: Percent of Population 5 to 19 Years Old (1990)
- Map 2-7b: Percent of Population 5 to 19 Years Old (2009)
- Map 2-8a: Percent of Population 20-64 Years Old (1990)
- Map 2-8b: Percent of Population 20-64 Years Old (2009)
- Map 2-9a: Percent of Population 65+ Years Old (1990)
- Map 2-9b: Percent of Population 65+ Years Old (2009)

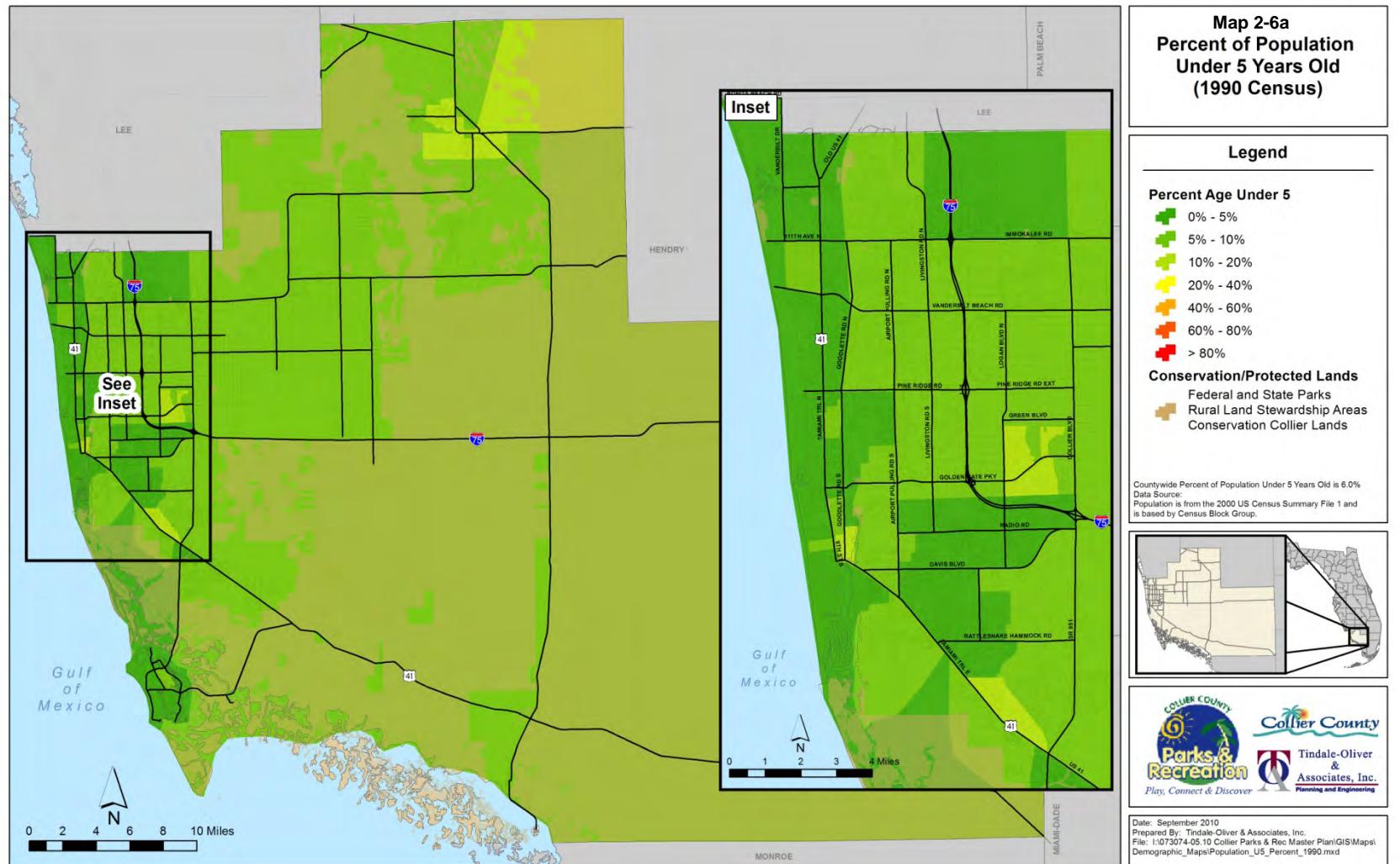
**Figure 2-3**  
Distribution of Age by Category (1990, 2000, 2009)



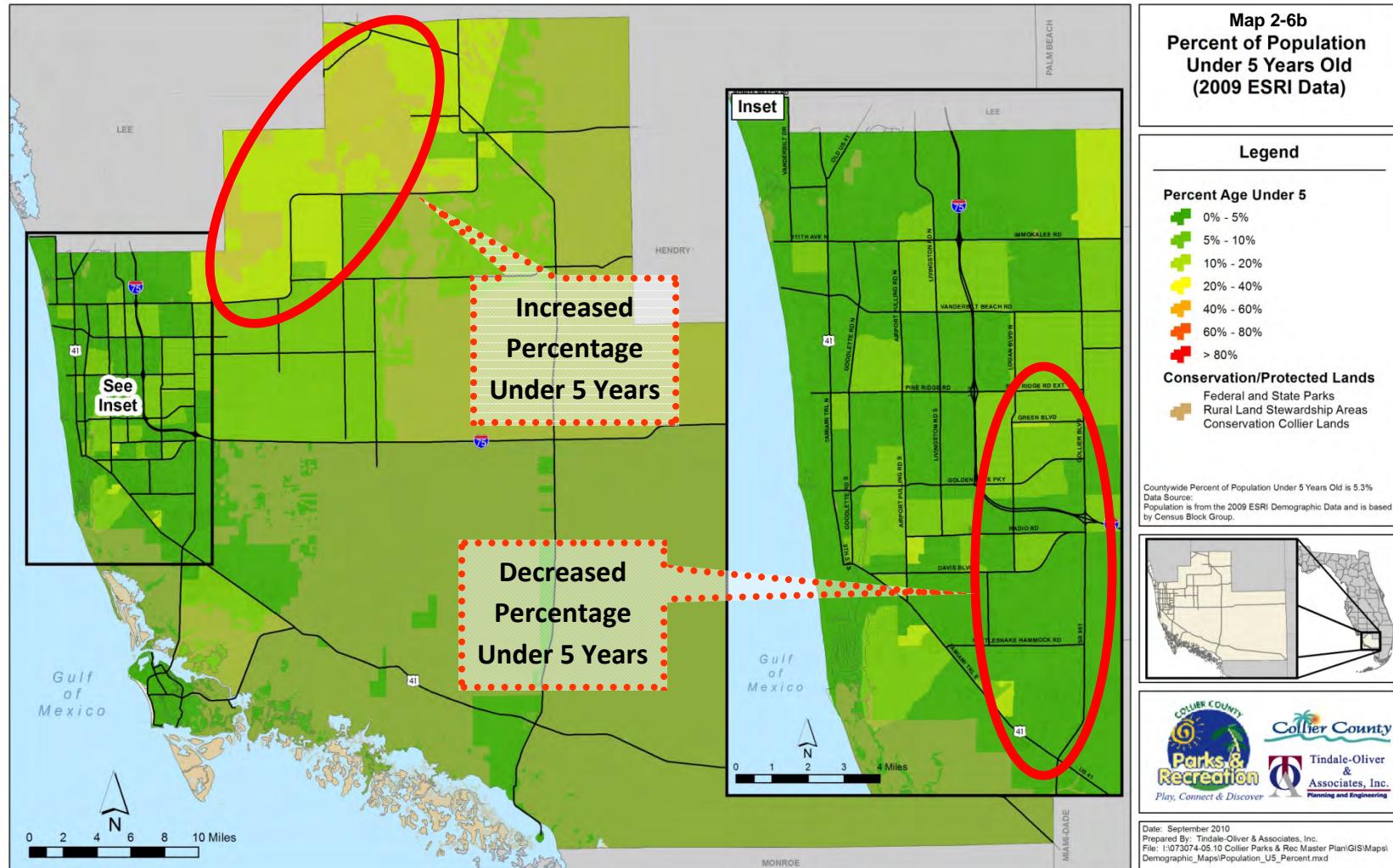
■ Under 5 years ■ 5 to 19 years ■ 20 to 64 years ■ 65 years and older

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2009 American Community Survey

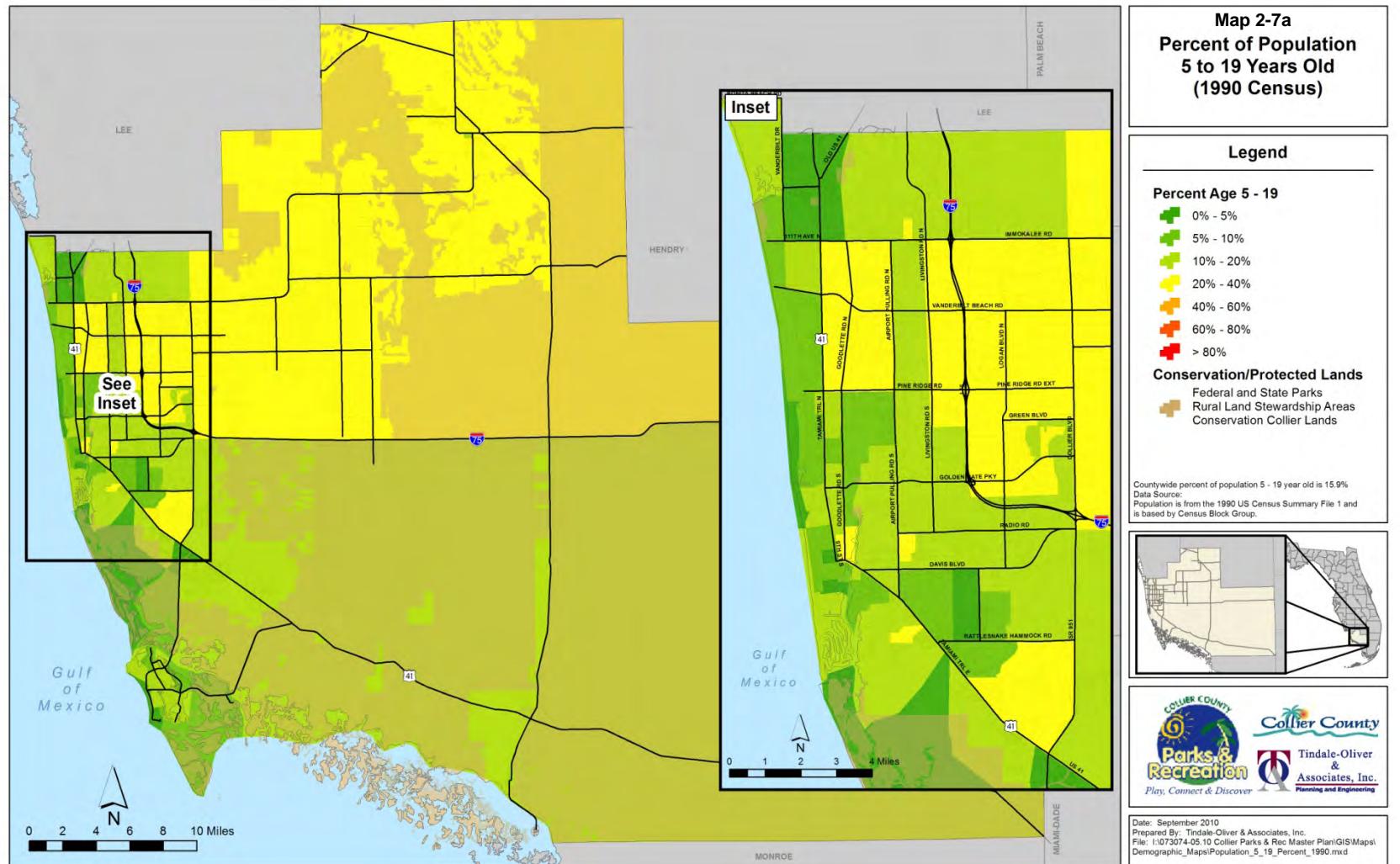
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

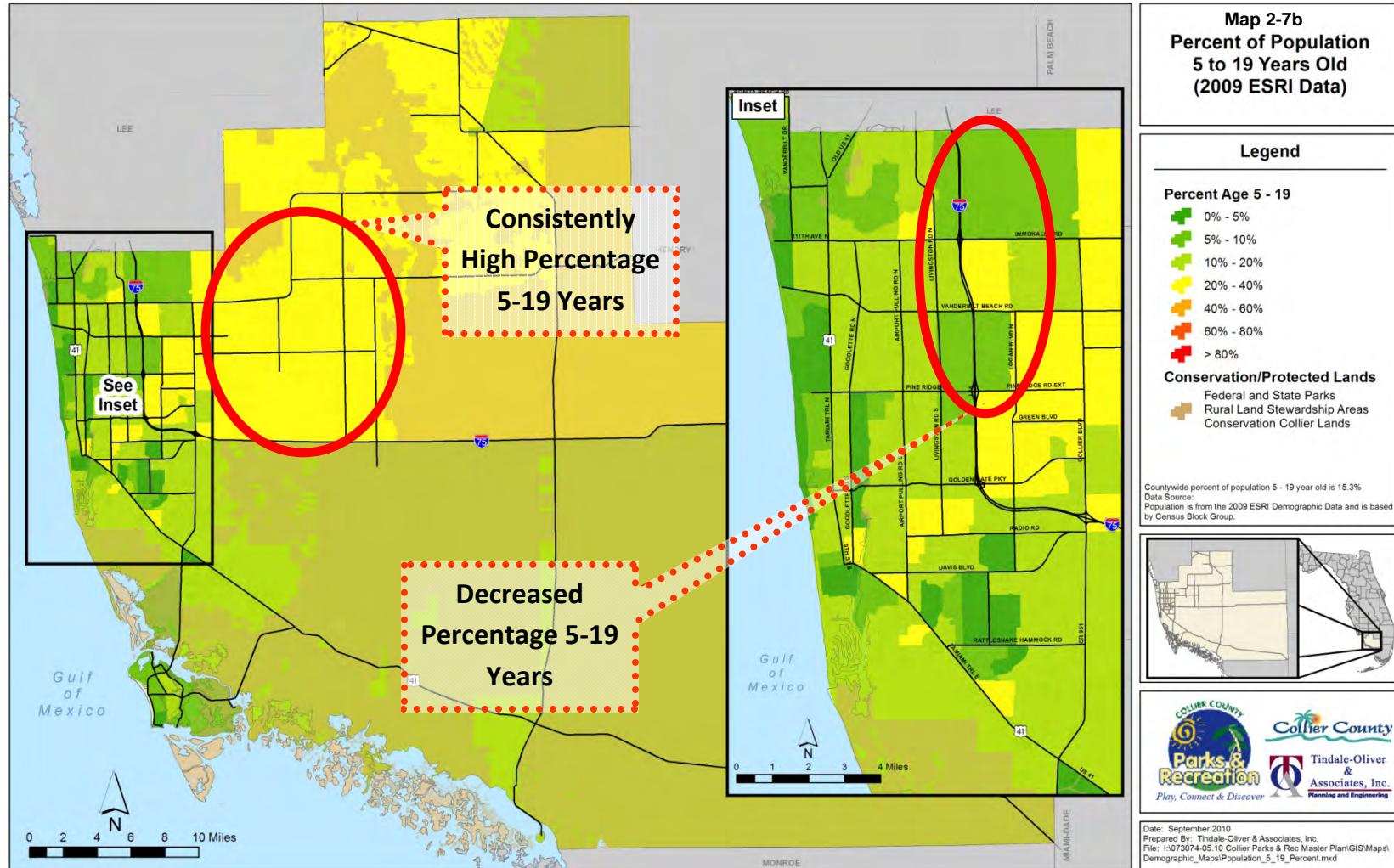


# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

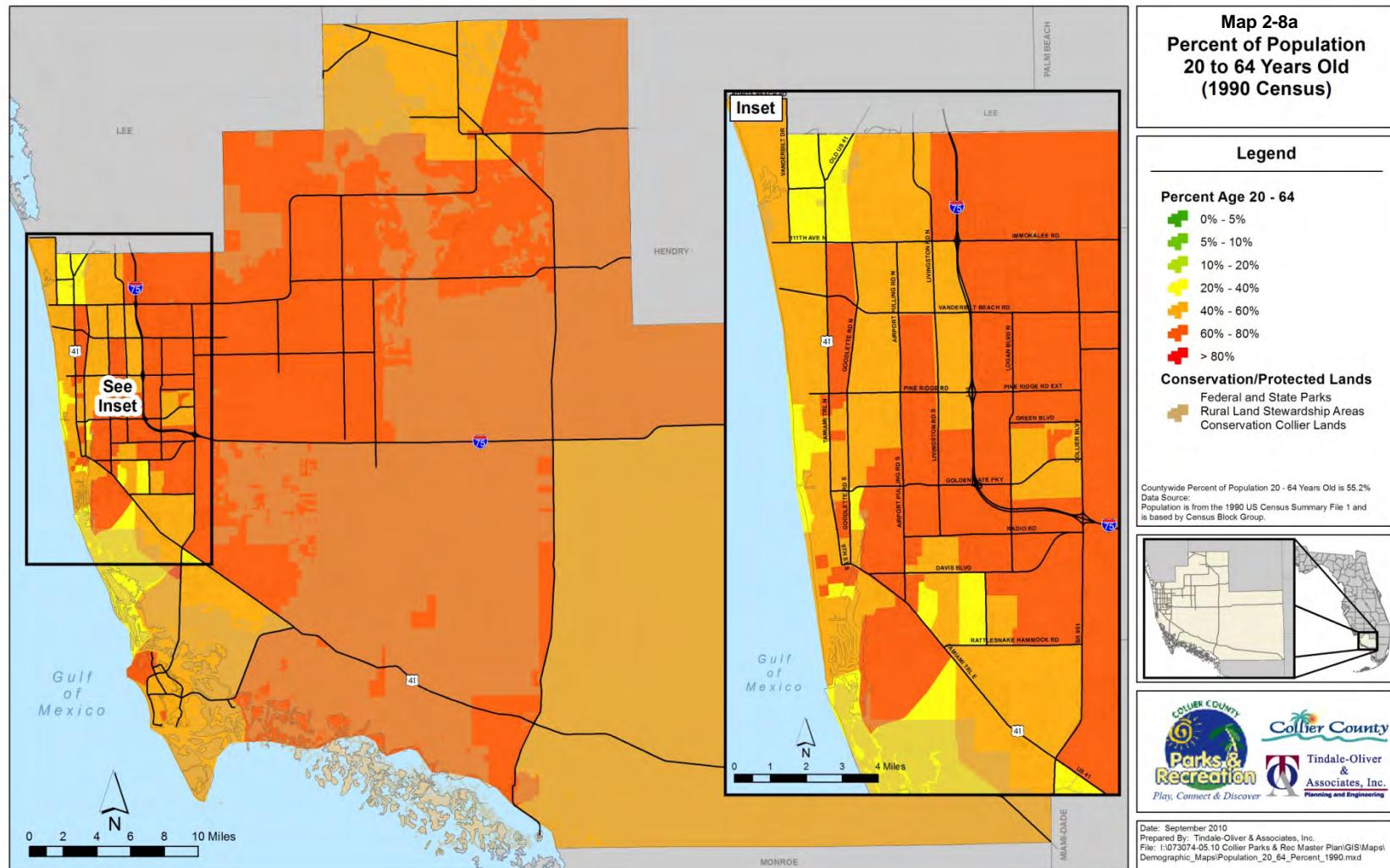


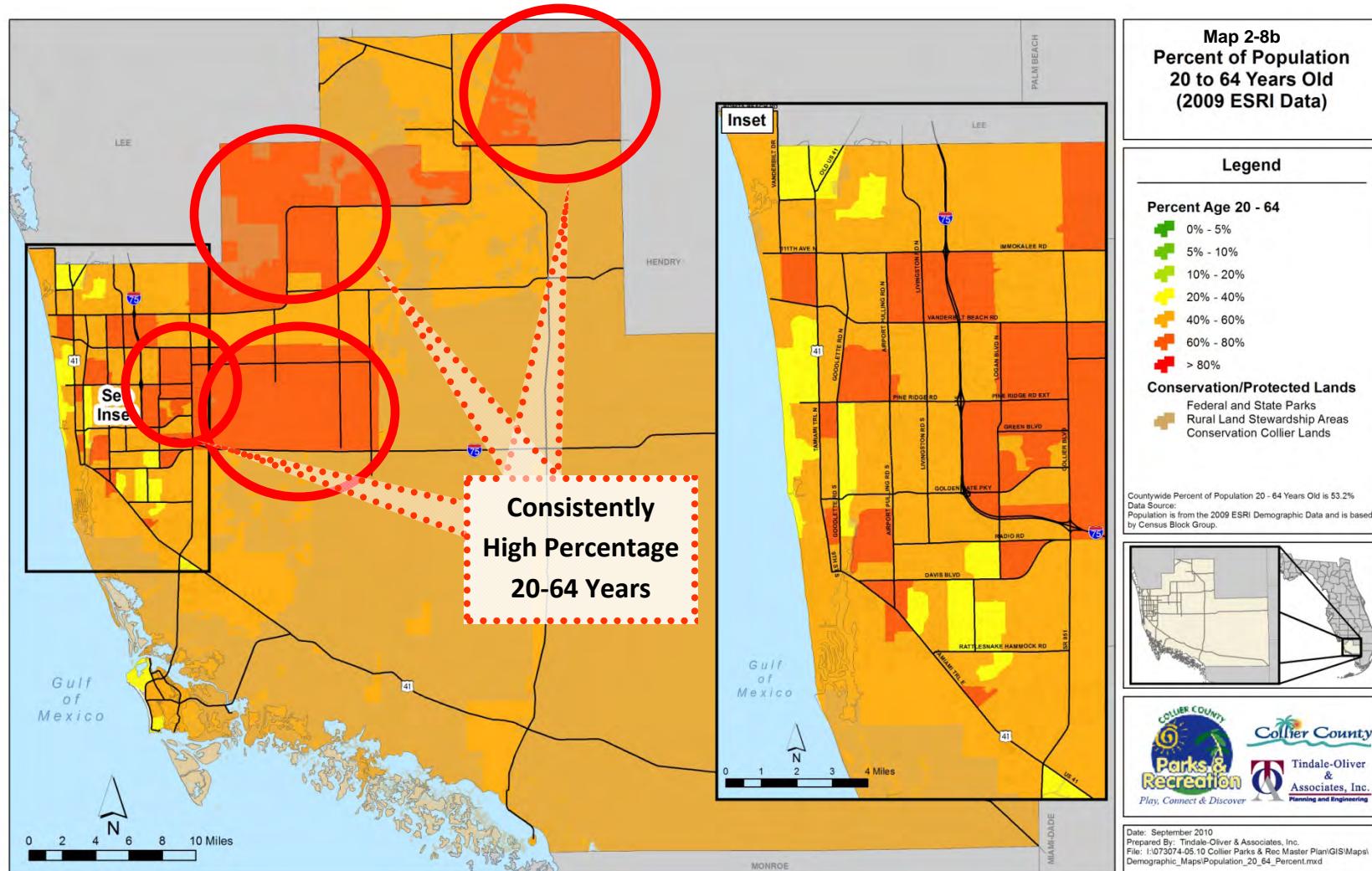
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



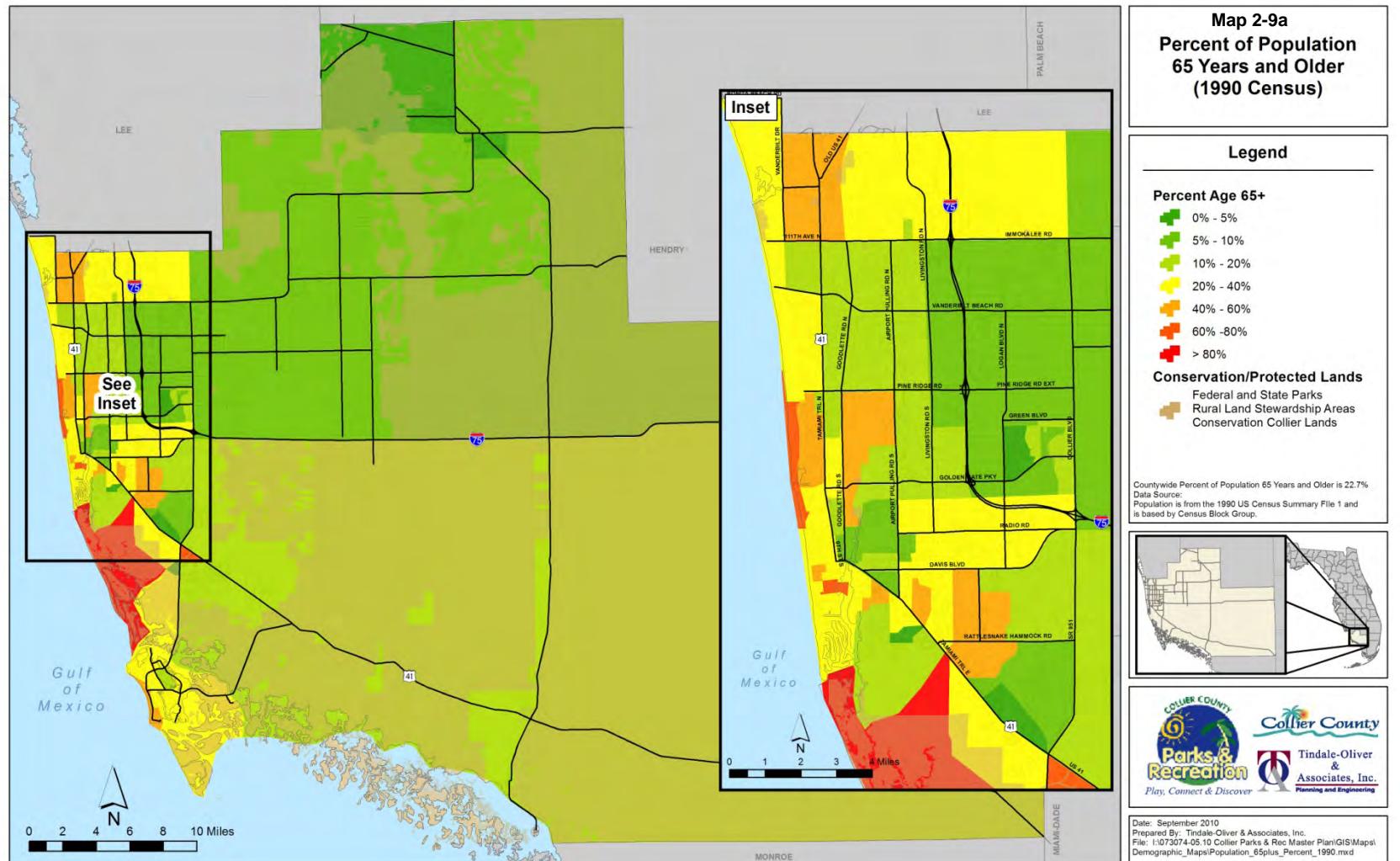


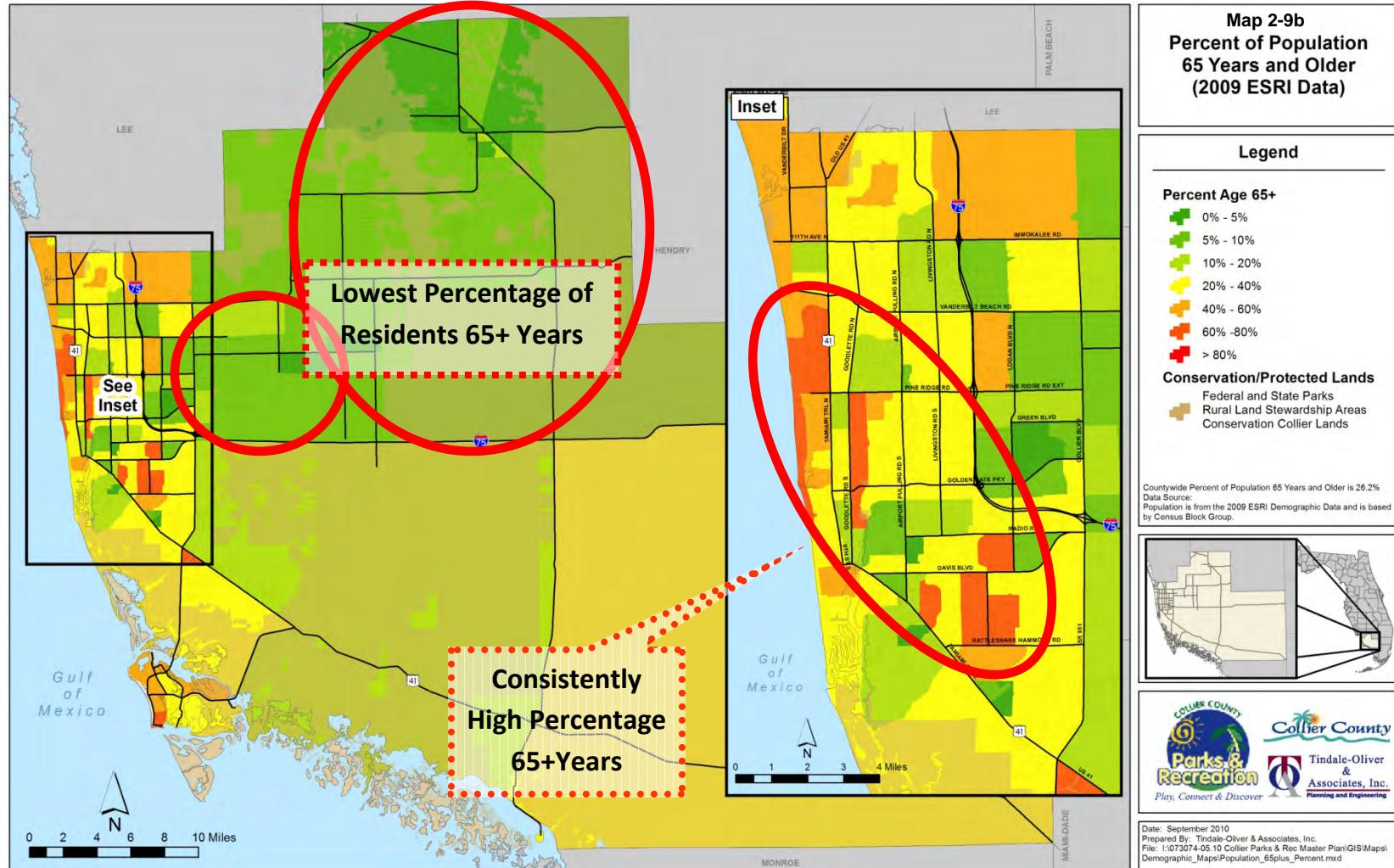
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan





# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan





When looking at these maps, two comparisons can be made. The first compares the shift in population distribution since 1990 within a single age category (e.g., comparing Map 2-6a and Map 2-6b illustrates how the distribution of population under 5 years of age has changed since 1990).

- Maps 2-6a and 2-6b compare how the percentage of Collier County's population under 5 years of age has changed since 1990. Based on these maps, it appears that between 1990 and 2009, there is an increased percentage of residents under 5 years of age in the northwest area of the county and a decreased percentage in the urbanized area (see map inset).
- Maps 2-7a and 2-7b compare how the percentage of Collier County's population between 5 and 19 years of age has changed since 1990. Based on these maps during this period, the area northeast of Naples has experienced a decline in the total percentage of residents between 5 and 19 years of age, while The Estates area has maintained a consistently high percentage of residents between 5 and 19 years.
- Maps 2-8a and 2-8b compare how the percentage of Collier County's population between 20 and 64 years of age has changed since 1990. Based on these maps, the percentage of total population within this age category has declined with the exception of the far northeast county, far northwest county, east of Naples, and The Estates area.
- Maps 2-9a and 2-9b compare how the percentage of Collier County's population 65 years and older has changed since 1990. The majority of persons within this age category live in the urbanized areas of Collier County (see map inset). Within the urbanized area, there appears to be increased percentages of residents age 65 and older in the central area of the map, while the area east of CR 951 maintains the lowest percentage of residents age 65 and older.

Second, the four maps illustrating the 2009 age data (2-6b, 2-7b, 2-8b, 2-9b) are compared to show the distribution of Collier County's existing population with respect to age. When comparing these four maps, there is a clear variation in the age distribution within the county. Census Block Groups located east of CR 951 have a higher percentage of persons age 19 and younger, while the area west of CR 951 have a higher percentage of persons age 65 years and older. Golden Gate Estates, the area immediately west of Golden Gate Estates, Corkscrew, and the area east of Immokalee have the highest percentage of persons between 20 and 64 years.

## Seasonal Residents

As previously mentioned, on an annual basis, Collier County draws a number of seasonal residents and visitors during its peak. By nature, the majority of the seasonal residents is likely retirees and would likely fall into the 65 years and older category. This would increase the total percentage of peak

residents ages 65 and older, although the age distribution of the county's seasonal residents has not been quantified.

## Visitors

In 2008, an independent research firm contracted by the Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention and Visitors Bureau found that the average age of visitors<sup>1</sup> to Collier County is 48.5 years. While visitors to Collier County will impact to the parks and recreation facilities, the majority of this impact most likely is to beach access points. However, at the same time it is noted that a high percentage of these visitors will stay in lodging facilities along the beach and will use the beach access points provided by the lodging facility.

## INCOME

Similar to age, the income levels within a community also can directly impact its parks and recreation facility needs. To understand this impact, a review of both the historical household income trends of the county as well as the current distribution of income of the county's residents was undertaken.

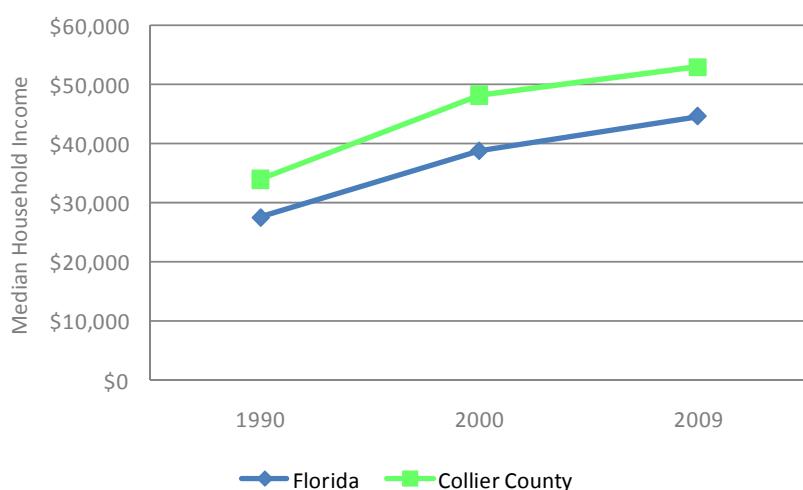
Growth in Collier County's median household income is outpacing Florida's.

As presented in Table 2-5 and Figure 2-4, the median household income in both Collier County and Florida has been trending upward since 1990, with Florida's median household income growing at a slightly higher rate than Collier County.

**Table 2-5 and Figure 2-4**  
**Median Household Income (1990, 2000, 2009)**

Year	Florida	Collier County
1990	\$27,483	\$34,001
2000	\$38,819	\$48,289
2009	\$44,736	\$52,998

U.S. Census Bureau 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2009 American Community Survey.



<sup>1</sup>Visitor defined as staying in short-term paid lodging within Collier County.

As presented in Table 2-6 and Figure 2-5, in Collier County the percentage of households with median incomes lower than \$50,000 has been decreasing steadily since 1990 while the percentage of households with median incomes higher than \$50,000 has been increasing during this same period. This trend also has been occurring statewide in Florida, with the percentage of household incomes lower than \$45,000 declining steadily since 1990 and household incomes greater than \$45,000 increasing during this same period.

In 2009, the percentage of Collier County households with incomes greater than \$150,000 was twice that of Florida households.

Households with annual income that does not exceed 80 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI) are defined as being “low income” by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development under the Uniform Act, while households with annual incomes that do not exceed 50 percent of the AMI are defined as being “very low income.” The 2010 AMI figure for the Naples-Marco Island area is \$72,300; 80 percent of the 2010 AMI for a four-person household equates to an annual household income of \$57,850.

Map 2-10 presents the distribution of household income by Census Block Group based on 2009 ESRI data. In general, the highest median household incomes are in the more urbanized western areas of the county, with the median household incomes decreasing as you move east towards the more rural areas of the county. In addition, the east/south Naples area, in particularly south of US 41, is an area east of CR 951 with lower median household incomes.

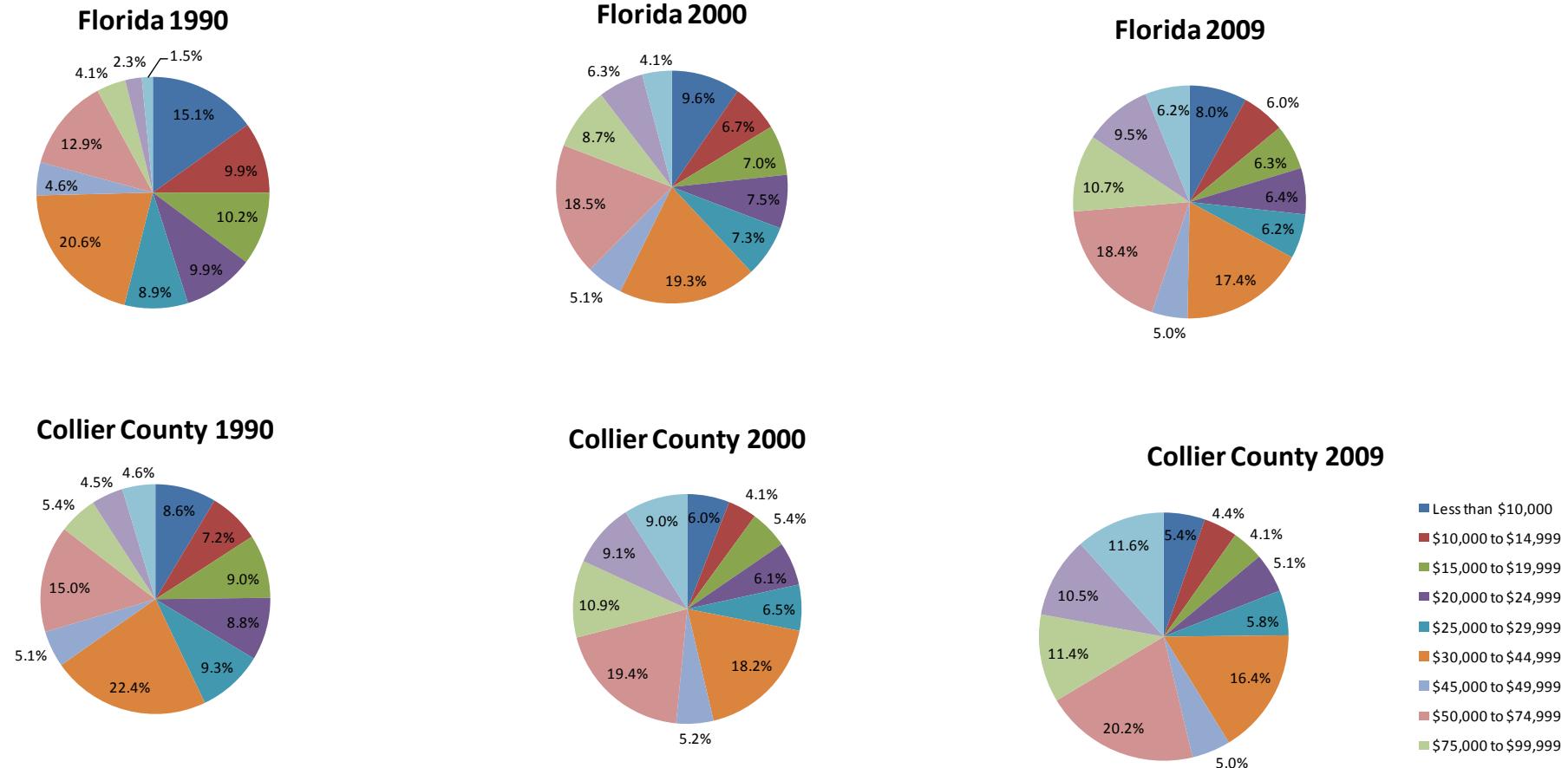
Map 2-11 presents the distribution of households that meet the criteria for “low income” with annual household incomes of 80 percent or below the 2010 AMI for the Naples-Marco Island area. The areas with lower income households mirror the lower income areas illustrated on Map 2-10.

**Table 2-6**  
**Distribution of Household Income (1990, 2000, 2009)**

Income Distribution	Florida			Collier County		
	1990	2000	2009	1990	2000	2009
<b>Less than \$10,000</b>	15.1%	9.6%	8.0%	8.6%	6.0%	5.4%
<b>\$10,000 to \$14,999</b>	9.9%	6.7%	6.0%	7.2%	4.1%	4.4%
<b>\$15,000 to \$19,999</b>	10.2%	7.0%	6.3%	9.0%	5.4%	4.1%
<b>\$20,000 to \$24,999</b>	9.9%	7.5%	6.4%	8.8%	6.1%	5.1%
<b>\$25,000 to \$29,999</b>	8.9%	7.3%	6.2%	9.3%	6.5%	5.8%
<b>\$30,000 to \$44,999</b>	20.6%	19.3%	17.4%	22.4%	18.2%	16.4%
<b>\$45,000 to \$49,999</b>	4.6%	5.1%	5.0%	5.1%	5.2%	5.0%
<b>\$50,000 to \$74,999</b>	12.9%	18.5%	18.4%	15.0%	19.4%	20.2%
<b>\$75,000 to \$99,999</b>	4.1%	8.7%	10.7%	5.4%	10.9%	11.4%
<b>\$100,000 to \$149,999</b>	2.3%	6.3%	9.5%	4.5%	9.1%	10.5%
<b>\$150,000 and greater</b>	1.5%	4.1%	6.2%	4.6%	9.0%	11.6%

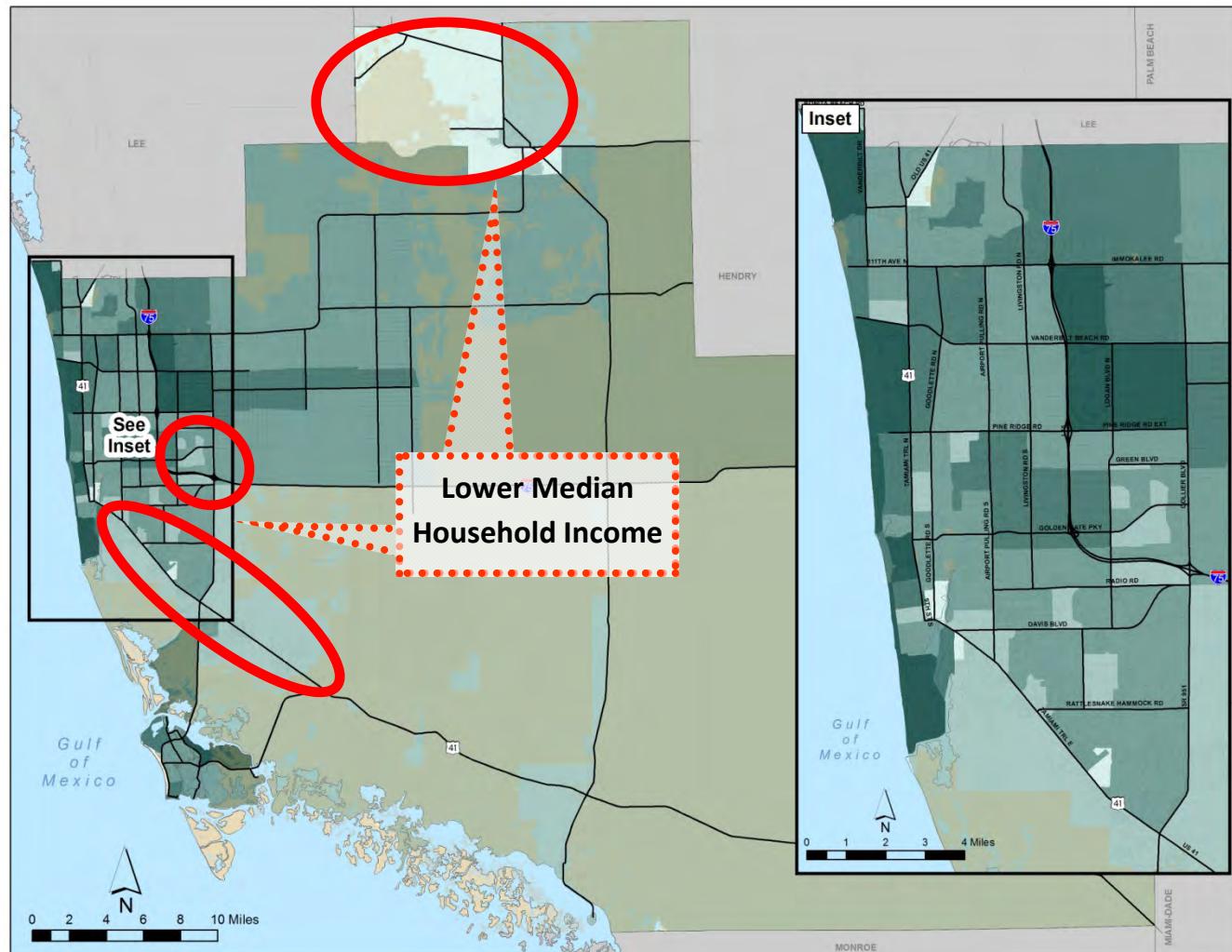
Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2009 American Community Survey.

**Figure 2-5**  
Distribution of Median Household Income (1990, 2000, 2009)



Source: U.S. Census Bureau 1990 Census, 2000 Census, and 2009 American Community Survey

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



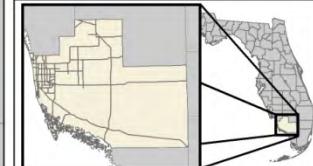
**Map 2-10**  
**Median Household Income**  
**(2009 ESRI Data)**

## Legend

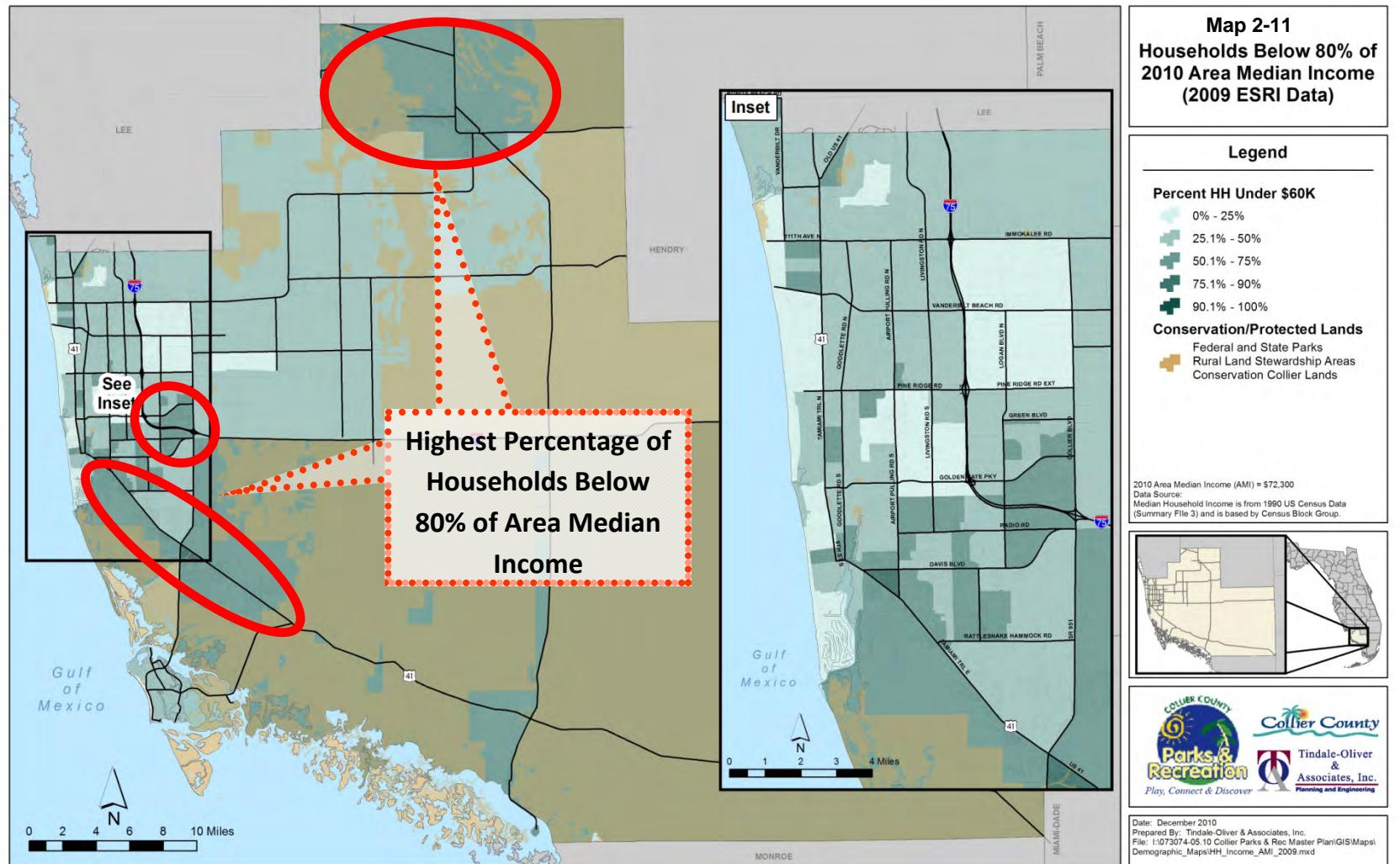
Median Household Income	
	Less than \$35,000
	\$35,000 - \$50,000
	\$50,000 - \$75,000
	\$75,000 - \$100,000
	Greater than \$100,000

Conservation/Protected Lands	
	Federal and State Parks
	Rural Land Stewardship Areas
	Conservation Collier Lands

Median Countywide Household Income is \$61,874  
Data Source:  
Population is from the 2009 ESRI Demographic Data and is based by Census Block Group.



Date: September 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
File: I:\\073074-05 10 Collier Parks & Rec Master Plan\\GIS\\Maps\\Demographic\_Maps\\HH\_Income\_2009.mxd



## CONCLUSIONS OF DEMOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

- Historically, the majority of population growth in Collier County has occurred within the traditionally urbanized area. To a lesser extent, population growth will continue in this area, mainly through infill and redevelopment; however, the highest concentration of growth and new development over the next five years is projected to occur in the Golden Gate Estates area, then extending into the Immokalee and Ave Maria areas in the subsequent five-year period.
- Although population growth is projected to occur in Collier County, especially east of CR 951, very minimal increases in overall population density are projected over the next 10 years.
- Currently, nearly 75 percent of Collier County's residents are younger than age 65. Based on previous trends, the average age of Collier County residents is expected to increase in the future, along with the percentage of residents age 65 years and older. However, the overall population of Collier County is projected to continue growing, and there is no supporting data to suggest that this trend will be sustained indefinitely. The trending age increases over the past 20 years are likely attributed to the "baby boomers" reaching retirement age.
- Collier County's median household income continues to grow at a faster pace than Florida's. In Collier County, the highest rate of growth is observed in household income greater than \$75,000. In the future, Collier County may want to consider conducting a survey of its parks and recreation users to determine the average household income of its users compared with the county as a whole.
- Areas with median household incomes of \$50,000-or-less are mainly located in the greater Immokalee area, east/south Naples (in particularly south of US 41), and the area surrounding I-75/west of CR 951.

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## Section 3 – Parks and Recreation Inventory

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## EXISTING INVENTORY

The residents of and visitors to Collier County are provided a significant selection of parks and recreation facilities and activities, ranging from beach access to trails and open space to active recreation facilities. This section provides current inventories for several different types of parks and recreation facilities, including:

- Water Access
- Resource-Based Parks
- Conservation Land
- User-Oriented Parks
- Undeveloped Park Land/Planned Capital Improvements

Parks and recreation resources in Collier County range from water access sites to conservation land to user-oriented parks.

Consistent with the 2010 Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, prepared by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Office of Park Planning, this Master Plan distinguishes between “resource-based” and user-oriented” parks and activities.

*User-oriented types of outdoor recreation are those that can be provided almost anywhere for the convenience of the user. This category is the broader of the two and includes activities such as golf, tennis, baseball, basketball, shuffleboard, volleyball, soccer, pool swimming, archery, skeet and trap shooting, and playground activities. User-oriented activities are needed in vast amounts in urban and suburban areas, and as with other services, user-oriented recreation facilities and programs are primarily provided by local governments.*

*Resource-based outdoor recreation differs from user-oriented recreation in that it cannot be provided just anywhere, but is dependent upon some element or combination of elements in the natural or cultural environments that cannot be easily duplicated by man. It may be either active or passive in nature. Examples include hiking, hunting, fishing, camping, backpacking, boating, water skiing, surfing, biking, nature study and visiting historical and archaeological sites. Resource-based recreation lends itself better to the capabilities of state and federal government. An important distinction to make between user-oriented and resource-based outdoor recreation is that the former can always be provided, assuming the availability of space and funds for development, while the latter can be provided only to the extent that the supporting natural or cultural resources are available.<sup>2</sup>*

<sup>2</sup> 2010 Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan

The water access, resource-based, and conservation land acreage and facilities available in Collier County are documented in this section. However, the focus of this Master Plan is to identify existing and future needs related to user-oriented parks in Collier County. As will be discussed in this section, a similar effort was done recently for water access locations, and the recommendations from that report have been incorporated into this Master Plan. While an abundance of resource-based park land, including conservation land, is available in Collier County, this type of park land is not being considered in the recommendations of this Master Plan, as Collier County Parks and Recreation Department is geared towards providing user-oriented parks and facilities. In addition, the current inventory of resource-based park land is likely to remain constant, and the inventory of conservation land may increase incrementally as the county grows towards its estimated build-out population of approximately 950,000 residents. As such, the existing resource-based park land will serve not only the current population but the build-out population as well.

## Water Access Inventory

Table 3-1 provides the water access inventory for Collier County, which includes both publicly- and privately-owned sites and facilities available to the public. Water access sites identified include both saltwater and freshwater access. Map 3-1 illustrates the locations of the water access sites available to the public in Collier County.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

**Table 3-1**  
**Water Access Inventory**

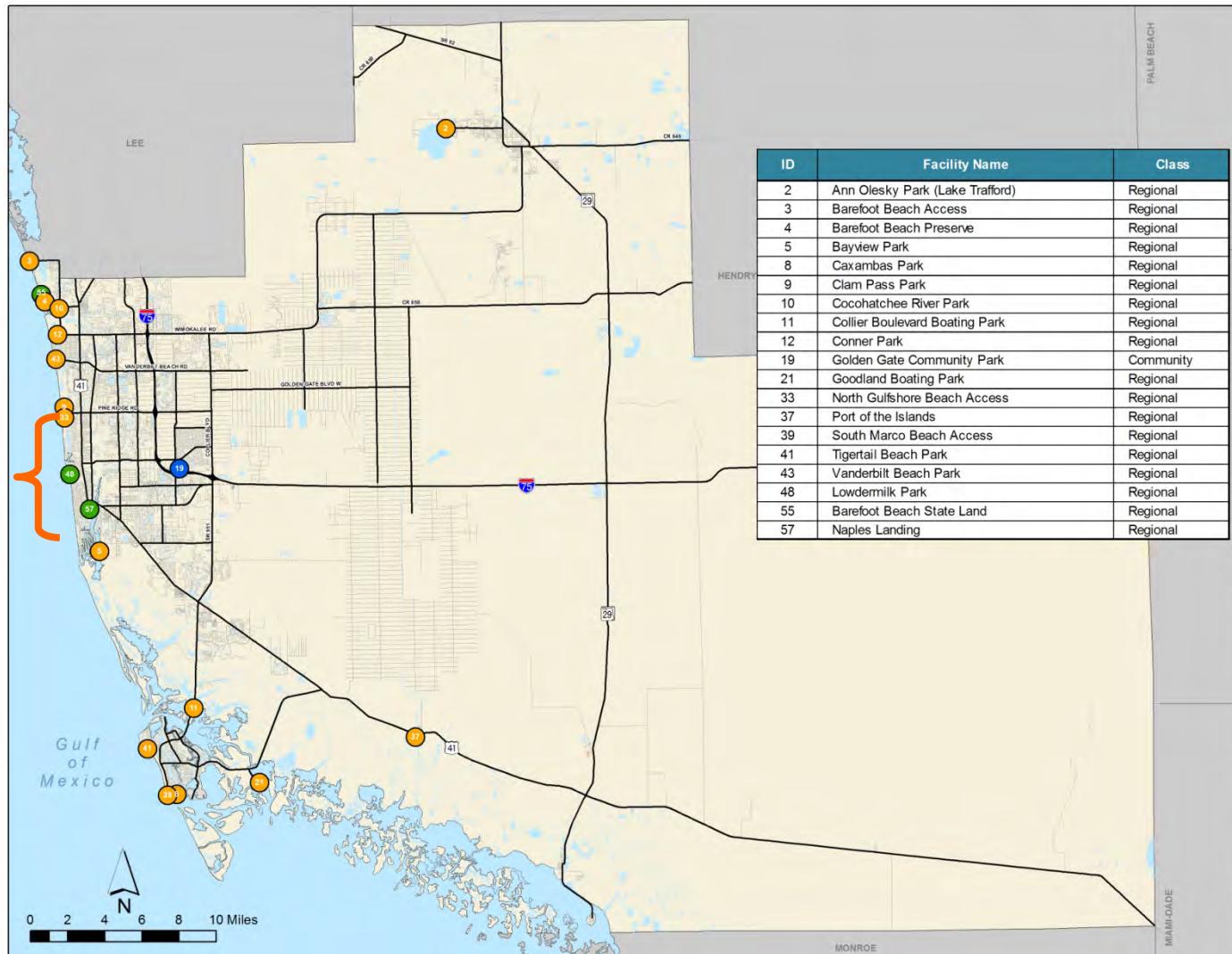
Owner	Park/Facility Name	Beach Access (Y/N)	Fishing Access Point	Boat Ramp Lane	Non-Motorized Launch Lane
County	Ann Olesky Park (Lake Trafford)	N	Y	1	
County	Barefoot Beach Access	Y			
County	Barefoot Beach Preserve Community Park	Y		1	1
County	Bayview Park	N	Y	2	
County	Big Corkscrew Island	N	Y		
County	Bluebill Beach Access	Y			
County	Caxambas Park	N	Y	2	
County	Clam Pass Park	Y			1
County	Cocohatchee River Park	N	Y	4	
County	Collier Boulevard Boating Park	N		2	
County	Conner Park	N			
County	Freedom Park	N	Y		
County	Golden Gate Community Park	N		2	
County	Goodland Boating Park	N	Y	2	
County	North Gulfshore Beach Access	Y			
County	Port of the Island Marina	N		2	
County	South Marco Beach Access	Y			
County	Sugden Park	Y	Y		1
County	Tigertail Beach Park	Y			
County	Vanderbilt Beach	Y			
Naples	1900 Block Gulf Shore Blvd Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Broad Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Central Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Gorden Drive South Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Horizon Way Beach Access.	Y			
Naples	Loudermilk Park	Y			
Naples	Miramar Beach Access	Y			
Naples	N 1st Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	N 2nd Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	N 4th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	N 6th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	N 7th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	N 8th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Naples Fishing Pier	N	Y		
Naples	Naples Landing	N		3	1
Naples	North Lake Drive Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Pier Parking Lot Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 10th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 11th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 12th Avenue Beach Access	Y			

**Table 3-1 (continued)**  
**Water Access Inventory**

Owner	Park/Facility Name	Beach Access (Y/N)	Fishing Access Point	Boat Ramp Lane	Non-Motorized Launch Lane
Naples	S 13th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 14th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 15th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 16th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 17th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 18th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 19th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 1st Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 2nd Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 32nd Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 33rd Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 3rd Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 4th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 5th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 6th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 7th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 8th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	S 9th Avenue Beach Access	Y			
Naples	Vedado Public Beach Access	Y			
Private	Calusa Island Marina	N		2	
Private	Glades Haven Marina	N		2	
Private	Isles of Capri Marina	N		1	
Private	Moran's Restaurant Marina & Motel	N		1	
Private	Outdoor Resorts	N		1	
Private	Shell Island Road Boat Ramp	N		1	
State	Barefoot Beach State Land	N			
State	Collier-Seminole State Park	N	Y	2	
State	Delnor Wiggins State Recreation Area	Y		2	

Source: Collier County Boat and Beach Access Report (September 2010), supplemented with information provided by Collier County Parks and Recreation Department.

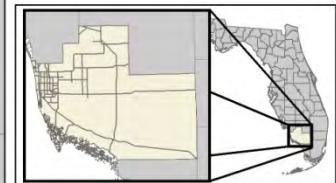
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



**Map 3-1**  
**Boat and Beach Access Sites**

**Legend**

- Collier Community Park
- Collier Regional Park
- Other Agency Community Park
- Other Agency Regional Park



Date: October 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
File: I:\073074-05.10 Collier Parks & Rec Master Plan\GISMaps\Park\_Map\Parka\_WaterAccess.mxd

## ***Collier County Boat and Access Report***

In September 2010, Collier County released an updated Boat and Beach Access Report, the purpose of which is to assess Collier County's performance in providing beach access and boat launch facilities to County residents and visitors. The full 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report can be found in Appendix A.

The Boat and Beach Access Report looks at the county's existing boat and beach access inventory, existing and projected capacity needs, and level of service (LOS). The County's Growth Management Plan does not provide a separate LOS for water access acreage (i.e., acreage related to beach access points, beach parking, and boating access). Rather, water access acreage is included under the county's regional park acreage for purposes of measuring comprehensive plan concurrency. The Growth Management Plan does not provide a distinction between regional park acreage and acreage reserved for beach and water access. However, the 2010 AUIR does provide a Water Access LOS Guideline of one access point per every 10,000 permanent residents. This includes public beach access points, boat ramp lanes, fishing access points, canoe/kayak launches, and any other fresh or saltwater access facilities available to the public. According to the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report, the County currently is maintaining an LOS of one water access point per every 4,239 residents, based on a current water access inventory of 79 access points. In addition, based on the projected build-out population of 950,000 residents and LOS Guideline of 1:10,000, the county will need a total of 95 water access points. It should be noted that the capacity analyses within the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report consider only permanent residents and not seasonal residents or tourists.

An analysis of the current number of registered vessels in Collier County compared to the number of storage points (i.e., wet slips and dry storage spaces) indicate that at least 13,100 vessels are likely dependent on the County's boat ramps for water access. Based on the projected number of vessels and storage points, there is projected to be a deficiency of three boat ramps by 2020.

One of the most important issues with water access points, especially boat launches and beach access, relates to the level of adequate parking (vehicle and boat trailer) available at parks and other facilities where boat launches/ ramps and access points are located. An analysis of the available parking spaces at these facilities indicates a current deficit of 149 parking spaces at saltwater launch facilities and a deficit of 90 spaces at freshwater launch facilities. An analysis of the number of beach parking spaces per permanent resident indicates the current ratio 1:106 and is projected to be 1:129 in 2020. As such, the County is projected to maintain adequate parking for the next 10 years based on the goal ratio of 1:150 established by the County's Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in 1999.

In addition to current projects to expand the access to open water and the beaches, the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report include several recommendations improvements. Therefore, to not duplicate

effort concerning planning for boat and beach access sites, the recommendations included in the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report are incorporated into the Master Plan and include:

1. Barefoot Beach Preserve

Not exceeding the carrying capacity of this park is a primary objective because of its status as a nature preserve. However, a dock and pier can be provided to the inland side of the island to accommodate waterborne visitors while protecting the beach and dunes. This area will also allow provide visitors a better view the mangrove habitat, which presently is only accessible by canoe/kayak. Pickup locations can be at Cocohatchee Park and Conner Park.

2. Beach Access

Beach access can be viewed from two perspectives – the number and amount of beach access points and the effectiveness of each of those locations. Although no standards exist for the number of public beach access points a County should have, Collier County has been aggressively working to increase the number and location of its public beach accesses points. This, however, has met with limited success because of the high cost and low availability of suitable locations.

It is recommended that the County continue to pursue its current acquisition policy but at the same time aggressively pursue revisions to the Land Development Code that permits greater public beach access.

3. Parking and Transportation Service for Beach Access

The number of beach parking spaces currently meets the countywide 1:150 parking space to permanent residents recommended ratio suggested by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. If additional parking is required at the more popular beach parks or during the busy season, the County should consider providing beach access through a combination of:

- Exploring an extended Collier Area Transit (CAT) operation along Gulf Shore Drive to increase service to the beach access points along Vanderbilt Beach.
- Developing a business plan to provide tram service during peak use periods between Conner Park and the Vanderbilt Beach garage to feed our most popular beaches using existing underused public access points.

4. Beach Parking Fees

Collier County has adopted a policy of free beach parking with a beach parking pass. If this system were changed to require both residents and visitors alike to purchase daily, monthly, or annual passes, then approximately \$1M to \$3M would become available to fund the operational needs of meeting existing and future levels of service.

## 5. Boat Launch and Boat Trailer Parking

Boat ramp lanes are not adequate for the peak periods of weekends and holidays for the number of boat users in Collier County. Even with the additional new lane at Bayview Park, the County is operating with a two-lane deficit in 2011. This deficit will grow by one lane in 2013 to 2015 timeframe and increase to five additional ramp lanes in 2020.

Boat trailer parking presently is inadequate, and even with programmed parking increases, the County has a significant parking space deficit based on current ramp capacity. This deficit is a county wide average and does not account for peak usage or chronic shortages at popular ramp locations such as Bayview, Caxambas, or Cocohatchee.

The County should continue to pursue expanding the existing boat parks and parking where appropriate. Additionally, strategic acquisition of desirable boat launch sites should continue.

## Resource-Based Park Inventory

Approximately one-half of the total land within Collier County is designated as federal or state resource-based park land. Table 3-2 provides an inventory of the resource-based park land and facilities available in Collier County, and Map 3-2 illustrates the locations of the resource-based parks.

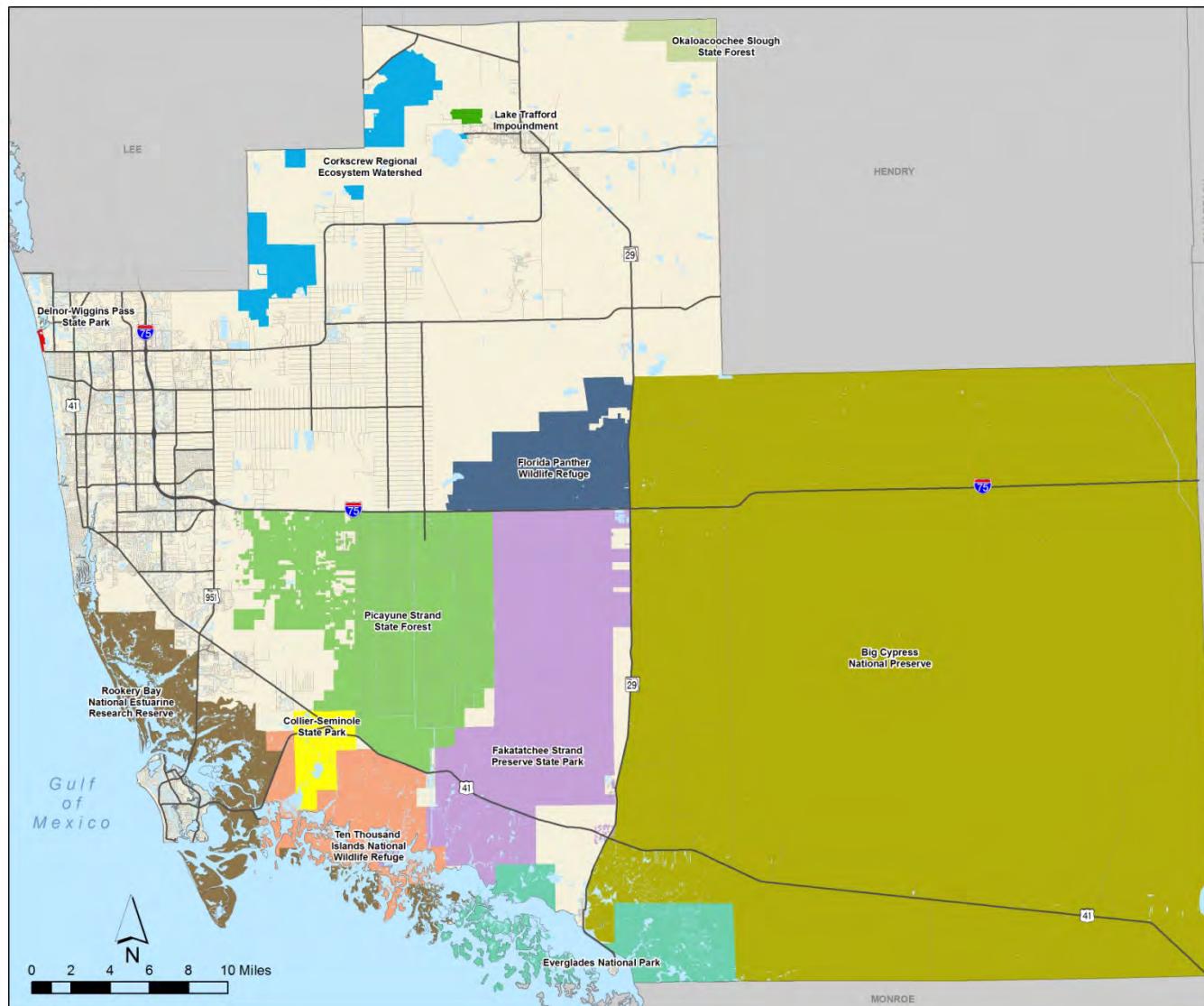
## Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

**Table 3-2**  
**Resource-Based Parks and Recreation Inventory**

Agency	Park/Facility Name	Total Acres	RV Sites	Tent Sites	Primitive Camping (Acres)	Picnic Shelter	Picnic Table	Hiking Trail (mile)	Florida Trail	Florida National Scenic	Equestrian Trail (mile)	Nature Trail	Multi-Use Trail (mile)	Playground
Federal	Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve	110,000											4	
Federal	Everglades National park	39,262		3			5	1						
Federal	Big Cypress National Preserve	569,377	66	68	20		50			35		1	70	
Federal	Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge	31,150											1	
State	Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge	26,400												
State	Picayune Strand State Forest	69,975			3						22		3	
State	Collier-Seminole State Park	7,272	120	121	1	4	10	1	7				4	
State	Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park	76,069							8				178	
State	Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park	166				1	155							1
State	Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed	16,230			1									
<b>Total</b>		<b>945,901</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>1</b>

Source: State of Florida Office of Parks Planning Outdoor Recreation Planning Inventory database and the Collier County 2010 Annual Update and Inventory Report..

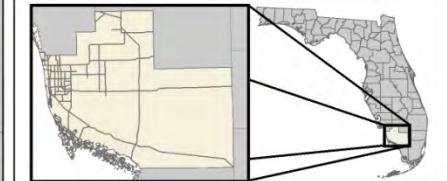
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



**Map 3-2**  
**Resource-Based Parks**  
**(State and Federal Park Land)**

**Legend**

- [Yellow square] Big Cypress National Preserve
- [Yellow square with red border] Collier-Seminole State Park
- [Blue square] Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed
- [Red square with white cross] Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park
- [Green square] Everglades National Park
- [Purple square] Fakahatchee Strand Preserve State Park
- [Dark Blue square] Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge
- [Green square with black outline] Lake Trafford Impoundment
- [Light Green square] Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest
- [Light Green square with black outline] Picayune Strand State Forest
- [Brown square] Rockery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
- [Orange square] Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge
- [Yellow square with black outline] Collier County



Date: August 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
File: I:\073074-05.10 Collier Parks & Rec Master Plan\GIS\Maps\Park\_Maps\Fed\_State\_Parks.mxd

## Conservation Land Inventory

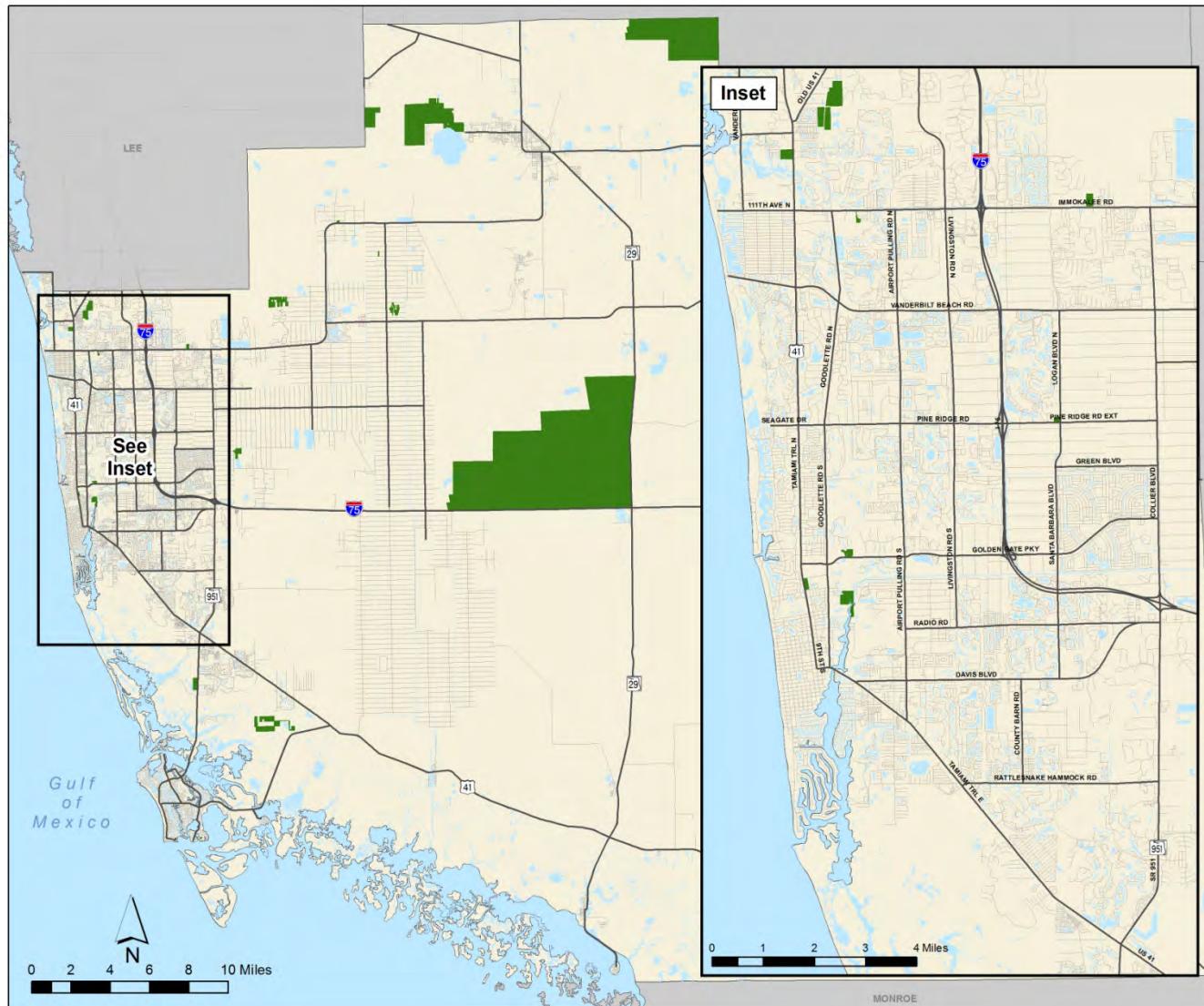
Properties of high natural resource values may be protected conservation land under federal, state, or local programs. In Collier County, there are nearly 35,000 acres of designated conservation land, as shown in Table 3-3. The majority of this acreage is protected land under the State of Florida. At the local level, Collier County operates Conservation Collier, a program to acquire conservation land. Public access to these sites varies but must be consistent with conservation goals and limited to natural resource-based recreation and education activities (e.g., environmental education, hiking, nature photography, bird-watching, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, hunting and fishing). Map 3-3 illustrates the locations of conservation land in Collier County.

**Table 3-3**  
**Conservation Land Inventory**

Agency	Park/Facility Name	Land (Acres)
State	Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge	26,394.0
State	Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest	4,700.0
City of Naples	Naples Preserve	9.5
Conservation Collier	Nancy Payton Preserve	65.0
Conservation Collier	Railhead Scrub Preserve	80.3
Conservation Collier	Shell Island Preserve	83.2
Conservation Collier	Limpkin Marsh Preserve	9.3
Conservation Collier	Winchester Head	8.9
Conservation Collier	Cocohatchee Creek Preserve	3.6
Conservation Collier	Otter Mound Preserve	1.8
Conservation Collier	Red Maple Swamp Preserve	81.3
Conservation Collier	Logan Woods Preserve	7.5
Conservation Collier	Wet Woods Preserve	26.8
Conservation Collier	Collier Devopment Corporation aka Gordon River Greenway Preserve	48.9
Conservation Collier	Alligator Flag Preserve	18.5
Conservation Collier	Caracara Prairie Preserve	367.7
Conservation Collier	Freedom Park (conservation portion)	12.5
Conservation Collier	McIlvane Marsh	368.0
Conservation Collier	Panther Walk Preserve	4.5
Conservation Collier	Pepper Ranch Preserve	2,512.0
<b>Total Acreage</b>		<b>34,803.2</b>

Source: State of Florida Office of Parks Planning Outdoor Recreation Planning Inventory database, and supplemental information provided by Collier County.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



**Map 3-3**  
**Conservation Land**

**Legend**

- + Conservation Land
  - Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge
  - Okaloacoochee Slough State Forest
  - Naples Preserve
  - Nancy Payton Preserve
  - Railhead Scrub Preserve
  - Shell Island Preserve
  - Limpkin Marsh Preserve
  - Winchester Head
  - Cocohatchee Creek Preserve
  - Otter Mound Preserve
  - Red Maple Swamp Preserve
  - Logan Woods Preserve
  - Wet Woods Preserve
  - Gordon River Greenway Preserve
  - Alligator Flag Preserve
  - Caracara Prairie Preserve
  - Freedom Park (conservation)
  - McIlvane Marsh
  - Panther Walk Preserve
  - Pepper Ranch Preserve

+ Collier County



Date: October 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
File: I:\073074-05\_10\Collier Parks & Rec Master Plan\GIS\Maps\Park\_Maps\Conservation\_Land.mxd

## User-Oriented Park Inventory

As previously mentioned, the purpose of this Master Plan is to identify and prioritize user-oriented type parks, which are provided by Collier County, the School District Board of Collier County (through interlocal agreement), and the municipalities within Collier County. Consistent with the County's planning practices, recommendations for this Master Plan will consider only community and regional parks within Collier County, as neighborhood parks are designed to serve a small geographic area and are being provided more frequently by developers to serve a subdivision.

It is important to note that the user-oriented park inventory provided in this Master Plan differs from the community and regional park inventory included in the County's AUIR. The AUIR inventory includes water access sites considered regional park land and land purchased for future parks but not yet developed. Water access locations (including those considered to be regional parks in the AUIR) are shown separately, and recommendations concerning water access locations have been documented by the County in the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report.

The Master Plan considers both county and municipal community and regional parks.

Another difference of note between the Master Plan and AUIR is that, for LOS purposes, the County considers only the regional and community parks owned and operated by the County. However, the Master Plan considers the availability of community and regional parks to residents and visitors throughout Collier County to determine future needs. Therefore, the Master Plan provides a holistic inventory of community and regional parks provided by not only Collier County, but also in Naples, Marco Island, and Everglades City.

Table 3-4 provides a summary of the acreage and facilities currently provided at the user-oriented community and regional parks in Collier County, which also are illustrated on Map 3-4.

In addition, Appendix B provides detail pertaining to each user-oriented park considered in the Master Plan, including park location, park type, acreage, and facilities.

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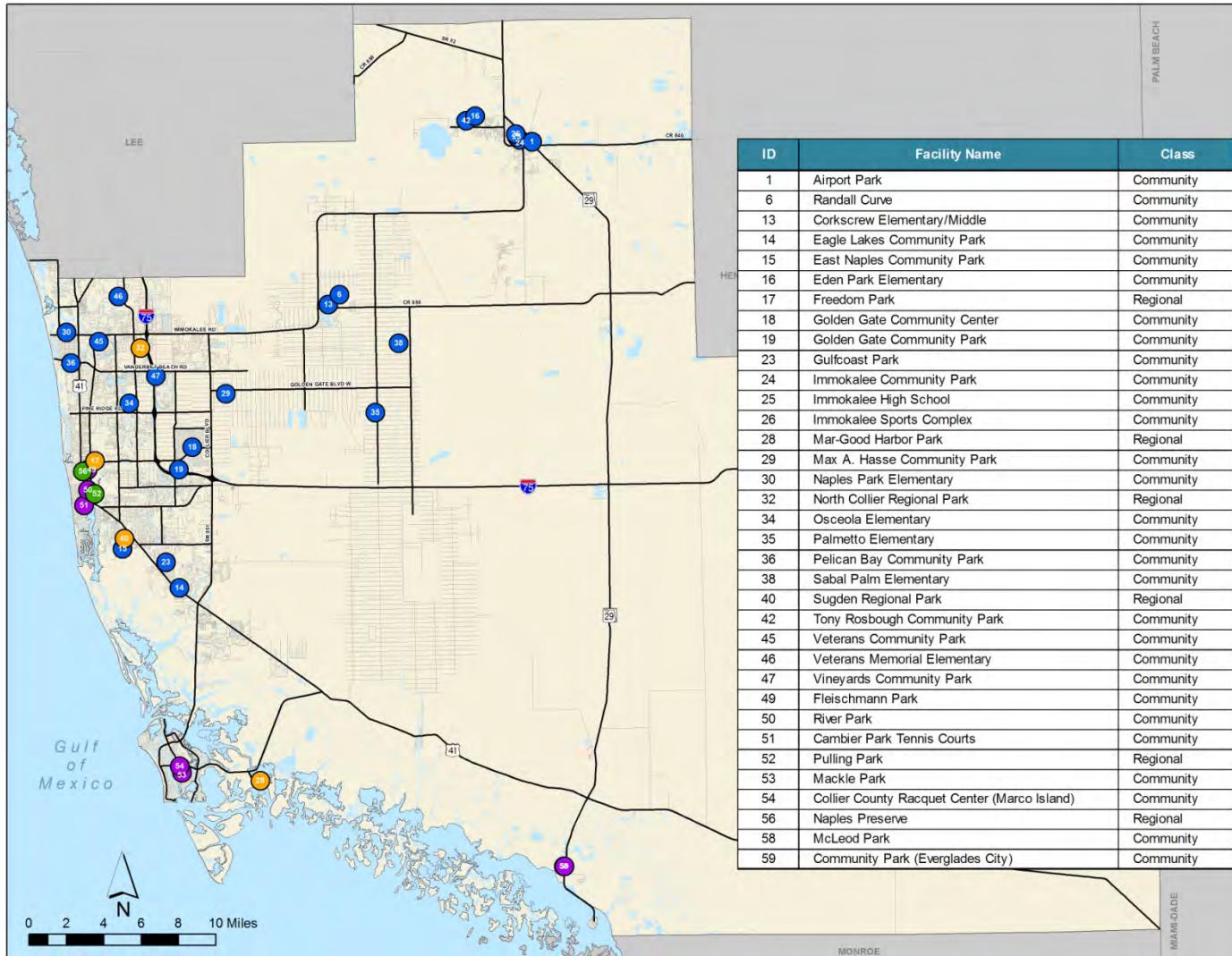
Table 3-4

## User-Oriented Parks and Recreation Inventory

Agency	Park/Facility Name	Total Acreage - IF Study	Park Class	Athletic Fields (AUIR Facilities):					Hard Courts (AUIR Facilities):					Misc. AUIR Facilities				Non-AUIR Facilities - Miscellaneous				Non-AUIR Facilities - Aquatic Recreation				
				Baseball Field	Little League Field	Multuse Field	Soccer/Football/Lacrosse	Softball Field	Basketball Court	Bocce Ball	Shuffleboard Court	Racquetball Court	Tennis Court	Multuse Pathway/ Trail (mile)	Recreation Center	Multuse Building	Nature/Cultural/Historical Center	Picnic Pavilion	Picnic Shelter	Playground	Roller Hockey/Skating Rink	Skate Park	Splash Park	Sun n' Fun Lagoon	Swimming Pool	
County	Airport Park	19.00	C											1.0				1		1						
Naples	Cambier Park Tennis Courts	12.84	C					1	1	7		12		12,000					12	1						
Marco Island	Collier County Racquet Center (Marco Island)	2.97	C								2	8														
Everglades City	Community Park (Everglades City)	0.86	C											7,500							1					
School Board	Corkscrew Elementary/Middle	16.90	C	1			1	1	2			2	4													
County	Eagle Lakes Community Park	32.00	C	1			2	1	1			2	2.0				3		2				1			
County	East Naples Community Park	47.00	C				2	1	4	6	4	8	2.0	10,090			2		1	1	1					
School Board	Eden Park Elementary	2.80	C			1																				
Naples	Fleischmann Park	25.26	C		2		2	1	2			4		7,000				3	1			1				
County	Freedom Park	25.16	R											2.0			1									
County	Golden Gate Community Center	21.00	C			1				1				1.0	27,295	1				1		1				
County	Golden Gate Community Park	35.00	C	1	1		1	2	2	6	4	4	2.0				2		1						1	
County	Gulfcoast Park	5.00	C			2																				
County	Immokalee Community Park	23.00	C	1				2	3			2	2	1.0	6,966			1	1	1						
School Board	Immokalee High School	1.00	C										2													
County	Immokalee Sports Complex	14.00	C				3		1																	1
Marco Island	Mackle Park	30.00	C				1		2	6			0.5	7,000						1						
County	Mar-Good Harbor Park	2.50	R													1				1						
County	Max A. Hasse Community Park	20.00	C					2	1			2		9,483			1			1						
Everglades City	McLeod Park	1.04	C						1				2						1	1						
School Board	Naples Park Elementary	5.00	C		1								2													
Naples	Naples Preserve	9.78	R										0.4													
County	North Collier Regional Park	207.70	R				8	5	1				2.5	39,060			9	7	1						1	
School Board	Osceola Elementary School	3.20	C		2																					
School Board	Palmetto Elementary	2.00	C			1																				
County	Pelican Bay Community Park	15.00	C						1	3	4	8	1.0					1	1							
Naples	Pulling Park	12.21	R																							
County	Randall Curve	47.00	C																							
Naples	River Park	1.61	C						1					11,000					2	1						1
School Board	Sabal Palm Elementary	9.50	C				2	2	2																	
County	Sugden Regional Park	120.00	R		1								1.0		2		9		1							
County	Tony Rosbough Community park	7.00	C		2																					
Naples	Various Beach Access Points	0.50	R																							
County	Veterans Community Park	43.64	C	1			1	3	2	4	4	4	1.0	6,966			1	1	1	1						
School Board	Veterans Memorial Elementary	4.00	C			1									1											
County	Vineyards Community Park	35.50	C				4	2	2	6	4	4	1.0	9,664			14		1						1	
<b>Total - Community Parks</b>		<b>483.12</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>12.5</b>	<b>114,964</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	
<b>Total - Regional Parks</b>		<b>377.85</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>39,060</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Total - All Parks</b>		<b>860.97</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>18.4</b>	<b>154,024</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	

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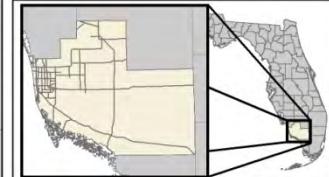
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



**Map 3-4**  
Existing Community and Regional Parks

## Legend

- Collier Community Park
- Collier Regional Park
- Other Agency Community Park
- Other Agency Regional Park



Date: October 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
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## PLANNED PARK LAND ACQUISITIONS

Collier County has identified regional park land acquisitions planned over the next 10 years in its 2010 AUIR. There are no proposed community park land acquisitions identified in the 2010 AUIR. It is important to note that the planned regional park land acquisitions are not land purchases, but are an interdepartmental transfer, lease, or developer contribution. Therefore, these acquisitions are not direct expenditures within the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan. Map 3-5 presents the locations of regional park land acquisitions, totaling 302.5 acres over the next 10 years. Also shown on this map are two undeveloped park sites (Vanderbilt Beach Extension Community Park and Manatee Community Park) totaling 180 acres for which the County already has acquired the land.

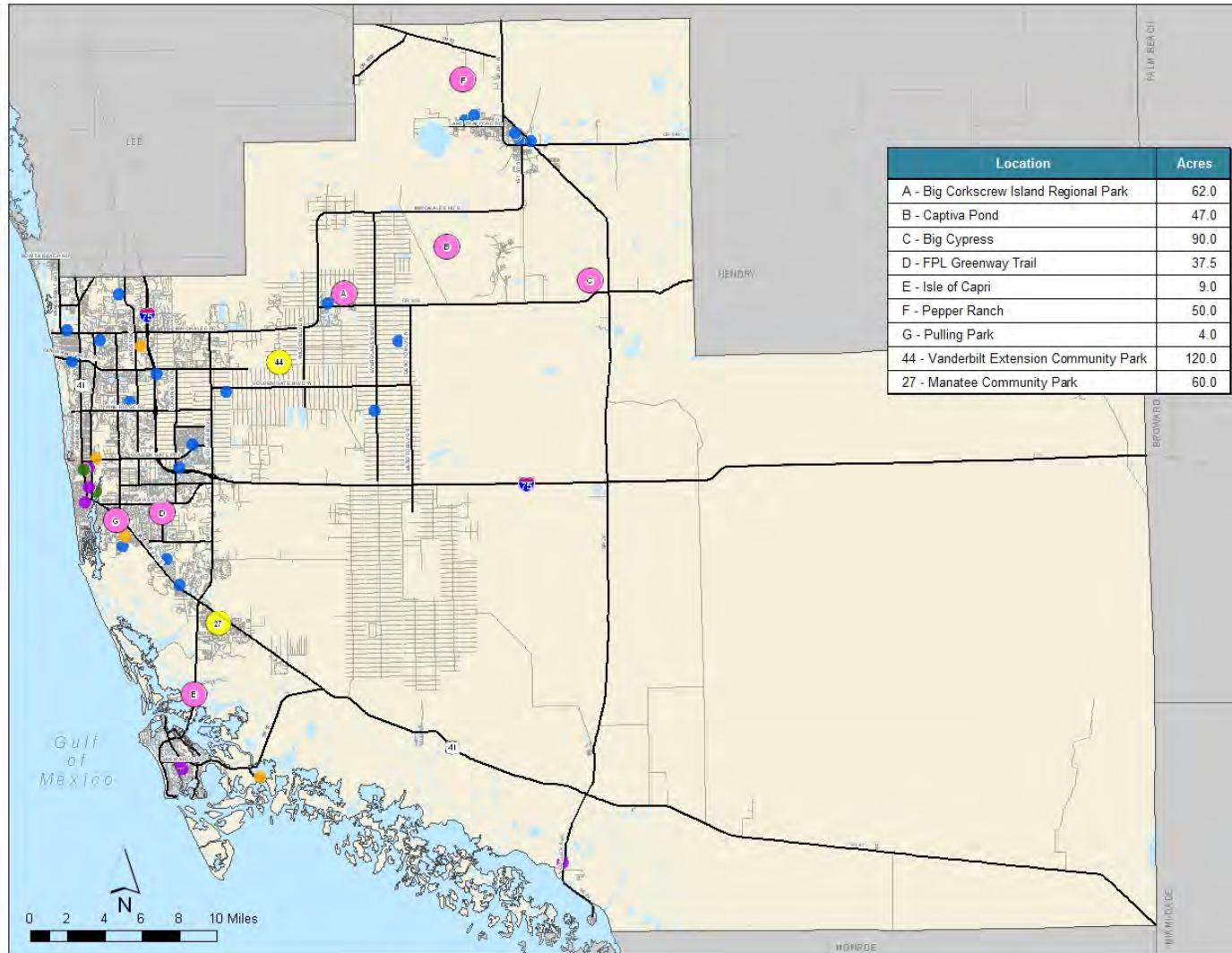
## PLANNED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

The County Parks and Recreation Department has identified several capital projects planned for the next 10 years, should funding be available. These are major projects and do not include minor capital projects (e.g., parking lot expansion, additional restroom facility, etc.) These projects include:

- Develop Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park
- Develop Manatee Community Park
- Construct Eagle Lakes Community Center and Swimming Pool Complex
- Develop Vanderbilt Extension Community Park
- Acquire beach access at Vanderbilt Beach

As listed above, the County is considering acquisition of three properties to provide beach access at Vanderbilt Beach, which is planned to be funded with Tourist Development Council revenue (hotel bed taxes), a funding source specific to beach land and facilities.

Map 3-6 presents the locations of planned capital parks and recreation projects.



**Map 3-5  
2010 AUIR  
Planned Land Acquisitions  
and Park Development**

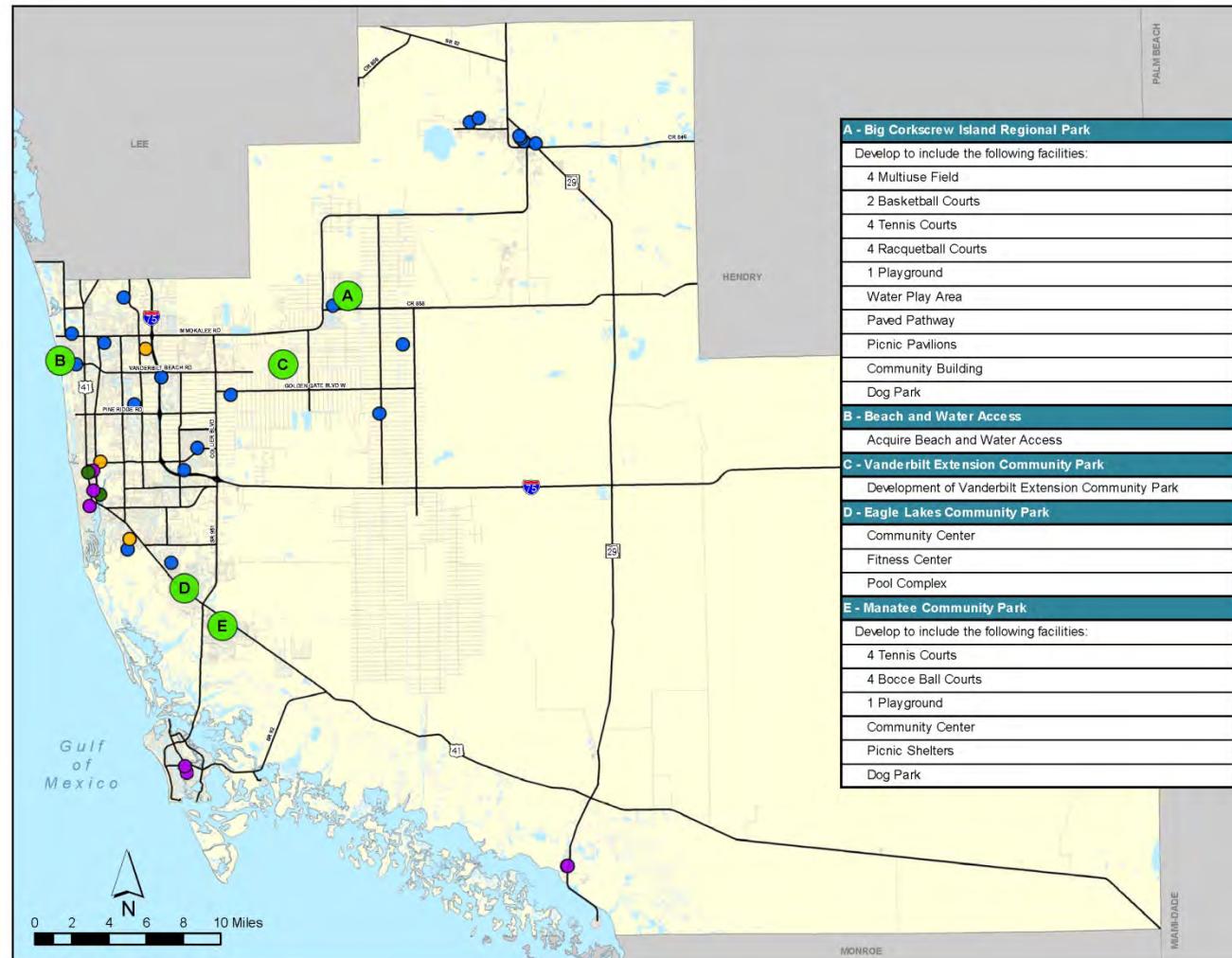
## Legend

- 2010 AUIR Land Acquisitions (Pink circle)
- Undeveloped Park Sites (County Owned) (Yellow circle)

### Existing Parks

- Collier Community Park (Blue dot)
- Collier Regional Park (Orange dot)
- Other Agency Community Park (Purple dot)
- Other Agency Regional Park (Green dot)

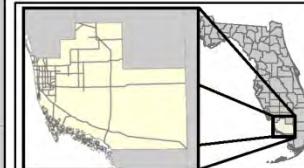




**Map 3-6**  
**Planned Capital Projects**

**Legend**

- Planned Capital Projects
- Existing Parks
- Collier Community Park
- Collier Regional Park
- Other Agency Community Park
- Other Agency Regional Park



Date: November 2010  
Prepared By: Tindale-Oliver & Associates, Inc.  
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## Section 4 – Needs Analysis

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## INTRODUCTION TO NEEDS ANALYSIS

The purpose of this section is to determine the needs of Collier County park land and recreation facilities over the next 10 years. The needs analysis consists of three parts:

- Analysis of park land needs
- Analysis of driving distance to parks and recreation facilities (drive-time analysis)
- Current utilization of recreation facilities

The results of the needs analysis will be used to develop the Master Plan recommendations. The results of the needs analysis also will be compared to the input received from the focus group (discussed in Section 5) to validate the Master Plan recommendations or to determine if additional needs identified by the focus group should be considered.

## PARK LAND NEEDS ANALYSIS

For Collier County, the AUIR is a financial management and planning tool for the annual update of the Comprehensive Plan Capital Improvements Element (CIE). The AUIR provides an inventory of required infrastructure that the County can use to determine if the adopted LOS is being met and will continue to be met for the next five years. As a result, the finances necessary to maintain the LOS are determined, as the AUIR is a five-year financially feasible plan. For the development of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the last three AUIRs prepared in 2007, 2008, and 2009 were reviewed.

Over the past several years, the County's Parks and Recreation AUIR has recognized the need for delaying park land acquisition to respond to decreased levels of growth and new development. Further, the reduced population growth impacts the acreage needed to maintain the existing LOS, and the lack of new population has greatly impacted impact fee collections, which is the County's primary sources for funding new park land and facilities. However, at the same time, the County continues to be responsive to strategic acquisition of park land as specific opportunities that make both fiscal and practical sense arise. Planned land acquisitions included in the 2010 AUIR are consistent with the land acquisitions previously presented in Section 3, Map 3-5. As documented in Table 4-1, the County continues to maintain a surplus of community park land per the 2010 AUIR but is anticipating a continued deficit of regional park land, based on the adopted LOS.

For the County's purposes of monitoring achieved and anticipated LOS, the AUIR includes only community and regional park land owned by Collier County. The inclusion of County-owned parks makes sense for the AUIR, given that the AUIR is a financially-feasible planning document. However, as previously discussed, the Master Plan is taking a holistic picture of the park land and recreation facilities currently available to the residents and visitors of Collier County and, as such, is looking at parks owned by both the County and other agencies (i.e., municipalities of Naples, Marco

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Island, and Everglades City) to determine where gaps in recreational needs existing and where future park land and facilities are needed.

**Table 4-1  
2010 AUIR Summary**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Community Parks</b>		<b>Regional Parks</b>	
	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Value<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>Value<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>Five-Year Summary (FY 10-15)</b>				
Available Inventory as of 9/30/10	591.54	\$136,054,200	1,074.68	\$247,176,400
Required Inventory as of 9/30/15 <sup>1</sup>	472.16	\$108,596,800	1,286.24	\$295,835,200
Proposed AUIR FY 10/11 - 14/15	(47.00)	(\$10,810,000)	165.50	\$38,065,000
5-Year Surplus or (Deficit)	72.38	\$16,647,400	(46.06)	(\$10,593,800)
<b>Ten-Year Summary (FY 10-20)</b>				
Available Inventory as of 9/30/10 <sup>1</sup>	591.54	\$136,054,200	1,074.68	\$247,176,400
Required Inventory as of 9/30/20 <sup>1</sup>	527.05	\$121,221,500	1,427.99	\$328,437,700
Proposed AUIR FY 10/11 - 19/20	(47.00)	(\$10,810,000)	302.50	\$69,575,000
10-Year Surplus or (Deficit)	17.49	\$4,022,700	(50.81)	(\$11,686,300)

<sup>1</sup>LOS Standard: Community Park - 1.2 ac/1,000 (unincorporated county); Regional Park - 2.9 ac/1,000 (countywide).

<sup>2</sup>Unit Cost: \$230,000/acre.

Source: Collier County 2010 Annual Inventory and Update Report (September 2010).

As shown in Section 3, Table 3-4, based on the current inventory of city-owned park land inventory, there is an additional 74.58 acres of municipal community park land and 36.6 acres of municipal regional park land. When the municipal park land is added to the community and regional park land in the 2010 AUIR, the 2020 surplus of community park land increases to 92.07 acres, while the 2020 deficit of regional park land decreases to 14.21 acres.

When taking into account only the County-owned existing community park acreage and existing and planned regional park acreage available by 2020 in Collier County, the County will exceed the required community park acreage based on the adopted LOS standard. In addition, the County will be within 3.5 percent of the required regional park land acreage based on the adopted LOS standard. However, when taking into account the total (County and City-owned) existing and planned regional park acreage available by 2020 in Collier County, the County will be within one percent of the required regional park land acreage based on the adopted LOS standard.

**Table 4-2**  
**10-Year Park Land Surplus/Deficit Including Municipal Park Land**

Description	Community Parks (acres)	Regional Parks (acres)
10-Year Surplus or (Deficit) <sup>(1)</sup>	17.49	(50.81)
Available Municipal Park Acreage <sup>(2)</sup>	74.58	36.60
Remaining 10-Year Surplus (Deficit) <sup>(3)</sup>	92.07	(14.21)

(1) Source: Table 4-1.

(2) Source: Table 3-4.

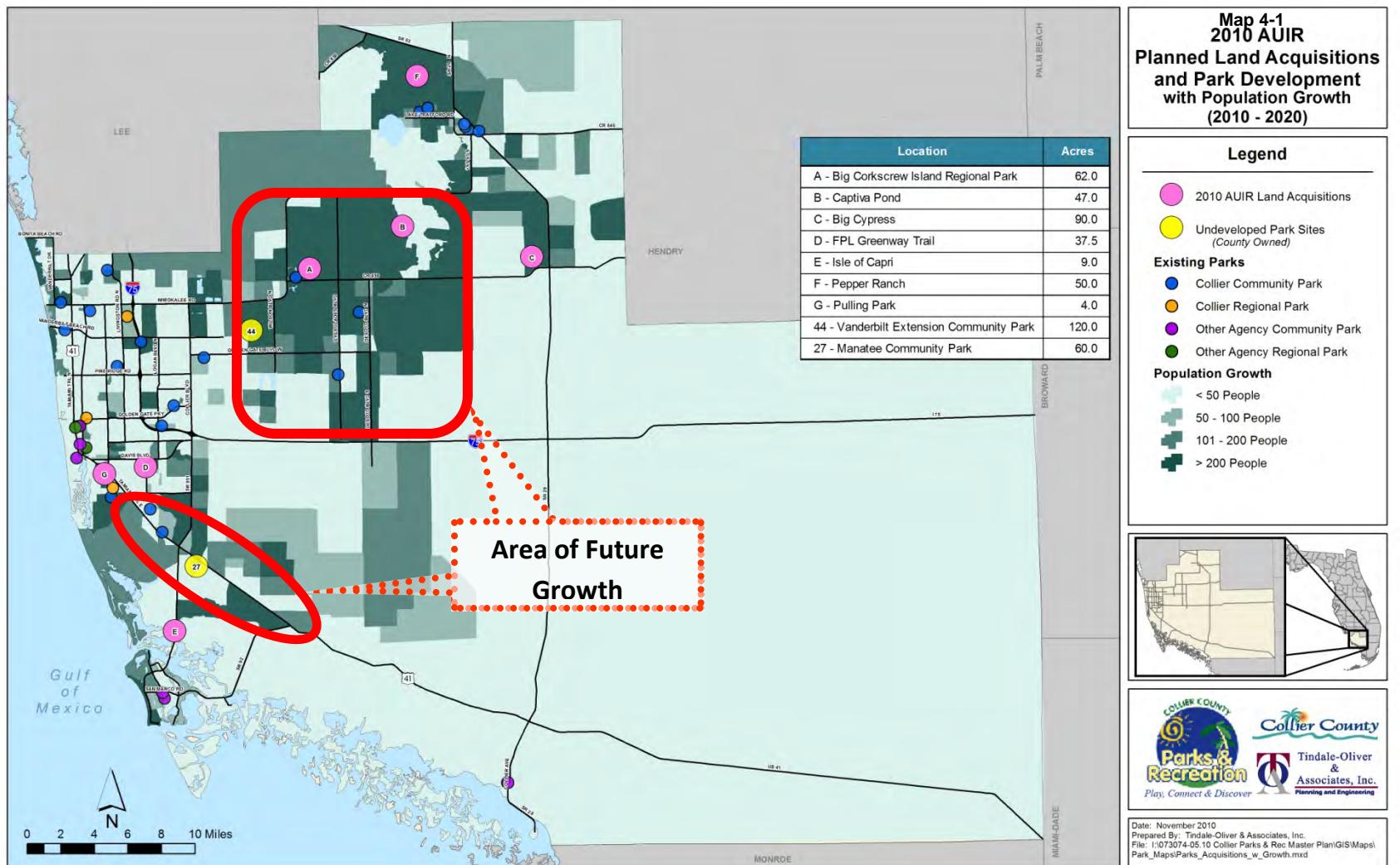
(3) 10-Year Surplus/Deficit from 2010 AUIR plus available municipal park acreage.

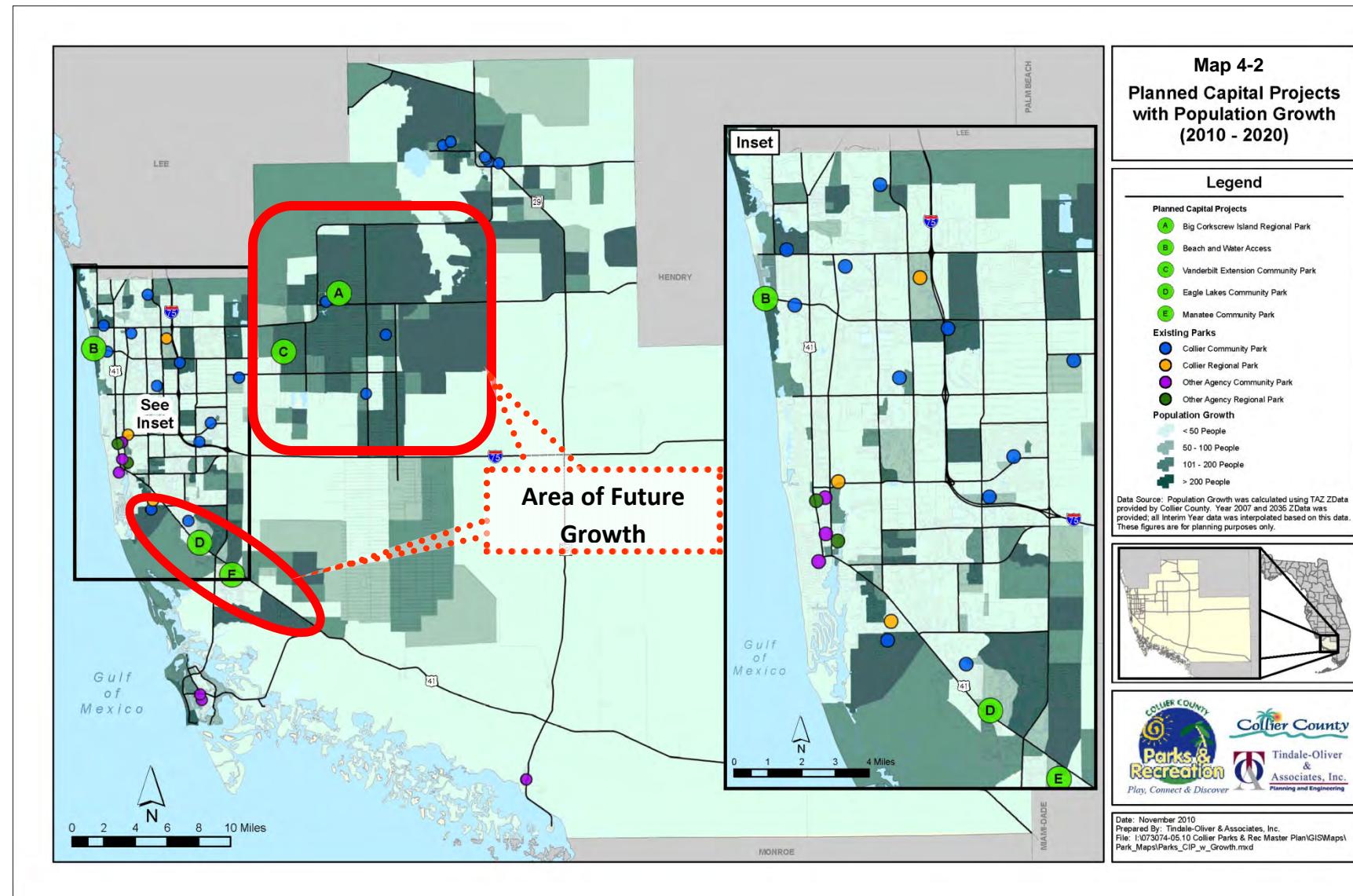
Including the planned regional land acquisitions, the County will be very close to meeting the required 2020 regional park acreage based on the adopted LOS. However, the location of the planned park land acquisitions is equally, if not more important than the quantity of land to be acquired.

As illustrated on Map 4-1, of the 302.5 acres of regional park land planned to be acquired by 2020, approximately 83 percent is located in areas of the highest projected growth over the next 10 years. This indicates that the County is effectively planning for future population growth by proactively acquiring regional park land concurrent with areas of future growth.

Map 4-2 illustrates the location of the County's planned parks and recreation capital projects relative to projected growth. As shown, the County has identified capital projects that are consistent with areas of future growth within Collier County. It is recognized that beach access at Vanderbilt Beach is not in an area of projected population growth. However, the location of beach access sites are limited along the coastal properties and the acquisition of beach access at Vanderbilt Beach will provide additional beach access that will accommodate future population growth (as well as visitors and tourists) elsewhere in the county.

Additional areas where the County may need to monitor future growth and evaluate the need to purchase park land should the growth occur are circled on Maps 4-1 and 4-2. These areas are chosen both because of high growth and there is longer than a 15-20 minute drive-time to the nearest existing or planned park. The drive-time analysis used to make this determination is discussed later in the section.





## DRIVE-TIME ANALYSIS

Collier County's Growth Management Plan, Recreation and Open Space Element includes Objective 3.1, which states:

*"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)."*

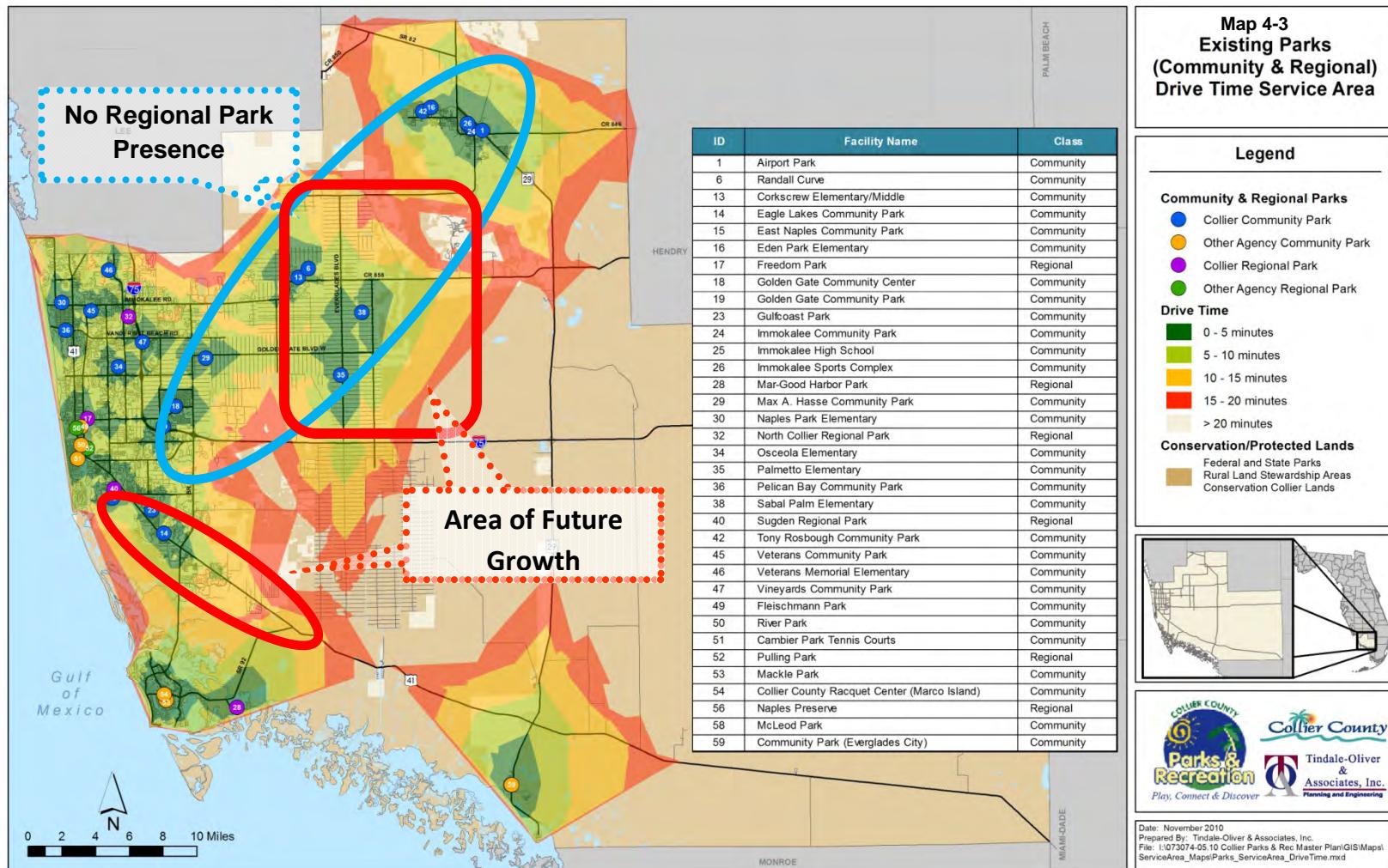
To determine if the above currently is being met, a drive-time analysis was completed for the following:

- Regional and Community Parks (combined)
- Athletic Fields
- Hard Courts
- Aquatic Recreation Facilities
- Miscellaneous Facilities

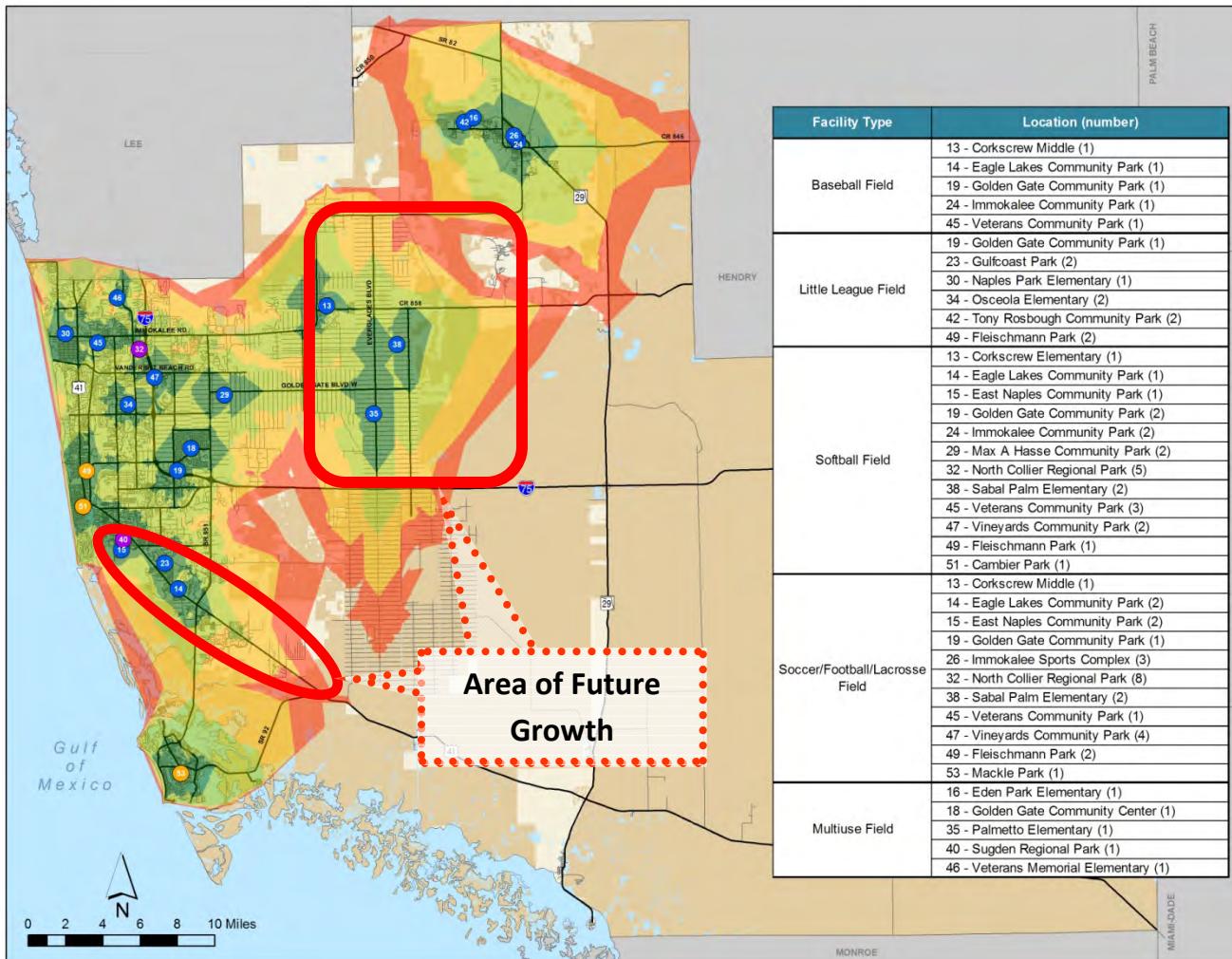
Because of the extensive parks and recreation system in Collier County, a significant portion of the county's current residents and visitors have access to at least one, if not more, parks and associated recreation facilities within a 15-20 minute drive time. As such, for purposes of this Master Plan, the drive-time analysis was expanded to show the differential drive time for several tiers: 0-5 minutes, 5-10 minutes, 10-15 minutes, 15-20 minutes, and greater than 20 minutes.

The results of the drive time analysis, which are illustrated in Maps 4-3 thru 4-7, are summarized into two categories of potential needs: Areas of Immediate Need and Areas of Future Growth. Areas of Immediate Need are identified based on current population, while Areas of Future Growth are based on projected population growth from 2010-2020.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



**Map 4-4**  
**Existing Parks**  
**Athletic Field Facilities**  
**Drive Time Service Area**

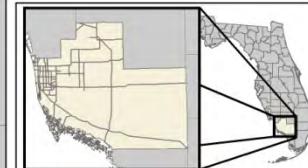
## Legend

- Athletic Field Facility Parks**
- Collier Community Park
  - Other Agency Community Park
  - Collier Regional Park
  - Other Agency Regional Park

- Drive Time**
- 0 - 5 minutes
  - 5 - 10 minutes
  - 10 - 15 minutes
  - 15 - 20 minutes
  - > 20 minutes

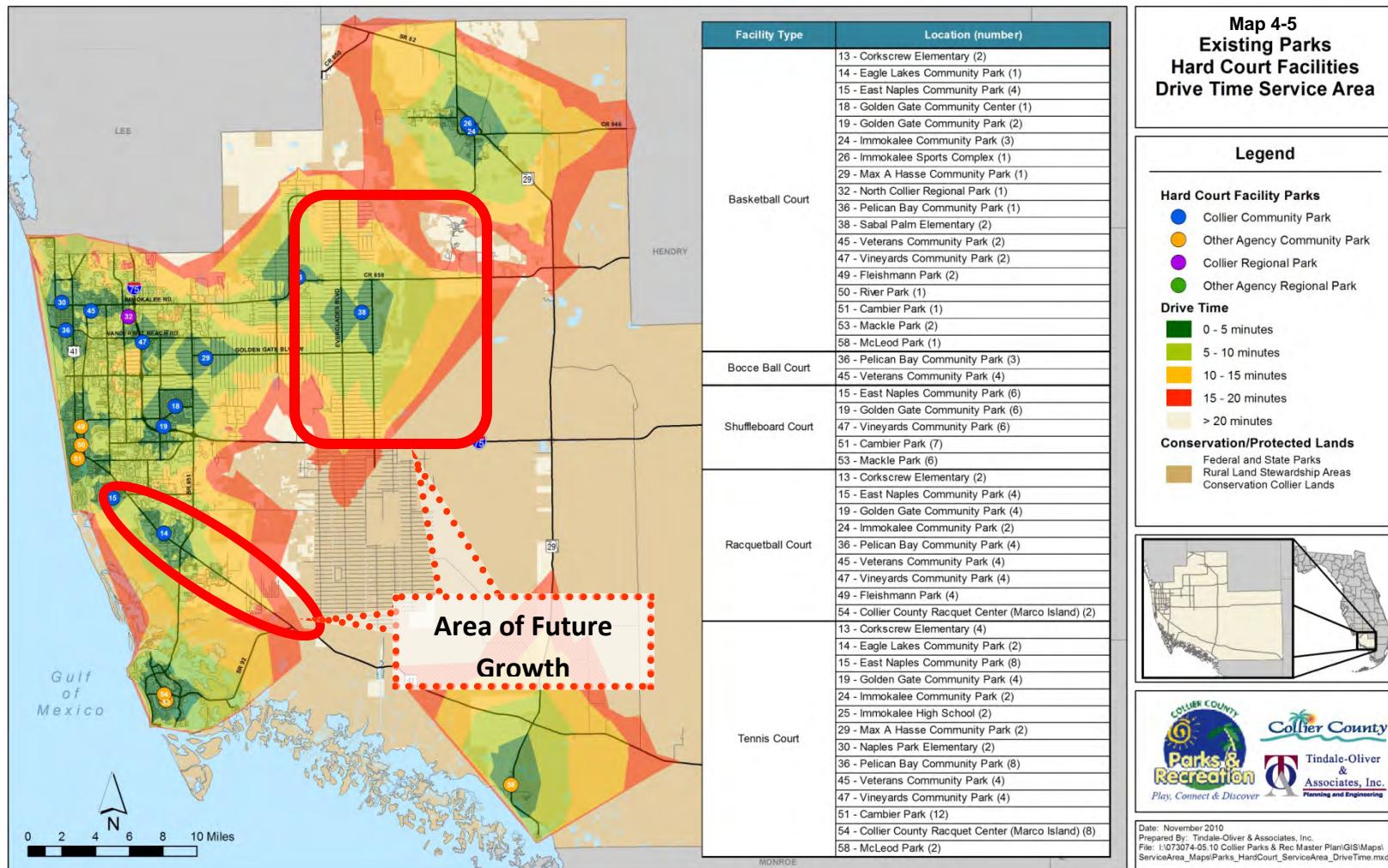
**Conservation/Protected Lands**

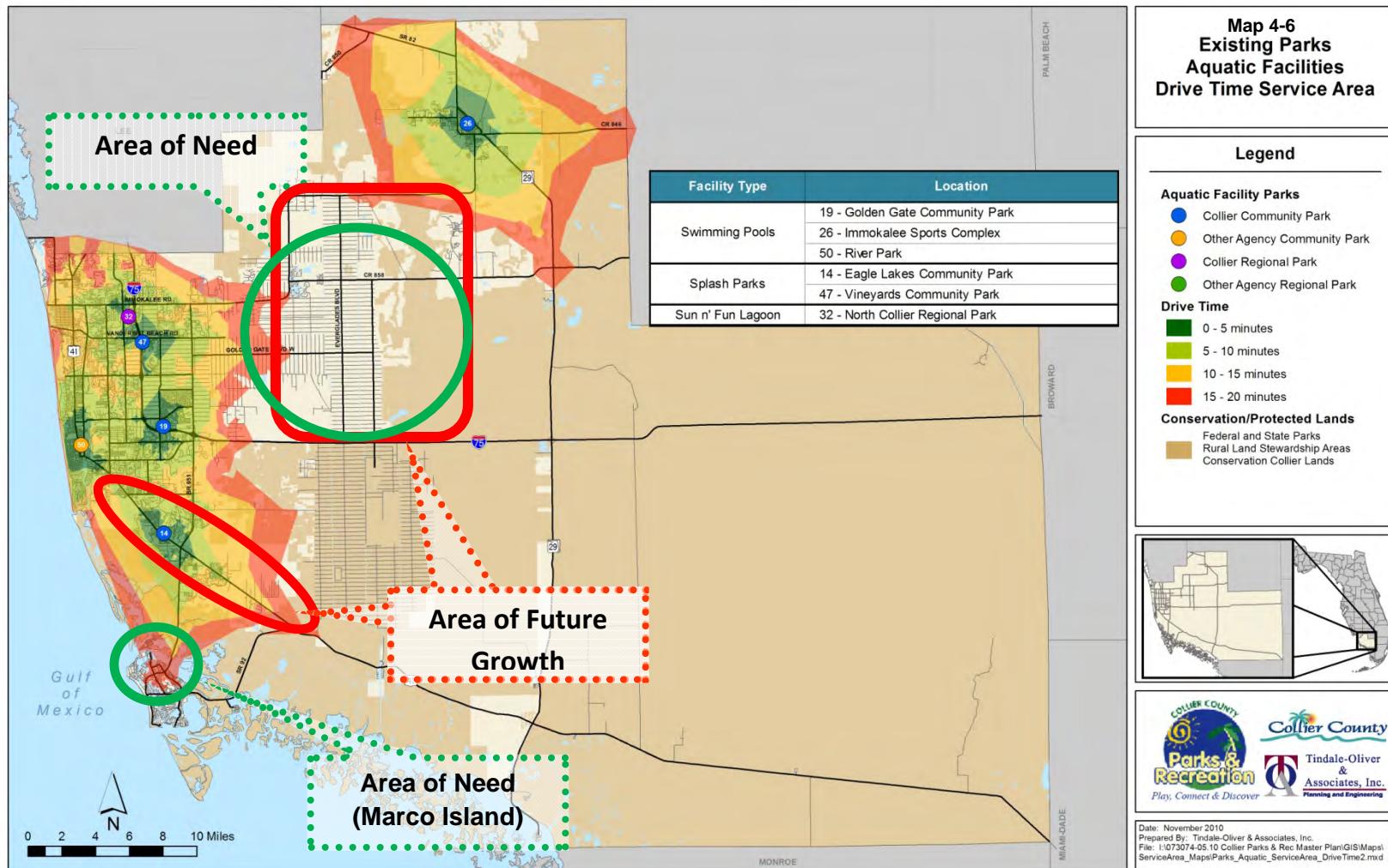
- Federal and State Parks
- Rural Land Stewardship Areas
- Conservation Collier Lands



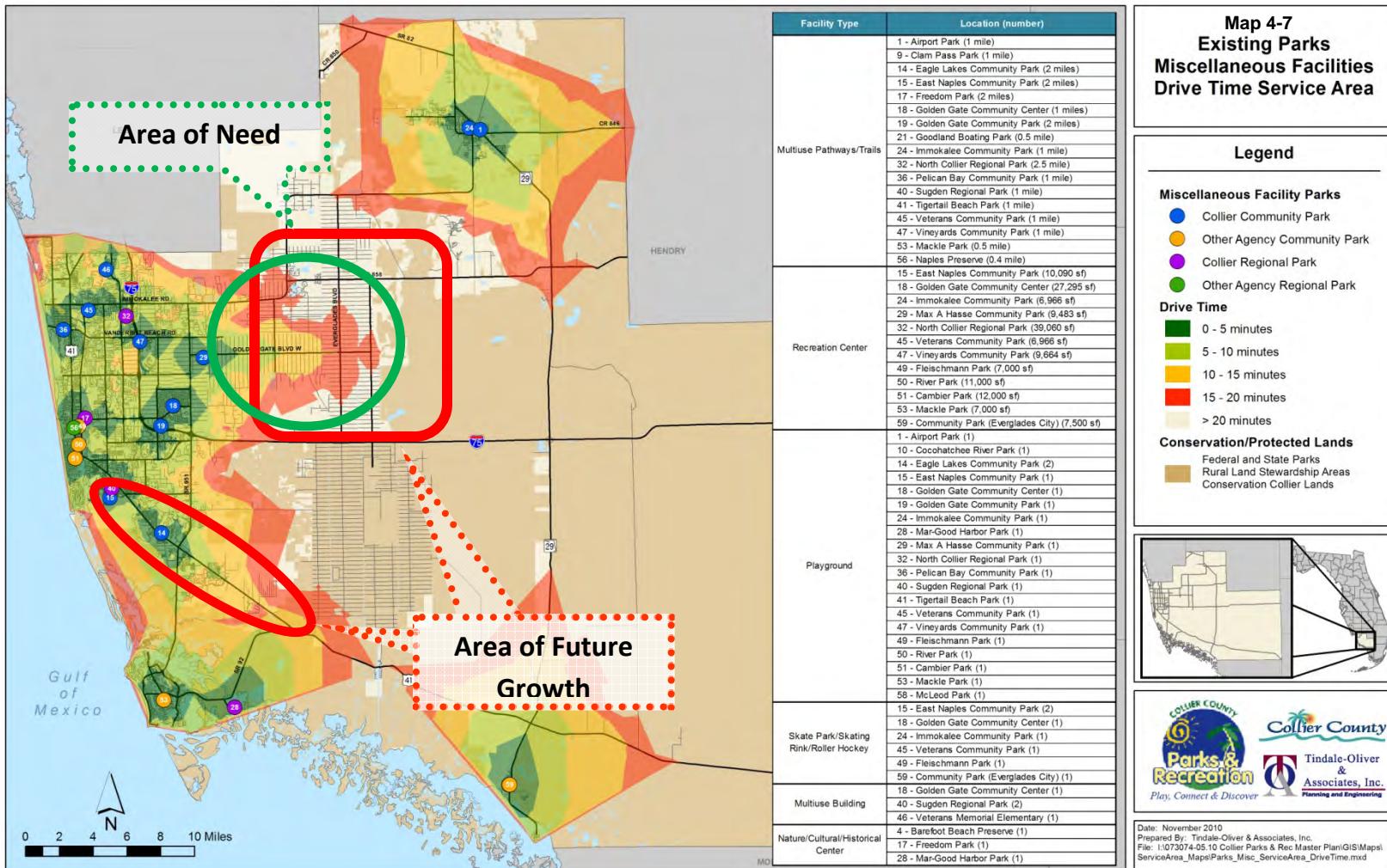
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# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan





# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



## Future Park Land

- Area of Need –The drive time analysis indicates that the coverage area of existing community parks relative to existing county population is very good; however, a significant portion of the existing population lacks the presence of a regional park, including The Estates, Corkscrew, and Immokalee. Regional park land planned to be acquired over the next 10 years, including Big Corkscrew Island, Pulling Park, and Big Cypress, could address the lack of regional park land in these areas.
- Area of Future Growth – Population projections indicate future growth along the US 41 corridor. The County is proposing development of a passive park (Manatee Community Park) along US 41 south of CR 951 that would serve many of the existing and future residents along this portion of the US 41 corridor. Collier-Seminole State Park is located off US 41 south of CR 92; however, there are no active recreation facilities (i.e., athletic fields, hard courts, aquatic facilities, etc.) at this state park, and future development along this corridor likely will result in a need for additional active recreation facilities in this area. As such, the County should evaluate if the acreage at Manatee Community Park is sufficient to provide both passive and active facilities, or if additional community park land along the US 41 corridor is needed to provide additional “active” recreational facilities.
- Area of Future Growth – Population projections indicate future growth in the surrounding Everglades Boulevard. Future regional parks, including Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress, will provide park land and recreational facilities in proximity to this area.

## Athletic Fields and Hard Courts

- Area of Need –The drive time analysis indicates that the coverage area of existing athletic fields and hard courts relative to existing county population is very good. There are few areas with existing population that are not within 15 minutes of an athletic field or hard court.
- Area of Future Growth – Athletic fields and hard courts located at future community parks such as Manatee Community Park or another future community park located further south along US 41 will address facility needs related to future population growth along US 41.
- Area of Future Growth – Athletic fields and hard courts located at future regional parks such as Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress will address facility needs related to future population growth surrounding Everglades Boulevard and also help to alleviate usage at existing facilities.

## Aquatic Facilities

- Area of Need – An aquatic facility is needed to serve the existing population of northern Golden Gate Estates. This currently populated area is just outside the urban area of the county and has limited access to any of the existing public aquatic facilities. The inclusion of an Interactive Water Feature or Splash Play Area at the proposed Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park would provide northern Golden Gate Estates with a local aquatic facility.
- Area of Immediate Need – The drive-time analysis indicates that an aquatic facility is needed to serve the residents of Marco Island, which would fall under the responsibility of the City of Marco Island.
- Area of Future Growth – An aquatic facility, such as an Interactive Water Feature or Splash Play Area, located at future community parks such as Manatee Community Park or another future community park located further south along US 41 will address facility needs related to future population growth along US 41.
- Area of Future Growth – An aquatic facility, such as an Interactive Water Feature or Splash Play Area, at future regional parks such as Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress will address aquatic facilities needs related to future population growth surrounding Everglades Boulevard.

## Miscellaneous Facilities

- Area of Need – Miscellaneous recreation facilities (i.e., recreation centers, playgrounds, multi-use trails, etc.) are needed to serve the existing population of northern Golden Gate Estates. This currently populated area is just outside the urban area of the county and has limited access to miscellaneous facilities at other parks. The inclusion of facilities such as recreation centers, playgrounds, and multi-use trails at the proposed Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park would relieve this deficit.
- Area of Future Growth – Miscellaneous recreation facilities (e.g., recreation centers, playgrounds, and multi-use trails) located at future community parks such as Manatee Community Park or another future community park located further south along US 41 will address facility needs related to future population growth along US 41.
- Area of Future Growth – Miscellaneous recreation facilities, such as recreation centers, playgrounds, multi-use trails, etc., at future regional parks such as Big Corkscrew Island and Big Cypress will address aquatic facilities needs related to future population growth surrounding Everglades Boulevard.

## UTILIZATION ANALYSIS

The drive-time analysis provides information as to whether the inventory of existing user-oriented parks, as well as recreational facilities within those parks, are located in areas that provide reasonable access to the majority of County residents. However, the need for recreational facilities should not only be determined by the location of existing facilities, but the extent to which these facilities are currently being used.

To examine the current utilization of the County's recreational facilities, usage information provided by Collier County Parks and Recreation Department was reviewed. The County currently maintains weekly usage information for athletic fields at County community and regional parks. Therefore, utilization analyses were conducted for baseball/softball/little league fields and football/soccer/multi-use fields for parks where utilization data are collected and available for analysis.

For purposes of the utilization analysis, athletic fields are defined as being "over-utilized" if usage is at or exceeds 95 percent of available hours; however any utilization over 85 percent is highlighted to visually highlight those fields with higher usage. The utilization analysis also looks at usage both on a quarterly as well as annual basis. It should be noted that the utilization of a field takes into account all uses of the field, including special events, and not just athletic-related usage of the field.

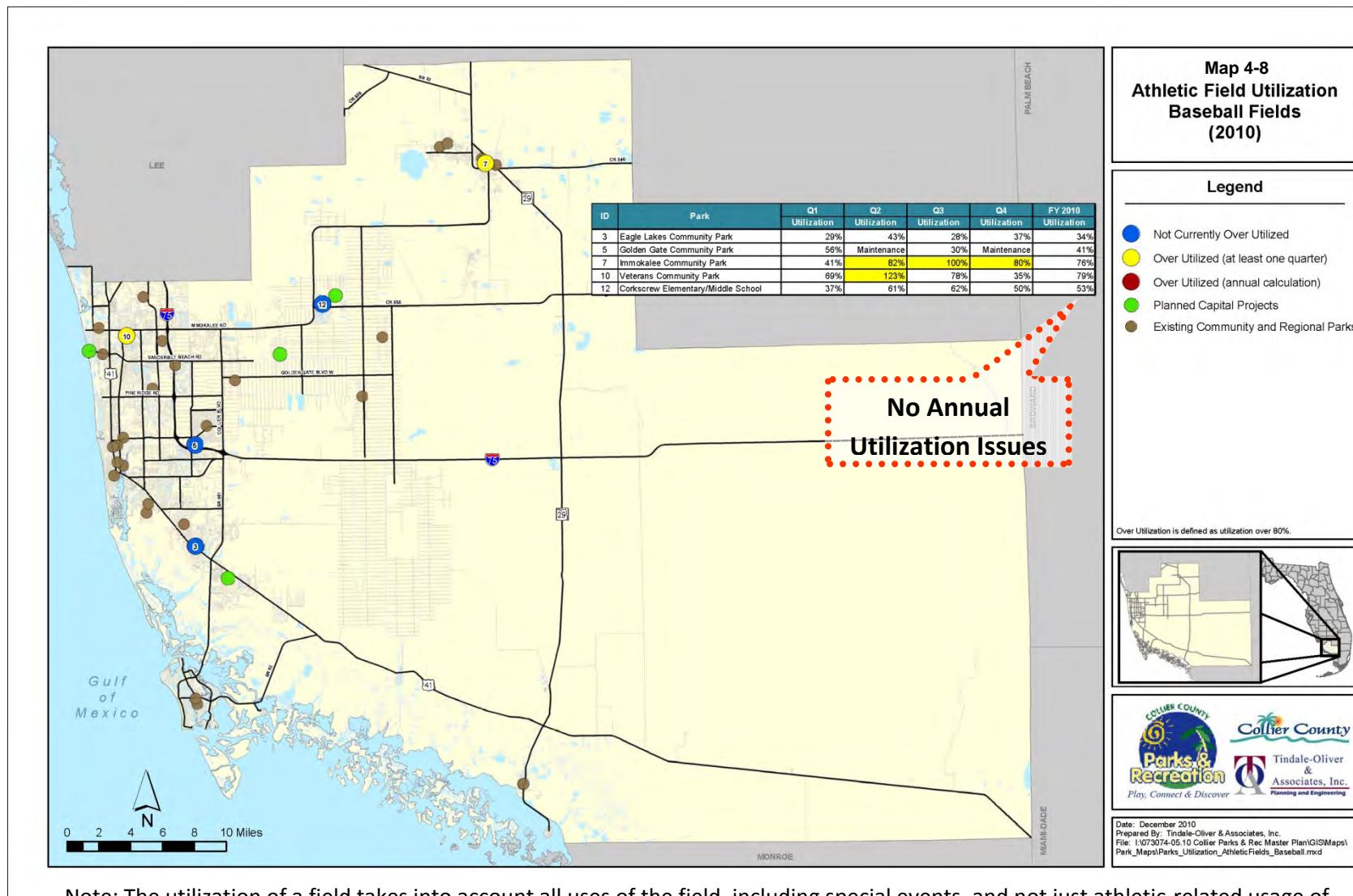
The results of the analysis are illustrated in the following maps:

- Map 4-8 illustrates the utilization of baseball fields.
- Map 4-9 illustrates the utilization of softball fields.
- Map 4-10 illustrates the utilization of little league fields.
- Map 4-11 illustrates the utilization of football/soccer fields.
- Map 4-12 illustrates the utilization of multi-use fields.

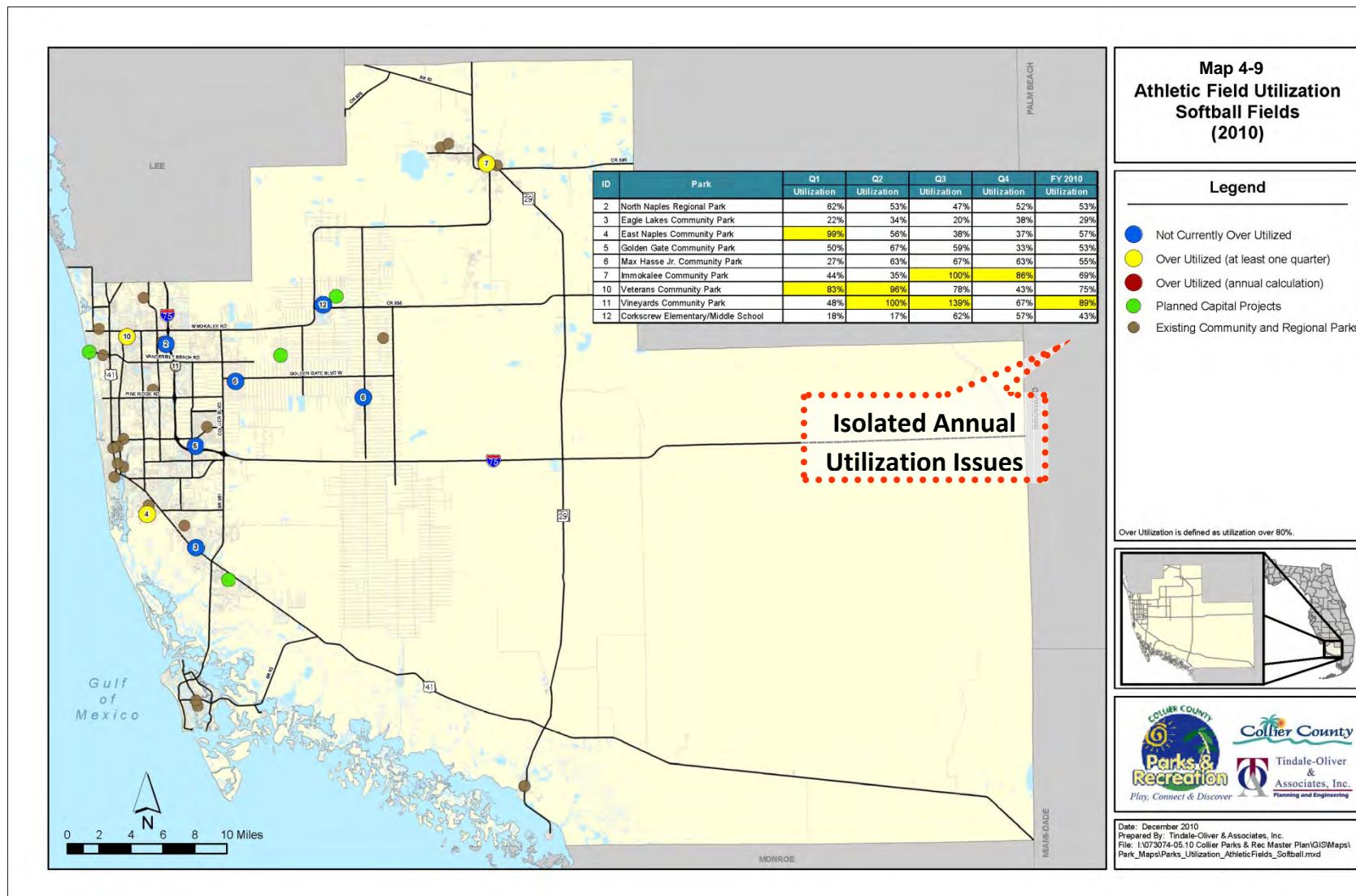
The above maps indicate the following based on the utilization data available:

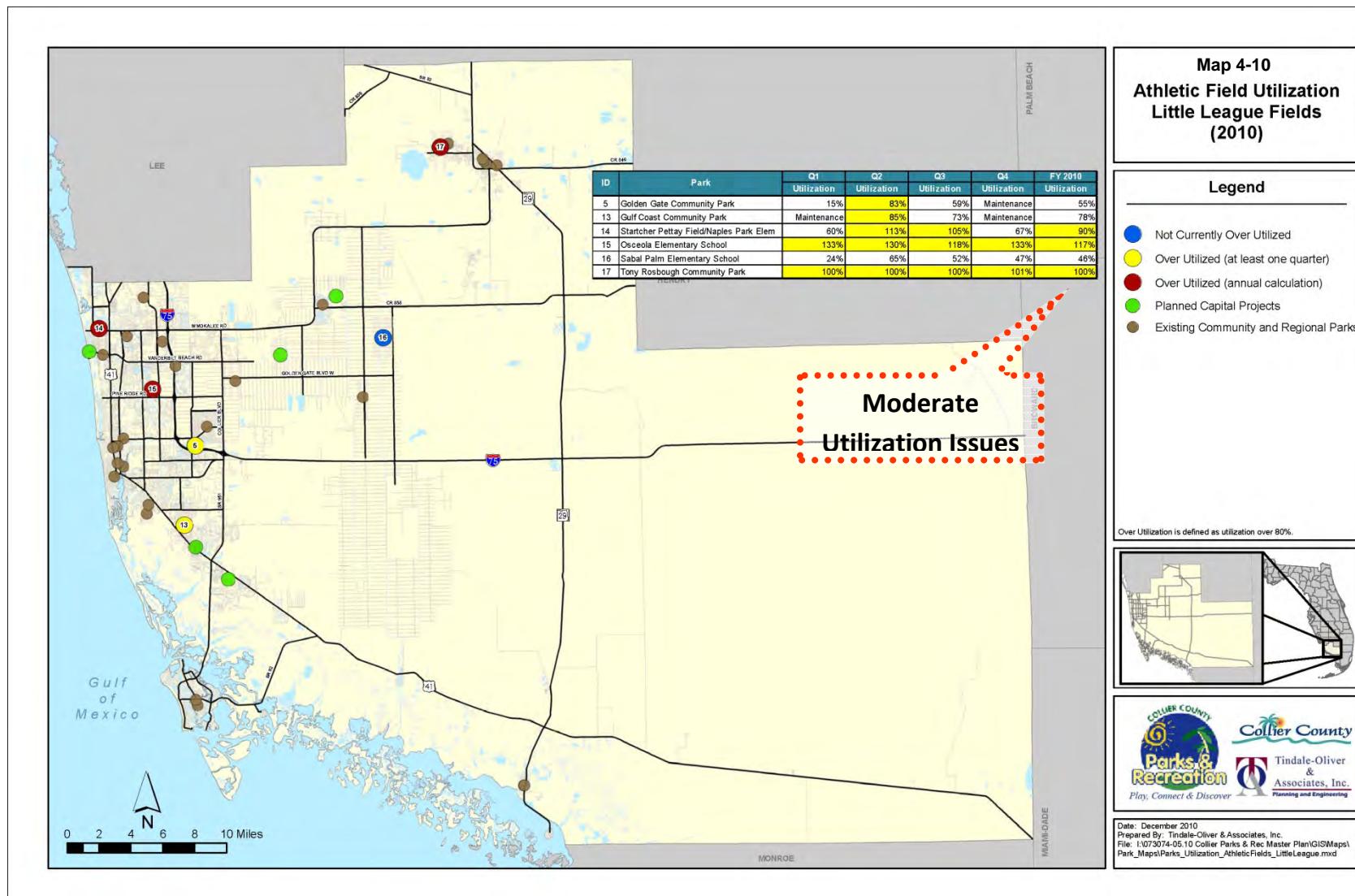
- Baseball and softball fields in Collier County are not currently experiencing utilization issues based on annual utilization data, with the exception of softball fields at Vineyards Community Park; however, baseball and softball fields at certain parks were over-utilized based on quarterly data.
- There are moderate annual utilization issues for little league and multi-use fields.
- There are significant annual utilization issues for football/soccer fields throughout Collier County.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



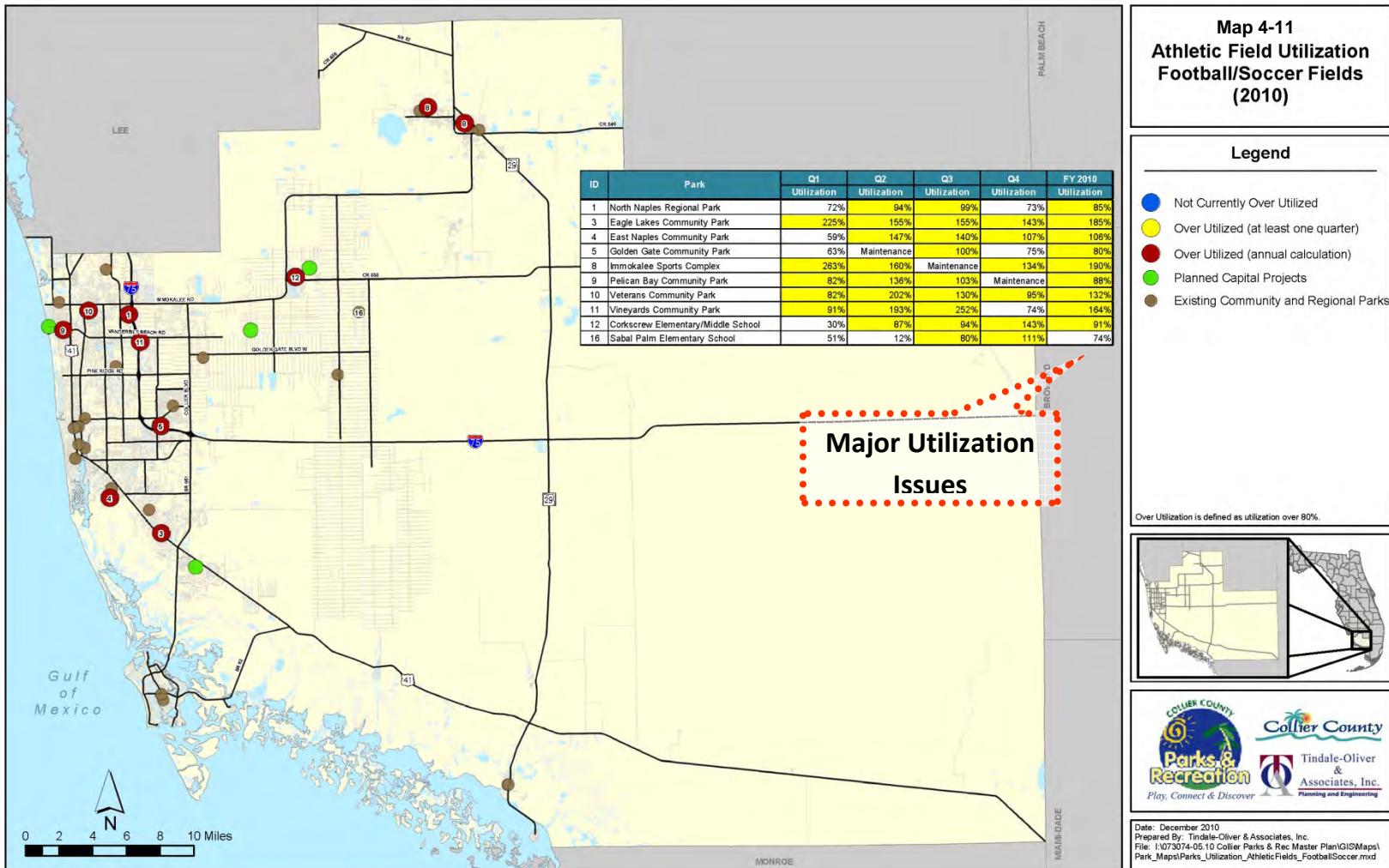
# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



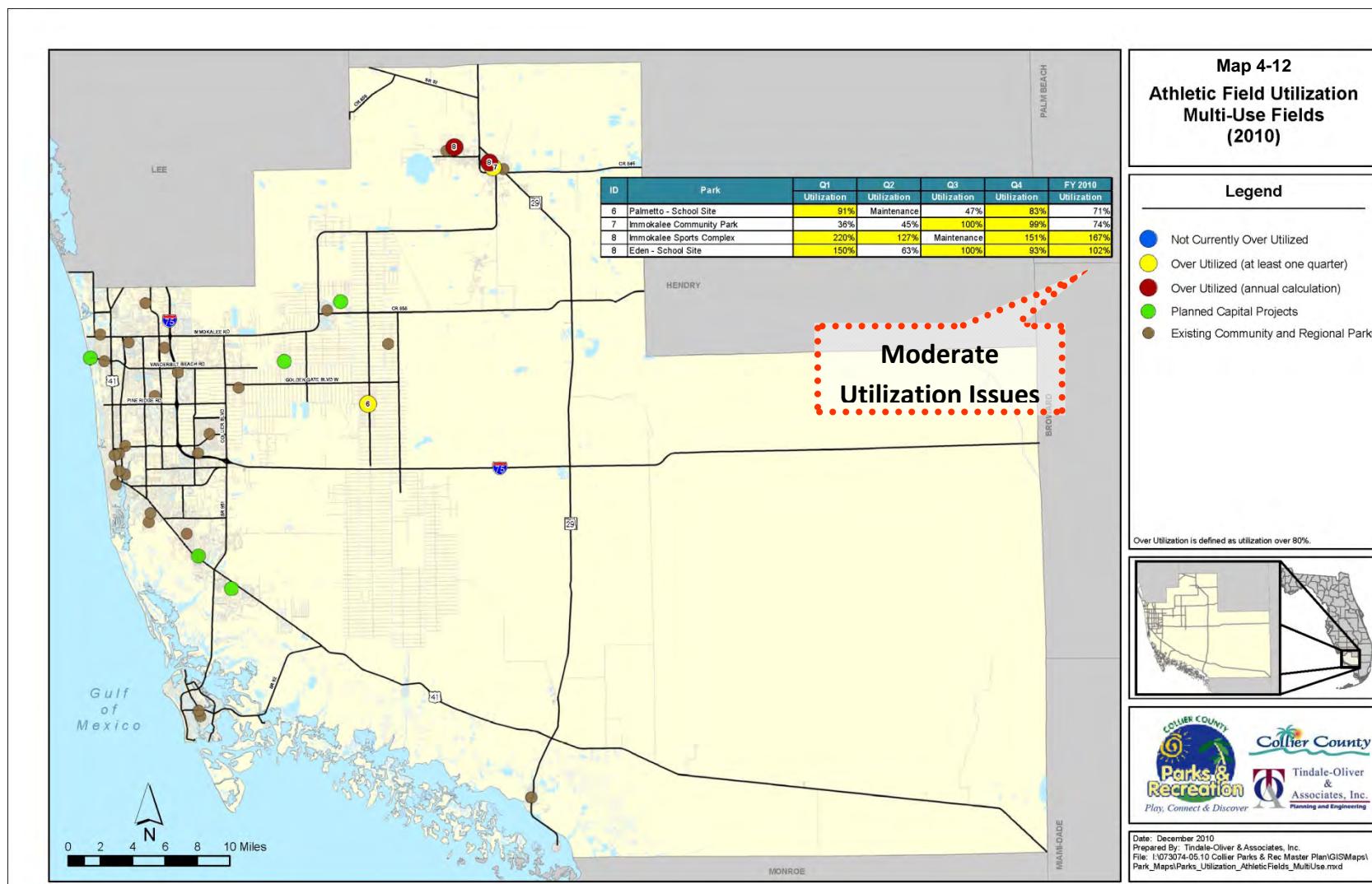


Note: The utilization of a field takes into account all uses of the field, including special events, and not just athletic-related usage of the field.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan



Note: The utilization of a field takes into account all uses of the field, including special events, and not just athletic-related usage of the field.



Note: The utilization of a field takes into account all uses of the field, including special events, and not just athletic-related usage of the field.

## FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Collier County currently relies on three primary revenue sources to fund parks and recreation capital projects, including Tourism Development Council (hotel bed tax) revenue, which is used to fund beach projects; miscellaneous grants; and parks and recreation impact fee revenue, which is used to fund capital parks and recreation projects necessitated by growth and new development. Impact fees for the County's regional park system are charged to new residential development within both unincorporated and incorporated Collier County, while impact fees for the County's community park system are charged to new residential development within the unincorporated area only.

Impact fees are the primary funding source for non-beach access capital parks and recreation projects. Due to the economic downturn and slowed residential development, the County has experienced a decrease in parks and recreation impact fee collections over the past several years, while recognizing a need to delay capital projects as growth has slowed. The County currently estimates annual parks and recreation impact fee collections of \$1.7 million, although it should be recognized that actual collections for 2010 are expected to be higher due to an unexpected increase in residential building permit activity.

The primary impact fee expenditure is the repayment of debt service for North Collier Regional Park, annual payments for which total approximately \$3.1 million thru 2026. Therefore, a significant portion of the County's parks and recreation impact fees collected in the immediate future are currently earmarked for the repayment of debt, leaving a funding gap for needed capital projects. As growth and development activity picks up, additional parks and recreation impact fee revenue will be generated beyond that needed to pay the existing debt, providing revenue to help fund needed capital projects.



## Section 5 – Focus Group

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## FOCUS GROUP PURPOSE

As part of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan effort, a focus group meeting was conducted to gain input from a wide range of stakeholders and interested parties. The goal of the focus group was two-fold: first, to provide educational information on the Master Plan process to selected participants, and second, for participants to then identify and prioritize the parks and recreation needs of Collier County over the next 10 years. The reoccurring themes of the focus group included the following related to parks and recreation:

4. What do we want?
5. Where and when do we want it?
6. How do we get there?

Input received from the focus group participants is used to confirm the results of the Needs Analysis discussed in Chapter 4 and to determine if any additional recommendations should be considered for the Master Plan.

## FOCUS GROUP FORMAT

The focus group began with an opening presentation to provide an overview of the master planning process, review demographic and inventory data provided to the participants (similar to what is provided in Section 2 – Demographic Analysis and Section 3 – Parks and Recreation Inventory), and review the three break-out group exercises designed to follow the above themes. Following the opening presentation, the participants were divided into four break-out groups in which they completed the set of exercises provided. The focus group wrapped up with a presentation by each group highlighting its discussion of each exercise. During these presentations, each group was asked to discuss consensus reached by the group and also to discuss any dissenting opinions that group members may have had.

The agenda for the focus group is provided in Figure 5-1.

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	Opening Presentation
10:00 AM - 1:30 PM	Break-Out Group Exercises
	<i>Exercise 1: What Do We Want?</i>
	<i>Exercise 2: Where and When Do We Want It?</i>
	<i>Exercise 3: How Do We Get There?</i>
	Summary Discussion of Group Findings
1:45 PM - 2:45 PM	Presentation of Group Findings
2:45 PM - 3:00 PM	Next Steps

**Figure 5-1**  
**Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan**  
**Focus Group Agenda**

## FOCUS GROUP PARTICIPANTS

A total of 74 individuals were invited to attend the focus group, representing a wide variety of agencies, organizations, and interests. Overall, 27 participants attended the focus group, which was held in the Exhibit Hall at North Collier Regional Park on Thursday, October 14, 2010. Participants included:

1. Bill Arthur, Golden Gate Advisory Board
2. Dave Ball, Naples Girls Softball Little League\*
3. Julie Bissell, Collier County Lacrosse Association\*
4. Philip Brougham, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board\*
5. Barbara Buehler, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
6. Susan Cone, Up A Creek Kayak Tours
7. Ted Decker, Isles of Capri
8. John Dina, Optimist Soccer Club of Naples
9. Brandon Dowdy, YMCA of the Palms
10. Tom Eastman, School District Board of Collier County
11. Doug Finlay, Naples City Council
12. Ann Marie Foley, East Naples Kiwanis
13. Peter Gaddy, Golden Gate Estates Area Civic Association
14. Hunter Hansen, Naples Grande
15. Jim Hoppensteadt, Pelican Bay Foundation
16. Gavin Spooner, Naples Youth Soccer
17. Annette Kniola, Golden Gates Estates Task Force
18. Lester Nino, MEXI Soccer
19. Edward "Ski" Olesky, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

20. John Ribes, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
21. David Saletko, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
22. Brad Schiffer, Collier County Planning Commission
23. Clarence Tears, South Florida Water Management District
24. Janet Vasey, Collier County Productivity Committee
25. Harold Weeks, NAACP Collier County Branch
26. Margaret Winn, Friends of Barefoot Beach
27. Diana Worrall, Citizen Representative\*

\*Breakout Group Leader

A full list of the individuals invited is provided in Appendix C. Those invited but unable to attend due to other commitments were asked to provide input via a follow-up email survey.

## FOCUS GROUP RESULTS

The remainder of this section documents the input received by each break-out group for each exercise completed during the focus group.

### Exercise 1 –What Do We Want?

The goal of Exercise 1 was to get participants to think about what it is that they currently like most about parks and recreation in Collier County as well as what they would like to change. In addition, participants were asked to discuss standards for their ideal community park and regional park. To accomplish this, Exercise 1 was divided into three separate exercises.

#### *Exercise 1 –A: Parks and Recreation Characteristics*

For Exercise 1-A, participants first were asked to brainstorm about what they like most about parks and recreation in Collier County and then about what they would most like to change. Table 5-1 provides a summary of the results of this brainstorming exercise, highlights of which include:

- Quality of the parks facilities and programs, quality and friendliness of the Parks and Recreation Department staff, and facility/program diversity were the most frequent responses for what participants liked most.
- More staff presence at the County's parks and facilities was the change most desired, followed by improved maintenance, more facilities, and more beach and freshwater access.

# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

**Table 5-1**  
**Summary Results of Exercise 1-A**

Description	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
<b>Like Most:</b>				
Activities/Programs			X	X
Number of Nature Trails & Open Spaces			X	
Beautification/Landscaping	X			
Environmental Sensitivity		X		
Facility/Program Diversity		X	X	X
Free Parking/Free Use	X			
Parks as a Tourist Attraction	X			
Proximity/Accessibility				X
Quality of Facilities/Maintenance	X	X		X
Quality/Friendliness of Staff	X	X	X	
Water Features			X	
<b>Like to Change:</b>				
"Green" Park System		X		
Acquisition of Park Land		X		
Formulation of "Best "Practices" Approach; use other parks in Florida or U.S. to develop benchmarks				
Improved Maintenance			X	X
Improved Marketing Plan (to reach more people)				X
Maximize Access to All		X		
More Facilities	Greenways, Pet Facilities, Athletic Fields, Meeting Rooms, Fitness Centers			"Passive" Facilities
More Flexibility with Scheduling/Beach Hours			X	
More Relevant Facilities by Location	X			
More Staff Presence/Training	X		X	X
Partner with other Agencies/Providers	X			
Smoke Free Environment		X		
Upgrade/Replace Equipment			X	
Maximize Water Access (Beach)		X	X	
Maximize Water Access (Fresh)		X	X	

## Exercise 1-B: Regional Park Standards

For Exercise 1-B, participants were presented with a set of regional park standards, including target park size (acreage) and population served. In addition, the standards included a list of baseline facilities (“must-haves”) versus optional and premium facilities (preferred to be included if space and funding allow). Participants were asked for input on the design standards to identify any changes.

The regional park standards provided to the focus group participants are provided below. Recommended changes to the standards are denoted in *italics*.

### Regional Park Standards:

Population Served: 1 park per 100,000 population

Optimal Park Size: 50+ acres

### Recreational Facilities (Baseline):

- Sports Complex / Office / Concession / Restrooms (1)
- Softball Fields (4 minimum)
- Multipurpose Field (1) – *synthetic fields (Group 2)*
- Football, Soccer and Lacrosse Fields (4 minimum) – *should be 8 minimum (Group 1); should be 6 minimum (Group 4)*
- Playground (1)
- Picnic Areas (8 minimum) – *should be shaded/covered (Group 1)*
- Rental Pavilions (2 minimum) – *change to 4 minimum (Group 3)*
- Restrooms (2)
- Walking Path / Paved (1)
- Play Area of Open Green Space (1)
- Bike Trail (1) – *change to bike access and move Bike Trail to “Optional” (Group 1)*
- Maintenance Building (1)
- Parking throughout Park
- Park Benches throughout Park
- *Add baseball fields (Group 2)*
- *Add basketball courts (Group 2)*
- *Add indoor racquetball/handball (Group 2)*
- *Add marquee sign for events and to provide information that can be easily read by passing cars (Group 2)*
- *Add multipurpose/racquetball courts (4) (Group 3)*
- *All facilities included under community park “baseline” standard should be present at a regional park (Group 4)*

## Recreational Facilities (Optional):

- Swimming Pool / Office / Restrooms (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 4)
- IWF (Interactive Water Feature / Splash Play Area) (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 2); move to “baseline” (Group 4)
- Gymnasium/ Restrooms (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 1)
- Fitness Center / Office / Restrooms/ Locker Rooms (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 4)
- Dog Park (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 2)
- Amphitheatre (1)
- Nature Trail (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 4)
- Sports Complex for Football, Soccer and Lacrosse/ Concession / Restrooms / Office (1)
- Sports Complex for Softball/ Concession / Restrooms / Office (1)
- Add fire pit/movie night (Group 2)

## Recreational Facilities (Premium):

- Water Park / Other Large Attraction including: Office / Concession / Restrooms (1)
- Boat Launch /Water Access (1) – move to “optional” (Group 3)
- Community and Rental Building for Cultural Activities / Restrooms (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 1)
- Disc Golf (1)
- Ski Lake (1) – Move to “baseline” if lake exists (Group 2)
- Bridle Paths / Horseback Riding (1)
- Camping (1)

## Exercise 1-C: Community Park Standards

For Exercise 1-C, participants were presented with a set of community park standards and asked to provide input on the design standards and identify changes, similar to what was asked for Exercise 1-B (regional parks). The community park standards provided to the focus group participants are provided below. Recommended changes to the standards are denoted in *italics*.

### Community Park Standards:

Population Served: 1 park per 5,000 population – *should serve 10,000 population due to all the private facilities provided in private subdivisions* (Group 3)

Optimal Park Size: 20-50 acres (minimum 5 acres if adjoined to school)

## Recreational Facilities (Baseline):

- Recreation Center/ Meeting Rooms/ Restrooms / Office (1)
- Playground (1)

- Baseball Fields (2)
- Softball Fields (2)
- Multipurpose Field (1)
- Football / Soccer / Lacrosse Field (2) – *change to 4 minimum (Group 1)*
- Tennis Courts (2)
- Racquetball Courts (2) – *should include handball courts (Group 2); move to “optional” (Group 4)*
- Concession Building / Restrooms (1)
- Basketball Courts (2)
- Picnic Areas (6) – *should be shaded/covered (Group 1)*
- Rental Pavilions (2)
- Walking Path (1)
- Play Area of Open Green Space (1) – *may not be necessary with multipurpose field (Group 4)*
- Maintenance Building (1)
- Parking throughout Park
- Park Benches throughout Park
- *Add shading to slides/playgrounds (Group 2)*
- *Add shade structures throughout park (Group 4)*

#### **Recreational Facilities (Optional):**

- Swimming Pool/ Office / Restrooms (1)
- IWF (Interactive Water Feature / Splash Play Area) (1) – move to “baseline” (Group 2)
- Bike Trail (1)
- Fitness Center/ Office / Restrooms / Locker Rooms (1) move to “baseline” (Group 4)
- Dog Park (1)
- Covered Basketball Courts (2) – move to “baseline” (Group 2); move to “premium” (Group 4)

#### **Recreational Facilities (Premium):**

- Skate Park / Office / Restrooms (1)
- BMX Track / Office / Restrooms (1)
- Amphitheatre (1)
- Boat Launch (1) – *if park is located on water, move to “baseline” (Group 4)*

The results of Exercises 1-A and 1-B indicate that the participants would like to see modifications to the standards, in particular to the “baseline” facility standards for both regional and community parks. Some comments to note include:

- More athletic fields and courts added to the “baseline” standards, both in type and number provided.
- Provide shade structures, in particular for basketball courts, picnic pavilions, and playgrounds.

- Provide additional signage and advertising visible by passing cars.
- Increase presence of aquatic facilities, such as swimming pools or interactive water features by moving to the “baseline” standards.
- Enhance recreation centers included under the “baseline” standards to provide gymnasiums and fitness centers.
- Design standards to maximize water access at any park when available.

## Exercise 2 –Where and When Do We Want It?

The goal of Exercise 2 was to identify and prioritize the parks and recreation needs of Collier County over the next 10 years. Participants were provided with the planned land acquisitions and planned capital projects identified by the County and asked to provide input relating to need and priority.

### *Exercise 2-A: Planned Land Acquisitions*

For Exercise 2-A, participants were asked to review the planned regional park land acquisitions over the next 10 years as identified in the 2010 AUIR. There are no proposed community park land acquisitions identified in the 2010 AUIR. As discussed in Section 3, Parks and Recreation Inventory, the regional park land acquisitions identified in the 2010 AUIR are not land purchases, but are acquisitions in the form of an interdepartmental transfer, lease, or developer contribution. As such, these acquisitions do not directly impact the Parks and Recreation Capital Improvement Plan. Figure 5-2 was provided to the participants to illustrate the planned land acquisitions.

Input provided by each break-out group relating to the need to acquire more regional park land includes the following.

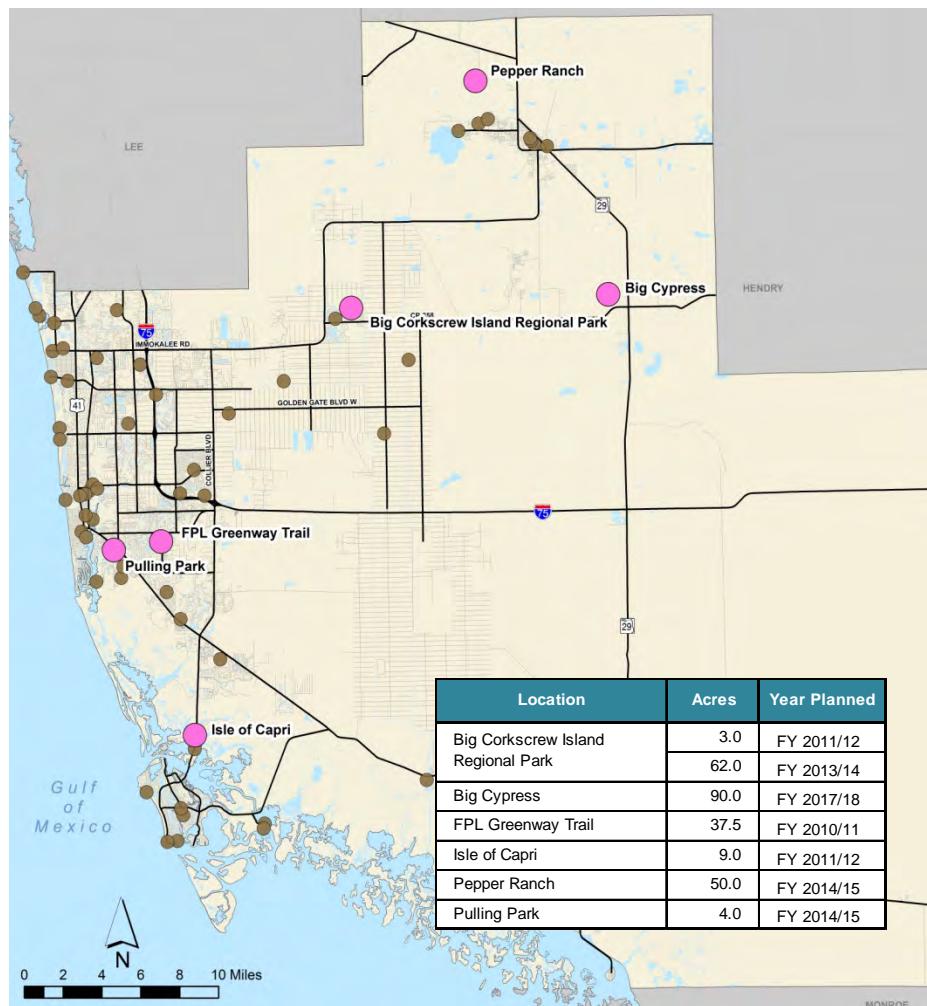
- Group 1:
  - Quarry in Golden Gate Estates could provide community park land with water access.
  - Regional park land needed in the southeast part of Golden Gate Estates.
- Group 2:
  - New park needed southeast of Big Cypress between SR 29 and the Collier/Hendry county line.
  - New park needed southwest of Immokalee.
  - New park needed north of CR 951 near Lee/Collier county line.
  - New park needed east of CR 951 and north of I-75 in west Golden Gate Estates.
- Group 3:
  - Quarry in Golden Gate Estates could provide community park land with water access.
  - More beachfront parks needed.
  - Should consider regional park land in Belle Meade instead of planned land acquisition for Pepper Ranch.

- Group 4:
  - Additional park land needs to be purchased east of US 41 south of the planned Manatee Community Park, as there is project to be high population growth along the US 41 corridor over the next 10 years.

## *Exercise 2-B: Planned Capital Projects*

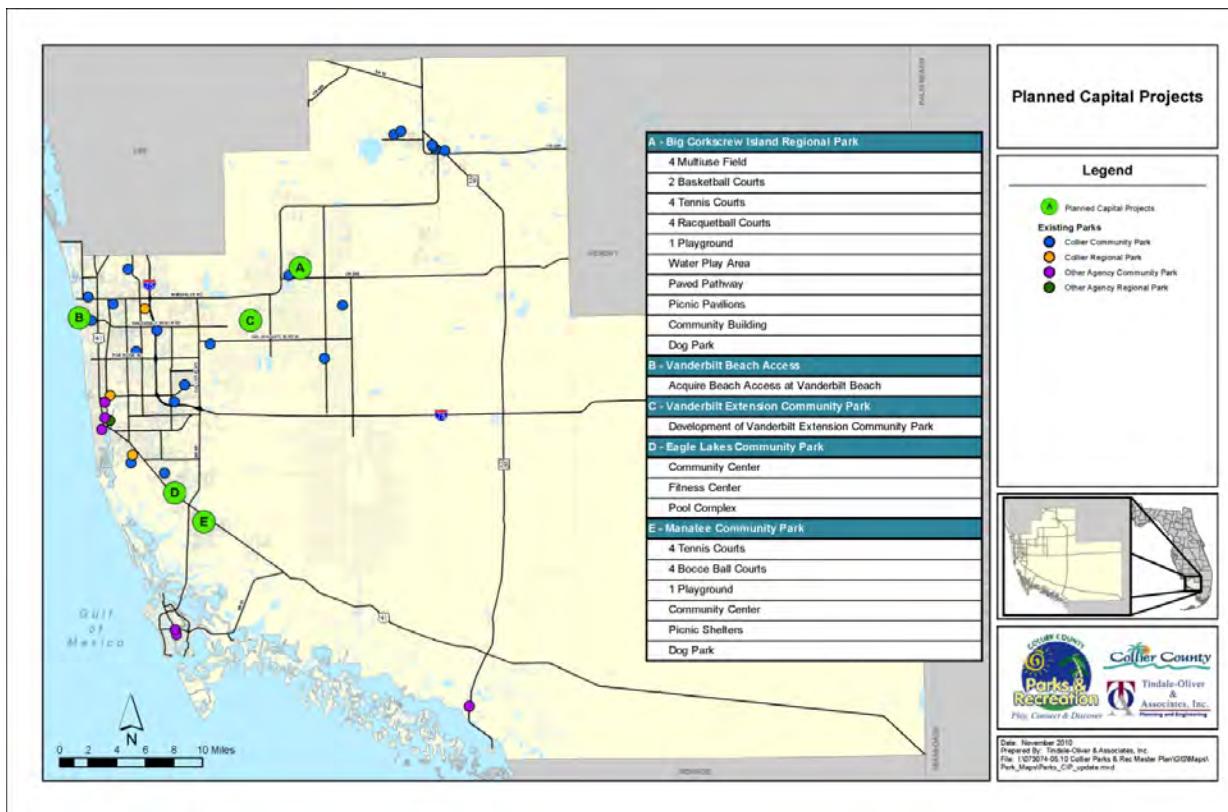
For Exercise 2-B, participants were asked to provide input on the capital projects planned for the next 10 years as identified by the County Parks and Recreation Department. These are major projects and do not include minor capital projects (e.g., parking lot expansion, additional restroom facility, etc.). Figure 5-3 illustrates these planned capital projects. In addition, participants were asked to provide input on any capital projects they felt were needed in addition to those identified on the map. To accomplish this, participants were asked to determine which projects were needed based on the demographic data provided, existing inventories, and their own opinions as members of the parks and recreation community.

**Figure 5-2**  
Planned Regional Park Land Acquisitions



# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Figure 5-3  
Planned Capital Projects



# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Table 5-2 presents the prioritization of the identified capital projects for each break-out group.

**Table 5-2**  
**Prioritization of Capital Projects**

Capital Project	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Develop Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park	1	1	2	2
Develop Manatee Community Park	5	5	4	5
Construct Eagle Lakes Community & Fitness Center/Swimming Pool Complex	4	2	3	1
Develop Vanderbilt Extension Community Park	3	4	X	3
Acquire Beach Access at Vanderbilt Beach	2	3	1	X
Construct Maintenance Building at East Naples Community Park	--	--	--	4

X = Group elected to remove project from list of need.

Consensus reach by each of the four break-out groups provided varying opinions as to the prioritization and need of the planned capital projects.

- Group 2 participants discussed a need to acquire land for several new parks (mentioned under Exercise 2-A) as well as the need provide adequate facilities at these new parks.
- Group 3 participants felt that development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park, which is predicated on the completion of the Vanderbilt Road extension project, is not necessary, given the remote park location and availability of other, more accessible parks in the surrounding area.
- Group 4 participants felt that acquisition of beachfront property for additional beach access at Vanderbilt Beach is not necessary, given the cost to acquire the land. Group 4 participants did cite the need for a maintenance facility constructed at East Naples Community Park. In addition, Group 4 participants highlighted the need to maximize the available land at existing community and regional parks to construct additional athletic fields, as the existing athletic fields throughout the county are currently over capacity.

The County is considering acquisition of three properties to provide beach access at Vanderbilt Beach, which is planned to be funded with Tourist Development Council revenue (hotel bed taxes), a funding source specific to beach land and facilities. Therefore, for purposes of prioritizing the planned improvements, Vanderbilt Beach access should be removed from consideration, as this project has a separate dedicated funding source not available to the other planned improvements.

When removing land acquisition at Vanderbilt Beach from consideration, due to it being funded by a separate dedicated funding source, Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park was the top priority of three out of the four break-out groups. These three groups cited a need for a regional park in Golden Gate Estates to serve both the existing and projected population in this area. Group 4 indicated that the County

should finish completing the Eagle Lakes community/fitness center and swimming pool complex prior to starting construction at Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park.

## **Exercise 3 –How Do We Get There?**

As part of Exercise 2, participants were provided a matrix showing the park land and recreational facility unit costs from the County's 2009 Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Study. By providing these costs, participants were able to see the order-of-magnitude costs for the projects they identified as top priorities. In Exercise 3, participants were asked to discuss existing and potential local revenue sources to fund the priority projects identified in Exercise 2.

### *Exercise 3-A: Existing Local Funding Sources*

In Exercise 3-A, participants were provided information on revenue sources currently used by the County to fund parks and recreation projects. Existing local funding sources include:

- **Parks and Recreation Impact Fees**
  - Can be used for Capital only
  - Charged to new residential development only
  - Existing funding source already in place (currently used to pay down existing debt service)
  - Amount of revenue generated is dependent on level of growth
  - Current fees = \$3,387 (2,000 sq ft single family); \$1,822 (multi-family)
  - Annual collections estimated to be ~ \$1.7M
- **Tourist Development Council Funds**
  - Provides funding for beach facilities
- **Grants and other miscellaneous revenue**
  - Local match may be required
  - Often earmarked for specific project or location
  - Occasional source; may not be consistently available

As presented in Table 5-3, all groups agreed that the County should continue pursuing each of these three existing local funding sources. Group 2 was unable to complete the exercise due to time constraints.

**Table 5-3**  
**Existing Local Funding Sources**

Existing Revenue Source	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Impact Fees	Yes	--	Yes	Yes
Tourism Development Council	Seems Appropriate	--	Yes	Yes
Grants & Other Misc. Revenue Sources	Yes	--	Yes	Yes

### *Exercise 3-B: Potential Local Funding Sources*

In Exercise 3-B, participants were provided information on potential local revenue sources for parks and recreation. The purpose of this exercise was not to promote a specific funding policy, but to gain an understanding of whether there is support for these local funding sources by the focus group participants. Potential local funding sources discussed during this exercise include:

- **Local Option Sales Tax (example provided was 0.25% sales tax)**
  - Can be used for Capital and Operation
  - Enacted by referendum
  - Potential large revenue source
  - Cost burden shared by residents and non-residents
  - Use limited to specific programs
  - Bondable revenues
  - Example: 0.25% sales tax would generate approximately \$12.6M annually<sup>3</sup>
- **Municipal Services Benefit Unit (non ad-valorem assessment)**
  - Can be used for Capital and Operation
  - May levy fees and/or assessments
  - Stable revenue source
  - Revenues must be spent to benefit assessed properties
  - Bondable revenue
  - Example: \$50 annual assessment per home would generate approximately \$9.4M<sup>4</sup>
- **Municipal Services Tax Unit (ad-valorem based)**
  - Can be used for Capital and Operation
  - Revenues fluctuate with property values
  - Bondable revenue

<sup>3</sup>2009 Local Government Financial Information Handbook (Local Discretionary Sales Surtax Table)

<sup>4</sup>\$50 multiplied by the total number of residential housing units per 2010 Tax Roll

- Example: 0.1 mill would cost \$10 per \$100,000 of property value annually
- Example: 0.1 mill from residential only would generate approximately \$5.2M annually<sup>5</sup>
- Example: 0.1 mill from all land uses would generate approximately \$6.0M annually<sup>6</sup>

As presented in Table 5-4, the groups had differing opinions regarding support for these potential revenue sources. Other sources identified included user fees (Groups 1 and 3) and tourism revenues generated by the Parks and Recreation Department partnering with outside organizations to bring tournaments and other events to the county (Group 4).

**Table 5-4**  
**Potential Local Funding Sources**

Potential Revenue Source	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4
Local Option Sales Tax	No	--	Yes	No
Municipal Service Benefit Unit	No	--	Yes	Yes
Municipal Service Tax Unit	No	--	Yes	Maybe
Other Sources	Yes	--	Yes	Yes

## SUMMARY OF FOCUS GROUP FINDINGS

**What do we want?** – Focus group participants indicated that they would like to see the County maintain the high quality of parks, facilities, and programs currently being provided, while maximizing use of existing land for additional active and passive facilities. While noting that County financial resources are becoming more strained, participants did indicate they would like to see more staff presence at parks and more emphasis on maintaining the existing assets.

**Where and when do we want it?** – When removing land acquisition at Vanderbilt Beach from consideration, due to it being funded by a separate dedicated funding source, Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park was the top priority for future capital projects for three out of the four break-out groups. The general consensus of the break-out groups indicated that development of Vanderbilt Community Extension and Manatee Community Park is not needed within the next 10 years and these projects have a lower priority than development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park or construction of a community/fitness center and swimming pool at Eagle Lakes Community Park.

**How do we get there?** – The focus groups agreed that the County should continue to leverage existing local revenue sources for parks (i.e., impact fees, tourist development council, and grants/other miscellaneous revenue sources), especially since impact fees are mainly used to pay the County's current parks and recreation debt. The participants had varying support for the potential local revenue

<sup>5</sup>Collier County 2010 Tax Roll

<sup>6</sup> Collier County 2010 Tax Roll

sources presented in Exercise 3-B, and even those participants who personally supported one or more of the potential revenue sources for parks expressed doubt about any widespread support for a new tax or assessment given the current economy. However, the groups did agree that the County should pursue user fees and income from sporting events and tournaments to help fund park capital and maintenance needs.



## Section 6 – Master Plan Recommendations

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## COLLIER COUNTY 10-YEAR MASTER PLAN STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of the demographic analysis and needs analysis, as well as input received by the focus group participants, the following strategic recommendations are included in the Collier County 10-Year Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

### Development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park

The need for development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park is based on the following.

- The development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park will address the lack of regional park presence in a significant area of the county, including The Estates, Corkscrew, and Immokalee, which accounts for approximately one-half of the County's current residential population.
- This park will serve an area that is projected to have the most significant population growth in the county over the next 10 years.
- This park will provide relief to over-utilized football/soccer and multi-use fields as well as help prevent over-utilization of other facilities.
- There is currently no aquatic recreation or miscellaneous facilities available within this area.

When removing beach land acquisition from consideration, due to it being funded by a separate dedicated funding source, Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park was the top priority for three out of the four break-out groups. These three groups cited a need for a regional park in northern Golden Gate Estates to serve both the existing and projected population in this area. The focus group participants confirm the findings of the Demographic and Needs Analyses, which indicate that a regional park is needed to serve Golden Gate Estates.

### Construction of Community/Fitness Center and Pool at Eagle Lakes Community Park

Collier County is currently seeking a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) to help fund the construction of a community/fitness center and swimming pool at Eagle Lakes Community Park. As discussed below, the community/fitness complex and swimming pool have been identified as separate priorities.

The need for a new community/fitness center and pool complex is based on the following:

- A community/fitness center would provide benefit to the current population within the south/east Naples area. Demographic and socioeconomic data were reviewed specific to the service area of this community center as outlined in the County's CDBG package.

- The demographics within the immediate area support the need for a community center. The area to be served by this community center is a lower income area, with a higher person-per-household and younger-aged residents.
- While there is not a swimming pool, there is a splash park located at Eagle Lakes Community Park. Given the need for a community center in this area and lack of available funding both constructing and operating new county facilities, priority for constructing improvements at Eagle Lakes Community Park should be placed on the community/fitness center.

## Additional Athletic Fields to Serve Existing Population

The results of the utilization analysis indicate that the following:

- The Immokalee area is experiencing over-utilization of little league, football/soccer, and multi-use fields. Additional athletic fields are needed in this area to provide relief.
- There is over-utilization of football/soccer fields countywide. The development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park will provide relief to over-utilized football/soccer fields in the Estates area. In addition, the placement of football/soccer fields at Manatee Community Park will provide relief to over-utilize fields in the east/south Naples area.
- There is over-utilization of football/soccer fields in the north Naples area (north of Pine Ridge Road). Additional football/soccer fields are needed in this area to provide relief.

It is recommended that the County collect similar utilization data (as feasible) for other facilities, such as hard courts, aquatic facilities, and community centers, as feasible, to assist in the determination for need of future facilities.

## Continue to Optimize Interlocal Agreements for School Sites

Collier County Parks and Recreation Department and the School District Board of Collier County currently have interlocal agreements at several school sites to maximize the use of county assets for both recreation and educational facilities. Although the School District Board of Collier County is not planning to construct any new schools in the near future, it is recommended that when new school construction occurs, each new school site should be evaluated, designed, and constructed to maximize the potential for co-location of recreational and educational facilities.

## Development of Manatee Community Park

Should Manatee Community Park be developed as a passive park, it is likely that projected population growth along the US 41 corridor beyond the 10-Year Master Plan horizon will require additional active

recreation facilities, such as athletic fields, hard courts, Splash Park, etc., in this area. In addition, football/soccer fields at the existing parks north along US 41 (i.e., Eagle Lakes and East Naples Community Parks) are currently over-utilized and therefore additional football/soccer fields are already needed in this area. Although active facilities are currently not part of the conceptual design, it is apparent that additional football/soccer fields are currently needed to serve this area and the need for additional active facilities will increase as population growth in this area occurs. As such, it is recommended that this park be developed in two phases, with the first phase consisting of athletic fields needed to provide relief to existing park in this area and the second phase consisting of additional facilities required to serve future growth as it occurs.

## **Development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park**

The development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park is tied to the extension of Vanderbilt Beach Road. In addition, Vanderbilt Extension Community Park is located on the periphery of a concentrated area of projected population growth. For the next 10 years, the development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park should provide park land and recreational facilities needed to serve both existing population and future growth within this immediate area. Given that development of Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park is a priority, development of Vanderbilt Extension Community Park should occur once more extensive population growth west of Vanderbilt Extension Community park occurs

## **Recommendations from 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report**

In addition to current projects to expand the access to open water and the beaches, the 2010 Boat and Beach Access Report includes the following recommendations, which are incorporated into the Master Plan as follows.

### **1. Barefoot Beach Preserve**

Not exceeding the carrying capacity of this park is a primary objective because of its status as a nature preserve. However, a dock and pier can be provided to the inland side of the island to accommodate waterborne visitors while protecting the beach and dunes. This area will also allow provide visitors a better view the mangrove habitat, which presently is only accessible by canoe/kayak. Pickup locations can be at Cocohatchee Park and Conner Park.

### **2. Beach and Boat Access**

Beach access can be viewed from two perspectives – the number and amount of beach access points and the effectiveness of each of those locations. Although no standards exist for the number of public beach access points a County should have, Collier County has been aggressively working to increase the number and location of its public beach accesses points. This, however, has met with limited success because of the high cost and low availability of suitable locations.

It is recommended that the County continue to pursue its current acquisition policy but at the same time aggressively pursue revisions to the Land Development Code that permits greater public beach access.

### 3. Parking and Transportation Service for Beach Access

The number of beach parking spaces currently meets the countywide 1:150 parking space to permanent residents recommended ratio suggested by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. If additional parking is required at the more popular beach parks or during the busy season, the County should consider providing beach access through a combination of:

- Exploring an extended Collier Area Transit (CAT) operation along Gulf Shore Drive to increase service to the beach access points along Vanderbilt Beach.
- Developing a business plan to provide tram service during peak use periods between Conner Park and the Vanderbilt Beach garage to feed our most popular beaches using existing underused public access points.

### 4. Beach Parking Fees

Collier County has adopted a policy of free beach parking with a beach parking pass. If this system were changed to require both residents and visitors alike to purchase daily, monthly, or annual passes, then approximately \$1M to \$3M would become available to fund the operational needs of meeting existing and future levels of service.

### 5. Boat Launch and Boat Trailer Parking

Boat ramp lanes are not adequate for the peak periods of weekends and holidays for the number of boat users in Collier County. Even with the additional new lane at Bayview Park, the County is operating with a two-lane deficit in 2011. This deficit will grow by one lane in 2013 to 2015 timeframe and increase to five additional ramp lanes in 2020.

Boat trailer parking presently is inadequate, and even with programmed parking increases, the County has a significant parking space deficit based on current ramp capacity. This deficit is a county wide average and does not account for peak usage or chronic shortages at popular ramp locations such as Bayview, Caxambas, or Cocohatchee.

The County should continue to pursue expanding the existing boat parks and parking where appropriate. Additionally, strategic acquisition of desirable boat launch sites should continue.



## **Appendix A – Collier County Boat and Beach Access Report (September 2010)**

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**Update September 2010**

## **Collier County BOAT AND BEACH ACCESS REPORT**

### **OBJECTIVE**

The purpose of the Boat and Beach Access Report is to assess Collier County's performance in providing beach access and boat launch facilities to County residents and visitors.

This report will identify the overarching complications involved with providing beach access and boat launch services that keep up with demand, examine current level of service standards adopted by Collier County and the recreation industry, inventory current facilities and update the 1999 and 2003 Reports with regard to options and inventories, and suggest options for future services and facilities.

### **SUPPLY AND DEMAND**

While the Gulf of Mexico is a vast but not unlimited resource for water-dependent recreation, limited access to it limits the population's ability to use it. Sandy beach, on the other hand, is a finite recreational resource even further limited by the constraints of access, available parking and public facilities. The decreasing availability of adequate public beach access and increasing cost of beach property exacerbate this issue. The more access that is needed, the more difficult it is to find and afford.

The challenge is to provide adequate access to beaches and waterways which includes available parking and public facilities without exceeding the carrying capacities of the resources and thereby decreasing their desirability and worth.

### **LEVELS OF SERVICE**

The Collier County Growth Management Plan outlines level of service standards (LOSS) for parkland in two categories: community park acreage and regional park acreage. Beach, beach parking and boating access acreage are included in the regional park acreage measure for purposes of comprehensive plan concurrency. The comprehensive plan requires no distinction between park acreage and acreage reserved for beach and water access.

Water Access Level of Service is guidance defined in the 2009 AUIR as public beach access points, boat ramps lanes, fishing access points, canoe/kayak launches, and any other fresh or saltwater access facilities and recommended at a service level of 1:10,000 residents. Currently, 79 Water Access points exist throughout Collier County and represent a LOS of 1:4,239 residents (334,837 residents projected in 2010). Based on this Level of Service guidance, Ninety Five (95) water access points will be required for a build-out population of 950,000 in 2080.

## Summary of Existing Boating Facilities and Capacity Needs

### Boat Ramps

Currently 32 boat ramp lanes serve boaters countywide. One more boat ramps will be placed into service by the County within the next 12 months bringing the total to 33. The Parks and Recreation Department maintains eighteen of these lanes in eight locations; City or State government provides seven lanes in three locations; and eight are privately owned at six locations and open to the public. Table 1 outlines the locations and amenities of these facilities.

**Table 1. Boat Ramp Facilities Available to the Public**

Ownership	Facility	Ramp lanes	Trailer parking spaces	Additional Ramp Lanes under design/construction as of 6/2010	Additional Trailer parking spaces under design/construction as of 6/2010	Total Ramp lanes	Total Trailer parking spaces	Acres	Launch fee	Rest rooms	Concession	Picnic facilities	Coast Guard auxiliary	Play area	Dockmaster
County	Bayview Park	2	16	1	52	3	68	4	\$5.00	x	x	x	x	x	
	Caxambas Park	2	31	0	0	2	31	4	\$5.00	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Cocohatchee River Park	4	58	0	0	4	58	7	\$5.00	x	x	x	x	x	x
	Collier Boulevard Boating Park	2	83	0	0	2	83	7.1	\$5.00						
	Lake Trafford Park	1	8	0	0	1	8	2	0			x			
	Goodland Boat park	2	75	0	0	2	75	5.2	\$5.00	x	x	x		x	
	Port of the Island Marina	2	23	0	0	2	23		\$5.00	x	x				x
	Golden Gate Boat Ramp	2	10	0	0	2	10	0.5	0	x			x	x	
City & State	Naples Landing	3	45	0	0	3	35		\$.75/hr	x	x	x		x	
	Collier-Seminole State Park	2	25	0	0	2	25		\$7.18	x					
	Delnor-Wiggins State Recreation Area	2	30	0	0	2	30		\$6.12	x	x	x			
Private	Outdoor Resorts	1	30+			1	30+		\$10.00	x	x				x
	Calusa Island Marina	2	32			2	32		\$5.00	x	x				x
	Glades Haven Marina	2				2									
	Moran's Restaurant Marina & Motel	1	40+			1	40+		\$5.30	x	x				x
	Isles of Capri Marina	1				1			e						
	Shell Island Road Boat Ramp	1	15			1	15		0						

### **Existing Capacity Needs**

Twenty three thousand one hundred and seventeen (23,117) vessels were registered in Collier County in 2009 based on information obtained from the Tax Collectors office.

From 2002 to 2006 registered vessels steadily increased on average by 485 vessels per year, maximizing out in 2006 with 24,708 vessels. Since then, vessel registration has decreased on average by 530 vessels per year to its current level in 2009 of 23,117.

Registered vessels are estimated to continue to shrink in 2010, 2011 and 2012 by an average of 265 vessels per year. This estimate represents half of the actual yearly shrinkage experienced in 2007, 2008 and 2009. The number of registered vessels is estimated to bottom out to 22,322 vessels in 2012 and then expected to increase by 1.5% per year. A summary of vessel registration is listed in Table 2 below.

<b>Table 2 - Vessel Registrations in Collier County</b>			
Year	Total Number of Registered Vessels	Yearly increase or decrease	Avg Increase or decrease
2002	22,770		
2003	22,952	182	485
2004	23,244	292	485
2005	24,072	828	485
2006	24,708	636	485
2007	24,458	-250	-530
2008	24,173	-285	-530
2009	23,117	-1,056	-530
2010	22,852 Projected	-265	-265
2011	22,587 Projected	-265	-265
2012	22,322 Projected	-265	-265

For years, it was estimated that less than 6,000 wet slips and less than 3,000 commercial dry storage spaces were available for boat storage. This figure has been revised to 10,013 spaces in 2009 with the recent addition of Hamilton Harbor and permits issued by the City of Naples, the City of Marco Island and Collier County since October of 2004. As a result, at least 13,104 vessels countywide (23,117 registered vessels less 10,013 wet/dry slips) are dependent on boat ramps for water access in 2009.

## Average and Peak Rate Capacity Analysis

Collier County has used on average, 20 launches per vessel per year in calculating the overall county launch demand. This estimate serves as a key assumption in calculating current and future capacity and is supported by the following points:

1. The average boater launches/goes out every other weekend but misses a few weekends/holidays due to poor weather.
2. The rule of thumb offered by an experienced Dock Master is that in the marina business, you can expect five percent of your clientele to go out on any given day. This equates to 18.5 trips per boat per year.
3. The 2009 Boater Characterization Study of registered boater within Collier County identified based on 9,359 questionnaires mailed to ramp users; wet and dry slip marina users; and home dock owners that boat usage within a 2,077 response group (22%) was 3.85 times per month or 46 times per year. This group, we believe represents the most highly motivated boating public in the County and sets the maximum cap for annual usage.

At an average of 20 launches per vessel per year, countywide facilities must be able to accommodate 256,780 launches per year to meet demand. Uniformly spread across all the 32 available boat ramp lanes (private and public) available in 2010, each lane will average 8,024 launches per year in 2010 (256,780 launches per year/32 lanes) or 22 lane-launches per day. In 2011, each lane will average 7,621 launches per year (251,480 launches per year/33 lanes) or 21 lane launches per day.

These figures are in accordance with the recommendation of the Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning Guide of 2000, which suggests that a single boat ramp lane can accommodate 36 launches per day (20 minutes total put-in and pull-out time over a 12-hour period). These calculations are ideal numbers, however, and do not provide for peak use times such as weekends and holidays, they spread usage uniformly across all the boat ramps in the county and don't account for any boats from outside the county.

## Peak Rate Capacity Analysis

The Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Planning Guide recommends that average peak use be calculated as follows: Total user occasions are multiplied by 55 percent and divided by 111. This formula is derived from state park attendance, where 55 percent of the total annual attendance occurred over 111 days (52 weeks times two weekend days plus seven weekday holidays).

Table 3 summarizes Peak Rate Capacity Requirements.

**Table 3 - Peak Rate Capacity Requirements**

Year	Estimated Number of registered vessels	Estimated Number of wet/dry slips	Projected Number of vessels using boat ramps	Average Number of boat usages per year	Launches per year	Available Ramp Lanes	Launches per Day	Launches per Day per Ramp Lane	Launches per Peak Day	Launches per Peak day per Ramp Lane
2009	23,117	10,013	13,104	20	262,080	30	718	24	1,299	43
2010	22,852	10,013	12,839	20	256,780	32	704	22	1,272	40
2011	22,587	10,013	12,574	20	251,480	33	689	21	1,246	38
2012	22,322	10,013	12,309	20	246,180	33	674	20	1,220	37
2013	22,657	10,113	12,544	20	250,877	33	687	21	1,243	38
2014	22,997	10,213	12,784	20	255,674	34	700	21	1,267	37
2015	23,342	10,313	13,029	20	260,573	34	714	21	1,291	38
2016	23,692	10,413	13,279	20	265,575	34	728	21	1,316	39
2017	24,047	10,513	13,534	20	270,683	34	742	22	1,341	39
2018	24,408	10,613	13,795	20	275,897	34	756	22	1,367	40
2019	24,774	10,713	14,061	20	281,219	34	770	23	1,393	41
2020	25,146	10,813	14,333	20	286,651	34	785	23	1,420	42

Note –

1. Registered vessels are estimated to continue to shrink in 2010, 2011 and 2012 by an average of 265 vessels per year. This estimate represents half of the actual yearly shrinkage experienced in 2007, 2008 and 2009. The number of registered vessels is projected to bottom out in 2012 to 22,322. Vessel growth after 2012 is projected at 1.5% per year.
2. Wet/Dry slip projections are constant at 10,013 through 2012 and then increase by 100 per year. This projection is in anticipation of stronger environmental law and decreased availability of undeveloped waterfront property from the annual historic increase of 140 Wet/Dry slips per year from 2004 through 2008 based on the average number of permits issued by Collier County, Naples and Marco Island.

As can be seen from Table 3, the recommended carrying capacity of 36 launches per lane per day is exceeded during the peak times of weekends and holidays. Additionally, in 2010, current demand requires that 36 lanes be available for peak periods (1,272 daily launches divided by 36 launches per day per ramp). Again, our current capacity in 2010 is 32 ramp lanes and our projected capacity in 2011 will be 33 ramp lanes.

### Growth Considerations

The growth of boating countywide is a further consideration with regard to the level of service County boaters can expect to experience. For the six years leading up to 2002, the number of registered vessels in the county grew steadily at 1000 boats per year. From 2002 to 2006 the average vessel growth rate slowed to 485 boats per year. In 2007, growth turned negative and shrank on average by 530 vessels a year to where it currently stands at 23,117 registered

vessels in 2009. Registered vessels are estimated to continue to shrink in 2010, 2011 and 2012 by an average of 265 vessels per year. This estimate represents half of the actual yearly shrinkage experienced in 2007, 2008 and 2009 and attempts to account for a difficult but improving economy within Collier County. The number of registered vessels is projected to bottom out in 2012 to 22,322. Vessel growth after 2012 is projected at 1.5% per year.

Table 4 projects **peak** boat ramp lane deficiencies for the next ten years. As can be seen, at 20 launches per boat per year the county is short 3 ramp lanes required to handle the projected registered vessel volume in 2010. The ramp lane deficit decreases to 2 in 2011 with the addition of an additional ramp at Bayview Park.

The projected number of vessels using public boat ramps is expected to begin to increase in 2013. Currently, few solutions exist for finding homes for these additional boats in dry storage or wet slips. They will most likely become ramp users. Again at 20 launches per boat per year, they will begin to require additional boat ramp lanes in 2013 to 2015 timeframe.

Table 4 - Projection of Boat Ramp Needs						
Year	Estimated Number of registered vessels	Estimated Number of wet/dry slips	Projected Number of vessels using boat ramps	Number of Lanes available	Number of ramp lanes Needed countywide	Ramp lane deficit
2009	23,117	10,013	13,104	30	36	6
2010	22,852	10,013	12,839	32	35	3
2011	22,587	10,013	12,574	33	35	2
2012	22,322	10,013	12,309	33	34	1
2013	22,657	10,113	12,544	33	35	2
2014	22,997	10,213	12,784	34	35	1
2015	23,342	10,313	13,029	34	36	2
2016	23,692	10,413	13,279	34	37	3
2017	24,047	10,513	13,534	34	37	3
2018	24,408	10,613	13,795	34	38	4
2019	24,774	10,713	14,061	34	39	5
2020	25,146	10,813	14,333	34	39	5

Note –

1. Registered vessels are estimated to continue to shrink in 2010, 2011 and 2012 by an average of 265 vessels per year. This estimate represents half of the actual yearly shrinkage experienced in 2007, 2008 and 2009. The number of registered vessels is projected to bottom out in 2012 to 22,322. Vessel growth after 2012 is projected at 1.5% per year.

2. Wet/Dry slip projections are constant at 10,013 through 2012 and then increase by 100 per year. This projection is in anticipation of stronger environmental law and decreased availability of undeveloped waterfront property from the annual historic increase of 140 Wet/Dry slips per year from 2004 through 2008 based on the average number of permits issued by Collier County, Naples and Marco Island
3. Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park Boat launch facility is expected to be operational in 2014 adding an additional boat ramp lane.

### **Consequences of Adequate Parking**

Observations reveal that where Collier County-run boat ramps are concerned, 36 launches per lane per day offer a generous launch and retrieval time. The problem resides not in the carrying capacity of the ramp but of the parking area. County boat ramp users can maximize a ramp's capacity with adequate boat trailer parking.

Table 5 illustrates the extent of parking available at some County facilities. Bayview Park, at the end of its anticipated expansion in FY2011 along with Caxambas Park ramp and Cocohatchee Park ramp are all parking limited facilities. Specifically Bayview Park after expansion could accommodate 108 launches per day, but will offer only 68 trailer parking spaces on-site. Inadequate parking at these parks limits the effectiveness of these facilities. In Summary, Saltwater boat ramp parking deficit is 149 spaces while the Freshwater parking deficit is 90 spaces.

**Table 5 - Parking Space Deficit at County-Owned Boat Launch Facilities**

	Ramp lanes	Current Parking Spaces	Add'l spaces anticipated by 2011	Total Parking Spaces	Daily Launch Capacity	Parking space deficit
Bayview Park	3	16	52	68	108	-40
Caxambas Park	2	31	0	31	72	-41
Cocohatchee River Park	4	58	0	58	144	-86
Collier Boulevard Boating Park	2	19	64	83	72	+11
Goodland Boat Park	2	0	75	75	72	+3
Port of the Islands	1	23	17	40	36	+4
<b>Saltwater Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>504</b>	<b>-149</b>
Lake Trafford Park*	1	8	0	8	36	-28
Golden Gate Boat Ramp*	2	10	0	10	72	-62
<b>Freshwater Totals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>-90</b>

Note –

1. (\*) Denotes fresh water boating access.
2. The parking space deficit assumes no turnover in daily boat ramp parking.

Currently Lake Trafford and Golden Gate are the only freshwater boating ramps available throughout the County.

Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park Boat launch facility will be a fresh water facility expected to come on line in 2014 and tailored to very shallow draft vessels requiring no more than 4 feet of water. More access to fresh water may alleviate some of the burden on existing saltwater facilities and, as the County population grows may generate increasing demand of its own for freshwater facilities.

## Beach Access throughout the County

### Existing and Committed Beach Access

The State of Florida recommends a distance of one half-mile between sites for the spacing of beach access points for state-financed beach restoration projects.

Collier County beaches offer a wide range of choices with regard to the frequency of access points along its beaches. In general, State and County beach parks have more sparsely spaced access points to maintain lesser density and a more natural beach environment and experience. The City of Naples, on the other hand, maintains 34 of its 37 access points within a five-mile stretch of beach, allowing for a more urban beach experience. County residents and visitors are well served by this variety, but to keep up with demand the County should continuously seek ways to improve access, amenity, and parking at its beaches.

Table 6 is a summary of the public access available along the county's shoreline, from north to south (facilities operated by Collier County Parks and Recreation are highlighted):

Table 6. Public Access Along Collier County Shoreline				
	Linear feet	Description	Parking	Amenities
Barefoot Beach Access	650	5-acre beach access adjacent to Bonita Beach Park, which offers amenities	96	picnic shelters
Lely Barefoot Beach Development	7100	private residences, <b>63% inaccessible to the general public*</b>	0	none
Barefoot Beach Preserve	7500	342 acres of undeveloped coastal barrier island, intended for low density public enjoyment	362	nature trail, interpretive center, programs, showers, picnic area, concession, rest rooms
Delnor-Wiggins State Recreation Area	5900	160 acres of preserved area, amenities	355	interpretive programs, picnic areas, concession, showers, rest rooms
Conner Park Beach access (via Bluebill)	20	Beach Access and future Restroom Facilities at the end of Bluebill Road with Parking at Conner Park	155	restrooms

Road)		approximately .4 miles away		
Vanderbilt Beach Accesses	6850	6 walkway easements allow for public access between residences and condominiums	0	none
Vanderbilt Beach	375	5 acres preserve with natural vegetation housing a parking garage with bathrooms located at the end of Vanderbilt Beach road. Additional restroom facilities and concession located at the beach.	361	showers, rest rooms, concession, parking garage and street parking
Pelican Bay Development	12,000	Collier County owns a significant portion of the adjacent upland property, the rest is private; <b>89% inaccessible to public*</b>	0	none
Clam Pass Park	3200	35 acres of preserve area and amenities. Studies underway to provide an additional passive beach park facility accessible by tram approximately 1,000 feet to the south of existing facility.	172	boardwalk with tram service, concession, picnic area, foot showers, rest rooms
North Gulf Shore Access	1350	parking is located at the end of Seagate Drive, pedestrian access from North Gulf Shore Boulevard	38	none
Park Shore Accesses (City)	13,000	3 City of Naples accesses are available amid North Gulf Shore condominiums	Included in the City of Naples totals	none
City of Naples Accesses	30,000	34 accesses stretch from north of The Beach Club to 32nd Avenue South; Lowdermilk Park and accesses near Naples Pier offer full amenities; select others have showers and foot showers	1,305 total	variable
Keewaydin Island	40,000	<b>water access only</b>	0	none
Hideaway Beach Development	5280	Private residences and condominiums, <b>100% inaccessible to the walking public* Water access only.</b>	0	single public bathroom pending for 2010
Tigertail Beach	3900	31 acres of preserved area, amenities	245	concession, picnic area, playground, rest rooms
Marco Island	13,000	condominiums, hotels, <b>80% inaccessible to the general public*</b>	0	none
South Marco Beach Access	1200	1-acre walkway easement between condominiums	70	rest rooms
<b>Total</b>	153,325		3,159	

Note –

1. Accessibility calculated by subtracting  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile from the total linear footage for each contiguous publicly accessible beach.

## **Beach Parking**

Even more than for boaters, a beachgoer's enjoyable day at the beach is only as attainable as the nearest available parking space. Since the 2003 Boat and Beach access report, Collier County has added 278 beach parking spaces to its inventory. Fifty-eight (58) net spaces were added (75 added at Conner Park offset with the loss of 17 spaces at the Bluebill access) and 220 at Vanderbilt Beach access with the addition of the parking garage. Total spaces at County beaches with the completion of the Conner Park parking addition will be 1,499. Spaces for the City of Naples have been verified at 1,305 and the State of Florida beach parking has remained static at 355.

Table 7 outlines the number of beach parking spaces per capita over the next ten years. These population figures are for year round residents and do not reflect seasonal residents. A 1:150 space-to-resident ratio was established as a goal by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in 1999. This ratio compares the number of public parking spaces to the population of the county. Revised population growth along with recent parking additions satisfies parking needs until 2020 based on this ratio.

<b>Table 7 – Projected Beach Parking Spaces per Capita</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Yearly Population</b>	<b>Number of parking spaces</b>	<b>Ratio</b>
2009	332,064	3159	1:106
2010	334,837	3159	1:107
2011	340,966	3159	1:109
2012	347,207	3159	1:111
2013	353,563	3159	1:113
2014	360,035	3159	1:115
2015	366,895	3159	1:117
2016	374,156	3159	1:119
2017	381,560	3159	1:121
2018	389,111	3159	1:124
2019	396,812	3159	1:126
2020	404,243	3159	1:129

Note –

1. Year round permanent population projections were only considered in the calculations.

Seasonal resident's usage, holidays and weekend demand **have not** been taken into account and will likely tax parking availability especially at the county's most popular beaches. There will be times within certain communities and certainly at the county's most popular beaches when

beach and parking capacity will be exceeded and parking closed. However, a number of considerations improve the outlook where the County's ability to provide sufficient parking for beach access is concerned.

- Some of the areas listed in Table 6 as partially inaccessible to the general public nonetheless do serve a portion of the population. Residents of Pelican Bay, Hideaway Beach, and Marco's Resident Beach enjoy a higher level of service than the general public due to the semi-private nature and access of their beaches. However, even these areas report inadequate capacity during peak use times.
- Additionally, thousands of residences in Collier County live west of Lely Barefoot Boulevard, Gulf Shore Drive, Gulf Shore Boulevard, Gordon Drive, and Collier Boulevard (Marco Island). The people who live in those residences do not need parking accommodation because they live within walking distance of the beach.

### **Other Recreation**

A final topic in assessing the County's levels of service with regard to beaches and boating is the introduction of alternative recreational activities.

- Sugden Regional Park is home to the 60-acre Lake Avalon, which supports a swimming beach and opportunities to participate in boating activities such as canoeing, kayaking, paddle boating, water skiing and sailing classes.
- Clam Pass Park, Margood, Golden Gate Community Park (future), Bayview, Barefoot Beach Preserve and Gordon River Greenway Park offer canoe/kayak launches.
- The North Collier Regional Park provides a water park with slides, a lazy river, and children's activity pools—a perfect alternative to the beach for cooling down on a hot day.
- The existing Golden Gate Aquatic Center, Immokalee Sports Complex, Splash parks at Vineyards and Eagle Lakes Community Parks provide more choices, as well.

The County should continue to diversify the recreational activities it offers. Variety builds the participant base and alleviates the burden on traditional resources such as beaches.

### **PLANNED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS**

The following is a summary of capital projects that have been approved by the Board and are either in the planning, design or construction phases:

#### **Boat Access Projects**

- **Bayview Boat Docks** – This project will add an additional 52 boat trailer spaces to this facility bringing the on-site total parking to 68 spots. Operational startup is expected by the end of calendar year 2011.
- **Big Corkscrew Island Regional Park** – This Park will accommodate canoes, kayaks and very shallow draft boats with trolling motors. This park is expected to be completed in 2018 with lake access in 2014.
- **Gordon River Greenway Park** – This Park will accommodate canoes and kayaks and will be commissioned and open to the public in 2012.

- **Margood Park** - This Park will accommodate canoes and kayaks and will be commissioned and open to the public in 2011.
- **Cocohatchee Boat Parking Expansion** - Aqua Development as part of its Planned Unit Development is required to add 20 boat parking spaces and 7 regular car parking spaces to this park. The site plan was approved and the permit issued for this work in 2007. Completion timing of this work is currently being discussed with the developer.

### **Beach Access and Beach Park Facilities**

- **Bluebill Road Beach Access and Bathrooms** – This project will provide public bathrooms and beach access at the end of Bluebill Avenue. Parking will be provided from Conner Park. This project should be completed in 2011.
- **Vanderbilt Beach Road Restroom & Concessionaire** – This project is in design/permitting and will replace the existing restrooms at Vanderbilt Beach with a new facility that would expand the restrooms and concession capabilities. This project is expected to be completed in 2012.
- **New Beach Park Facility at Clam Pass** - A new facility is in the planning stages that would provide passive shade structures and restrooms facilities 1,000 feet to the south of the existing Clam Pass Facility. This facility would be accessed by tram similar to the existing facility and provide additional beach access to the public. This facility will require 3 years to plan, permit and construct.
- **Tigertail Dune Walkover & Restrooms**- This project will add an additional bathroom facility at Tigertail Beach as well as a mangrove walkover. The dune walkover is expected to be complete by July 2011. The bathroom construction is dependent on revised FEMA flood maps.

### **CONCLUSIONS**

In summary, the levels of service that today's residents and visitors enjoy can be summarized as follows:

1. Current boat ramp lanes provided within Collier County meet the non-peak level of service capacity demands of the boating public through 2020. This assumes that all of the public and private ramp lanes regardless of location, popularity or weather accommodate the same daily volume throughout the year.
2. Thirty-three boat ramp lanes cannot handle the current peak day boat traffic generated within Collier County. Thirty-six boat ramp lanes are required to handle the county's current boater needs. Boater demand will require an additional lane be added in 2013 to 2015 timeframe. Demand will require five additional ramp lanes to be added by 2020.
3. Inadequate boat trailer parking is further reducing the capacity of our launch facilities. Currently, we have a 149 trailer parking space deficit at our saltwater launch facilities. Acquisition of desirable boat launch sites with adequate trailer parking should continue.

4. The number of beach parking spaces currently meets the 1:150 parking spaces to permanent yearly resident ratio recommended by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board.
5. Over the next ten years, and especially on weekends and holidays, facility demand will negatively impact the level of service that is currently provided. There will be times especially at the County's most popular boat ramps and beaches when parking capacity will be exceeded and facilities closed unless new facilities and parking are developed.
6. Reductions in population growth projections along with support and funding from the Board of County Commissioners to expand existing and provide new boating/parking facilities have improved or at the very least maintained the Level of Service to the residents of Collier County.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are areas within Collier County where improvements can be made in addition to current projects to expand the access to open water and the beaches:

### **6. Barefoot Beach Preserve**

Not exceeding the carrying capacity of this park is a primary objective because of its status as a nature preserve. However, a dock and pier can be provided to the inland side of the island to accommodate waterborne visitors while protecting the beach and dunes. This area will also allow provide visitors a better view the mangrove habitat, which presently is only accessible by canoe/kayak. Pick up locations can be at Cocohatchee and Conner Parks.

### **7. Beach Access**

Beach access can be viewed from two perspectives; the number and amount of beach access points and the effectiveness of each of those locations. Although no standards exist for the number of public beach access points a County should have, Collier County has been aggressively working to increase the number and location of its public beach accesses points. This however, has met with limited success because of the high cost and low availability of suitable locations.

Staff is recommending that the County continue to pursue its current acquisition policy but at the same time aggressively peruse revisions to the Land Development Code that permits greater public beach access.

### **8. Parking and Transportation Service for Beach Access**

The number of beach parking spaces currently meets the countywide 1:150 parking space to permanent resident recommended ratio suggested by the Park and Recreation Advisory Board. If additional parking is required at our more popular beach parks or

during season the County should consider providing beach access through a combination of:

- Explore an extended CAT operation along Gulf Shore Drive to increase service to the beach access points along Vanderbilt Beach.
- Develop a business plan to provide tram service during peak use periods between Conner Park and the Vanderbilt Beach garage to feed our most popular beaches using existing underutilized public access points.

## **9. Beach Parking Fees**

Collier County has adopted a policy of free beach parking with a beach parking pass. If this system were changed to require both residents and visitors alike to purchase daily, monthly or annual passes then approximately \$1M to \$3M would become available to fund the operational needs of meeting our existing and future levels of service.

## **10. Boat Launch and Boat Trailer Parking**

Boat ramp lanes are not adequate for the peak periods of weekends and holidays for the number of boat users in Collier County. Even with the additional new lane at Bayview Park, the County is operating with a two lane deficit in 2011. This deficit will grow by one lane in 2013 to 2015 timeframe and increase to 5 additional ramp lanes in 2020.

Boat trailer parking is presently inadequate and even with programmed parking increases the County has a significant parking space deficit based on current ramp capacity. This deficit is a county wide average and does not account for peak usage or chronic shortages at popular ramp locations like Bayview, Caxambas or Cocohatchee.

The County should continue to pursue expanding the existing boat parks and parking where appropriate. Additionally, strategic acquisition of desirable boat launch sites should continue.

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## **Appendix B – Supplemental Inventory Information for County-Owned Parks**

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## Airport Park

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 19 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Playground
- Picnic facilities
- Multiuse Pathway/Trail





## Ann Olesky Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 2.30 Acres

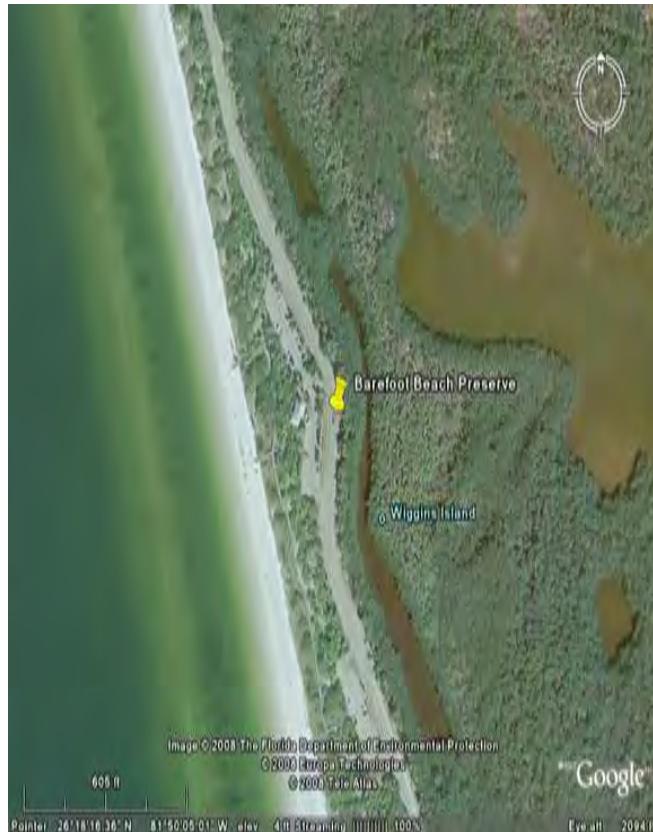
**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Boardwalk
- Boat ramp
- Picnic pavilion





## Barefoot Beach Access

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 5 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Boardwalk
- Beach access





## Bayview Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 6.27 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Picnic shelter
- Boat ramp
- Trash receptacles
- Fishing access point

## Barefoot Beach Preserve Community Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 159.60 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Beach access
- Boat ramp
- Nature/ cultural/ historical center





## Caxambas Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 4.20 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Boat ramp
- Restroom facility



## Clam Pass

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

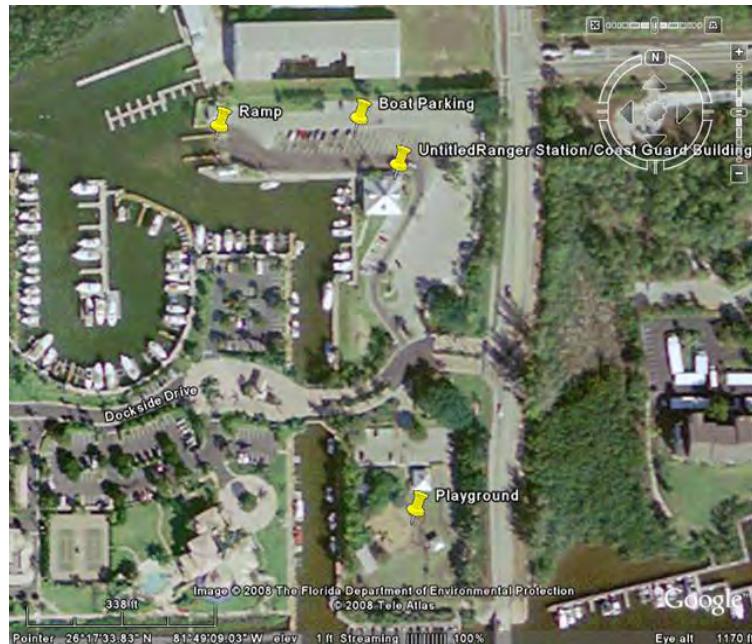
- 35 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Beach access
- Picnic shelter
- Security station
- Multiuse Pathway/ Trail



## Cocohatchee River Park

### Classification:

- Regional

### Acres:

- 7.20 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Boat ramp
- Picnic shelter
- Playground





## Collier Boulevard Boating Park

### Classification:

- Regional

### Acres:

- 0.50 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Boat ramp
- Boat trailer parking





## Conner Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 5 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Beach access
- Multiuse pathway/ trail
- Fishing area



## Corkscrew Elementary

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 16.90 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Baseball field
- Basketball courts
- Multiuse field
- Softball field
- Tennis court



## Eagle Lakes Community Park

### Classification:

- Community

### Acres:

- 32 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Baseball field
- Basketball court
- Multiuse trail paved
- Picnic pavilion
- Playground
- Tennis courts



## East Naples Community Park

### Classification:

- Community

### Acres:

- 47 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Basketball court
- Bocce/shuffleboard
- Handball court
- Soccer/ Football/ Lacrosse
- Playground
- Racquetball court
- Roller hockey
- Skate Park



## Eden Park Elementary

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 2.80 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Multiuse field





## Freedom Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 25.16 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Boardwalk
- Education facility
- Look out pavilions
- Walking trails





## Golden Gate Community Center

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

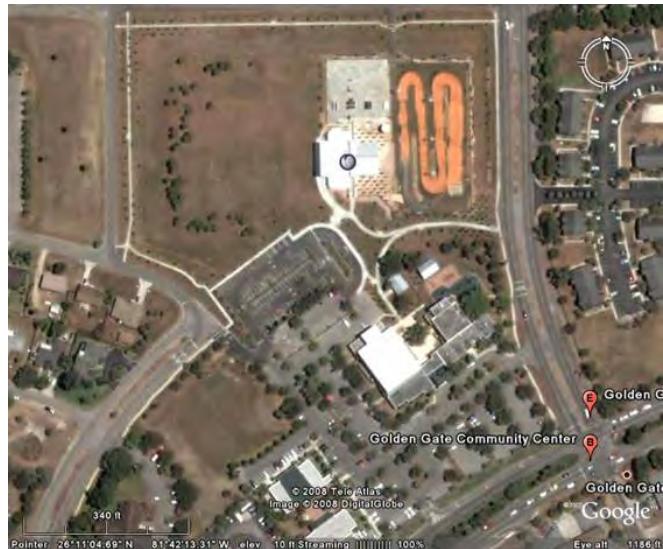
- 21 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Basketball court
- Multiuse field
- Playground
- Skate park





## Golden Gate Community Park

### Classification:

- Community

### Acres:

- 35 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Baseball field
- Basketball court
- Bocce/shuffleboard court
- Little league field
- Playground
- Picnic pavilion
- Swimming pool
- Tennis courts





## Goodland Boating Park

### Classification:

- Regional

### Acres:

- 5 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Multiuse pathway/ trail

## Gulfcoast Community Park (not pictured)

### Classification:

- Community

### Acres:

- 5 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Little League Field



## Immokalee Community Park

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 23 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Baseball field
- Basketball courts
- Multiuse pathways
- Picnic pavilion
- Playground
- Racquetball court
- Recreation center
- Tennis court





## Immokalee High School

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 1 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Tennis court

## Immokalee Sports Complex

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 14 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Basketball court
- Multiuse field (football/soccer)
- Swimming pool



## Mar-Good Harbor Park (not pictured)

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 2.50 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Playground
- Nature/ cultural/ historical center

## Max A. Hasse Community Park

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 20 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Basketball court
- Picnic pavilion
- Playground
- Softball field
- Tennis court





## Naples Park Elementary

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 5 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Little league field
- Tennis court

## North Collier Regional Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 207.70 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Multiuse field
- Picnic pavilion
- Softball field
- Sun N' Fun Lagoon





## North Gulfshore Beach Access

### Classification:

- Regional

### Acres:

- .50 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Beach access



## Osceola Elementary School

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

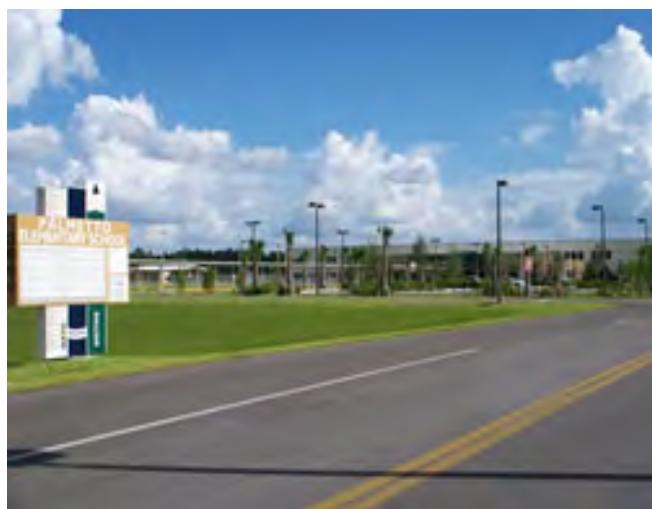
- 3.20 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Little League field



## Palmetto Elementary

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 2 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Multiuse field

## Pelican Bay Community Park

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 15 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Basketball court
- Paved multiuse pathway
- Picnic shelter
- Playground
- Racquetball court
- Tennis court



## Port of the Islands

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 5.55 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Boat ramp access

## Randall Curve

(not pictured)

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 47.00 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Undeveloped



## Sabal Palm Elementary

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 9.50 Acres

**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Basketball court
- Multiuse field
- Soccer/football/lacrosse



## South Marco Beach Access

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 5 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Beach access

## Sugden Regional Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 120 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Paved multiuse trail
- Picnic shelter
- Playground



## Tigertail Beach Park

**Classification:**

- Regional

**Acres:**

- 31.60 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Beach access
- Playground





## Tony Rosbough Community Park

### Classification:

- Community

### Acres:

- 7 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Little League fields



## Vanderbilt Beach

### Classification:

- Regional

### Acres:

- 5 Acres

### Agency:

- County

### Existing Facilities:

- Beach access
- Boardwalk



## Veterans Community Park

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 43.64 Acres

**Agency:**

- County

**Existing Facilities:**

- Baseball fields
- Basketball court
- Playground
- Roller hockey
- Tennis courts



## Veterans Memorial Elementary

**Classification:**

- Community

**Acres:**

- 4 Acres

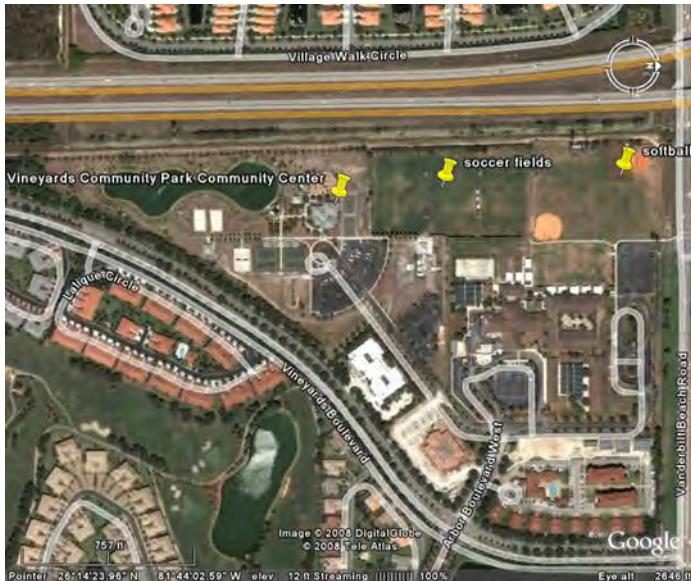
**Agency:**

- School Board

**Existing Facilities:**

- Multiuse field
- Multiuse building





## Vineyards Community Park

### Classification:

- Community

### Acres:

- 35.50 Acres

### Agency:

- School Board

### Existing Facilities:

- Basketball court
- Bocce/shuffleboard court
- Multiuse field
- Paved multiuse field
- Picnic pavilion
- Playground
- Tennis courts



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## **Appendix C – Focus Group Invitees**

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# Collier County Parks and Recreation Master Plan

The following is a list of individuals invited to attend the Master Plan Focus Group. A list of individuals who were able to attend and participate, as well as a summary of the focus group discussion is provided in Section 5.

1. Bill Arthur, Golden Gate Advisory Board
2. Dave Ball, Naples Girls Softball Little League
3. Ted Beisler, President – East Naples Civic Association
4. Stella Benitez, Super Class User
5. Bernardo Bezos, President – Marco Island Civic Association
6. Julie Bissell, Collier County Lacrosse Association
7. Joe Bonness, Pathway Advisory Committee
8. Peter Brockman, Park Ranger – Collier Seminole State Park
9. Darrin Brooks, Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board
10. Philip Brougham, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
11. Pam Brown, Immokalee Citizen
12. Andy Browne, United Arts Council of Collier County
13. Barbara Buehler, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
14. Laurel Butler, East Naples Kiwanis
15. Susan Cone, Up A Creek Kayak Tours
16. Jeff Curl, Conservation Collier and Golden Gates Estates Land Trust
17. Ted Decker, Isles of Capri
18. Lisa DeNove, North Naples Little League
19. Dan Dentino, Ave Maria
20. John Dina, Optimist Soccer Club of Naples
21. George Dondanville, Naples On The Run
22. Brandon Dowdy, YMCA of the Palms
23. Tom Eastman, School District Board of Collier County
24. Don Farmer, GG Homes Owners Association
25. Doug Fee, North Naples Civic Association
26. Doug Finlay, Naples City Council
27. Ann Marie Foley, East Naples Kiwanis
28. Peter Gaddy, President - Golden Gate Estates Area Civic Association
29. Kerry Geroy, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
30. Carolyn Graham, School District Board of Collier County – Teacher
31. Tim Guerrette, Collier County Sheriff's Office (Youth Relationship0
32. Sammy Hamilton, Mayor – Everglades City
33. Hunter Hansen, Naples Grande
34. Peggy Harris, Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board
35. Wilbur Hawk, President of Family Network - Disabilities
36. Jim Hoppensteadt, President - Pelican Bay Foundation

37. Dave Jackson, Bayshore CRA
38. Steven Jones, Super Class User
39. Jim Klug, Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board
40. Annette Kniola, Golden Gates Estates Task Force
41. Ellie Krier, Gordon River
42. Dawn Montecalvo, Naples Children Education Foundation
43. Veronica Montoya, Southwest Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
44. Bob Mulhere, Mulhere and Associates
45. Mike Nelson, Collier County Sheriff's Office
46. Lester Nino, MEXI Soccer
47. Edward "Ski" Olesky, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
48. Mike O'Reagan, Chamber of Commerce
49. Penny Philippe, Immokalee CRA
50. Bill Poteet, Conservation Collier Land Acquisition Advisory Committee
51. John Ribes, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
52. Nancy Ritchie, City of Marco – Environmental Specialist
53. Leo Rodgers, President – Immokalee Civic Association
54. David Saletko, Collier County Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
55. Brad Schiffer, Collier County Planning Commission
56. Tony Scott, Golden Gates National Little League
57. William Shafer, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
58. Rick Sims, President – Golden Gates Area Civic Association
59. Gavin Spooner, Naples Youth Soccer
60. Penny Taylor, Civic Leader
61. Clarence Tears, South Florida Water Management District
62. Virginia Traver, Ave Maria
63. Kaydee Tuff, Golden Gate Community Center Advisory Board
64. Janet Vasey, Collier County Productivity Committee
65. Jim Waterman, Schenkle & Schultz
66. Harold Weeks, NAACP Collier County Branch
67. Christine Wheeler, Hodges University
68. Kris Whipple, Park Planner and Facilitator
69. Susan Whitney, Super Class User
70. Curt Whitthoff, School District Board of Collier County - Teacher
71. Margaret Winn, Friends of Barefoot Beach
72. Diana Worrall, Citizen Representative
73. Joe Zaks, Northside Naples Kiwanis
74. Bart Zino, Youth Sports