

**COLLIER COUNTY
GROWTH MANAGEMENT PLAN**

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

Prepared by
Collier County Planning and Zoning Department
Comprehensive Planning Section

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

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

| <u>SYMBOL</u> | <u>DATE AMENDED</u> | <u>ORDINANCE NO.</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| | February 5, 1991 | 91-15 |
| | May 19, 1992 | 92-34 |
| | April 12, 1994 | 94-22 |
| | October 28, 1997 | 1997-53 ** |
| (I) | December 16, 2003 | 2003-67 |
| (II) | January 25, 2007 | 2007-15 *** |
| (III) | October 14, 2008 | 2008-59 |
| (IV) | January 8, 2013 | 2013-11 **** |
| (V) | January 27, 2015 | 2015-10 |

The parenthesized Roman numeral symbols enumerated above appear throughout this Element and provide informational citations to adopted documents recorded in the Official Records of Collier County, as required by Florida law. These symbols are for informational purposes only, meant to mark entries amended after the 1997 adoption of the full Element and typically found in the margins of this document, but are not themselves adopted.

* Indicates adopted portions.

** This is the EAR-based amendment (1996 EAR). Due to the magnitude of the changes – which included reformatting the entire Element, affecting every page of the Element – a Roman numeral is not assigned. Similarly, amendments made by Ordinance Nos. 91-15, 92-34 and 94-22 are no longer denoted on the pages of the Element with Roman numeral symbols.

*** Based on 2004 Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR).

**** Based on 2011 Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR).

(II)(V) **I. INTRODUCTION:**

- (II)(IV) Chapter 163.3177(6)(e), Florida Statutes, requires each local government comprehensive plan to have “A recreation and open space element indicating a comprehensive system of public and private sites for recreation, including, but not limited to, natural reservations, parks and playgrounds, parkways, beaches and public access to beaches, open spaces, and other recreational facilities.” While the Recreation and Open Space Element remains a requirement for local comprehensive plans in the State of Florida, the format and contents of such an Element may be tailored to local needs, provided that the intent of the Statute is met. This Recreation and Open Space Element was updated, as recommended by the Community Character/Smart Growth Advisory Committee, by Ordinance No. 2003-67, adopted on December 16, 2003, to further implement the Collier County Community Character Plan and “Smart Growth” principles.
- (II) The Recreation and Open Space Element is divided into three sections, each of which is guided by a specific goal. These three sections are:
- The general provision of parks, recreation facilities and open space areas for the use and enjoyment of Collier County residents and visitors.
 - The development of a countywide neighborhood park system.
 - The development of a countywide regional and community park system.
- (II) Within Collier County government, the responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the above goals is assigned to the Collier County Parks and Recreation Department, which is part of the Public Services Division.

(V) **II. GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

GOAL 1:

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

OBJECTIVE 1.1:

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

(II)(IV)(V) **Policy 1.1.1:**

The standards for levels of service (LOS) of County parks and recreation facilities appear in Policy 1.5.G in the Capital Improvement Element and shall be used as the basis for determining the availability of facility capacity and the demand generated by a development.

[Note: The above Policy was revised as part of 2011 EAR-based amendments, removed from this “parent” Element of origin and relocated into the CIE. The parenthesized Roman numeral symbols remain at this location as historical reference, but may no longer apply to the entry as it now appears.]

Policy 1.1.2:

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

Policy 1.1.3:

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

Policy 1.1.4

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

(IV) **Policy 1.1.5:**

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

OBJECTIVE 1.2:

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

Policy 1.2.1:

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

(II) **Policy 1.2.2:**

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

(V) = Plan Amendment by Ordinance No. 2015-10 on January 27, 2015

OBJECTIVE 1.3:

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

(II)(IV) **Policy 1.3.1:**

County-owned or managed parks and recreation facilities shall have automobile, bicycle and/or pedestrian access, where the location is appropriate and where such access is economically feasible, with specific consideration given to alternative forms of transportation that would reduce VMT and greenhouse gas.

(II) **Policy 1.3.2:**

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

OBJECTIVE 1.4:

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

(II)(IV) **Policy 1.4.1:**

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

(II)(III)(IV)

Policy 1.4.2:

Collier County shall continue to coordinate the provision of recreational facilities and activities with other governmental jurisdictions that own or operate such facilities and activities within, or adjacent to, Collier County.

(II) **OBJECTIVE 1.5:**

Through the PUD monitoring process, Collier County shall continue to enforce developer commitments for the provision of parks, recreation facilities and open space.

(II)(IV) **Policy 1.5.1:**

Collier County shall maintain a current inventory of recreational facility and usable open space commitments made by developers through the development review process.

(II) **Policy 1.5.2:**

Collier County shall enforce developer commitments for recreational facilities and open space through appropriate actions of County agencies.

OBJECTIVE 1.6:

Whenever possible and practical, utilize County owned property for recreational uses.

Policy 1.6.1:

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

(IV) = Plan Amendment by Ordinance No. 2013-11 on January 8, 2013

(I)(II)(IV)(V)

GOAL 2:

PROMOTE A PARK SYSTEM THAT INCLUDES REGIONAL, COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS WITH PEDESTRIAN PATHWAYS AND BIKE LANES TO PROVIDE USEABLE OPEN SPACE TO MEET THE RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF RESIDENTS WITHIN THE COMMUNITY. REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PARK DEVELOPMENT WILL BE BASED ON THE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARD (LOSS) CONTAINED IN THE CIE.

(I)(II)(IV)

OBJECTIVE 2.1:

In 2011, the Parks and Recreation Department developed a Community and Regional Park Plan to provide larger parks and recreational facilities as well as passive open space within a 15 to 20 minute drive of residents within the coastal Urban Designated Area, the Immokalee Urban Designated Area, and Northern Golden Gate Estates (this excludes Conservation designated areas, Agricultural/Rural designated areas, Southern Golden Gate Estates, and the outlying Urban Designated Areas of Copeland, Port of the Islands, Plantation Island and Chokoloskee). This plan includes the identification of future community and regional park sites (or general areas), park improvements, cost estimates, and potential funding sources. The principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) will be integrated into the planning and development of the Community and Regional Park sites.

(I)(II)(IV)

Policy 2.1.1:

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

(I)(II)(IV)

Policy 2.1.2:

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

(I)(II)(IV)

Policy 2.1.3:

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

(I)(II)(IV)

Policy 2.1.4:

The County shall continue to update parks and recreation impact fees to appropriately reflect land acquisition and development costs for the establishment of community and regional parks.

(I)(II)(IV)

Policy 2.1.5:

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

(I)(II)(IV)

Policy 2.1.6

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

(I)(II)(III)(IV)

Policy 2.1.7

The Parks and Recreation Department and the Transportation Services Division will continue to investigate the utilization of the existing canal and power line easements to create a greenway system within the coastal Urban Designated Area, the Immokalee Urban Designated Area, and Northern Golden Gate Estates, as detailed in the adopted Community and Regional Parks Master Plan.

(IV) = Plan Amendment by Ordinance No. 2013-11 on January 8, 2013