

**RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT  
OF THE  
DANIA BEACH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**9J-5. 014**

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## **I. INTRODUCTION**

The Recreation and Open Space element for the City of Dania Beach Comprehensive Plan is intended to provide for a comprehensive system of public and private recreational and open space facilities which will be available to the public. Tables I and II will outline the existing recreational facilities within the community including the identification of the types of recreational activities which are provided by these individual sites.

## **II. DATA REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. Neighborhood Parks**

#### **1. Brooks Park**

This facility is situated in the northwestern corner of Griffin Road/U.S 1 intersection. Because of the realignment of U.S. 1, the configuration of the park has changed somewhat. However, it still contains approximately 1.5 acres. Facilities include two (2) picnic tables, parking and passive open space.

#### **2. Northside Garden Park**

This is a small neighborhood park situated in a single family neighborhood south of Griffin Road and west of U.S. 1. The facilities available include picnic area, two (2) tennis courts and one small playground/tot lot.

#### **3. Airport 10 Park**

This is a 1.3 acre passive open space located west of U.S. 1 and north of the Dania-Cut-off Canal.

#### **4. Collins Elementary School**

This elementary school is utilized through a lease agreement with the Broward County School Board for park and recreational purposes. The facilities include a playground, two (2) basketball courts and one ball field on 4.9 acres.

#### **5. Modello Park**

This 9.7 acre facility is located west of N.W. Fourth Avenue and north Dania Beach Boulevard. The park has several facilities including recreation building, picnicking, playground, swimming pool, one tennis court, two (2) racquetball courts, one ball field, football/soccer field and three (3) basketball courts.

**6. Florida Audubon Society Property**

This 2.9 acre site situated at the northeast corner of 1-95/Stirling Road. It is a nature preserve which has an extensive hammock of large live oaks, satin leaf trees, gumbo limbos, red bays and iron woods. In addition, many species of birds have been sited in this property.

**7. Frost Park**

This 10.1 acre park is situated immediately west of the Dania Jai-Alai fronton and immediately north of Dania Beach Boulevard. The park also has extensive facilities including picnicking, playground, three (3) ball fields, six (6) shuffleboard courts, one basketball court, three (3) tennis courts and two (2) racquetball courts, jogging course, and a recreational building.

**8. Mullikin Park**

This small 1.0 acre facility is in a residential neighborhood, south of Stirling Road and west of U. S. 1. The park consists of a picnic area, tennis court and playground.

**9. Boisy Waiters Park**

This is a 3.2 acre passive park located on Dania Beach Boulevard next to the C-10 Canal.

**10. Chester Byrd Park**

This is a 2.5 acre park located on S. W. 12th Street in the southwest portion of the City. The park facilities include a playground, picnic area, basketball court, and jogging /fitness trail.

**11. Dania Beach Elementary School**

This 2.6 acre facility is also under lease with the School Board. The facility is situated south of Stirling Road and east of U.S. 1. This facility includes three (3) basketball courts, one baseball-field and a playground.

**12. Dania Salt Marsh**

This is a 130 acre passive park facility situated east of S.E. Fifth Avenue and north of Sheridan Street.

### **13. Olsen Middle School**

This 9.9 acre facility is located east of U.S. 1 and immediately north of Sheridan Street and is under lease with the Broward County School Board. Facilities include four (4) tennis courts and seven (7) basketball courts.

## **B. Community Parks**

### **1. Tigertail Park**

This 39.3 acre facility is located south of Griffin Road and east of Ravenswood Road. The facility is operated by the Broward County Parks and Recreation Division and is a County run park. However, because of its proximity with the City of Dania Beach, it functions as a park which can be utilized and available for the residents of the City of Dania Beach. The park is primarily a water body which provides for many water oriented recreational activities such as paddle boats, boating and sailboating.

### **2. I.T. Parker (Houston Park)**

This 22.3 acre marine oriented facility is situated in the eastern portion of the Harbourtowne Marina Complex. The I.T. Parker Community Center is situated on the Dania Cut-Off Canal and is a multi-use recreational facility. In addition, there are four (4) boat ramps with numerous parking spaces available for public boat launching and access to the Dania Cut-off Canal, Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean.

### **3. Dania Beach**

The Dania Beach consists of 26.5 acres and includes the Dania Fishing Pier. Other facilities include parking areas for beach users, pavilions, playground, volleyball, swimming and picnic tables.

The above describes a rather diverse amount and type of park and recreational facilities which are available to the residents of the City of Dania Beach.

Tables I and II further outline the facilities that are available of each of these parks.

## **III. ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**

There are two (2) primary forms of recreation within the City of Dania Beach; Neighborhood and Community. The City's facilities provide both active and passive outdoor recreational programs, but in addition to that indoor recreational activities such as card Playing, sewing, arts and crafts and exercise classes are also available. These activities are typically located within recreational buildings.

## **A. Neighborhood Parks**

A neighborhood park is typically a park which is convenient to a neighborhood and is located along streets where people can walk or bicycle without encountering heavy traffic. Generally a neighborhood park serves the population of a neighborhood with a radius of .5 mile and it should have at least two (2) acres for each 1,000 population. Park size is typically 5 - 10 acres serving typical population size of 5,000 people. In designing neighborhood parks they should be responsible to the character of the neighborhood and incorporate elements of both passive and active type recreation. Typical facilities located in a neighborhood park include recreation buildings, multi-purpose courts, sports fields, picnic areas and free-play areas.

## **B. Community Parks**

A community park is a park which is generally located on major streets. It is designed to serve the needs of 4 -6 neighborhoods with a radius of up to 3 miles and a service population of up to 25,000 people: A minimum of 20 acres is recommended for a community park. Where a community park can be located adjacent to a junior or senior high school a minimum of 5 acres is recommended. This is because many times the City can join into agreements with the Broward County School Board to utilize the school ball fields and open areas for recreational needs during non-school hours. The community park offers a wide range of program facilities for all individuals and families. Typical facilities at a community park will include ball fields, tennis courts, play areas, picnic areas and multi-purpose courts.

The City of Dania Beach is responsible to ensure that adequate amounts of local and community parks are available for the residents of the City. Broward County is responsible for the provision of adequate regional parks. Typically Broward County and the City are able to obtain necessary park and recreational requirements through the platting process. The platting of the land within Broward County is mandated by the Broward County Land Use Plan and the Broward County Charter and is a means by which all new development is reviewed in terms of its impacts on required services before being approved. Meeting park and recreational requirements is one of the service requirements which must be reviewed and approved by the City and the County before issuance of building permits. Broward County requires 3 acres/1,000 population of regional parks to comply with its standards. The City of Dania Beach also requires 3 acres/1,000 for neighborhood and community parks to insure an adequate supply of recreational facilities for the residents of the community.

Based upon the 1995 and 2005 population estimates of approximately 17,201 and 19,741 residents respectively, the City is responsible for the provision of approximately 52 and 60 acres of neighborhood and community parks. As noted on Table III there are presently in excess of 60 acres of neighborhood and 88 acres of community parks with a grand total of approximately 150 acres.

Accordingly, the City is in an excellent position regarding land requirements for neighborhood and community parks for the present and the Year 2010.

Sub-regional and Regional Park opportunities are available at J. Lloyd Beach State Park immediately north of Dania Beach; the 2,000 acre West Lake Preserve which includes an active park of approximately 160 acres in size (West Lake is immediately east of Dania Beach and extends from the Dania Cut-Off Canal south to below Sheridan Street); North Beach immediately south of Dania Beach; and TY Park (situated at the northwest corner of 1-95 and Sheridan Street)

is in excess of 150 acres and provides a variety of activities. It is apparent Dania Beach enjoys substantial regional open space opportunities.

**Guidelines for Recreational Activities:**

Tables IV, V and VI provides a breakdown of the number and type of recreational facilities typically needed to serve a population like Dania Beach's. Utilizing these tables a computation of the total number of recreational facilities which the community should currently have plus what is projected can be determined. These guidelines are intended to be general criteria for determining specific types and amounts of park lands necessary to accommodate the recreational needs of community. These guidelines were obtained from Outdoor Recreation in Florida 1994 Guidebook developed by the State of Florida Department of-Environmental Protection.

Tables I & II identify the existing facilities available at the City's parks. Based upon the previous guidelines identified by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, the City exceeds those standards. Table VII provides a comparison of the City facilities with the State Guidelines. It is apparent from Table VII that the City exceeds State standards in virtually every respect.

#### **IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

The goal of this element will be to ensure the provision of sufficient parks, recreation facilities and, open space areas to satisfy the needs of the City of Dania Beach residents, and visitors. This will include a variety of types of recreational and open space uses.

**Objective I**

Maintain current standards of public access to all recreational facilities and open space.

Policy 1. 1 - All public facilities within the City of Dania Beach will be open to the public.

Policy 1.2 - Coordinate with the County, Regional and State Agencies where public resources under other jurisdictions are within the City of Dania Beach.

Policy 1.3 - Maintain present public access to the Dania Beach and the Dania Beach Fishing Pier.

**Objective II**

Public and private resources will meet the standards of the Recreation and Open Space Element to insure recreational demands of the community are met.

Policy 2. 1 - Coordinate public and private development activities to ensure provision of sufficient recreation to meet the demands of said developments.

Policy 2.2 - Operation of recreational facilities should be through the most efficient means.

Maintain the Park and Recreational Facility requirements of the Recreation and Open Space Element.

**Policy 3.1 - Local park dedication for new development shall be 3 acres/1,000 population.**

**Policy 3.2 - Maintain the present accessibility status for all Parks and Recreational Facilities within the community.**

**Policy 3.3 - Maintain facility standards of the Recreation and Open Space Element for existing and new park facilities.**

**Objective IV**

**Maintain the present standards of the Recreation and Open Space Element to insure that open space is responsive to the community needs.**

**Policy 4.1 - Maintain a fee system that is equitably and uniformly applied throughout the community.**

**Policy 4.2 - Planning of new park facilities shall be developed with citizen participation for the area affected by the park.**

**Policy 4.3 - The City shall meet or exceed the recreation/open space standards contained in this element.**

**Policy 4.4 - Open space areas shall be spatially distributed throughout the community and not concentrated in one area.**

**Objective V**

**Enhance the quality of parks throughout the community.**

**Policy 5.1**

**Continue maintenance and irrigation of parks facilities on a regular bases.**

**Policy 5.2**

**Maintain and upgrade the facilities.**

**Policy 5.3**

**Enhancements to park and recreation facilities should be made on a regular basis.**

**Objective VI**

**Develop a linear park on Southeast 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

**Policy 6.1**

**Utilize excess right-of-way for linear park development.**

**Policy 6.2**

**Include drainage and water quality improvements for the area.**

**TABLE I**  
**DATA REQUIREMENTS**  
**Existing Park Facilities - Neighborhood 1995 Data**

Parks	Ball Fields	Play ground	Tennis Courts	Basket-ball	Shuffle-board	Pool	Passive Park	Picnic	Jogging Path	Fishing Dock	Paddle Ball
Brooks							1	2			
SE Garden		1	2					1			
Airport 10							1				
Collins	1			2							
Modello (*)	1	1		3		1		4			1
Audubon							1				
Frost (*)	3	1	3	1	6			4	1		1
Mullikin		1	1					1			
Boisy Waiters							1				
Chester Byrd		1						1			
Dania Elem.	1	1		3							
Southeast							1				
Olsen			4	7							
Sun Garden Isle							1	1		1	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

\* Recreation Building

**TABLE II**  
**DATA REQUIREMENTS**

**Existing Park Facilities - Community 1995 Data**

<b>Parks</b>	<b>Picnic</b>	<b>Beach</b>	<b>Fishing Pier</b>	<b>Community Center</b>	<b>Boat Ramp</b>	<b>Community Park</b>	<b>Boating</b>	<b>Play Ground</b>	<b>Boat Dock</b>
Tigertail	1				1	1	1		
Houston Park <sup>(1)</sup>				1	4	1	1		4
Dania Beach	16	1	1			1	1	2	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>

<sup>(1)</sup> Multi-use Recreation Building and Community Center

**TABLE III**  
**ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**

**Existing Park Acreage**

Parks	Acres	Parks	Acres
Brooks	1.5	Tigertail	39.3
Northside Garden Park	.7	Houston Park	22.3
Airport 10	1.3	Dania Beach	26.5
Collins	4.9	Dania Salt Marsh	130.0
Modello (*)	9.7		
Audubon	2.9		
Frost (*)	10.1		
Mullikin	1.0		
Boisy Waiters	3.2		
Chester Byrd	2.5		
Dania Elementary	2.6		
Olsen	9.9		
Meli	9.7		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60.0</b>		<b>218.1</b>

**TABLE IV**  
**ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**  
**Site Guidelines for Community Outdoor**  
**Recreation Resources and Facilities**

Park Facility	Location	Service Area/ Population Served	Area Per 1,000 Population	Park Adjoining School	Separate Park	Facilities
Equipped Play area and Tot Lot	Neighborhood area adjacent to elementary when feasible	2-3 block area/up to 2,500	½ acres	Minimum of ¼ acre	Minimum of 1 acre	Play apparatus, benches and open space, landscaping, picnic tables optional.
Neighborhood Park	Neighborhood adjacent to elementary school	¼ - ½ mile up to 5,000	2 acres	Minimum of 2 acres	Minimum of 5 acres	Play apparatus areas, recreation building sports fields, paved multi-purpose courts, senior citizens area, picnic area, open or free area landscaping.
Community Park	Designed to serve residents of a group of neighborhoods adjacent to Junior or Senior High School when feasible	½ to 3 miles up to 5,000	2 acres	Minimum of 5 acres	Minimum of 20 acres	All the facilities found in a neighborhood park plus facilities to serve the entire family, pools, softball/baseball fields, tennis courts, play areas, picnic area, passive and active recreation areas and recreation buildings.
Beach Access with parking	Within ¼ Mile of beach (1 access/1/2 of shoreline)		½ acre		Minimum of 1 acre	Walking, parking and restaurants.

**TABLE V**  
**ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**  
**Population Guidelines for Resources-based Outdoor**  
**Recreation Activities**

Activity	Resource/Facility	Minimum	Maximum	Median
Beach Swimming (non-pool)	Mile of beach shoreline	25,000	211,200	25,000
Fishing, Power Boating, Waterskiing, Sailing, fresh water and salt water	Boat ramp lane	1,500	12,500	5,000
Fishing (non-boat)	800 linear feet of pier	5,000	25,000	5,600

Source: Outdoor Recreation in Florida - 1994

**TABLE VI**  
**ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**  
**Population Guidelines for User-Oriented Outdoor**  
**Recreation Activities**

Activity	Resource/Facility	Minimum	Maximum	Median
Tennis	Tennis Court	1,067	10,000	2,000
Baseball/ softball	Baseball/softball	2,000	10,000	5,000
Football/soccer	Football/soccer	4,000	25,000	6,000
Handball/racquetball	Handball/racquetball	2,500	20,000	10,000
Basketball	Basketball court	500	20,000	5,000
Shuffleboard	Shuffleboard court	1,000	12,000	3,600

Source: Outdoor Recreation in Florida - 1994

**TABLE VII**  
**ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS**  
 Recreational Guidelines  
 City/State Comparison

<u>Facility:</u>	State Recommendation (# or amount)	City of Dania Beach (# or amount)	Dania Beach Comparison
Tot Lot	7		- 1
Neighborhood Park	35 acres	70 acres	+ 35 acres
Community Park	35 acres	218 acres	+ 183 acres
Beach Access	9 acres	26 acres	+ 17 acres
<u>Activities:</u>			
Swimming (non-pool) shoreline	.1 mile	.4 mile	+ .3
Fishing (off-shore)	4 boat ramps	5 boat ramps	+ 1
Tennis	9 courts	10 courts	+ 1
Baseball/softball	4 fields	6 fields	+ 2
Football/soccer	3 fields	6 fields	+ 3
Handball/racquetball	2 courts	2 courts	+ 0
Basketball	4 courts	16 courts	+ 12