



**AGENDA
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING
NOVEMBER 10, 2020
5:00 PM
CITY HALL COMMISSION CHAMBERS
204 ASH STREET
FERNANDINA BEACH, FL 32034**

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - 4.1 October Minutes
- 5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR PERSON**
- 6. PRESENTATION**
 - 6.1 Heroes Grove design update
- 7. DISCUSSION**
 - 7.1 Date for sub-committee new member's packet meeting
 - 7.2 Cemetery Finances
 - 7.3 Impact Fees
- 8. OTHER BUSINESS**
 - 8.1 Comprehensive Plan Update to include: a. Work Flow for the Comp Plan Rewrite b. Coastal Element c. Themes or agreed upon visions for Parks and Recreation
 - 8.2 Dune Plan (Planning Board Subcommittee)

8.3 Update on Waterfront Park

8.4 Annual Report of PRAC to City Commission

9. ADJOURNMENT

All members of the public are invited to be present and be heard. Persons with disabilities requiring accommodations in order to participate in this program or activity should contact the City Clerk at 904-310-3115 or TTY/TDD 711 (for the hearing or speech impaired).

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee of the City of Fernandina Beach Florida, met virtually on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 5:00 pm. Present was Member Bartelt, Member Ross, Member Pugh, Member LaJoux, Member Kegler

Absent: Vice Chair Behan

1. Call to Order: Scott Mikelson called the meeting to order at 5:00pm
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes
Member Ross made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion seconded by Member Pugh. Motion passed being all ayes.
5. Election of Chairperson
Member Pugh nominated Member Ross to the position of Chairperson. Member Lajoux seconded the motion. Member Ross stated she would accept the nomination under the condition that there be a training or acclimation for new members as stated in the bylaws. Member Pugh has agreed to assist, as a subcommittee. Motion passed being all ayes.
6. Consideration of Application
Member Bartelt made a motion to nominated Mr. Roberts to fill current open space and Mr. Norris to fill impending vacant seat. Member Pugh second the motion. There was a discussion. Member Pugh made a motion to amend the current motion to just vote for one seat at this time. Motion passed being all ayes
7. Public Comment
The following individuals spoke to this item; Mike Lednovich, 1586 Canopy Drive
Robert Prager, 2810 N. Laguna Drive
8. Facility Update Report
Scott began with an update on Simmons Road Park. Nan contributed information on the progress of the park's construction. Nan also provided information on approved FY 20/21 projects. Nan stated that a Beach Access Committee has been created by the City Manager to evaluate the City's beach accesses. There was a discussion about the process of renaming facilities after people. Member Pugh requested this item be on the November agenda.
9. Presentation
10. Discussion
10.1 Impact Fee
Tammi Bach, City Attorney gave a presentation to explain impact fees, how they are assessed and how they are used. There was a discussion and questions were asked and answered. Member Kegler asked what the percentage of revenue is impact fees for the

City? Ms. Bach will follow up with Pauline, the Comptroller and email the information to the Committee.

10.2 Columbarium

Member Pugh would like a budget of what has been spent on the columbarium thus far. Scott will provide that information at the next meeting.

10.3 ATC Heroes Grove Proposal Review

Margaret Kirkland, with Amelia Tree Conservancy, gave an updated overview of the plan for the Central Park grove which would be located on the 13th Street side, near the Girl Scout Hut. The purpose of the grove is to honor environmental volunteers from the area. Arthur Herman presented the conceptual plan, with suggested updates from the previous meeting. Member Ross made a motion to approve the concept or idea that all volunteers be represented in the grove. After continued discussion, motion seconded by Member LaJoux. After some discussion, Member Ross withdrew the motion. Member LaJoux made a motion that the committee approve the idea of having a grove of trees contributed by ATC using one of the designs proposed by Arthur Herman that the grove have a small stone that shows that the environmental community has donated the park to all volunteers. Motion seconded by Member Ross. Motion failed, (3) Nays, (2) Ayes (Nays; Kegler, Pugh, Bartelt)

10.4 Vehicle Parking on park grass areas during events

Alisha asked for direction from the Committee on how they feel about events that require parking in the grassy area of parks. Member LaJoux made a motion to keep current standard of allowing events on Main Beach unless and until it becomes a problem. Member Ross seconded the motion. Motion passed being all ayes.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Member Ross questioned if the resolution had been brought before the City Commission concerning changing the status of this committee from ad hoc to a regular committee. Nan stated that the resolution is on the October 20 City Commission Agenda. Member Ross requested an update on the cemetery perpetual fund be added to the November agenda. Also, what would be the annual cost for the standard of care in the cemetery by an outside contractor to care for the cemetery. Scott will present the information at the next meeting. Member Ross inquired if Nan was working with the CM on the process of renaming parks and facilities.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Scott Mikelson at 7:00p



amelia tree conservancy

Heroes Grove Fernandina Beach Central Park

Amelia Tree Conservancy proposes to donate a grove to the City of Fernandina Beach that pays tribute to our many volunteers. The proposed location is Central Park, the area between the tennis and pickleball courts, the Girl Scout building and 13th St. If approved, Heroes Grove will be installed in January.

There is great concern in our community regarding the dramatic loss of canopy in recent years and its potential impact on island sustainability and resiliency. Tree canopy in Central Park has been dwindling gradually due to storm damage and age. A few individual trees have been planted, but we need to continue this effort. Planting a grove will contribute to the City and park canopy. Furthermore, it will provide an educational model for residents to demonstrate that, when possible, planting trees in groups can provide them greater protection.

Many of the programs that support and enhance quality of life in our community depend largely on volunteers. It is therefore fitting that we pay tribute to our volunteers and celebrate the volunteer spirit in our community in as many ways as we can.

The Project Goal is to create a grove in Central Park that 1) contributes to the restoration of our canopy and provides a planting model, and 2) pays tribute to all volunteers. (Refer to the diagram on p. 4.)

Objectives:

- Contribute to canopy restoration in Fernandina Beach by planting six or more native trees and eleven native shrubs to create a grove in combination with existing trees
- Honor volunteers and hopefully inspire new volunteers
- Create a space for rest, reflection and regeneration within Central Park.
- Educate the public by increasing awareness and appreciation of the native Amelia Island maritime forest canopy.

Central Park has a number of activity areas for sports, musical events, fairs, etc. However, it does not have quiet shaded groves for reflection and regeneration that are typical of traditional central parks. As the City becomes increasingly urban, this will be an important feature.

Draft text for dedication plaque

Using an informal park design, the plaque will be on a stone in the position noted on the design on p. 4. (There will be no bricks dedicated to individuals or groups and no application process for brick dedication.)

This grove is dedicated to all Amelia Island volunteers—our heroes.



Heroes Grove Fernandina Beach Central Park

Amelia Tree Conservancy is inspired daily by the memory of Joan Bean, MaVynnee Betsch, Rebecca Jordi, Tom Raymond, and Phil Scanlan.

This grove was designed by landscape architect Arthur Herman and funded by the Larsen Family Fund and Amelia Tree Conservancy.

Background on Amelia Tree Conservancy

The goal and objectives of this project reflect the mission of Amelia Tree Conservancy. Our official mission statement is as follows:

Amelia Tree Conservancy (ATC) is a diverse coalition of Amelia Island citizens and friends dedicated to preserving our maritime forest canopy—native island trees, understory and the unique environment they create. Our mission is to:

- Preserve the maritime forest on Amelia Island, FL.
- Educate the public and increase awareness regarding the nature and composition of the Amelia Island maritime forest canopy ecosystem and its importance in creating a habitat for humans, birds, animals and plants.
- Promote community engagement in the preservation and welfare of the Amelia Island canopy.
- Contribute to the reforestation of lost canopy on Amelia Island.
- Use all earnings and property exclusively for these charitable and educational purposes.

ATC is attempting to increase the amount of planting that it is doing on the island. Previously, we have been involved in the following planting activities:

- ATC planted a row of seven Live Oak trees for the Boys and Girls Club (between the Club and Southside Elementary School. Elementary school students participated in the planting, and we had an associated workshop with UF/IFAS expert Rebecca Jordi for participants in the Boys and Girls Club. January 21, 2014.
- ATC donated to landscaping around the County Library following its renovation.
- ATC donated Live Oak trees to the Egans Creek Playground and, together with 8Flags volunteers, watered the trees through their first summer. Grand opening April 27, 2017.
- ATC planted two Live Oak trees at the American Beach Community Center in celebration of American Beach Day in honor of the 85th anniversary of the founding of this historic African American community. January 25, 2020.

ATC always ensures that the trees and shrubs we plant are native species and of optimal quality and size for planting. We plant between the end of hurricane season and the end of March.



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Heroes Grove Fernandina Beach Central Park

Arthur Herman, ATC board member, designs and manages our planting efforts. He is a retired professional landscape architect with forty-five years of experience at Fordham University, the New York Botanical Garden and the City of Stamford, Connecticut. Among many other achievements, Mr. Herman created the forest that is currently the campus of Fordham University, for which he was awarded the Best Urban Campus Award.

Technical Proposal for Heroes Grove

This information is based on the informal design on the following page.

Scope of work: (refer to diagram below)

- Plant numerous native trees and shrubs to soften the area and create the grove. (includes labor)
- Add benches (city specifications) to surrounding area
- Natural stone with bronze plaque
- Mulch

Materials list:

- 4 - 3" Live Oaks
- 2- 12'-14' Magnolia
- 11 – assorted native shrubs (to be selected by designer)
- 3 – 4' benches (city specifications)
- Mulch

Prices:

- Stone (approximate cost depending on choice \$200-300)
- Bronze Plaque (18"x 24"): \$775
- Trees & shrubs (including labor): \$3,000
- Mulch (approximate cost \$150)
- **Total estimate: \$4,225**

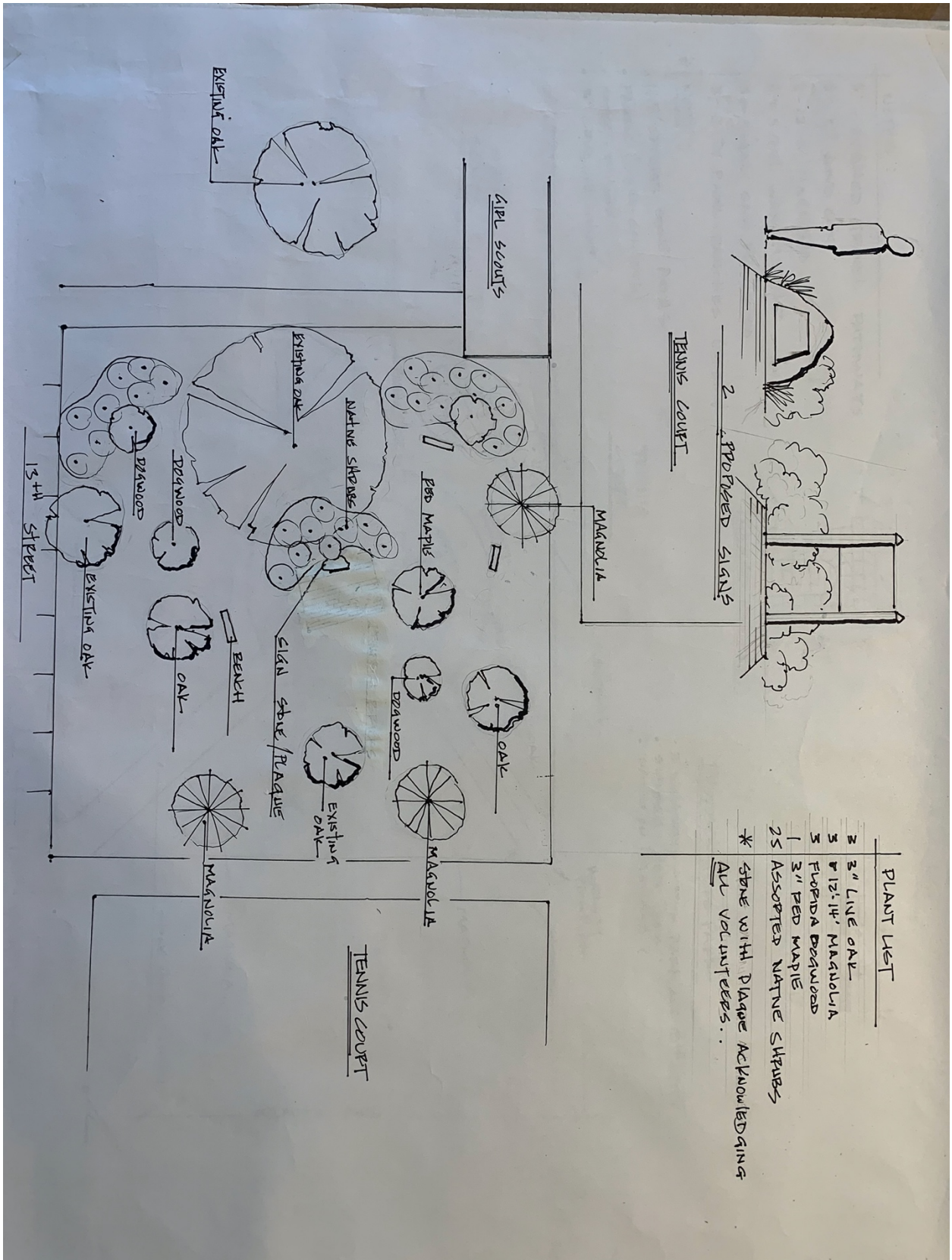
ATC has been selected for a Larsen Pooled Fund Grant for \$5,000 to implement this project. The potential impact of proposal changes on this grant is unknown.

Proposed design: (p. 4)



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Heroes Grove Fernandina Beach Central Park



City of Fernandina Beach Personnel Allocation FTE							
	2020 FT	2020 PT	2020 FTE	2021 FT	2021 PT	2021 FTE	FTE Net Change
General Government							
City Clerk	4	0	4.00	4	0	4.00	-
City Manager	4	0	4.00	4	0	4.00	-
Finance	6	2	7.00	7	0	7.00	-
Information Technology	4	1	4.50	4	1	4.50	-
Human Resources	3	0	3.00	3	0	3.00	-
Legal	2	0	2.00	2	0	2.00	-
Planning	6	0	6.00	7	0	7.00	1.0
Public Safety							
Police	42	14	49.00	42	14	49.00	-
Fire	35	0	35.00	35	0	35.00	-
Code Enforcement	2	1	2.50	3	0	3.00	0.5
Public Works							
Facilities Maintenance	6.5	2	7.50	7.5	2	8.50	1.0
Streets	10	1	10.50	10	0	10.00	(0.5)
Culture Recreation							
Recreation	7	14	14.00	7	14	14.00	-
Parks	11	0	11.00	11	0	11.00	-
Peck Center	1	4	3.00	1	4	3.00	-
MLK Center	1	5	3.50	1	5	3.50	-
Youth Programs	3	5	5.50	3	5	5.50	-
Aquatics	1	12	7.00	1	12	7.00	-
Cemetery	2	0	2.00	2	0	2.00	-
Total General Funds	150.5	61	181.00	154.5	57	183.00	2.0
Special Revenue Funds							
Tree Trust	0	0	-	0	0	-	-
Building/Permitting	11	2	12.00	12	0	12.00	-
Total Special Revenue Funds	11	2	12.00	12	0	12.00	-
Enterprise Funds							
Golf Course	0	0	-	0	0	-	-
Airport	2	1	2.50	2	1	2.50	-
Sanitation	0	0	-	0	0	-	-
Wastewater Operations	12.5	2	13.50	12.5	2	13.50	-
Water Operations	12.5	0	12.50	12.5	0	12.50	-
Stormwater Management	6	0	6.00	6	0	6.00	-
Marina	0	0	-	0	0	-	-
Total Enterprise Funds	33	3	34.50	33	3	34.50	-
Internal Service Funds							
Fleet	2.5	1	3.00	2.5	1	3.00	-
Utility Billing	5	0	5.00	6	0	6.00	1.0
Utilities Administration	4	0	4.00	4	0	4.00	-
Total Internal Service	11.5	1	12.00	12.5	1	13.00	1.0
Total City							
Total City Personnel	206	67	239.50	212	61	242.50	3.0

City of Fernandina Beach, Florida

Annual Budget 2020-2021

170 CEMETERY FUND						
	ACTUAL 2018	ACTUAL 2019	BUDGET 2019	BUDGET 2020	BUDGET 2021	INCREASE / DECREASE
OPERATING REVENUE						
170 32970 BURIAL PERMITS	3,720	3,440	3,500	3,000	3,000	0.0%
170 34560 MARKER SETTING FEES	3,360	2,600	2,200	2,200	2,200	0.0%
170 34570 PERPETUAL CARE	66,826	64,336	50,750	50,000	40,000	-20.0%
170 34580 SALE OF LOTS	124,105	115,067	94,250	82,500	75,000	-9.1%
170 34585 GRAVE OPENINGS	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	198,011	185,443	150,700	137,700	120,200	-12.7%
OTHER REVENUES						
170 36110 INTEREST	14,110	18,369	10,000	10,000	13,000	30.0%
170 36120 UNREALIZED GAIN/LOSS	(7,330)	12,044	-	-	-	0.0%
170 36990 OTHER REVENUE	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
170 36992 GAIN ON SALE OF ASSET	1,445	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	8,225	30,413	10,000	10,000	13,000	30.0%
TRANSFERS IN						
170 38101 FROM GENERAL FUND	-	11,300	11,300	11,300	31,300	177.0%
TOTAL	-	11,300	11,300	11,300	31,300	177.0%
CASH BALANCE FORWARD						
170 38910 CASH BALANCE FORWARD	99,469	68,159	76,300	111,261	33,495	-69.9%
170 38913 CASH BAL FOR RESTD CEMET	968,422	1,026,918	1,040,200	1,050,322	1,091,247	3.9%
TOTAL REVENUE AND CASH BALANCES	1,274,126	1,322,233	1,288,500	1,320,583	1,289,242	-2.4%

170 CEMETERY FUND

	ACTUAL 2018	ACTUAL 2019	BUDGET 2019	BUDGET 2020	BUDGET 2021	INCREASE / DECREASE
PERSONNEL						
170 51200 SALARIES	69,245	74,490	73,412	77,162	79,476	3.0%
170 51300 SEASONAL/TEMPORARY	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
170 51350 PART TIME SALARIES	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
170 51400 OVERTIME	780	-	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0%
170 52100 FICA	4,872	5,186	5,769	6,056	6,233	2.9%
170 52200 RETIREMENT	22,750	23,419	22,611	18,488	17,551	-5.1%
170 52300 HEALTH INSUR	24,681	26,712	26,722	26,712	25,996	-2.7%
170 52301 LIFE INSUR	358	423	379	431	444	3.0%
170 52400 WORKERS' COMP	4,010	4,619	4,261	7,006	2,623	-62.6%
170 52500 UNEMPLOYMENT	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	126,696	134,848	135,154	137,855	134,323	-2.6%
OPERATING EXPENSES						
170 53200 AUDITING	2,265	1,510	2,265	2,265	2,265	0.0%
170 53400 CONTRACTUAL	2,214	12,726	15,864	8,588	10,838	26.2%
170 54000 TRAINING/TRAVEL	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
170 54101 COMMUNICATIONS-CELLULAR	7	-	-	-	200	0.0%
170 54300 UTILITIES ELECTRIC	1,061	1,340	3,600	3,800	3,800	0.0%
170 54310 UTILITIES-WATER & WASTEWATER	135	423	850	1,000	1,000	0.0%
170 54500 INSURANCE	2,890	3,001	3,015	2,834	1,171	-58.7%
170 54610 R/M BLDG & GROUNDS	17,602	14,446	20,000	13,000	13,000	0.0%
170 54611 R/M FACILITIES	-	-	-	-	2,500	0.0%
170 54620 R/M EQUIPMENT	398	2,460	2,000	2,000	2,000	0.0%
170 54630 R/M VEHICLES-LABOR	2,135	535	2,000	2,200	2,500	13.6%
170 54640 R/M VEHICLES-PARTS	3,139	545	2,000	1,500	2,000	33.3%
170 55200 OPERATING SUPPLIES	77	624	2,000	2,500	2,500	0.0%
170 55210 UNIFORMS	575	841	450	1,200	1,200	0.0%
170 55230 GAS/OIL	2,477	2,682	2,500	3,000	3,000	0.0%
170 55240 CHEMICALS	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	34,975	41,135	56,544	43,887	47,974	9.3%
CAPITAL OUTLAY						
170 56300 IMPROVEMENTS	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
170 56400 EQUIPMENT	18,431	-	-	22,000	-	-100.0%
170 56401 NON CAP EQUIP	-	-	-	-	-	0.0%
TOTAL	18,431	-	-	22,000	-	-100.0%
170 59990 RESERVE	67,107	55,004	5,802	40,236	15,698	-61.0%
170 59997 RESERVE REST'D FOR CEMETERY	1,026,918	1,091,247	1,091,000	1,076,605	1,091,247	1.4%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES AND RESERVES	1,274,126	1,322,234	1,288,500	1,320,583	1,289,242	-2.4%

GOAL 6

RECREATION & OPEN SPACE ELEMENT





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RECREATION & OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

The Recreation and Open Space Element is intended to identify and address existing recreation and open space facilities and opportunities for improvements. Consideration of the potential need of future facilities and the prioritization of capital improvements is also part of this evaluation. The Element goal is to provide parks, recreational facilities, and open space to meet the health, safety and welfare needs of City residents and visitors.

RECREATION & OPEN SPACE ELEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Engage in Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Planning;
2. Inventory parks, recreation and open space based on the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP);
3. Establish equitable distribution of parks to ensure equal access to recreational facilities;
4. Utilize green building standards/sustainable practices for new construction/renovation;
5. Utilize sustainable materials and low-impact development practices in park construction;
6. Plant native landscaping and employ xeriscaping in parks to reduce irrigation, fertilizer and pesticide use;
7. Coordinate to ensure that fleet of vehicles and maintenance equipment is sustainable and energy efficient;
8. Emphasize pedestrian and bicycle access to parks and recreation areas;
9. Identify how open spaces are to be utilized;
10. Identify and map lands for potential acquisition as park space;
11. Develop recreational boating needs assessment and assessment of waterways networks;
12. Identify shoreline and waterway accesses as part of the overall park and recreational facilities;
13. Continue variety of community services available to the public and continue community outreach and involvement; and
14. Address specific resources such as Egans Creek Greenway and Bosque Bello Cemetery.



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GOAL 6: RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

Objective 6.01.

Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Master Planning

Page 6-1

Objective 6.02.

Availability of Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Space

Page 6-2

Objective 6.03.

Parks and Recreation Facility Management

Page 6-3

Objective 6.04.

Access to Recreational Areas

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Objective 6.05.

Open Space

Page 6-5

Objective 6.06.

Land Acquisition

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Objective 6.07.

Boating and Waterways

Page 6-6

Objective 6.08

Parks and Recreation Community Services

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Objective 6.09

Bosque Bello Cemetery

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Objective 6.10.

Egans Creek Greenway

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Objective 6.11

Intergovernmental Coordination

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GOAL 6.0 | RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

THE CITY SHALL ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY OF PARKS, RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, AND OPEN SPACE TO MEET THE HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE NEEDS OF CITY RESIDENTS AND VISITORS.

OBJECTIVE 6.01.

PARKS, RECREATION, AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLANNING

The City shall plan for a coordinated parks and recreation system that takes into account access to and availability of parks and recreation facilities and open space areas, the impact of parks and recreation facilities on ecological systems, community education opportunities, and community health.

POLICY 6.01.01.

Utilize the City's most current Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a guide for decision-making and planning. The Parks and Recreation Master Plan, prepared by Barth and Associates, dated April 2015, as may be amended from time to time, is incorporated by reference into the Comprehensive Plan.

POLICY 6.01.02.

The City shall implement the five key elements of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- a. First class parks, recreation and open space facilities and venues,
- b. Improved multi-modal connectivity among facilities and venues,
- c. Equitable access to facilities and venues,
- d. Improved communication regarding parks and recreation offerings, and
- e. Improved design standards and maintenance.

POLICY 6.01.03.

Implement the Master Plan for existing and future City facilities, which seeks to transform the City's major parks and recreation facilities into first class venues that serve the entire community.

POLICY 6.01.04.

Implement the Master Plan's neighborhood-serving park concept, which seeks to improve access to commonly utilized recreation elements. The City shall provide the following for residents within a ½ mile radius from their home: shaded playground, multi-purpose open space, sport court, trails, and optional small pavilions and restrooms.

POLICY 6.01.05.

Update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan every five years to track progress to the five key elements as referenced in Policy 6.02.02 and make sure that the parks, recreation, and open space system is responsive to community needs.

OBJECTIVE 6.02.

**AVAILABILITY OF PARKS, RECREATION FACILITIES,
AND OPEN SPACE**

The City shall ensure the availability of parks and recreation facilities and open space.

POLICY 6.02.01.

The City shall maintain an inventory of parks and recreation facilities and open space, the identification of recreational facilities available in each park, the size of the facility, and the primary agency responsible for the facility.

POLICY 6.02.02.

The City shall encourage applicants for development approvals, including but not limited to PUD development, to provide recreational facilities and/or open space beyond the minimum standards by providing for incentives to be included in the Land Development Code. Such minimum standards may include level of service standards or open space percentage or acreage requirements.

POLICY 6.02.03.

The City shall add proposed parks, recreation and open space projects, based on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan to the City's Capital Improvements Plan.

POLICY 6.02.04.

The City shall pursue available grant sources on an annual basis for the acquisition and development of park and recreational areas, including but not limited to, federal and state funding sources.

POLICY 6.02.05.

The City shall on an annual basis, develop, evaluate and maintain existing parks and recreation facilities to meet the needs of the area served, considering the functional capacity of the parks and recreation facilities and the specific requirements of the population served, using the Parks and Recreation Master Plan as a basis for evaluation.

POLICY 6.02.06.

The City shall maintain a level of service of 12 acres of parkland per 1000 residents.

POLICY 6.02.07.

Access level of service of a ½ mile radius per citizen shall be used for neighborhood-serving parks.

POLICY 6.02.08.

The State Comprehensive Recreation and Outdoor Plan shall be used as a benchmark as and guidance for evaluating existing and future facilities and venues, but shall not be interpreted as level of service standards.

OBJECTIVE 6.03.**PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITY MANAGEMENT**

The City shall improve and maintain the existing park and recreation facilities inventory.

POLICY 6.03.01.

The City shall maintain and support a Parks and Recreation Department for City recreation planning and management.

POLICY 6.03.02.

The City shall, on an annual basis, review existing parks, recreation facilities and open space and establish a schedule and procedure for improving any deficiencies, including but not limited to undergoing renovations of existing facilities or constructing new facilities.

POLICY 6.03.03.

The City shall have a no net loss policy for recreation facilities

POLICY 6.03.04.

The City shall not convert, abandon, trade, or sell any park or open space, or portion of park or open space in addition to the limitations established in the City Charter for transfer, sale, or lease of recreation facilities. Open space may be converted to a park, in accordance with Policy 6.05.02, and if open space levels of service as established in the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan are being met.

POLICY 6.03.05.

New parks and recreation facilities, and major renovations of existing facilities, shall be constructed in accordance with Florida statutory requirements that municipal buildings are constructed to meet the minimum requirements of a green rating system.

POLICY 6.03.06.

The City shall utilize native plants and xeriscaping techniques when landscaping is added or updated in parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces.

POLICY 6.03.07.

The City shall utilize low-impact development strategies to reduce stormwater runoff from parks and recreation facilities.

POLICY 6.03.08.

Where feasible, the City shall seek to reduce the amount of pesticides and fertilizer in maintaining parks, recreation and open space landscapes.

POLICY 6.03.09.

The City shall ensure that the parks and recreation fleet utilizes energy efficient vehicles when possible.

OBJECTIVE 6.04.**ACCESS TO RECREATIONAL AREAS**

The City shall ensure the availability of vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle access to public recreational areas.

POLICY 6.04.01.

The City will provide vehicle parking, ADA-compliant parking, bicycle racks, and barrier-free access at City-owned parks and recreational facilities.

POLICY 6.04.02.

Sidewalks, bicycle paths, multipurpose trails, and/or dedication of lands per such shall be required in redevelopment and new developments to provide safe access to parks, recreation facilities, open space, waterways and shorelines.

POLICY 6.04.03.

The City shall ensure sidewalk, crosswalks, bicycle path and/or multipurpose trail access throughout the City to the most-utilized and venue based recreational facilities.

POLICY 6.04.04.

All future City owned parks and recreational facilities, including beaches and waterways, shall have direct access on a public street, right of way, or easement.

POLICY 6.04.05.

The City shall not vacate necessary existing rights-of-way, easements, walkways, and other properties available for public access to parks and recreation facilities or open space.

POLICY 6.04.06.

The City shall seek assistance from volunteers in the City in efforts to promote and maintain City recreation facilities.

POLICY 6.04.07.

The City shall ensure that Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access and ADA recreation opportunities are available at City parks and recreation facilities and venues.

POLICY 6.04.08.

Neighborhood-serving parks shall be prioritized for placement in areas underserved by recreation facilities and shall be prioritized in capital improvement planning. Adding additional neighborhood-serving park components to existing facilities shall be secondary after underserved recreational areas are addressed.

OBJECTIVE 6.05. OPEN SPACE

Open spaces shall be protected within urbanized areas for their aesthetic, health, environmental, and economic benefits. The City shall continue to maintain standards in its land development regulations for the provision and maintenance of open space in the community, including in private developments and publicly-owned lands.

POLICY 6.05.01.

The City shall continue to include conservation areas on the FLUM.

POLICY 6.05.02

The City shall determine uses for publicly-owned open space areas, and shall evaluate the presence of environmentally sensitive lands within an open space. If it is determined that open space has environmentally sensitive lands, the City shall limit activities to passive recreation where it is determined that such activities will not endanger the public health, safety, welfare or environment.

POLICY 6.05.03.

Privately-owned open space, such as those within subdivisions or PUD developments, which consists of a conservation future land use or contains environmentally sensitive lands, shall be protected through the acquisition of conservation easements.

POLICY 6.05.04.

In order to protect environmentally sensitive coastal dunes and promote public safety, no additional areas, or expansion of existing areas, allocated to parking or driving on the public beach shall be permitted.

OBJECTIVE 6.06.**LAND ACQUISITION**

The City shall maintain a program to continually evaluate the potential purchase of land for parks, recreation, conservation, and open space needs, and shall identify and map potential land for acquisition as recreation or open space.

POLICY 6.06.01.

The City shall use City-owned floodplains, conservation lands or environmentally sensitive lands, and other similar areas for passive recreational land, provided that the City determines that passive recreational use of these sites would not endanger the public health, safety, welfare, or environment.

POLICY 6.06.02.

The City will give high priority to acquisition of lands in the CHHA and in or adjacent to jurisdictional wetlands for passive recreational purposes, provided that the City determines that recreational use of these sites would not endanger the public health, safety, welfare or environment.

POLICY 6.06.03.

The City will give priority to acquisition of lands that provide access to parks, recreation or open space areas.

POLICY 6.06.04.

Whenever possible, recreational sites should be established with active and passive uses to provide both recreational facilities and to ensure preservation or conservation of environmentally sensitive lands. The City shall identify those recreational sites containing environmentally sensitive lands and limit those portions to passive use recreation only; where it is determined that passive recreational use of these lands would not endanger the public health, safety, welfare, or environment.

POLICY 6.06.05.

The City shall add proposed land acquisition projects, based on the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan, to the City's Capital Improvements Plan.

POLICY 6.06.06.

The City shall seek public and private support for the acquisition, development, operation, and maintenance of parks, recreational facilities and open space areas.

POLICY 6.06.07.

The City shall continue to use ad valorem taxes and impact fees to fund the acquisition of parks and recreation facilities. Impact fees shall be re-evaluated based on implementation of the Master Plan and any subsequent updates to the Master Plan. Use of other funding mechanisms, shall also be utilized, if feasible.

POLICY 6.06.08.

Acquisition of additional parkland, construction of new facilities, and/or the improvement of access to parks, recreation, and open space areas directly serving new developments shall be funded by new developments in order to maintain level of service standards.

OBJECTIVE 6.07.

BOATING AND WATERWAYS

The City shall include boating and waterways in parks and recreation planning efforts by 2017, in conjunction with the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

POLICY 6.07.01.

The City shall conduct an assessment of waterways networks, including boating, kayak and canoe trail ways, and other water transportation options.

POLICY 6.07.02.

The City shall conduct an assessment of existing boating and fishing facilities, including boat ramps, boat repair, fishing piers, and kayak and canoe launches.

POLICY 6.07.03.

The City shall conduct a boating needs assessment including motorized and non-motorized boating needs, including access points, parking, and other related facilities.

POLICY 6.07.04.

The City shall adopt level of service standards for boating and fishing facilities, such as boat ramps, kayak and canoe launches, fishing piers, and public access points.

POLICY 6.07.05.

The City shall have a no net loss policy for public access to waterways and shorelines, whereby one type of access point is not removed without providing for replacement of that type of access point.

OBJECTIVE 6.08.**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMUNITY SERVICES**

The City shall continue to provide community services through the Parks and Recreation Department.

POLICY 6.08.01.

The City shall continue to offer youth recreational opportunities throughout the school year and during the summer.

POLICY 6.08.02.

The City shall continue to offer adult recreational opportunities including classes, leagues, and tournaments.

POLICY 6.08.03.

The City shall continue to offer senior services including recreational opportunities and outings.

POLICY 6.08.04.

The City shall continue to offer community events and provide educational programming that highlights the importance of health and fitness.

OBJECTIVE 6.09.**BOSQUE BELLO CEMETERY**

The City shall protect Bosque Bello Cemetery as a reminder of the community's heritage, and shall maintain the cemetery in a dignified manner while ensuring community safety.

POLICY 6.09.01.

The City shall have a cemetery master plan created providing for the long-term viability and care of Bosque Bello, assigning priority to areas in most need of preservation or care. Such plan shall include, but not be limited to:

- a. evaluation of condition and typologies of existing markers, monuments, enclosures and walls;
- b. provisions for the maintenance and treatment of historic markers and walls;
- c. evaluation of existing vegetation, tree canopy, and landscaping;
- d. maintenance, preservation and enhancement of landscaping and the tree canopy in the cemetery;
- e. evaluation of cemetery infrastructure, including structures, site furnishings, irrigation and water, circulation and access, and security; and
- f. provision of recommendations for future maintenance and use of the cemetery.

POLICY 6.09.02.

The City shall protect the historic integrity of Bosque Bello cemetery through preservation of the historic section of the cemetery and through protection and maintenance of the vegetation and tree canopy.

POLICY 6.09.03.

The City shall make all efforts to provide proper documentation of all markers and maintain records regarding markers and their condition.

POLICY 6.09.04.

The City shall incorporate planning for the cemetery into any disaster planning efforts and post-disaster redevelopment strategies.

POLICY 6.09.05.

The City shall seek specialized cemetery maintenance training, particularly training related to maintenance of historic cemeteries, for all City staff involved in cemetery operations.

POLICY 6.09.06.

The City shall utilize appropriate and proper maintenance techniques for historic cemeteries.

POLICY 6.09.07.

The City shall monitor the edges of the cemetery which are adjacent to wetlands for any erosion or damage and take appropriate action should such erosion pose a threat to burial sites.

POLICY 6.09.08.

The City shall partner with local and regional organizations to provide volunteer assistance in care and maintenance of the cemetery, including but not limited to, documentation efforts, preservation efforts, and fundraising opportunities.

POLICY 6.09.09.

The City shall coordinate with the adjacent mill operator to ensure that industrial uses and operations do not encroach or interfere with the long-term protection of the cemetery.

POLICY 6.09.10.

The City shall continue operation of the Cemetery Fund, which dedicates plot sale funds to a Perpetual Fund and to ongoing cemetery operations.

OBJECTIVE 6.10.

EGANS CREEK GREENWAY

The City shall protect Egans Creek Greenway for its value as a recreational asset, for its significance as an outstanding natural resource, and for its role in providing wildlife habitat.

POLICY 6.10.01.

The Parks and Recreation Department shall ensure a management plan is created and updated for the Egans Creek Greenway including at a minimum ensuring that it is addressed separately in the parks and recreation master planning process.

POLICY 6.10.02.

The City shall continue to designate the Greenway as conservation land in the zoning and FLUM series maps.

POLICY 6.10.03.

The City shall continue to coordinate with the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) on the plan for the restoration of the marshland between Atlantic Avenue and Jasmine Street, Area I. The City shall coordinate with FDOT regarding any impacts of this project on the hydrology south of Jasmine St., Area II, and evaluate the necessity of any restoration plan needs in that area.

POLICY 6.10.04.

The City shall continue to encourage the use of the Greenway for walking, biking, and bird watching.

POLICY 6.10.05.

The City shall continue to encourage the use of the Greenway as part of the Great Florida Birding Trail and seek inclusion in the Greenway and Trails Network.

POLICY 6.10.06.

The City shall continue to conduct ongoing annual plant and animal surveys in order to ascertain any changes in the plant and animal communities of the Greenway.

POLICY 6.10.07.

The City shall monitor and control invasive exotic flora and fauna within the Greenway.

POLICY 6.10.08.

The City shall continue to provide community-based education about the values of natural spaces, wetlands, endangered and threatened species, invasive species, and human impacts on ecosystems through the use of graphics, tours, online information distribution, and at the Nature Center.

OBJECTIVE 6.11.**INTERGOVERNMENTAL COORDINATION**

The City shall seek to increase intergovernmental coordination regarding parks, recreation, and open space.

POLICY 6.11.01.

The City will establish and maintain formal and informal agreements to share facility and program resources with Nassau County, the Nassau County School Board, the state and federal governments, private nonprofit organizations, and others.

POLICY 6.11.02.

The City will continue to work with the Nassau County School Board to ensure that new public school buildings, whenever possible, are co-located adjacent to existing or proposed parks, recreation facilities, open space, and any trail or path system that will connect such facilities to other services such as the library or other community centers.

POLICY 6.11.03.

The City will maximize the potential for the collocation and joint uses of public facilities, including the use of public school facilities for recreational, cultural and civic purposes in accordance with the policies in this element.