

Chapter VII
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT-2017
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents goals, objectives and policies for the Recreation and Open Space Element pursuant to F.S. § 163.3177(6)(e) and the Community Planning Act (2011) F.S. § 163.3161 et. seq., that requires 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, waterways, and other recreational facilities. Pursuant to the 2011 Community Planning Act, the Town has chosen to retain recreation and open space concurrency as a local mandate, as well as its adopted level-of-service standards pursuant to F.S. 163.3180(5). However, unlike the other Comprehensive Plan Elements wherein Florida Administrative Code, Chapter 9J-5 establishes minimum criteria for each Comprehensive Plan Element's required data and analysis and goals, objectives and policies, the minimum criteria for the Recreation and Open Space Element were repealed in February 1996. The Goals, Objectives, and Policies herein are intended to. Therefore, the town can achieve further the Town's its vision of meeting its recreational needs without having to comply with state imposed criteria. enhancing and maintaining the recreation and open space system to improve the health and quality of life for residents of all ages in the Town.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

Goal 1 Continue to provide a high level of active and passive recreational opportunities for the permanent and seasonal residents of Ponce Inlet.

Objective 1.1 Maintain a park level-of-service standard of 3.5 acres per 1,000 residents.

Policy 1.1.1 No development shall be permitted by the †Town if the resulting impact will exceed the †Town's adopted level-of-service standard for recreational facilities, unless land dedicated to the town is provided to mitigate the impact and ensure concurrency compliance.

Policy 1.1.2 The †Town shall review its recreational impact fee ordinance periodically annually to ensure that the fee structure is adequate to maintain its level-of-service standard.

Policy 1.1.3 Continue to protect the natural resources of Ponce Preserve, Timucuan Oaks Botanical Gardens, and Wilbur Bay Wetlands, and maintain them as passive parks.

Goal 2 Provide adequate management resources to offer park and recreation services to residents of all ages.

Objective 2.1 Maintain existing †Town-owned open space and recreational facilities through proper management techniques funded from the †Town's operating budget.

43 *Policy 2.1.1* Develop and maintain a capital improvement program that specifies a
44 five-year schedule for improvement of park and recreation lands.

45 *Policy 2.1.2* Maintain a park operating budget reflective of the ~~€~~Town's needs and
46 available resources.

47 *Policy 2.1.3* Evaluate ~~€~~Town-sponsored programs annually in terms of cost, public
48 benefit, and all levels of established program criteria.

49 *Policy 2.1.4* Actively seek outside sources of revenue for the acquisition,
50 development, and improvement of park and recreational facilities.

51 *Policy 2.1.5* Periodically review park and recreation preferences, needs and trends
52 through household surveys, public meetings and other public input sources.

53 *Policy 2.1.6* Explore opportunities to establish cooperative relations with private
54 associations that have recreational facilities within the Town to allow public use of
55 such facilities in exchange for Town maintenance.

56 *Policy 2.1.7* Continue to evaluate the need for additional staff to support the
57 Town's parks & recreation programs and development.

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