

RESOLUTION NO. R2016-10

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD FLORIDA; ADOPTING THE WILDWOOD PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN; COMPLETED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA COLLEGE OF HEALTH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS MASTERS OF REGIONAL PLANNING PROGRAM; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the City provides active and passive recreational amenities, opportunities, and programs to the citizens of Wildwood;

WHEREAS, the City recognizes the need to properly plan for the increasing demand of its parks and recreational programs as the City continues to grow;

WHEREAS, the City authorized the University of Central Florida to study the City's parks, solicit public input on the City's parks, and to develop a Parks and Recreation master plan for Oxford Park, Millennium Park, and Martin Luther King Jr. Park; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to adopt the Wildwood Parks and Recreation Plan so that it may be used a planning guide for future parks projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA, THAT:

1. The City hereby adopts the "Wildwood Parks and Recreation Plan" (Master Plan) prepared by University of Central Florida College of Health and Public Affairs Masters of Regional Planning Program dated April 18, 2016 attached herein as "Exhibit A" to this Resolution.

2. The City Manager is hereby authorized to utilize the Master Plan which includes a list of recommended projects, programs, implementation schedule, and costs as a tool in making recommendations to the City Commission.

3. The City Manager shall annually review the Master Plan and determine if an update is needed.

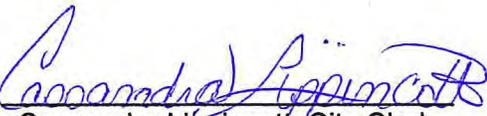
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adopting by the City Commission.

DONE AND RESOLVED, this 25th day of April, 2016, in regular session, by the City Commission of the City of Wildwood, Florida.

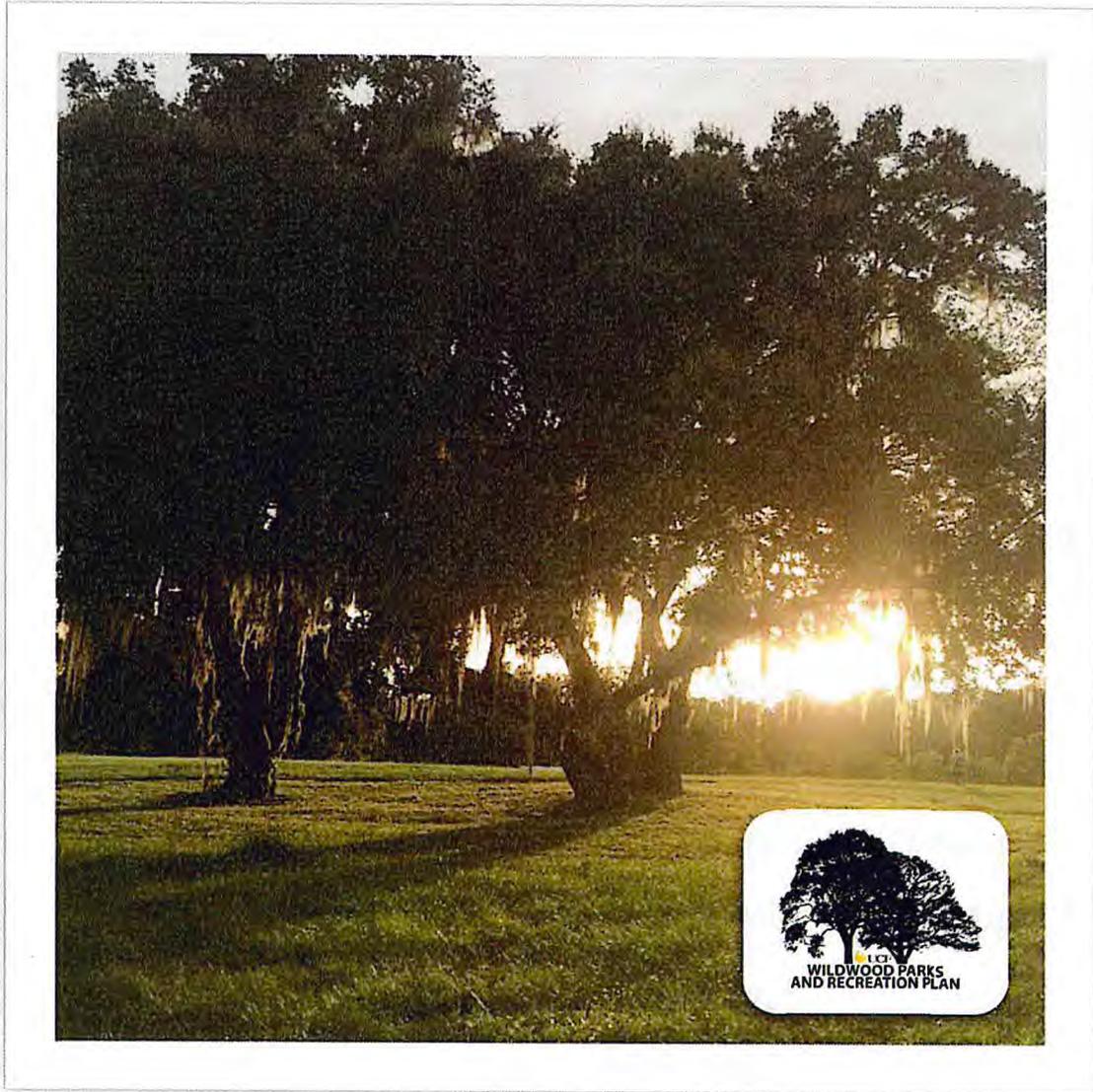
CITY COMMISSION
CITY OF WILDWOOD, FLORIDA

SEAL

ATTEST:


Cassandra Lippincott, City Clerk


Ed Wolf, Mayor



FINAL | UCF Planning & Design Studio | April 18, 2016

Wildwood Parks and Recreation Plan

A VISION FOR TOMORROW'S PARKS

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

CITY COMMISSION

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Mayor Pro-Tem/Commissioner – Pamala Harrison-Bivins – Seat 2

Robby Strickland – Seat 3

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Beginning in August 2015, students from the Masters of Science in Urban and Regional Planning Program at the University of Central Florida (Planning and Design Team) partnered with the City of Wildwood to create the Wildwood Parks and Recreation Plan (Master Plan). The Master Plan is a long-range planning document that provides recommendations for improving the physical layout and connectivity of Wildwood's parks, as well as ways to enhance overall community engagement and park stewardship over the next 20 years and expands upon Wildwood's Comprehensive Plan goals.

The purpose of the Master Plan is to help the City of Wildwood meet the needs of its current population by evaluating the current park system, while also planning for the population growth that is projected for the Wildwood region. The City of Wildwood currently has three main recreation facilities which take center stage in this document: Millennium Park, Martin Luther King Jr. (MLK) Park, and Oxford Park, but the Master Plan also addresses the City's stock of operated or underutilized green spaces and trails.

The Master Plan document draws its strengths from extensive public engagement efforts including attendance by Planning and Design Team members at community special events such as the City's Halloween Spooktacular, face-to-face resident surveys, online surveys, and web-poles, maintaining a project website, conducting two community meetings, and working with City officials to inform residents about the Master Plan process and events via social media and through informational flyers. The Planning and Design Team also conducted an extensive amount of research on the parks master planning process, the health and economic benefits of well-maintained parks systems, and research on peer cities to support recommendations and provide benchmarks for enhancing the City of Wildwood's park system.

Building upon this approach, the planning process contained five phases: (1) regional analysis, (2) local inventory and financial analysis, (3) detailed site evaluation, (4) recommendations and implementation actions, and (5) identification of potential funding mechanisms.

Completion of all five phases resulted in a study confirming that the City of Wildwood has an admirable park system; however, there are several opportunities for improvement in terms of investments that would likely result in a more equitable and sustainable distribution of the City's park and recreation resources to all community residents. The Master Plan outlines policy and system wide improvements, such as re-evaluating the measure of park Level of Service, greenway opportunity connections, and park specific recommendations. Detailed recommendations, illustrated concept plans, proposed short, medium, and long term phasing, and potential funding are outlined in Chapter Five. Recommendation summary tables are provided below.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Park		
Goal	When	Estimated Cost
1. Enhanced Landscaping	Short-term	Varies
2. Parking	Short-term	\$280,000
3. New Restrooms	Short-term	\$500,000
4. Playground with shade improvements	Short-term	\$75,000
5. Splash Pad and Memorial Wall	Short-term	\$500,000 Splash Pad alone
6. Two Basketball Courts & Two Bleachers	Short-term	\$30,000 (each) & \$2,500 (each)
7. Athletic Fields	Short-term	\$80,000
8. Housing and Redevelopment Study	Short-term	Staff time
9. Perimeter Trail (10' wide x 4,052' long)	Mid-term	\$567,000 (\$14.00 / sq. ft.)
10. Fitness Loop (10 ft. wide)	Mid-term	\$60,000 for equipment plus \$14 per square foot for multi-use loop
11. Pavilion(s)	Mid-term	\$125,000
12. (a) Walkways (10 ft. wide)	Mid-term	\$106,000 (\$14.00 / sq. ft.)
12. (b) Trees	Mid-term	\$20,000 for approx. 50 oak trees
13. Baseball Field	Mid-term	\$250,000 (does not include improvement costs for existing)
14. North Parking Lot	Mid-term	\$15,000
15. Community Center	Long-term	\$1,750,000
Lighting for parking, community center and athletics fields	As required by other projects	\$900,000



Millennium Park		
Goal	When	Estimated Cost
1. Two Baseball Fields	Short-term	\$500,000
2. Basketball Court	Short-term	\$30,000 (each)
3. Football Fields	Short-term	\$45,000
4. Portable Bleachers	Short-term	\$2,500 per bleacher
5. Splash Pad	Midterm	\$750,000
6. Playground with shade and other improvements	Mid-term	\$90,000
7. Concession and Restroom Facility	Mid-term	\$750,000
8. Community Center Parking Lot	Short-term	\$120,000
9. New Parking	Mid-term	\$30,000
10. Field Lighting	As required by other projects	\$180,000
11. Pedestrian Greenway (10' wide x 15,616' long)	Mid-term	\$200,000 for LED lighting \$14 / sq. ft path \$2.2 million total
12. Exercise Equipment	Mid-term	\$65,000
13. Landscaping	As required by other projects	\$40,000
14. Event Lawn(s)	Long-term	Varies
15. Storm Water Expansion	Long-term	Detailed Engineering Required
16. Amphitheater	Long-term	\$250,000



Oxford Park		
Goal	When	Estimated Cost
1. Permanent Restroom Facility	Short-term	\$500,000
2. Baseball Field	Short-term	\$180,000
3. Landscaping	Mid-term	\$6,800
4. Basketball and Tennis Courts	Mid-term	\$30,000 each
5. Playground with Shade Sales	Mid-term	\$80,000
6. Multi-use Field	Mid-term	\$40,000
7. Shaded Picnic area with Pavilions	Mid-term	\$125,000
8. Limited Access Road (12 ft. wide)	Long-term	\$14-\$17 per square foot



Chapter I – Introduction, Process, & Vision

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MLK Park, shown in Figure 1.1.3 is approximately 27.5 acres and is considered a community park per the Comprehensive Plan. MLK Park primarily services the nearby residential neighborhoods. Based on the recommendations, this park has the potential to serve four to six neighborhoods as required by the Comprehensive Plan, but is currently underutilized for its size. The improvements recommended in chapter five of this master plan are designed to encourage much higher utilization.

Oxford Park, shown in Figure 1.1.4 is near the northern city limits, and is approximately 2.5 acres. This park resembles a pocket park; however, with the adjacent Community Center, the park is classified as a neighborhood park per the Comprehensive Plan. The park sits on a very small site, and serves a small neighborhood located to the south of the park.

Based on recommendations in this Master Plan, Oxford Park has the potential to serve up to four surrounding neighborhoods. As described in chapter 5 of this plan, fulfilling the potential of Oxford Park will require facility improvements and the relocation of some existing amenities.

The city’s greenways, overall park system, and private developments were analyzed to ensure the continued comprehensive nature of the parks system moving forward. There is an existing greenways (trails and sidewalks) system in and around Wildwood. Within the three-mile bike shed (area a typical person is willing to travel on a bike) of the City of Wildwood, there are 231 miles of trails and sidewalks. The greenway system is highly focused in central Wildwood; however, very important gaps exist. Through an issues and opportunities evaluation, a number of “Opportunity Connections” were discovered to help complete the existing greenway system. Chapter 4 of this master plan provides greater detail about the process and location of these greenway connections.



Figure 1.1.3 Location map of MLK Park

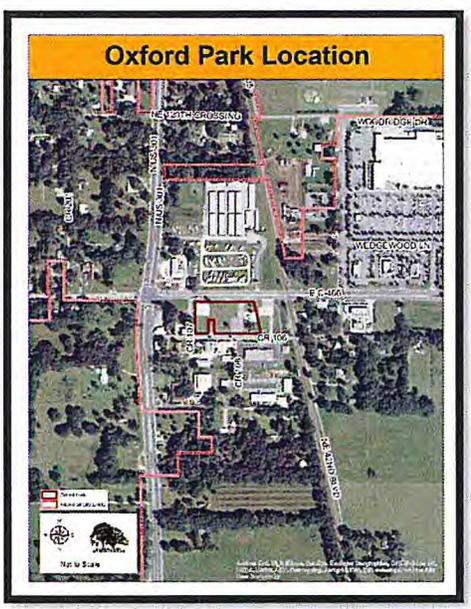


Figure 1.1.4 Location map of Oxford Park



1.2 VISION

VISION STATEMENT

Inspire hometown pride by providing an exceptional recreation experience through beautiful parks and high-quality facilities for residents of every age, background, and ability. Guided by four (4) key principles, the Planning and Design Team envisions a park system with the ability to meet the needs of today's residents and adapt to the future needs of Wildwood as the city continues to grow and develop.

GOALS

1. Maintain the heritage of Wildwood;
2. Meet the needs of current and future generations of Wildwood residents;
3. Provide a quality recreational opportunity for every Wildwood community, neighborhood, and future resident;
4. Establish specific site and facility recommendations for three (3) Wildwood Parks, (Millennium Park, Martin Luther King Jr. Park, and Oxford Park);
5. Promote an active and healthy lifestyle for Wildwood residents by providing a rich and diverse recreation experience through vibrant open spaces and strategic facility improvements;
6. Improve park-to-park, off-site, and on-site pedestrian and user access;
7. Activate dormant sites and park areas for potential redevelopment and public-private partnerships; and
8. Ensure the longevity of Wildwood Parks for generations as the city continues to grow.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Community Engagement

The Design Team engaged the community and local leaders as an essential component of the planning process. Coordination efforts with the City and UCF Planning and Design Team included planning community workshops, conducting surveys for park-goers, and developing relationships among community leaders and faith-based organizations. This approach allowed the team to learn firsthand of the real and perceived deficiencies needing to be addressed in order to promote the most enjoyable and equitable recreation experience possible.

Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship

The Design Team set out to find ways to accentuate existing features and conditions of each park as well as recommend new facilities, enhancements, and designs in order to create a distinct sense of place at each park. In doing so, each park will have its own set of qualities and characteristics that make them unique and worthy of conservation and more frequent visits.

Improving Overall Parks Accessibility and Connectivity

Through the process of community outreach, it was clear that accessibility and connectivity were major concerns that had to be addressed. This plan focuses on increasing access and connectivity



within and surrounding the entire Wildwood parks network. This plan focuses on addressing needs of three parks; Millennium Park, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, and Oxford Park. The goal of this principle is to increase safety and access in all Wildwood parks.

Equitable Distribution of Resources and Amenities

Every resident in Wildwood deserves equal access to quality facilities and park experiences. This principle guided the recommendations for creating more valuable park experiences to all residents of the City of Wildwood.

1.3 BENEFITS OF PARK SYSTEMS

Parks add great value and benefit to their communities. Including cleaner air, cleaner water, increase in property values, increased tourism, reduced health care demand, improved community cohesion, and other direct-user benefits (Harnik, Welle, & Keenan, Measuring the economic value of a city park system, 2009). Research conducted by Harnik, Welle, and Keen, (2009) concluded that properties within 500 feet of an exceptional and well maintained park can experience a 15 percent increase in value, whereas those properties that are close to a deteriorating park can experience a five percent drop in overall value. The City of San Diego, California found that tourists who visited their parks infused the local economy with over \$40 million in 2006 alone. This potential increase in revenue can be reinvested into the park system and back into the community.

The estimated annual health cost savings per person with access to a park aged sixty-five or older is \$500 and the savings is estimated at \$250 for younger park goers. The results are based on surveyed individuals who reported going to the park at least three days a week and who engaged in at least 30 minutes of moderate to strenuous exercise during those visits. Applying these criteria, researchers observed that residents in Sacramento, California avoided approximately \$19.8 million in health care costs in 2007 (Harnik, Welle, & Keenan, Measuring the economic value of a city park system, 2009). If this same research and methodology is utilized for Wildwood, the amount saved in overall healthcare costs could be very significant, especially considering the aging population of the area.

Storm water reduction is another benefit of parks and open space. Rainwater picks up pollutants as it flows over the ground, through storm drains, and to a water treatment facility. These facilities can sometimes overflow and directly pollute nearby natural resources. The vegetation and permeable landscape present in parks and trails makes them critical runoff filtration resources. Philadelphia calculated that its park system would save taxpayers \$5.9 million in storm water treatment costs in 2007 by comparing the amount of runoff that would be collected with and without its parks system (Harnik, Welle, & Keenan, Measuring the economic value of a city park system, 2009).

Crafting a master plan is a critical step in planning and maintaining a successful park, recreation and open space system. The Master Plan will enable the city to establish a current service and amenity baseline, determine how and where the city's parks and open space system will grow,



and establish a path to follow over time. The key to a successful master plan is continued community support and active input, as well as a comprehensive update to the master plan at least once every five years (Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 2008). This master plan incorporates research-based strategies that are employed or endorsed by state and local government agencies throughout the United States.

1.4 PLANNING APPROACH AND PROCESS

The approach followed by the Planning and Design Team utilized extensive research, analysis, and active community participation. The extensive public engagement efforts included:

- Attending and participating in community special events;
- Conducting in-person surveys, online surveys, and web-poles;
- Maintaining an informational project website;
- Posting project information on the City's Facebook page;
- Facilitating two community visioning and design charrettes;
- Presenting project information to the City Commission;
- Attending local faith based organization services;
- Coordinating with local stakeholders; and
- Holding a public hearing adoption process.

The primary goal of the Planning and Design Team was to conduct an analysis and develop recommendations related to improving the functionality and public access to open space, parks, and recreation facilities for the City of Wildwood Florida. In order to accomplish this, the Planning and Design Team formed three teams: (1) Public Participation & Data Collection, (2) Site Evaluation & Concept Planning, and (3) Policy & Finance.

The Planning and Design Team approached development of the master plan through consultation of existing award winning parks master plans. This comparison was based on cities that have received National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) gold medal recognition, a competitive Trust for Public Land (TPL) ParkScore, or both. The comparison includes plans from the City of Bellingham, WA, Colorado Springs, CO, and Raleigh, NC. For local Florida examples, the parks master plans from the City of Ocala and Miami were also analyzed. For further information, related to the NRPA scoring and the TPL ParkScore, see Appendix 1.A. and Appendix 1.B. The Planning and Design Team also consulted the master plan outline utilized by the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services for further guidance related to the flow and delivery of content within the plan (Appendix 1.C.) (Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 2008).

With this approach, the planning process contained five phases: (1) regional analysis, (2) local inventory and financial analysis, (3) detailed site evaluation, (4) recommendations and implementation actions, and (5) potential funding mechanisms. Each phase included the detailed tasks discussed below.



As the Planning and Design Team moved through each phase, five basic steps were followed focusing on objectives, information, alternatives, impact assessment, and evaluation. While moving through these five steps, the Planning and Design Team aimed at informing and involving the public in as much of the planning and decision process as possible.

Phase one (regional analysis) included mapping and evaluating the existing and proposed green infrastructure systems for enhancements and potential connections between existing and future parks. This was done by conducting field inventories, analyzing the demographic composition of residents and population projections, researching the local Joint Planning Agreement and how it affects the planning process, as well as researching award winning parks master plans for inspiration related to the above planning approach. Additionally, three local comparable jurisdictions including Apopka, FL; Belleview, FL; and Lady Lake, FL were analyzed for financial comparison.

Phase two (Inventory and Financial Analysis) included reviewing the Wildwood Comprehensive Plan for planned parks improvements, analyzing the existing parks based on the adopted level of service, analyzing the level of service measures used by comparison park plans from phase one, analyzing and comparing the parks budget for both capital and operating revenues / expenditures and trends, and conducting intensive public engagement efforts.

Phase three (Detailed Site Evaluation) included analyzing the Land Development Code (LDC) for park and open space related design standards and comparing them with other neighboring jurisdictions for future consideration. Phase three also included conducting a land suitability and green infrastructure analysis for all three parks, which informed the initial conceptual plan scenarios.

Phase four (Recommendation and Implementation Actions) included hosting a community design charrette, and developing recommendations. The recommendations include those for overall improvements to the parks system, to policy related documents such as the Comprehensive Plan and LDC, capital improvement actions in the five to ten-year planning horizon, and the creation of a green infrastructure network.

Phase five (Park Funding Mechanisms) included providing recommendations related to potential park funding mechanisms, analyzing the city park impact fees compared to neighboring jurisdictions, providing recommendations for financing the improvements, and offering new and creative funding sources.



Chapter II – Community Setting

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2.1 REGIONAL CONTEXT

Wildwood is a small incorporated city located within Sumter County in the northwestern section of the Central Florida region. Occupying an area of approximately 40 square miles near the junction of Interstate 75 and the Florida Turnpike, “Florida’s Transportation Hub” had a population of 6,709 in 2010 and as of 2014 had an estimated population of 7,252 (United States Census Bureau, n.d.). Since the year 2000, the Wildwood population has increased by 83% - a rapid rate that is expected to continue. By 2020, the population is expected to reach 8,671. Wildwood is part of the Central Florida region – one of the nation’s fastest growing metro areas. Between 2010 and 2014, the Central Florida population grew by approximately 5.4% and is expected to reach 2,439,316 (U.S. Census Bureau).

Figure 2.1.1: Sumter County



Source: Florida Counties Map

2.2 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

As seen in Table 2.2.1, Wildwood began the 1970s with only a little more than 2,000 residents, and today is still relatively small, but growing rapidly. From 2000 to 2010, Wildwood’s population grew by 71%. The fastest growing groups were between age 50 and 69, specifically the 60 to 64-year-old cohort, which increased in population by 238%.

Table 2.2.1: Historic Wildwood Population

Year	Population
1970	2,082
1980	2,665
1990	3,421
2000	3,924
2010	6,709

It is likely that many of the increases in the older population groups are closely related to the proximity of Wildwood to the Villages retirement community; however, younger cohorts also experienced significant population growth. Both the 25-29 and the 30-34 cohorts nearly doubled in population (90%), making them the fastest growing groups outside of the senior citizen demographic.

Furthermore, according to Sumter County population projections made by the Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR), Wildwood’s 2040 population is projected to be between a low estimate of 12,000 and high of 20,000 (Appendix 2.1) (BEBR, 2016). While the Florida Data Clearinghouse (FHDC) utilizes a number of sources such as the U.S. Census, BEBR, and others, it does not take into consideration the Joint Planning Area (JPA) agreement or other local factors that may affect population. These local factors may bring population growth closer to the BEBR high projections above and in (Appendix 2.1). Growth such as this would also affect budget and other analysis within this report, as the population projection shown in Table 2.2.2 and provided by the FHDC were used for analysis throughout the remaining portions of this report.



Table 2.2.2 Projected Population, Wildwood, 2010 – 2040

Year	2010	2014	2015	2020	2025	2030	2035	2040
Population	6,709	7,252	7,545	8,671	9,704	10,636	11,662	12,716

Source: (Shimberg Center)

2.3 ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

According to an analysis of economic information from the North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), the top five growing industrial sectors with positive outlooks in Sumter County are: forestry, fishing, hunting, and agricultural support; retail trade; management of companies and enterprises; health care and social assistance; and accommodation and food services. Of these five industrial sectors, the health care and social assistance industry sectors are the strongest performing industries in Sumter County. These strong growing industries could realize benefits through the related healthcare savings that parks can offer, as mentioned in Chapter 1.

The strongest growing industries within the manufacturing sector are wood product manufacturing, non-metallic mineral product manufacturing, and primary metal manufacturing. Although both Sumter County and the City of Wildwood emphasize their position as a transportation hub, transportation and warehousing and transportation equipment are among the declining industrial sectors.

An assessment of the area performed by Stricklen Appraisal Services noted that Sumter County had long been a major agricultural area and had 185,000 acres dedicated to agricultural production in 2010. Despite this, over 34% of local residents were in government or educational jobs, making this the biggest sector in the local economy. A major contributor to local government jobs is the Federal Corrections Complex in Coleman, which has over 850 full time employees, and was the largest Federal correctional facility ever built when it opened in 1994. The largest private employers in the area are the Villages (400 employees), Sumter Electric Cooperative (300 employees), Metal Industries (246 employees), and the We Care Nursing Home (200 employees). There are also 4 major industrial parks with 3,732 acres dedicated to industrial development. In 2010 the median household income was \$39,246, and per capita income was \$21,643 (Stricklen 2011).

2.4 GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS

According to the 2013 American Community Survey (ACS) the City of Wildwood was home to 3,421 housing units, of which, over 50 percent were built in the year 2000 or later. This is indicative of the rapid growth between the year 2000 and 2010. One notable characteristic of Wildwood is a seasonal 17% vacancy rate (Joint Planning Area).

While the population of Wildwood grew at a slower proportion than Sumter County between 1970 and 2010; this trend is supposed to reverse itself according to the JPA agreement between Wildwood and Sumter County. According to the JPA, the city and county will both try to ensure that Wildwood absorbs one-quarter of the total growth in Sumter County. This is intended to



help preserve the rural character of Sumter County and increase Wildwood's share of county residents from 7% in 2010 to 25% in 2035.

2.5 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SUMMARY

The Recreation and Open Space Element of the City of Wildwood 2035 Comprehensive Plan contains important objectives and policies which have been used as an informative guide for the direction of the Parks Master Plan. The current Recreation and Open Space Element consists of the following objectives:

OBJECTIVE 1.1

The City will ensure that active and passive recreational facilities, as well as recreational open space with public access are adequately provided.

OBJECTIVE 1.2

Coordinate public and private resources in the provision of recreation to City residents.

OBJECTIVE 1.3

The City will require additional open space be dedicated to the public by all new subdivisions.

Most of Wildwood's existing park plans are based on levels of service and policies defined in objective 1.1. This section of the plan defines the three classes of parks and sets minimum levels of service for each type of park. The plan also outlines general types of equipment and activities that should be available in different types of parks. However, the plan is also careful to point out that parks should be flexible in their provision of services, and that decisions regarding facility types should be based on community preferences. It is also important to note that the City of Wildwood has a preference for co-locating neighborhood and community parks with schools whenever possible. The three main types of parks, their common facilities, and their planned levels of service are as follows:

Neighborhood Parks:

Neighborhood Parks – parks normally ranging from 5 to 10 acres and serving a population of up to 5,000 residents. These parks are intended to serve residents within a half mile walk, and are meant to be located along lightly trafficked residential streets.

Neighborhood Park Facilities – parks designed for both passive and active types of recreation, with facilities chosen based on local preferences. Typical facilities in neighborhood parks include playground equipment, recreation buildings, multipurpose courts, sports fields, picnic areas and free play areas.

Neighborhood Park Level of Service (LOS) - 2 acres per 1,000 residents

Community Parks:

Community Parks – larger parks normally sized at a minimum of 20 acres. Sites located next to a junior or senior high school have a recommended minimum size of 5 acres. Community parks are considered 'ride to' parks and are generally located along major roads, and generally serve the needs of 4 to 6 different neighborhoods. Such large parks are meant to meet the recreational needs of the entire community.

Community Park Facilities – The facilities at community parks are meant to offer a wide range of recreational opportunities for all individuals and families. Some suggested facilities at a



community park include swimming pools, ball fields, tennis courts, play areas, picnic areas, multipurpose courts, recreation buildings, and sports fields. The use of landscaping and the provision of passive recreation activity areas are also important elements of community parks.

Community Park LOS - 3 acres per 1,000 residents

Regional Parks:

Regional Parks –large parks featuring unique or notable natural resources, and serving many communities or multiple counties. Such parks should serve 100,000 residents and can contain several thousand acres, but must have at least 250 acres and be within a one-hour driving distance of residents.

Regional Park Facilities – Regional parks normally make use of high quality natural resources capable of being developed and used for outdoor recreation. Facilities provided at a regional park can include water-based recreation sites, camping areas, hiking and nature trails, and picnic areas. The main function of regional parks is to turn attractive natural settings into recreational opportunities that envelope visitors into the wilderness while avoiding intensive development. Ball fields, such as soccer fields and football fields, tennis courts and hard courts for volleyball, basketball or tennis may be components of a sports complex and may be located within regional parks; however, such facilities would presumably have to either be modest or carefully located so as not to disrupt the naturalistic setting of the regional park.

Regional Park LOS - 5 acres per 1,000 residents

2.5.1 Future Land Use and Parks

The City of Wildwood’s Future Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan contains important goals, objectives, and policies that are used to decide how to best serve city residents. Most of the details of the plans for parks in Wildwood are based on levels of service. As a part of planning for future parks and development, the City of Wildwood requires space or other provisions for parks be made in all future subdivisions. In addition, many areas of the city designated as mixed use development also have minimum requirements for parks and open space. The planned minimum of parks and open space for the Central Mixed Use Area is 15%, while the South Wildwood Mixed Use Area is 40%. The four other areas that Wildwood has designated as mixed use/planned development (PD) zoning areas all have provisions for a minimum of 25% parks and open space (Wildwood 2015).

In order to meet these standards, all proposed developments must be analyzed to determine if their impact creates a need for any type of new park. If the developers are unable to set aside park space within the development, they will be required to enter into a binding agreement to make alternative provisions for the creation of required park space within a year of beginning construction of new homes (Wildwood LDR).

While the City of Wildwood has set strong standards for recreational facilities, open space has been defined more generally. Several land use classifications, including parks and recreational areas, count towards the open space requirement. Some of the items that can be used to meet the open space requirements in Wildwood include wetlands, preservation areas, trails, plazas, and courtyards. Developers can also use up to half of the drainage and retention areas in their developments as credits toward open space requirements; however, this only applies so long as



the retention areas do not exceed half the total open space requirements (Wildwood LDR). There is no requirement for additional amenities to be provided in order to obtain such a credit.

In addition to requiring a minimum amount of park and open space, most if not all PD/mixed use areas have provisions for connectivity to adjacent parks and open space. Developers must provide connections to parks and open space both for new residential development and existing residents. Developers may be exempted from the connectivity requirement; provided they show sufficient proof that a connection is not feasible. Through the public participation process outlined in Chapter 3, the analysis of existing and planned infrastructure, and observance of existing and planned development patterns described in Chapter 4, this plan helps provide guidance for making connections to existing and planned facilities a more feasible option for development as the city grows.

2.5.2 Developments of Regional Impact and Open Space Provisions

There are three major Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs) currently in the City of Wildwood: Wildwood Springs, Landstone, and Southern Oaks. A small portion of the Villages of Wildwood DRI is also within the City Limits as well. Each of the three Major DRIs have provisions for the developer to set aside at least 25% of its area as open space, and to devote land to become public parks or civic space. Table 2.5.2.1 gives details about the three DRIs including the type and quantity of development, along with the minimum requirements for open space, civic space, and public parks (Carter). The Villages of Wildwood DRI contains the Brownstone Town Center, Publix Shopping Center, and some residential development containing a small 1.33-acre private park. The remaining portion of this DRI is outside the City Limits.

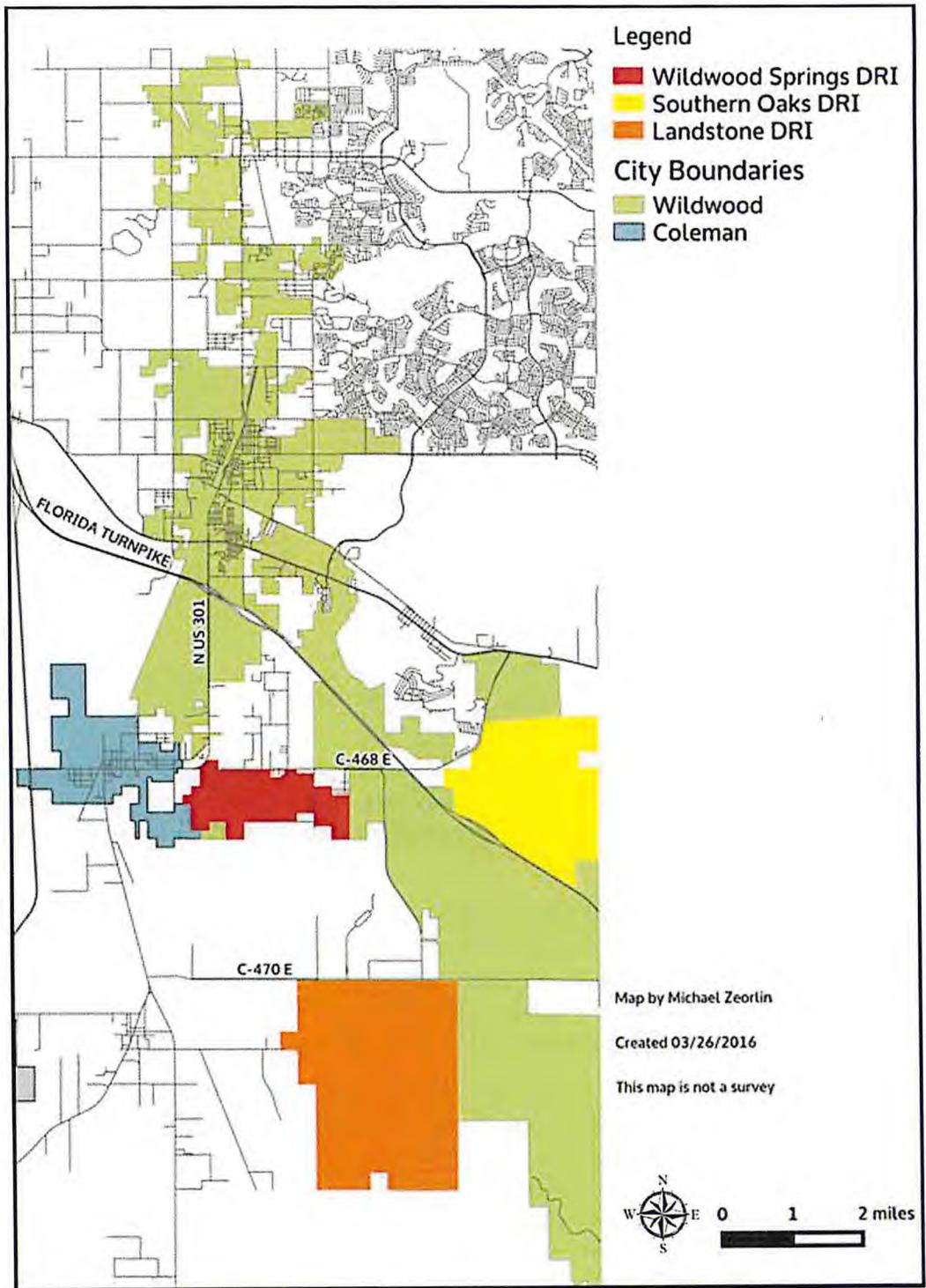
Table 2.5.2.1 Major DRI Comparison

Development	Acres	Residential Units	Commercial Space (Sq Ft)	Minimum Open Space	Minimum Open Acres	Public Park & Civic Space (Acres)	Residential Units Per Public Park/Civic Acre
Landstone	4,131	8,025	802,500	35%	1,445.85	81.1	98.95
Southern Oaks*	2,335	3,144	3,190,000	25%	583.75	8.426	373.13
Wildwood Springs	1,047	3,700	225,000	25%	261.75	54.5	67.89

*note Southern Oaks has provisions for private park space



Map 2.5.2.1: Major Wildwood Developments of Regional Impact



2.6 RECREATION AND PARK LOS COMPARISON ANALYSES

Parks and recreation level of service (LOS) refers to the amount of "service" each park, open space, trail, or other facility provides to its constituents and is based on visitor capacity. The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) recommends calculating LOS based on acres of park land per 1,000 residents (National Recreation and Park Association, 2016).

2.6.1 Lady Lake

Lady Lake follows a conventional method of assessing and measuring the quality of their park system. As noted in the city's comprehensive plan, Lady Lake is committed to maintaining 4 acres of recreation, open space, and park land per 1,000 residents. In order to ensure total commitment to this goal, Lady Lake is required to audit the park system's LOS every year. Lady Lake also requires mandatory dedications of recreation and park space in order to offset their impact. This dedication must meet minimum LOS standards or the developer can opt for a payment-in-lieu of the dedication (Town of Lady Lake, 2010). Additionally, Lady Lake also utilizes an amenity-based LOS, which can drastically impact the design of each park.

- Playground - 1 / 2,500 residents
- Tennis court - 1 / 2,000 residents
- Basketball/Softball - 1 / 3,000 residents
- Football/Soccer - 1 / 8,000 residents
- Basketball - 1 / 4,000 residents
- Picnic Table - 1 / 1,000 residents

2.6.2 Apopka

Much like Lady Lake, Apopka utilizes a minimum area LOS standard. The Apopka comprehensive plan defines this LOS at 3 acres of recreation, open space, and park land per every 1,000 residents. Apopka neither mandates an amenity-based LOS nor any site-specific design guidelines (City of Apopka, n.d.).

Apopka currently classifies their parks into two (2) categories: neighborhood and community. A neighborhood park can service a maximum population of 5,000 residents; community parks can service a maximum population of 10,000 residents. Although the maximum acreage of a neighborhood park is not codified, they are generally a maximum of 9 acres. This would then translate to community parks being generally 10 acres or more (City of Apopka, n.d.).

It should be noted that The City of Apopka is currently rewriting their Parks Master Plan. This is a joint effort that includes an appointed citizen task force, Community Development Department, and the Parks and Recreation Department. The City of Apopka will likely continue to utilize a population-based LOS; however, they are altering how they contextualize their geography. Instead of a LOS for the whole city, the area will likely be divided into sub-areas or quadrants, defined by the distribution of population; as well as historical and targeted districts. The City of Apopka believes this is a better method to deliver high quality parks and recreation services to their residents (Kyle, 2016).



2.6.3 Belleview

The City of Belleview Florida has also adopted LOS standards for both parks and open space in the city's comprehensive plan. In both cases, the LOS standard is 10 acres for every 1,000 residents. In addition, there are specific standards for various categories of parks including sizes, service areas, maximum population served, and facilities. The following standards were adopted for parks in Belleview (City of Belleview, 2009)

Table 2.6.3.1: Belleview Park Typologies

Park Type	Minimum Size Free Standing (Adjoining School)	Service Area	Population Served
Pocket	0.75 (0.5) acres	¼ mile	up to 1,000
Neighborhood	5 (2) acres	¼ to ½ mile	up to 5,000
Community	20 (5) acres	½ to 3 miles	up to 25,000

The City of Belleview comprehensive plan also calls for a minimum amount of space for each type of park to be available for a given population. For pocket parks the standard is one half to one acre per 1,000 residents. For both neighborhood and community parks the standard is 2 acres per 1,000 residents. Furthermore, the City of Belleview sets standards for the maximum daily use each type of facility may get. For example, these guidelines limit baseball/softball fields to 156 daily users, football/soccer fields to 192, basketball courts to 96, jogging paths to 138 users per day per mile. In addition to maximum use guidelines there are also population guidelines, which for instance, call for a minimum of 1,000 people and a maximum of 25,000 people to be served by a standard sized 81 by 60-foot community swimming pool (City of Belleview, 2009)

The two other sets of standards in Belleview cover special facilities and the availability of outdoor recreation resources and facilities. Facilities such as lighted sports facilities, swimming pools, and shuffle board are included in the specialized category. As an example, lighted tennis court standards include placing 2 courts in a one-acre park or 4 in a two-acre park. Each pair of courts could serve up to 1,000 people within a one-mile radius, and could be located within playfields, neighborhood parks, or community parks. For outdoor activities the standards in Belleview set amenity-based standards like 8 users per picnic table per day, or 20 users per mile of hiking trail per day. Belleview further ensures a goods park system by providing developer incentives for including recreational facilities, and has adopted subdivision regulations that govern the dedication of lands for public use in new subdivisions in order to meet LOS standards (City of Belleview, 2009).

As part of its comprehensive plan, the city of Belleview lists several standards and tools used to help maintain recreation programs and adequate park space. Working across public agencies is a point of emphasis in the Belleview comprehensive plan. For example, the city works with the local school district and a citizen advisory committee to create quality recreation programs and recruit volunteers to run these programs. From an administrative standpoint, the city states that it will contribute to the hiring of a joint recreation director to oversee joint parks and recreation efforts. Regarding finances, Belleview spends taxpayer money directly, but also seeks funds from the county, state, and federal governments. Additionally, Belleview works with the county recreation department and school board to create inter-local service agreements that minimize costs to tax payers (City of Belleview, 2009).

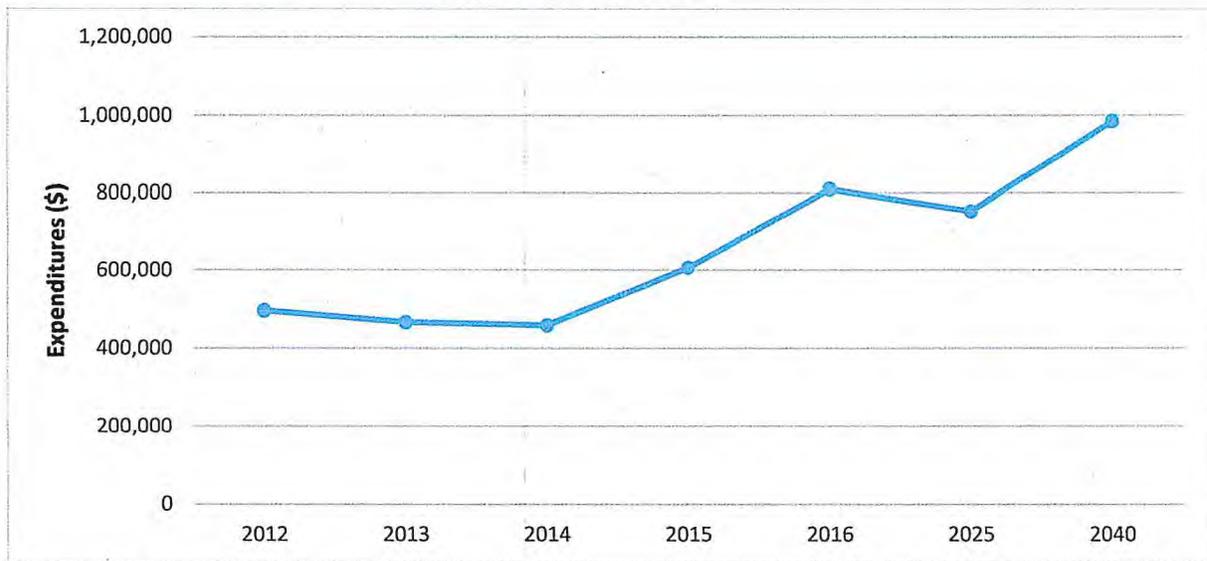


2.7 WILDWOOD PARKS BUDGETARY TRENDS

2.7.1 Park Related Expenditures

The City of Wildwood has spent an average of \$77.46 per resident since fiscal year 2012 on parks and recreation facilities. Based on population projections and utilizing 2016 dollars, the Parks and Recreation Department would likely need a budget of \$751,684.10 in FY2025 and \$984,997.43 in FY2040 (Figure 2.7.1.1) in order to maintain its current rate of per capita spending.

Figure 2.7.1.1: Parks & Recreation Expenditures estimated through FY2040

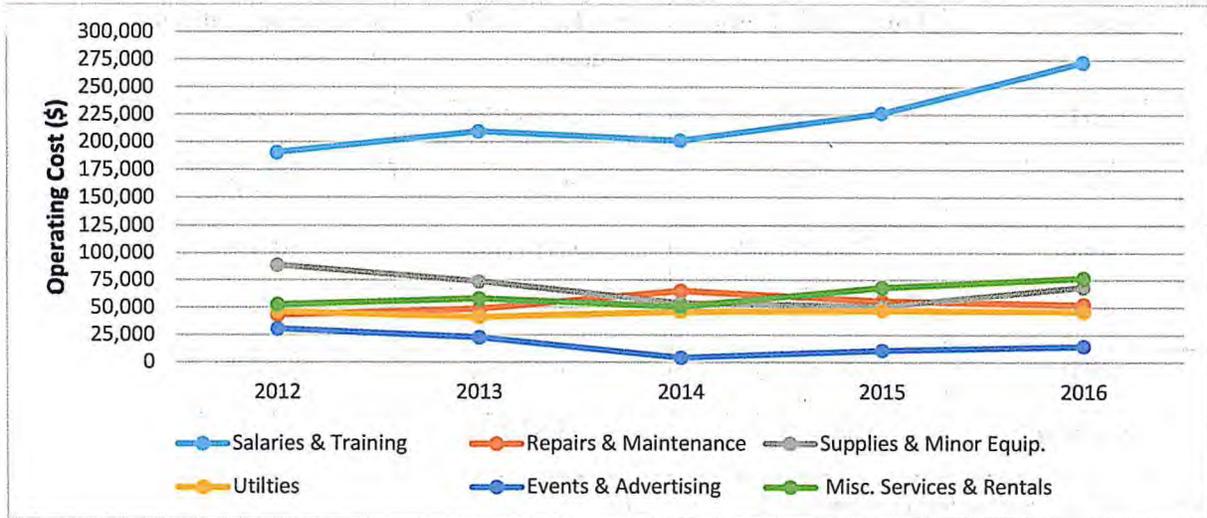


Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016. Future expenditure estimates do not account for additional costs such as inflation.

While the majority of parks and recreation expenditures were level between fiscal years 2012 and 2016, spending on “salaries and training” has increased by approximately 43.3% (Figure 2.7.1.2). This increase is likely due to a smaller number of park staff in 2012, and the need for over-time for additional staff to maintain levels of service. With a growing population, this will likely continue to be the trend and should be addressed in future budgets.



Figure 2.7.1.2: Parks & Recreation Operating Costs by Category

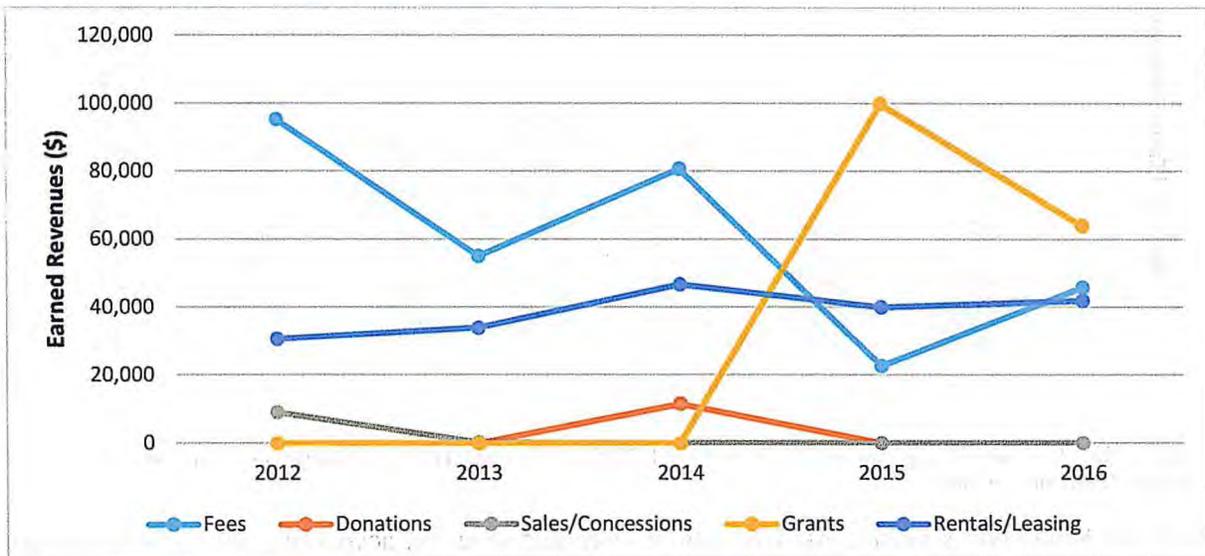


Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016.

2.7.2 Park Related Revenues

Earned revenues or non-tax revenues have seen inconsistent growth over the past five fiscal years. In fact, earned revenues decreased in both in FY2013 and FY2016. A spike in cost recovery in FY2014 was primarily due to donations collected for the Baker House (Figure 2.7.2.1).

Figure 2.7.2.1: Parks & Recreation Earned Revenue by Source



Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016.

Since FY2012, the City of Wildwood has averaged a cost recovery rate of 23.9% and the greatest rate of return occurred during FY2014 (Table 2.7.2.2).



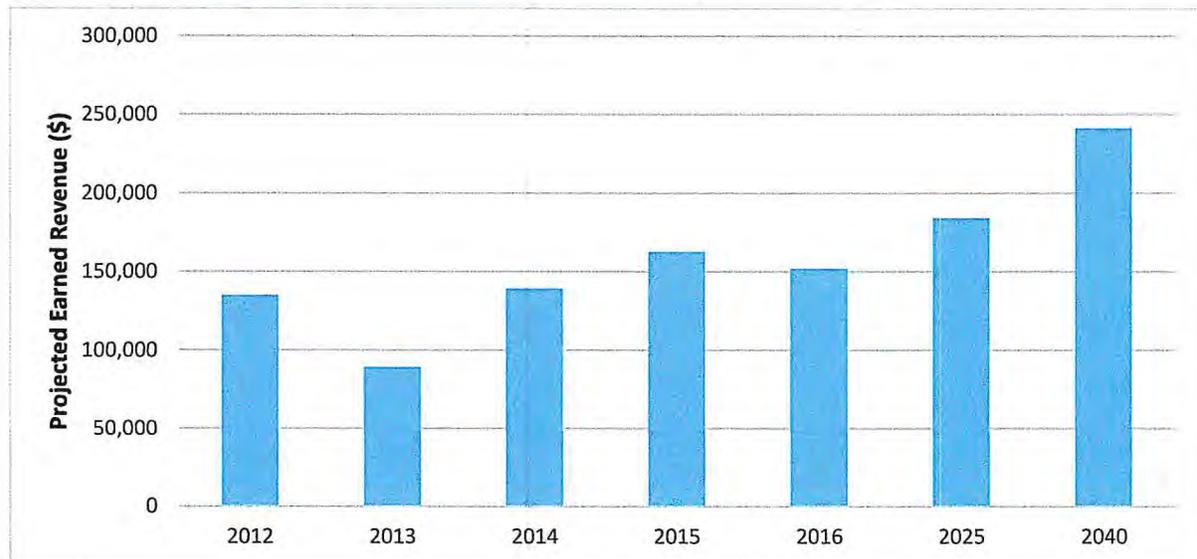
Table 2.7.2.2: Parks & Recreation Cost Recovery

Fiscal Year	Total P&R budget	Non-Tax P&R revenue	Percentage of Cost Recovery
2012	495,649.41	135,052.32	27.25%
2013	466,400.49	89,281.32	19.14%
2014	458,565.00	139,137.35	30.34%
2015	605,848.00	162,625.00	26.84%
2016	808,152.00	151,800.00	18.78%
Average	566,922.98	135,579.20	23.91%

Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016.

In order to achieve a similar cost recovery ratio, the Parks and Recreation Department would need to generate earned revenues of \$183,949.46 in the year 2025 and \$241,045.06 in 2040 (Figure 2.7.2.2).

Figure 2.7.2.2: Parks & Recreation Earned Revenue Estimate through FY2040

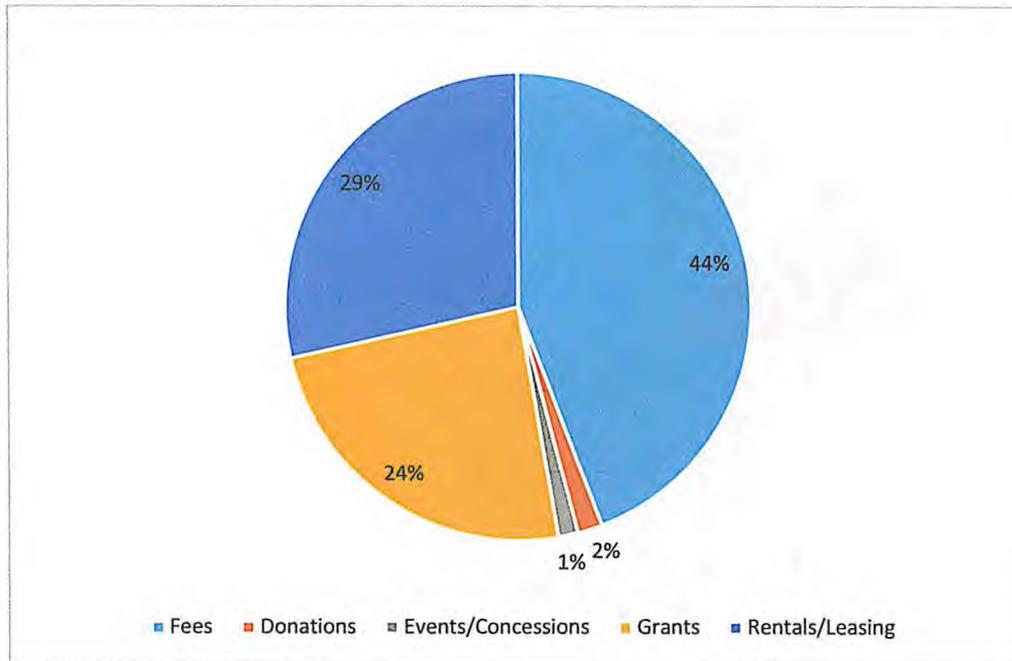


Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016. Future earned revenue estimates do not account for additional costs such as inflation.

Fees are Wildwood's most consistent source of earned revenue, accounting for 44% of non-tax based funding (Figure 2.7.2.3 & Table 2.7.2.3). According to the FY2016 budget, as of October 1, 2015 the City of Wildwood had generated approximately \$198,000.00 in impact fees. However, that total is projected to decrease to \$136,576.00 by September 30, 2016 due to budgeted capital expenditures of approximately \$61,000 for park improvements.



Figure 2.7.2.3: Percentage of Average Annual Earned Revenues by Source



Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016.

Table 2.7.2.3: Revenue Types by Fiscal Year in Wildwood

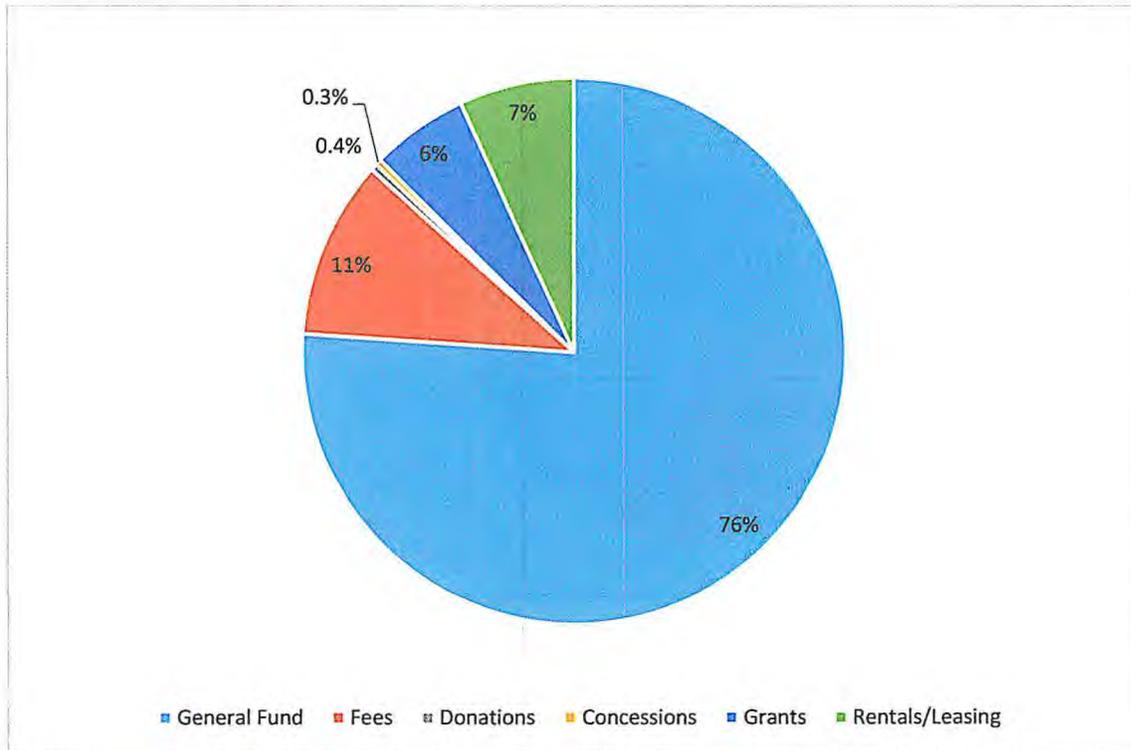
Revenue Type	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Fees	95,380.27	55,060.84	80,802.00	22,625.00	45,800.00
Donations	0	0	11,568.35	0	0
Sales/Concessions	9,000.00	218.00	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0	100,000.00	640,00.00
Rentals/Leasing	30,672.05	34,002.48	46,767.00	40,000.00	42,000.00

Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016

The Parks and Recreation Department derives its operating and maintenance budget solely from the City of Wildwood's general fund. General funds allocated to parks and recreation capital improvements are generated through general tax collection and the special revenue fund for the parks and recreation impact fees. Earned revenues such as community center fees and sports league registration fees are entered into the general fund. On average, Wildwood's general fund revenues cover 76% of the Parks and Recreation Department budget, whereas the greatest source of earned revenues (fees) only covers an average of 11% of the budget (Figure 2.7.2.4).



Figure 2.7.2.4: Revenue Categories as Percentage of Wildwood Park Budget



Source: City of Wildwood budget documents FY 2012 to FY 2016.

2.8 SPENDING COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

2.8.1 Park Related Financial Benchmarks

In order to contextualize the City of Wildwood's Parks and Recreation Department finances, the budgets of three nearby municipalities were analyzed: the City of Apopka, the City of Belleview and the Town of Lady Lake. The National Recreation & Parks Association (NRPA) produces an annual field report which measures the fiscal and overall health of a parks system by using metrics such as percentage of cost recovery, expenditures per capita, acres of parkland maintained per employees, and average number of facilities per residents (NRPA, 2015). In order to apply these benchmarks to the City of Wildwood, as well as its three peer cities, averages were computed for the most recent fiscal years (2012 to 2016).



2.8.2 Cost Recovery

The City of Wildwood ranked second among its peers in terms of percentage of cost recovery (Table 2.8.2.1).

Table 2.8.2.1: Comparative Analysis of Cost Recovery Ratio

Jurisdiction	Avg. P&R budget	Non-Tax P&R Revenue	Percentage of Cost Recovery
Apopka	2,645,373.80	880,767.60	33.29%
Wildwood	566,922.98	135,579.20	23.91%
Belleview	208,076.60	34,588.40	16.62%
Lady Lake	639,303.20	72,895.60	11.40%

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Belleview and Town of Lady Lake budget documents FY2012 to FY2016.

Wildwood collected far fewer fees on average than the City of Apopka and the Town of Lady Lake. For instance, Apopka averaged nearly double the impact fees that Wildwood collected from FY2012 to FY2016. A detailed outline of each jurisdiction's per unit impact fee rates can be found in the "Discussion of Peer Revenue Policies" section below. Furthermore, Apopka collected \$454,209.00 in recreation activity/program fees whereas Wildwood averaged only \$12,287.22 annually (Table 2.8.2.2).

Table 2.8.2.2: Comparative Analysis of Fee Revenues

Fee Revenue	Apopka	Wildwood	Belleview	Lady Lake
Impact fee	80,623.40	45,253.74	23,435.20	66,695.20
Recreation fees	454,209.00	12,287.22	9,910.40	3,545.60
Other	6,900.33	2,392.66	0	247.40

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Belleview and Town of Lady Lake budget documents FY2012 to FY2016.

The City of Wildwood generates revenue from a greater variety of sources than its peers; however, as previously noted Wildwood ranks third in terms of collecting fee revenues. Apopka hosts the "Old Florida Outdoor Festival" and other events which are significant revenue generators. An overview of each peer jurisdiction's earned revenue sources is provided in Table 2.8.2.3.



Table 2.8.2.3: Comparative Analysis of non-tax Revenues

Jurisdiction	Fees	Donations	Events/ Concessions	Grants	Rental/ Lease	Total
Apopka	538,973	0	341,795	0	0	880,768
Wildwood	59,934	2,314	1,844	32,800	38,688	135,580
Bellevue	33,346	725	517	0	0	34,588
Lady Lake	70,488	2,407	0	0	0	72,895

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake budget documents FY2012 to FY2016.

2.8.3 Spending per Acre

While total park acreage was not able to be obtained from the City of Apopka, it can still be seen that Wildwood is spending significantly less per acre than Lady Lake, and approximately \$1,200 an acre more than Bellevue (Table 2.8.3.1).

Table 2.8.3.1: Comparative Analysis of Park Spending per Acre

Jurisdiction	Avg. P&R budget	Park Acres	Avg. Spending per Park Acre
Lady Lake	\$639,303.20	49.00	\$13,047.00
Wildwood	\$566,922.98	158.75	\$3,571.17
Bellevue	\$208,076.60	90.27	\$2,305.05
Apopka	\$2,645,373.80	Not available	Not available

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake budget documents FY2012 to FY2016.

2.8.4 Spending per Capita

Wildwood has a greater rate of parks and recreation per capita spending than its peers (Table 2.8.4.1). However, prior to making any conclusions in regards to the quality of these expenditures it is recommended that a life-cycle cost/benefits analysis be considered for the future. This type of analysis will more accurately demonstrate the degree to which the City of Wildwood's parks and recreation expenditures are benefiting its residents.



Table 2.8.4.1: Park Spending per Capita

Jurisdiction	Avg. P&R Budget	Avg. Population	Spending per Capita
Wildwood	\$566,922.98	7,285.40	\$77.82
Apopka	\$2,645,373.80	45,449.60	\$58.20
Lady Lake	\$639,303.20	14,121.20	\$45.27
Bellevue	\$208,076.60	4,628.60	\$44.95

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake budget documents FY2012 to FY2016.

The City of Wildwood ranks third on the average annual percentage of spending that it commits to salaries and training when compared to its peers. Wildwood also ranks second in the percent of funding that it devotes towards events & advertising initiatives (Table 2.7.4.2).

Table 2.8.4.2: Operating Costs as Percentage of Parks Budget

Operating Cost Category	Wildwood	Apopka	Bellevue	Lady Lake
Salaries & Training	47.30%	55.75%	23.61%	59.63%
Repairs & Maintenance	11.49%	1.90%	52.68%	4.03%
Supplies & Small Equipment	14.45%	22.52%	0.80%	9.64%
Utilities	9.86%	9.03%	14.87%	21.30%
Events & Advertising	3.64%	4.48%	0.08%	0.98%
Misc. Services & Rentals	13.26%	6.32%	7.96%	15.59%
Total Operating Costs	\$465,862.58	\$2,422,127.80	\$148,141.20	\$487,804.40

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake budget documents FY2012 to FY2016.



2.9 PARK RELATED STAFFING

While exact information for Wildwood and Apopka related to the past five years of staffing full-time equivalent levels and volunteering hours were not available, the importance of understanding these numbers cannot be understated. While it is the job of a municipality to deliver the best services possible to its residents in a fiscally responsible manner, it is important to know how much area is being covered by park employees and how much the budget can be supplemented through volunteerism. An analysis of Wildwood and neighboring benchmark communities is outlined in Tables 2.9.1 and 2.9.2.

A Full Time Equivalent (FTE) employee is calculated by taking the total number of hours worked per week by park employees, and dividing by 40. Many municipalities utilize part-time employees throughout the year, and using FTEs provides a uniform way of analyzing the work these employees put into the system.

Table 2.9.1: Peer Comparison of Full-time Equivalent Staff per Park Acre from 2012 to 2016.

Jurisdiction	Avg. FTE employees	Park Acres	Acres of Park Maintained Per FTE
Wildwood	Not available	158.75	Not available
Apopka	26.67	Not available	Not available
Bellevue	1.00	90.27	90.27
Lady Lake	5.00	49.00	9.80

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake budget and CAFR documents FY2012 to FY2016.

Table 2.9.2: Peer Comparison of Volunteer Hours from 2012 to 2016.

Jurisdiction	Avg. Volunteer Hours	Minimum hourly P&R employee pay	Estimated Savings
Wildwood	Not available	\$9.16	Not available
Apopka	Not available	\$11.04	Not available
Bellevue	0.00	\$11.33	\$0.00
Lady Lake	400.00	\$10.40	\$4,160.00

Source: City of Wildwood budget, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake budget and pay classification documents FY2012 to FY2016.



2.10 AMENITIES/FACILITIES

While complete information was not available for Apopka, a comparison of amenities and facilities was conducted with peer municipalities to determine the average number of amenities available per 1,000 residents. More amenities per capita would mean less wait time for residents who want to utilize the park's facilities. As can be seen in Table 2.10.1, Wildwood has the highest rate of average amenities, giving it an advantage over its peers.

Table 2.10.1: Peer comparison of Amenities per 1,000 residents

Amenity/facility	Wildwood	Apopka	Bellevue	Lady Lake
Basketball Hoop	10	Not available	4	2
Dog park	1	Not available	0	1
Playground	3	Not available	3	1
Recreation/Senior Center	3	Not available	2	1
Average Amenity	4.25	Not available	2.25	1.25
2015 Population (1000s)	7.545	47.323	4.701	14.301
Amenities per 1,000 residents	0.56	Not available	0.48	0.09

Source: City of Wildwood, City of Apopka, City of Bellevue and Town of Lady Lake CAFR documents FY2014. Population data from the Florida Housing Data Clearinghouse.

2.10.1 Park Related Peer Revenue Policies

The Code of Ordinances allows the City of Wildwood to impose "impact fees, capacity fees, developer dedications, developer contributions pursuant to land development regulations and special benefit assessment/taxing districts" as long as such costs are proportionate to the facility improvements that are required to maintain the development at the levels of service adopted by Wildwood (Ordinance policy 1.4.1). According to Code Section 10.5-30, the recreation impact fee can be applied to "each new development building permit". Currently, single family homes, Assisted Living Facilities (ALF), and Independent Living Facilities (ILF) incur a one-time impact fee of \$244.22 (City of Wildwood, n.d.). A comparison of Wildwood and peer jurisdictions is included in Table 2.10.1.1.

Effective January 1, 2015, the City of Apopka began imposing a recreation impact fee of \$241.05 per unit for single-family residential, condominium, planned unit developments, multi-



family residential, retirement communities and mobile homes. Additionally, a recreation impact fee of \$50.00 per unit is required of hotel and motel developers (City of Apopka, n.d.).

The City of Belleview currently applies its parks and recreation fees to most residential developments. Additionally, Belleview's fees are significantly higher on a per unit basis. Under section 58-55 of Belleview's Code of Ordinances, the City can collect \$1,401.91 for each single-family detached dwelling unit, \$1,040.33 for each multi-family dwelling unit and \$1,027.65 for each mobile home unit. The City of Belleview may also levy an administrative fee for "processing and collection" of these impact fees (City of Belleview, 2009).

The Town of Lady Lake began enforcing park impact fee as of March 2009 on new residential developments at a rate of \$2,332.00 per unit. The park impact fee must be reviewed for reasonableness by the Town Commission at least once every five years, but the Town Commission can adjust the rate annually if proper advertising and public hearings are conducted. The fee payer may be able to opt out of paying part or the entire park impact fee if they offer to provide park capital improvements and/or park land to the Town of Lady Lake. Any offer for a park impact fee credit must be made no later than at the time a certificate of occupancy application is requested. Credit for a land dedication shall be valued at 115% of the property appraisers' assessed value, by a fair market value accepted by the town, or any other measure deemed appropriate by the Town Commission (Town of Lady Lake, 2010).

Table 2.10.1.1: Peer comparison of Impact Fees Collected

Dwelling Type	Wildwood	Apopka	Belleview	Lady Lake
Single-family	\$244.22	\$241.05	\$1,401.91	\$2,332.00
Multi-family	No fee	\$241.05	\$1,040.33	\$2,332.00
Condominium	No fee	\$241.05	No fee	\$2,332.00
Planned Unit Development	No fee	\$241.05	No fee	No fee
Retirement Community	No fee	\$241.05	No fee	\$2,332.00
Mobile Home	No fee	\$241.05	\$1,027.65	\$2,332.00
Hotel/Motel	No fee	\$50.00	No fee	No fee
Assisted/Independent Living Facilities	\$244.22	No fee	No fee	No fee

Source: City of Wildwood, City of Apopka, City of Belleview and Town of Lady Lake Code Ordinance documents via Municode.com as well as Apopka's 2015 "Impact Fee Guide".



2.11 IMPLICATIONS OF FINANCIAL DATA

While the Parks and Recreation Department experienced a 76% increase in budgeted expenditures in FY2016 when compared to FY2014, a more consistent or dedicated level of spending on the parks system would be preferred. As previously noted, the City of Wildwood should consider conducting a life-cycle analysis to determine if the benefits of its current level of expenditures exceed the costs to its residents.

An increase in the level of expenditures on the parks system is to be expected as the City of Wildwood population continues to grow. In fact, the City of Wildwood should consider increasing its expenditures on employees as well as on events and advertising activities. Hiring more employees would allow the Parks and Recreation Department to offer a greater variety of recreational programming and events for Wildwood residents and visitors. Moreover, it would allow Wildwood to recover a greater percentage of system costs and increase the department's ability to maintain quality services and facilities.

The City of Wildwood would benefit from expanding its collection of revenues such as impact fees to include all residential and non-residential developments, and should try to capture a more consistent source of donations and grants to offset its expenditures. While records for parks and recreation volunteerism were not immediately available, the City of Wildwood should explore the possibility of tracking and setting goals to improve volunteer levels in effort to decrease overall system costs. Specific recommendations for more potential revenue sources for the City of Wildwood can be found in Chapter VI of the master plan document. The purpose of recapturing costs is not to overburden residents, but to make sure that those individuals who are using park facilities and services more frequently incur a proportional cost.



Chapter III – Public Engagement

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3.5 Needs and Preferences	32



3.1 COMMUNITY DIALOGUE / PUBLIC COMMENTS

Participation Goals and Objectives

Public participation was a focus throughout the master planning process. There were many opportunities for the public to assist in shaping park concept plans and overall priorities of this master plan. This chapter includes a summary of steps taken in the public involvement process. The planning team:

- Sought involvement of all residents, and focused on users of the three main parks.
- Used diverse techniques for distributing information and collecting comments and data from the community. The primary techniques used were surveys, one on one interviews, workshops/charrettes and social media.
- Provided educational materials and utilized visualization techniques that optimized public understanding of concerns and concepts. Visualization boards were especially helpful with specific park sites and areas of re-development.
- Public information and involvement methods evolved throughout the process to meet the needs of the participants.
- Recorded results of public engagement and presented the results to the public at the second community event, to maintain transparency and consistency.

Key Stakeholders

City of Wildwood

Through continued support of the Parks & Recreation Coordinator, Assistant City Manager, and the Director of Strategic Planning, was crucial to the success of the master planning process. The City's Special Events Administrative Specialist was vital in connecting the planning team to the necessary facilities, providing web space for conducting surveys and research, and publicizing the planning process through social media.

Sumter County

Sumter County has played an instrumental role in the planning process. Sumter County Property Appraiser online mapping and access to the county's GIS data provided a visual connection to local parks of Wildwood and connectivity opportunities.

Wildwood Parks Survey

This survey will provide information for the UCF Urban and Regional Planning Studio's analysis of parks and recreation facilities in the City of Wildwood. Thank you for your participation.

Q1. What park in the City of Wildwood do you most often use?

Martin Luther King Jr.
 Millennium
 Oxbow
 Other (Please specify below) _____

Q2. In what Zip code is your home located? (5-digit ZIP code) _____

Q3. How do you typically get to this park?

Car
 Walk
 Bike
 Other (please specify) _____

Q4. How long does it take you to get to this park?

0 to 5 minutes
 6 to 10 minutes
 11 to 15 minutes
 16 to 20 minutes
 more than 20 minutes

Q5. How frequently do you use this park?

Very frequently (5 days or more a week)
 Frequently (1-4 days a week)
 Sometimes (once every 2 weeks)
 Very little (once a month or less)

Q6. Overall, how would you rate the condition of this park?

Very Good
 Good
 Fair
 Poor
 Very Poor

UCF School of Public Administration
 Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning



UCF MCRP Planning Studio
 City of Wildwood Parks Plan



Local Sports Leagues

The local sports leagues hold practices and games at Millennium Park, which allowed the planning team to survey groups that use the park most regularly.

Local Faith Based Assemblies

During the planning process, the team found it helpful to reach out to local faith based organizations, to seek out survey data for underrepresented populations, specifically around MLK Jr. Park. By visiting local churches, the planning team had the privilege of meeting Pastor Tony Jones Sr. of B.W. City Ministries and Pastor Gary Cantrell of New Covenant United Methodist church to build stronger community connections.



Local Businesses

During the planning process, surveys were conducted with local business owners along the Oxford Park frontage and with participants of the local health fair.

Summary of Community Engagement Strategies

The public participation toolbox is virtually limitless, from tried and true methods to the truly imaginative. The following methods for community involvement were used to advertise public meetings and other community events:

- Website postings;
- Distributed flyers;
- Announcements at public meetings; and
- Attachments to water bills

Although generally effective, these outreach avenues do not always result in involvement of all stakeholders, especially those with visual impairments, non-English speakers, youth, citizens with limited mobility and those who work during the time of the public meeting.

To address these concerns the community engagement process used supplementary methods to reach a diverse crowd. The planning team utilized the following methods to cultivate new participation from underrepresented populations.

- **Survey:** A survey was used to identify critical data in order to evaluate citizens use and perception of the parks. The survey allowed for a



better geographic depiction of the demographic served (see Appendix 3.1 for a copy of the survey used). This data helped to better educate the Planning and Design Team on needed connectivity and park specific improvements. An integral part of the surveying process involved going to the public rather than waiting for them. This was accomplished by collecting surveys at:

- sporting events
 - visiting a local faith based organization
 - community events
 - local businesses
- **Community workshop:** There were two community park workshops conducted by the planning team to complement the survey data that was collected. The first community workshop engaged groups of 4-8 people who assisted in identifying park concerns. The groups also identified the needed and desired park elements that were most important to them. Park maps were used to give the citizens an outlet to show what they wanted their parks to contain and the aesthetic they desired.



The second community workshop used a combination of the survey results with public comments from the first meeting. The planning group presented a series of concept plans to the public for further review. The meeting allowed the public to decide which concept plans, out of two or three per park, best fit their needs. After reviewing each station, the public participants were guided to tables with handout copies of each park and its corresponding concept plans, where they took time to write or draw in further improvements or concerns.

3.2 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Survey distribution

Surveys were distributed to obtain information in six categories with the purpose identifying the community and park needs. These topics included:

1. Popularity of the three parks;



2. Distance traveled to the parks and mode of transportation;
3. Frequency of park visits;
4. Park conditions;
5. Preferred park improvements;
6. Profile of park users.

A multi-faceted survey distribution strategy was implemented to increase the response rate. The following are the methods used and processes applied to deliver the survey:

Face-to-face survey delivery: Surveys were distributed to residents attending sporting events at Millennium Park. Team members circulated the park and engaged residents as a way of involving park users. This method was found to be unique to Millennium Park, as MLK Jr. and Oxford Park were underutilized and for the most part vacant during the times of the planning team's visits.

On-line survey delivery: The survey was also distributed on-line. The web link was advertised by the City of Wildwood Parks and Recreation Facebook page as well as on the planning studio website. This method of survey delivery allowed individuals who were not present at the park when the surveys were being conducted to be included in the public participation process. Additionally, an excerpt about the community meeting and surveys was included on the water bills to reach a larger percentage of the population of Wildwood, and flyers were used to advertise the survey web link and give information about upcoming community meetings.



Survey delivery at community events: The planning team attended two community events (2nd annual Health and Fitness Fair Friday on October 16th in the City Hall Courtyard, and the 1st Annual Fall in to a Spooktacular on Friday, October 30th in the City Hall Courtyard). This was done to solicit additional feedback from residents, as well as advertise the community meeting that would be held at Millennium Park on the 19th of November.

Survey delivery at community organizations: The planning team conducted a brief presentation of the planning process at the start of B.W. City Ministries service, and concluded the service with providing an opportunity for parishioners to participate in filling out the survey. The planning team was able to gain valuable data, especially for MLK Jr. Park, through this survey delivery strategy.



Survey Summary

One-hundred and ninety-two people participated in the survey, either online or in-person. The survey results support the need for improvements to amenities, park resources, and overall appearance of Wildwood's parks. Section one of survey summary is a review of survey data in relation to the overall need for park amenities. Section two provides results of existing park shortcomings and improvements the respondents desire most. However, it should be noted that of the 192 residents surveyed, 58% visited Millennium Park. This gave the planning team a more in-depth look at the public's perception of Millennium Park in particular. Due to an initial lack of participation, surveys were distributed again during peak usage times for each park.

3.2.1: Parks most visited and transportation mode utilized

The tables below display how respondents arrive at each individual park based on three transportation modes: bike, walk, or car. Table 3.2.1.1 had a total of 192 responses of which 111 visited Millennium Park, 61 visited Martin Luther King, Jr. Park, and 12 visited Oxford Park. Parks in the other category include City Hall and Okahumpka Park.

Table 3.2.1.1: Park most visited in the City of Wildwood

Park	Number of responses	Percent
Martin Luther King Jr.	61	32%
Millennium	111	58%
Oxford	12	6%
Other	8	4%
Total	192	100%

Table 3.2.1.2: Transportation mode used to get to the park

Mode	Number of responses	Percent
Bike	3	3%
Car	173	91%
Other	5	2%
Walk	11	6%
Total	192	100%

Out of 192 residents surveyed, 173 of them responded that a car was utilized get to the park, as illustrated by Table 3.2.1.2. Only 3 individuals selected bike as a mode of transportation and 11 indicated they walk to the park. Respondents who imputed "other" as a form of transportation used of a combination of car, bike, walking, and golf carts to arrive at the parks.



Table 3.2.1.3: Transportation mode used to get to Martin Luther King Jr., Millennium, and Oxford Park

	Martin Luther King Jr.		Millennium		Oxford	
Mode	Number of responses	Percent	Number of responses	Percent	Number of responses	Percent
Bike	4	6%	1	0.9%	0	0%
Car	53	82%	104	94.5%	12	99%
Other	0	0%	4	3.7%	0	0%
Walk	8	12%	1	0.9%	2	1%
Total	65	100%	110	100%	14	100%

Table 3.2.1.3 separates responses based on the mode of transportation used for each park. Of the 65 responses for Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 53 (82%) selected car as their primary mode of transportation, 6% rode a bike to the park, and 12% walked.

With 110 responses, 104 (95%), of Millennium Park respondents said they visit the park via car. Two individuals indicated they either walk or bike to Millennium Park. The other four respondents use a combination of modes, which includes biking, driving or golf carting, and walking. Although Martin Luther King Jr. Park only accounted for 32% of the responses to the question related to transportation mode, those visitors accounted for 73% of individuals that walk to the park. Millennium Park visitors account for 20% of the total responses for bike travel. Millennium Park and Oxford Park both have over 90% visitors arriving by car.

Average distance traveled: transportation and health implications

Through the survey, residents also shared information on the average commute to the park by selecting how long it takes them to get to the park and by inputting their home zip code. Residents were given six choices of travel time to the park, ranging from 0 to 5 minutes, up to more than 20 minutes.

Table 3.2.1.4: Minutes Traveled to the park

Minutes	Number of responses	Percent
0 to 5 minutes	48	25%
6 to 10 minutes	34	18%
11 to 15 minutes	41	21%
16 to 20 minutes	34	18%
More than 20 minutes	35	18%
Total	192	100%



As seen in Table 3.2.1.4, 25% of residents took up to 5 minutes to get to the park, while 18% took 6 to 10 minutes. Fifty-seven percent of those surveyed indicated they travel more than 10 minutes to get to a park.

Table 3.2.1.5: Minutes Traveled to Martin Luther King Jr. Park

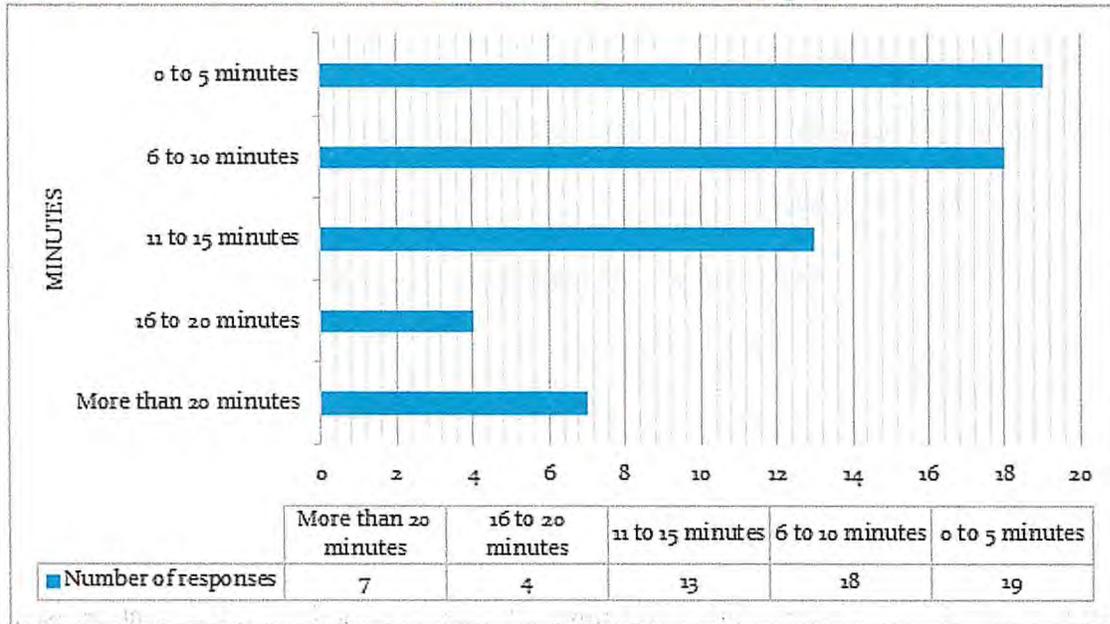
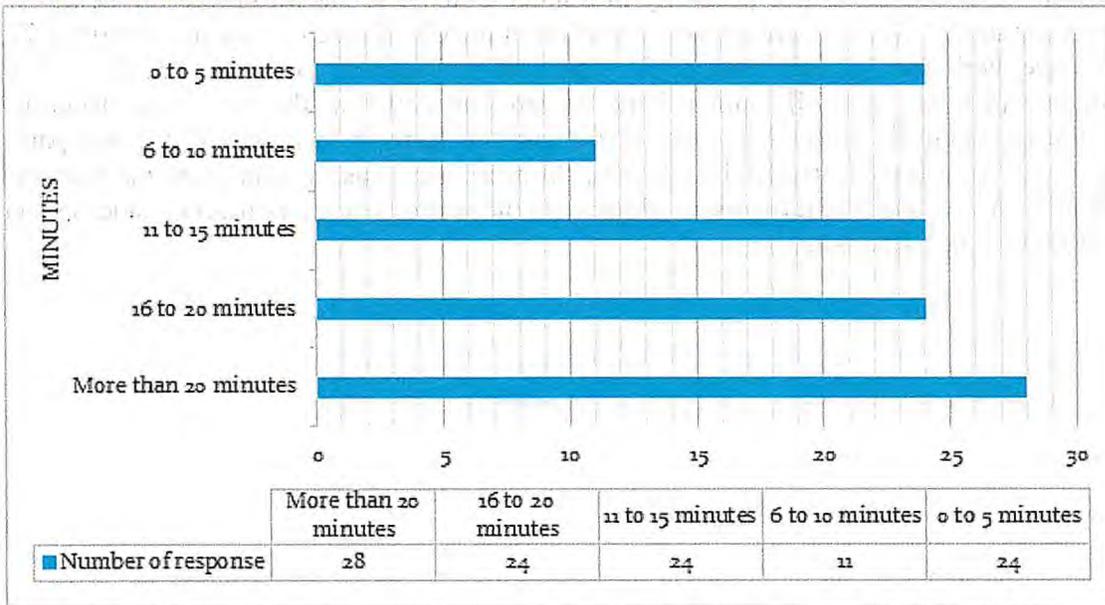


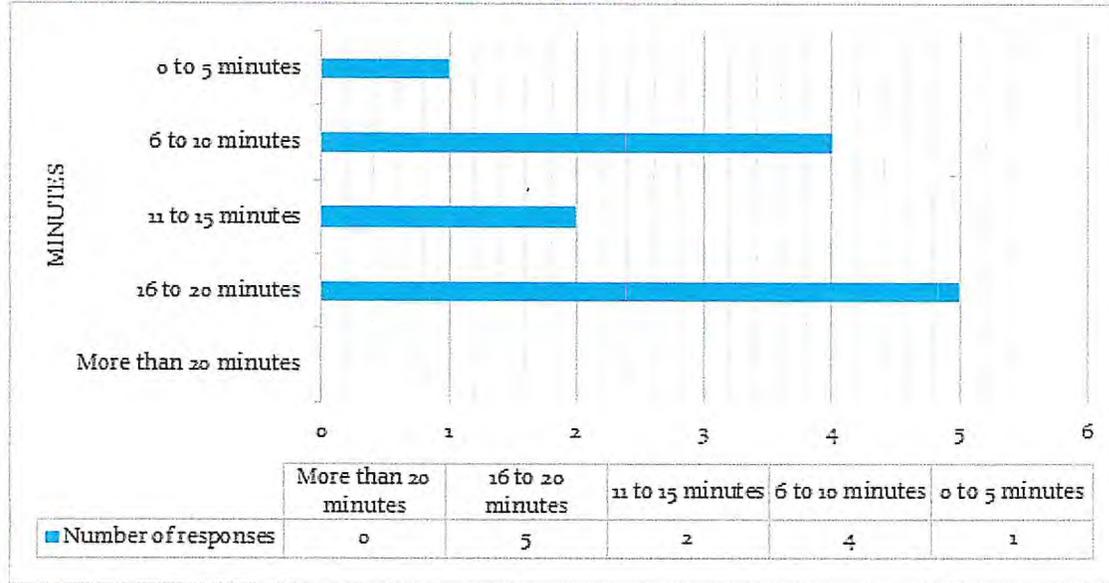
Table 3.2.1.5 shows that of Martin Luther King Jr. Park visitors, more than 60% get there within 10 minutes, while less than 40% travel more than 10 minutes to the park.

Table 3.2.1.6: Minutes Traveled to Millennium Park



Travel time to Millennium Park has more varied results than the other parks. Table 3.2.1.6 shows that 76% of visitors are traveling more than 10 minutes on average. Of that 76%, 37% travel more than 20 minutes.

Table 3.2.1.7: Minutes Traveled to Oxford Park



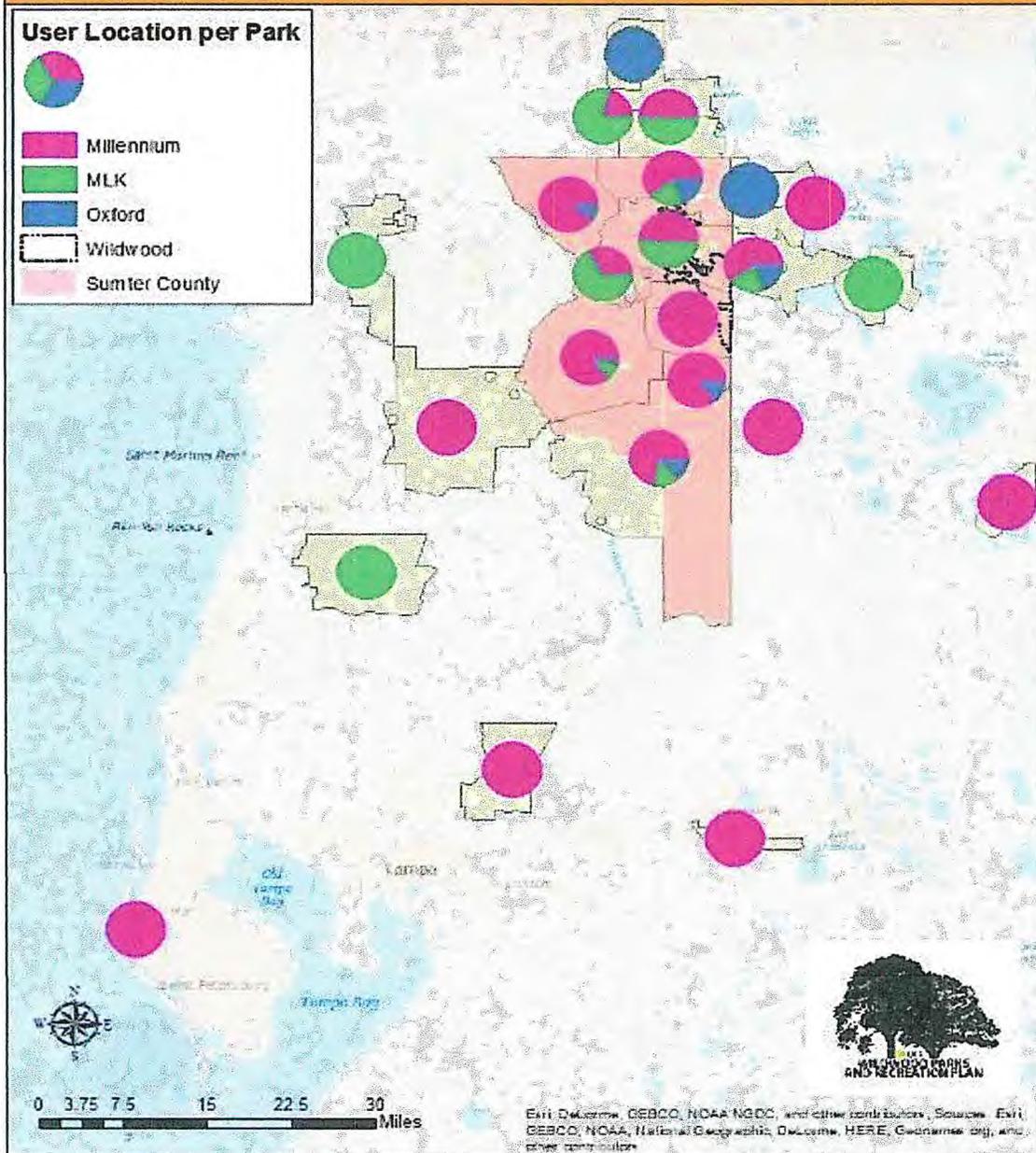
As shown in Table 3.2.1.7, Oxford Park travel times correlated to mode of transportation used. Only one respondent traveled 0 to 5 minutes to the park, while 11 respondents traveled 6 to 20 minutes to the park. Ninety-nine percent of Oxford Park survey respondents selected "car" as the preferred mode of transportation.

Park Usage by Zip Code

The users of Wildwood parks live primarily in Sumter County, as shown on the following zip code maps. Zip code 34785, which overlaps a portion of the city limits, had the most users at 77. The zip code with the second most at 21 users, is a Bushnell zip code 33513, and is approximately 15 miles from Millennium Park. Millennium Park was the park most visited by users of the Bushnell zip code. The users that drove the furthest to utilize Wildwood parks included a user from the Clearwater Beach area, 80 miles away, and a user from the Sarasota area, 120 miles away. Both of these users, along with the majority of users from outside Sumter County, were visiting Millennium Park.



Park Usage by Zip Code



3.2.2: Frequency of park use, amenities most used, and resident suggested improvements

One-hundred and ninety-one individuals responded to how frequently they visit the park of their choosing. Overall, 73% of residents visit the park sometimes (once every 2 weeks) to often (1 to 4 days a week). Respondents who visited Martin Luther King Jr. Park accounted for 32% of total park visits, Millennium Park respondents accounted for 58%, and Oxford Park respondents accounted for 6%. Of the 190 respondents, 172 reported the parks are in very good to fair condition. For a breakdown of the perceived park conditions, see Table 3.2.2.36.

Table 3.2.2.1: Frequency of Park Use

Frequency	Number of responses	Percent
Very often (5 or more days per week)	17	9%
Often (1 to 4 days per week)	81	42%
Sometimes (once every 2 weeks)	42	22%
Very little (once per month or less)	51	27%
Total	191	100%

Table 3.2.2.1 indicates the parks are used often (1 to 4 days a week) by 42% of survey participants. The responses “sometimes” and “very little” accounted for 49% of the total.

Table 3.2.2.2: Frequency of Martin Luther King Jr., Millennium, and Oxford Park Use

	Martin Luther King Jr. Park		Millennium Park		Oxford Park	
Frequency	Number of responses	Percent	Number of responses	Percent	Number of responses	Percent
Very often (5 days or more a week)	8	13%	8	7%	0	0%
Often (1-4 days a week)	15	25%	62	56%	3	27%
Sometimes (once every 2 weeks)	17	28%	21	19%	3	27%
Very little (once a month or less)	21	34%	20	18%	5	45%
Total	61	100%	111	100%	11	100%

Table 3.2.2.2 shows the frequency of use for each park. Respondents who visit Martin Luther King Jr. Park visit the park very often (13%), often (25%), sometimes (28%), and very little (34%). Martin Luther King Jr. Park has the highest rate of “very often” visitors at (13%). Millennium Park is visited very often (7%), often (56%) sometimes (19%) and very little (18%). Millennium Park has the highest visit rate for “often” (1 to 4 days a week) with 56%. Oxford Park respondents visit the park often (27%) and sometimes to very little (72%).

Table 3.2.2.3: Public Perception of Current Conditions for all Parks

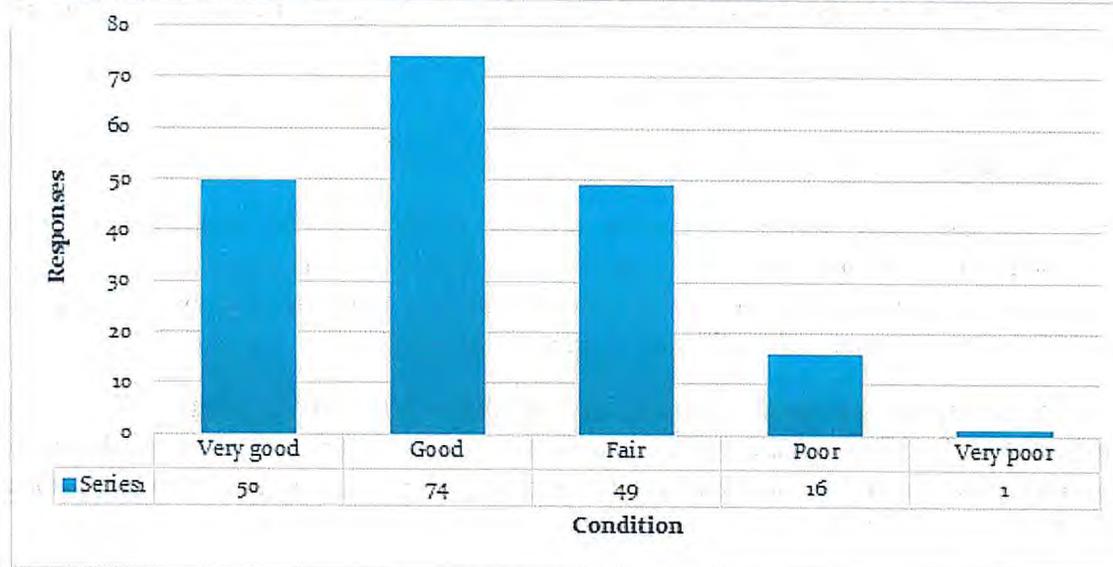


Table 3.2.2.3 displays the overall condition of the three parks based on survey responses. Seventy-four respondents indicated that the parks are in good condition, 50 selected very good and 49 selected fair. Seventeen respondents indicated the parks were in poor to very poor condition.

Table 3.2.2.4: Current Condition of Martin Luther King Jr., Millennium, and Oxford Park

	Martin Luther King Jr. Park		Millennium Park		Oxford Park	
Condition	Number of responses	Percent	Number of responses	Percent	Number of responses	Percent
Very good	5	8%	39	35%	2	17%
Good	16	27%	51	46%	6	50%
Fair	27	45%	16	15%	4	33%
Poor	12	20%	3	3%	0	0%
Very poor	0	0%	1	1%	0	0%
Total	60	100%	110	100%	12	100%

Table 3.2.2.4 breaks down each parks condition based on survey results. Martin Luther King Jr. Park had a total of 60 responses of which, 5 people selected very good, 16 very good, 27 fair, and 12 poor. Of the 60 respondents, no one indicated the park was in poor condition. Millennium



Park had 110 total responses and 39 people indicated Millennium Park was in very good condition. The other survey responses are as follows: 51 selected good, 16 fair, and 4 poor or very poor. Oxford Park had 2 responses of very good, 6 found the park to be in good condition, and 4 selected fair.

Section 2: Park Visits and Improvement

This section evaluates why residents currently visit the parks and what improvements will enhance the park for current and future need. Residents were able to select more than one answer for these questions. One-hundred and seventy-two respondents reported why they visited the parks and 156 made recommendations for park improvements.

Table 3.2.2.5 represents surveyed reasons why residents visit Martin Luther King Jr., Millennium, and Oxford Park. The top three reasons for visiting a park are: bring child(ren) to the playground, practice, and events. Sports, relaxation, and exercise were also popular reasons for visiting Wildwood parks.

Table 3.2.2.5: Reason for Park Visit

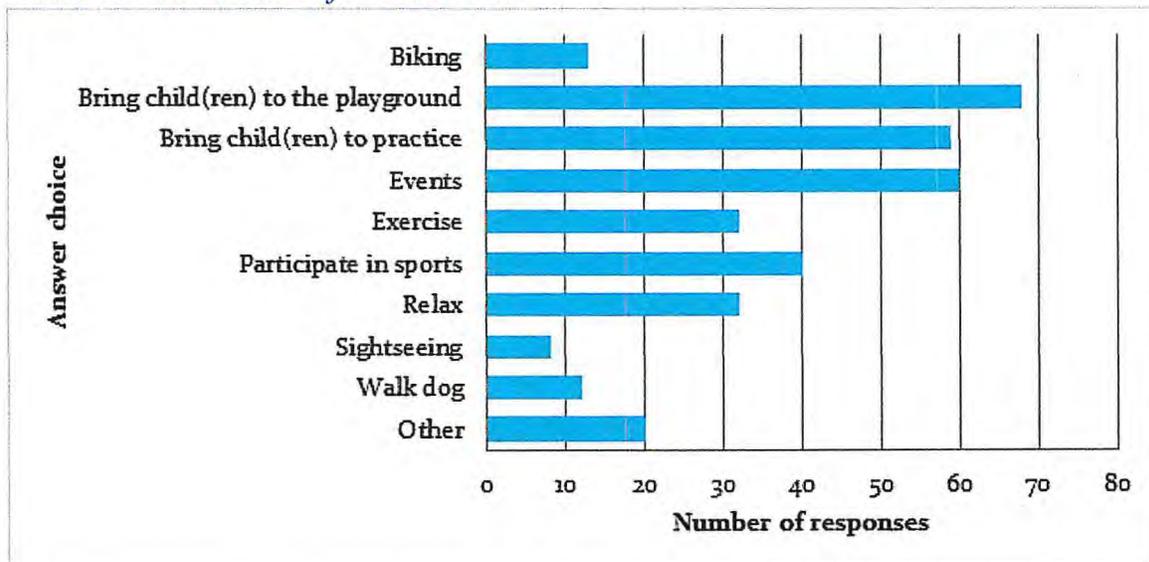


Table 3.2.2.6: Reason Martin Luther King Jr. Park is Visited

Activity	*Number of responses	Percent of total responses
Biking	6	3%
Bring child(ren) to the playground	24	14%
Bring child(ren) to practice	10	6%
Events	27	16%
Exercise	13	8%
Participating in sports	8	7%
Relax	11	10%
Sightseeing	2	1%
Walk dog	6	3%
Other	6	3%

*Total of 50 respondents.

Table 3.2.2.6a: Improvements for Martin Luther King Jr. Park

Improvement	*Number of responses	Percent
ADA access	8	17%
Bathrooms	27	57%
Bicycle access	10	21%
Furnishings (ex. Picnic tables)	18	38%
Lighting	14	30%
Parking	17	36%
Pedestrian access	15	32%
Playground	20	43%
Other	22	47%

*Total of 47 respondents.

Table 3.2.2.6 represents amenities currently in use at Martin Luther King Jr. Park, which has 29% of the total responses recorded. Participants indicated that they visit Martin Luther King Jr. Park most for bringing children to the playground (14%), events (16%), and relaxing (10%). Participants selected biking (3%), walking the dog (3%), and sightseeing (1%) as least likely reasons for visiting the park. Table 3.2.2.6a indicates “other” (47%), “playground” (43%), and “bathrooms” (57%) being the most favorable suggested improvements. In the case of Martin Luther King Jr. Park, the 22 individuals who selected “other”, 22 requested “shade” as their desired improvement.



Table 3.2.2.7: Reason Millennium Park is Visited

Activity	*Number of responses	Percent of total responses
Biking	5	3%
Bring child(ren) to the playground	36	21%
Bring child(ren) to practice	46	27%
Events	29	17%
Exercise	15	9%
Participate in sports	32	19%
Relax	15	9%
Sightseeing	3	2%
Walk dog	4	2%
Other	16	9%

*Total of 110 respondents.

Table 3.2.2.7a: Suggested Improvements for Millennium Park

Improvement	*Number of responses	Percent
ADA access	5	5%
Bathrooms	46	45%
Bicycle access	5	5%
Furnishings (ex. Picnic tables)	38	37%
Lighting	30	29%
Parking	22	22%
Pedestrian access	12	12%
Playground	22	22%
other	62	61%

*Total of 102 respondents.

Table 3.2.2.7 shows the reasons residents visit Millennium Park, which has 64% of the total responses on park visited. Individuals who visit Millennium Park come to bring children to the playground (21%), bring children to practice (27%), and participate in sports (19%). Participant selected walking a dog (2%), sightseeing (2%), exercise (9%) and sightseeing (2%) as the least likely reasons for visiting the park. The participants who elected “other” as their reason for visiting the park indicated meeting up with friends, lunchbreaks, and work as the reason or going to the park. Table 3.2.2.7 indicates the desired improvements, which includes furnishings (37%), lighting (29%), and bathrooms (45%). Of the 62 individuals who indicated “other” as their selection shade accounted for 62%, park staff for 25%, and concession for 20%. Pedestrian access, bicycle access, and ADA access accounted for 22% of respondents for Millennium Park.



Table 3.2.2.8: Reason Oxford Park is visited

Activity	*Number of responses	Percent of Total Responses
Biking	2	2%
Bring child(ren) to the playground	6	5%
Bring child(ren) to practice	3	3%
Events	1	1%
Exercise	2	2%
Participate in sports	0	0%
Relax	4	4%
Sightseeing	3	3%
Walk dog	0	0%
Other	0	0%

*Total of 12 respondents.

Table 3.2.2.8a: Suggested improvements for Oxford Park

Improvement	*Number of responses	Percent
ADA access	0	0%
Bathrooms	5	63%
Bicycle access	0	0%
Furnishings (ex. Picnic tables)	1	13%
Lighting	4	50%
Parking	2	25%
Pedestrian access	1	13%
Playground	2	25%
other	5	63%

*Total of eight (8) respondents.

Tables 3.2.2.8 and 3.2.2.8a reflect why residents visit Oxford Park and the improvements they suggest. There were 12 responses for why park is visited and residents overwhelmingly indicated “bringing a child to the park” as the main reason for visiting the park. Looking at the suggested improvements, residents could select more than one choice, and most indicated lighting, bathroom, and shade as target improvements.

Community Charrette

On Thursday November 19th the planning team held the first of two community meetings. The purpose of the meeting was to identify additional data about the park visitors and their preferences for park improvements. The meeting included a structured, one-hour exercise with facilitators to keep the meeting on track. This section describes



the format of the first community meeting.

Sign-In Table: A few team members welcomed participants to the meeting, gauged interest and collected contact information for future outreach efforts. An overview of the plan for the evening and a packet of materials were provided to all participants at this point. The material pack consisted of 10 green dot stickers, agenda/program, sample station questions, pen, and comment card. A summary of the results from these exercises is included in Appendix 3.2.



Home Map: At this station, participants identified the location of their home by placing a star sticker on a map of the region. The purpose of this exercise was to provide the planning team with data to understand future needs of park users, and to identify potential connections to the parks and reduce the need for car travel.



Existing Park Conditions: This station allowed participants to look at all three parks and point out the areas they liked and the areas that are in need of improvement and/or maintenance. The participants could make their selections using dots supplied at the table.



Park-Specific Posters: Using survey data to inform image boards, these stations helped to identify features that the community wanted to have improved, replaced, or added.



Each participant used their green dots to narrow down the options presented to them. This exercise helped to understand what was most important to the community.

Park Vision Board: As Wildwood expands and demand increases for additional park space, the planning team must consider the growth and future vision for the parks and routes of connectivity. The vision board presented different styles and scales of parks to engage the community to help inform the future parks of Wildwood.



3.3 RESULTS

Station exercises allowed participants to voice their opinion and concerns, helping shape the community needs assessment included in this master plan. Below is a description of the data collected from each station.

Current Parks

Facilitators

- Existing Conditions..... Joshua DeVries
- Millennium Park..... Michael Zeorlin
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park..... Adilia Richemond
- Oxford Park..... Jeffrey Chamlis

Future Park Plan

- Vision Board..... Katie Davis

Station Exercises

- Station-1 Mobility & Access..... Adilia Richemond, Dean Fathelbab
- Station-2 Equity & Community Culture/History.. Michael Zeorlin, Tarik Milner
- Station-3 Safety Issues..... Joshua DeVries, Katie Davis
- Station-4 Conservation/Sustainability..... Hector Guerrero, Jeffrey Chamlis

The park priority summaries below are summaries of the dot exercises use to evaluate existing conditions of the parks. Each participant had two green dots and two red dots. The green dots represent existing improvements, facilities, or amenities the residents liked about the parks and the red dots represent what the resident either does not like or would like to see improved.

Throughout the evening, facilitators took notes on community comments and tallied the green and red dots. The resulting count informed a score for each facility and its primary use. The green dots added to the score, and the red dots reduced the score. Total low scores represent higher priorities for more immediate improvements to park facilities, and total high scores represent a desire of the community to maintain and or expand upon such facilities. (Please see appendix 3.2 and 3.3 for a more detailed description).





Score	Facility	Primary Use(s)	Public Input
-3	Driveway apron leading to grass parking area	Parking for youth football league	Received 4 red dots and 1 green dot, representing the dissatisfaction with the washed-out conditions adjacent to the apron, and lack of designated drive-isles once the paved apron is left.
+1	Multi-use Field	Youth football league games and practices	Received 4 red-dots and 5 green dots, representing dissatisfaction with the lack of designated parking, seating facilities for watching the games, and lack of shade
+2	Soccer Field	Youth soccer	Received 8 red dots and 10 green dots, representing lack of sufficient designated parking areas, desire for more permanent seating for spectators, and shade.
+2	Jogging Paths	Running, walking and sometimes biking.	Received 3 red dots and 5 green dots, as the users would prefer a more permanent surface that didn't get muddy, and was smother than the dirt path existing
+2	Large Oak Trees	Relaxation.	Received 2 smiley face dots, representing the desire to preserve the existing large canopy trees where possible for shade and aesthetics
+2	Community Center	Presentations & Meetings	N/A
+3	Playground	Youth exercise	Received 12 red-dots and 15 green dots, representing the dissatisfaction with lack of a suitable play surface, some needed maintenance with the play equipment itself, and lack of shade other than the large oak tree to the side of it. Also, the play surface is an opportunity because even when new mulch is put out, it is quickly washed away. The resident suggested a solid type rubber surface (poured in place rubber or similar) as a more permanent type play surface.
N/A	Baseball Fields	Baseball	N/A

Table 3.3.1: Millennium Park Priority Summary



Highest priority

Score	Facility	Primary Use(s)	Public Input
-1	Parking and adjacent roadway	Parking for youth football league	Received 1 red dot, which the citizen expressed major concern with the lack of sidewalks to and around this park, as well as with the lack of paved parking.
0	Playground	Youth exercise	N/A
N/A	Basketball Court	Basketball	N/A
N/A	Baseball Diamond	Baseball	N/A
N/A	Picnic Pavilion	Gathering/meeting and lunch	N/A
N/A	Jogging path	Running, Jogging or walking	N/A

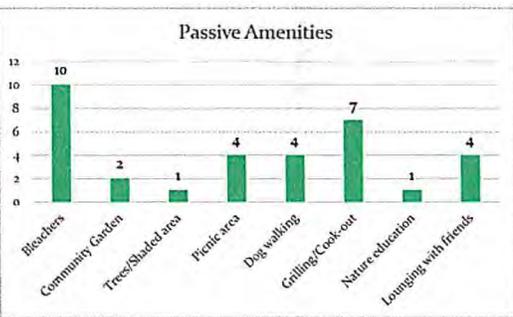
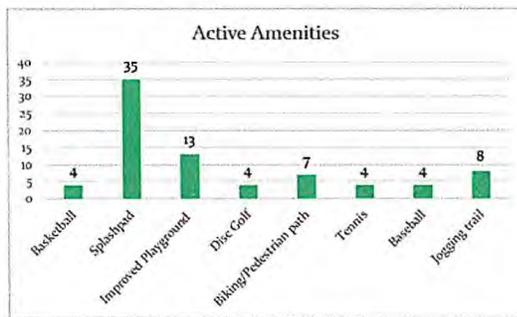
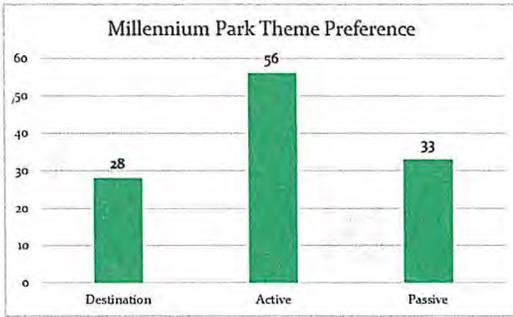
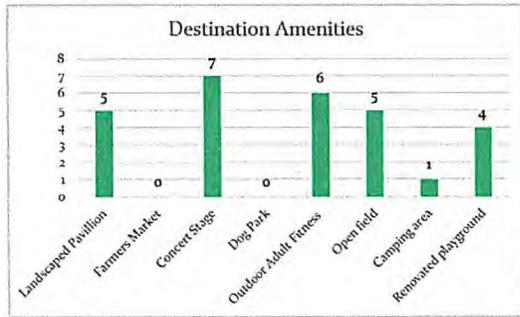
Table 3.3.2 MLK Jr. Park Priority Summary



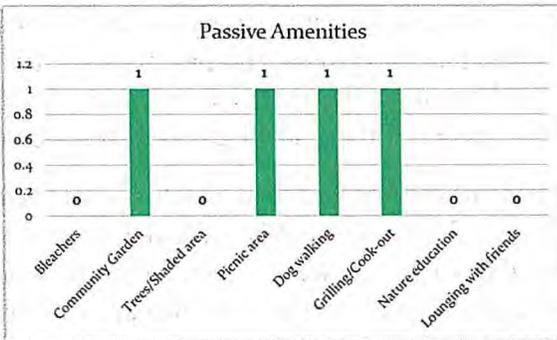
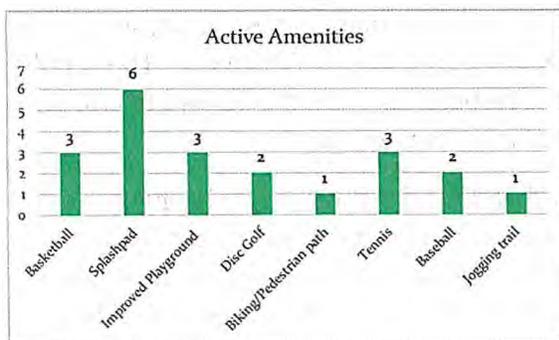
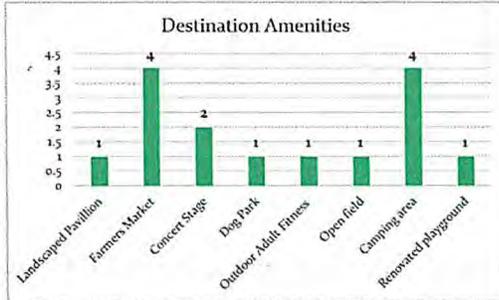
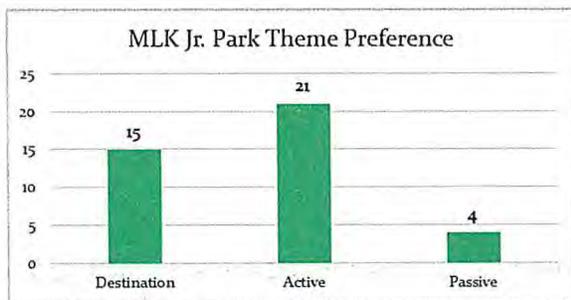
Score	Facility	Primary Use(s)	Public Input
-4	Perpendicular unpaved parking along roadway	Parking for the park.	Although there were no dots placed on this photo, several residents told the facilitator that the atmosphere created by all the cars parked there during events created a very un-safe condition for pedestrians, as they were forced to walk behind the parked cars out of the driver's view, and in many cases were forced into the travel lane if a large pick-up truck was parked there. There was also concern that the pedestrian gate near the port-o-let would often get blocked when parking was hard to find, as there are no wheel-stops preventing vehicles from inadvertently blocking the gate to access the park.
+1	Playground and Pavilion	Youth play/lunch and meetings.	Two smiley-face dots placed, primarily representing the positive attributes of these two amenities along with the shade provided by the large oak tree near the playground. One red-dot was placed here representing dissatisfaction of the lack of shade over the playground area, and how hot the equipment would get as a result. The port-o-let was just off of this picture; however, it was brought to the facilitator's attention that when the vehicles blocked the gate as mentioned above, use of this temporary restroom facility would be blocked as well. In addition to this, the same resident mentioned that the port-o-let did not lock, and created safety and privacy concerns when they and their kids would use it.
+1	Baseball Diamond		N/A
N/A	Basketball		N/A
N/A	Tennis Court		N/A

Table 3.3.3 Oxford Park Priority Summary

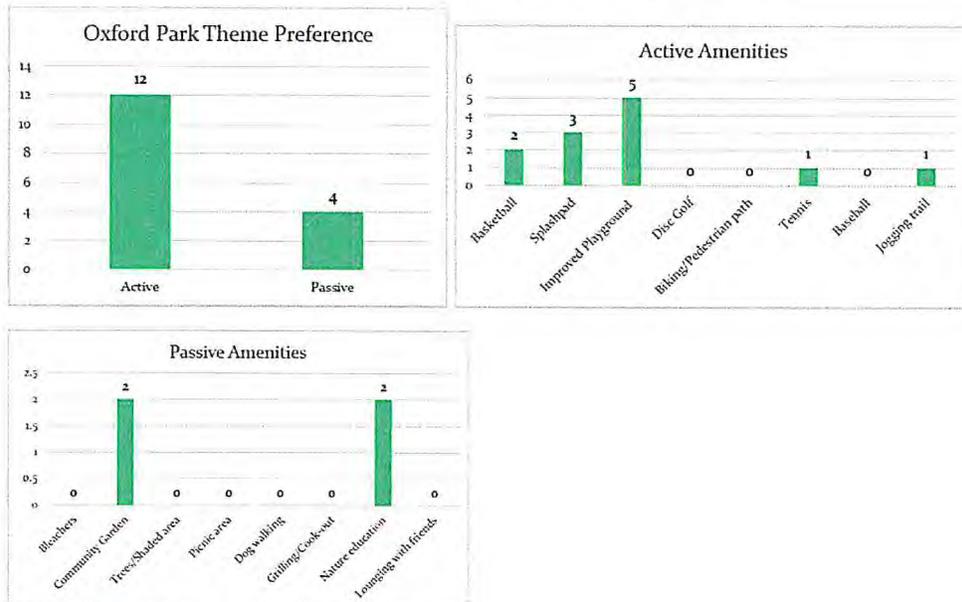
Millennium Park Preference “Green Dot Exercise”



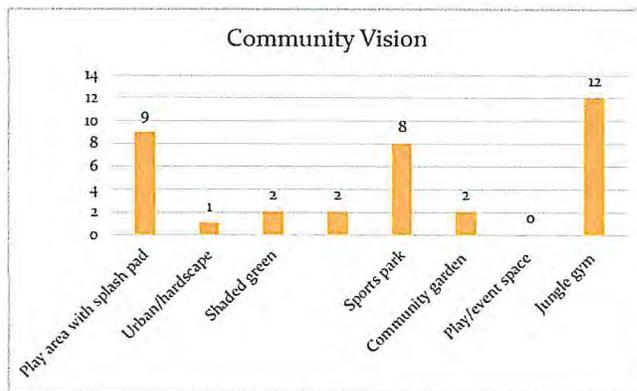
MLK Jr. Park Preference “Green Dot Exercise”



Oxford Park Specific Preference “Green Dot Exercise”



Vision Board Summary



Of the two vision boards available for Oxford Park (destination was omitted due to limited park size), the active board was the most popular, collecting a 12-4 advantage in dots. Of the active options, the playground with sunshades was the most popular, earning 5 votes. A site visit to the park revealed that playground equipment exists, but is in varying states of disrepair. The splash pad and basketball photos garnered three and two votes respectively. On the passive board, the community garden and the small group learning earned two votes apiece.

A few residents commented on the inclusion of Oxford Park, and that they were happy to see it represented at the meeting. When asked about the park, a small group of adolescent boys commented that the park was close to their homes and it used to be cool when it opened (about ten years ago). Their description of the park was that it had become rundown and out of date, but they were optimistic about its revival. Overall, the general attitude towards Oxford Park was – good location, good potential, needs better maintenance and updated amenities.



Theme and Mapping Exercise

Activity Summary

This was an interactive exercise, broken into four different stations:

Station 1: Mobility and Access

Station 2: Equity and Community Culture/History

Station 3: Safety Issues

Station 4: Conservation and Sustainability

Each station received a stack of colored post-it notes that stayed at the table. The facilitator for each table read three questions related to that station's topics. Participants had time to discuss each question and list responses on the post-it notes. Once finished, as seen in Appendix 3.4, both the facilitator and co-facilitator placed the comment post-it notes on the board and drew the residents' concerns and ideas on maps of the parks. A certain amount of time was given to each station, and then residents were asked to move to the next station, so everyone could give input on each category. The resulting boards

Strengths

Wildwood might be one of the fastest growing cities in Florida, but according to residents who participated in the first community meeting, Wildwood is a "down to earth" community with small town appeal. Residents expressed their wishes to preserve Wildwood's history and culture, but to continue making it a stronger and more livable community for current residents as well as future residents to be proud of where they live.

Weaknesses

Lighting (Millennium)

While there was interest in sport facility lighting, the primary desire from the residents surveyed was for lighting scaled down to the human level to provide a safer atmosphere for pedestrians and bicyclists (**Station 3: Safety / Millennium**).

- Lighting is very important to the kids playing at and walking through the parks. Adding lighting will give them more time to play in the fall and winter months when the sun sets early. There is also the safety concern for the children walking through the park later in the day (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / Millennium**).

Parking (Millennium & Oxford)

- Lack of designated drive aisles, and the "free-for-all" driving was also a major concern of the citizens. (**Station 3: Safety / Millennium**).
- Safety of pedestrians and access to the entrance gate when cars are parked in front of it was also a concern brought up during these sessions. Priority is given to the motor



vehicle, even in areas where there is a larger number of people walking to the parks. There was concern that the pedestrian gate near the port-o-let would often get blocked when parking was hard to find, as there are no wheel-stops preventing vehicles from inadvertently blocking the gate to access the park (**Station 3: Safety / Oxford**).

Pests (Millennium)

- Some residents shared their concerns about pests such as mosquitos and spiders at Millennium Park (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).

Opportunities

Art, History and Culture (All Parks / General Comments)

- Many meeting attendees expressed their desire to have flowers, bushes, ponds, fountains and other aesthetically pleasing amenities in Wildwood's parks (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture**).
- Some residents mentioned that they would like to see the history of Wildwood's citrus shipping industry incorporated into the parks through some type of artwork or display. For instance, there could be re-enactments of historical events or 'Wildwood Railroad days' (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture**).
- There could be some sort of celebration of notable people from Wildwood in the parks (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture**).

Memorable Park Events or Facilities (Millennium & General)

- One resident stated that she enjoyed the soccer tournaments at Millennium Park. Other Soccer tournaments were mentioned: The Villages polo club, the Wellington recreation facility (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / Millennium**).
- The Butterfly plant sale at Millennium Park was memorable, maybe Wildwood could have some other type of plant sales throughout the year (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / Millennium**).
- The Easter egg hunt at Millennium park was mentioned by residents as memorable and fun (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / Millennium**).
- Some participants expressed that they would like to see more decorations and events at Wildwood's parks during the holidays. For instance, the Christmas lights display and music at Wooten Park in Tavares and the Renaissance fair in Tavares and Gainesville. (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / general**).

Transportation Preferences (Millennium)

- It was discovered that during the day, many participants prefer to ride their bike or walk. The reason that the majority of them drove to our meeting was they did not feel safe to be walking or riding a bike at night in almost complete darkness (**Station 3: Safety / Millennium**).
- Many participants noted that they would like to see the bus route expanded with the possibility of a route from Millennium Park to MLK Jr. Park, as well as bus stops along Rt. 301, Powell Rd., the "Wildwood Club" and at Village Charter School. Participants also voiced their desire to have weekend and evening bus services (**Station 1: Mobility and Access / Millennium**).



Natural Connections (Millennium)

- Residents were quick to mention additional bike lanes to Millennium Park from the eastern corridor. One resident mentioned a greenway trail/path around the center of Millennium Park around the oak trees, and shortly after another resident mentioned having a green garden amphitheater behind the community center (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).
- Two other replies asked that existing bike trails be kept; one specifically mentioned the trail linking the **Baker House** to the historic railroad and the historic gates of Sumter. The Baker House was also named as an asset that should be preserved (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).
- Two residents stated lakes and the animal species in and around them should be preserved – one went on to note that the lakes with boat access draw visitors to the area during hunting and fishing season (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).
- Residents would like to see more trails from schools to parks (**Station 1: Mobility and Access / Millennium**).

Natural Amenities

- Participants shared their concerns that too many trees are being cut down. Almost all participants mentioned oak trees as a species that is important to Wildwood and should be preserved (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).

Threats (direct danger to health of parks)

Lack of connectivity

- Another primary concern was a lack of a complete or safe sidewalk and bicycle network for traveling to and from Millennium park (**Station 3: Safety / Millennium**).
- Huey Street was mentioned as one possible area lacking necessary pedestrian facilities (**Station 1: Mobility and Access / Millennium**).

Lack of ADA accessibility (Millennium, MLK, & Oxford)

- There was concern regarding lack of ADA accessible parking other than that provided adjacent to the Community Center, and lack of ADA accessibility to any of the playground amenities (**Station 3: Safety / Millennium**).
- There was concern regarding the lack of sufficient Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parking and concern whether a person with limited mobility would actually be able to access the play area and amenities (**Station 3: Safety / Oxford**).
- There was concern regarding lack of ADA accessible parking other than that provided adjacent to the Community Center, and lack of ADA accessibility to any of the playground amenities (**Station 3: Safety / MLK**).
- Several residents expressed the opinion that there were ADA accessibility issues at most or all of the parks. At MLK Jr. specifically residents complained about how muddy the parking lot gets (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / MLK**).



Inadequate facilities (Millennium, MLK, & Oxford)

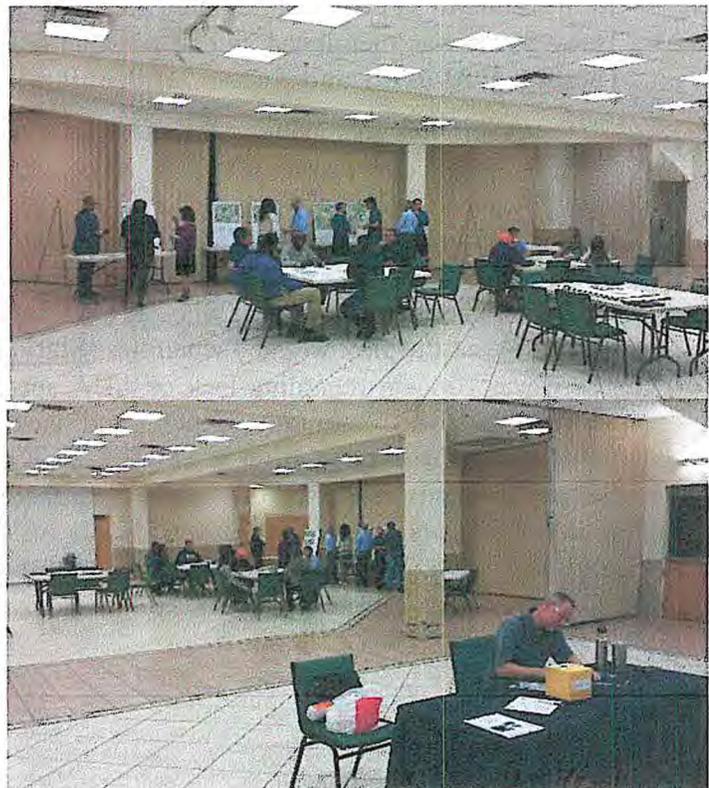
- Another issue was that some of the play areas and the jogging path north of the playground were rough (unpaved) creating potential for injuries to players and joggers (**Station 3: Safety / Millennium**).
- One area of Millennium Park was marked as having a rough surface (**Station 2: Equity & Community Culture / Millennium**).
- A resident mentioned that privacy is an issue because the port-o-let does not lock, and it is also sometimes used as a temporary “pit stop” bathroom by people not using the park (**Station 3: Safety / Oxford**).
- Attendees mentioned that they would like to see the dirt running track improved or possibly paved (**Station 1: Mobility and Access / MLK**).

Land use/Development (Millennium)

- Finally, the residents voiced their concern that too many new homes were being built which threatened existing open space. They explained that vacant existing homes are being underused and could be rehabilitated to mitigate the need for new construction. There was an overwhelming desire to “preserve park space”. One person voiced concern that a recent road expansion project that took some park property would continue to be a trend and remain a threat to open space (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).
- Over-application of pesticides and the overuse of water to maintain “unnatural landscaping” (**Station 4: Conservation / Millennium**).

3.4: CONCEPT PLAN COMMUNITY WORKSHOP SUMMARY

After the first community meeting the Planning and Design Team held an in-house design charrette to develop concept plans based on survey results and hands-on exercises. The Planning Team met with the public again for a community workshop on February 24th, 2016. This workshop was designed to solicit input on the draft concept plans. These concept plans gave the community a look at what the team saw as a potential future for their parks. Two or three concept plans were presented of each park to ensure the best facilities were implemented into our final product. Citizens were given comment forms, shown in Appendix 3.5 with copies of the concept plans, and were encouraged to sketch on them, and



write down comments. A web survey was placed on the UCF Project Website to allow residents to provide feedback after the meeting as well. An example of the web form / comment card can be seen in Appendix 3.6. The following is a summary of the comments received during the second community meeting.

Martin Luther King Jr. Park

The majority of MLK Park is unstructured open space, which could lead to underutilization of the park. Residents who offered their opinions or surveys on MLK Jr. Park agree that if conditions and facilities in this park are improved then there would be an increase in attendance. Residents surrounding this park would like to have a place to go with their children within their own community, rather than travelling to Millennium Park for their activities. MLK Jr. Park has enough space to provide a variety of outdoor experiences for a diverse population.

The public highly recommends more shading and lighting for MLK Jr Park. Both shading and lighting have the ability to extend the amount of time a person is able to enjoy the park whether it is staying cool or providing a better sense of security once the sun goes down. The team heard mixed reviews on the topic of a potential dog park at MLK Jr Park. There was a lot of positive feedback in regards to the proposed fitness area. A resident proposed adding small community center to this park so that surrounding residents would have a location for local meetings and events to take place. Community members also made comments regarding improvements for the baseball field, which is said to be frequently used, and providing a multi-use field for football or soccer.

Public Comments:

- Add a community center
- Mixed feelings on the dog park
- Approval of the aesthetic nature scenery
- Heavy emphasis on addition of shade
- Improve baseball field and add football field
- Decorative lighting and better signage

Millennium Park

Millennium Park is the largest of the three and has the most facilities, and is therefore the most highly trafficked park of those studied. Residents frequent this park for various reasons ranging from youth sporting events to personal relaxation and exercise. Improvements to this park will have an immediate impact on the community, as it is the most frequented park based on survey results. This park is the primary site for many community events and gatherings.

As with MLK Jr. Park, the most common demands for this park is to improve the shade cover as well as the lighting. A residential favorite among the concept plans was the addition of the picnic pavilion with grills for cookouts and splash pad for the children in the spring and summer months. There is also the issue of insufficient official parking facilities. The concept plans provided a recommendation for how parking could be added, which also received positive



feedback from the residents who reviewed the concept plans. Furthermore, there were a few existing facilities that the residents pointed out that they would not like to see go no matter what concept plan is chosen. These are the multi-use fields which are used for little league football and the basketball court. It should also be noted that residents wouldn't even mind expanding on the basketball courts since the current court gets so much use now.

Public Comments:

- Provide additional parking (closer to baseball fields)
- Approval of splash pad
- Place closer to playground
- Add tennis courts
- Do not remove football fields or basketball court
- Add drinking fountains
- Add bleachers to multi-use fields

Oxford Park

Oxford Park is the smallest of the three surveyed parks and received the least amount of residential feedback. However, this park is used by the community and residents believe attendance would increase if the proposed improvements were implemented. Concept Plan 2 seemed to be the favorite amongst the residents, however, with a few alterations. Residents polled would like to keep the baseball field instead of replacing it with an amphitheater. The addition of a splash pad also received a lot of positive feedback by offering an alternative way to beat the heat. Oxford Park's limited space can be optimized by upgrading and rearranging existing facilities such as the playground and tennis courts.

Public Comments:

- Add bleachers for baseball field
- Heavy emphasis on more shade
- Approval of splash pad
- Disapproval of amphitheater
- Replace with baseball field



3.5 NEEDS AND PREFERENCES

Figure 3.5.1—Perceived Needs and Preferences of Existing Parks

	Survey Results	Green Dot / Red Dot Exercise	Group Discussions
Facilities	Multi-use Fields	★	★
	Baseball Fields	★	★
	Playground	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Jogging Path	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Basketball Court	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Furnishings (lighting, tables, etc.)	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Parking	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Driving Path	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Tennis Court	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Restrooms	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Shade	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
Activities	Outdoor Fitness	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Aquatics	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Relaxation	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Child Sports	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Adult Sports	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Events	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
	Child Activities	★ ★ ★	★ ★ ★
Legend			
	★ Millennium	★ MLK	★ Oxford

Figure 3.5.1 represents the data collected from the public through surveys and during our first community meeting in November of 2015. The stars represent the park amenities the community prefers. These results are based on the surveys, the green dot and red dot exercise, and group discussions through the hands-on board activity the community members took part in during that first meeting. The lists of facilities and activities were pulled from some of the community favorites based on the parks' survey results. These results were also the basis of the concept plans presented at the second community meeting in February.



Chapter IV: Inventory and Analysis

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4.1: GEOLOGY, SOIL, TOPOGRAPHY, AND PARK INVENTORIES

This section of the report identifies geology, soil types, and topography for each park – natural features important when considering the type and location of recommended improvements. Additionally, a thorough inventory of amenities was conducted in order to establish quantitative and qualitative baselines for each park.

4.1.1: Millennium Park

Millennium Park is located at 6451 County Road 139 (Powell Rd.), Wildwood, Florida 34785. Millennium is known for its beautiful live oaks, scenic views, and recreational amenities. The park is primarily surrounded by single-family residential neighborhoods, but is also adjacent to Wildwood Middle / High School. A portion of the Villages Community lies just east of Millennium, separated by Powell Road.

Soils

Figure 4.1.1.1—Millennium Park Soil Map



Source: United State Department of Agriculture, Web Soil Survey

Table 4.1.1.1—Millennium Park Soil Description

Soil ID	Soil Name**	Acres in AOI*	Percent of AOI
4	Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	6.4	5.8
6	Kendrick fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	15.6	14.1
11	Millhopper sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	60.9	55.1
16	Apopka fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	13.1	11.9
21	EauGallie fine sand, bouldery subsurface	13.6	12.4
39	Mabel fine sand, boulder subsurface, 0 to 5 percent slopes	0.7	0.7
56	Wabasso fine sand, depressional	0.1	0.1
Totals for Area of Interest		110.4	100.0%

*AOI: Area of Interest

Source: United State Department of Agriculture, Web Soil Survey

This data represents the soil types on the site, the amount of area covered by that soil type, and provides a description of the soil types.

4 - Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is excessively drained and the depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.

6 - Kendrick fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is well drained. The depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.

11 - Millhopper sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit comprises the majority area of the property. This soil mapping unit is moderately well drained, with very low (insignificant) runoff. The depth to water table is between 42 and 72 inches. Not prime farmland.

16 - Apopka fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is well drained, with very low runoff. The depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.



21 – Eau Gallie fine sand, boulder subsurface: This soil mapping unit is poorly drained, with very high runoff. The depth to water table is about 6 to 18 inches. Not prime farmland.

39 – Mabel fine sand, boulder subsurface, 0 to 5 percent slope: This soil mapping unit is somewhat poorly drained with medium runoff. The depth to water table is between 18 and 36 inches. Not prime farmland.

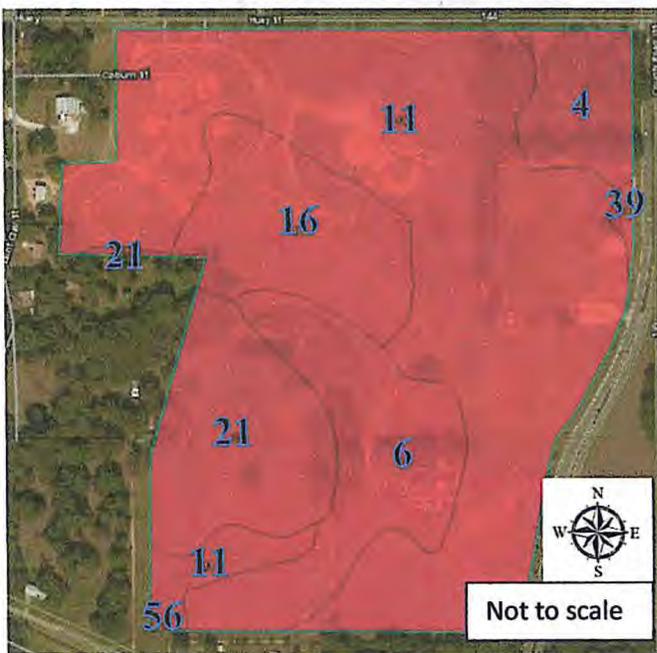
56 – Wabasso fine sand, depressional: This soil mapping unit is very poorly drained. The depth to water table is between 0 to 12 inches. There is no frequency of flooding; however, there is a frequency in ponding.

Drainage

Sixty percent of the area of interest lies in moderately well-drained areas with minimal runoff. Unit map areas 21 and 39, which total 13 percent of the area of interest, are poorly drained with medium to high runoff. These areas of poor drainage require modifications to accommodate recommended land use.

As shown in Figure 4.1.1.2, Millennium Park received a poor rating by the United States Department of Agriculture in terms of suitability for park facilities such as trails, picnics, or surface soils utilized for playgrounds. In order to accommodate the facilities and amenities requested by community members, the City of Wildwood would likely have to incur resurfacing costs to insure a sustainable park foundation.

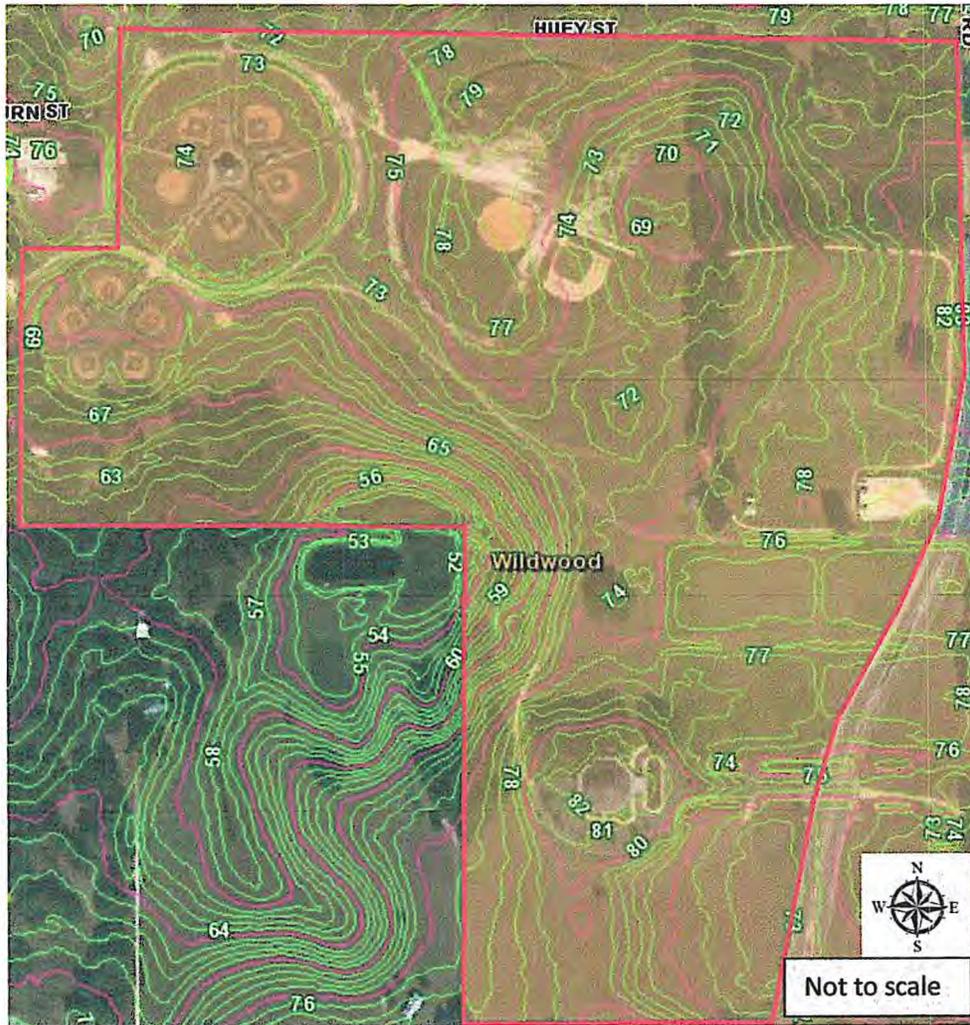
Figure 4.1.1.2—Millennium Park Soil Suitability Map



Topography

Figure 4.1.1.3 shows the topography of Millennium Park in one-foot contour lines. The only major grade change is in the center of the property, northwest of the community center. Minor elevation changes are found at the northeast and southeast portions of the property.

Figure 4.1.1.3—Millennium Park Topography Map



Park Amenities

To gather a stronger understanding of existing conditions at each park, over the course of several site visits, amenities were inventoried, the quantity noted, condition, materials, and existence of lighting were identified. Additional notes of interest were also added. The condition for Millennium and MLK Parks were categorized as “Good”, “Fair”, or “NA”. “Good” was an amenity needing little to no immediate maintenance, “Fair” was an amenity that was still functioning, but is in need of improvement to function properly, and “NA” was an amenity not available at the park.

Table 4.1.1.2— Millennium Park Amenities

Millennium Park					
Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Material	Lighting	Notes
Pavilion	1	Good	NA	Yes	
Picnic Table	6	Good	NA	No	
Flag Pole	1	Good (pole only)	NA	No	American flag poor condition.
Restroom	2	Good	NA	Yes	
Drinking Fountain	1	Good	NA	No	
Bench	4	Good	NA	No	
Dog Waste Station	2	Good	NA	No	
Playground	1	Good	Bare Ground	No	Replace Mulch
Trash Can	15	Good	NA	N/A	
Parking	20	Fair	Clay	No	
Handicap Parking	0	NA	NA	No	
Trail	1	Fair	Hard Clay	No	
Soccer Field	7	Good	Sod/Bahia	No	
Football Field	2	Good	Sod/Bahia	No	
Basketball Court	2	Good	Concrete	No	



Softball Field	12	Good	Clay	Yes	
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Millennium Park has a total of 76 recreational facilities and amenities, more than any other park in the City of Wildwood. The proposed concept plan for Millennium will feature additional facilities and amenities to accommodate requests and concerns expressed by residents during the community engagement process. Due to the lack of pedestrian access, vehicle traffic has increased throughout the interior of the park and could cause conflicts with people who are walking or biking in the same park pathways. Recommendations will be geared towards mitigating dangerous pedestrian-vehicle conflicts and to help improve access to Millennium Park’s amenities for all residents of Wildwood.

4.1.2: Martin Luther King Park

Martin Luther King, Jr. (MLK) Park is located 1.38 miles due west of Millennium Park, at the intersection of Walker Road and County Road 238. The surrounding community is primarily low-density residential, composed of single-family units, duplexes, and mobile homes. A cemetery abuts the park along its southeastern border. The City of Wildwood owns the parcel of abandoned residential buildings along the park’s southwestern boundary.

Soils

Figure 4.1.2.1—Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Soil Map



SOURCE: United States Department of Agriculture, Web Soil Survey



Table 4.1.2.1—Martin Luther King Park Soil Description

Martin Luther King Park			
Soil ID	Soil Name**	Acres in AOI	Percentage of AOI
13	Tavares fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	0.1	0.5
33	Sparr fine sand, boulder subsurface, 0 to 5 percent slopes	4.5	22.7
51	Pits-Dumps complex	15.3	77.3
Totals for Area of Interest		19.8	100%

** For more detailed descriptions of soil types refer to appendix 4A
 Source: United State Department of Agriculture, Web Soil Survey

13 – Tavares fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is moderately well drained and the depth to water table is between 42 to 72 inches. Not prime farmland.

33 – Sparr fine sand, boulder subsurface, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is somewhat poorly drained and the depth to water table is between 18 to 42 inches. Not prime farmland.

51 – Pits-Dumps Complex: This soil mapping unit comprises the majority area of the property. This soil mapping unit has a marine terrace landform setting. Not prime farmland.

Drainage

Unit map area 33, shown in Figure 4.1.2.1, is comprised of a parking area, a retention pond, and unutilized park space. This area is poorly drained and not suitable for recreational use.

As shown in Figure 4.1.2.2, the areas of MLK park with soil designations 13 and 33 (Tavares fine sand and Sparr fine sand), are too sandy for a path, trail, and multi-purpose pedestrian routes. These areas include the existing parking lot, recommended additional parking lot, and southeast portion of the property. New trails, and/or multi-purpose pedestrian routes might require a minor slope modification through cut and fill.

Areas highlighted in red are unsuitable for outdoor recreational use. This area may be utilized for vehicular passage and parking. Vehicle access is highly discouraged in other areas of the park, as it may erode surface soil



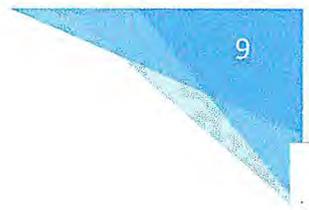


Figure 4.1.2.2—Martin Luther King Park Soil Map Breakdown

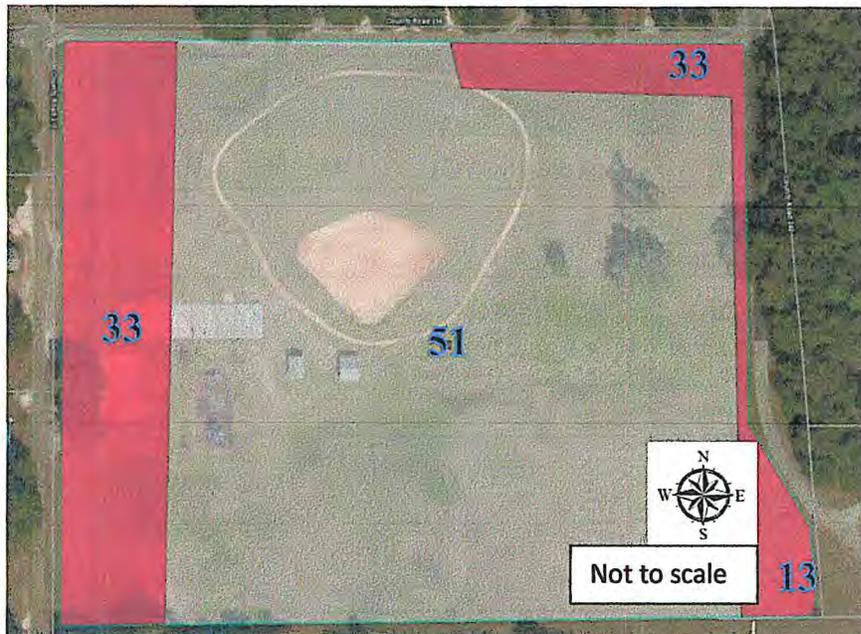
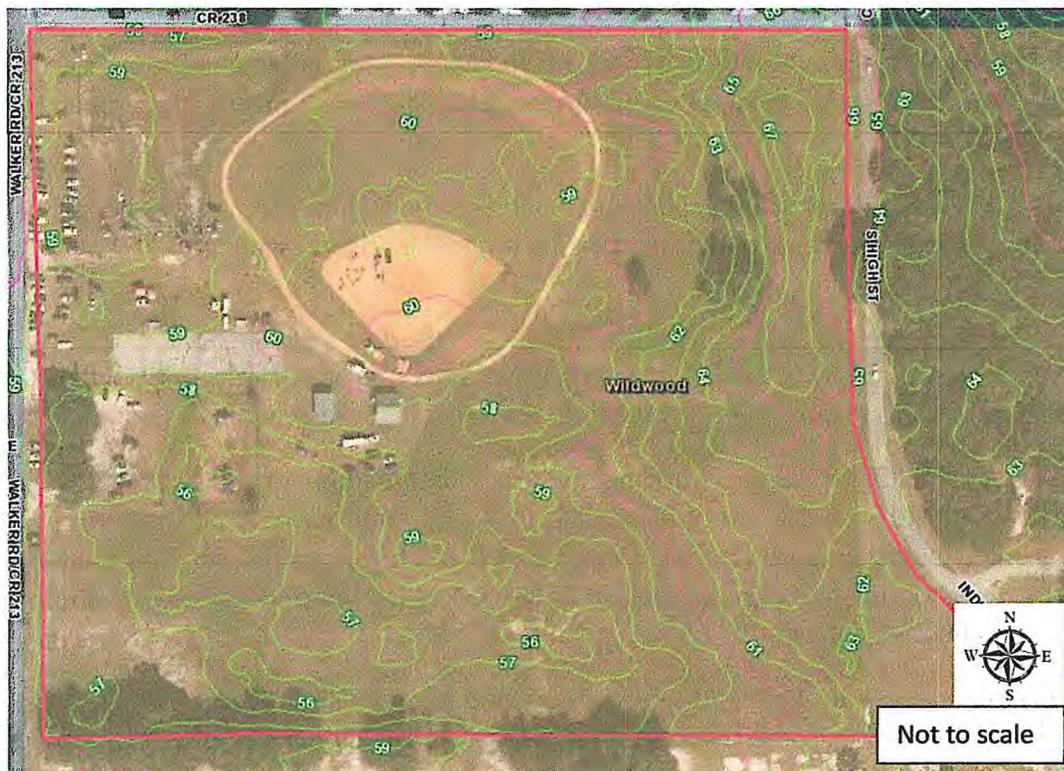


Figure 4.1.2.3 shows that MLK Park has no major discrepancy in contour distribution. Minor elevation changes are shown at the northeast and southeast portions.

Figure 4.1.2.3—Martin Luther King Park Topography Map



Park Amenities

MLK Jr. Park has a total of eight recreational facilities and amenities. According to the survey data, inadequate lighting around Wildwood's parks is a great concern of many residents. Residents also expressed concerns about the park's condition and overall maintenance. Table 4.1.2.2 highlights the conditions of each facility in MLK Park.

Table 4.1.2.2— Martin Luther King Park Amenities

MLK Park					
Amenity	Quantity	Condition	Material	Lighting	Notes
Pavilion	1	Good	NA	No	
Picnic Table	0	NA	NA	No	
Flag Pole	0	NA	NA	No	
Restroom	2	N/A	NA	Yes	Locked doors
Drinking Fountain	0	NA	NA	No	
Bench	0	NA	NA	No	
Dog Waste Station	0	NA	NA	NA	
Playground	1	Fair	Bare Ground	No	Safety Concern. Improve surface.
Trash Can	1	Fair	NA	NA	Dumpster
Parking Space	N/A	Fair	Shell Dirt	No	
Handicap P.S.	0	NA	N/A	No	
Trail	1	Fair	Hard Clay	No	
Soccer Field	0	NA	NA	NA	
Football Field	0	NA	NA	NA	
Basketball Court	2	Good	Asphalt	No	
Softball Field	1	Fair	Clay	No	Mow lawn



CONDITION STATUS: POOR, FAIR, GOOD (POOR: NON-FUNCTIONAL, FAIR: USABLE, MIGHT NEED MAINTENANCE, GOOD: NO DEFICIENCIES)

4.1.3: Oxford Park

Oxford Park is located between County Road 466-E and County Road 106, 4.8 miles north of Millennium Park. CR 466 is a busy east-west arterial road, while CR 106 is part of Wildwood's original Main Street. As part of this historic commercial corridor, Oxford Park has the potential to integrate with the surrounding built environment and become a community entertainment hub. Obstacles to Oxford Park's development include soil types that require improvements to support new facilities, and limited amenities that need updating.

Figure 4.1.3.1—Oxford Park Soil Map



Table 4.1.3.1—Oxford Park Soil Description

Oxford Park			
Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
6	Kendrick fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes	2.6	100.0%
Totals for Area of Interest		110.5	100.0%

6 – Kendrick fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit comprises the majority area of the property. This soil mapping unit is well drained and the depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.

Drainage

The majority of the property is comprised of Kendrick fine sand. This type of soil and percent slope is well drained with low runoff.

Figure 4.1.3.2—Oxford Park Topography Map



Table 4.1.3.2— Oxford Park Amenities

Oxford Park				
Amenity	Quantity	Material	Lighting	Notes
Pavilion	1	NA	No	
Picnic Table	0	NA	No	
Flag Pole	0	NA	No	
Restroom	0	NA	No	
Drinking Fountain	0	NA	No	
Bench	0	NA	No	
Dog Waste Station	0	NA	No	
Playground	1	Sand	No	
Trash Can	0	NA	No	
Parking Space	N/A	Shell Dirt	No	No H.C. parking
Handicap P.S.	0	NA	No	
Trail/mixed use	0	NA	No	No trails
Tennis Courts	2	Asphalt	No	
Basketball Court	1	Asphalt	No	
Softball Field	1	Clay	No	

Oxford Park has a total of six (6) recreational facilities and amenities. Resident input was limited during the community engagement process, but it was clear that residents were concerned about the lack of restrooms and standard/handicap parking available at this park. These concerns are accounted for in the concept plan which is featured in Chapter V.



4.2: OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE PARKS & GREENWAY CONNECTORS

The purpose of this analysis was to investigate and evaluate opportunities for the City of Wildwood to expand its park and greenway system. For the purposes of the report, parks are defined as neighborhood, community, and regional, as outlined in the City's Open Space and Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. Greenways can be defined as sidewalks and trails within a three-mile "bike-shed" of the city's municipal boundaries.

4.2.1: City Adopted Level of Service

This section includes an analysis of the current Level of Service (LOS) of each park, and offers recommendations for future park LOS based on projected growth through the year 2040. The city's comprehensive plan specifies a certain (LOS) for each park type within city limits. The adopted LOS is as follows:

- Neighborhood Parks: Two (2) acres per 1,000 population
 - Five (5) to Ten (10) acres per park
- Community Parks: Three (3) acres per 1,000 population
 - Minimum 20 acres per park
- Regional Parks: Five (5) acres per 1,000 population
 - Minimum 250 acres per park

Source: (City of Wildwood, n.d.).

To conduct a comparison of the adopted LOS, and how the parks were actually functioning, a "functional classification" was identified for this report. The following acreage parameters were then utilized to measure LOS for parks using the newly identified "functional classifications". These classifications were identified as the smaller existing Wildwood parks are actually functioning as higher level parks. An example of this can be seen by comparing how Oxford is functioning as a neighborhood park and Millennium is functioning as a regional park, even though they don't contain the acreage requirement outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. This "functional classification" was related to performance criteria other than acreage, such as design, character, and facilities for each park type outlined in the Comprehensive Plan. For a further explanation of the methods utilized for this inventory and comparison, see Appendix 4.2. The "functional park type" acreage definitions are as follows:

- Neighborhood Parks: One (1) to 19 acres per park
- Community Parks: 20 to 74 acres per park
- Regional Parks: minimum 75 acres per park

Completing this analysis enabled the researcher to determine if a potential revision to the park parameters may actually result in a more efficient delivery of service to residents of Wildwood.



4.2.2: Park Inventory: Operating Level of Service

Analysis of the operating LOS was conducted utilizing both the existing park type definitions from the Comprehensive Plan, and the “functional classification” definition described above in Section 4.2.1. Table 4.2.2.1 and Table 4.2.2.2 below show the required acreage for each park type based on population estimates in 2015 as well as projected population for the year 2040.

Table 4.2.2.1: 2015 Park Operating Level of Service (LOS)

Park Type	Total Park Acres	2015 Population	Acres per 1,000	Required Acres for Population	Existing Acreage / 1000 Population	Acreage Deficit / Surplus
Neighborhood	73 acres	7,545	2 acres	15	10	5
Functioning as Neighborhood	99 acres		2 acres	15	13	2
Community	221 acres		3 acres	23	29	6 over
Functioning as Community	49 acres		3 acres	23	6	17
Regional	0 acres		5 acres	38	0	38
Functioning as Regional	172 acres		5 acres	38	23	15



Table 4.2.2.2: 2040 Park Operating Level of Service (LOS)

Park Type	Total Park Acres	2040 Population	Acres per 1,000	Required Acres for Population	Existing Acreage / 1000 Population	Acreage Deficit / Surplus
Neighborhood	73 acres	12,716	2 acres	25	6	19
Functioning as Neighborhood	99 acres		2 acres	25	8	17
Community	221 acres		3 acres	38	17	21
Functioning as Community	49 acres		3 acres	38	4	34
Regional	0 acres		5 acres	64	0	64
Functioning as Regional	172 acres		5 acres	64	14	50

As shown in Table 4.2.2.1 and 4.2.2.2, whether or not park type is defined by acreage or functionality, there is a deficit in park acreage in 2015 and an even larger deficit in 2040. In 2015, using the Comprehensive Plan definition, there is a deficit of five acres for neighborhood parks and 38 acres for regional parks; however, there is a surplus of six acres for community parks. Using the functional park type classification for 2015, there is a two-acre shortage of neighborhood park land, 17 acres of community park land, and 15 acres of regional park land.

As previously mentioned, when the population is projected to the year 2040 there will be an even larger deficiency in park acreage if Wildwood does not acquire and develop more land for parks and recreation use. In 2040, using the Comprehensive Plan LOS standards, there would be a shortage of 19 acres in neighborhood park land, 21 acres in community park land, and 64 acres in regional park land. Using the functional park type classification, there are deficits of 17 acres of neighborhood parks, 34 acres community parks, and 50 acres regional parks.

4.2.3: Recommended Park Acreage Classification Revisions

While the above analysis shows a shortage using either the existing comprehensive plan definition or the functional park classification definition, a functional park classification under the following parameters would provide the City of Wildwood with a greater variety of parks to offer its citizens. Furthermore, amending the Comprehensive Plan park LOS standards would help to expand park resources and increase resident access to park and recreation facilities. Table 4.2.3.1 below shows the current LOS, the current size definition, proposed LOS, and proposed size definition.

According to the National Recreation and Park Association (2016), LOS standards provide a type of performance measure associated with equitable provision of service, such as a specific number of acres per 1,000 residents. Within Table 4.2.3.1, the existing and proposed LOS were kept consistent, as these acreages provide adequate parks for the residents, measured by 1,000 residents. The acreage based definitions for park type is more of a local jurisdictional decision related to



what best serves the residents. The proposed size definition for each park type is different than the current size definition, and is based on the above discussion related to “functional park types”. The current and proposed LOS and size definitions are as follows.

Table 4.2.3.1 Current and Proposed Functional Park Definitions

Park Classification	Current LOS: Acres per 1,000	Current Size Definition	Proposed LOS Acres per 1,000	Proposed Size Definition
Neighborhood	2 acres	5-10 acres	2 acres	1-19 acres
Community	3 acres	Minimum of 20 acres	3 acres	20-74 acres
Regional	5 acres	Minimum of 250 acres	5 acres	Minimum of 75 acres

4.2.4: Park Evaluation

The Planning and Design Team analyzed existing publically owned land within a ½ mile radius of Wildwood’s city limits, to ensure that such properties would meet either the Comprehensive Plan park LOS standards or the Functional Park Classification definitions explained above. The Planning and Design Team also considered the underlying and adjacent future land use for all properties within ¼ mile distance of the existing publically owned properties that were deemed to have high potential for park expansion. Properties with a future land use classification of industrial or commercial were excluded from this process. Aerial photography was also used as a visual aid to filter out properties currently being used for sewer treatment or other utility uses. This vetting process was utilized to ensure that the recommended lands for future park sites are located in areas with existing or potential residential populations and compatible neighboring uses.

4.2.5: Recommended Park Additions (Existing Comprehensive Plan Definition)

The City of Wildwood should consider acquiring the following parcels to improve upon the current and projected acreage deficiencies of the City’s park system. These parcels can be seen in Map 1: Potential Future Wildwood Parks.

- **Neighborhood Parks:**
 - There are a total of 154 acres on 14 parcels which could potentially be converted to park space. These parcels are between five (5) and 18 acres in size. With a five (5) acre deficit in 2015 and a 19-acre deficit in 2040, these properties provide a wide variety of options to meet the adopted neighborhood park LOS.
- **Community Parks:**
 - There are a total of 169 acres on 15 parcels which could potentially be converted to park space. These parcels range in size from approximately 33 to 46 acres. One 17-acre parcel was also included as it is directly adjacent to other parcels that could be combined to make a larger community park as part of the existing Lake Okahumpka Park. These parcels total 86 acres just outside of the city limits. While the 2015 adopted LOS for community parks is already satisfied, there is a 21-acre deficit projected for year 2040. With conversion of these parcels into an expanded park,



and transfer to the City, the adopted LOS for community parks through the year 2040 could be met.

- **Regional Parks:**
 - While there is a deficit of 38 acres given the current requirement in the Comprehensive Plan (minimum of 250 acres), a property of this size may be cost prohibitive to obtain, and there aren't any existing city or county owned parcels within ½ mile of the Wildwood's city limits that would allow for a regional park to be considered.

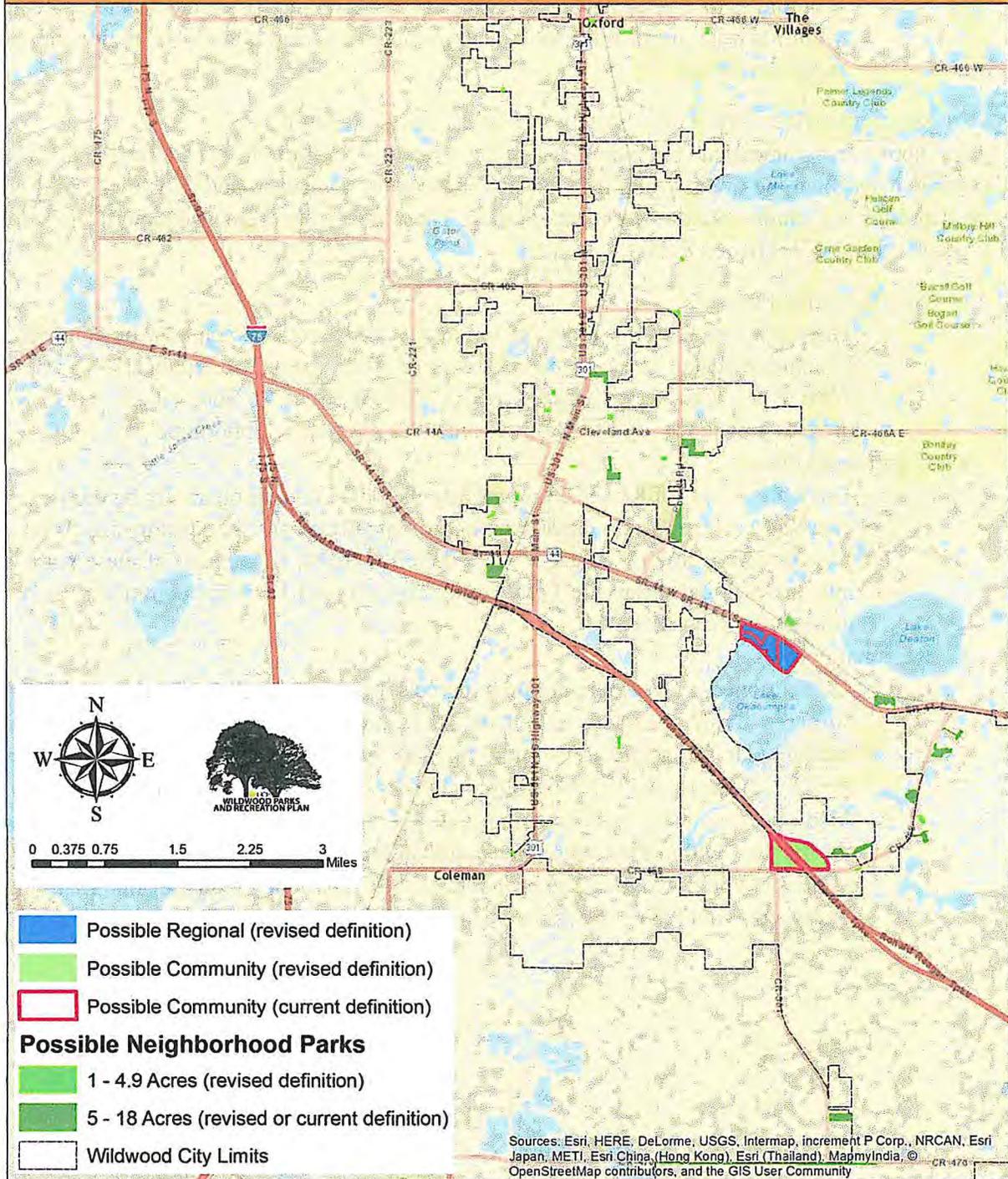
4.2.6: Recommended Park Additions (Functional Park Definition)

If the above recommended functional park classification definition is adopted into the Comprehensive Plan, below is a summary of city and county owned properties which could be considered for integration into the city's park system. These properties were also included in Map 1 (Potential Future Wildwood Parks).

- **Neighborhood Parks:**
 - There are a total of 199 acres on 36 parcels which could potentially be converted into park acreage. These 36 parcels range in size from one acre to nearly 18 acres. With a two-acre deficit in 2015 and a 17-acre deficit in 2040, these properties provide a wide variety of options to meet the adopted neighborhood park LOS.
- **Community Parks**
 - There are a total of 83 acres on two parcels which could potentially be converted into park acreage. These parcels are approximately 37 and 46 acres in size. With a 17-acre deficit in 2015 and a 34-acre deficit in 2040, conversion of these parcels into parks could allow the City to meet its adopted LOS for community parks through the year 2040.
- **Regional Parks**
 - As mentioned above, there are three parcels around Lake Okahumpka which total 86 acres. With a 15-acre deficit in 2015 and 50-acre deficit in 2040, if Lake Okahumpka is considered for future transfer of ownership from Sumter County to the City, the proposed LOS for Regional Parks could be met through the year 2040.
 - Also, because City residents are able to use County parks, providing this clarification within the Comprehensive Plan for Regional Parks may give the City additional options to meet the proposed LOS. Consistency with the Joint planning agreement would have to also be maintained.



Map 1: Potential Future Wildwood Parks



4.3: GREENWAYS DATA COLLECTION AND ANALYSIS

This section evaluates Wildwood’s greenway connectivity, identifies gaps in the existing or future network, identifies “opportunity connections”, and makes other recommendations for implementation through the year 2040. Based on the findings from Section 4.2 and 4.3, an analysis of the existing greenway system was conducted. This review analyses how well the existing parks are connected through current greenway connections, identifies gaps in the existing and future network, determines how to approach filling these gaps with “opportunity connections”, and provides recommendations for implementation through the year 2040. For a further explanation of the greenway data collection methodology, see Appendix 4.3.

4.3.1: Greenway Findings

This analysis indicates that there are a total of 358 miles of greenway - 231 miles that currently exist, 81 miles proposed by developers or other agencies, and four miles proposed within the Wildwood park concept plans (see the concept plans in Chapter V of this Master Plan). There are also 41.5 miles listed as “opportunity connections” in Table 4.3.1.1 below. These greenways can be observed in greater detail on Map 2 (Greenway, Park & Development Connections). The opportunity connections available to Wildwood includes 36.42 miles that would be located within existing or proposed public rights-of-way, 0.05 miles that would be located on public property, and 3.81 miles that would be located on private property.

Table 4.3.1.1 Miles of Opportunity Connections

Associated Project or Park	Miles within Rights-of-Way	Miles of Public Owned Land	Miles of Private Land
Millennium, MLK, Oxford, & O_Dell Connection		0.05	0.72
Connect Wildwood Springs, Southern Oaks, & Landstone		0.00	3.09
Total: 41.5	36.42	0.05	3.81



Map 2: Greenway, Park, & Development Connections

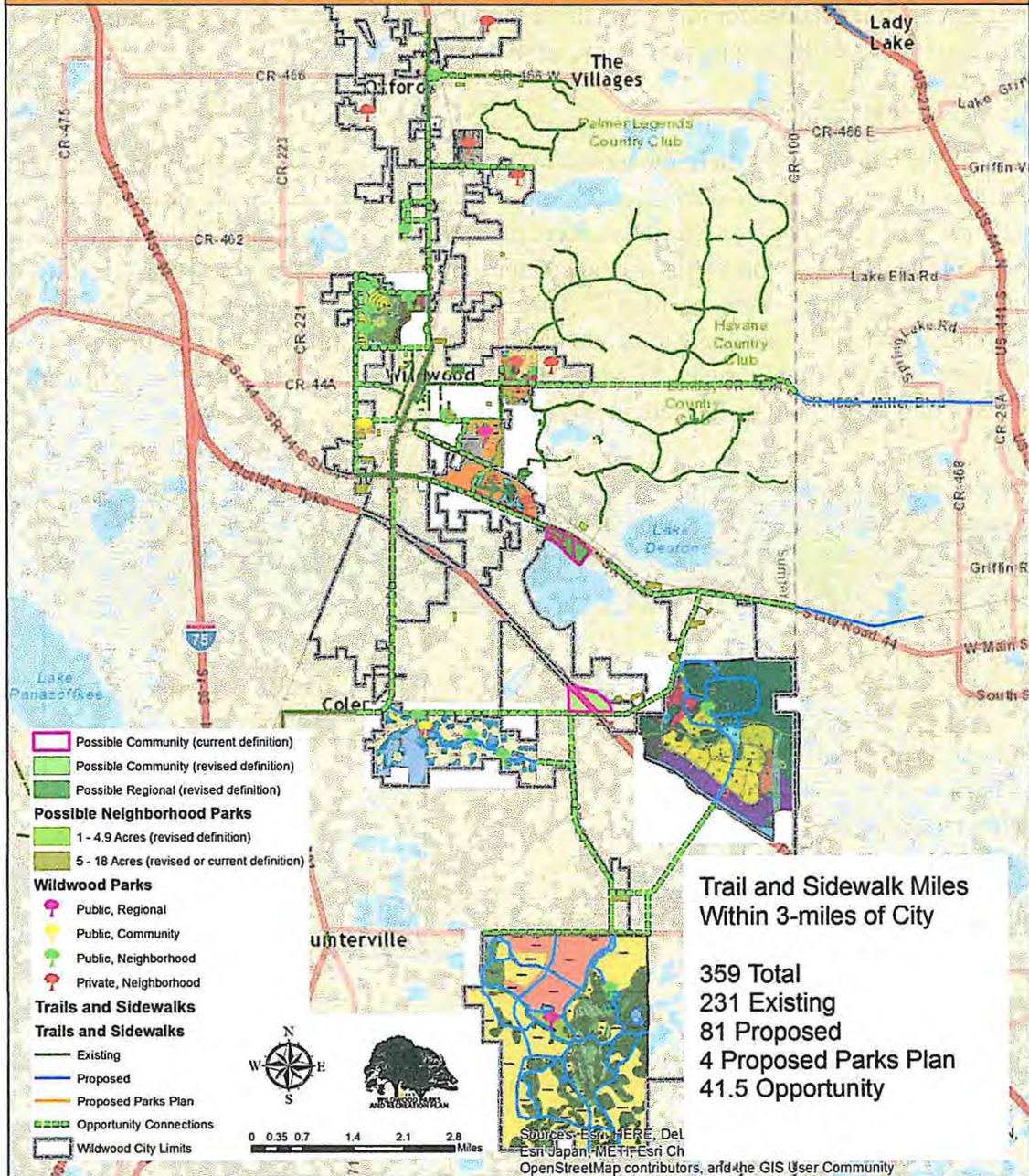
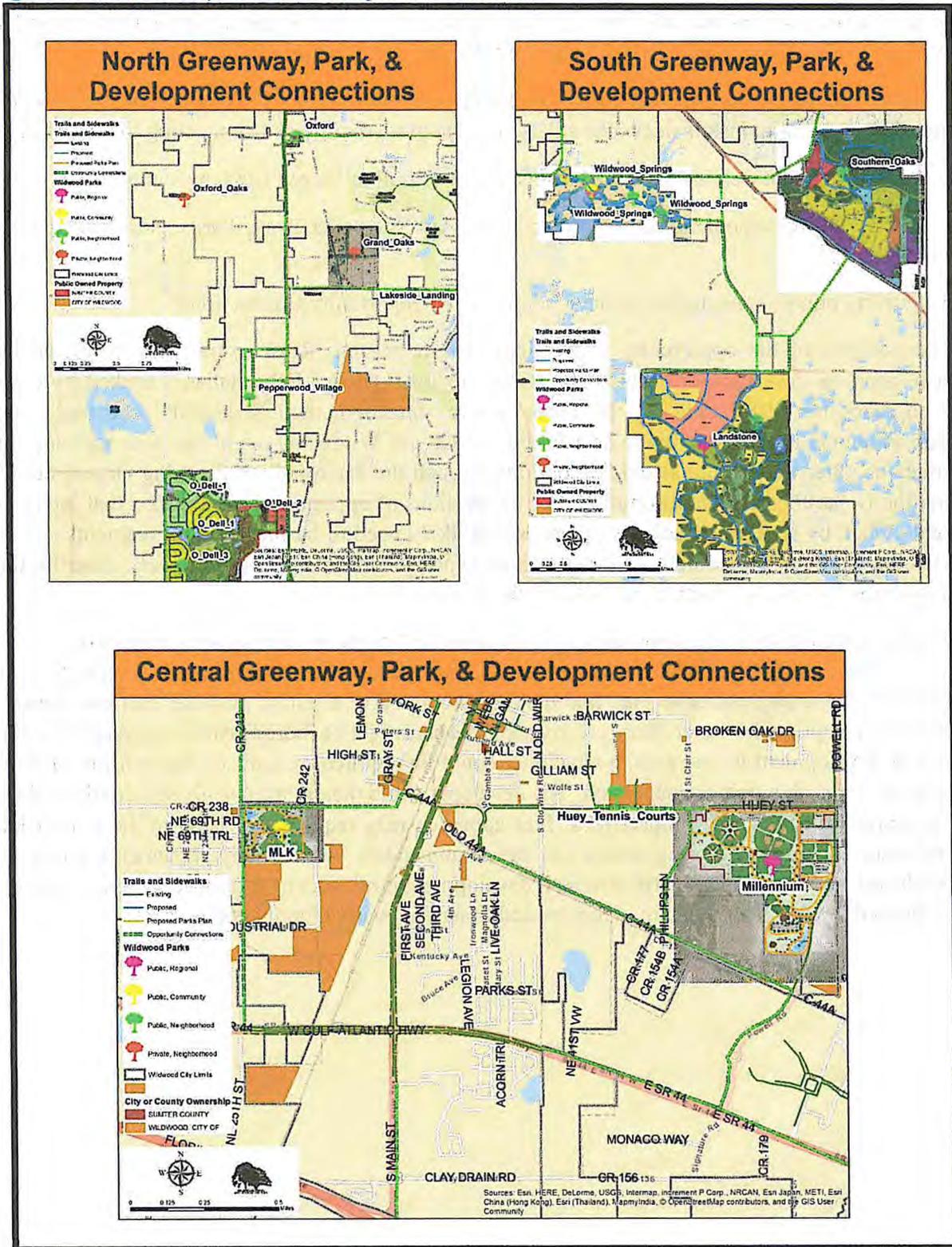


Figure 4.3.1.1 Greenway, Park & Development Connections



4.3.2: Greenway Recommendations

In order to improve connectivity between the city's parks and to increase resident access to parks, Wildwood should consider implementing the following recommendations:

1. Create sidewalk requirements within the Land Development Regulations (LDR) requiring all new development to install sidewalks adjacent to the property line and connecting to the street.
2. Adopt a Level of Service for a minimum amount of trail miles per 1,000 residents.
3. Amend the Comprehensive Plan to include Map 2 - "Greenway, Park, and Development Connections".
3. Actively pursue construction of the 41.5 miles of "Opportunity Connections".

The portions of the opportunity connections within existing ROW could be constructed by developers as development occurs. This would require strong LDR standards backed by clear Comprehensive Plan Policies. In areas where development has already occurred, and redevelopment is not likely in the near future, the City of Wildwood might consider applying for grants or other transportation funding options through the Metropolitan Planning Organizations and the Department of Transportation. For the portions of opportunity connections that intersect land owned by another jurisdiction, there would likely need to be Interlocal Agreements and/or Memorandums of Agreement executed. These types of documents would clearly describe the responsibilities of each party as it relates to the trails.

Finally, for portions of the opportunity connections that cross private property there would need to be further negotiations with the property owners. If a future trail or "opportunity connection" is shown in the Comprehensive Plan and the trail would serve a public purpose, eminent domain might be an option; however, more creative approaches might be more feasible. Depending on the rate of development in that area, a developer could be required to dedicate that portion of their property for such a trail or connection. The developer could then in turn be given a credit on their transportation and/or park impact fees. This approach may require a revision to the impact fee ordinance to ensure a strong nexus can be demonstrated. Additionally, easements could be purchased from existing property owners if development is not occurring as needed for completion of the trail system. This again may require additional innovative funding options.



Chapter V – Site Specific Concept Plans

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5.1 CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Section 5.2 of this chapter presents site specific concept plans and estimated costs for each of Wildwood's parks. Furthermore, the concept plan amenities have been prioritized based on visual inspections, community input, and financial feasibility. These concept plans correspond to the suggestions and concerns that were shared community residents during the public engagement process about park amenities, connectivity, community heritage and safety. These site specific recommendation also fit within the broader scope of the vision for Wildwood's park system that is discussed in Chapter I. For instance, by improving the condition and variety of amenities available at each of these parks Wildwood will be providing a more equitable distribution of its resources and can help to enhance civic pride and sense of community.

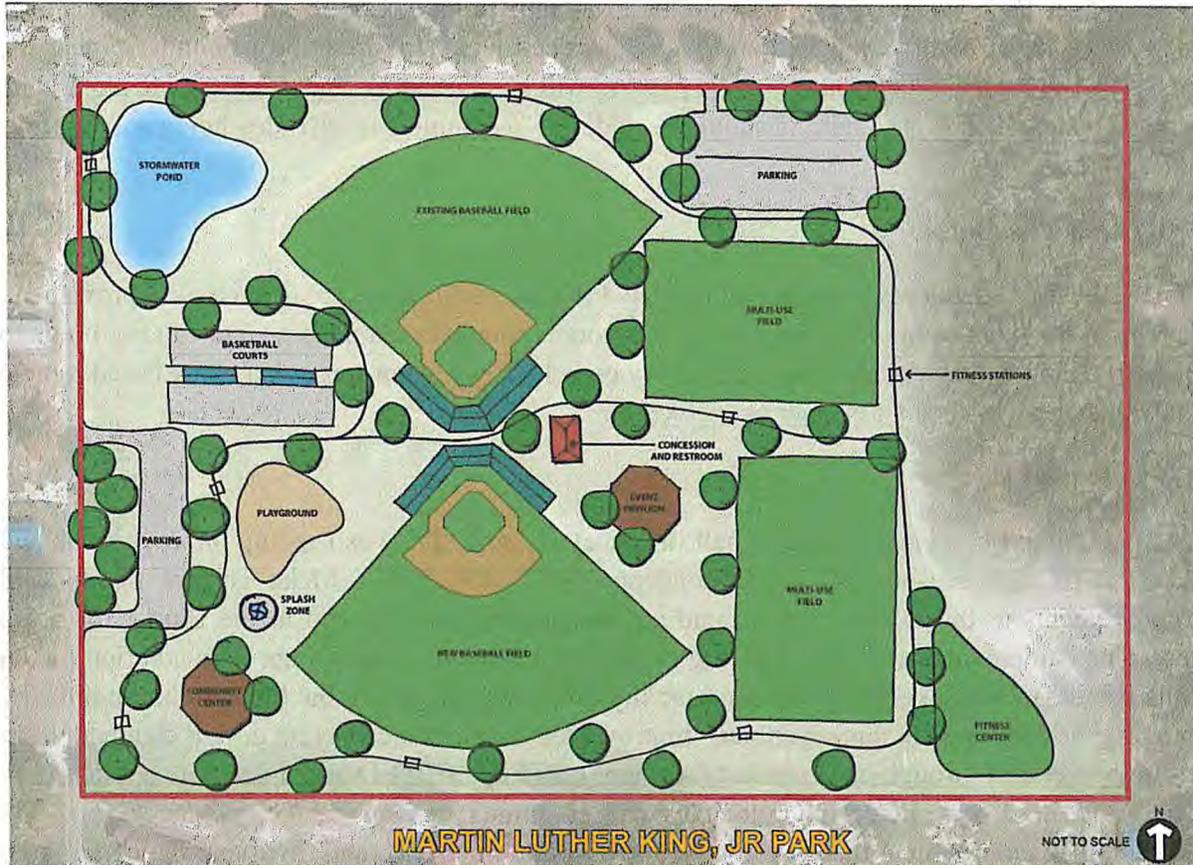
5.2 SITE SPECIFIC CONCEPT PLANS

The following park concept plans provide site-specific recommendations to be considered for future implementation. Plans for Martin Luther King, Jr.; Millennium; and Oxford Parks were created to address community wants and needs identified through the community engagement process and field visits. Individual elements are numbered in priority order based first on community input (to determine need and demand) and secondly by financial feasibility. Park descriptions are followed by a table that summarizes the recommended capital improvements, agencies responsible for said improvements, a timeline for completion, and possible sources of funding. Task completion times are expressed as either "long-term" (at least 10 years), "mid-term" (between 5 and 10 years), "short-term" (no more than 5 years), or are expressed as a combination of the three task completion periods. The implementation tables below were adapted from the City of Miami's Parks and Public Spaces Master Plan document (2007).



5.2.1 Martin Luther King, Jr. Park

Figure 5.2.1.1: Martin Luther King, Jr. Concept Plan



Martin Luther King Jr. Park is a Community Park with tremendous potential. In its current state, MLK Park is nearly a blank canvas. This concept plan increases the number of active and passive amenities to enhance the MLK Park experience. Survey data, community engagement, and site visits suggested that the following improvements should be considered: improved restroom facilities; better playground amenities; furnishings (tables, benches); parking; bike, pedestrian, and ADA access. Below is a detailed list of proposed park enhancements:

1) Enhanced Park Entrance and Landscaping

Make use of existing oak trees to create a more prominent and welcoming gateway to MLK Park. Add signage along County Road 213 on either side of the driveway facing oncoming traffic. Additional landscaping (e.g. flowers, ground covers, and mulch) would also create a more prominent visual impact and inviting gateway along the CR-213 roadway.

2) Western Parking Lot Improvements

With the overall goal of improving MLK Park and attracting more users, existing parking facilities will need to be expanded and improved. Of the 61 current users surveyed, 53 said they typically access MLK Park by car (87%). Expand the existing parking lot southward along CR-213. The lot will be paved with designated ADA spaces added along the innermost boundary (near the basketball courts and playground). ADA parking will be marked by signs and striping along with painted concrete chocks. Lighting should be added to accommodate extended hours and improve safety and security.

3) Restroom Facilities

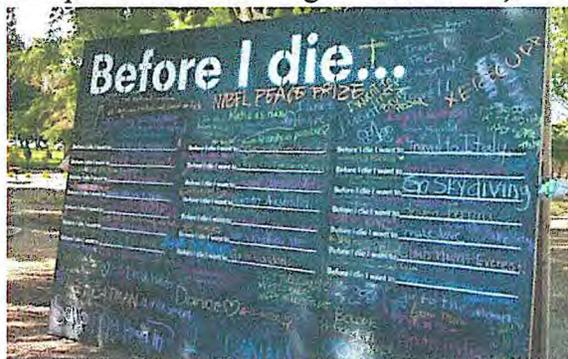
Over half (57%) of survey respondents indicated that the restrooms were in need of improvement, making it the most commonly cited issue. Restrooms should continue to be locked after hours to prevent trespassing and vandalism using a key code lock system or through a cloud based remote locking system, such as: <http://remotelock.com/>.

4) Playground

The playground was cited by nearly half of surveyed users (47%) as needing improvements and was the primary reason 35% of respondents visit MLK Park. Make general repairs and improvements to the existing playground equipment immediately, and in the short-term begin replacing equipment specifically catering to the 5 to 12-year-old age group. The addition of sun sails (shades) will make the playground facility more useable during the hot summer months by keeping the kids and equipment cooler. Improvements should incorporate design elements from crime-prevention-through-environmental-design (CPTED). CPTED principles state public safety can be fostered through design principles and community engagement (www.ncpc.org). By designing an environment that is non-conducive to illicit behavior and involving the community (e.g. neighborhood watch), trespassing and other illegal activities will be discouraged.

5) Splash Pad and Memorial Wall

During warm weather, the splash pad will provide a unique and fun extension of the playground area and a chance for park goers to cool off after visiting the playground, athletic fields, or fitness trail. The overall theme of the splash pad/plaza should relate to the park's namesake, Dr. King (e.g. design the water feature to mimic the reflection pool at the Washington Monument). The addition of a memorial or another feature (e.g. a "before I die" wall) would add a unique feature allowing residents to interact and engage with their park. Additionally, "Before I Die" is a global initiative that recognizes similar projects throughout the world; Wildwood would be recognized amongst an international community on the project's website: <http://beforeidie.cc>.



6) Basketball Courts

During a site visit, several local residents expressed interest in the possibility of adding additional basketball facilities at MLK Park. It is recommended that the city conduct an additional audit to determine how much the current courts are being used. However, it is still advised that improvements be made to the existing court prior to studying usage, in order to determine if said improvements increase overall demand. In the event that demand exceeds current capacity, an additional basketball court with shorter or adjustable goals parallel to the existing structure would double the number of courts available as well as cater to potential new users. Add a shade structure between the two sets of courts to provide relief for the middle bleachers and resting players. Add bleachers and lighting to accommodate the new courts. Vandal-resistant lighting (<http://www.vandalshields.com>) could be used to mitigate the risk of lighting being “shot-out” or otherwise damaged. As mentioned in the playground recommendations, incorporating CPTED standards of design and engaging community partners (e.g. neighborhood watch & police) can reduce the instances of trespassing, vandalism, and other nefarious activities.

7) Athletic or General Use Fields

Convert the remaining open space on the eastern boundary of the park into leveled general use or athletic fields. New fields at MLK could offset demand for field time at Millennium Park for youth football and soccer leagues and increase the overall number of visitors the park receives. Fields would be oriented north-south for full-field usage and would measure 360' x 160'; east-west alignment could be used for shorter-field or youth games. Connect to other areas of the park with the aforementioned walkways.

8) Housing Study and Redevelopment Plan

In addition to the aforementioned physical improvements to MLK Park, it is recommended that the City of Wildwood conduct a housing and neighborhood redevelopment study for the surrounding community. Currently, a number of vacant or abandoned homes and residential units exist within the MLK service area; rehabilitating the housing stock could bring more residents into the community and increase the number of visits to MLK Park. Please see the separate “Beating Blight” report, which was presented at the Orange County Neighborhood Services Conference in the summer of 2015. This report provides a number of approaches to assist with redevelopment and eradicating blighted neighborhood conditions.

Note: All remaining MLK Park recommendations were generated from community feedback and site visits with the overall goal of increasing amenities and boosting the number of visitors. It is recommended that the city continue monitoring the level of use prior to investing in medium and long-range improvements.

9) Multiuse Perimeter Trail

Construct a multiuse trail around the perimeter of the park. Of the 50 survey responses, more than a quarter indicated they visited MLK primarily for exercise or biking. Furthermore, 21% of replies indicated they would like to see better bicycle access to the park. The addition of a more robust multiuse trail around the park boundary could help retain and expand upon this user group. The



trail should be wide enough to accommodate both cyclists and joggers, leaving room for passing without having to go off the path. Add signs near both parking lots to show a map of the trail and notate distance. Plant trees and place benches along the path to provide shade and natural rest points.

10) Fitness Loop

The fitness loop is an expansion of the exercise opportunity created by the multiuse trail. Exercise stations may include pull-up bars, parallel bars, sit-up benches, pushup bars, etc. Add signage at each station to identify equipment and proper use. The fitness center could be located in the triangular shaped southeast corner of the property.

11) BBQ Pavilion

Survey results indicated that 38% of park goers would like to see better furnishings (e.g. picnic tables, benches, etc.) provided at MLK. This would also cater to the 54% of surveyed park goers that selected “events” as the primary reason for visiting the park. The addition of a sheltered pavilion with picnic tables and grills is an opportunity to bring the “events” crowd together with the 48% of individuals that come for the playground by offering more capacity to host small scale events (e.g. birthday parties, neighborhood cookouts, etc.).

12) Walkways (a) and Trees (b)

Connect all amenities with a system of formal walkways. Formalized walkways would help improve the overall pedestrian and ADA access throughout the park – 32% and 17% of surveyed responses identified these as areas of needed improvement, respectively. Add landscaping and trees to provide shade. Add lighting to improve safety and security. Small banners could be hung from the light poles to promote upcoming events and enhance the overall sense of place.

13) Baseball Field Expansion and Improvements

Remove the existing track around the field. Fence in existing baseball field to create a more formal playing area. Add benches along the first and third base lines with shade structures to serve as dugouts. Construct an additional field facing south, opposite of the existing facility. Signs could be added to designate and/or dedicate the fields.

14) Northeast Parking Lot

As MLK Park becomes more popular and formal amenities extend eastward, additional parking maybe required. Adding a new lot constructed with asphalt millings in the northeast corner of the property will serve as an additional access point for residences along CR-238 and CR-240. Additionally, a northeast lot will be closer in proximity to the newly proposed recreation amenities.

15) Community Center

Several community leaders emphasized the need for a formal community center in the MLK Park neighborhood. The addition of a 7,000 square foot facility is proposed in the southwest corner of



the park. This would provide space for community meetings and other events, and could be rented to offset costs. The location of the facility would provide easy access to the existing (and improved) parking lot and create a formal presence along CR-213. As a phased approach, the city could explore a partnership with the City Ministries to renovate their former facility into a community center. Volunteers could be leveraged to make aesthetic improvements to the property (e.g. paint, landscaping, & cleanup). With either option, the cost of renovation versus new construction and the related operation and maintenance comparisons costs should be considered.



Table 5.2.1.1: Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Capital Improvements Phasing

Martin Luther King, Jr. Park		
Goal	When	Estimated Cost
1. Enhanced Landscaping	Short-term	Varies
2. Parking	Short-term	\$280,000
3. New Restrooms	Short-term	\$500,000
4. Playground with shade improvements	Short-term	\$75,000
5. Splash Pad and Memorial Wall	Short-term	\$500,000 Splash Pad alone
6. Two Basketball Courts & Two Bleachers	Short-term	\$30,000 (each) & \$2,500 (each)
7. Athletic Fields	Short-term	\$80,000
8. Housing and Redevelopment Study	Short-term	Staff time
9. Perimeter Trail (10' wide x 4,052' long)	Mid-term	\$567,000 (\$14.00 / sq. ft.)
10. Fitness Loop (10 ft. wide)	Mid-term	\$60,000 for equipment plus \$14 per square foot for multi-use loop
11. Pavilion(s)	Mid-term	\$125,000
12. (a) Walkways (10 ft. wide)	Mid-term	\$106,000 (\$14.00 / sq. ft.)
12. (b) Trees	Mid-term	\$20,000 for approx. 50 oak trees
13. Baseball Field	Mid-term	\$250,000 (does not include improvement costs for existing)
14. North Parking Lot	Mid-term	\$15,000
15. Community Center	Long-term	\$1,750,000
Lighting for parking, community center and athletics fields	As required by other projects	\$900,000

Source: Orange County Parks and Recreation Project Manager. Estimated costs do not include design expenses, testing of soils, permitting fees or costs such as inflation. An additional 15% should be budgeted to cover the costs of these services.



5.2.2 Millennium Park

Figure 5.2.2.1: Millennium Park Concept Plan



Millennium Park is a large community park, which functions as a regional sports park. As seen in Chapter III, analysis of survey respondents, the park serves the entire Wildwood community and also draws regional visitors from as far away as Sarasota, Florida. While the Millennium Park Concept Plan builds on the regional sports theme, it also provides enhanced landscaping with active and passive recreational opportunities.

Community engagement and field inventories suggested that the following improvements should be considered as high priority: improved parking, seating for sporting events, shade, improved

jogging path, preserved tree canopy, water activities, lighting, playground updates, handicap accessibility, and improved pedestrian and vehicular access and connectivity. Below is a detailed list of proposed park enhancements:

1) Two Baseball Fields

Currently there are ten small baseball fields and two large fields. This improvement would include completion of the final two large ball fields. Lighting and permanent seating would be phased in over several years. Portable bleachers could be used as temporary seating when needed.

2) Basketball Court

Construct an additional concrete basketball court located immediately northeast of the existing playground facility and existing basketball court. Align the court with the goals facing east-west with a dimension of 84' x 50'. Add a small set of bleachers to accommodate players and spectators. Consider adding a bike rack either adjacent to the courts or in the recommended parking lot (see item 9). Any additional lighting features should include timing mechanisms to prevent loitering after hours and light pollution in the nearby residential areas.

3) Football Fields, Relocate and Re-Sod

Relocate and re-sod the three football fields to just south of the baseball fields. Relocating the fields would concentrate all athletic facilities on the northern half of the property and allow for the dedication of the southern portion of the property to more passive and event-based activities. This would also include irrigation installation for the fields. Furthermore, current plans for MLK Park call for the addition of athletic fields, which could alleviate some of the demand for field time.

4) Portable Bleachers

Almost three-quarters of Millennium Park goers chose either “participate in sports” or “bring children to sports” as their primary purpose for visiting the park. By using a portable version, bleachers can be moved from one game to the next, with very little staff effort. These could be placed around the football fields or the soccer fields to create more of a formalized play area for games and tournaments.

5) Splash Pad

A children’s splash pad was very popular with residents and was the most requested amenity at the November 2015 community design event. The splash pad is to be located adjacent to the existing playground, and near the proposed restroom/concession facilities and parking. By locating this feature next to the existing/improved playground, young park visitors would be concentrated in a single area, and thus more easily supervised. Another consideration for locating here would be the connection distance to water and sewer services.



6) Playground

Phase one calls for improvements to the current playground and adding toddler equipment, an amenity used by 33% of surveyed guests (the second most popular response) and identified as “in need of improvement” by 22%. The improvements would be focused on creating a safe environment for all ages to take part and enjoy. The following lists needed play area improvements:

- Engineered mulch or other improved ground cover to protect against falls.
- Shade structures to promote health and wellness in the sun, as well as reducing cases of heat-related injuries. The need for shade was the most popular “other” response to the recommended improvements section of the survey.
- Increased bench seating.
- Updated fencing around toddler play area.
- New/updated playground equipment.
- Modifications to some of the play area to make it ADA Accessible.

7) Restroom and Concession Facilities

Demolish the existing restrooms and concession stands and rebuild as one comprehensive facility. One facility will be in a centralized location to the athletic facilities; the other should be placed near the playground and splash pad. Many residents indicated in both the surveys and at the community event that improved concessions and restroom facilities were desired. The concession area could be leased to a vendor to generate additional revenue for the park. Restrooms should continue to be locked after hours to prevent trespassing and vandalism, using a key code lock system or controlled through a cloud based remote locking system, such as: <http://remotelock.com/>.

8) Community Center Parking Expansion

Completion of paved parking to the south of the community center will create additional formal parking and discourage visitors from parking in undesignated areas. The installation of lighting will improve safety and security around the community center. For a phased improvement option, install electrical conduits prior to paving in order to run underground wiring for future lights.

9) Parking along Powell Road and Huey Street near Baseball Complexes

Additional parking along Huey Street, and although not shown on the concept plan, consider also an expansion and paving of the existing dirt parking lot along Powell Road to better serve visitors of the athletic fields/basketball courts/playground and baseball fields, respectively. New paved parking around the park’s perimeter will eliminate the need for visitors to drive through the middle of the park to access different amenities, creating a safer environment for pedestrians and bicyclists. Install lighting in a similar manner described in step 8.



10) Lighting for the Grand Soccer Field and the Football Fields

While the irrigation is installed, the electricity could also be installed for the sports field lighting. In order to recover costs, this lighting would be equipped with timing mechanisms to require pay-for-use. In addition to the large athletic contingent, 29% of surveys specifically identified “lighting” as an area of need. Timing mechanisms could be used to limit hours of useage and mitigate disturbances to nearby neighborhoods.

11) Pedestrian Greenway and Jogging Path

A key part of the concept plan is separation of the vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Providing a greenway will help meet that objective, create a safer environment for visitors to the park, provide better pedestrian access, and encourage alternative modes of transportation be utilized to access the park. The proposal provides pedestrian greenways with direct access to and from Huey Street, Powel Road, and the Community Center to other amenities and facilities within the park. Additionally, off street sidewalks will be needed along Huey St. and potentially Broken Oak Drive. The primary pedestrian greenway would be enhanced with shade trees, pedestrian lighting, and benches. Decorative signage could be added to light poles to promote a sense of place and upcoming events. These greenways are recommended to be 10-foot wide, and total approximately 15,600 feet in length.



In addition to this, the existing unpaved jogging path would be improved to an asphalt or synthetic track surface (e.g. a rubberway pervious pavement system - (<http://sustainablesurfacing.com/products/porous-rubber-surfaces/rubber-trails>)). This is a low slip material, spike resilient, and is a comfortable running surface. Currently 16% of surveyed residents indicated exercise or biking was their primary reason for visiting Millennium Park; this is a potential opportunity to draw a new segment of the population to the park.

12) Exercise Equipment along the Jogging Path:

Exercise equipment would be placed along the jogging path in small stations throughout the naturally shaded area. These would include equipment such as pendulum, chest press, pull-up bars, lateral and vertical press, row machine, leg press, and elliptical. This would fulfill one of the major requests made in both the surveys and at the community event.

13) Additional Landscaping

Landscaping, specifically new oak trees, along the park boundaries and internal pedestrian walkways would help establish visual boundaries, provide shade, and beautify the overall park surroundings. This plan calls for the addition of approximately 100 oak trees in and around Millennium Park. 14a) Formal Event Lawn



Over a quarter of surveyed residents chose events as their main reason for visiting Millennium Park. The area south of the community center would be designated as an event lawn. For the first phase, underground electrical would be run to the future shaded pavilion, along with providing electrical outlets to be used by event vendors, for inflatable activity zones, and food trucks. This will eliminate the need for food trucks to have generators running, and provide a more enjoyable atmosphere.



14) Event Lawns

The Event Lawns would create a formal place for food truck bazars, holiday events, and other festivals. The major improvement here would include a shaded pavilion with electrical hook-ups, barbecue grills, and new high traffic sod – over one-third of survey respondents requested better outdoors furnishings.



15) Storm Water Facility

As more paving is added for the drive aisles, the greenway, and the parking lot expansion, stormwater compensation needs must be addressed. The phase two concept shows the existing pond being expanded into the lower end of the Millennium Park property. The existing pond is a dry detention pond; however, with the expansion, it could be converted into a larger wet retention pond or potentially into a rain garden. The pond could then be planted with littoral plantings, and functional decorative plantings. If converted into a wet retention pond, a fountain could also be considered as an option to create more of an entry feature to the park.



16) Amphitheater:

The outdoor amphitheater would be placed in the low area near the western property line. This would allow patrons to take blankets and/or lawn chairs and watch the theatrical events with natural theatre type seating created by the change in elevation. The facility itself would consist of a newly constructed stage and winged backing.

Table 5.2.2.1: Millennium Park Project Phasing

Millennium Park		
Goal	When	Estimated Cost
1. Two Baseball Fields	Short-term	\$500,000
2. Basketball Court	Short-term	\$30,000 (each)
3. Football Fields	Short-term	\$45,000
4. Portable Bleachers	Short-term	\$2,500 per bleacher
5. Splash Pad	Midterm	\$750,000
6. Playground with shade and other improvements	Mid-term	\$90,000
7. Concession and Restroom Facility	Mid-term	\$750,000
8. Community Center Parking Lot	Short-term	\$120,000
9. New Parking	Mid-term	\$30,000
10. Field Lighting	As required by other projects	\$180,000
11. Pedestrian Greenway (10' wide x 15,616' long)	Mid-term	\$200,000 for LED lighting \$14 / sq. ft path \$2.2 million total
12. Exercise Equipment	Mid-term	\$65,000
13. Landscaping	As required by other projects	\$40,000
14. Event Lawn(s)	Long-term	Varies
15. Storm Water Expansion	Long-term	Detailed Engineering Required
16. Amphitheater	Long-term	\$250,000

Source: Orange County Parks and Recreation Project Manager. Estimated costs do not include design expenses, testing of soils, permitting fees or costs such as inflation. An additional 15% should be budgeted to cover the costs of these services.



5.2.3 Oxford Park

Oxford Park is a neighborhood park serving the population within approximately one-half of a mile as a “walk-to” park. While this park does meet some neighborhood recreational needs, improvements are needed to sufficiently meet the needs of the surrounding community while also reflecting the appropriate character and design of the area.

Figure 5.2.3.1: Oxford Park Concept Plan



The survey data, community engagement events, and field inventories suggested that the following improvements should be considered as high priority: improved pedestrian access to the park, improved restroom facilities, shade, lighting, improved playground, splash pad, basketball, and community garden or nature education opportunities. This concept shows some shifting of existing facilities for more efficient use of the space, while allowing for investments addressing the community’s concerns. Below is a detailed list of proposed park enhancements:

1) Permanent Restroom Facility

Remove the existing portable restroom and construct a centrally located permanent facility. Install a key code lock system or a cloud based remote locking system, such as: <http://remotelock.com/>.

2) Baseball Field Improvements

Improve the existing baseball field by adding a permanent full-hooded backstop and netting (25’ height) along the foul lines. The additional safety features are designed to mitigate the risk of balls being hit into the parking areas or the street. *Note: Field is currently being considered for alternative future uses. Field improvements should only occur if the city determines to leave the field in place.*



3) Landscape with Canopy Trees and Hardscape Furniture

Plant shade trees along the access road and furnish with benches and picnic tables in a covered area to create a promenade along the back boundary of the new event facility. A landscaped access road could be used in conjunction with events/performances scheduled for the event facility, or could be a stand-alone event space (e.g. food truck night / farmer's market).

4) Realign Basketball and Tennis Courts

The proposal calls for the basketball courts to be reoriented parallel with CR-466 while remaining immediately adjacent with the tennis courts. The entire basketball/tennis facility would be moved to the eastern most boundary of the park. This will create space for a north-south multi use field to the east of the access road and the existing tennis courts.

5) Playground Facilities with Shade Sails

Relocate the playground to the southern boundary of the park, between the new access road and the relocated tennis courts. Replace broken and worn equipment (cater to the 5-12 age group). Add shade sails to keep visitors and equipment cool during the summer months.

6) Multi-Use Field

Establish a leveled multi-use field in the area previously occupied by the basketball/tennis courts (see above).

7) Picnic Area and Pavilions

Construct two pavilions to be used as passive recreational areas.

8) Multi-Use Path / Market Area

Bisect the park with a limited access road connecting CR-466 and CR-106. The access road would be used prior to and after events for setup and tear down. During events vendors could use the road to set up shop (e.g. food trucks, market places, etc.). For non-event use, the road would be blocked from thru traffic by bollards. While Oxford park does not lend itself well to a community garden or nature education area as suggested by a few residents, providing an area for potential farmer's market type activities are another way to get fresh local food to the area.



Table 5.2.3.1: Oxford Park Project Phasing

Oxford Park		
Goal	When	Estimated Cost
1. Permanent Restroom Facility	Short-term	\$500,000
2. Baseball Field	Short-term	\$180,000
3. Landscaping	Mid-term	\$6,800
4. Basketball and Tennis Courts	Mid-term	\$30,000 each
5. Playground with Shade Sales	Mid-term	\$80,000
6. Multi-use Field	Mid-term	\$40,000
7. Shaded Picnic area with Pavilions	Mid-term	\$125,000
8. Limited Access Road (12 ft. wide)	Long-term	\$14-\$17 per square foot

Source: Orange County Parks and Recreation Project Manager. Estimated costs do not include design expenses, testing of soils, permitting fees or costs such as inflation. An additional 15% should be budgeted to cover the costs of these services.

5.2.4 Reservation Management

Due to the City's many active recreational amenities, a reservation system such as Active.Net should also be considered by the city to make reservations smoother, allow payment online, and ensure that fields are paid for when used. This should be considered for all of the city's parks. Having a more reliable system will improve customer satisfaction, and provide a more consistent source of revenue to offset a portion of park operating costs. An example of an effective system can be seen by visiting the Osceola County Park Facility reservation system https://apm.activecommunities.com/osceolaparks/Reserve_Options.



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6.1 CHAPTER OVERVIEW

The purpose of this chapter is to provide Wildwood's community stakeholders with a greater perspective on the activities and investments required to transform the parks and recreation system into a point of civic pride. The City of Wildwood belongs to a rapidly growing region, and will need to expand its park services and amenities to serve new and existing residents.

Section 6.2 provides information about potential sources of funding for the City of Wildwood's Parks and Recreation Department, ranging from local financing to national grants. Dedicated funding resources and mechanisms to recover operating costs are necessary to maintain a financially sustainable park system. The tables in this section are organized to help the City of Wildwood prioritize its resources and efforts in obtaining greater sources of funding for its Parks and recreation system. Each table incorporates a measure of feasibility for attaining and maintaining access to these revenue streams, and provides an example of a municipality that has been successful in its efforts to secure the associated revenue source.

Section 6.3 discusses significant changes that could lead to cost savings and improve revenue collection for the City of Wildwood. These recommendations are accompanied by examples of other municipalities whose efforts in establishing partnerships, enhancing volunteerism, acquiring new park space, and redeveloping existing facilities have benefitted their residents.

Section 6.4 outlines a plan of action that will help the City of Wildwood to create a sustainable and environmentally friendly park system. This section brings the guiding principles from Chapter I together with a series of goals that are in order for this plan to be balanced and effective. Goals are broken down further to show priority, accountability, and associated costs.



6.2 Funding Opportunities

6.2.1 Pricing Policies:

Many municipalities throughout the country have started to implement a “pyramid” pricing methodology for their parks and recreation services in an effort to make sure that the individuals who use park facilities and programs are paying a fair share of the costs. For instance, the City of Henderson (NV) refers to their pricing methodology as a “cost recovery tree”. The foundation or “roots” represent the basic park facilities and services which benefit the entire community. A cost recovery of 0-15 percent is appropriate at the roots level, but these programs/services are typically funded through taxes alone. The level of cost recovery increases as the programs/services become more specialized. The last level with a cost recovery of 100 percent or more is known as the fruit. This would include very specialized uses of park facilities that most likely do not have a direct relation to the City’s Parks and Recreation Department vision or goals such as a privately organized entertainment venue (see table 5.3.1.1 below for examples).

Table 6.2.1.1: Cost Recovery Tree

Category	Cost recovery range	Example
Fruit	100 or greater percent	Private events which might include the sale of merchandise, food & beverages, private facility or equipment rentals, etc.
Leaf	70-100 percent	Adult sports leagues, equipment and other rentals, events that are supported by a public-private partnership, etc.
Branch	30-70 percent	Fitness classes for adults or seniors, youth and non-profit equipment and facility rentals, etc.
Trunk	15-30 percent	Youth leagues & clubs, youth programs that require more specialized supervision or instruction, etc.
Roots	0-15 percent	After-school extracurricular or academic programs sponsored by the City or partnership with a non-profit youth organization, etc.

Source: City of Henderson, NV Parks & Recreation Master Plan (2009).



6.2.2 Partnership Opportunities:

Securing dedicated funding for parks, recreation and many other public goods can be challenging. As a result, municipalities across the country are looking towards private and non-profit community stakeholders as well as other public agencies to help share the increasing burden of these costs. Many jurisdictions are also working with their regional partners in order to make sure that future land use plans and policies are consistent and do not duplicate facilities or services. The following list provides some examples of partnerships that have been successful or helpful to public parks and recreation agencies nationwide.

Environmental/Conservation Groups

- According to Miami's Parks & Public Spaces Master Plan, the City has several non-profit conservation partners (including the Bayfront Trust and Virginia Key Beach Park Trust) which have taken on the responsibilities of park management and improvements while Miami retains ownership. For instance, the Virginia Key Beach Park Trust worked to restore a once segregated beach which has great historical importance to the Civil Rights Movement (City of Miami, n.d.).
- "Friends of" our parks groups open new potential revenue streams by creating access to other NPOs and private tax-deductible donations. For example, since its inception in 1981, the City of Tallahassee Friends of our Parks has accepted over \$1.5 million in gifts and property. The types of gifts received range from cash donations, to services, to property. Donations can be earmarked for specific programs or facilities, or allocated by the foundation itself (City of Tallahassee, n.d.)

Youth and Community Service Groups

- The City of Colorado Springs, CO has partnered with the National Inclusion Project, which provides staff training and funding towards creating inclusive recreation environments for all children, with or without disabilities. The National Inclusion Project's "Let's ALL Play" initiative will invest up to \$10,000 annually towards staff training to better serve children with disabilities and scholarships for children with disabilities whose families are in financial need (City of Colorado Springs, 2014).
- Boy Scout and Girl Scout groups work to promote walk and bike safety in the City of Henderson, NV. They also have conducted neighborhood improvement and park "clean-up/fix up" days for the city in the past (City of Henderson, 2009).
- The Corporation for National & Community Service (CNCS) offers various grants to help pay a portion of the costs for AmeriCorps members to live in your area and help your cause. CNCS prioritizes environmental causes (e.g. 21st Century Service Corps) as well as building safer communities through summer programming and events that can help to mitigate "civil unrest" like youth violence. The grantees are responsible for 24 percent of costs the first three years that funding is requested, but increases each year after. Also, the grantees have to pay an agreed upon living wage for each AmeriCorps Volunteer. The CNCS considers 1,700 hours the length of an AmeriCorp Volunteer's service. The City of Orlando, FL received two AmeriCorp grants in 2015 totaling \$1,296,606.00. Orlando's match to these grants totaled only \$511,360.00 (CNCS, n.d.).



School Districts

- The City of Kirkland and Lake Washington School District entered into a “joint use agreement” which would allow City residents to utilize the School District’s athletics fields when school is not in session. In return, the City contributes funds towards maintenance, security and any improvements beyond the needs of children at each school (Washington State, 2005).

Government Partners

- The City of San Jose, CA works with its regional transit authority to make sure that they implement transit routes that correspond with public facilities. The City also tries to co-locate its schools, parks and recreation facilities, and libraries so that the transit authority can reduce its infrastructure costs.
- The Pacific Northwest Interagency Cooperative (GEM) includes public agencies such as the Washington State Department of Transportation and the City of Portland, OR. GEM allows members to pool their resources to purchase and share equipment, exchange ideas to promote efficiency in public services, and allows employees of participating public organizations to enroll in safety, first aid and other occupational classes at a shared training center (Washington State, 2005)

Public-Private Partnerships

- The Indianapolis Greenway Foundation (Foundation) is a partnership between state, regional and local government agencies and non-profit groups that aim to preserve and expand trails in the State of Indiana. The Foundation looks to enter land-lease agreements with businesses adjacent to trails, which provides a source of funding for its conservation efforts. The Foundation sometimes sells portions of the trails that it manages to corporations and non-profit groups in order to generate steady funding. Furthermore, the Foundation has also sold the development rights alongside some of its trails to various local utility providers (Greenways Foundation, n.d.).
- A concessions agreement between the City of Boston and a group of business owners and real estate moguls helped to create a park at Post Office Square with an underground parking lot and food kiosk. This for-profit group now operates and maintains these facilities that they developed and will transfer operations back to Boston after they earn back the agreed upon concessions profit (Harnik, 2008).
- The City of San Francisco’s public-private Redevelopment Authority (which was dissolved in 2012) provided funding for the development of the Yerba Buena Garden, and in return was allowed to redevelop a nearby building into a mixed-use development and operate these facilities for to gain a profit (Harnik, 2008).

Table 6.2.2.2 lists examples of prospective partnership opportunities that could benefit the Parks and Recreation Department’s ability to reach Wildwood’s residents and meet the overarching goals and vision of the park system. The expected viability of each partnership was rated as “long-term” if they would entail the lowest costs to the city and an ongoing commitment, “mid-term” if they represent modest costs to the city and entail a seasonal commitment, or “short-



term” if the partnership would entail high costs to the city and involve a competitive process in which the likelihood of a repeat or habitual partnership is low.

Table 6.2.2.2: Partnership opportunities for the City of Wildwood Parks and Recreation Department

<u>Partner</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Costs to Wildwood</u>	<u>Expected Viability</u>
New Covenant United Methodist Church – Pastor Harold Hendren, Minister of Discipleship – Gary Cantrell	3470 Woodridge Dr., The Villages, FL 32162	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time - administrative duties 	Mid to Long-term
B.W. City Ministries – Pastor Tony Jones Sr.	3105 FL-44, Wildwood, FL 34785	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time - administrative duties 	Mid to Long-term
National Inclusion Project	North Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time for the application process 	Short-term
Boy Scouts - Gulf Ridge Council Withlacoochee District	Brooksville, FL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time – administrative & duties 	Mid-term
Girl Scouts of West Central Florida	Camp Wildwood: 9583 CR 223 Wildwood, FL 34785	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time - administrative duties 	Mid-term



<u>Partner</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Costs to Wildwood</u>	<u>Expected Viability</u>
AmeriCorps	Varies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time for the application process • Living wage for all volunteers requested (e.g. food). • 24 percent of the costs of the proposed program in years 1-3. Percent increases after year 3. 	Short-term
Sumter County School District	2680 West County Road 476 Bushnell, FL 33513	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time for interlocal agreement process • Possible staff time for supervision/training of volunteers 	Long-term
Sumter County BOCC - Community Transportation Coordinator	319 E. Anderson Ave, Bushnell, FL 33513	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff time for interlocal agreement process 	Long-term
Wildwood Rotary Club	Miona Lake Country Club 5473 CR 122, Wildwood, 34785	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible staff time for training/coordination efforts 	Mid to Long-term
Wildwood Area Historical Association	Wildwood Community Center 6500 Powell Road Wildwood, FL 34785	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible staff time for training/coordination efforts 	Mid to Long-term
Wildwood-Sumter County Lions Club Inc.	818 Old Wire Rd, Wildwood, FL 34785	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible staff time for training/coordination efforts 	Mid to Long-term
Sumter 4-H Youth Development Club through the University of Florida	7620 State Road 471, Suite 2 Bushnell, FL 33513	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possible staff time for training/coordination efforts 	Mid-term

Source: Various non-profit, private and public organizations in the Central Florida region, all of which are included in the references section of this Master Plan document.



6.2.3 Government and Private Funding and Cost Savings:

Local

- Recreation districts can be established per F.S. 418.20 if residents in a proposed district petition to pass such an ordinance that is then approved by majority vote. A recreation district can be governed by a five-member or larger board elected by the residents of the district, or it can be governed by the Wildwood City Commission. Recreation districts have the power to acquire, purchase, develop and improve parks and recreation facilities. These districts can also issue bonds and pledge taxes towards debt service repayment. They can also charge fees for the use of district recreational facilities and enter into contracts and leases for operating and maintenance costs of district facilities (Florida Legislature, n.d.).
- Dependent special districts can be created pursuant to F.S. 189.02 and through the passage of an ordinance by the City of Wildwood. The City of Wildwood Commission can either appoint itself the governing body of the special district or appoint all of its members. Special districts can collect revenue from all the same sources as a city for facility expenditures (e.g. ad valorem taxes), provided that the City of Wildwood Commission approves its budget. All special districts must register with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity within 30 days of convening and pay a \$175.00 annual fee for FDEO's administrative/auditing costs. A list of special districts in Florida can be found on the DEOs website (Florida Legislature, n.d.).
- The Tourist Development Tax is a plausible long-term parks and recreation funding source for the City of Wildwood. The grant amount awarded to each jurisdiction varies, but cities can receive annual funding for special events. In 2015 the Downtown Entertainment in the Villages event was awarded a \$60,000 grant as requested. The Sumter County Tourist Development Council is the administrator/ body of approval for the Tourist Development Tax grants (Sumter County Government, n.d.).
- Developer Incentives such as density bonus agreements could be used by the jurisdiction to encourage a developer to set aside a greater amount of land for parks and open space. Paley Park was dedicated to the City of New York by a developer who was granted a building height bonus in return (Harnik, 2008).
- Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) funds can be utilized to acquire land for parks and recreation purposes, as well as for any redevelopment or revitalization projects defined by the Wildwood CRA Committee. Presently, only roads located within the CRA are eligible for this funding. However, this includes roads adjacent to MLK Jr., Millennium, and Oxford Park such as Huey Street. These projects could enhance connectivity and access to Wildwood's parks, beautify streets, and slow down traffic near the parks (City of Wildwood CRA, n.d.).
- General obligation bonds can be utilized by a jurisdiction to fund capital improvements (Pursuant to F.S. 166.121). General obligation bonds must be approved through a referendum by the city commissioners as well as the residents of Wildwood (Florida Legislature, n.d.).



- The Local Government Infrastructure Tax would be a good source of long-term funding; however, it would be quite difficult to implement. Pursuant to F.S. 212.055(2), Sumter County can collect between 0.5 to 1.0 percent in additional sales tax on the first \$5,000 of a product or service transaction to improve infrastructure. Typically, taxes generated through this method are earmarked for capital investments; but under special circumstances, they can also be used to fund operation/maintenance of parks (see section 'g' of F.S. 212.055(2)). The Local Government Infrastructure Tax passage would require a majority vote by the members of the Sumter Board of County Commissioners as well as a majority vote by the citizens of Sumter County (Florida Legislature, n.d.).
- Special assessments can be levied upon properties, which are benefiting from park improvements per F.S. Chapter 170.01. The City of Wildwood Board of Commissioners can prescribe a method to determine how much nearby properties have benefited in property value and assess a tax that is proportional to said derived benefits from the park improvements (Florida Legislature, n.d.).

Table 6.2.3.3 lists prospective city or county funding opportunities. The long-term feasibility of each funding tool was rated as “high” if it would likely entail the least opposition from community stakeholders and provide a dedicated source of revenue for the Parks and Recreation Department, “modest” if it would encounter some opposition from community stakeholders and provide a steady but inconsistent revenue stream, or “low” if the funding tool generates majority opposition from community stakeholders and provides a small or short-term boost of revenue.



Table 6.2.3.3: Potential Local Government Parks and Recreation Funding Strategies

<u>Funding Tool</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Barriers to use</u>	<u>Long-term Feasibility</u>	<u>Florida Example</u>
Recreation Districts under F.S. 418.20	Varies	Resident petition and referendum required	Modest to High	Heron's Glen Recreation District in N. Fort Myers, FL
Special Districts under F.S. 189.02	Varies	Resident opposition	Modest to High	Holiday Park, Park and Recreation District in North Port, FL.
Sumter County Tourist Development Tax	Varies	N/A	High	Sumter County Board of County Commissioners received a \$58,000 TDT grant for a walking path around Lake Okahumpka Park and a roadway to increase resident access to the park.
Developer Incentives	Varies	N/A	High	The City of Fort Myers's Comprehensive Plan provides density bonuses for many considerations including projects that increase pedestrian connectivity (see policy 1.3)
Community Redevelopment Areas	Varies	N/A	Modest	N/A
General Obligation Bond	Varies	Resident referendum required	Modest to High	Sunrise, FL – Leisure Services Park Bonds (2014) up to \$65 million. The City estimated a property tax increase of just \$35.03 per year for homeowners.
Local Government Infrastructure Surtax	Varies	Majority vote by all local governments in Sumter County and resident referendum required	Low to High	Pinellas County, FL – The first "Penny for Pinellas" ballot-initiative was passed in 1990 and it was renewed in 2010 for ten years. Penny for Pinellas adds a 1-percent county sales tax to the 6-percent statewide sales tax. The County reports that about 75 percent of all infrastructure improvements have been paid for through the penny surtax.
Special Assessments under F.S. 170.01	Variable	Resident opposition	Modest	N/A
Parks and Open Space Trust Fund	Varies	N/A	High	According to the City of Miami's Ordinance# 05-01089, at least eighty percent of parks and recreation revenues going into the Fund must be devoted towards park and open space acquisition

Source: Various U.S. cities and counties, all of which are included in the references section of this Master Plan document.



State/Regional

- The Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) is administered by The Florida Department of Environmental Protection, and provides grants of up to \$200,000 for county or local governments looking to upgrade or develop public recreation facilities or trails. Grants over \$150,000 requires 50 percent local funding whereas \$150,000 to \$50,001 grants require 25 percent local funding, and \$50,000 or less requires no local funding (FDEP, 2016).
- The Florida Communities Trust (FCT) provides Florida Forever grants or loans to local governments and/or non-profits seeking to preserve greenspace, parks, natural resources and historically important community land. Grants cannot exceed \$5 million, and the local government must provide at least 25 percent in matching funds (FDEP, 2016).
- The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Off-Highway Vehicle Safety and Recreation (OHV) grant program aims to improve "off-highway vehicle" recreational areas or trails and facilities. This could include planning and research activities for creating new OHV recreation facilities, repairing and maintaining existing OHV recreation facilities, rider safety education, or for the acquisition of land for OHV networks (FLDFS, n.d.).
- The Department of State and Secretary of State offers a Cultural Facilities Grant Program which has \$3,980,822 available in funding for municipalities who are interested in acquiring, rehabilitating, or developing new culturally significant facilities. Grant recipients must be able to demonstrate that they can fund twice the amount of money that they are requesting and have 50 percent of that in cash (FLDFS, n.d.).
- The Department of Health offers a few grants, including the "Close the Gap Cardiovascular Grant" with \$440,552 available in funding. The purpose of this grant is to eradicate racial and ethnic health inequalities, especially through the promotion of healthy lifestyles and disease prevention. Grant recipients are required to implement community wide interventions and education initiatives to eliminate persistent racial disparities (FLDFS, n.d.).
- FDOT's Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged (CTD) Planning Grant Program had \$1,674,029 in funds available during fiscal year 2015. However, only the Lake-Sumter MPO would be eligible to apply for this grant, which would require Wildwood to partner with them. There are no required local matching funds for this grant (FLDFS, n.d.).
- FDOT's Public Transit Service Development Program had \$51,550,827 of available funding in FY2015, and provided grants with a focus on boosting local transit ridership through new technologies, increasing the availability of routes, decreasing wait time, and improving transit maintenance and marketing systems. FDOT will provide funds up to half of a project's net cost, but will not commit any more funds towards the project than the local government entity (FLDFS, n.d.).



Table 6.2.3.4 lists prospective state or regional funding opportunities that could benefit the Parks and Recreation Department. The long-term feasibility of each funding tool was rated as “high” if it would likely entail the lowest costs to the city (e.g. low grant match and little staff time) and provide a dedicated source of revenue, “modest” if it would require a moderate city investment and provide a steady but inconsistent revenue stream, or “low” if the funding tool would require a large city match or investment and only provide a small or short-term funding boost.

Table 6.2.3.4: Potential State/Regional Government Parks and Recreation Funding Resources and long-term Feasibility

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Local funding match requirement</u>	<u>Barriers to Entry</u>	<u>Long-term Feasibility</u>
Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program	\$200,000 maximum	Over \$150,000 = 50% \$150,000 to \$50,001 = 25% \$50,000 or less = 0%	Administrative/ Competitive	Low to Modest
Florida Communities Trust (FCT)	\$5,000,000 maximum.	25 percent	N/A	High
Off-Highway Vehicle Safety and Recreation (OHV)	\$220,000 maximum.	20 percent	Administrative/ Competitive	Low to Modest
Cultural Facilities Grant Program	\$500,000 maximum.	Local government must pledge twice as many dollars as requested for this grant and have at least half of that amount in cash.	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
Close the Gap Cardiovascular Grant	Varies	N/A	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged	Varies	N/A	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
Public Transit Service Development Program	Varies	Up to 50 percent, but not exceeding the funds that the local government has invested in the project.	Administrative/ Competitive	Low

Source: Various U.S. organizations, all of which are included in the references section of this Master Plan document.



National

- The Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) allocates up to \$200,000 to municipalities for recreational land acquisition, and to develop eligible recreation facilities such as sports, playfields, and picnic facilities. The funding ratio is 50-25-25 for the federal, state and locality respectively (FDEP, 2016).
- The Recreational Trails Program (RTP) provides grants for the construction or rehabilitation of existing recreational pathways, or for linking existing trails or greenways. Non-motorized projects can only receive up to \$200,000 whereas motorized or mixed-use projects can be awarded up to \$500,000 with matching grants in ratios of 50-50, 60-40 and/or 80-20 (FDEP, 2016).
- The Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) provides funds to municipalities that plan to develop facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists, acquire scenic or historic land easements, beautify landscaping, convert old railroads to trails, and much more. There is currently no minimum or maximum TAP grant amount; however, project prioritization and selection is conducted by the Lake-Sumter MPO and then approved by FDOT. For FY2016 there is \$3,156,000 available for jurisdictions with a population between 5,000 and 199,000, and for FY2017 there is \$3,329,000 available. Moreover, at this time there is no matching fund requirement from local governments because FDOT uses highway toll receipts to cover the 20 percent matching usually required for TAP projects (Mariano Berrios - FDOT, 2016).
- The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity administers the Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program, and according to the FDEO website, they receive approximately \$18 million to \$26 million annually from HUD. This Small Cities grant can be to fund park facilities and community centers, but at least 51 percent of the neighborhood “beneficiaries” of such park improvements must belong to a household whose earnings could not exceed 80 percent of the area’s median income. Second, the grant would have to go towards a project that would eliminate blighted or unsightly homes and businesses near the park. Third, the applicant jurisdiction would need to show an urgent problem that threatens the welfare of the residents in the vicinity of the project (e.g. health issues or crime) and that the applicant would not be able to self-fund this project (FDEO, n.d.).
- The National Endowment for the Arts offers various grants to local government agencies that are looking to improve livability and the overall level of civil engagement. One such grant is called “Our Town Arts Engagement, Cultural Planning, and Design Projects”, which can be requested in increments of \$25,000 up to \$200,000. The Our Town grant requires a dollar for dollar match by the local jurisdiction and the local government must partner with a non-profit group that specializes in cultural arts or design. While grants cannot be used for any type of physical construction, purchase of land, acquisition of equipment, or facilities, they can be used to cover public art installation as well as community design and planning fees (NEA, n.d.).



Table 6.2.3.5 below lists prospective state or regional funding opportunities that could benefit the Parks and Recreation Department. The long-term feasibility of each funding tool was rated as “high” if it would likely entail the lowest costs to the city (e.g. low grant match and little staff time) and provide a dedicated source of revenue for the Parks and Recreation Department, “modest” if it would require a moderate city investment and provide a steady but inconsistent revenue source, or “low” if the funding tool would require a large city match or investment and provide a small or short-term boost of revenue.

Table 6.2.3.5: Potential Federal Government Parks and Recreation Funding Sources and Examples

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Local funding match requirement</u>	<u>Barriers to Entry</u>	<u>Long-term Feasibility</u>
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	\$200,000 maximum	25 percent	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Non-motorized project: \$200,000 maximum Motorized or mixed-use projects: \$500,000 maximum	Depends on grant size: 50, 40 or 20 percent.	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)	Varies	FDOT uses highway toll receipts to cover the 20 percent matching usually required for TAP projects	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
Small Cities Community Development Block Grant Program	Varies	N/A	Administrative/ Competitive	Low
The National Endowment for the Arts – Design Arts Program	\$50,000 to \$200,000	100 percent	Administrative/ Competitive	Low

Source: Various U.S. organizations, all of which are included in the references section of this Master Plan document.



Non-profit funding:

- KaBOOM! provides funding to non-profits and local government agencies to build or improve playground facilities, and focuses its efforts on reaching children in low-income neighborhoods, communities that serve high populations of children with disabilities, and communities that have been hard hit by natural or man-made disasters. The KaBOOM! “Build It Yourself” grant is \$15,000 and requires that the entire project must at least \$24,000 and be completed within a year of the award. The KaBOOM! Creative Play product grants are for non-profits or local agencies willing to try KaBOOM!’s new product lines such as “Rigamagig”, which includes rope, wooden boards, pulleys, nuts and bolts for hands on experimentation and fun. If chosen for this grant, the community partner maybe required to pay between \$1,000 and \$2,000 for shipping costs and provide some volunteers to help build (KaBOOM!, n.d.).
- Orlando City Foundation awards micro grants (\$500 - \$1,000) to organizations looking to start or enhance youth soccer programs. In 2015, the Sumter County Youth Soccer Club received a micro grant from the Foundation. Other recipients included non-profits and schools (Orlando City Foundation, 2016).
- The Conservation Fund is a non-profit environmental organization that offers low-interest loans to conservation groups such as land trusts, who are trying to save their community’s natural resources. According to their website, the Conservation Fund has given out approximately 280 loans to its partners amounting to more than \$150 million since 1993 (Conservation Fund, n.d.).

Table 6.2.3.6 below lists prospective private or non-profit funding opportunities that could benefit the Parks and Recreation Department. The long-term feasibility of each funding tool was rated as “high” if it would likely entail the lowest costs to the city (e.g. low grant match and little staff time) and provide a dedicated source of revenue for the Parks and Recreation Department, “modest” if it would require a moderate city investment and provide a steady but inconsistent revenue source, or “low” if the funding tool would require a large city match or investment and provide a small or short-term boost of revenue.



Table 6.2.3.6: List of possible Private/Non-profit funding sources and examples

<u>Funding Source</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Barriers to Entry</u>	<u>Long-term Feasibility</u>	<u>Example</u>
KaBOOM!	\$15,000	Administrative/ Competitive	Low	In 2014, KaBOOM! and private partners donated over \$100,000 in Build Safe Places to Play Grants to seven cities including the City of Kissimmee, FL
The Orlando City Foundation	\$500 to \$1,000	Administrative/ Competitive	Low	Paramore Neighborhood, Orlando FL – The OC hosted free soccer clinics for kids and also educated kids about healthy eating and exercise.
Corporate Sponsorships	Varies	Administrative/ Competitive	Low	Health First, a health insurance and medical network provider sponsors the City of Melbourne's PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.
Adopt-A-Foot Program	\$2,640 to \$26,400 over a five-year period	Administrative	Mid	Westerville, OH
The Conservation Fund	Varies	N/A	High	The Conservation Fund loaned the Indian River Land Trust (FL) \$3 million so that it could purchase an unprotected and environmentally important wetlands area known as Bee Gum Point (111 acres)

Source: Various U.S. cities and counties, all of which are included in the references section of this Master Plan document.



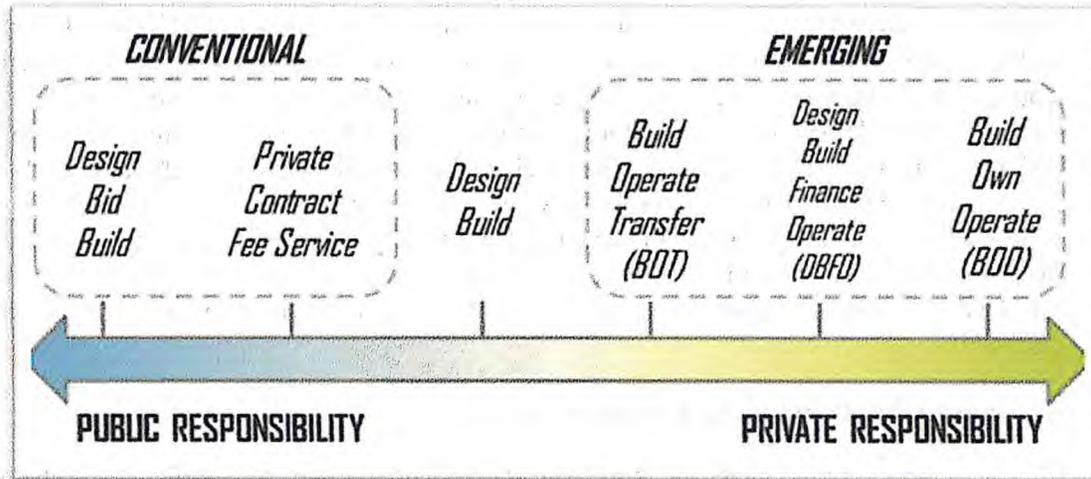
6.3 Recommendations for Further Research or Trial:

6.3.1 Increasing Revenue Streams/ Cost Recovery

- The City of Wildwood should consider expanding parks and recreation impact fees to include fees on all non-single family developments like the City of Apopka (see “Discussion of Peer Revenue Policies” above). On the other hand, cities such as Henderson, NV have considered changing their parks and recreation impact fees so that they are collected based on the number of bedrooms in each unit or even on the square footage of the development.
- The City of Wildwood should consider implementing a “cost recovery tree” pricing strategy for its parks and recreation services and facilities. The City’s Parks and Recreation Department is presently allowed to charge \$5.00 per child for youth recreation programs, whereas adult programs and community center rentals and fees vary. Wildwood should assess the overall costs of each program, and then set a cost recovery ratio based on the level of use and benefit to the community (see “Pricing Policies” above).
- Wildwood should consider hiring more employees in order to increase the number of recreational activity programs that it can provide. The City of Apopka collects approximately \$9.99 per capita from parks and recreation programming fees, whereas Wildwood only collects about \$1.69 per capita annually. Youth sports leagues seem to be popular in Wildwood, and could bring in a consistent source of revenue.
- In the future, the City of Wildwood may want to create an enterprise fund and build public-private partnerships (PPP) to serve the recreational needs of its residents and visitors. Enterprise funds are sometimes used for golf courses, sports complexes and other ventures deemed to be self-sustainable or profitable through fees or other charges. There are various PPP models that Wildwood should explore including “build operate transfer”. This is where a private developer builds, operates, and maintains the facility until they recover their original investment plus an agreed upon level of profit through a fixed fee or percentage of sales. After such a time, the private company would transfer operations back to Wildwood. Wildwood might also be interested in entering a land-lease agreement with a user group or club that would be willing to assume the all design, operation and maintenance costs of facilities on the land. Wildwood would lease the land to this group at little to no cost as an incentive for them to improve the land and provide recreational opportunities (see Figure 5.4.1.4 for other PPP examples).



Figure 5.4.1.4: Public-Private Partnership Models



Source: (Rodriguez, n.d.)

- Consider establishing an ordinance directing all parks and recreation activity and event fees to a special revenue fund that is separate from the General and the Impact Fees Funds. It is unclear as to which earned revenues (if any) are being re-invested into the Parks and recreation system, since all of these revenues currently go into the General Fund.
- The City of Wildwood should explore the feasibility of establishing annual events and a dedicated stream of advertising to promote them. Various jurisdictions neighboring Wildwood such as Bushnell and the Villages host events that bring in visitors and generate revenue. Furthermore, some of these events are benefiting from Sumter County's share of the Tourist Development Tax.
- Assess the possibility of hiring a full or part-time "grants coordinator" to bring a more consistent source of grant funds to the Parks and Recreation Department. Currently, the Parks and Recreation Department contacts a grant contractor in Gainesville at a cost of \$7,500 per grant that is secured for Wildwood.
- Explore the possibility of creating a "Community Trust" such as the City of Orlando's Orlando Community & Youth Trust, Inc. (Orlando Trust) which has secured over \$900,000 in donations to benefit youth, seniors, and families through educational and recreational programs and facilities. The Orlando Trust is a non-profit public-private partnership that focuses on helping residents who are living in disadvantaged neighborhoods and on programs that benefit the environment including park improvement and tree planting initiatives (City of Orlando, n.d.).
- The City of Westerville, OH runs an "Adopt-A-Foot Program" in which people donate between \$2,640 and \$26,400 over a five-year period. Donations are used to repair and renovate park amenities, create marketing initiatives, and build new facilities. Citizens can also purchase engraved plaques that are displayed alongside trails as appreciation for their donation (City of Westerville, n.d.).



- The City of Wildwood should consider partnering with the Sumter County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) to help increase resident access to parks and recreation facilities. Currently, there are no bus stops and few direct routes to Wildwood's public parks, which can disproportionately affect disadvantaged populations. This partnership would help Wildwood obtain funding to enhance park access. For instance, FDOT's Public Transit Block Grant Program received over \$91million in funding from the Federal Transit Administration to help rural transit providers increase the availability of routes. All projects funded through this program would need to be consistent with Wildwood's Comprehensive Plan. As the Community Transportation Coordinator, the BOCC would need to apply for these funds for the Wildwood area. The Lake-Sumter MPO would also be a great resource for the City of Wildwood to improve its transit system.

6.3.2 Increasing Partnerships & Volunteerism

- Church organizations such as the New Covenant United Methodist Church have expressed interest in volunteering to support recreation programs and other youth outlets. The City of Wildwood should pursue these partnerships in order to expand its network of faith-based volunteers, especially since there are several churches within walking distance of Wildwood's parks – MLK Park in particular.
- Jurisdictions such as the City of Miami have benefited through the maintenance and fundraising efforts of self-organized volunteer groups (e.g. "friends of neighborhood parks"). The City of Wildwood should consider working with residents to establish "friends of" park groups which could generate significant cost savings for the city. There are also various youth and community groups such as the Boy and Girl Scouts that could help the City of Wildwood further reduce maintenance and operations costs.
- Consider forming an interlocal agreement with the Sumter County School District to share its approximately 27.84 acres, including recreational facilities (87 acres.) adjacent to Millennium. Combined with the new LOS standards proposed in Chapter IV, the combined properties would qualify as a regional park.
- Develop a webpage devoted to acquiring volunteers, sponsors, and donations for the Parks and Recreation Department. The City of Raleigh, NC has a unique volunteer page that allows users to create their own profile, select areas of interest, and register to help with upcoming events or ongoing projects (City of Raleigh, n.d.).
- Consider creating a "partnerships coordinator" position oversee volunteers for the Parks and Recreation Department. Increasing the number of volunteers has the potential to mitigate park expenditures for the city. Additionally, this position would maintain a database of potential volunteers and the number of hours worked. Doing so would enable the Parks and Recreation Department to set annual goals for volunteerism and quantify the cost savings realized.

6.3.3 Land Acquisition/Redevelopment

- Partner with conservation groups such as the Conservation Trust for Florida to better protect land for open space and create opportunities for passive recreation. The Conservation Trust for Florida is an expert in land acquisitions, conservation easements



and land donation policies. The Southwest Florida Water Management District and Florida Department of Environmental Protection are good resources to help Wildwood discover ecologically important lands should be preserved.

- Implement a density bonus or relax height requirements for developers willing to donate park land beyond what is required by the City's Code of Ordinance. Other jurisdictions such as the Town of Lady Lake allow developers to opt out of paying part or the entire park impact fee if they offer to provide park capital improvements and/or park land to the Town.
- Determine the feasibility of purchasing blighted or tax defaulted properties to save costs in land acquisition. The city already owns the 700 Walker Road property adjacent to MLK Park. This abandoned 14.7 acre residential could be redeveloped through a public-private partnership.
- Revitalize the recreation facilities at 801 Huey Street (city-owned). An underutilized tennis court and playground (1.77 acres) could be rehabilitated or replaced so that residents could enjoy another pocket park, and a greater variety of park amenities.

6.3.4 General Recommendations

- Create a Capital Improvements Committee (Committee), including relevant city employees such as the Parks and Recreation Department Coordinator. In order to establish this committee, Wildwood would need to collect and analyze information from park user surveys, repair records, grant and outside funding opportunities, and other relevant information. Once the initial project list has been prepared, the Committee should meet with the Mayor and City Commission for approval.
- Publish an annual inventory of existing facilities. Record information pertaining to amenity type, count, location, condition, and level of use (e.g. light, moderate, heavy). Establishing and maintaining an inventory system would provide the parks department with a method to monitor the effectiveness of new designs and amenities, identify potential issues to be addressed in the future, and bolster the case for additional funding by providing pertinent data.

6.4 Implementation Plan Summary

The City of Wildwood is well-positioned to transform its Parks and recreation system into a regional attraction as well as create a healthier community for its residents. However, the Parks and Recreation Department cannot be expected to make Wildwood a more livable and sustainable place alone. It will take a broad coalition of residents as well as private, non-profit and public organizations in order to help Wildwood's Parks and recreation system to live up to its potential. The implementation tables are organized by the guiding principles defined in Chapter I. The implementation goals proposed alongside each guiding principle are directly related to the interactions and feedback that we received from community stakeholders. Each goal is accompanied by a "what" column to describe the associated activities needed to be completed, the "who" column for who is responsible for ensuring that the goal is accomplished, a "when" column to describe an estimate of implementation, and a "cost(s)" column to denote the implementation costs that Wildwood can expect to incur. Task completion times are



expressed as either “long-term” (at least 10 years), “mid-term” (between 5 and 10 years), “short-term” (no more than 5 years), or as a combination of the three task completion periods. The implementation tables below were adapted from the City of Miami’s Parks and Public Spaces Master Plan document (2007).

6.5 Wildwood’s Parks and recreation system Goals and Challenges

Guiding Principle: Enhancing Community Engagement & Partnerships				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Encourage residents to form at least one “Friends” group for each park.	Create a partnerships coordinator position or designate parks and recreation staff liason(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee 	Short-term	Staff time
Establish a network of non-profit, private and public organizations to expand cost and facilities sharing initiatives and parks and recreation opportunities for residents (e.g. joint use agreement)	Create a partnerships coordinator position or designate parks and recreation staff liason(s).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. 	Short to Mid-term.	Staff time
Develop a webpage devoted to encouraging volunteerism as well as donations	Contact the City’s website developer Avenet Web Solutions – GovOffice Division	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Short-term	Varies



Guiding Principle: Enhancing Community Engagement & Partnerships (cont.)

Goal	What	• Who	When	Cost(s)
Regularly monitor the satisfaction of park users as well as their needs and interests through the use of surveys and focus groups	Design and hand-out paper surveys whenever possible; post the survey on online and on media. Employ a scientific firm to survey once every 10 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. 	Ongoing	Staff time; Scientific survey costs vary.
Complete 5-year review and update of the Wildwood Parks and Recreation Master Plan	Host at least two public community meetings to discuss any needs and proposed changes to parks once every 5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee 	Ongoing	Staff time
	Update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan; Adopt and authorize the changes to the Master Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Ongoing	Staff time



Guiding Principle: Improving Overall Parks Accessibility and Connectivity				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Partner with the Sumter County BOCC to implement a bus stop at each Wildwood park.	Create an agreement to expand transit access in Wildwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • City Mayor and Commission 	Short to Long-term	Staff time
Perform a walkability audit at least once every five years to determine connectivity gaps, inadequate pedestrian/bicycle facilities or safety hazards within a ½ mile radius of each park.	Hire a consultant to conduct a walkability audit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. 	Ongoing	Varies
Establish signage to direct residents and visitors through safe pedestrian and bicycle routes to the nearest park in Wildwood.	Partner with community residents to identify most traveled routes to the parks; purchase and install signs; advocate walking and biking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee 	Ongoing	Staff time
	Designate a staff member to coordinate funding and partnerships necessary to implement improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Rec Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Public Works • Sumter County BOCC • Lake-Sumter MPO • Dept. of Health-Sumter • FDOT 	Short to Long-term	Staff time



Guiding Principle: Improving Overall Parks Accessibility and Connectivity (cont.)

Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
<p>Develop and improve pedestrian and bicycle paths and facilities to between Wildwood's parks and its residential & public areas as well as to any designated activity centers.</p>	<p>Partner with park neighborhood residents to identify and prioritize areas of need such as low visibility, lack of shade and security concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee 	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Staff time</p>
	<p>Designate a staff member to coordinate funding and partnerships necessary to implement improvements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Public Works Dept. • Sumter County BOCC • Lake-Sumter MPO • FDOT 	<p>Short to Long-term</p>	<p>Staff time</p>
	<p>Implement at least three high priority pedestrian/bicycle facility enhancements or additions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Project Review Committee • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	<p>Short to Long-term</p>	<p>Varies</p>



Guiding Principle: Improving Overall Parks Accessibility and Connectivity (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Review and implement connections between Wildwood's parks and relevant regional trail systems or greenways.	Partner with residents to identify and prioritize areas of need such as low visibility, lack of shade and security concerns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee • Sumter County BOCC • Lake-Sumter MPO • FDOT 	Ongoing	Staff time
	Designate a staff member to coordinate funding and partnerships necessary to implement regional connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services • Public Works Dept. • Sumter County BOCC • Lake-Sumter MPO • FDOT 	Short to Long-term	Staff time
	Implement at least three high priority connections between Wildwood's parks and regional trails or greenways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services • Project Review Committee • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Short to Long-term	Varies



Guiding Principle: Improving Overall Parks Accessibility and Connectivity (cont.)

<p>Pursue a goal of having a public park within one-half mile of every resident uninterrupted by physical barriers such as railroads, arterial roads, walls or other pedestrian/bicycle obstructions.</p>	<p>Identify and prioritize areas (e.g. low-income neighborhood lacking park access) using GIS and create maps</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services • Sumter County GIS staff 	<p>Short-term</p>	<p>Staff time</p>
	<p>Designate a staff member to coordinate funding and partnerships necessary to implement regional connections</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Public Works Dept. • Sumter County BOCC • Lake-Sumter MPO • FDOT 	<p>Short to Long-term</p>	<p>Staff time</p>
	<p>Develop at least three high priority parks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Project Review Committee • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission • Public funding agency if applicable 	<p>Short to Long-term</p>	<p>Varies</p>



Guiding Principle: Equitable Distribution of Resources and Amenities				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Seek a greater variety of grants and donations to support disadvantaged residents and establish annual goals for these supplemental funds	Create a partnerships coordinator position or designate parks and recreation staff liason(s); Or consider hiring a full or part-time grants coordinator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • City Mayor and Commission 	Short to Long-term	Staff time
Expand the City's collection of parks and recreation impact fees to include non-residential developments.	Complete a study on appropriate rates for parks and recreation impact fees for various land uses and rates comparable to regional jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • City Mayor and Commission 	Short-term	Staff time
Expand the City's collection of parks and recreation programming and activity fees	Hire more recreation staff members; Increase the variety of recreation activities offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • City Mayor and Commission 	Short to Long-term	Varies
	Complete a study on appropriate rates for parks and recreation program/activity fees compared to regional jurisdictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. 	Short-term	Staff time
Authorize the Parks and Recreation Department to recapture costs from recreational program/activity fees and event revenues	Create a special revenue fund for the Parks and Recreation Department's recreational program/activity fees and event revenues.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • City Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Mayor and Commission 	Short-term	Staff time



Guiding Principle: Equitable Distribution of Resources and Amenities (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Create a non-profit Wildwood parks foundation or community trust	Organize a meeting of potential donors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • Parks and Recreation Board • City Mayor and Commission. 	Short-term	Staff time
	Invest in the foundation or trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Mayor and Commission 	Mid-term	Varies
	Pursue matching start-up donations from supporters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • Parks and Recreation Board • City Mayor and Commission. 	Mid-term	Varies
Adopt a metric system to track the fiscal health and performance of Wildwood's Parks and recreation system	Create an outline of Parks and recreation system metrics which may include the fiscal comparison metrics utilized in this Master Plan document	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • Parks and Recreation Board 	Short-term	Staff time
	Publish a Parks and recreation system "Annual Report" to monitor spending and performance in regards to level of service metrics and Master Plan goals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • Parks and Recreation Board 	Short-term	Staff time
	Hire a consultant group to conduct a life-cycle cost/benefits to quantify benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Coordinator • City Mayor and Commission. 	Mid to Long-term	Varies



Guiding Principle: Equitable Distribution of Resources and Amenities (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Use density bonuses and other flexible zoning laws in return for park land dedications or improvements beyond what is currently required of developers	Conduct research on the zoning laws of Florida peer jurisdictions to determine a reasonable density bonus or comparable policies to reward developers for parks and recreation land and facilities donations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. 	Short-term	Staff time
	Amend City Ordinance to include bonus rates and develop dedication requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • City Commission and Mayor 	Short-term	Staff time
Establish and maintain an inventory of the quantity and condition of park amenities and equipment	Record amenity type, count, location; Public Works Dept. and/or Development Services Dept. to help with analyzing condition of parks and recreation facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Public Works Dept. 	Short-term; ongoing	Staff time
Create a Capital Improvements Advisory Committee to include parks and recreation staff member.	Conduct user surveys; maintain a park inventory; research funding opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Short-term; ongoing	Staff time



Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship

Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Establish an annual event that will reflect upon the strong values and history of the of the Wildwood area	Partner with residents to identify and prioritize special events of interest and identify locations to host such events	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Special Events Coordinator • Parks and Recreation Board • Wildwood Area Historical Board & Association • Citizens Action Committee 	Short-term	Staff time
	parks and recreation Special Events Coordinator to work with other departments to organize the funding and partnerships necessary to implement an annual event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. Special Events Coordinator • Parks and Recreation Board • Wildwood Area Historical Board & Association • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission. 	Short to Long-term	Varies
	Host at least one annual City-wide or regional event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Wildwood Area Historical Board & Association • City Manager • City Mayor & Commission 	Short to Long-term	Varies

Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Rehabilitate the underutilized 1.77 acre portion of the 9.71 acre City-owned parcel located at 801 Huey Street for parks and recreation purposes	Convene at least two meetings with community residents to discuss parks and recreation needs and rehabilitation concepts; Finalize design concept.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee 	Short-term	Staff time
	Approve concept design plan; Hire contractor to complete the development; Authorize expenditure for park improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Project Review Committee • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Mid to Long-term	Varies
Rehabilitate blighted combined City-owned 14.7 acre property at 700 Walker Rd. for parks and recreation purposes	Convene at least two meetings with community residents to discuss parks and recreation needs and rehabilitation concepts; Finalize design concept.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee 	Short-term	Staff time
	Approve concept design plan; Hire contractor to complete the development; Authorize expenditure for park improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Project Review Committee • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Mid to Long-term	Varies



**Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship
(cont.)**

Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Develop a greenway connection between Millennium Park and MLK Park	Designate City staff members to coordinate an easement donation from property owners of three parcels: PIN G07=027, PIN G07=097, and/or PIN G06=201	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Advisory Committee • Non-profit group such as the Conservation Trust for Florida which specializes in securing easements. 	Short-term	Staff time
	Craft a conservation easement agreement with property owners to create a 20-foot wide easement connecting Orange Street west through to MLK Park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Non-profit group such as the Conservation Trust for Florida which specializes in securing easements. 	Short to Mid-term	Staff time
	Authorize agreement and hire consultant to implement this project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Project Review Committee • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission 	Short to Long-term	Varies

Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Establish a nature, conservation and survival education pilot program for youths	Create program goals, vision and framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Action Committee • Sumter County School District • Regional environmental or conservation advocacy group 	Short-term	Staff time
	Conduct surveys and focus groups to determine resident's interest in a nature education program to include what they would be willing to pay to join; Market the program by mail, e-mail, website and at public meetings and sign-up participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Action Committee • Sumter County School District • Regional environmental or conservation advocacy group 	Short to Mid-term	Staff time



Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Establish a nature, conservation and survival education pilot program for youths (cont.)	Establish a reasonable cost recovery plan; Authorize pilot program and expenses; Hire a nature-conservation "expert" to train staff and/or volunteers or partner with Boy Scouts or non-profits with an intimate knowledge of Wildwood's natural areas to lead the summer pilot program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Sumter County School District • Regional environmental or conservation advocacy group • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission. 	Short to Mid-term	Varies
Provide combined education, health and recreation programs for Wildwood youth	Create program goals, vision and framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Action Committee • Sumter County School District • Florida Dept. of Health – Sumter County 	Short-term	Staff time



Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Provide combined education, health and recreation programs for Wildwood youth (cont.)	Conduct surveys and focus groups to determine resident's interest in a nature education program to include what they would be willing to pay to join; Market the program by mail, e-mail, website and at public meetings and sign-up participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Parks and Recreation Board • Citizens Action Committee • Sumter County School District • Florida Dept. of Health – Sumter County 	Short to Mid-term	Staff time
	Establish a reasonable cost recovery plan; Establish an agreement with SCSD and Florida Dept. of Health to share costs and program responsibilities; Authorize pilot program and expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Sumter County School District (SCSD) • Florida Dept. of Health – Sumter County • City Manager • City Mayor and Commission. 	Short to Long-term	Varies



Guiding Principle: Creating a Sense of Place and Promoting Environmental Stewardship (cont.)				
Goal	What	Who	When	Cost(s)
Establish a City-wide goal for tree coverage, especially alongside pedestrain/bicycle facilities (e.g. sidewalks) connecting to parks and in the parks to provide shade to park users.	Use GIS to establish tree canopy coverage baseline within the City limits as well as pedestrain/bicycle facilities lacking tree coverage.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Sumter County GIS employee(s) 	Short-term	Staff time
	Designate a staff member to coordinate funding and partnerships necessary to plant trees and meet coverage goals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Public Works Dept. • Tree/Beautification Board • Southwest Florida Water Management District • Florida Department of Environmental Protection 	Short to Long-term	Staff time
	Monitor and/or revise tree coverage goals in the annual parks and recreation performance report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks and Recreation Dept. • Development Services Dept. • Public Works • Tree/Beautification Board 	Short to Long-term	Staff time

Appendix – Wildwood Parks and Recreation Plan

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Appendix 1: Introduction, Process, & Vision

Appendix 1.1: NRPA Criteria

https://www.nrpa.org/uploadedFiles/nrpa.org/Membership/Awards/Gold_Medal/Gold-Medal-Judging-Criteria.pdf



Judging Criteria for Gold Medal Questions

About the Questions and the Scoring

- All questions from question 3 through 11 are worth 9 points each. **Exception:** Question 4 which is worth 10 points.
- Questions 1 and 2 are statistical information collected to provide GM judges with background on the agency and have **no points** associated with them.
- Questions 12 and 13, web site and comprehensive plan update have **no points** attached to them and are used to learn more about the agency.

Questions 1 and 2

Questions 1 and 2 are for information only to provide GM judges with statistical background on the agency.

Questions 3 and 4

- Question 3: "Outstanding Nature of Agency" is worth a total of 9 points
- Question 4: "Impact Upon Community" is worth a total of 10 points.

There are NO specific judging criteria for these two questions. In essence, your agency is providing the criteria for both of these questions and GM judges will award a total of 9 points for Question 3; 3 points for each example and 10 points for Question 4; 2 points for each example.

Question 3

What makes your agency 'outstanding'? Please cite 3 specific examples to support why your agency is 'outstanding'? (Total Maximum Word Count 180)

Example #1 (3 points)

Example #2 (3 points)

Example #3 (3 points)

The responses from the agency will determine the criteria for the responses.

Question 4

Tell us your story about how your agency positively impacts the community you serve. Share with us 5 actions or activities your agency has been involved with or undertaken in the past three years. (Total Maximum Word Count 200)

1. Impact Action/Activity (2 points)
2. Impact Action/Activity (2 points)
3. Impact Action/Activity (2 points)
4. Impact Action/Activity (2 points)
5. .Impact Action/Activity (2 points)

The responses from the agency will determine the criteria for the responses.

Question 5

There are few resources more critical than public support, citizen involvement, and staff engagement. Please identify outstanding or innovative ways in which your agency addresses these three components. (Maximum 210 Word Count)

1. **Public Support (3 points) on the basis of**
 - Level of Outstanding/Innovative (1)
 - Range and Depth of Actions (1)
 - Perceived Level of Effectiveness (1)

2. **Citizen Involvement (3 points) on the basis of**
 - Level of Innovation/Innovative (1)
 - Range and Depth of Actions (1)
 - Perceived Level of Effectiveness (1)

3. **Staff Engagement (3 points) on the basis of**
 - Level of Outstanding/Innovative (1)

 - Range and Depth of Actions (1)
 - Perceived Level of Effectiveness (1)

Question 6

Public entities have been increasingly called upon to demonstrate the results of their services and practices to decision-makers and the general public. Please share with us 3 results, impacts, or outcomes you have measured and brief background about the benefit and how the results were secured. (Total Maximum Word Count - 210)

Example 1 (3 points) on the basis of

Value of Outcome Assessment (1)

Methods of Measurement (1)

Sharing of Results (1)

Example 2 (3 points) on the basis of

Value of Outcome Assessed (1)

Methods of Measurement (1)

Sharing of Results (1)

Example 3 (3 points) on the basis of

Value of Outcome Assessed (1)

Methods of Measurement (1)

Sharing of Results (1)

Question 7

Park and recreation agencies have long been known for the creative and innovative ways they manage policies, services, and entire agency. One of the desirable outcomes of the Gold Medal program is to identify these valuable efforts and approaches to be shared with others. Please identify and briefly explain three innovations used or implemented by your agency within the last three years. (Total Maximum Word Count - 240)



Example 1 (3 points) on the basis of

- Level of Innovation (1)
- Perceived Level of Effectiveness (1)
- Result Achieved (1)

Example 2 (3 points) on the basis of

- Level of Innovation (1)
- Perceived Level of Effectiveness (1)
- Result Achieved (1)

Example 3 (3 points) on the basis of

- Level of Innovation (1)
- Perceived Level of Effectiveness (1)
- Result Achieved (1)

Question 8

In what ways has your agency in the last three years addressed the NRPA identified issue of social equity? (Maximum Word Count 120)

Total of 3 points on the basis of

- Range of people included in equity efforts (1)
- Extend of actions taken (1)
- Perceived effectiveness of actions (1)

Question 9

In what ways has your agency in the last three years addressed the NRPA identified issue of health and wellness? (Maximum Word Count 120)

Total of 3 points on the basis of

- Range of health issues addressed (1)
- Extend of actions taken (1)
- Perceived effectiveness of actions (1)



Question #10

In what ways has your agency in the last three years addressed the NRPA identified issue of conservation? (Maximum Word Count 120)

Total of 3 points on the basis of

Range of issues addressed (1)

Extend of actions taken (1)

Perceived effectiveness of actions (1)

Question #11

What challenges has your community and/or agency experienced over the past 3 years and what steps or actions have you taken to resolve these challenges. (Maximum Word Count 210)

Total of 3 points on the basis of

Agency role with challenge (1)

Types of steps of actions taken (1)

Effectiveness of approach (1)



Question 12

Provide us with a link to your website. _____

Is your website controlled by the agency or your jurisdiction? Check as appropriate

Agency controlled ___

Control of jurisdiction ___

Question 12 is not a question that will receive a specific score.

Question 12 will be reviewed by the judges during the initial phase of judging and is intended to expand the judges' understanding of your agency and community.

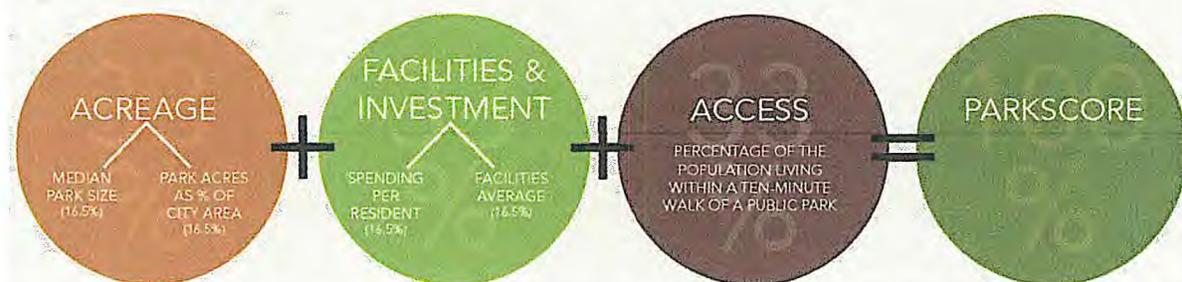
Question 13

Please share with us a three page overview of your most current Comprehensive Plan for the agency. Within this overview it is suggested that the agency include: major goals of the plan; current progress towards reaching those goals; and future plans to complete the plan.

Question 13 is not a question that will receive a specific score during the initial round of judging. The entire Comprehensive Plan will be examined during the judging of the finalists.

Appendix 1.2: TPL ParkScore 2015 Criteria

<http://parkscore.tpl.org/methodology.php>

METHODOLOGY**Overview**

Cities can earn a maximum ParkScore of 100.

For easy comparison and at-a-glance assessment, each city is also given a rating of one to five park benches. One bench means the park system needs major improvement, while five benches means the park system is outstanding.



In evaluating park systems, experts at The Trust for Public Land considered land owned by regional, state, and federal agencies within the 75 most populous U.S. cities—including school playgrounds open to the public and greenways that function as parks.

Our analysis is based on three important characteristics of an effective park system: **acreage, facilities and investment, and access.**

Acreage

ParkScore awards each city points for acreage based on two equally weighted measures: **median park size and park acres as a percentage of city area.** Factoring park acreage into each city's ParkScore helps account for the importance of large "destination parks" that serve many users who live farther than ten minutes' walking distance.

Median park size is calculated using park inventories acquired from park-owning agencies within each city. In our national sample, median park size ranges from 0.6 acres to 16.8 acres, with a median of 5.0 acres.

Park acres as a percentage of adjusted city area is calculated using data collected in an annual survey conducted by The Trust for Public Land's Center for City Park Excellence. We removed unpopulated railyard and airport areas from the baseline city land area. In our national sample, park acres as a percent of city area ranges from 2.0 percent to 86.0 percent, with a median of 9.1 percent.

Facilities and investment

ParkScore awards each city points for **facilities and investment** based on two equally weighted measures: **total spending per resident and an average of per-capita provision of four key facilities** - basketball hoops, dog parks, playgrounds, and recreation and senior centers. This data is collected in an annual survey conducted by the Center for City Park Excellence.

Facilities were chosen because of the breadth of users served as well as the ease of accurate counting of these measures. In our national sample, basketball hoops per 10,000 residents ranges from 0.7 to 7.5, with a median of 2.3; dog parks per 100,000 residents ranges from 0 to 5.4 with a median of 0.7; playgrounds per 10,000 residents ranges from 0.8 to 5.1 with a median of 2.3; and recreation and senior centers per 20,000 residents ranges from 0.1 to 2.5 with a median of 0.7.

Spending per resident is calculated from a three-year average (FY 2010, FY 2012, and FY 2013/2014, depending on a city's fiscal calendar) to minimize the effect of annual fluctuations. Spending figures include capital and operational spending by all agencies that own parkland within the city limits, including federal, state, and county agencies. In our national sample, spending per resident ranges from \$19 to \$343, with a median of \$83.

Access

ParkScore awards each city points for **access** based on the **percentage of the population living within a ten-minute (half-mile) walk of a public park**. The half-mile is defined as entirely within the public road network and uninterrupted by physical barriers such as highways, train



tracks, rivers, and fences.

Learn more about the methodology behind the ten-minute walk to a public park

In our national sample, the percentage of the population living within a ten-minute walk of a public park ranges from 27 percent to 99 percent, with a median of 71 percent.

Scoring

The scoring system recognizes the accomplishments of cities that have made significant investments in their parks without holding dissimilar cities to an unrealistic standard. It enables detailed analysis and allows cities to increase their ParkScore through incremental improvements to different aspects of their park systems.

To determine a city's ParkScore, we assigned points in three categories: **acreage, services and investment, and access.**

- **Acreage:** 20 points for median park size, and 20 points for park acres as a percentage of city area
- **Facilities and investment:** 20 points for spending per resident and 20 points for the average of the four key facilities per-capita (basketball hoops, dog parks, playgrounds, and recreation and senior centers).
- **Access:** 40 points for percentage of the population living within a ten-minute walk of a public park

Points for each statistic are assigned by breaking the data range established by our national sample into 20 brackets, with the lowest bracket receiving the least points and the highest bracket receiving the most points.

Each city's total points—out of a maximum of 120—are then normalized to a ParkScore of up to 100.

Outliers

To prevent outliers from skewing the results, the top bracket for each measure includes all values equal to more than double the median of the data range. For example, spending per resident in our 75-city national sample ranges from \$19 to \$343, with a median of \$83. Most cities spend between \$50 and \$150 per resident. To control distortion from local anomalies, all cities that spend more than double the median value (\$166 per person) are assigned to the highest bracket and receive 20 points.

With the top bracket thus defined, the parameters for the remaining brackets are established so that each bracket comprises an equal portion of the remaining data range.

This protocol applies to all categories except access, which has no outliers.

Mapping



To map access to parks and open space, ParkScore first identifies gaps in park availability, then determines which gaps represent the most urgent need for parkland.

Access gaps are based on a service area representing a ten-minute walk (see “[Access](#)” above to learn more). To map park need, we combined three differently weighted demographic profiles:

- Population density - 50%
- Density of children age 19 and younger - 25%
- Density of individuals in households with income less than 75% of city median income - 25%

Each city’s park need is mapped from data collected in the 2014 Forecast Census block groups provided by Esri. [Learn more.](#)

Overview

Cities can earn a maximum ParkScore of 100.

For easy comparison and at-a-glance assessment, each city is also given a rating of one to five park benches. One bench means the park system needs major improvement, while five benches means the park system is outstanding.

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ParkScore awards each city points for **access** based on the **percentage of the population living within a ten-minute (half-mile) walk of a public park**. The half-mile is defined as entirely within the public road network and uninterrupted by physical barriers such as highways, train tracks, rivers, and fences.

[Learn more about the methodology behind the ten-minute walk to a public park](#)

In our national sample, the percentage of the population living within a ten-minute walk of a public park ranges from 27 percent to 99 percent, with a median of 71 percent.

Scoring

The scoring system recognizes the accomplishments of cities that have made significant investments in their parks without holding dissimilar cities to an unrealistic standard. It enables detailed analysis and allows cities to increase their ParkScore through incremental improvements to different aspects of their park systems.

To determine a city's ParkScore, we assigned points in three categories: acreage, services and investment, and access.

- Acreage: 20 points for median park size, and 20 points for park acres as a percentage of city area



- Facilities and investment: 20 points for spending per resident and 20 points for the average of the four key facilities per-capita (basketball hoops, dog parks, playgrounds, and recreation and senior centers).
- Access: 40 points for percentage of the population living within a ten-minute walk of a public park

Points for each statistic are assigned by breaking the data range established by our national sample into 20 brackets, with the lowest bracket receiving the least points and the highest bracket receiving the most points.

Each city's total points—out of a maximum of 120—are then normalized to a ParkScore of up to 100.

Outliers

To prevent outliers from skewing the results, the top bracket for each measure includes all values equal to more than double the median of the data range. For example, spending per resident in our 75-city national sample ranges from \$19 to \$343, with a median of \$83. Most cities spend between \$50 and \$150 per resident. To control distortion from local anomalies, all cities that spend more than double the median value (\$166 per person) are assigned to the highest bracket and receive 20 points.

With the top bracket thus defined, the parameters for the remaining brackets are established so that each bracket comprises an equal portion of the remaining data range.

This protocol applies to all categories except access, which has no outliers.

Mapping

To map access to parks and open space, ParkScore first identifies gaps in park availability, then determines which gaps represent the most urgent need for parkland.

Access gaps are based on a service area representing a ten-minute walk (see [“Access”](#) above to learn more). To map park need, we combined three differently weighted demographic profiles:

- Population density - 50%
- Density of children age 19 and younger - 25%
- Density of individuals in households with income less than 75% of city median income - 25%

Each city's park need is mapped from data collected in the 2014 Forecast Census block groups provided by Esri.



Appendix 1.3: Master Plan outline by the Massachusetts Division of Conservation Services (2008)

SECTION	SUBSECTION	MUST BE REVISED	MAY NEED REVISION	NO CHANGE NECESSARY
1: PLAN SUMMARY				
2: INTRODUCTION	Statement of Purpose			
	Planning Process/Public Participation			
3: COMMUNITY SETTING	Regional Context			
	History of the Community			
	Population Characteristics			
	Growth & Development Patterns			
4: ENVIRONMENTAL INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS	Geology, Soils, and Topography			
	Landscape Character			
	Water Resources			
	Vegetation			
	Fisheries and Wildlife			
	Scenic Resources and Unique Environments			
5: INVENTORY OF LANDS OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATION INTEREST	Private Parcels			
	Public and Nonprofit Parcels			
6: COMMUNITY GOALS	Description of Process			
	Statement of Open Space and Recreation Goals			
7: ANALYSIS OF NEEDS	Summary of Resource Protection Needs			
	Summary of Community's Needs			
	Management Needs, Potential Change of Use			
8: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES				
9: FIVE YEAR ACTION PLAN				
10: PUBLIC COMMENTS				
11: REFERENCES				

Appendix 2: Community Setting

Appendix 2.1: Wildwood Population Projection Tables

SUMTER POPULATION PROJECTIONS				
	<i>Sumter Actual</i>	<i>Sum Low</i>	<i>Sum Medium</i>	<i>Sum High</i>
1980	24,272			
1990	31,577			
2000	53,345			
2010	93,420			
2020		128,100	141,000	149,500
2030		152,800	187,900	213,200
2035		162,400	209,600	247,700
2040		170,000	230,500	283,900

SHARE OF GROWTH METHOD

Base Year = 2000, Launch Year = 2010

	<i>Sumter Actual</i>	<i>Wildwood Actual</i>
2000	53,345	3,924
2010	93,420	6,709

Calculation of the Share of Growth

(1)	Sumter Growth 00-10	40,075
(2)	Wildwood Growth 00-10	2,785
(3) = (2)/(1)	Wildwood Growth Share 00-10	6.94947%

SUMTER GROWTH PROJECTIONS 2020-2040

	<i>Sumter Actual</i>	<i>Wildwood Actual</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>High</i>
2000	53,345	3,924			
2010	93,420	6,709			
2020			34,680	47,580	56,080
2030			24,700	46,900	63,700
2035			9,600	21,700	34,500
2040			7,600	20,900	36,200

WILDWOOD SHARE OF GROWTH

	<i>Wildwood Actual</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>High</i>
2000	3,924			
2010	6,709			
2020		2,410	3,307	3,897
2030		1,717	3,259	4,427
2035		667	1,508	2,398
2040		528	1,452	2,516



WILDWOOD SHARE OF GROWTH POPULATION PROJECTIONS				
	<i>Wildwood Actual</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>Medium</i>	<i>High</i>
2000	3,924			
2010	6,709			
2020		9,119	10,016	10,606
2030		10,836	13,275	15,033
2035		11,503	14,783	17,431
2040		12,031	16,235	19,946

Appendix 3: Public Engagement
 Appendix 3.1: Wildwood Parks Survey

Wildwood Parks Survey

This survey will provide information for the UCF Urban and Regional Planning Studio's analysis of parks and recreation facilities in the City of Wildwood. *Thank you for your participation.*

Q1. What park in the City of Wildwood do you most often use?

- Martin Luther King Jr.
- Millennium
- Oxford
- Other (Please specify below) _____

Q2. In what Zip code is your home located? (5-digit ZIP code) _____

Q3. How do you typically get to this park?

- Car
- Walk
- Bike
- Other (please specify) _____

Q4. How long does it take you to get to this park?

- 0 to 5 minutes
- 6 to 10 minutes
- 11 to 15 minutes
- 16 to 20 minutes
- more than 20 minutes

Q5. How frequently do you use this park?

- Very frequently (5 days or more a week)
- Frequently (1-4 days a week)
- Sometimes (once every 2 weeks)
- Very little (once a month or less)

Q6. Overall, how would you rate the condition of this park?

- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very Poor

Wildwood Parks Survey

This survey will provide information for the UCF Urban and Regional Planning Studio's analysis of parks and recreation facilities in the City of Wildwood. *Thank you for your participation.*

Q1. What park in the City of Wildwood do you most often use?

- Martin Luther King Jr.
- Millennium
- Oxford
- Other (Please specify below) _____

Q2. In what Zip code is your home located? (5-digit ZIP code) _____

Q3. How do you typically get to this park?

- Car
- Walk
- Bike
- Other (please specify) _____

Q4. How long does it take you to get to this park?

- 0 to 5 minutes
- 6 to 10 minutes
- 11 to 15 minutes
- 16 to 20 minutes
- more than 20 minutes

Q5. How frequently do you use this park?

- Very frequently (5 days or more a week)
- Frequently (1-4 days a week)
- Sometimes (once every 2 weeks)
- Very little (once a month or less)

Q6. Overall, how would you rate the condition of this park?

- Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very Poor

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UCF MURP Planning Studio
City of Wildwood Parks Plan

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City of Wildwood Parks Plan



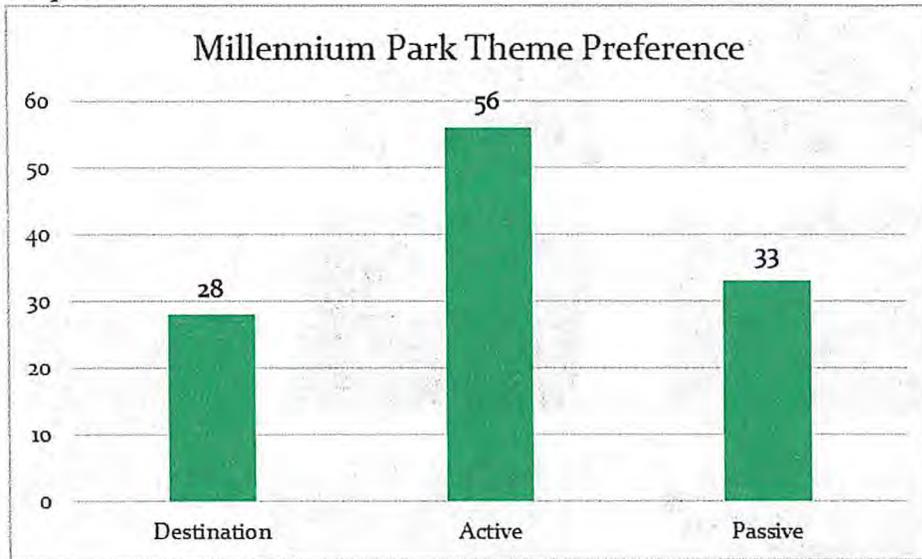
Appendix 3.2 Green Dot Exercise Results

Millennium Park Preference “Green Dot Exercise”

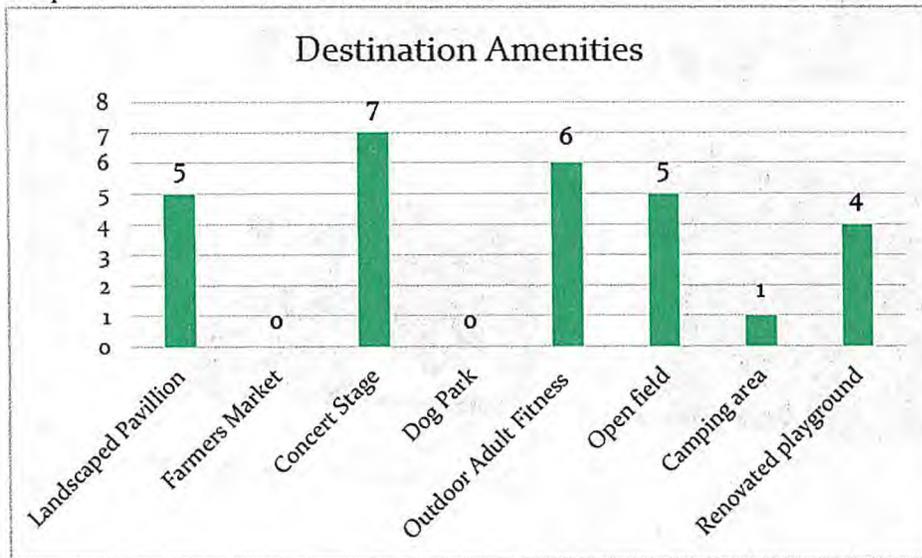
The following graphs take the data that was collected on the green dot exercise and compiles that data to visually comparable bar graphs for transparent comprehension.

Overall Results:

Graph 3.2.1

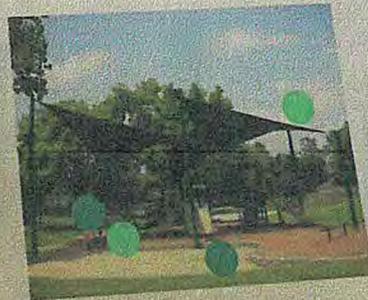


Graph 3.2.1a Destination Board Results:

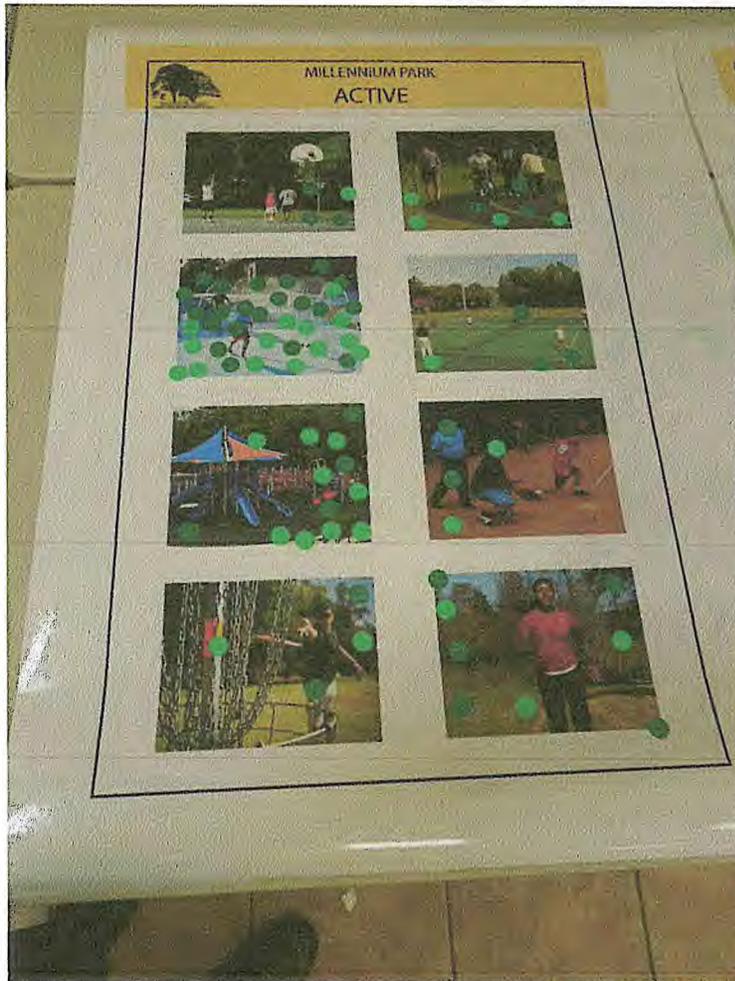
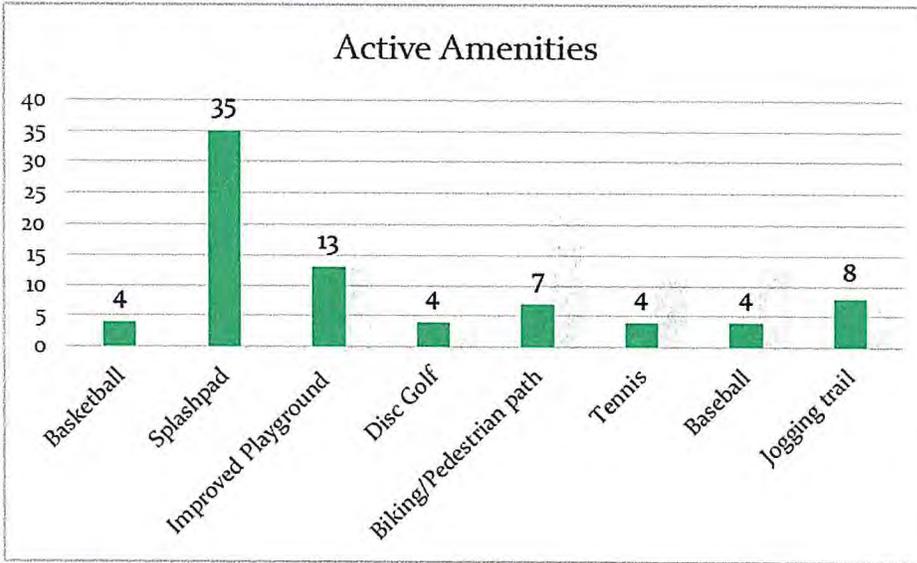




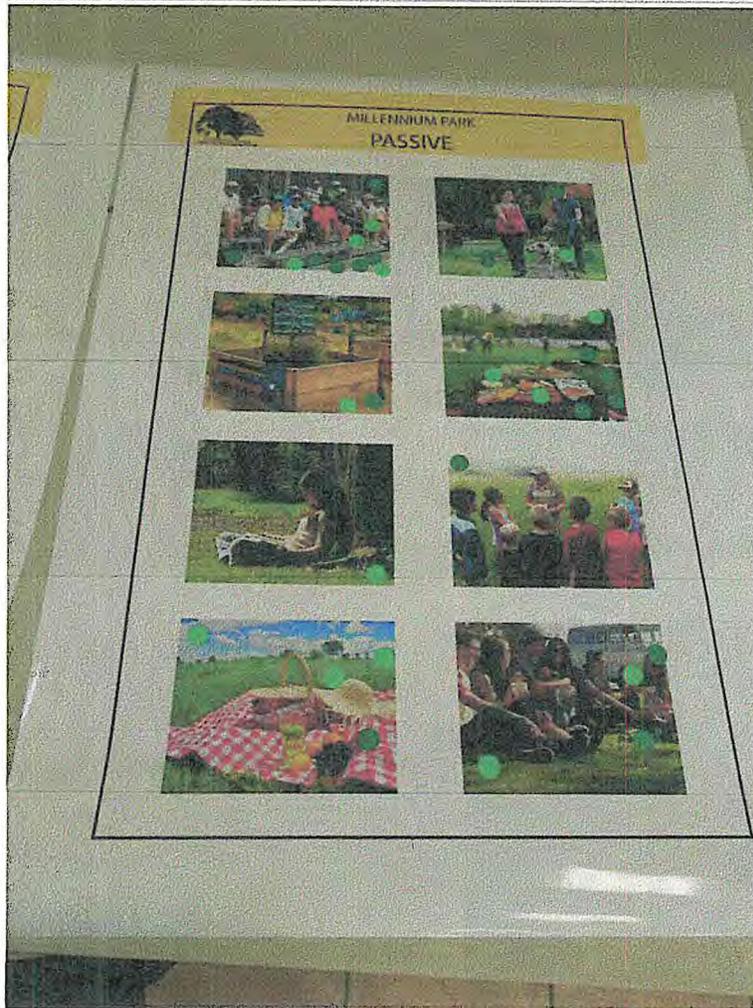
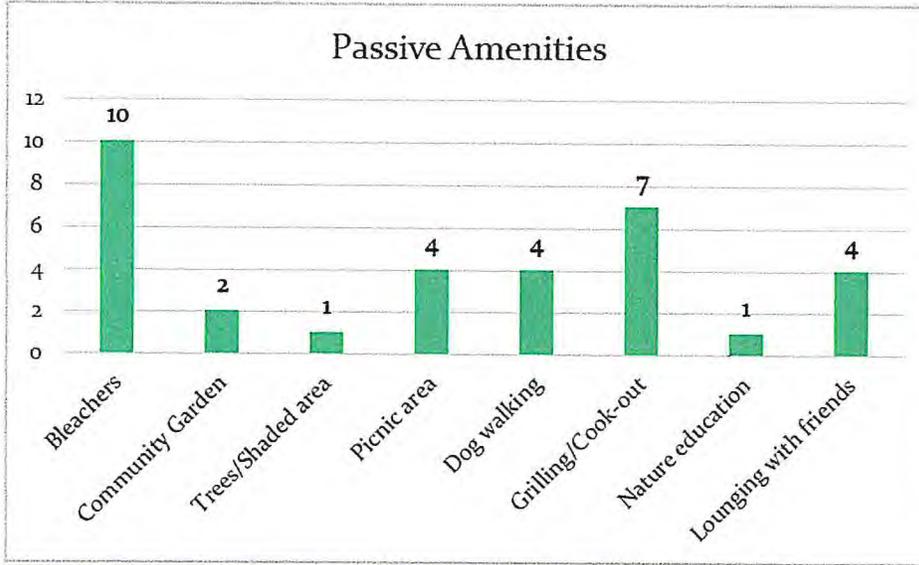
MILLENNIUM PARK DESTINATION



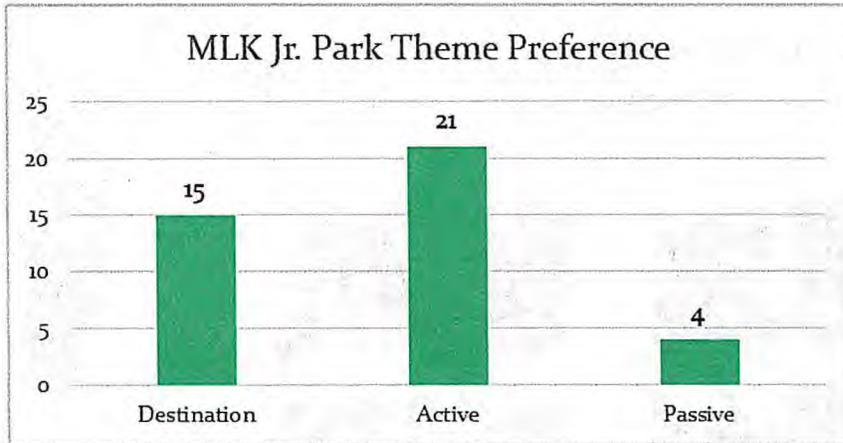
Graph 3.2.1b Active Board Results:



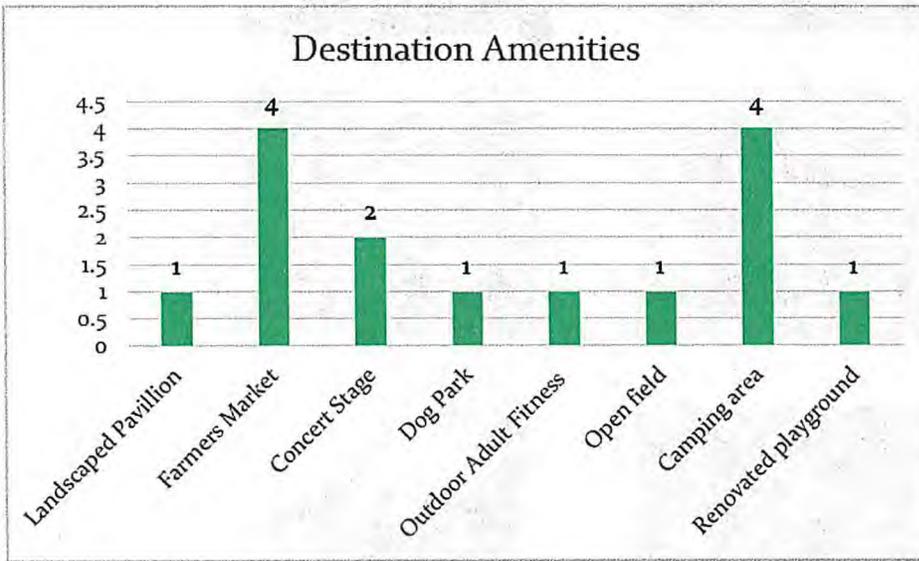
Graph 3.2.1c Passive Board Results:



MLK Jr. Park Preference “Green Dot Exercise”
Graph 3.2.2 Overall Results:



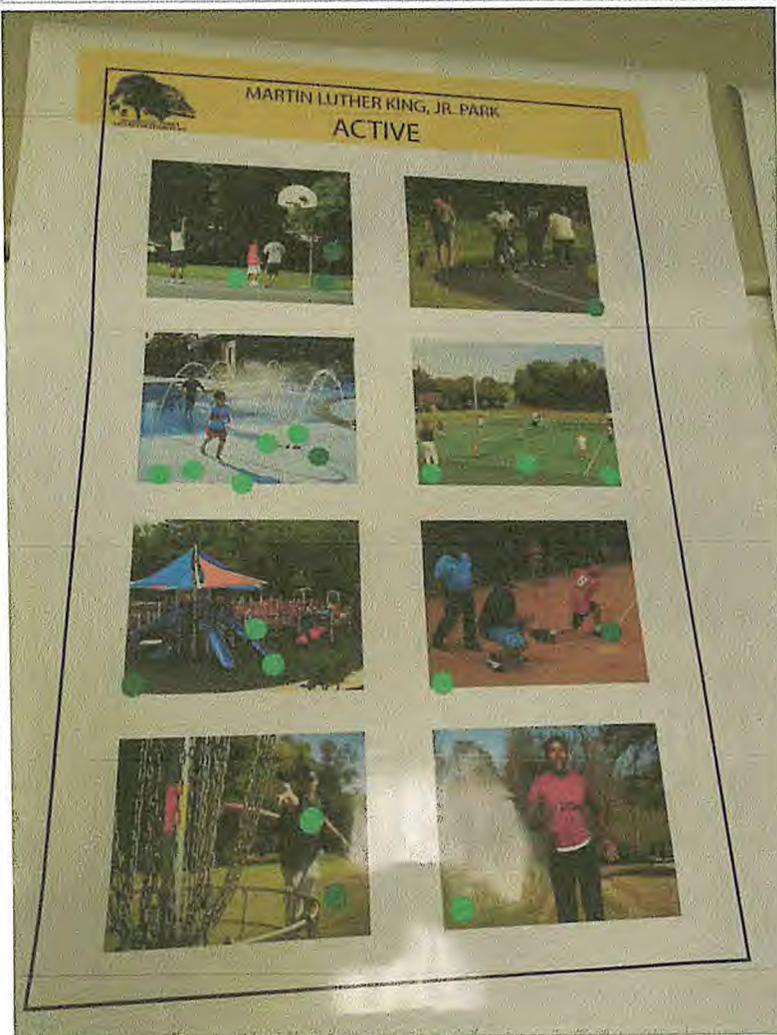
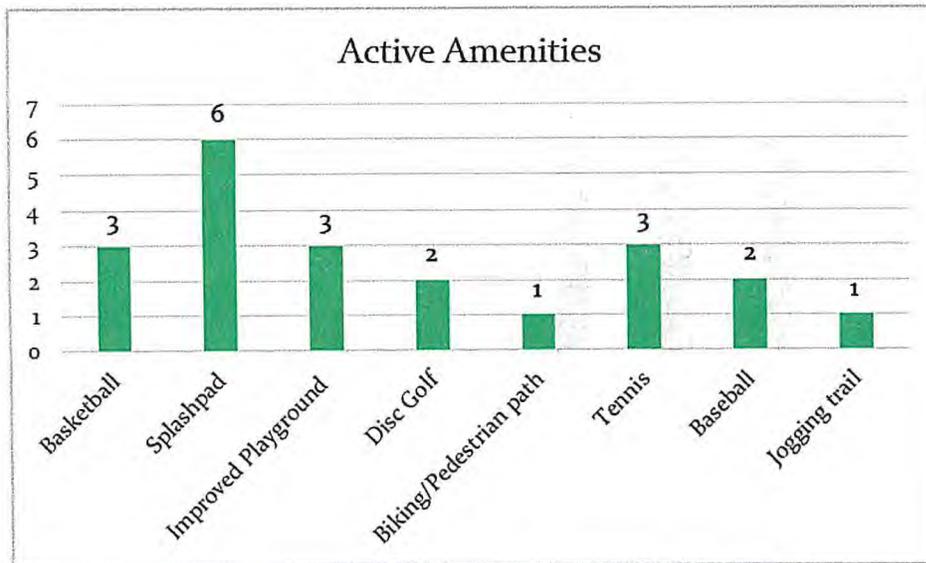
Graph 3.2.2b Destination Board Results:



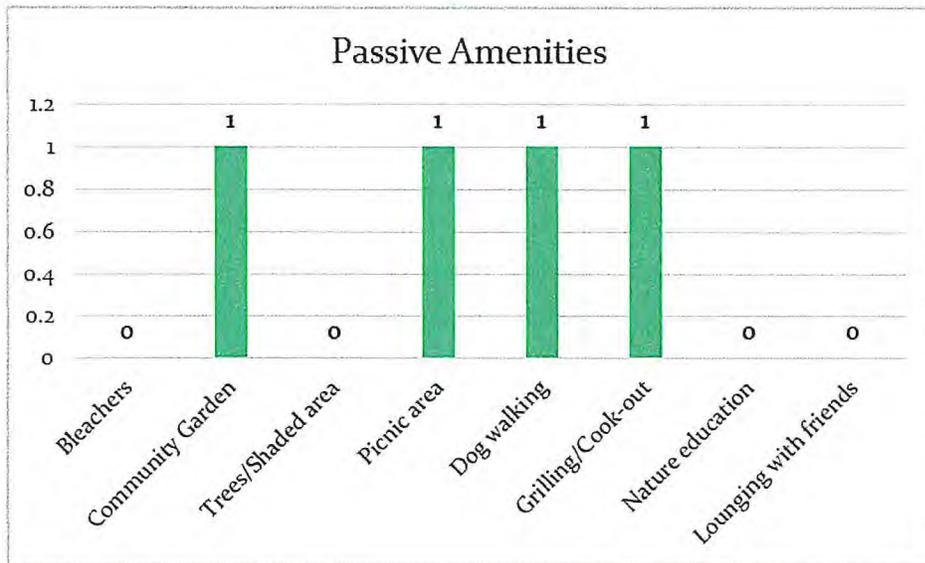
 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. PARK
DESTINATION



Graph 3.2.2b Active Board Results:



Graph 3.2.2b Passive Board Results:

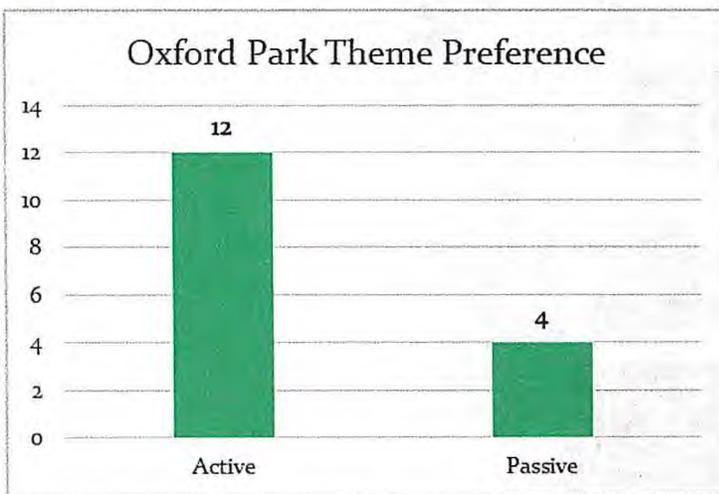


Oxford Park Specific Preference “Green Dot Exercise”

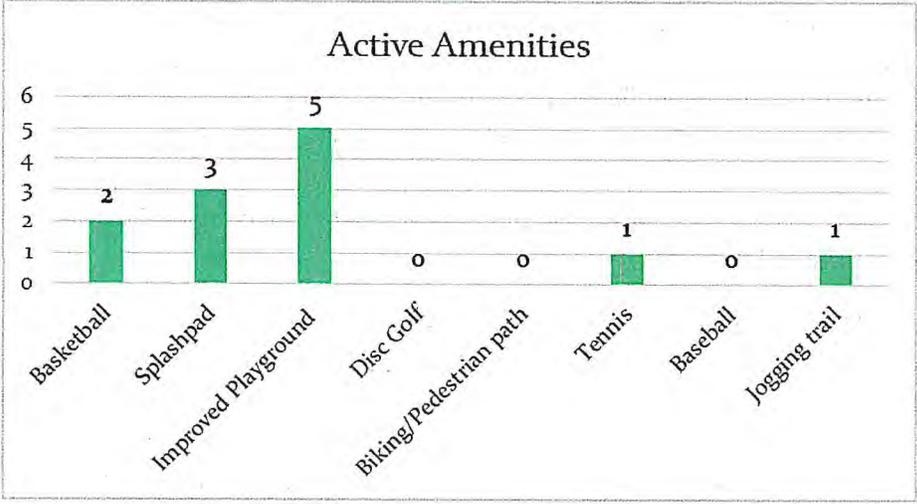
The Oxford Park station was the final park in the park-specific visioning exercise. Of the two vision boards available (destination was omitted due to limited park size), the active board was the most popular, collecting a 12-4 advantage in dots. Of the active options, the playground with sunshades was the most popular, earning 5 votes. A previous site visit to the park revealed that playground equipment exists, but is in varying states of disrepair. The splash pad and basketball photos garnered three and two votes respectively. On the passive board, the community garden and the small group learning earned two votes apiece.

A few residents commented on the inclusion of Oxford Park, and that they were happy to see it being represented at the meeting. When asked about the park, a small group of adolescent boys commented that the park was close to their homes and it used to be cool when it opened (about ten years ago). Their description of the park was that it had become rundown and out of date, but they were optimistic that it could be revived. Overall, this was reflective of the general attitude towards Oxford Park – good location, good potential, needs better maintenance and/or updated amenities.

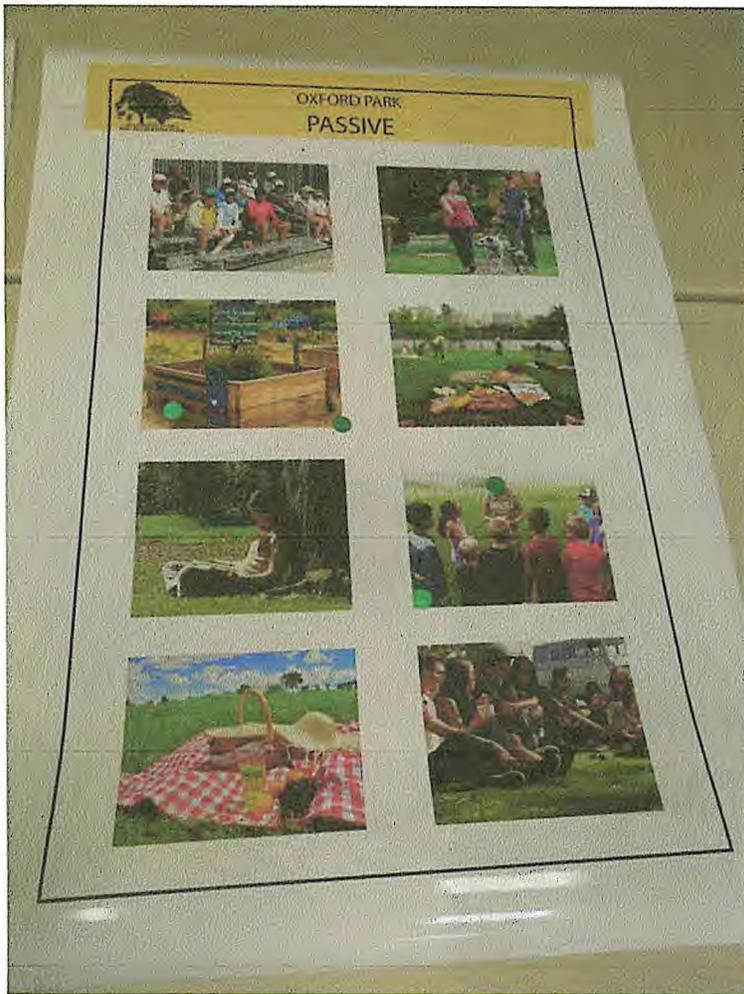
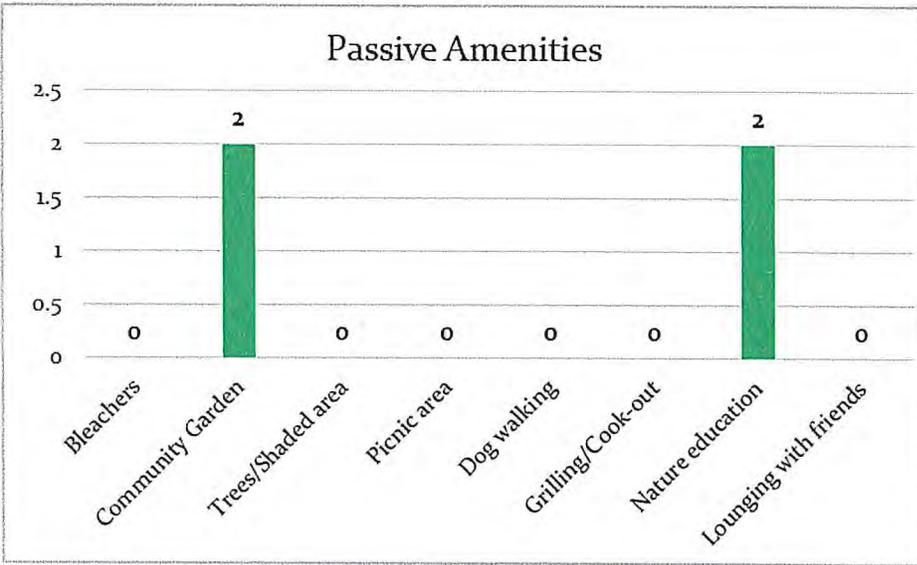
Graph 3.2.3 Overall Results:



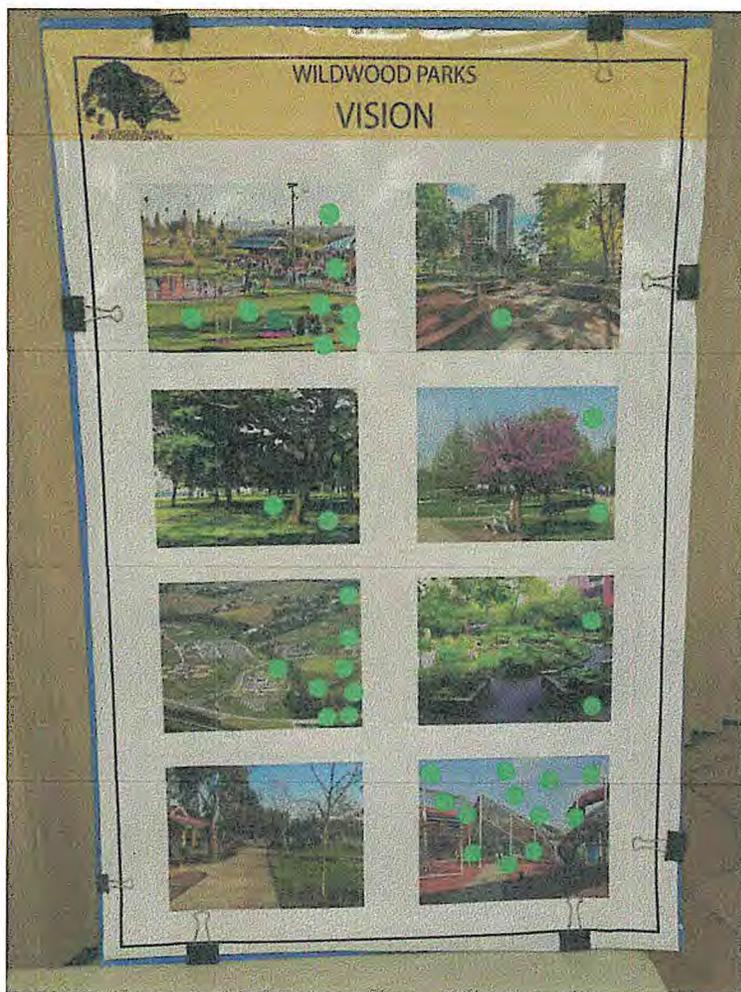
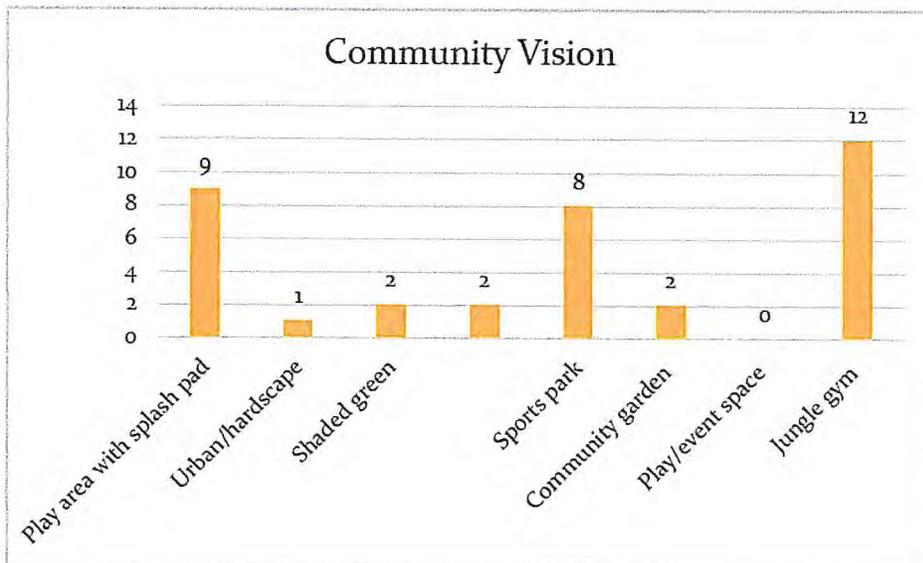
Graph 3.2.3a Active Board Results:

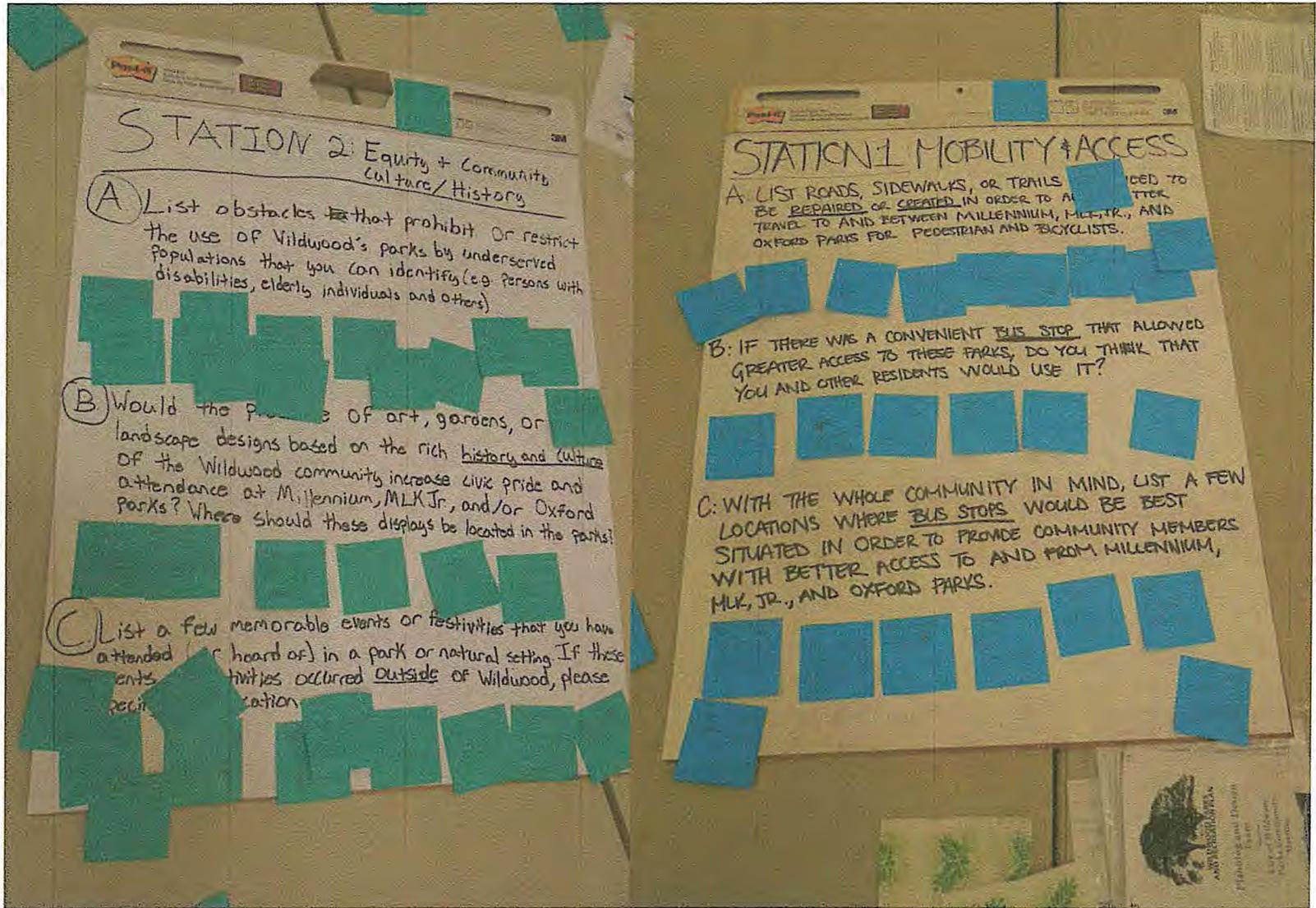


Graph 3.2.3b Passive Board Results:



Appendix 3.3 Vision Board and Summary





Appendix 3.4 Theme and Mapping Exercise Results



STATION 4: CONSERVATION SUSTAINABILITY

- A) Please list a few SCENIC PLACES + NATURAL FEATURES or species of PLANTS + ANIMALS that are most important to WILDWOOD and should be preserved.
- B) List Any factors that you believe might be HARMING the condition of these places, features or species.
- C) What types of GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE would you like to see in WILDWOOD? Where should they be located?

Station 3: Safety Issues

- A) List a few safety concerns that you have with existing park facilities (e.g. lighting, visibility, crime, equipment, etc.)
- B) List a few facilities or safety features that could be repaired or added to create safer overall park environments at Millennium, MLK Jr., or Oxford (e.g. Permanent rubber surface or quality mulch on playgrounds, shaded structures, bike racks or emergency call boxes).
- C) List some current or potential community partners that could work with Wildwood residents to improve safety at or nearby these three parks (e.g. Police, youth groups, neighborhood watch businesses, social & professional organizations).

Appendix 3.5 Community Workshop Concept Plans



CONCEPT 1

- designated drive aisle, parking and ADA access improvements
- amenitized pedestrian greenway with landscape and lighting
- event lawn with pavilions
- improved playground and splash zone
- dog park
- formal fields for football practice and games
- install bleachers for football, soccer and baseball fields
- new restroom and concession facility
- amphitheater with casual seating for events



MILLENNIUM PARK
UCF PLANNING & DESIGN STUDIO



CONCEPT 2

- designated drive aisle, parking and ADA access improvements
- amenitized pedestrian greenway with landscape and lighting
- event lawn with pavilions
- improved playground and splash zone
- dog park
- multi-use fields with bleachers added for football and soccer use
- new restroom and concession facility
- amphitheater with casual seating for events
- open area for larger events



MILLENNIUM PARK
UCF PLANNING & DESIGN STUDIO



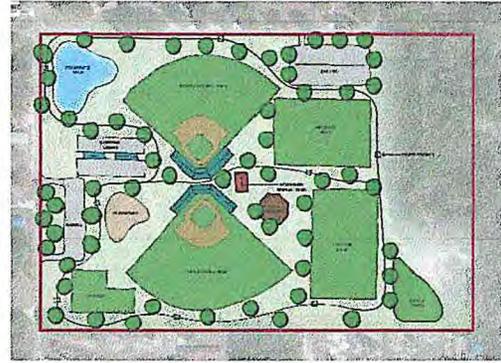


CONCEPT 1

- expand and improve parking
- multi-use trail with signage and fitness stations
- pavilions for events
- improved playground and splash zone
- dog park
- improved restroom facilities
- improve existing baseball field
- landscape existing stormwater pond
- multi-use field
- add basketball court and bleachers to existing basketball court
- MLK, Jr. tribute and education
- large fitness area along multi-use trail



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR PARK
UCF PLANNING & DESIGN STUDIO



CONCEPT 2

- expand and improve parking
- multi-use trail with signage and fitness stations
- pavilion for events
- improved playground
- dog park
- landscape existing stormwater pond
- improve existing baseball field and add another
- two multi-use fields
- add basketball court and bleachers to existing basketball court
- new restroom and concession facility
- large fitness area along multi-use trail



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR PARK
UCF PLANNING & DESIGN STUDIO





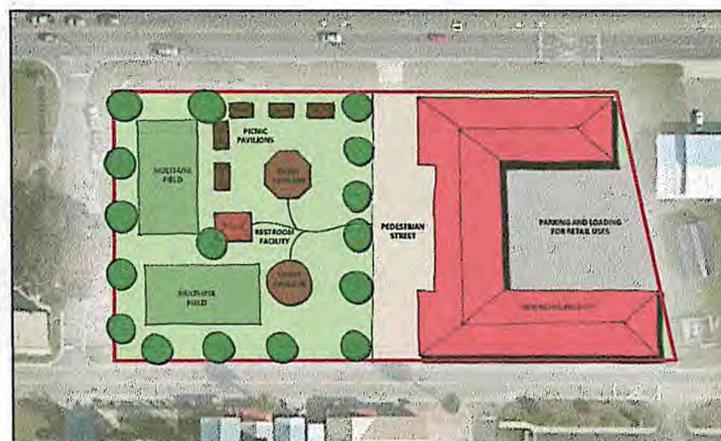
CONCEPT 1

- re-orient basketball court
- east-west access through park
- permanent restroom facility
- splash zone
- new pavilions and picnic area
- update existing ball-field and add bleachers and/or dugouts



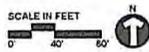
CONCEPT 2

- move basketball and tennis courts to edge of park
- amphitheater with seating for small-scale stage shows
- permanent restroom facility
- new pavilions and picnic area
- wide limited-access lane for vendors during events such as farmers markets stage shows



CONCEPT 3

- stores to match character of retail south of park
- pedestrian street providing access to new retail
- permanent restroom facility
- new pavilions and picnic area
- multi-use fields for casual sports or for event space



OXFORD PARK
UCF PLANNING & DESIGN STUDIO



CONCEPT 1

- 1. BENCHES R.E.
- 2. BASEBALL FIELD
- 3. BALANCE SLUSH TUB
- 4. ADD ARTIFICIAL SHADE AS NEEDED

CONCEPT 2

- 1. GOLF & HUNT BOI IS FOR SHAVE (an area noise) for amphitheatre
- 2. ADD 3 LARGE SLUSH AREA NEAR PAVILIONS
- 3. ADD PERMANENT WINDMILLS IN MULTI USE COURT FOR CRYMBS SUCH AS H. BENTON or Birthday Games

CONCEPT 3

- ADD LARGE SLUSH NEAR BEACH PLAYGROUND INSTEAD OF MULTI USE FIELDS
- RETAIL CAN BE REVISITORS?
- INSTRUCTION ON PARADE FOR KIDS (Call Slush)

CONCEPT 3

1-7

Same comments as on reverse side

- 8. ~~ADD SLUSH TUB~~ ADD FITNESS CENTER w/SHADE
- 9. ADD OBSTACLE (CUP) COURSE TO ~~POST~~ BASEBALL AREA FOR RESTLESS YOUNG CHILDREN NEAR EVENT LOUNGE
- 10. EXPAND # PAVILIONS AREA
- 11. ADD MORE PAVILIONS
- 12. MORE THINKING FOUNTAINS



Wildwood Parks Concept Plan Survey

This survey will provide the UCF Urban and Regional Planning Studio with feedback on concept plans in the City of Wildwood. Thank you for your participation....

1. Millennium Park Concept Plan 1



Millennium Park
 Millennium Park will provide a new park for the City of Wildwood. The park will be located on the site of the former Wildwood High School. The park will be a 10-acre park with a variety of recreational facilities including a playground, a splash pad, a tennis court, and a basketball court. The park will also feature a walking and jogging trail, a picnic area, and a gazebo. The park will be designed to be a community gathering place and a place for children to play. The park will be designed to be a place where people can enjoy the outdoors and get some exercise. The park will be designed to be a place where people can enjoy the outdoors and get some exercise. The park will be designed to be a place where people can enjoy the outdoors and get some exercise.

Please enter your comments regarding the Millennium Park Concept Plan 1.

[Empty text box for comments]



Appendix 4: Inventory and Analysis

4.1: Soil Type Descriptions

4 - Candler sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is excessively drained and the depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.

6 – Kendrick fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is well drained. The depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.

11 – Millhopper sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit comprises the majority area of the property. This soil mapping unit is moderately well drained, with very low (insignificant) runoff. The depth to water table is about 42 to 72 inches. Not prime farmland.

13 – Tavares fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is moderately well drained and the depth to water table is about 42 to 72 inches. Not prime farmland.

16 – Apopka fine sand, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is well drained, with very low runoff. The depth to water table is more than 80 inches. Not prime farmland.

21 – EauGallie fine sand, boulder subsurface: This soil mapping unit is poorly drained, with very high runoff. The depth to water table is about 6 to 18 inches. Not prime farmland.

33 – Sparr fine sand, boulder subsurface, 0 to 5 percent slopes: This soil mapping unit is somewhat poorly drained and the depth to water table is about 18 to 42 inches. Not prime farmland.

39 – Mabel fine sand, boulder subsurface, 0 to 5 percent slope: This soil mapping unit is somewhat poorly drained, with medium runoff. The depth to water table is about 18 to 36 inches. Not prime farmland.

51 – Pits-Dumps Complex: This soil mapping unit comprises the majority area of the property. This soil mapping unit has a marine terrace landform setting. Not prime farmland.

56 – Wabasso fine sand, depressional: This soil mapping unit is very poorly drained. The depth to water table is about 0 to 12 inches. There is no frequency of flooding; however, there's a frequency in ponding.

4.2 Park Inventory Methodology

To conduct the park inventory, all city-owned parks were compiled into a newly created GIS Wildwood Parks shape file. This shape file consists of point data containing fields such as park name, acres, public versus private, functional park type, park type as defined in the Comprehensive Plan, and a text field noting primary amenities provided. The functional park type field was added because some parks function as a different type of park than the acreage describing such park in the Comprehensive Plan.

To complete this park inventory, existing residential development approvals have been mapped by geo-referencing the image file of the approved development plan to the underlying parcels, evaluating the approved entitlements, and identifying the park types required for these



developments (Wildwood Development Services, 2016). These parks were then added to the above mentioned Wildwood Parks shape file.

4.3 Greenway Data Collection Methodology

Data collected for this section included obtaining a greenways shape file from the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council data clearinghouse of all the combined trails and sidewalks throughout Central Florida (Smith, 2015). This shape file, which contains line features, was clipped to include only trails and sidewalks (i.e. greenways) within 3-miles of the city. This layer was edited to add updated existing, developer proposed, park master plan proposed, and “opportunity connection” greenways.

These “opportunity connections” were drawn to fill gaps in the existing system by creating new features in the greenways shapefile. In order of priority, these connections were added over existing rights-of-way, public lands, and vacant private land. These “opportunity connections” also purposefully included providing recommendations for additional connectivity for schools and neighborhoods to connect with Wildwood’s current green infrastructure.



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