

RECREATION & OPEN SPACE

City of St. Augustine Comprehensive Plan
EAR-Based Amendments

Recreation and Open Space Element

ROS Goal

To provide open space, recreation sites and recreation facilities which meet the needs of residents and visitors, support City conservation efforts and provide a healthy and aesthetically pleasing environment.

ROS Objective 1

Coordinate private and public resources to adequately provide recreation sites and facilities at the adopted level of service standards.

ROS Policy 1.1

ROS Policy 1.2

The City shall make an effort to incorporate documented historic and archaeological sites into park areas whenever possible to address both recreation and preservation needs.

ROS Policy 1.3

The City will coordinate the development of the projects which are listed in the Capital Improvements Element as projects secured with private funding.

ROS Objective 2

The City shall ensure safe public access to the recreation sites and facilities. The measurable target for this objective is public access to the identified recreation sites and facilities.

ROS Policy 2.1

Although the only beaches in the City are in the Anastasia State Recreation Area and are therefore not subject to the City's development regulations, the City shall continue to support the policy of the State Division of Parks and Recreation in permitting public access to those beaches. The City shall continue to provide access to shores and waterways depicted on the Future Land Use Map by: (1) continuing to enforce the Future Land Use Plan which allows water-dependent or water-related uses as permitted uses in every land use classification; and (2) continuing to operate the municipal marina.

ROS Policy 2.2

The City shall correct park and recreation facility deficiencies and provide future parks and recreation facilities according to the following priorities:

1. maintenance, repair and replacement of existing facilities located on existing recreation sites.

2. development of new facilities, located on existing recreation sites, to correct existing deficiencies.
3. acquisition of new recreation sites to correct existing deficiencies.
4. development of new facilities, to be located on new recreation sites, to correct existing deficiencies.
5. development of new facilities, located on existing recreation sites, to provide for future needs.
6. acquisition of new recreation sites to provide for future needs.
7. development of new facilities, located on new recreation sites, to provide for future needs.

ROS Objective 4

Public agencies and private developments shall provide open space as defined in this element.

ROS Policy 4.1

The following Level of Service Standards shall be provided for all development:

Regional Parks	5.0 acres per 1,000 persons
Community Parks	1.0 acre per 1,000 persons
Neighborhood Parks	0.8 acres per 1,000 persons

All residential development of twenty-five (25) units or more must provide, at a minimum, contiguous parkland or open space meeting the level of service standard for neighborhood parks for the projected number of residents based on the average household size from the most recent census. For development of twenty-five (25) to ninety-nine (99) units, this parkland or open space must provide at least passive recreational activity. For development of one hundred (100) or more units, this parkland or open space must provide at least one (1) active recreational facility (preferably one determined to be deficient in the particular planning sector) and one (1) passive recreational facility, per one hundred (100) units. Level of Service standards for Regional Parks shall be continually coordinated with the State Division of Parks and Recreation. The Level of Service standards for Community and Neighborhood Parks not located inside the City limits, but providing services to City residents shall be continually coordinated with St. Johns County. This policy implements ROS Objectives 1 and 4.

ROS Policy 4.2

The City shall continue to enforce the Future Land Use Plan and the development regulations contained in the City Code to preserve open space. The Recreation and Open Space classification is intended to designate parks, natural reservations and active recreation sites. The Open Land classification is intended to designate open space. Additionally, open space is determined on a site specific basis during site plan review and through the conservation overlay zone development process. Open space so determined is defined as being marshland, swamp, natural or manmade bodies of water, and environmentally sensitive lands where local, state or federal regulations prohibit development.

ROS Policy 4.3

The City Code shall continue to contain and implement open space definitions and standards established in the Future Land Use Plan and in the Conservation Overlay Zone Development section of the Conservation and Coastal Management Element.

ROS Policy 4.4

The City shall coordinate with the county and adjacent jurisdictions to acquire lands to be used as conservation and open space for the purpose of creating a system of resource based recreational trails. To enhance such a trail system, priority shall be given to lands that are adjacent to or by some other means are connected to other lands dedicated for such purposes, especially where such acquisitions create new or enhanced access to water bodies and shorelines.