

**PARKS AND RECREATION ELEMENT
GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

Goal 1: *(Effective 7/16/90)*

Provide, manage and fund adequate recreational and cultural facilities and opportunities for all citizens of Tallahassee-Leon County.

LEVEL OF SERVICE/FUNDING

OBJECTIVE 1.1: [R] *(Rev. Effective 12/23/96)*

The City of Tallahassee and Leon County shall share responsibility for the provision of public parks and recreational facilities and programs. Special funding and maintenance responsibilities relating to parks and recreation shall be established through a joint contract agreement.

Policy 1.1.1.: [R] *(Effective 7/16/90)*

A system of countywide, and local parks shall continue to be maintained in accordance with the following minimum level of service acreage standards (measured in acres per 1,000 population):

<u>Responsible Government</u>	<u>Type of Park</u>		
	<u>Countywide</u>	<u>Area</u>	<u>Local (Recommended)</u>
City	1.22	2.00	2.0
County	0.18	--	--
Fed./State	3.60	--	--
Total	5.00	2.0	2.0

These facilities will be provided in the following manner:

- A. City of Tallahassee area parks provision will be based on the urban service area population, and shall be located within the city limits so as to equitably serve the urban service area population.

- B. County government will continue to be responsible for the operation and maintenance of boat landings and water-related parks at a standard of 0.18 acres/1,000 population.
- C. Leon County shall annually budget appropriate funds, per the signed inter-local agreement, to be used by the City of Tallahassee Parks and Recreation Department in providing recreational services to the citizens of Leon County.
- D. Level of Service for Areawide and Countywide parks shall be adopted for purposes to concurrency. LOS for local parks is a recommended level which primarily shall be used as a guideline for the provision of this type of park in relation to new developments, per Policy 2.1.6 of the Land Use Element.

Policy 1.1.2: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

Local government shall maintain a land acquisition program adequate to maintain the level of service standards consistent with the Capital Improvements Element. This acquisition program is intended to serve multiple uses such as protection of flood plains or natural habitat areas, or solve flooding problems. This acquisition program can include requirements and incentives for private land donation.

Policy 1.1.3: [R] (*Rev. Effective 1/27/94*)

As part of their budget processes, the City and County shall each annually review costs necessary to operate, maintain, and improve park facilities consistent with the adopted levels of service as included in this plan. The City Parks and Recreation Department and the County Department of Public Works shall prepare budget requests to implement this policy.

Policy 1.1.4: [R] (*Rev. Effective 1/27/94*)

In the acquisition and development of future park facilities, priority shall be given to the preservation of natural vegetation and land features, consistent with the functional purpose of the individual park. As a minimum, a system-wide average of 50% of the natural features will remain undeveloped except for inclusion of passive recreational facilities, such as hiking trails and picnicking facilities. This system-wide policy is based on the recognition that some types of facilities (such as golf courses and ball fields), due to their design requirements and functions, will require greater disturbance of natural features than other types of park facilities.

Policy 1.1.5: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

Design and construction of all future activity based parks and any future redesign of existing activity based parks will include equipped children's playground areas.

ACCESSIBILITY TO RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Objective 1.2: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

By 1995, all public park and recreation facilities shall be identifiable by and accessible to Leon County residents and to visitors, including the handicapped.

Policy 1.2.1: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

The following locational criteria shall apply as one factor to be considered in the acquisition of additional park facilities:

<u>Park Category</u>	<u>Locational Criteria</u>
Countywide	“Build-out” population of 100,000 within 30 minute driving radius
Area	“Build-out” population of 25,000 within a three mile radius
Local	“Build-out” population of 5,000 within a one-half mile radius

“Build-out” population refers to the projected population within the service radius of the park once the area is developed. When new parks are being considered for acquisition, this policy shall be applied as one measure to determine appropriate park location.

Policy 1.2.2: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

At the time of plan adoption, all countywide and area park facilities, including freshwater beaches and shores, have roadway access. Any new area and countywide parks will also have roadway access. In addition, neighborhood parks are recognized primarily as “walk- to” facilities and will be provided with safe pedestrian/bicycle accessways by 1995.

Policy 1.2.3: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

Shores of public lakes shall have public roadway access.

Policy 1.2.4: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

In order to make parks accessible to youth and other transportation disadvantaged, mass transit routes shall be provided to within walking distance of those facilities. This policy does not apply to boat landings facilities or other rural recreation facilities, nor to neighborhood park facilities.

Policy 1.2.5: [R] (Rev. Effective 7/2/99)

Local (neighborhood) park facilities should be included in the larger “area” and “county-wide” parks wherever the need for local parks, based on established LOS, is not being met. Such facilities should be located as to be readily accessible to pedestrians and bicyclists and should supply the same park and recreational facilities and amenities as a stand along “local” park. They must also serve a built-out population of 5,000 within a ½ mile radius of the park.

PUBLIC/PRIVATE COORDINATION

Objective 1.3: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

The City Commission and the County Commission shall implement actions to improve coordination between the public and private sectors in matters relating to the provision of recreational opportunities. These actions shall include those outlined in policies 1.3.1 and 1.3.5.

Policy 1.3.1: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

By 1992, the City and County Commissions shall develop an advisor mechanism for securing citizen involvement, on a countywide basis, regarding public park and recreation decisions, including park acquisition. This mechanism shall be consistent with citizen involvement procedures developed in accordance with Policies 1.5.1 and 1.5.2 of the intergovernmental coordination element.

Policy 1.3.2: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

By 1992, adopt incentives for private landowners and developments which donate or set aside land for recreational and cultural purposes.

Policy 1.3.3: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

The City parks and Recreation Department and the County Public Works Department Will continue to monitor public and private revenue sources that are available for recreational and cultural facilities and activities. Regardless of revenue source, level of service standards will be maintained at least to the levels adopted in this plan.

Policy 1.3.4: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

By 1992, formalize working agreements with the Leon County School System for the shared use of school facilities for recreation and/or leisure purposes.

Policy 1.3.5: [R] (City of Tallahassee) (Effective 7/16/90)

Continue financial support for the Tallahassee Junior Museum and support its expansion as a wildlife park.

Policy 1.3.5: [R] (Leon County) (Effective 7/16/90)

The County will support the efforts of the Tallahassee Junior Museum in its expansion as a wildlife park.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES

Objective 1.4: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

Make local government an active participant in fostering cultural activities and facilities.

Policy 1.4.1: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

The Cultural Resources Commission shall be advisory to City and County governments. This agency, among its other responsibilities, shall be responsible for enhancing public awareness of cultural opportunities and for periodically apprising the City and County of current cultural needs of the community.

Policy 1.4.2: [R] (Effective 7/16/90)

By 1992, Tallahassee shall, in conjunction with the Downtown Improvement Authority and the Historic Tallahassee preservation Board (or its successor), establish an historic and cultural walking tour of downtown Tallahassee.

Policy 1.4.3: (Deleted Effective 7/25/03)

(Reserved)

Policy 1.4.4: [R] (Rev. Effective 12/10/91)

By 1993, as part of a cultural arts complex the City shall, with County encouragement, complete the construction of a visual arts museum. This shall occur if construction of such is determined feasible in accordance with the completed feasibility study. Additional cultural activated in the complex, such as a performing arts center, and private development at the Civic Center site will be determined by the Civic Center Master Plan.

Policy 1.4.5: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

By 1993, the City shall, with County encouragement, develop a public-private partnership to fund the construction of an amphitheatre for outdoor performances and activities. This facility shall be located so as to be accessible to all citizens of the County.

Policy 1.4.6: [R] (*Deleted Effective 7/25/03*)

(Reserved)

Policy 1.4.7: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

By 1992, Tallahassee and Leon County shall develop an art-in-public places program.

Policy 1.4.8: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

By 1991, Leon County shall adopt a program for establishment of branch libraries in areas of high population concentration.

OPEN SPACE

OBJECTIVE 1.5: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*) (*Rev. Adopted 1/7/09*)

Lands designated as open space will be protected from incompatible land uses and will remain functionally intact through at least the year 2030.

Policy 1.5.1: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

By February, 1991, local government shall adopt land development regulations which include specific open space definitions and standards.

Policy 1.5.2: [R] (*Effective 7/16/90*)

Development regulations shall include provisions for incentives and/or requirements for the designation and inclusion of open space in future developments.

Parks & Recreation Facilities Map
Boat Landings/Parks Leon County Map