

Chapter 2: Community Inventory and Assessment

The purpose of this chapter is to gain a broad understanding of the current conditions of the City of Fort Lauderdale's parks, facilities, programs, services and environmental practices. At the time of development of this plan, the City managed 104 named parks, classified into six descriptive categories. This chapter takes an in-depth look at the conditions, appearance and functionality of the existing parks and recreation system as a snapshot for analysis.

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2.1 Guiding Documents

2.1.1 Overview

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Master Plan (PRSMP) is not an effort unto itself, but rather is a process to align the Parks and Recreation Department's efforts with the vision and strategic objectives of the city as a whole. The PRSMP is effectively a view of the city vision through the parks window. The PRSMP must also be sensitive to the geographic and environmental context within which the city exists. The location of the city, in a highly urbanized area on the coast of Southeast Florida provides unique opportunities and challenges that significantly influence the provision of parks and recreation services. Additionally, the PRSMP must work in concert with the efforts of other departments and work seamlessly to achieve the common city vision.

As such, this planning effort must support those other efforts and simultaneously reflect back to the parks initiatives that will require support from those same efforts. Finally, this planning effort must recognize and support the multiple efforts that the Parks and Recreation Department is already advancing toward these goals.

In an effort to achieve alignment with other city efforts and ensure a concerted effort toward a common City vision, AECOM has undertaken a review of guiding documents at the initiation of the PRSMP process. Below is a brief summary of the most significant documents that express the vision, context, mutually supportive efforts, and current Parks and Recreation Department initiatives that are critical to development of a truly seamless Master Plan for the Parks and Recreation System. Documents reviewed include:

Guiding Documents

- *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale (2013)*
- *Press Play Fort Lauderdale (2015)*
- *A Region Responds to a Changing Climate- Regional Climate Action Plan (2012)*
- *Connecting the Blocks (CTB) (2013)*
- *City of Fort Lauderdale Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) (2010, 2015 Update)*
- *City of Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan (2008)*
- *City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department Mission and Vision Statement (2011)*
- *City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Long Range Strategic Plan (2008)*
- *Department Recreation Programming Plan (2014)*
- *Department Business Plan (2015)*



- *Fort Lauderdale Neighbor Survey (2014, 2015)*
- *Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) (2013)*
- *Commission Annual Action Plans (CAAP)-FY 2016 (2015)*
- *SE Florida Regional Seven50 Plan (2014)*

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2.1.2 Vision Documents

Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale (2013)

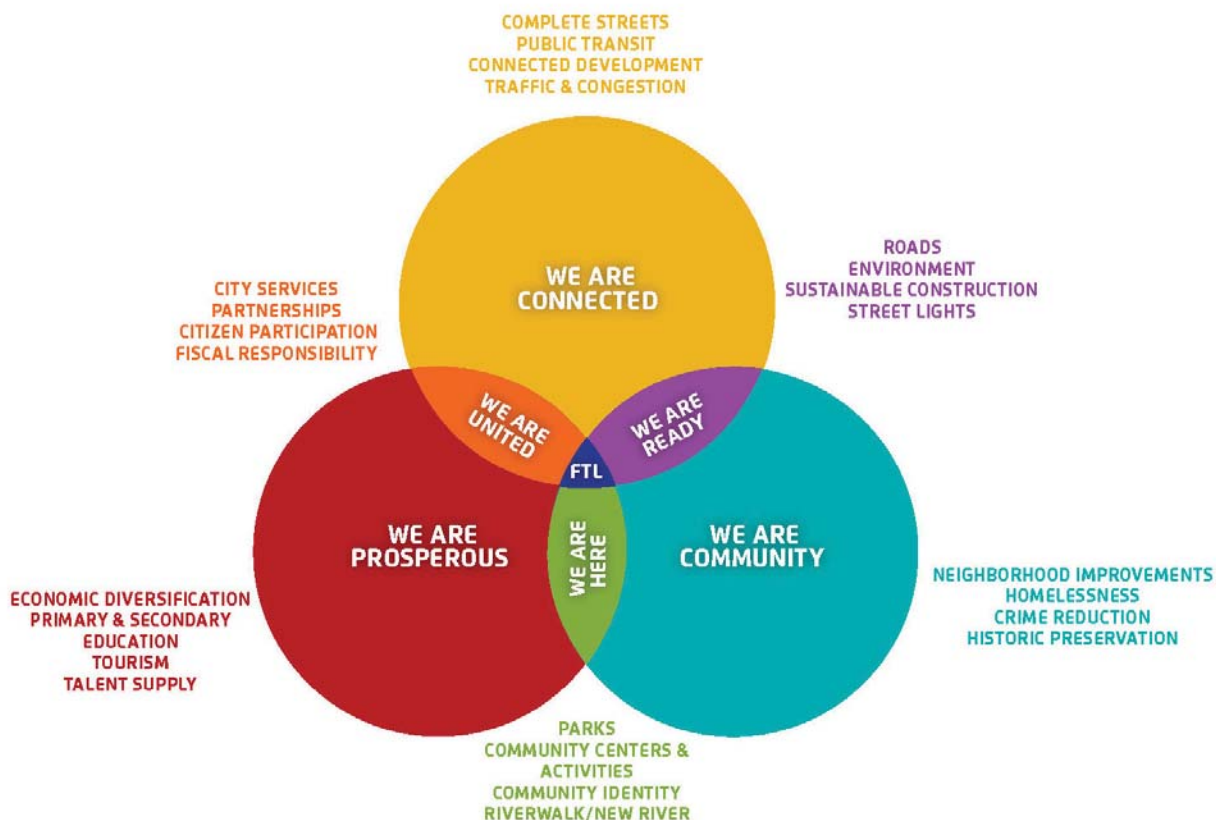
Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale is a true vision plan for the city. The Plan imagines the future state of the city in the year 2035 as a mutually supportive set of visions that express the desired future for the city. Depicted as a set of overlapping “We are” statements, the vision is a true expression of what the residents of the city aspire to be as a community. More information regarding the Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale plan can be found at:

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/structural-innovation-division/vision-plan>

Figure 2-1: Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Vision Statement

- WE ARE CONNECTED.**
We move seamlessly and easily through a safe transportation system where the pedestrian is first.
- WE ARE READY.**
We are a resilient and safe coastal community.
- WE ARE COMMUNITY.**
We are a neighborhood of neighborhoods.
- WE ARE HERE.**
We are an urban center and a vacationland in the heart of South Florida.
- WE ARE PROSPEROUS.**
We are a subtropical City, an urban laboratory for education and business.
- WE ARE UNITED.**
We are a strong and vibrant kaleidoscope of multi-generational cultures, ethnicities, and community partners.

Figure 2-2: Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale Plan Framework



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Press Play is the strategic plan complimentary to the Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale vision plan. It lays out broad categories of areas of success under the Cylinders of Excellence, including:

- Infrastructure
- Public Places
- Neighborhood enhancement
- Business Development
- Public Safety
- Internal Support Platform

More information regarding the Press Play strategic plan can be found at:

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/structural-innovation-division/strategic-plan-press-play>

The strategic plan also sets forth a specific set of measurable, mutually supportive goals that are summarized in the table on the following page: These goals are integral to and can be greatly advanced through the development of the PRSMP.

Figure 2-3: Press Play Fort Lauderdale Vision Scorecard Diagram



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Figure 2-4: Press Play Fort Lauderdale Vision Scorecard Table

VISION PLAN CATEGORY:		KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR:	BASELINE:	5-YR TARGET:
We are Connected	Complete Streets	Walkability Score	59	66
	Public Transit	Percent of residents that drive to work alone	74%	68%
	Connected Development	Percent of Connectivity Map completed	10%	25%
	Traffic & Congestion	Satisfaction with overall flow of traffic	39%	45%
We are Ready	Roads	Percent of City roadways with an average Pavement Condition Index Score of greater than or equal to 70	N/A	70%
	Environment	Percent of Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) initiatives implemented	10%	80%
	Sustainable Construction	Citywide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions per capita	15.65	12.11
	Drainage	FEMA Community Rating System (CRS) Score	7	5
We are Community	Neighborhood Improvements	Average time to resolve code violations	N/A	159
	Homelessness	Number of chronically homeless	408	250
	Crime Reduction	Crime rate per 1,000 residents	68.2	Decrease
	Housing Affordability	Percent of households that pay 30% or more of household income on housing	51.4%	Decrease
We are Here	Parks	Percent of residents that live within a 10-minute walk of a park	67%	70%
	Community Centers & Activities	Satisfaction with the quality of Parks and Recreation programs and facilities	75%	81%
	Trees	Tree canopy coverage citywide	20.6%	23.6 %
	Riverwalk/New River	Percent of the Riverwalk District Plan's Implementation Matrix implemented	17%	100%
We are Prosperous	Economic Diversification	Unemployment Rate	6.9%	Decrease
	Primary & Secondary Education	Fort Lauderdale public high school graduation rate	86.6%	90%
	Tourism	Percent of tourism tax generated by Fort Lauderdale	49.6%	50%
	Talent Supply	Percent of residents aged 18-44 with a bachelor's degree or higher	32.6%	Increase
We are United	City Services	Satisfaction with the overall quality of City services	67%	73%
	Partnerships	Voter turnout	12.43%	Increase
	Neighbor Participation	Volunteer hours	N/A	400,000
	Fiscal Responsibility	Property values	\$23,619,153,693	\$28,839,304,588

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SE Florida Regional Seven50 Plan (2014)

The Seven50 plan provides a framework for the seven counties of southeast Florida on Regional Priority issues that include: Growth in Economy, The Livable Region, Celebrating Arts & Culture, Valuing the Environment, Climate & Energy Resilience, and Inclusive Regional Leadership.

Seven50 serves as a PROCESS striving to establish a culture of communication and cooperation.

As a TOOL, the plan serves as the basis to create a healthy and competitive environment for businesses in the region and to provide certainty for the future.

As a VISION, it identifies trends to allow local governments and businesses to be better prepared and more competitive.

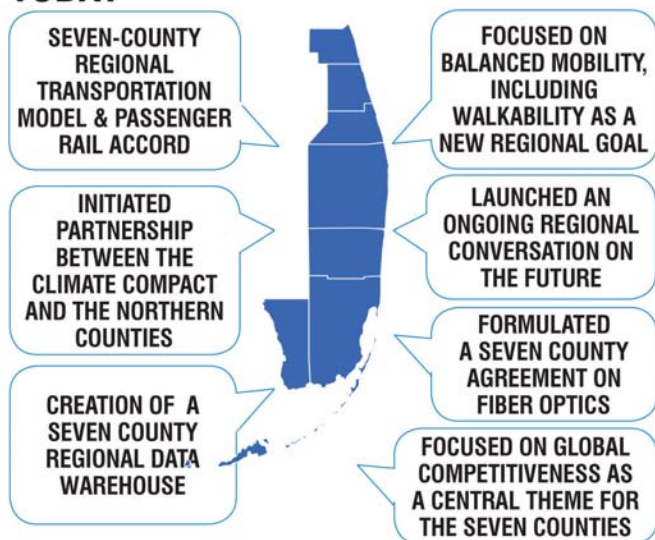
As a GOAL, the plan seeks to protect, restore, and enhance Southeast Florida and ensure it remains a thriving paradise for generations to come.

More information regarding the Seven50 Plan can be found at:

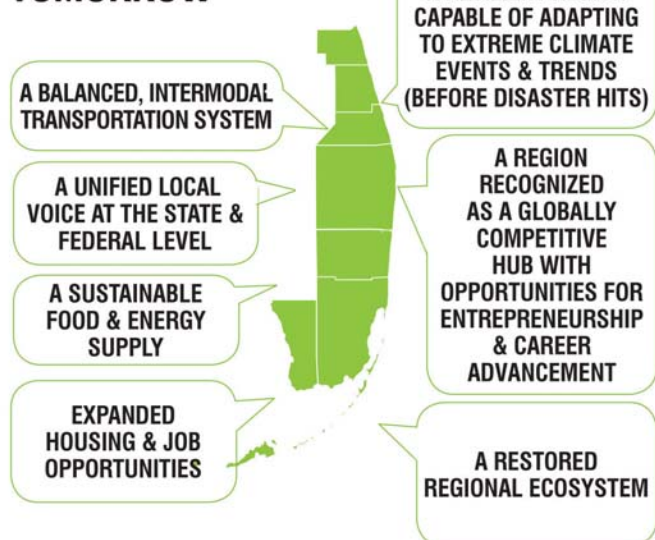
<http://seven50.org/seven50-se-florida-prosperity-plan-draft-report/#>

Figure 2-5: Seven50 Plan Summary of Goals

SEVEN50 DIFFERENCE SUMMARY: TODAY



SEVEN50 DIFFERENCE SUMMARY: TOMORROW



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2.1.3 Context Documents

A Region Responds to a Changing Climate-Regional Climate Action Plan (2012)

The Regional Climate Action Plan is a compendium of Goals developed by the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact Counties, that seeks to address the issues associated with climate change in the highly vulnerable Southeast Florida area through and integrated, regional approach. The Plan is a cumulative effort among Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties, their municipalities and partners.

The seven goals of the plan are:

- Provide the common framework for **Sustainable Communities and Transportation Planning** to be aligned across the region,
- Protect and address the vulnerable **Water Supply, Management and Infrastructure**
- Preserve the fragile **Natural Systems**
- Preserve **Agricultural resources**,
- Explore alternatives and decrease the use of **Energy and Fuel**,
- Integrate climate change hazards in **Risk Reduction and Emergency Management** planning, and
- Create a common vocabulary for **Outreach and Public Policy** development.

The effects of climate change in particular sea level rise will have a dramatic impact on the City of Fort Lauderdale Park and Recreation system. Alternatively, the Parks and Recreation Department may have the ability to employ a variety of strategies that can reduce the impact of climate change on the local community. All of these potential impacts and possible mitigating strategies need to be considered in the PRSMP process. Additional information regarding the Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact and the Regional Climate Action Plan can be found at:

<http://www.southeastfloridaclimatecompact.org/compact-documents/>

Fort Lauderdale Neighbor Survey (2014)

The purpose of the survey was to assess the quality of life and the overall provision of City services. Additionally, the survey was designed to assess community priorities by illustrating the importance of certain issues. Survey results were used to conduct an Importance-Satisfaction analysis that can help the city identify investment priorities for the next two years. GIS maps were created that showed the results of selected questions on the survey.

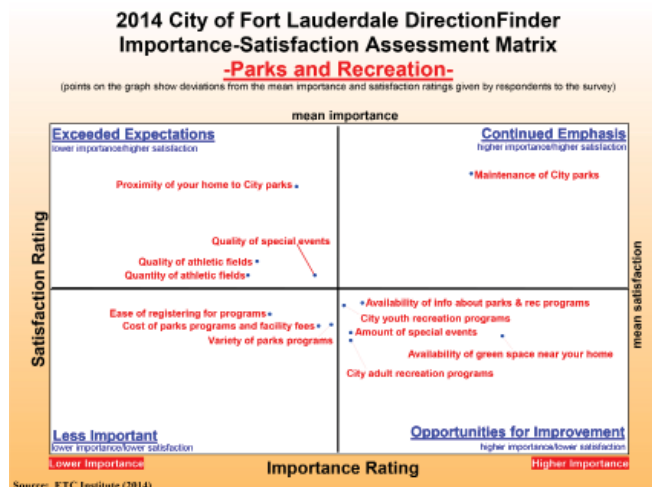
Satisfaction results with specific City services like park and recreation services included high percentages for maintenance of city parks (78%), the proximity of home to city parks (77%), and the quality of athletic fields (65%). Residents were least satisfied with the City's adult recreation programs (53%).

The results from this study would help the City set its overall priorities for improvement as well as set priorities with the departments/ specific areas.

More information regarding the Neighbor Survey can be found at:

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/city-manager-s-office/structural-innovation-division/neighbor-survey>

Figure 2-6: Neighbor Survey Importance-Satisfaction Assessment Matrix



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2.1.4 Complimentary Planning Efforts

Connecting the Blocks (CTB) (2013)

Connecting the Blocks (CTB) is a recently completed, comprehensive plan for improved bicycle and pedestrian mobility throughout the City. Multi-modal mobility is critical to the success of a park system, particularly in urbanized communities such as Fort Lauderdale. Parks are a critical destination for many populations, including those too young to drive and those that have lost the capacity to drive. Special attention will be given through the PRSMP process to enhanced access in the vicinity of parks and recreation facilities.

The goal of the City of Fort Lauderdale to become more multi-modal and connected is part of a larger vision that seeks to enhance the livability of the city while continuing to foster

economic growth. The CTB provides a plan to move from where we are today to that “City of Tomorrow.” Fort Lauderdale’s vision for multi-modal connectivity provides the foundation for identifying specific actions that can be taken to improve multi-modal connectivity. When these infrastructure improvements are completed, the hope is that people will be walking in the business districts where there is less congestion, bicyclists will be traveling across the city for work and pleasure, and people will get out of their automobiles and choose to travel by other modes.

Additional information regarding the Between the Blocks mobility plan can be found at:

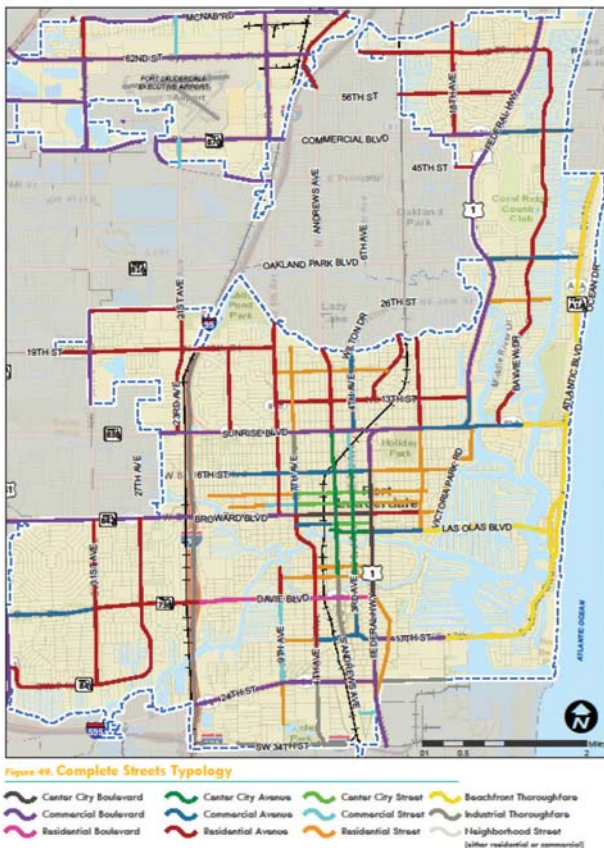
<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/transportation-and-mobility/transportation-division/sustainable-transportation-and-mobility>

City of Fort Lauderdale Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) (2010, 2015 Update)

City of Fort Lauderdale Sustainability Action Plan (SAP) is the guiding plan in protecting critical natural resources, remaining resilient to the effects of climate change, and reducing the impact of the City on the environment. The SAP articulates specific “green” goals, strategies and performance indicators, reflects how sustainability will be integrated into all levels of City decision-making, and establishes a system of accountability. The SAP provides a coordinated statement introducing five priorities and 17 goals organized into eight areas: Leadership, Air Quality, Energy, Water, Built and Natural Environment, Transportation, Waste, and Progress Tracking. Within each section, the SAP identifies new initiatives to encourage and assist residents, businesses, developers and others to practice sustainability.

In follow up to the SAP, the City in 2015 has also developed a progress report entitled Making Waves. This report tracks the progress the City is making on the goals within the SAP and demonstrates how the City is committed to making sustainability into all aspects of the decision making process. Further information

Figure 2-7: Connecting the Blocks: Complete Streets Network



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regarding the SAP and the 2015 Making Waves Progress Report can be found at:

<http://gyr.fortlauderdale.gov/greener-government/sustainability-action-plan>

City of Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan (2008)

City of Fort Lauderdale Comprehensive Plan is the guiding document for all City development. Integration with the PRSMP is essential to realizing the goals of the plan. The City is currently in the process of preparing the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) in advance of updating the Comprehensive Plan. AECOM has submitted specific recommendations to the staff Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to ensure that the Parks and Recreation Element of the Plan as well as multiple other elements of the plan are evaluated and included in the update to the Plan. Upon completion of the PRSMP, a full copy will be provided to the Planning Department to ensure integration in the plan update.

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/sustainable-development/urban-design-and-planning/comprehensive-plan>

Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) (2013)

The purpose of Florida's State-wide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation plan (SCORP) is to outline a five year policy plan and establish a framework for statewide outdoor recreation planning. The plan documents recreational supply and demand, describes current recreational opportunities, estimates needs for additional recreational opportunities and proposes means for meeting identified needs. The plan evolved from large scale public participation and extensive planning coordination between state and local governments.

The plan identifies three overarching issue areas impacting recreation in Florida:

- Raising awareness of the values and benefits of outdoor recreation
- Improving public access through agency coordination
- Reconnecting people to the outdoors

Further information regarding SCORP can be found at:

<http://www.dep.state.fl.us/parks/outdoor/scorp.htm>

Figure 2-8: Sustainability Action Plan Topics



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Commission Annual Action Plans (CAAP) -FY 2016 (2015)

The 2016 Commission Annual Action Plan represents Fort Lauderdale City Commission’s highest priority strategic initiatives for FY 2016. The plan identifies the scopes, resources, and milestones of the priorities. These initiatives will be integrated as the main priorities of each Cylinder of Excellence and lead Department work plans.

Under the Plan’s top priority action items, an increase in the number of soccer and lacrosse fields has been identified as the responsibility of the Public Works Department. Similarly, lighting solutions for the beach has also been identified as a Public Works Department’s responsibility. Such policy agenda topics can also be pursued by the City Parks and Recreational Department.

Further information regarding the Action Plan can be found at:

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/government/city-commission/office-of-the-mayor-city-commission/commission-annual-action-plan>

City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department Mission and Vision Statement (2011)

Department Mission and Vision Statement is the Department’s current expression of its Mission, Vision and Core values that includes:

Mission:

“To provide the opportunity to experience fun and rewarding recreational programs, events and leisure activities, in an aesthetically pleasing and safe environment, accessible to all”.

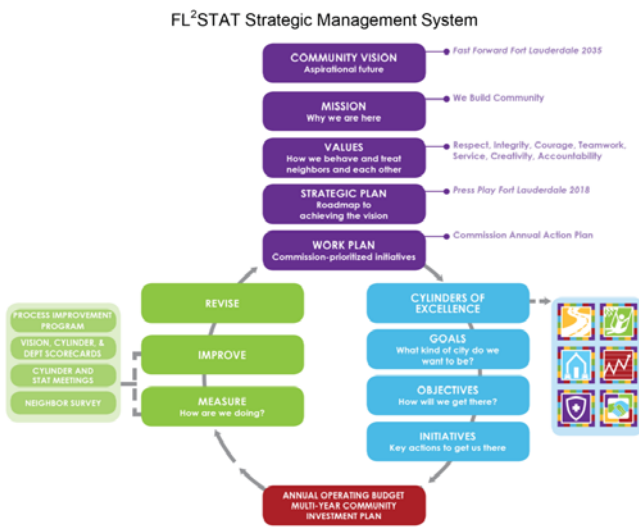
Vision:

“To inspire all to experience more out of life in our nationally recognized parks and facilities”.

Core Values:

- **Fun** – Provide and enjoy innovative programming and events that captivate and direct our youth, motivate and reinvigorate adults and stimulate all to get more out of life in a safe comfortable environment.
- **Environmental Stewardship** – Promote the optimum health of our land, water and air through the use of earth-friendly materials, recycling and conservation practices. Develop and maintain clean, aesthetically pleasing parks and recreation facilities.
- **Professional Development** – Keep abreast of current trends in the field of Parks and Recreation through continued education and involvement in professional organizations. Be proactive and mentor those with aspirations to enter the profession.
- **Accessibility** – Provide parks and programming, regardless of ability and geographic location, at a reasonable cost to users, making reasonable accommodation for the needs of all.
- **Wellness** – Promote healthy, active lifestyles, environmental awareness and socialization

Figure 2-9: CAAP Strategic Management System



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through recreation programming and community-friendly parks.

- **Customer Service** – As demonstrated by prompt and courteous service, responsive to all.
- **Cooperation and Respect** – Work together in an atmosphere of mutual respect, trust and good sportsmanship, toward a common goal.

Whereas the current Department Mission, Vision and Core Values are clearly representative of the Department's high quality and professional organization, they do not fully capture the expanding role that the Department is taking in the city-wide efforts to build a more livable, sustainable community. Through this master planning process, the Department's Mission, Vision and Core Values will be reviewed and revised to more accurately reflect the leading role the Department is having in the City.

City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Long Range Strategic Plan (2008)

The City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Long Range Strategic Plan was developed in 2008 as an effort by the City to develop a long range plan for the park facilities and programs and strategically plan for the future needs of residents. It is a plan to strategically plan parks, greenways, trails, streets and public open spaces, as well as providing recreational opportunities that are relevant to the lifestyles and demographics of the community, through which the City could greatly influence the quality of life for present and future generations of residents and visitors. This plan provided a clear layout for not only the strictly defined parks and recreation facilities of the department, but also provides a framework for all open space within the City, including the following seven initiatives:

1. Improve neighborhood access to local recreation amenities
2. Improvements to existing community-wide parks
3. Expand access to greenways and trails
4. Improved water access

5. Expansion of Indoor, Health and Fitness Oriented Community/ Recreation Centers
6. Improved "complete" streets to create a network of sidewalks and bike lanes/paths to serve schools, parks and neighborhoods
7. Expanded public transit service to parks and the beach

Since 2008 the Parks and Recreation Department has made great success in achieving these initiatives. This current master plan will build upon those successes and provide new initiatives that are in line with the current City vision.

Further information regarding the Strategic Plan can be found at:

<http://www.fortlauderdale.gov/departments/parks-recreation/parks-strategic-plan>

Department Recreation Programming Plan (2014)

Department Recreation Programming Plan is the Department's specific strategy for delivering recreation programs. With extensive input from the public, it sets forth clear objectives for every core recreation program service delivery based on the conceptual foundations of play, recreation and leisure. It is used to guide the delivery of every area of recreation programming provided by the Department.

Department Business Plan (2015)

The Business Plan is the Department's fiscal strategy for meeting the needs of the community. It describes the Department and its strategic connections and major accomplishments, forecasts the major challenges, strategic initiatives, new projects and issues, as well as provides an environmental scan and a two to five year outlook for the Department. The Business Plan is a thorough description of the Department's view on its needs and priorities. It should be used as an integral part of the planning process and will be compared and updated with the needs and priorities as identified through the planning process.

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2.1.6 Guiding Documents Summary

The City of Fort Lauderdale has done a great job in developing planning documents that clearly articulate the City's intended direction. The Fast Forward vision plan and Press Play strategic plan have set the framework for City decision making that has been enforced and further articulated through multiple other planning efforts. Additionally, and equally as impressive, is the extent to which the City staff embrace the ideals and principles of the plans above into the daily lexicon of City decision making. From the onset of this planning effort, the inclusive planning process that has been used to develop the City's guiding documents has been apparent.

Cumulatively, these plans will be used to guide the direction of the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan to ensure that the plan promotes the goals of the City and works in harmony with other complimentary efforts. Review of existing or previously completed plans and studies will help recommendations developed through this master planning process progress into implementation through leveraging and partnering to advance the common vision for the community. Additionally, upon completion of this planning process, the PRSMP will be shared back to other departments to help guide their future efforts.

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Peter Feldman Park

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2.2 Comparables Analysis

2.2.1 Methodology

The previous section of the Community Inventory and Assessment chapter focused on the guiding documents that allowed the project team to form a better understanding of the planning context in Fort Lauderdale. This section provides analysis of comparable communities and park systems that have characteristics aligning with the type of system that City of Fort Lauderdale is striving to achieve.

Traditional comparable and benchmarking analysis relies on metric data such as park acreage comparisons, capita expenditures, and funding strategies. For the purpose of this Master Plan, the project team and the city staff have chosen to direct the focus away from data-driven benchmarking, and to focus on characteristics that improve the quality of life for residents and become sought-after attributes of a world-class city. These characteristics have been derived using community input and staff recommendations and include many attributes that Fort Lauderdale neighbors desire to experience in their parks and recreation system.

2.2.2 City Park System Comparables

Each of the cities chosen for comparable analysis provide unique examples of ways to provide high-quality recreation opportunities and incorporate the park system into the fabric of the city; creating social, economic and cultural benefits. The cities selected generally include geographic similarities to Fort Lauderdale. Most are coastal cities with access to waterfront recreation areas. All cities are part of a large metropolitan area, with diverse populations and highly developed economies. Evaluated on the following pages, the cities discussed in this section include:

- Boca Raton, Florida,
- Arlington, Virginia
- New York City, NY
- San Antonio, Texas
- Boulder, Colorado
- San Francisco, California
- Barcelona, Spain
- Sydney, Australia

Royal Botanical Garden - Sydney, Australia



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Boca Raton, Florida



Red Reef Park

Quick Facts:

Population:	89,407
Number of Parks:	31
Total Park Acreage:	520

Acreage LOS: 5.82 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: High quality park maintenance, high level of use, cooperative partnerships for special venues

Summary:

Located just 20 miles north of Fort Lauderdale in Palm Beach County, Boca Raton is a beach-side community that is a significant economic contributor to the South Florida region. As a popular tourist destination with a growing business district, Boca Raton experiences an influx of non-resident population on a daily basis. The parks system plays an important role in the City's attraction, with several special venues; such as public beaches with access to living coral reefs, and the Gumbo Limbo Nature Center; an Environmental Education Center run as a cooperative project between the City of Boca Raton, Greater Boca Raton and Florida Atlantic University. These special venues, along with high quality of park maintenance, make

the Boca Raton Park System an important part of the City for both residents and visitors.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

Fort Lauderdale and Boca Raton share many similarities, as both cities are key components of the South Florida region. Due to Fort Lauderdale's larger size, greater business presence, and tourism, there is an even greater opportunity for the Park System to be an attraction for residents and visitors through the development of parks and facilities as true destinations and attractions. Utilizing cooperative partnerships to create unique venues and facilities, Fort Lauderdale can capitalize on the areas economic strengths and continue to enhance a high level of maintenance for facilities.

Downtown Boca Raton



Gumbo Limbo Education Center



Chapter 2

Arlington, Virginia



Courthouse Neighborhood

Quick Facts:

Population:	229,302
Number of Parks:	152
Total Park Acreage:	960

Acreage LOS: 4.19 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: Dense urban area, high level of access to trails, public spaces, and multi-modal transit

Summary:

Arlington is located on the west bank of the Potomac river, across from Washington D.C. Given its proximity to the nation's capital, Arlington is headquarters to many major government agencies and departments, government contractors and professional service industries, creating a dense urban environment with a highly affluent population. Urban development in Arlington is concentrated around the stops on the Metro Line, which provides transportation throughout the Washington DC Metropolitan Area. These pockets of dense, urban development are well connected by trails and bikeways, and many urban parks and open spaces can be

found throughout Arlington's neighborhoods. The historic nature of the region also provides residents with access to national and state parks, including Arlington National Cemetery.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

The density of Arlington's urban neighborhoods and convenient access to multi-modal transportation alternatives provide residents with easy access to parks, trails and open spaces, enhancing the quality of life for residents of both the County and the Metro Area. A network of high quality parks and open spaces connected by trails, bikeways and transit, is a model that growing urban cities like Fort Lauderdale can strive to achieve.

Open Space in Clarendon



Gateway Park



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New York City, New York



Battery Park

Quick Facts:

Population:	8,336,697
Number of Parks:	1700+
Total Park Acreage:	36,606

Acreage LOS: 4.39 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: Large and diverse, public-private partnerships, sustainability / resiliency efforts

Summary:

New York City provides one of the largest and most complex park systems in the United States. The system is extremely diverse, with notable parks ranging from large parks like Battery Park and the famous Central Park, to small urban plazas and open spaces like Paley Park. With extremely high densities and soaring real estate values, development of new parks and open spaces can often present challenges in New York City, and the immense size of the system also places a strain on maintenance resources. One solution to these problems is the incorporation of P3s (public-private partnerships) in designing, planning and maintaining of public park land. The most well-known example of this is the Central Park Conservancy, but this strategy has also been used in other popular parks such as Bryant Park, which has experienced a continued revival

since its first renovation in 1988. The use of P3s and a rigorous effort to increase sustainability and resiliency not only makes the New York City park system one of the largest in the country, but also one of the most creative and adaptive.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

As Fort Lauderdale continues to grow as a city, the park system will be faced with challenges of improving and developing parks in a dense environment with limited resources. Establishing strong Public Private Partnerships (P3s) with local private companies and non-profits can help alleviate the pressure that may be placed on the City. Sustainability and resiliency will also continue to become more imperative for coastal cities, and New York City serves as an example where new policies and strategies are being implemented to insure a vibrant future for the park system.

The High Line



Paley Park



Bryant Park



Chapter 2

San Antonio, Texas



San Antonio River Walk

Quick Facts:

Population: 1,382,951
Number of Parks: 211
Total Park Acreage: 14,518

Acreage LOS: 10.50 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: Diverse population, high-level of tourism, premier River Walk in urban fabric

Summary:

With a large, diverse population and a flourishing economy, San Antonio is one of the fastest growing large cities in the United States. The 1.4 million residents are served by a complex park system with a wide variety of parks, preserves and cultural / historic sites, as well as over 300 miles of greenways and trails. San Antonio receives over 20 million tourists each year, with one of the largest draws being the River Walk. Lined with public spaces, bars, restaurants and retail space, the River Walk is an important part of the urban fabric, connecting users to the major tourist draws in the downtown area.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

The diverse recreation opportunities found in San Antonio contribute to the elevated quality of life that the residents of the city enjoy. The River Walk is one of the most famous aspects of the downtown area, and much like Fort Lauderdale, provides important connections and recreation benefits to its users. The San Antonio River Walk has been enormously successful as both a recreation amenity and an economic driver for the surrounding area, serving as the premier example of how a special-case pedestrian street can benefit a large urban area.

Greenway Trail

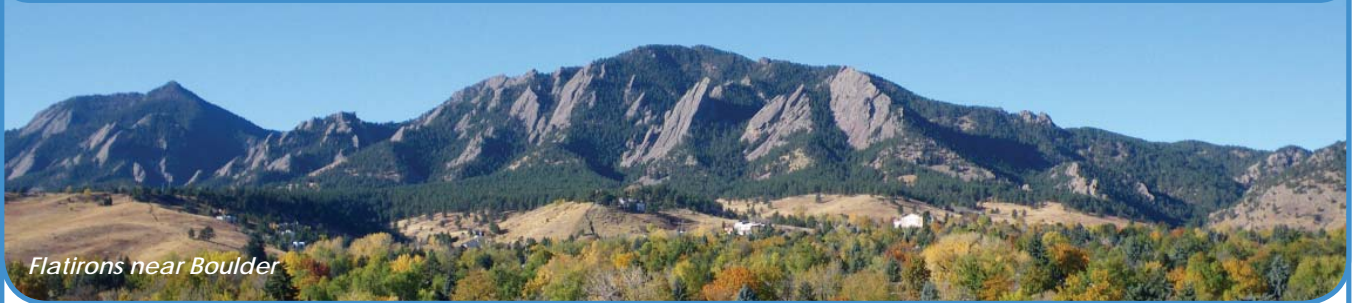


Milam Park



Community Inventory and Assessment

Boulder, Colorado



Flatirons near Boulder

Quick Facts:

Population:	97,385
Number of Parks:	100
Total Park Acreage:	1,803

Acreage LOS: 18.51 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: Regional connectivity, access to natural resources, extensive programs and services

Summary:

Nestled at the base of the Rocky Mountain foothills, known as the Flatirons, Boulder provides its residents with a high-quality park system and access to immense natural resources. Boulder is also well connected to the surrounding metro area, providing 145 miles of greenways and trails, and transit access to Denver, only 25 miles away. In addition to providing outdoor resources, one of Boulder's most notable highlights are the programs and services offered by the parks and recreation department. With over 2,500 individual programs offered annually, Boulder provides a wide variety of programs and services that benefit residents of all ages

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

While the City of Boulder differs geographically from the other comparables discussed in this section, there are aspects of the city and its park system that can be applied to Fort Lauderdale. Much like Fort Lauderdale is part of the South Florida Metro Area, Boulder is a key component to the Denver Metro, and provides access and linkages that connect its residents to the larger regional system. Boulder's extensive recreation program and services available to its residents are also a great example of how to enhance a park system by not only providing parks and facilities, but facilitating activities that improve the lives of users and contribute to a high quality of life.

Central Park and Civic Area



Boulder Streetscape



Chapter 2

San Francisco, California



Dolores Park

Quick Facts:

Population: 825,836
Number of Parks: 220
Total Park Acreage: 3,466

Acreage LOS: 4.20 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: Transient population, high-level of tourism, diverse recreation opportunities, system-wide transit access

Summary:

San Francisco serves as one of the most well-known and diverse park systems in the United States. Offering a variety of spaces, including historic parks like Union Square, large green spaces such as the San Francisco Botanical Garden, and numerous pocket parks and urban spaces across the city, San Francisco continues to promote progressive approaches to public spaces. The city's presence as one of the leading financial and tech hubs in the world has attracted a well-educated, transient population that values parks and public spaces as an important part of daily life. Tourism is also an important aspect of San Francisco, with historic landmarks receiving millions of visitors each year. The city provides substantial transit

services, as well as state-of-the-art biking facilities that connect residents to desired amenities, resulting in a substantial amount of use and visitation to parks within the system.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

San Francisco is repeatedly cited as an example of progressive approaches to parks and open spaces in urban environments. The parks system is well connected to the community using multi-modal transportation, and parks large and small are readily accessible to residents. The diverse, transient population and high level of tourism found in San Francisco is applicable to Fort Lauderdale, as these population trends will continue to be more prevalent as the city grows and diversifies.

Lafayette Park



Union Square



Community Inventory and Assessment

Barcelona, Spain



Quick Facts:

Population:	1,620,943	Acreage LOS:	.84 acres/1,000 pop.
Number of Parks:	68	Highlights of System:	World-class public spaces, high level of tourism, diverse recreation opportunities
Total Park Acreage:	1,358		

Summary:

With a diverse park system providing access to world-renowned parks, public squares, beaches, and historic sites, Barcelona provides some of the most unique recreation experiences in the world. Founded as a Roman City, it has evolved into a global city and a leader in tourism, culture, commerce and entertainment. Notable attractions include the famous Park Guell, designed by Antoni Gaudi, and the Rambla, a pedestrian-only road divided into several sections and plazas.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

The historical significance of Barcelona and the diversity of parks and recreation opportunities have established the city as a world-class precedent for public spaces. Cities around the globe look to the design and characteristics of Barcelona's public realm for examples of engaging spaces that can be enjoyed and appreciated by users of all ages.

Las Ramblas



Placa Catalunya



Chapter 2

Sydney, Australia



Royal Botanic Gardens

Quick Facts:

Population: 4,840,600
Number of Parks: 15 Major, 34 Local Parks
Total Park Acreage: 460+

Acreage LOS: .01 acres/1,000 pop.

Highlights of System: Diverse population, high-quality parks, well used, integrated into dense urban fabric

Summary:

Founded by the Great Britain as a penal colony in 1788, Sydney has grown to a global city of nearly five million people that is considered Asia Pacific's leading financial hub. While the quantity of parks and open spaces operated by the City of Sydney is not as high as other cities with comparable populations, the system focuses on the size and quality of its parks, and the results are world class parks and special facilities that become key components of Sydney's attraction. The Royal Botanic Gardens represent the epitome of the parks found within Sydney's system; serving as a park, scientific

institution and historical site, and one of the most visited attractions in the city.

Relevance to Fort Lauderdale :

The parks and facilities managed by the City of Sydney are a great example of the adage, "quality over quantity". While not numerous, the parks in Sydney are some of the most visited in the world, and provide large, high-quality green spaces in a highly developed urban area. Many of these parks also serve as venues for education and entertainment, allowing for flexible use and generating significant economic benefits for the city.

Hyde Park



Sydney Opera House and Royal Botanic Gardens



Community Inventory and Assessment

2.2.3 Comparables Summary

The eight parks systems reviewed in the Comparables section are all integral parts of the cities they serve, and play a major role in contributing to a high quality of life for residents. Despite the variation in size and geography of these cities, all of them possess strong economies and attract a large number of tourists. While there are many factors that create the ideal conditions found in these areas, a high-quality, well-connected and diverse park system is a commonality that all of these cities share. Many of the needs and priorities expressed during the community involvement phase focused on park system

attributes that are exemplified by the comparable cities, such as; safe, high-quality spaces; high levels of accessibility throughout the system; partnerships for park funding and special events; and city-wide branding and recognition as a great place to live, work, play and raise a family.

As Fort Lauderdale continues to attract residents and visitors, the parks and recreation system will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the City remains socially, culturally and economically viable, with many of the same attributes found in these world-class comparable cities.

Key Takeaways

- **Access improvements throughout the entire park system:** Access, especially at neighborhood level, was on the top priorities expressed by Fort Lauderdale neighbors. Most of the park systems in the comparable cities are popular because they are highly accessible. The parks in their systems are not only well connected to the other parks and recreational spaces but can also be easily accessed from the surrounding neighborhoods by various modes of transit and regional greenway systems.
- **Multiple options for activities and events:** The most visited parks are the ones which offered a huge variety of activities and events for the visitors to choose from. The park system of San Antonio is a good example of effective utilization of a riverfront as a multi-activity recreational space. The parks in Boulder rank high because of the large selection of programs and services offered by their parks and recreation department.
- **Public Private Partnerships (P3s) in design, planning and maintenance:** Fort Lauderdale's park system can benefit by taking lessons from New York's public-private partnerships model to provide unique programming and special events for neighbors and visitors. Future population growth in Fort Lauderdale and increased density in the urban fabric will create a need for additional green spaces as well as better maintenance of existing spaces. Establishing strong P3s with local private companies and non-profits can help alleviate the pressure that may be placed on the City from this rapid growth.
- **Branding and Recognition:** A good brand identity can make a park memorable. Fort Lauderdale has an extensive park system but there is inconsistency in the branding of these spaces, which may contribute to the lack of communication expressed by neighbors during community involvement. The City can take cue from the other cities such as Sydney and Barcelona that have established a unique brand identity for their parks- as destination spaces; as models for sustainability/ resiliency efforts; as social and community spaces for the city.

Chapter 2

2.3 Demographics

2.3.1 Overview

Better understanding the demographic and population changes and trends will allow this Master Plan to respond to neighbors’ needs and help build a stronger community. As essential elements to the quality of life in Fort Lauderdale, parks and recreation facilities are not just places, but unique spaces that respond to experiences and activities. The first step in analyzing the community’s demographics and population is to identify trends in historic data as well as future projections. Although this data is static in nature, analysis will allow the city to make more informed decisions based on trends that may impact the delivery of services over the next ten years.

In the last two decades prior to 2010, Fort Lauderdale has experienced significant growth with population rising from approximately 149,238 in 1990 to 165,729 in 2010. With this increase in population the characteristics and needs for parks and recreation have changed. Three main categories have been analyzed: population growth; population characteristics; and housing characteristics. The following sections highlight significant findings.

2.3.2 Population Growth

The City of Fort Lauderdale has enjoyed a recent period of significant growth, resulting in an over 15% increase in total population since 1990 and a projected 40% growth by 2040, when

Table 2-1: City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Miami Metro, and State of Florida Population Projections

Year	City of Fort Lauderdale**		Broward County*		Miami Metro Area*		State of Florida*	
	Population	% Change	Population	% Change	Population	% Change	Population	% Change
1990	149,238	-	1,255,488	-	4,056,100	-	12,650,935	-
2000	152,397	+2.12%	1,623,018	+29.27%	5,007,564	+23.46%	15,982,824	+26.34%
2010	165,521	+8.75%	1,748,066	+7.70%	5,564,635	+11.12%	18,801,332	+17.63%
2015	172,119	+3.86%	1,818,678	+4.04%	5,839,829	+4.95%	19,789,625	+5.26%
2020	177,625	+3.20%	1,891,345	+4.00%	6,152,048	+5.35%	21,236,667	+7.31%
2025	192,165	+8.19%	1,953,078	+3.26%	6,440,710	+4.69%	22,600,346	+6.42%
2030	202,072	+5.16%	2,008,957	+2.86%	6,714,320	+4.25%	23,872,566	+5.63%
2035	205,769	+1.83%	2,059,286	+2.51%	6,958,660	+3.64%	25,027,345	+4.84%
2040	208,618	+1.38%	2,105,566	+2.25%	7,185,839	+3.26%	26,081,392	+4.21%
1990-2040 % Change		+40%		+68%		+77%		+106%

* Source: Florida Office of Economic and Demographic Research

** Source: Broward County Planning and Environmental Regulation Division



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the population is estimated to reach 208,618. This growth, however, has not occurred evenly over the last 25-plus years. From 1990 to 2000, population grew by 2%, but accelerated to nearly 9% between 2000 and 2010, and slowed to 4% between 2010 and 2015. Projections by the Broward County Planning and Environmental Regulation Division estimate that population growth will see another period of acceleration over the next ten years, with growth slowing between 2030 and 2040.

Using data provided by the Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) that analyzes populations in Traffic Analysis Zones (TAZs), the location and distribution of growth in Fort Lauderdale can be identified. **Map 2-1** shows the patterns of growth that are forecast between 2010 and 2040. It should be noted that much of the growth is occurring in the center of the city; primarily in neighborhoods north of the New River. Pockets of growth can also be seen developing on the beach areas, and the southern and western edges of Fort Lauderdale.

In correlation to the projected population growth, population density and urbanization patterns are also on the rise. **Map 2-2** provides a forecast for population density throughout the city in 2040. This data shows that the areas where growth is occurring are also becoming more dense, indicating a strong trend of continuing urbanization in the downtown area and adjacent neighborhoods. This will create a greater need for access to transit and walkable facilities throughout the dense areas, as well as an emphasis on providing parks and open spaces in the urban fabric.

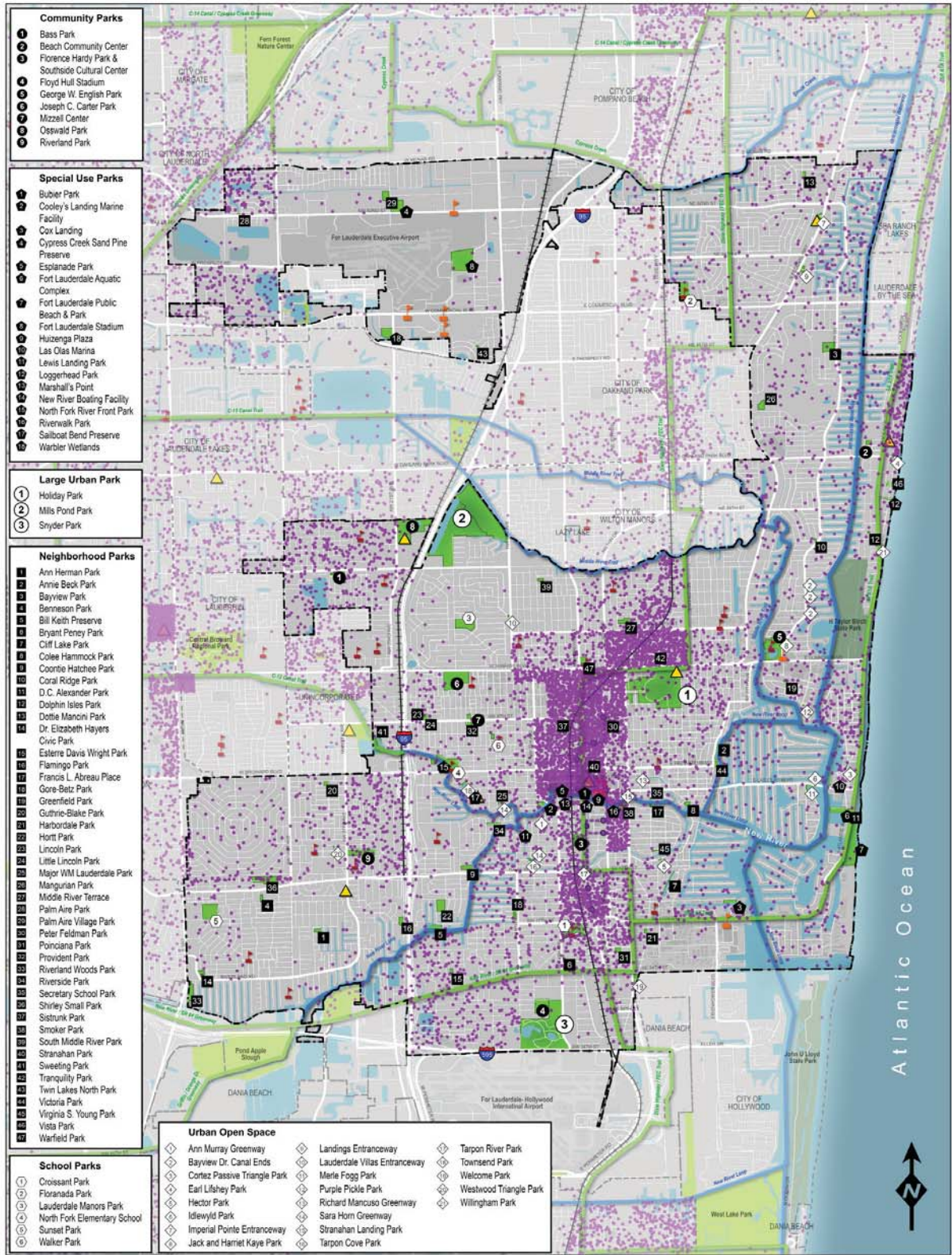
During the period of historic growth during the 2000's, Fort Lauderdale has been part of a state-wide trend of rapid growth and urbanization also experienced by the Miami Metro Area and Broward County. This growth was significantly slowed by the 2008 recession, but has since seen a rebound as the economy has recovered. Growth throughout the state and the region is expected to accelerate during the next 5-10 years, but ultimately will slow as more people inhabit South Florida.

Downtown Fort Lauderdale



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Map 2-1: City of Fort Lauderdale Parks System with Population Growth (2010-2040)



Legend

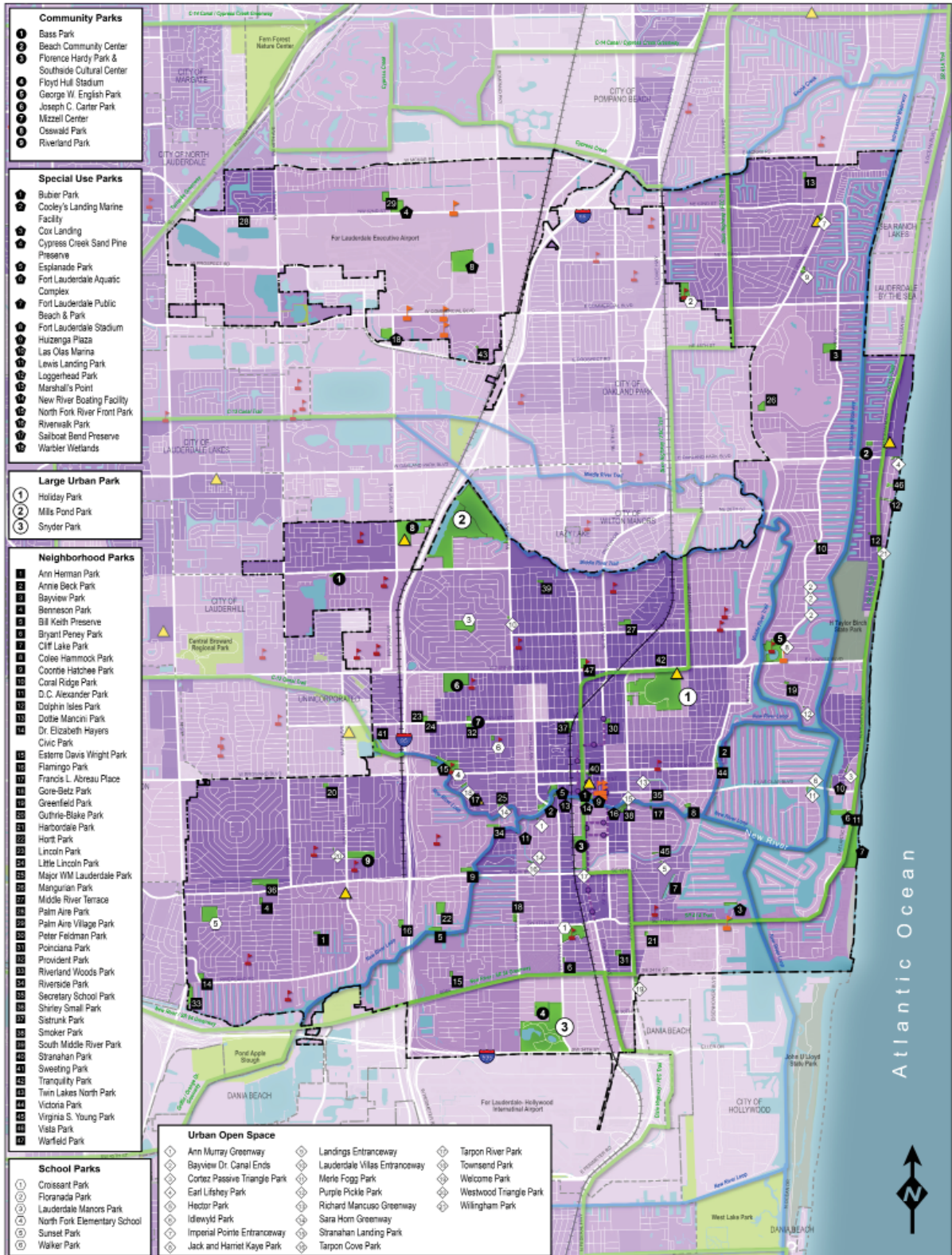


Data Source: Broward County MPO - Traffic Analysis Zones



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Map 2-2: City of Fort Lauderdale Parks System with Population Density (2040)



Data Source: Broward County MPO - Traffic Analysis Zones

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These increasing populations will also result in greater densities throughout South Florida, but particularly in Fort Lauderdale’s urban core. This will also result in an evolving labor force; changing housing market conditions; and finite resources for development.

Through these continuing growth trends, increased density and urbanization will result in additional needs for parkland and recreation facilities. As previous planning efforts and demographic analysis have envisioned, future growth will be targeted in areas that are already experiencing increases in density and urbanization. This type of growth typically serves cities well as dense planned growth may include highly walkable neighborhoods and infill development typically can rely on existing infrastructure. Parks and recreation facilities near large infill sites may need to be re-envisioned to meet the needs of a new or changing population nearby. If no existing parks are within access of infill sites, new locations may need to be identified but will typically enjoy the existing street network and utilities.

2.3.3 Population Characteristics

While total population and growth can help to determine level of service goals, population characteristics can help to define what type of facilities will serve the community best. The U.S. Census 2013 American Community Survey (ACS) data for the City of Fort Lauderdale presents a snapshot of population trends. When compared to data from 2000 and 2010, and from Broward County and the State of Florida, the data is put into a temporal and geographic context. Using the U.S. Census data from these three years allows for the most recent overall characteristics and historic growth trends to be identified. This research, among other factors, will help determine needs for parks and facilities.

Race/Ethnicity

The City of Fort Lauderdale is racially diverse. Notably from 2000 to 2013, the white population declined from 57.5% to 50.9%, whereas the percentages of all minority populations have increased since 2000, with the exception of Native Americans (see **Table 2-2**). The African

Table 2-2: Race/ Ethnicity in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida, 2000-2013

Race/ Ethnicity	City of Fort Lauderdale				Broward County				State of Florida			
	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change
Non-Hispanic White	57.5%	52.5%	50.9%	-6.6%	58.0%	43.5%	42.4%	-15.6%	65.4%	57.9%	57.2%	-8.2%
Black/ African American	28.9%	31.0%	30.9%	2.0%	20.5%	26.7%	27.2%	6.7%	14.6%	16.0%	16.0%	1.4%
Latino / Hispanic	9.5%	13.7%	14.9%	5.4%	16.7%	25.1%	25.8%	9.1%	16.8%	22.5%	22.9%	6.1%
Asian	1.0%	1.5%	1.2%	0.2%	2.3%	3.2%	3.3%	1.0%	1.7%	2.4%	2.5%	0.8%
American Indian	0.2%	0.3%	0.1%	-0.1%	0.9%	0.3%	0.2%	-0.7%	0.3%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Other Race	1.8%	2.4%	3.0%	1.2%	3.0%	3.7%	3.4%	0.4%	3.0%	3.6%	2.6%	-0.4%
Two or More Races	3.8%	2.1%	1.8%	-2.0%	3.4%	2.9%	2.5%	-0.9%	2.4%	2.5%	2.3%	-0.1%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2000, 2010; American Community Survey: 2013



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American population increased from 28.9% to 30.9%, while the Asian population increased by 0.2% to 1.2% in 2013. People who defined themselves as “Other Race” increased from 1.8% to 3.0%. Ethnically, Fort Lauderdale is also becoming more diverse, with the Hispanic/Latino community growing from 9.5% in 2000 to 14.9% in 2013. The race and ethnicity trends of Fort Lauderdale are not as drastic as those of Broward County, where the White population has declined 15.6% since 2000 and African American and Hispanic/Latino populations have seen more rapid growth. However, the trends in Fort Lauderdale generally parallel those of the State of Florida.

Overall trends include a continued growth in diversity, matching both Broward County and the State of Florida. The city is also experiencing growth in ethnic diversity with a significant growth in persons of Hispanic/Latino ethnicity, but is still lower than the percentage of population claiming similar ethnicity in Broward County and in the State.

Age

Fort Lauderdale residents are collectively aging faster as a city than both Broward County and the State of Florida. The median age within the city has increased from 39.3 years of age in 2000 to 42.3 years of age in 2013, a three year increase, whereas the County's median age increased by two years over the same period of time. To better understand this increase in overall age, individual age groups have been analyzed and compared (see **Table 2-3**).

Total population below 14 years of age in Fort Lauderdale collectively dropped 1.5% since 2000. This is similar to the rate of decrease for both Broward County and the State of Florida. To better understand where school age children live, a map has been prepared to show where children are located in comparison to schools and parks (**Map 2-3**). Note on the map a high level of school age children in the southwestern side of the City with a higher proportion of parks and school sites in this area. Continued emphasis will need to be placed on the improvement and

programming of these sites to meet the needs of the younger population. The 55 to 64 age group experienced the highest percentage increase, 4.3%, and may reflect the aging Baby Boomer generation. Though the city's changes in age reflect trends that are occurring across the state as whole, the rates in Fort Lauderdale are not as high as in Broward County, which may mean that the city will not age as fast as the surrounding area, and will continue to have a population with diverse age groups.

Just as it did with changing trends in race and ethnicity, Fort Lauderdale's changes in age parallel those of Broward County and the State of Florida, although the City's population is not aging as rapidly as County's.

Gender

Typically, populations do not witness extreme changes in gender unless a major event occurs, such as the closing of a military base. In 2010, the U.S. Census indicated that 52.9% of Fort Lauderdale residents were men, an increase of 0.5% from 2000 (see **Table 2-3**). In Broward County, the gender ratio also shifted slightly more in favor of men with an increase of 0.2%, for a total of 48.5%. The trend in changing gender percentages is similar to that for the State; however, the overall percentage of male population is higher in Fort Lauderdale than both Broward County and the State of Florida.

Income

Fort Lauderdale residents have experienced a significant increase in median household income between 2000 and 2010, from \$37,887 to \$49,119 (see **Table 2-4**). This increase of \$11,232 is higher than what households experienced in Broward County, however the median income in the County remains higher than Fort Lauderdale at \$51,251.

Similar to trends seen across Florida, households with incomes below \$35,000 annually decreased in Fort Lauderdale by 8.9%, while households with income higher than \$100,000 increased 8.8%. These trends, along with the absolute

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Table 2-3: Population by Age in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida, 2000-2013

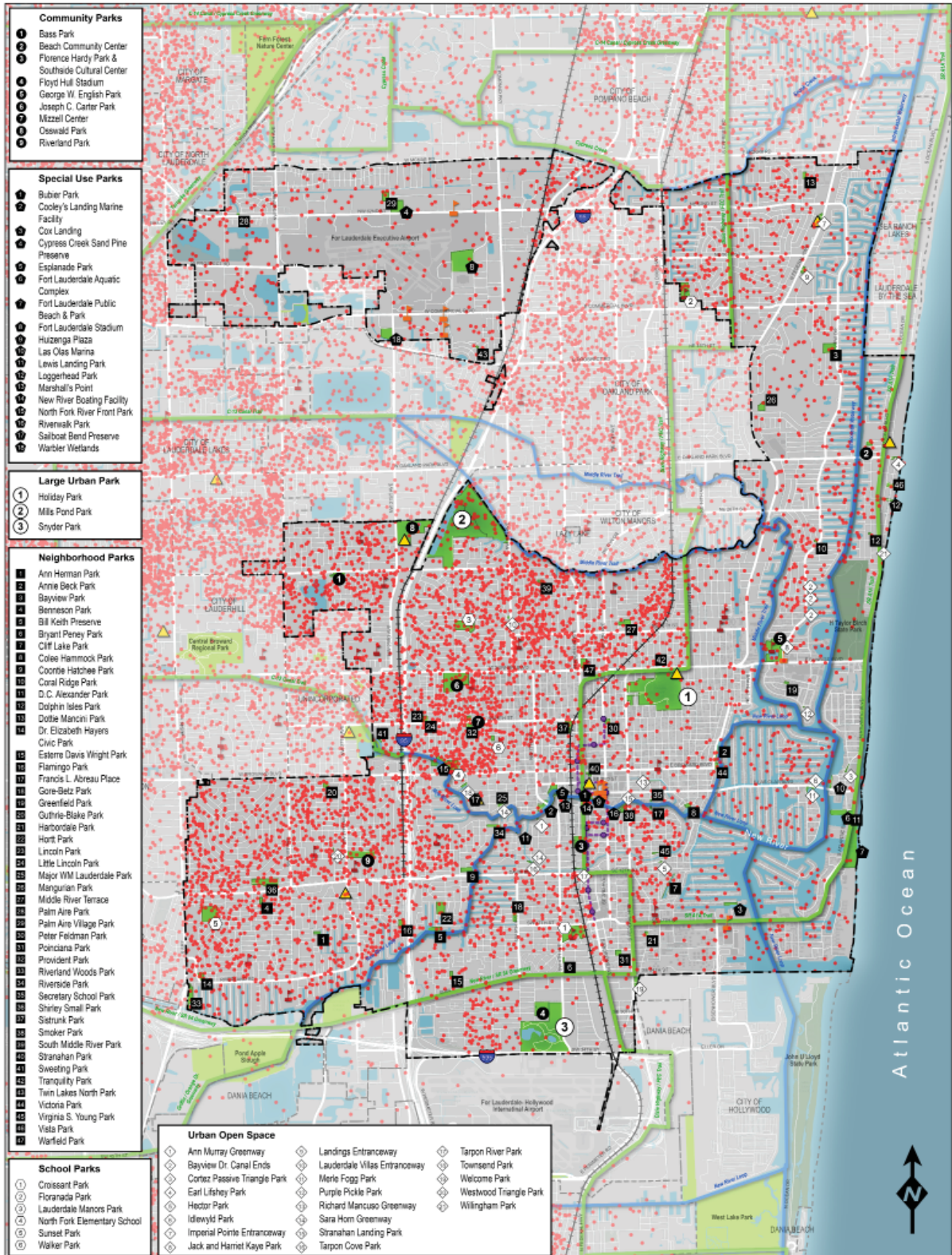
Age (Years)	City of Fort Lauderdale				Broward County				State of Florida			
	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change
Under 5	5.3%	5.2%	5.3%	0.0%	6.3%	5.9%	5.9%	-0.4%	5.9%	5.7%	5.6%	-0.3%
5 to 9	5.6%	4.7%	5.1%	-0.5%	6.8%	6.0%	5.8%	-1.0%	6.5%	5.7%	5.7%	-0.8%
10 to 14	5.4%	4.7%	4.4%	-1.0%	6.7%	6.4%	6.4%	-0.3%	6.6%	6.0%	5.9%	-0.7%
15 to 19	5.4%	5.1%	5.2%	-0.2%	5.9%	6.5%	6.4%	0.5%	6.3%	6.5%	6.3%	0.0%
20 to 24	5.5%	6.0%	5.8%	0.3%	5.1%	6.0%	6.1%	1.0%	5.8%	6.5%	6.7%	0.9%
25 to 34	15.1%	14.4%	14.8%	-0.3%	14.2%	12.8%	13.1%	-1.1%	13.0%	12.2%	12.3%	-0.7%
35 to 44	17.7%	14.0%	13.1%	-4.6%	17.2%	14.4%	14.1%	-3.1%	15.5%	13.0%	12.7%	-2.8%
45 to 54	14.9%	16.6%	16.6%	1.7%	13.3%	15.8%	15.7%	2.4%	12.9%	14.6%	14.4%	1.5%
55 to 64	9.9%	13.9%	14.2%	4.3%	4.7%	11.8%	12.1%	7.4%	9.7%	12.4%	12.6%	2.9%
65 to 74	7.8%	8.4%	8.9%	1.1%	3.7%	7.2%	7.5%	3.8%	9.1%	9.2%	9.5%	0.4%
75 to 84	5.4%	5.0%	4.2%	-1.2%	6.2%	4.7%	4.6%	-1.6%	6.4%	5.9%	5.9%	-0.5%
85 +	2.1%	2.0%	2.3%	0.2%	2.7%	2.4%	2.4%	-0.3%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%	0.3%
Median Age	39.3	42.2	42.3	3.0	37.8	39.7	39.8	2.0	38.7	40.7	41.0	2.3
Under 18	19.4%	17.6%	18.0%	-1.4%	23.6%	22.4%	22.1%	-1.5%	22.8%	21.3%	21.0%	-1.8%
Over 65	15.3%	15.3%	15.5%	0.2%	16.1%	14.3%	15.5%	-0.6%	17.6%	17.3%	17.8%	0.2%
Male	52.4%	52.8%	52.9%	0.5%	48.3%	48.4%	48.5%	0.2%	48.8%	48.9%	48.9%	0.1%
Female	47.6%	47.2%	47.1%	-0.5%	51.7%	51.6%	51.5%	-0.2%	51.2%	51.1%	51.1%	-0.1%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2000, 2010; American Community Survey: 2013



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Map 2-3: City of Fort Lauderdale Parks System with Youth Population Distribution (2010)



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Table 2-4: Median Household Income in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida, 2000-2013

Income in last 12 months	City of Fort Lauderdale				Broward County				State of Florida			
	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change
Less than \$10,000	11.8%	8.3%	8.9%	-2.9%	9.0%	6.7%	7.2%	-1.8%	9.6%	7.3%	7.8%	-1.8%
\$10,000 to \$14,999	7.0%	5.7%	6.0%	-1.0%	6.6%	5.3%	5.5%	-1.1%	6.7%	5.6%	5.7%	-1.0%
\$15,000 to \$24,999	14.4%	10.9%	11.4%	-3.0%	13.1%	11.0%	11.0%	-2.1%	14.5%	11.8%	12.2%	-2.3%
\$25,000 to \$34,999	13.0%	11.2%	11.0%	-2.0%	13.1%	11.0%	11.0%	-2.1%	14.2%	11.8%	11.8%	-2.4%
\$35,000 to \$49,999	15.5%	14.1%	13.3%	-2.2%	16.4%	14.6%	14.2%	-2.2%	17.4%	15.6%	15.2%	-2.2%
\$50,000 to \$74,999	16.3%	16.6%	15.9%	-0.4%	18.9%	18.3%	17.9%	-1.0%	18.5%	18.9%	18.2%	-0.3%
\$75,000 to \$99,999	7.6%	10.0%	10.4%	2.8%	10.1%	11.9%	11.6%	1.5%	8.7%	11.5%	11.1%	2.4%
\$100,000 to \$149,999	6.9%	11.2%	11.2%	4.3%	8.0%	12.3%	12.3%	4.3%	6.3%	10.5%	10.6%	4.3%
\$150,000 or more	3.0%	5.2%	5.2%	2.2%	2.3%	4.7%	4.8%	2.5%	1.8%	3.4%	3.6%	1.8%
\$200,000 or more	4.4%	6.9%	6.7%	2.3%	2.5%	4.4%	4.5%	2.0%	2.3%	3.6%	3.7%	1.4%
Median income	\$37,887	\$49,818	\$49,119	\$11,232	\$41,691	\$51,694	\$51,251	\$9,560	\$38,819	\$47,661	\$46,956	\$8,137

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2000, 2010; American Community Survey: 2013

increase in total household income, may indicate a higher level of disposable income for households in the city.

When inflation, as calculated by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index, is applied, the 2000 income figure of \$37,887 would equal the same buying power as \$51,255 in 2013. Although absolute income has increased, households have actually experienced a marked decrease in purchasing power. Broward County and the State experienced similar trends, with higher percentage increases in the top three income ranges and higher absolute income increases, but an overall decrease in purchasing power.

Educational Attainment

Between 2000 and 2013 Fort Lauderdale residents' educational attainment levels increased slightly, with 40.8% of the population having obtained an associates degree, a 6.6% increase. The proportion of residents who have not graduated high school decreased by 5.9%, as shown in **Table 2-5**. This trend is similar to Broward County and the State of Florida: However, Fort Lauderdale has a higher level of educational attainment in Bachelor's degrees and Master's degree or higher level degrees, but also a higher percentage of residents who have not graduated high school.



Community Inventory and Assessment

Table 2-5: Educational Attainment in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida, 2000-2013

Education (% of pop. 25 and older)	City of Fort Lauderdale				Broward County				State of Florida			
	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change
Less than 9th grade	7.4%	5.9%	6.2%	-1.2%	5.4%	5.0%	5.2%	-0.2%	6.7%	5.7%	5.6%	-1.1%
9th - 12th grade, no diploma	13.6%	9.3%	8.9%	-4.7%	12.6%	7.9%	7.0%	-5.6%	13.4%	9.0%	8.3%	-5.1%
High school graduate	24.3%	25.7%	25.1%	0.8%	28.4%	28.7%	27.8%	-0.6%	28.7%	30.3%	29.8%	1.1%
Some college, no degrees	20.5%	19.5%	19.0%	-1.5%	21.6%	20.1%	21.0%	-0.6%	21.8%	20.6%	21.0%	-0.8%
Associate's degree	6.3%	7.0%	7.8%	1.5%	7.5%	8.7%	9.1%	1.6%	7.0%	8.5%	8.9%	1.9%
Bachelor's degree	17.5%	20.6%	20.5%	3.0%	15.8%	19.2%	19.2%	3.4%	14.3%	16.8%	16.9%	2.6%
Master's degree or higher	10.4%	11.9%	12.5%	2.1%	8.7%	10.4%	10.7%	2.0%	8.1%	9.1%	9.5%	1.4%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2000, 2010; American Community Survey: 2013

Employment

The economic downturn strongly affected the City of Fort Lauderdale residents' employment. Between 2000 and 2013, the City's unemployment rate increased from 3.9% to 8.0% (see **Table 2-6**). Likewise, unemployment in Broward County increased 4.4% to 7.7% in 2013, while the State of Florida experienced an increase of 3.4% to 6.6%.

Mode of Commute

The type of transportation Fort Lauderdale residents used to travel to work changed little between 2000 and 2013 (see **Table 2-6**). In the city, the only notable change is that people who drove alone decreased by 3.2% to 72.0%, which is lower than the county and statewide percentage, and those who carpooled decreased by 2.0%. Despite the decrease in percentage of workers driving alone, the mean travel time to work increased from 24 minutes to 24.8 minutes. The percentage of commuters

who walked to work increased from 2.4% to 2.9%, which is nearly double the statewide rate of 1.5%. Other modes saw an increase from 2.4% to 3.9%, which may include an increased amount of commuters bicycling to work. Working from home also saw an increase from 3.8% to 6.7%, the greatest rate change of all modes.

2.3.4 Housing Characteristics

Demographics are usually thought of in terms of people, but an overview of the city's housing characteristics can provide additional trends and details about the population. For example, high levels of homeownership typically signify stable communities, whereas high levels of vacancy can indicate a struggling local economy. The number of new residential units not only mirror population growth, but can also provide clues as to how densely a community is growing based on residential building type and annexations.

Chapter 2

Table 2-6: Employment Characteristics in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida, 2000-2013

Employment (Pop. 16 years and over)	City of Fort Lauderdale				Broward County				State of Florida			
	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change
% In Labor Force	61.3%	66.0%	64.6%	3.3%	62.7%	67.8%	66.8%	4.1%	58.6%	61.2%	59.6%	1.0%
% Unemployed	3.9%	7.7%	8.0%	4.1%	3.3%	7.5%	7.7%	4.4%	3.2%	6.7%	6.6%	3.4%
Drove Alone	75.2%	73.5%	72.0%	-3.2%	80.0%	79.8%	79.4%	-0.6%	78.8%	79.5%	79.5%	0.7%
Carpooled	11.3%	10.2%	9.3%	-2.0%	12.0%	9.9%	9.6%	-2.4%	12.9%	10.1%	9.7%	-3.2%
Public Transit	4.9%	4.4%	5.1%	0.2%	2.3%	2.8%	3.3%	1.0%	1.9%	2.0%	2.1%	0.2%
Walked	2.4%	2.7%	2.9%	0.5%	1.3%	1.4%	1.2%	-0.1%	1.7%	1.6%	1.5%	-0.2%
Other	2.4%	3.7%	3.9%	1.5%	1.4%	1.9%	1.9%	0.5%	1.7%	2.2%	2.2%	0.5%
Worked at Home	3.8%	5.6%	6.7%	2.9%	2.9%	4.2%	4.7%	1.8%	3.0%	4.6%	4.9%	1.9%
Mean Travel Time (min)	24.0	23.9	24.8	0.8	27.4	26.6	27.6	0.2	26.2	25.6	26.0	-0.2

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2000, 2010; American Community Survey: 2013

Households and Family

The most common type of household in the City of Fort Lauderdale is the non-family, which comprises 53.3% of all households (see Table 2-7). This type of household is typically single-person, multi-person unmarried or student housing. Family households without children under the age of 18 were a close second representing 28.4% of households. Family households with children under the age of 18 decreased by 1.3%. Total number of households with people under the age of 18 dropped 0.9%, which signified a slight increase in the number of non-family households with children under the age of 18.

Households with a person over the age of 65 increased by 0.8% from 2000 to 2013. The average household size increase by 0.16 to 2.14 people, which is a smaller increase than that of Broward County, but is slightly larger than the state-wide average at 0.15. The average family

size is also growing, increasing by 0.20 to 3.17, but is still smaller than the county and state-wide averages, and growing at a slower rate.

Housing Units

In absolute numbers, the amount of housing in Fort Lauderdale grew by 12,027 units between 2000 and 2013, (as shown in Table 2-7), an increase of 14.9%. Broward County experienced an increase of 9.3% while Florida experienced a significantly higher increase of 23.5%. The rate of vacancy in the housing units in Fort Lauderdale rose by 7.5% between 2000 and 2013 to 22.8%. This is similar to trends in both Broward County and the State of Florida.

Owner-occupied housing units decreased by 1.1% between 2000 and 2013 to a level that is 11.5% below the statewide rate of 65.8%. This may indicate a less stable community with a higher rate of transient households.



Community Inventory and Assessment

Table 2-7: Housing Characteristics in the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida, 2000-2013

Housing	City of Fort Lauderdale				Broward County				State of Florida			
	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change	2000	2010	2013	Change
Households with families	48.2%	47.6%	46.7%	-1.5%	62.9%	63.6%	63.1%	0.2%	66.7%	65.2%	64.7%	-2.0%
Family w/ own kids under 18	19.6%	17.7%	18.3%	-1.3%	29.3%	28.6%	28.9%	-0.4%	28.1%	26.0%	25.4%	-2.7%
Family w/o own kids under 18	28.6%	29.9%	28.4%	-0.2%	33.6%	35.0%	34.2%	0.6%	38.6%	39.2%	39.3%	0.7%
Non-Family	51.8%	52.4%	53.3%	1.5%	37.1%	36.7%	36.9%	-0.2%	33.6%	34.8%	35.3%	1.7%
HHS* w/ people under 18	22.5%	21.1%	21.6%	-0.9%	32.2%	32.3%	32.3%	0.1%	31.3%	29.8%	28.6%	-2.7%
HHS* w/ people over 65	25.5%	26.3%	n/a	0.8%	28.8%	27.6%	n/a	-1.2%	30.7%	31.4%	n/a	0.7%
Avg. HH* size	2.14	2.17	2.30	0.16	2.45	2.52	2.67	0.22	2.46	2.48	2.61	0.15
Avg. family size	2.97	3.00	3.17	0.20	3.07	3.14	3.37	0.30	2.98	3.01	3.23	0.25
Total Housing Units	80,862	93,159	92,889	12,027	741,043	810,388	810,651	69,608	7,302,947	8,989,580	9,020,516	1,717,569
% Units Occupied	84.7%	80.3%	77.2%	-7.5%	88.3%	84.7%	81.8%	-6.5%	86.8%	82.5%	79.5%	-7.3%
% Vacant	15.3%	19.7%	22.8%	7.5%	11.7%	15.3%	18.2%	6.5%	13.2%	17.5%	20.5%	7.3%
% Owner-Occupied	55.4%	54.9%	54.3%	-1.1%	69.5%	66.6%	65.9%	-3.6%	70.1%	67.4%	65.8%	-4.3%
% Renter-Occupied	44.6%	45.1%	45.7%	1.1%	30.5%	33.4%	34.1%	3.6%	29.9%	32.6%	34.2%	4.3%

Data Source: U.S. Census Bureau: 2000, 2010: American Community Survey: 2013
 HH = household

2.3.5 Demographics Summary

With an understanding of Fort Lauderdale’s population, the next step is to apply these findings to parks and recreation needs. What do these population growth, characteristics and housing trends mean for the next ten years of parks and recreation planning? The following pages explore the implications of the demographic analysis.

Chapter 2

Growth and Growth Location

Growth Trends

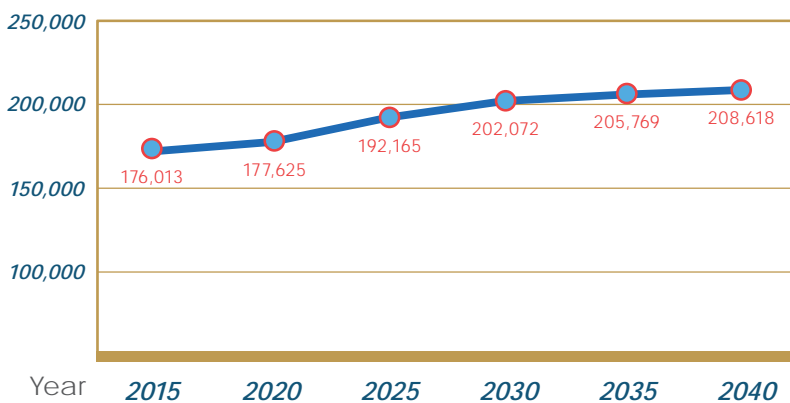
Fort Lauderdale is projected to continue to experience growth from two distinct patterns: migration from surrounding counties; as well as from immigration, primarily from the Caribbean Basin and Central and South America. The next 15 years are projected to see an increase of nearly 30,000 residents; however, growth is projected to rapidly accelerate after 2020. It is important to note that this is a projection only; growth may be impacted by a number of elements such as economic conditions, environmental impacts, etc. The projected growth in population will likely result in increased urbanization and infill redevelopment in and around the downtown core. The decade between 2030 and 2040 will also see an increase in population, but with a much slower growth rate. The projected spike in population growth between 2020 and 2030 coincides with the potential period in which residents may begin inhabiting infill or redeveloped areas in the downtown area and the neighborhoods north of Broward Boulevard. This also is a period in which future transit projects, as well as transit oriented development (TOD), near completion, further supporting population and density growth. Identifying opportunities to preserve or expand existing parks and open spaces will become imperative as this growth and development progresses; as increasing density, rising land values, and high demand for

parks and open space in urban environment will create new challenges for acquisition and expansion of park acreage.

Growth Location

While the rapid growth expected in the next 15 years is projected to occur mostly near the downtown urban core, a pattern of infill and redevelopment can also be seen concentrated along the rail corridor currently owned by Florida East Coast Industries (FEC), which includes the currently planned All Aboard Florida high speed passenger rail line with a planned station in Downtown Fort Lauderdale to open in late 2016. In addition, the same corridor is planned to include a second Tri-Rail commuter rail line called the Coastal Link, which is expected to be operational by 2020. This forecasts an elevated reliance on fixed transit as a key factor for growth, and an opportunity for the integration of parks and public spaces into these increasingly urbanizing areas of the city. The pockets of growth throughout neighborhoods in other areas of the city also indicate that more suburban patterned neighborhoods will see growth, with select areas experiencing a transition as urbanization increases in areas where zoning and land-use permits. As these areas increase in density, new and existing residents will increase their reliance on publicly available parks and open spaces to meet their recreational needs.

Figure 2-10: Growth Projections for Fort Lauderdale (2015-2040)



Key Growth Takeaways

- + 24,447**
People between 2020 and 2030
13.7% increase
- + 6,546**
People between 2030 and 2040
3.2% increase



Community Inventory and Assessment

Figure 2-11: Growth Rates for Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Miami Metro and Florida (2015-2040)

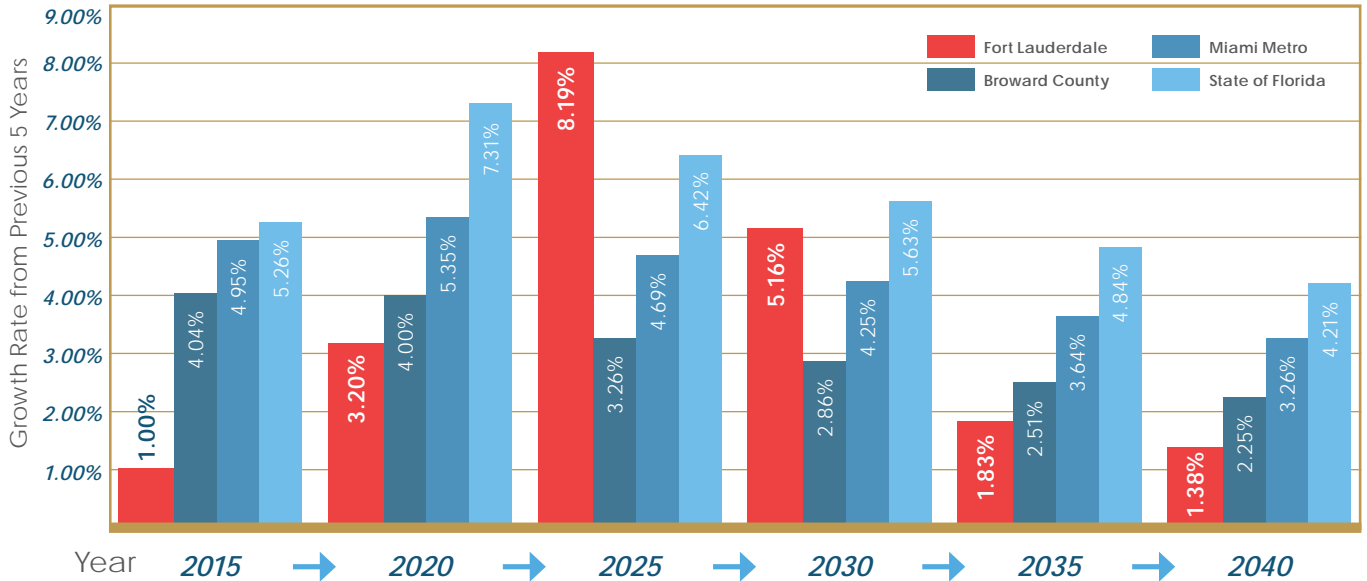
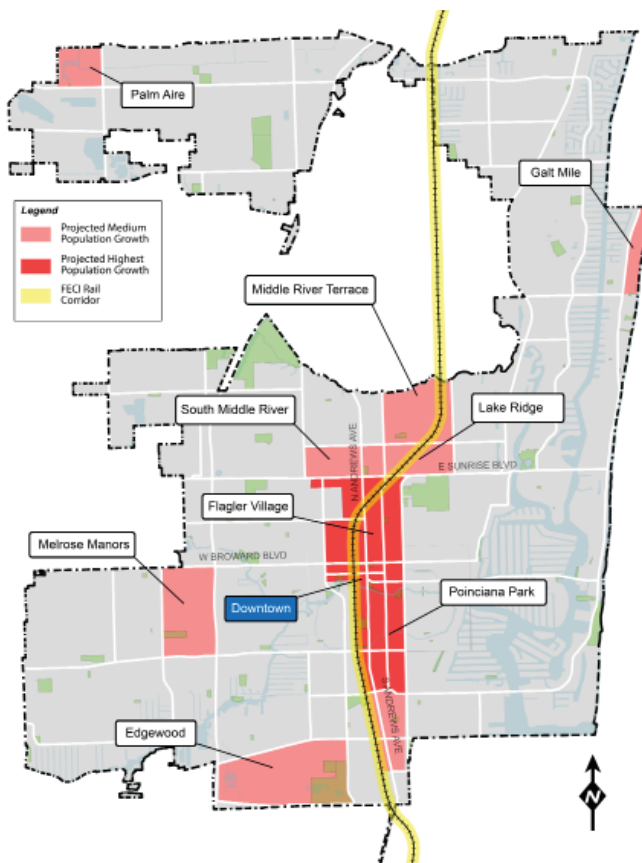


Figure 2-12: Neighborhoods with Greatest Population Growth



Key Growth Location Takeaways

- The highest levels of projected growth are concentrated north of downtown along the **FEC Rail Corridor**, impacting the **Flagler Village, South Middle River, and Lake Ridge** neighborhoods of Fort Lauderdale.
- Additional pockets of projected growth located in the **Edgewood, Melrose Manors, Palm Aire, Galt Mile, Middle River Terrace and Poinciana Park** neighborhoods.

Urban Development in Downtown



Chapter 2

Race / Ethnicity

Over the last fifteen years, The City of Fort Lauderdale has become increasingly diverse. This trend is projected to continue over the next several decades. Projections indicate a continued increase in residents of Hispanic origin as the greatest growth in ethnicity. Changes in race are not typically indicative of parks and recreation needs and priorities; however, cultural backgrounds can influence lifestyle and leisure preferences. Neighborhood and community outreach efforts are necessary to identify more detailed population preferences throughout the city. Public involvement and community surveys utilized in the Needs and Priorities Assessment section of this report are intended to provide additional insight into the lifestyle and recreation preferences for specific ethnic communities in Fort Lauderdale.

Race / Ethnicity Takeaways

- Fort Lauderdale is becoming more **diverse**; projections indicate minority populations collectively representing the majority of residents prior to 2015
- Further outreach necessary to identify **neighborhood and community preferences**

Figure 2-13: Race/ Ethnicity of Fort Lauderdale

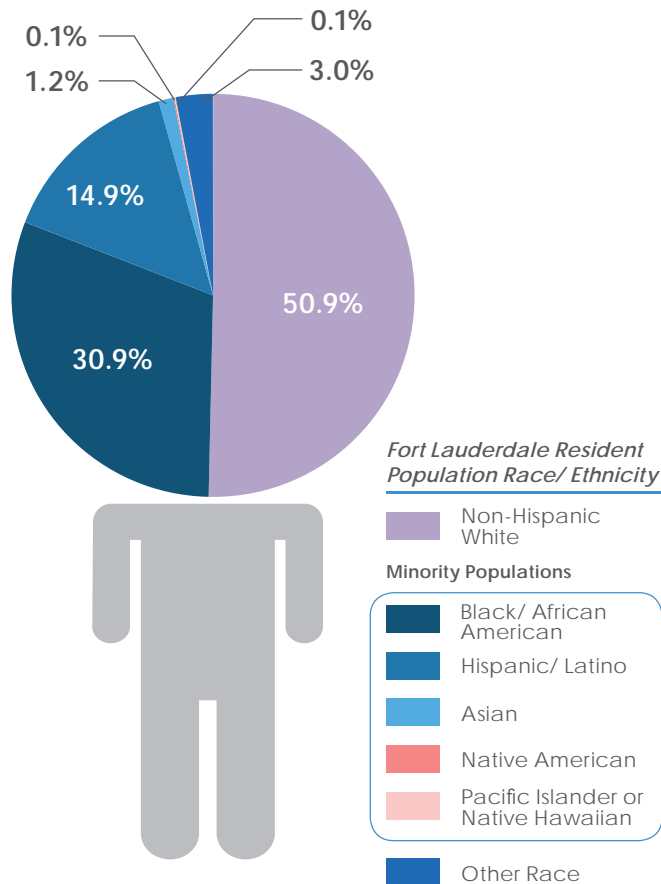
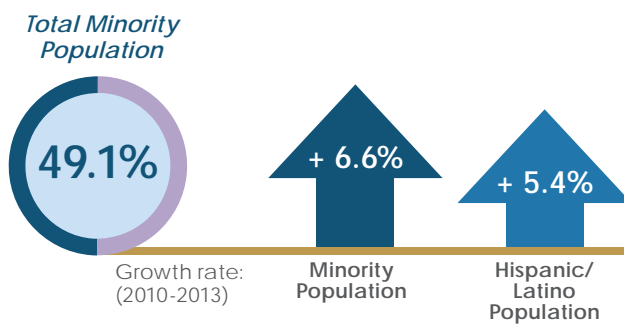


Figure 2-14: Minority Population and Notable Growth Rates (2000-2013)



Age

The population of Fort Lauderdale is aging at a faster pace than both Broward County and the State of Florida. This trend is expected to continue, as the largest portion of population between the ages of 45 and 55 continues

to age in place. An aging population requires recreation facilities that meet the corresponding needs of these residents, with ease of safe access to the park system continuing to be a priority.

Community Inventory and Assessment

Age Takeaways

- **Median age** rose by **3** years to **42.3**, a greater increase and higher age than Florida and the National Average
- **46%** of population **above the age of 45**, greater than county-wide and state-wide levels
- Largest population **decrease: Ages 35 to 44 (-4.6%)**
- Largest population **increase: Ages 55 to 64 (4.3%)**
- Population **24 and under decrease by 1.4%**, greater than county-wide and state-wide levels

Figure 2-16: Notable Age Group Growth Rates in Fort Lauderdale (2000-2013)

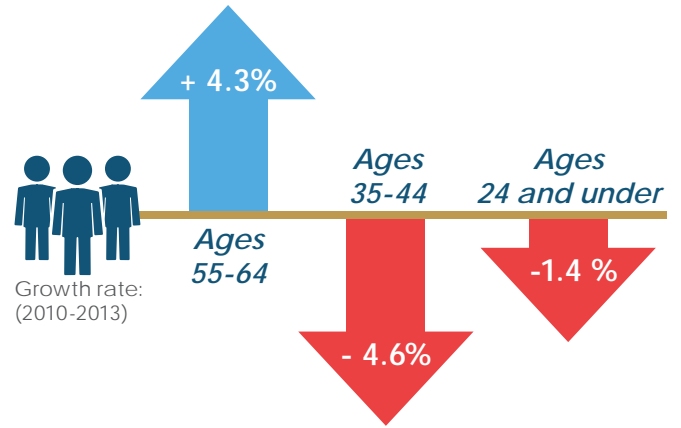
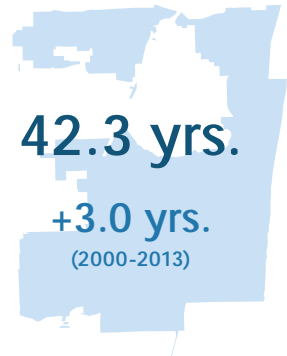
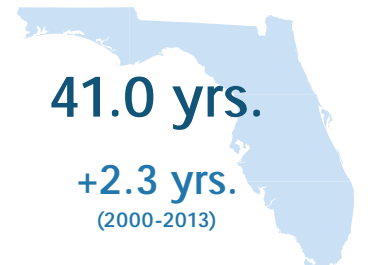


Figure 2-17: Median Age in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and the United States

Fort Lauderdale



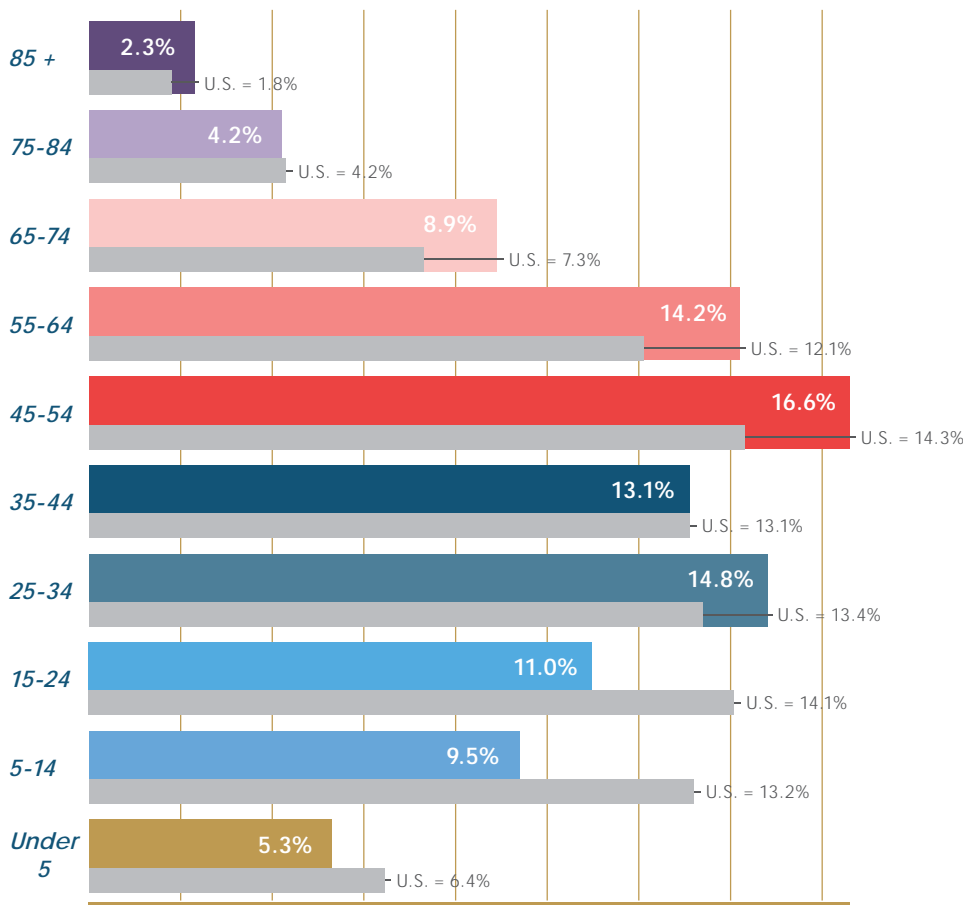
Florida



United States



Figure 2-15: Population by Age in Fort Lauderdale



Chapter 2

Median Income

Median incomes in Fort Lauderdale have risen considerably since 2000 when compared to Broward County and the State of Florida. While this increase may indicate additional disposable income, the decline in purchasing power translates to a greater percentage of income needed for necessary costs of living. While income levels below \$50,000 have declined, 26.3% of households still make less than \$25,000 a year. This trend, coupled with an 11.6% increase in households with incomes over \$75,000, indicates a growing disparity in income. Rising incomes generally indicate more disposable income, which correlates with demand for high-quality facilities and diversification of activities. On the other end of the income spectrum, the percentage of low-income populations correlates with a need for public assistance programs and services, especially for family households.

Median Income Key Takeaways

- Median income increase of **\$11,232 to \$49,119**
- Decline in **Purchasing Power** from **\$51,255** in 2000
- Incomes above **\$75,000 up 11.6%**
- **26.3%** of population **under \$25,000** - the national poverty line for a family of four

Educational Attainment

In general, Fort Lauderdale is becoming more educated, with residents obtaining an Associate's degree or higher increasing at a faster rate than the surrounding area. A more educated and affluent population may result in increased desires for diverse recreation activities and programs.

Educational Attainment Key Takeaways

- **40.8%** of residents have obtained **Associate's degree or higher**
- Residents with **no high school diploma** decreased by **5.9%**, but remained **above** state and county levels at **15.4%**

Figure 2-19: Educational Attainment in Fort Lauderdale

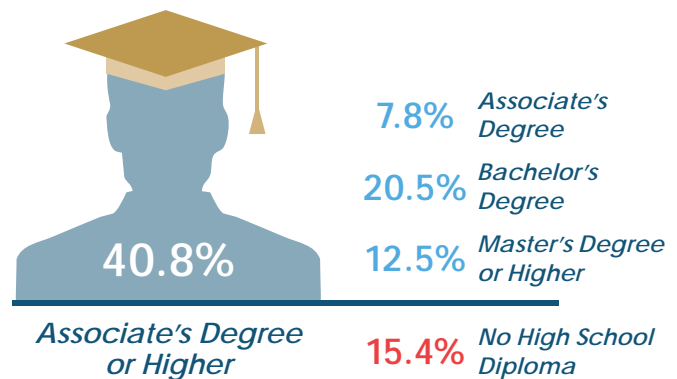
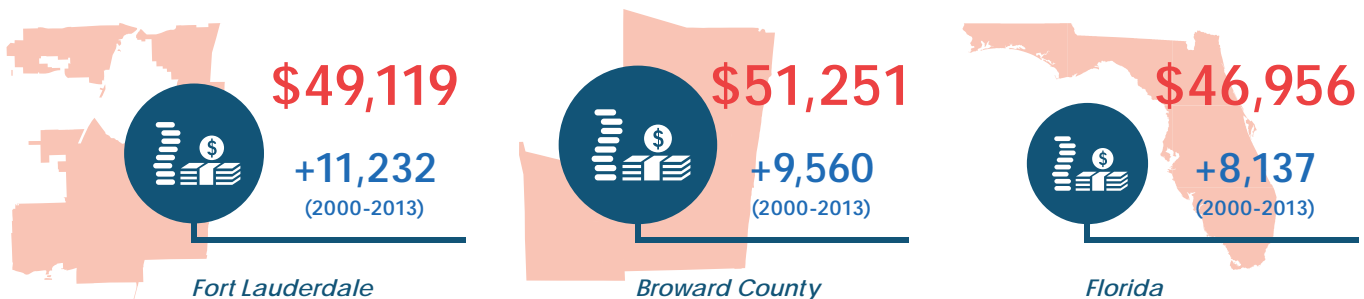


Figure 2-18: Median Income in Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida (2000-2013)



Community Inventory and Assessment

Mode of Commute

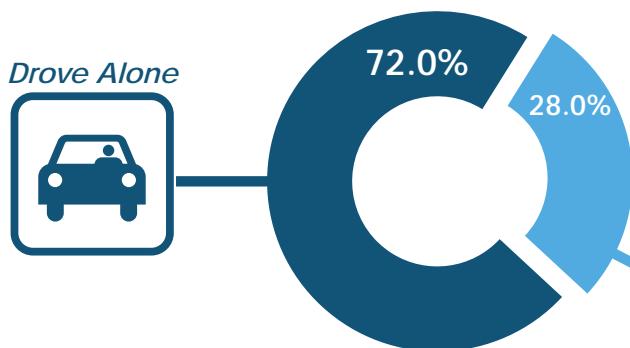
Due to the urbanized nature of Fort Lauderdale's downtown core, transit and walking are the mode of commute for more residents than the state and county-wide averages. Alternative transportation modes will continue to become more viable in more areas of the city as Fort Lauderdale grows in population and density. Connecting the park system to transit routes as well as enhancing access for pedestrians and bicyclists will become essential throughout Fort Lauderdale as reliance on walking and biking increases.

In addition, the development patterns influenced by walking and biking establishes smaller accessible service areas for facilities, requiring a greater number of parks and/or park facilities. Overall city-wide health and wellness benefits may be expected as a greater portion of residents will be able to walk or bike to work, school or play.

Mode of Commute Key Takeaways

- **Public Transit** at **5.1%**, is significantly higher than Broward County and Florida
- **Walking** at **2.9%**, is also higher than county and state-wide averages

Figure 2-20: Mode of Commute in Fort Lauderdale



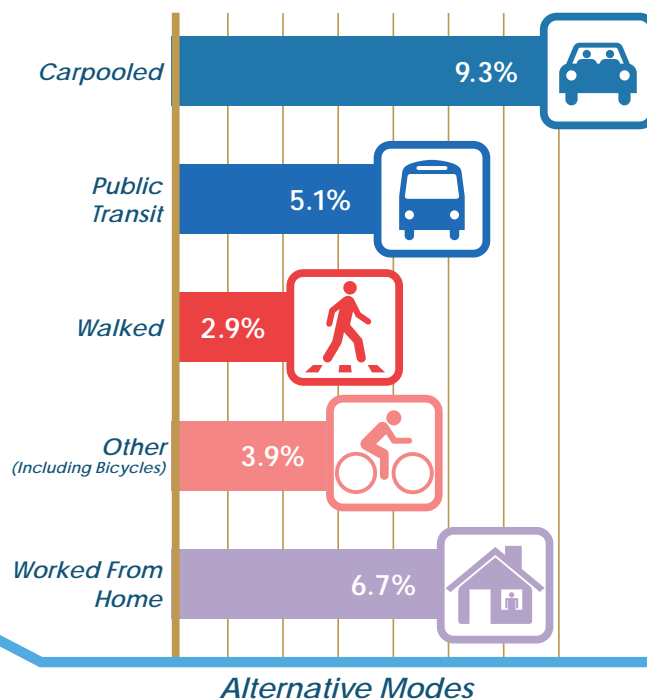
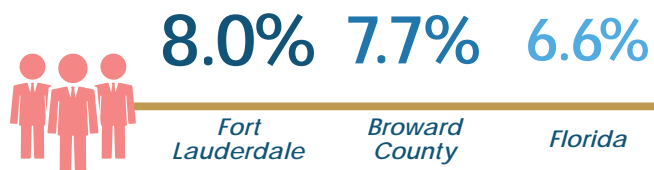
Employment

Unemployment in Fort Lauderdale has seen an increase that has coincided with the 2008 financial downturn. While unemployment remains high, the economic recovery will continue to see these figures decline.

Employment Key Takeaways

- **Fort Lauderdale Unemployment at 8%** is **1.4% higher** than the state average, and **2.7% higher** than the national average

Figure 2-21: Unemployment in Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and Florida



Chapter 2

Households and Family

The aging population has had a significant effect on housing and family demographics in Fort Lauderdale. Decreases in family households as well as a decline in families with children, are trends that parallel both state-wide and national trends. Despite the decline in the number of households with families and children, the size of both households and families are increasing. This trend may potentially change the recreation needs for families, especially for programs and services to focus on non-family activities as well as large family or multi-generational activities, programs and facilities.

Housing has increased in Fort Lauderdale, but housing occupation has declined. This is an indication of a population that is becoming increasingly transient. This trend in the residential population coincides with the decline in families and households, and indicates that there is an increase in the mobility of the residents of Fort Lauderdale. These trends impact the City's parks and recreation system due to the desire of an increasing mobile population for more diverse offerings, which influences the centralization of facilities and programs.

Households and Family Takeaways

- 53.3% of households are **non-family**, higher than county-wide and state-wide levels ; family households declining
- **Both household size and family size are increasing**
- Number of housing units increasing, but **vacancy** up by 7.5%

Figure 2-22: Households with Families in Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, and Florida

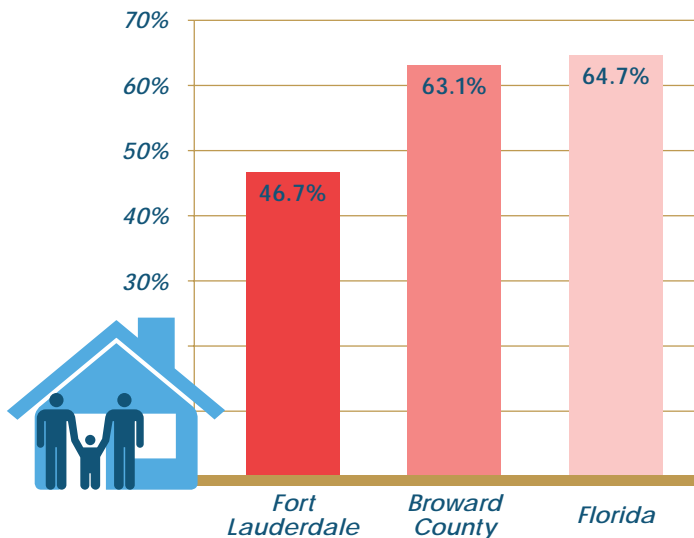


Figure 2-23: Households with Families and Non-Family Households

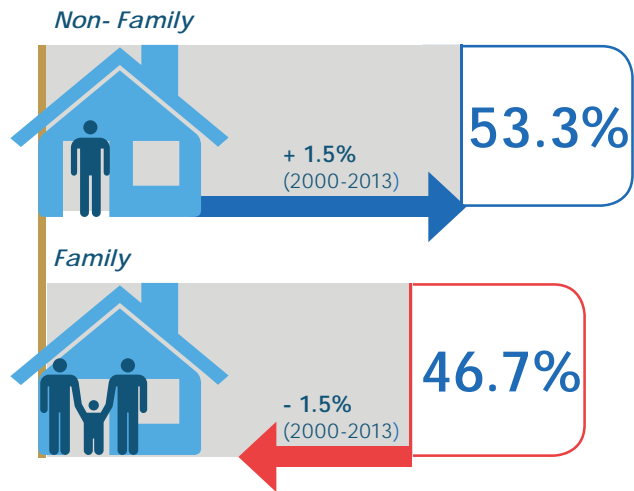
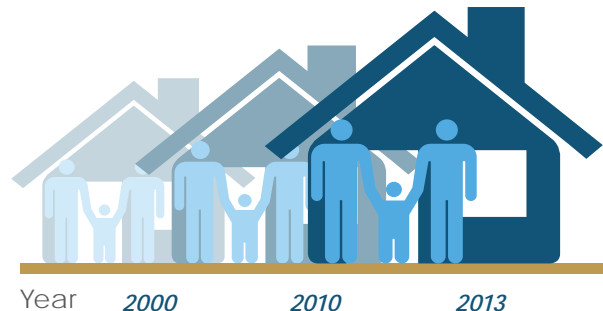


Figure 2-18: Household and Family Size in Fort Lauderdale

Size	2000	2010	2013
H.H. (Household)	2.14	2.17	2.30
Fam. (Family)	2.97	3.00	3.17



Community Inventory and Assessment



Florence C. Hardy Park

Chapter 2

2.4 Park System Resources

2.4.1 System Overview

The Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation Department oversees a diverse park system and a variety of recreation programs that have grown since the 2008 Long-Range Strategic Plan. The department now manages a large system that includes:

- Over **900** acres of public park land
- **104** city parks
- **62** fields
- **44** playgrounds
- **8** city pools
- **2** dog parks
- **15** community centers
- **50** tennis courts
- **4** boating facilities
- **15** boat launch lanes
- **44** parks with water frontage
- Over **200** acres of public beaches

The parks in the Fort Lauderdale system, shown in **Map 2-4**, are classified in six different categories based on functionality, purpose and level of service. These categories include:

- **3 Large Urban Parks**
- **9 Community Parks**
- **18 Special Use Parks**
- **47 Neighborhood Parks**
- **6 School Parks**
- **21 Urban Open Spaces**

Fitness Area in Smoker Park



Natural Area in Snyder Park

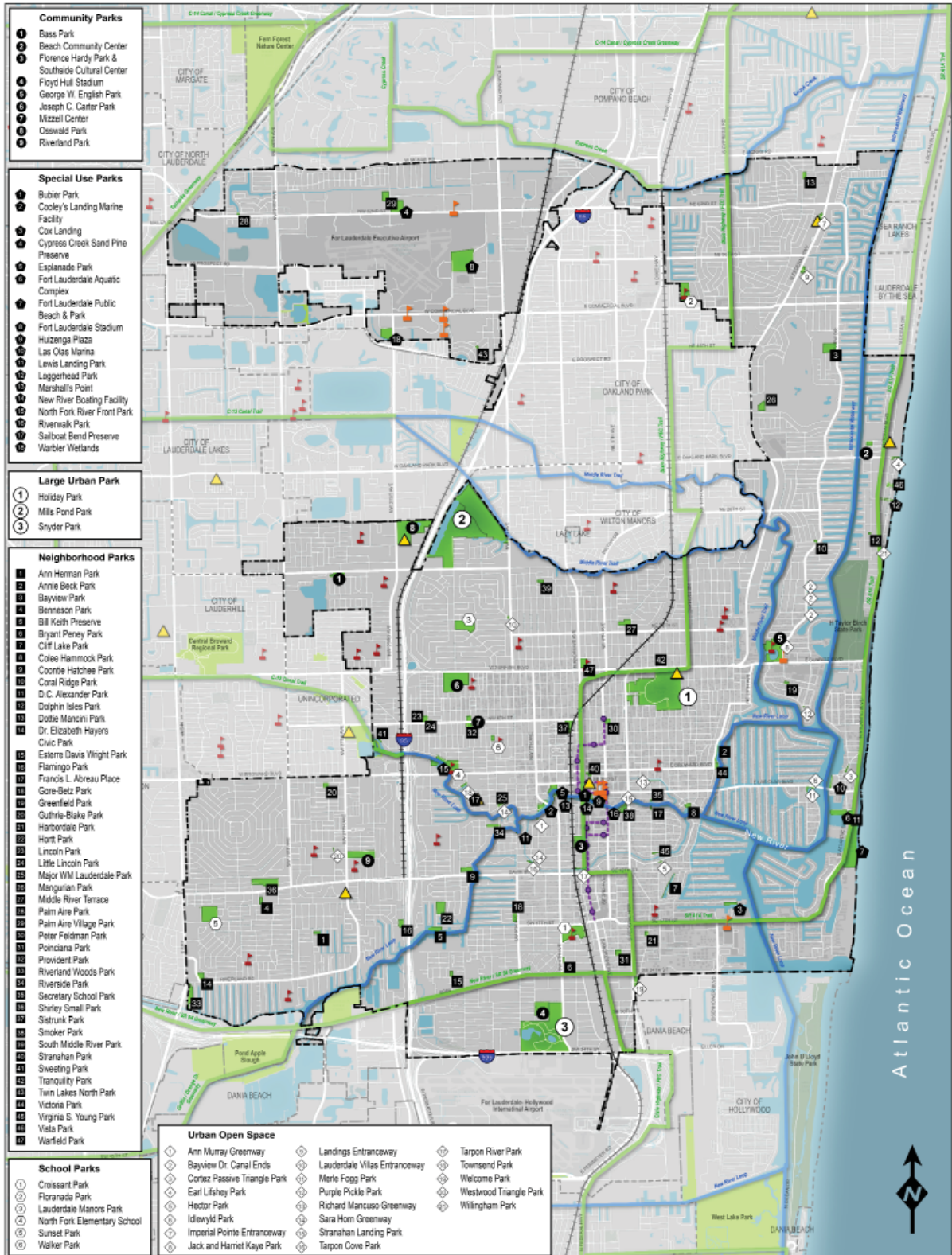


Beachfront Area in Vista Park



Community Inventory and Assessment

Map 2-4: City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Map (2015)



Chapter 2



Colee Hammock Park

Community Inventory and Assessment

2.4.2 Ratings Methodology

To observe system wide successes and opportunities, representatives of the project team reviewed each of the parks and facilities operated by the city and completed an observational form for each site. The following criteria was used and is based in part on guidelines developed by Project for Public Spaces (PPS), a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities.

Design and Construction:

- Is the design and construction of this site meeting the needs of users served?
- Is the site readily accessible to the users being served?
- Have changing neighborhood characteristics made the site ineffective to users?
- Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users?
- Has the site been improved?
- Is there clear indication that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials, etc?

Effectiveness:

- Are people using the site, or is it empty?
- Is the site used by people of different ages?
- How many different types of activities are available?
- Are there choices in intensity of activities to do?
- Is there a balance of active recreation and passive or at will opportunities? Does the site encourage good health and fitness?
- Does the site appear to serve users needs?

Condition:

- How would you rate the site's maintenance?
- What level of satisfaction is evident from users?
- What level of pride is evident from Park and Recreation staff?
- Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5= no/none)

Comfort and Image:

- Does the site make a good first impression?
- Are there enough places to sit and conveniently located?
- Is the site clean and free of litter?
- Does the site feel safe?
- Do vehicles dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance?

Access and Linkages:

- Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?
- Is there clear and useful wayfinding/ signage within the site?
- Can people walk easily to the site from surrounding areas?
- Does the site function for people with special needs?
- Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities?
- Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4-mile) of primary amenities?

Sustainability:

Social

- Does the site provide places for people to gather?
- Does the site promote healthy lifestyle and/or reduce daily stress?
- Is the site connected with clear and safe access points?

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Environmental

- Does the site use energy, water and material resources efficiently?
- Does the site improve water quality?
- Does the site enhance, preserve, promote or contribute to biological diversity?
- Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?
- Does the site enhance environmental awareness and knowledge?

Economic

- Does the site create public or private revenue-generating opportunities?
- Does the site sustain or increase property values?
- Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment?
- Does the site promote or support permanent jobs?

Each park observed was assigned a score for each categorical question in the form based on the qualitative assessment of how the park met the aforementioned criteria at the time of observation. Once all scores were assigned, a matrix was created (see *Table 2-7 through Table 2-11*) that allowed trends to become visible across the entire system. It is important to note that there is no “one size fits all” set of criteria that can accurately evaluate every type of park. However, seeing each individual park’s score and system-wide scores allows for the identification of unique trends, and a general comparison of parks within the system.

Exceeding Expectations

Generally defined as parks with new or recently enhanced facilities or features, readily accessible through multiple modes of transportation, exhibit multiple features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users, and exhibit a maintenance quality that meets or exceeds the standards of the City:

- The park is functioning as intended and are also exceptionally well maintained, aesthetically pleasing, safe, and often demonstrate sustainable techniques.
- The park accommodates a wide variety of uses and maintains a consistently high level of activity while still remaining flexible.
- The park shows clear evidence of good design standards and embraces heritage resources (if applicable).
- There are many ways for users to access the park including via mass transit, walking, and biking.
- Multi-purpose fields or lawn surfaces are well maintained and could be considered tournament/competition grade.
- Sports fields may contain premium amenities such as score boards, enclosed dugouts, bleachers and lighting.
- This type of park scores in the **75-100** range.

Meeting Expectations

Generally defined as parks with serviceable facilities or features providing functional recreational access for the public, accessed primarily by vehicle with some connections to adjacent neighborhoods, exhibit a few features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users beyond a minimal recreational access capacity, and exhibit a maintenance level sufficient for the uses in the park but would benefit from additional maintenance:

- From a programmatic level, the park functions as intended.
- This type of park is generally well maintained, and may be aesthetically pleasing.

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- The park can accommodate several different activities and has a moderate level of activity.
- This park may or may not have a transit stop nearby and has reasonable sidewalk connectivity.
- This park is generally compatible with the surrounding land uses and provides the user with a feeling of safety.
- Field surfaces are well maintained and playable, but typically do not include the premium features that may be present in a park that “exceed expectations.”
- This type of park scores in the **50-74** range.

Not Meeting Expectations

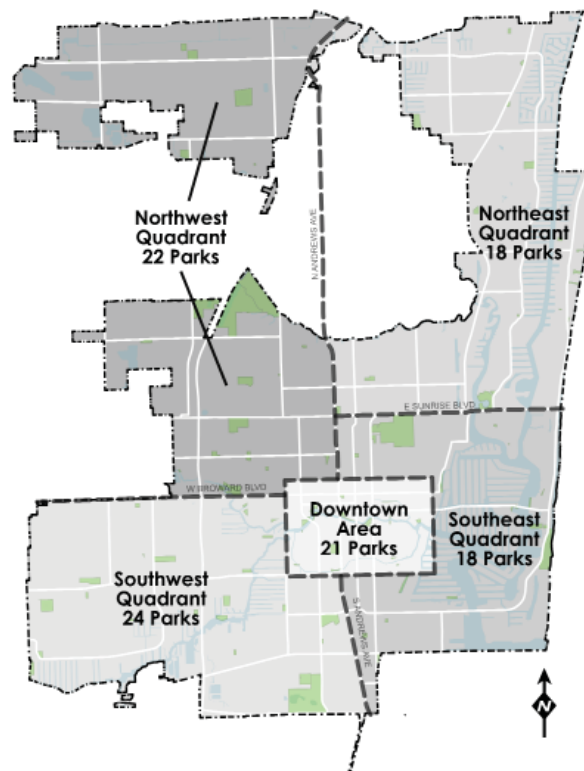
Generally defined as parks with facilities or features that have exceeded their functional life span and/or need enhancement or replacement to provide functional recreational access for the public, accessed primarily by vehicle and are disconnected from adjacent neighborhoods, exhibit few, if any, features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users, and that exhibit a maintenance level insufficient to continue to provide the desired uses and recreational access:

- The park is not currently performing as intended.
- Although the park can still be well maintained and/or aesthetically pleasing, it typically is not.
- This types of park may have a consistently low level of activity; few accommodated uses, and may not be compatible with the surrounding land uses.
- The park may not be perceived as safe by their users.
- It is common for this type of park to be difficult to access either by public transit, bicycle, or on foot.
- Field surfaces are not typically well maintained, or the fields are so over-programmed that adequate maintenance is impossible.
- This type of park scores in the **0-49** range.

103* of the 104 parks and facilities were evaluated by the project team over a one week period in early July of 2015. The following pages list the parks and facilities, with identifying scores for each category, weighted overall scores, and category scores. The evaluations are presented in four city quadrants, and a fifth area representing the Downtown area. A table listing detailed evaluation scores is included for each of the five areas, along with a map showing the locations of the parks and facilities with their overall scores. **Map 2-5** shows the five areas, and the number of parks included in each:

Each park’s observation provides a summary of all six criteria subjects along with site-specific observational notes. It should be noted that these are based on the team’s observations during a limited time period and do not necessarily reflect the recommendations produced during the Needs and Priorities Assessment portion of this report that included public engagement.

Map 2-5: Park Evaluation Quadrant Diagram



*Note: Mangurian park was excluded from the evaluations, as it was not yet opened at the time of the site visits.

Chapter 2

2.4.3 Downtown Area Facility Ratings

Overview

The Downtown area contains the central business district of the City of Fort Lauderdale, as well as many of the riverfront parks found in the park system. The boundaries for this area of analysis are 3rd Street to the north, Davie Blvd to the south, SW 8th Terrace to the west and 17th Ave to the east. Within this two square-mile area are 21 parks*, of which 15 feature water frontage, including those parks that are connected to the Riverwalk linear park.

Successes:

The following are examples of successes of the parks documented during site visits to the Downtown area parks. These are derived from a combination of high individual park ratings, as well as the specific categories where the overall park system is either meeting or exceeding expectations.

Condition, Comfort and Image

Many of the parks in the Downtown area demonstrated a substantial level of comfort, safety and general appearance. A large majority of the parks, especially those in the Riverwalk area, are clean and free of litter, and most offer a good first impression of both the overall site and the facilities and amenities present in the park. Most of the parks were also found to be in good condition, and appeared to reflect a good amount of satisfaction and pride from both users and Parks and Recreation Staff. Maintenance was found to be above average in most parks and is indicated by the clean appearance of most gathering areas and walkways, as well as the presence of well maintained lawns and planting areas.

Design and Construction

The parks appeared to offer an appropriate amount of amenities and supported substantial use by a variety of users. Many of the parks were meeting the needs of the people using them, and

there was a fair amount of activities for users to choose from. Many of the parks in the Downtown area contain design standards for branding and materials, especially in the Riverwalk area. A large majority of the parks and facilities provided opportunities for a diverse set of age groups, including large, flexible spaces with the potential for special events.

Social and Economic Sustainability

A majority of the parks visited received favorable scores in the Social Sustainability categories. Many parks appeared to be frequently used by the community, and serve as important features of the urban area. There was a fairly strong indication that these parks were places for people to meet family and friends, and the sites provided relief from the daily stresses of life. Many of the parks in the Riverwalk area also connect users to retail areas, restaurants, transit access, and additional parks. In addition to the social factors, many parks are assets to the surrounding community and the County, and have a positive impact on nearby properties, especially in the dense urban center.

Opportunities:

Like the successes, the opportunities identified are based on a combination of individual park ratings and the performance of the overall Downtown area parks in the specific categories. However these are areas where individual parks and the Downtown area as a whole are below expectations, and thus present opportunities for improvement.

Environmental Sustainability

Environmental sustainability metrics assess facilities, features, or other measures used to utilize energy, water, biological diversity, and other resources in a sustainable fashion. As noted in **Table 2-8**, average conditions within the assessed parks indicate that the Downtown area lacked the connectivity to a larger ecological corridors or habitat that represent the majority of publicly accessible lands in the City. These parks also contain a large

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Map 2-6: Downtown Area Facility Evaluation Ratings



amount of non-native plantings that require significant irrigation, as well substantial lighting that does not incorporate solar technology. Many of the parks in the urban areas contain a significant amount of hardscape, creating conditions for increased stormwater runoff. In order to improve the quality and sustainability of the parks in the Downtown Area, expansion of ecological connections between parks and preserves, incorporation of native plants, utilization of energy efficient technologies, and incorporation of stormwater mitigation practices should be considered essential in any future improvements or development of parks and facilities.

*Note: Riverwalk Park is divided into North and South for evaluation purposes.

General Improvements to Amenities and Conditions

Generally, the moderate to lower scores for the parks throughout the Downtown Area indicate a need for improvement to the condition and amenities in smaller parks with limited recreation opportunities. While the ratings indicate an overall positive level for the condition of the parks and amenities, there remains an ongoing need to improvement and update as their effective lifespan is maximized and surrounding community demographics evolve. Accessibility and linkage can also be improved by upgrading the existing infrastructure that provides access to parks, such as replacing aged sidewalks, repainting directional markers on walkways and bikeways, and upgrading signage to be more visible to users.

Chapter 2

Table 2-7: Downtown Area Facility Evaluation Ratings

Legend:

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

- Design & Construction (Max: 30)**
 - Is the design and construction of this site meeting the needs of users served?
 - Is the site readily accessible to the users being served?
 - Have changing neighborhood characteristics made the site ineffective to users?
 - Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users?
 - Has the site been improved?
- Effectiveness (Max: 35)**
 - Is there clear indication that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials, etc.
 - Are people using the site, or is it empty?
 - Is the site used by people of different ages?
 - How many different types of activities are available?
 - Are there choices in intensity of activities are
 - Is there a balance of active recreation to do? passive or at will opportunities
 - Does the site encourage good recreation and fitness?
 - Does the site appear to serve users' needs?
- Condition (Max: 20)**
 - How would you rate the site's maintenance?
 - What level of satisfaction is evident from users? Recreation staff?
 - Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5= no/none)
- Comfort and Image (Max: 25)**
 - Does the site make a good first impression

Park Name	Design & Construction (Max: 30)							Effectiveness (Max: 35)							Condition (Max: 20)					Comfort and Image (Max: 25)		
Ann Murray Greenway	20	3	3	4	3	3	4	16	3	3	2	2	1	2	3	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	21	4
Bubier Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	23	4
Collee Hammock Park	22	4	3	4	3	4	4	26	5	4	4	3	3	3	4	13	4	5	n/a	4	22	5
Cooley's Landing Marine Facility	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	24	4	3	3	3	3	4	4	14	5	4	n/a	5	20	4
Esplanade Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	32	5	5	4	4	4	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	24	5
Florence C. Hardy Park & South Side School	24	4	3	3	5	4	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	4	5	n/a	3	20	4
Francis L Abreu Place	21	3	4	5	3	3	3	20	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	9	3	4	n/a	2	20	4
Hector Park	16	3	3	3	3	3	1	17	2	2	3	2	1	4	3	10	4	3	n/a	3	19	4
Huizenga Plaza	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	14	5	5	n/a	4	24	5
Marshall Point	23	4	3	3	4	4	5	20	4	3	2	2	2	3	4	13	5	4	n/a	4	20	4
New River Boating Facility	25	5	5	5	5	5	5	14	3	n/a	4	3	n/a	n/a	4	9	5	n/a	n/a	4	21	4
Richard Mancuso Greenway	15	3	3	2	2	3	2	18	3	2	2	3	3	3	2	6	2	n/a	n/a	4	7	1
Riverwalk Linear Park (North)	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	31	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	24	5
Riverwalk Linear Park (South)	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	31	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	24	5
Sarah Horn Greenway	25	4	4	5	4	4	4	16	1	3	3	2	2	2	3	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	19	4
Secretary School Park	16	2	3	4	3	2	2	10	n/a	n/a	2	2	1	2	3	3	2	n/a	n/a	1	15	2
Smoker Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	33	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	25	5
Stranahan Landing	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	27	5	4	3	3	3	4	5	20	5	5	5	5	25	5
Stranahan Park	26	4	5	3	4	5	5	19	4	2	2	2	2	3	4	16	5	3	4	4	18	4
Tarpon Cove Park	23	3	4	5	3	4	4	15	1	3	3	2	1	2	3	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	19	4
Tarpon River Park	18	3	3	4	3	2	3	10	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	16	3
Virginia S Young Park	29	5	4	5	5	5	5	27	4	4	3	3	5	4	4	12	4	4	n/a	4	23	5
Downtown Totals:	83	82	82	86	82	83	84	69	75	69	64	61	60	72	79	87	85	89	97	76	82	82

Plantings on Riverwalk (North Side)



Ann Murray Greenway



Community Inventory and Assessment

Site Location					Access and Linkages (Max: 30)					Sustainability (Max: 60)					Sociability Sustainability					Environmental Sustainability					Economic Sustainability					Totals					
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	Final Score
4	4	4	5		11	2	3	3	1	1	1	34	7	2	3	2	20	4	4	4	4	4	7	1	3	2	1	57							
5	5	4	5		27	4	5	5	5	5	3	51	15	5	5	5	16	3	3	3	3	4	20	5	5	5	5	93							
4	5	4	4		22	4	4	4	4	4	2	37	12	3	5	4	18	4	3	4	3	4	7	1	4	n/a	2	75							
4	2	5	5		28	5	5	5	5	5	3	46	13	4	4	5	13	2	2	2	3	4	20	5	5	5	5	83							
5	5	4	5		28	4	5	5	5	5	4	53	15	5	5	5	18	3	4	4	3	4	20	5	5	5	5	94							
4	4	4	4		21	5	3	4	3	3	3	39	13	5	5	3	16	4	4	4	n/a	4	10	3	3	3	1	79							
3	5	5	3		18	3	4	4	2	4	1	35	9	2	4	3	18	4	4	3	4	3	8	1	4	2	1	63							
2	5	5	3		15	5	3	3	2	1	1	28	7	1	4	2	12	4	4	3	n/a	1	9	1	4	4	n/a	57							
5	5	4	5		30	5	5	5	5	5	5	47	15	5	5	5	12	3	3	3	n/a	3	20	5	5	5	5	95							
3	5	5	3		14	4	3	1	2	3	1	32	6	2	3	1	16	3	3	3	3	4	10	3	3	3	1	63							
4	5	4	4		25	3	3	5	5	5	4	41	13	4	4	5	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	17	5	3	4	5	79							
1	3	1	1		13	3	1	3	1	2	3	31	5	1	2	2	18	3	4	4	4	3	8	1	3	3	1	47							
5	5	4	5		26	3	5	5	5	5	3	52	15	5	5	5	17	3	3	3	4	4	20	5	5	5	5	92							
5	5	4	5		26	3	5	5	5	5	3	51	15	5	5	5	16	3	3	3	3	4	20	5	5	5	5	91							
3	5	4	3		19	5	4	4	1	1	4	36	9	2	4	3	19	4	4	4	4	3	8	1	4	2	1	64							
3	3	3	4		11	3	1	2	1	1	3	29	7	1	3	3	13	3	3	2	4	1	9	3	3	3	n/a	48							
5	5	5	5		24	3	5	5	4	4	3	53	15	5	5	5	18	3	4	4	3	4	20	5	5	5	5	93							
5	5	5	5		28	5	5	5	5	5	3	50	15	5	5	5	15	3	2	3	3	4	20	5	5	5	5	90							
3	4	3	4		26	2	4	5	5	5	5	45	14	5	4	5	16	2	4	5	n/a	5	15	4	3	3	5	77							
1	5	5	4		17	3	4	3	1	1	5	34	7	1	3	3	19	4	4	4	4	3	8	1	4	2	1	61							
3	4	3	3		17	5	2	3	1	1	5	37	6	1	2	3	23	5	5	5	5	3	8	1	4	2	1	55							
5	4	5	4		22	5	4	3	4	5	1	37	13	4	5	4	15	4	4	3	n/a	4	9	1	5	2	1	79							
75	89	82	81		71	76	75	79	65	69	60	72	75	66	82	75	69	67	70	69	71	68	72	64	86	75	64	74							

How to Read Table 2-8:

Scores are based on a scale from 1 to 5, with 1 representing the lowest score and 5 representing the highest score possible. In cases where a specific criteria is not applicable due to circumstances such as limited access or the absence of the facility or condition being evaluated, a score of 'n/a' is listed. Final park scores are weighted to a scale of 0-100, with 100 being the highest possible. Total scores shown adjacent to park or facility names correspond to locations shown on Map 2-6.

View of Downtown from Esplanade Park



Chapter 2

2.4.4 Northwest Quadrant Facility Ratings

Overview

The Northwest quadrant contains areas along the Interstate 95 corridor, as well as the portion of the City surrounding the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport. The boundaries for this area of analysis are W Broward Blvd to the south, N Andrews Ave to the east, and the Fort Lauderdale City limits to the north and west. This area contains 22 parks, including a wide variety of park types and special use facilities.

Successes:

The following are examples of successes of the parks documented during site visits to the Northwest quadrant parks.

Condition, Comfort and Image

Many of the parks in the Northwest area demonstrated an adequate level of comfort, safety and general appearance. A majority of the parks are clean and free of litter, and most offer a good first impression. Most of the parks were also found to be in good condition, with maintenance appearing to be slightly above average in most parks.

Effectiveness, Design and Construction

The parks appeared to offer a decent amount of amenities and supported substantial use by a variety of users. Many of the parks were meeting the needs of the people using them, and there was a fair amount of activities for users to choose from. A large majority of the parks and facilities encouraged health and fitness, and showed evidence of improvement.

Access and Linkages

Clear, accessible routes were present in a majority of parks in the Northwest quadrant. A large majority of parks were found to be in areas that provided access to transit stops, and sufficient sidewalks for pedestrians, as well as paths that linked users to primary amenities.

Opportunities:

The following are examples of opportunities for the parks documented during site visits to the Northwest quadrant parks.

Environmental and Economic Sustainability

Average conditions within the assessed parks indicate that the Northwest quadrant lacked the enhancement of environmental awareness through educational opportunities. Increasing the amount of educational signage and access to environmentally significant areas in these parks should be incorporated into future improvements and development of parks and facilities in the Northwest quadrant. Stormwater mitigation and biodiversity can also be improved throughout the area, and incorporated into the education components in order to improve users' understanding of the ecological importance of the parks.

In addition to the need for improvements in environmental sustainability, the parks in the Northwest quadrant are lacking in opportunities for public or private revenue generation. This trend can be seen throughout the city, as the park system contributes appropriately to economic sustainability, but should seek opportunities for improvement where applicable.

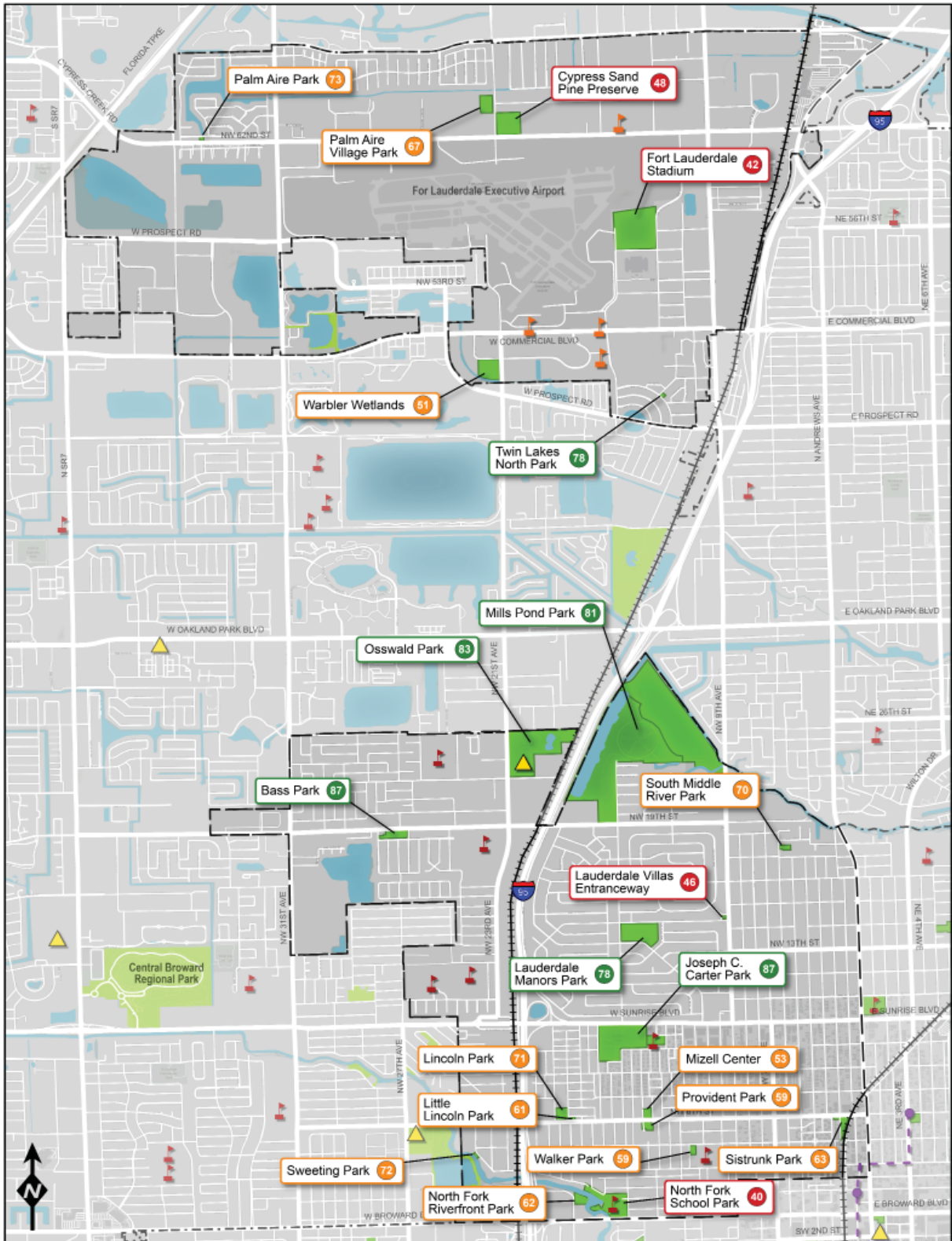
General Improvements to Amenities, Conditions and Accessibility

Generally, the moderate to lower scores for the parks throughout the Northwest quadrant can be attributed to a lack of amenities in the more passive parks; specifically a lack of places to sit and convenient location of amenities. Additional amenities and improvements should be incorporated to further increase the quantity and variety of recreation activities available.

Pedestrian and bicycle access can be improved throughout the Northwest quadrant, and should be a priority with any improvements in the future. While access and linkages were adequate in a majority of parks, opportunities for additional accessible connections and links to the parks must

Community Inventory and Assessment

Map 2-7: Northwest Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings



Legend

- Fort Lauderdale City Limits
- Northwest Quadrant Boundary
- Water Bodies
- Fort Lauderdale City Parks
- County Parks
- States Parks and Preserves
- Streets
- Railroads
- Proposed Streetcar Route
- Proposed Streetcar Station
- Public Schools (K-12)
- Colleges
- Libraries

Ratings Legend

- Exceeding Expectations (Green circle)
- Meeting Expectations (Orange circle)
- Not Meeting Expectations (Red circle)

0 .25 .5 1 Miles

Northwest Quadrant Park Ratings
City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

Chapter 2

Table 2-8: Northwest Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings

Legend:

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

- Design & Construction (Max: 30)**
 - Is the design and construction of this site meeting the needs of users served?
 - Is the site readily accessible to the users being served?
 - Have changing neighborhood characteristics made the site ineffective to users?
 - Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users?
 - Has the site been improved?
 - Is there clear indication that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials, etc.
- Effectiveness (Max: 35)**
 - Are people using the site, or is it empty?
 - Is the site used by people of different ages?
 - How many different types of activities are available?
 - Are there choices in intensity of activities are
 - Is there a balance of active recreation to do? passive or at will opportunities
 - Does the site encourage good health and fitness?
 - Does the site appear to serve users' needs?
- Condition (Max: 20)**
 - How would you rate the site's maintenance?
 - What level of satisfaction is evident from users? Recreation staff?
 - Does the site need improvements? (1 = very much, 5 = no/none)
- Comfort and Image (Max: 25)**
 - Does the site make a good first impression

Park Name	Design & Construction (Max: 30)							Effectiveness (Max: 35)							Condition (Max: 20)				Comfort and Image (Max: 25)			
Bass Park	28	5	4	4	5	5	5	34	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	19	5	5	5	4	21	4
Cypress Sand Pine Preserve	3	n/a	1	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	4	2	n/a	n/a	2	10	2	
Fort Lauderdale Baseball Stadium	11	2	3	2	2	1	1	18	2	4	2	3	2	3	2	4	1	2	n/a	1	10	1
Joseph C. Carter Park	29	5	5	4	5	5	5	34	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	20	5
Lauderdale Manors Park	27	4	5	5	4	5	4	30	5	5	4	4	3	5	4	20	5	5	5	5	19	4
Lauderdale Villas Entranceway	14	2	2	3	2	3	2	12	1	1	2	2	2	2	2	6	4	n/a	n/a	2	14	3
Lincoln Park	20	3	5	3	3	3	3	29	5	5	5	4	4	3	3	8	3	2	n/a	3	19	3
Little Lincoln Park	16	2	4	3	3	2	2	23	5	5	3	2	2	2	4	6	2	2	n/a	2	17	2
Mills Pond Park	22	4	4	4	3	3	4	30	4	5	4	4	4	5	4	12	3	4	3	2	21	4
Mizell Center	17	3	5	2	2	3	2	13	3	2	1	1	2	2	2	7	3	n/a	n/a	4	12	3
North Fork Riverfront Park	20	4	2	3	3	4	4	17	1	4	2	2	2	3	3	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	16	4
North Fork School Park	2	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	2	
Osswald Park	26	4	4	3	5	5	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	17	4	5	5	3	17	3
Palm Aire Park	24	4	4	3	4	5	4	23	3	n/a	3	5	5	3	4	9	5	n/a	n/a	4	22	5
Palm Aire Village Park	19	3	2	2	4	5	3	32	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	10	3	4	n/a	3	17	3
Provident Park	21	3	5	4	3	3	3	19	4	n/a	2	4	3	3	3	8	3	3	n/a	2	13	3
Sistrunk Park	19	3	4	2	3	4	3	18	4	2	2	2	2	3	3	10	4	3	n/a	3	18	3
South Middle River Park	23	4	3	4	4	4	4	25	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	11	3	4	n/a	4	19	4
Sweeting Park	21	3	3	4	3	4	4	19	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	8	3	3	n/a	2	22	4
Twin Lakes North Park	26	4	4	5	4	5	4	17	4	n/a	3	3	n/a	3	4	13	4	5	n/a	4	23	5
Walker Park	17	n/a	4	4	3	3	3	18	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	5	3	n/a	n/a	2	15	2
Warbler Wetlands	3	n/a	1	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	4	n/a	n/a	2	9	3	
Northwest Totals:	70	70	69	65	68	77	69	68	68	76	64	66	62	71	68	74	69	76	92	60	69	66

be explored, in order to ensure that all residents in the community have access to quality parks and facilities. Low scores and significant numbers of 'n/a' responses can also be attributed to limited access present in school sites that were evaluated. In many cases, these school sites were locked, and the evaluators were unable to effectively evaluate the facilities present on the site.

Boardwalk at North Fork Riverfront Park



Community Inventory and Assessment

Access and Linkages (Max: 30)				Sustainability (Max: 60)				Sociability Sustainability				Environmental Sustainability				Economic Sustainability				Totals							
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4				
4	5	4	4	24	3	4	3	4	5	5	43	13	5	5	3	13	3	4	3	n/a	3	17	5	4	3	5	87
n/a	2	2	4	8	2	1	2	n/a	n/a	3	22	2	n/a	n/a	2	14	4	4	4	n/a	2	6	n/a	3	3	n/a	48
1	3	3	2	15	3	2	3	2	2	3	17	7	2	3	2	3	1	1	1	n/a	n/a	7	3	2	2	n/a	42
4	4	4	3	27	3	5	5	4	5	5	40	14	5	5	4	11	3	4	3	n/a	1	15	4	4	3	4	87
3	4	4	4	21	3	3	4	4	4	3	31	13	4	5	4	8	3	2	2	n/a	1	10	2	4	n/a	4	78
1	4	4	2	14	5	2	2	1	n/a	4	19	7	2	2	3	9	3	2	3	n/a	1	3	1	2	n/a	n/a	46
4	3	4	5	27	5	3	5	4	5	5	28	12	5	3	4	9	3	3	2	n/a	1	7	2	2	3	n/a	71
4	2	4	5	24	5	2	5	2	5	5	26	12	5	4	3	7	2	2	2	n/a	1	7	2	2	3	n/a	61
4	4	5	4	26	5	4	4	3	5	5	50	13	4	5	4	20	4	4	4	4	4	17	5	4	4	4	81
2	3	3	1	22	3	3	3	4	4	5	27	8	2	2	4	9	3	2	3	n/a	1	10	2	2	2	4	53
2	3	4	3	20	5	5	1	2	2	5	37	7	3	3	1	25	5	5	5	5	5	5	1	1	2	1	62
n/a	1	n/a	n/a	11	3	n/a	1	3	n/a	4	1	1	n/a	n/a	1	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	40
3	4	4	3	24	4	3	5	3	4	5	47	14	5	5	4	18	3	4	4	3	4	15	4	3	3	5	83
4	4	4	5	22	3	4	4	4	4	5	27	12	4	4	4	8	2	3	2	n/a	1	7	2	4	1	n/a	73
3	4	2	5	19	3	2	2	4	5	3	27	9	3	4	2	11	2	4	3	n/a	2	7	3	2	2	n/a	67
3	2	2	3	23	3	3	5	4	4	4	19	9	3	2	4	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1	9	2	3	3	1	59
3	4	4	4	24	3	3	4	4	5	5	27	10	3	3	4	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	6	2	2	2	n/a	63
3	4	4	4	17	3	3	2	3	4	2	31	12	3	4	5	11	3	3	2	n/a	3	8	n/a	4	4	n/a	70
5	5	4	4	28	5	5	5	5	5	3	42	12	3	4	5	22	5	4	5	4	4	8	1	4	2	1	72
4	4	5	5	19	5	4	4	2	4	n/a	27	12	4	4	4	10	3	3	3	n/a	1	5	n/a	5	n/a	n/a	78
2	3	4	4	20	4	2	4	2	3	5	22	8	2	3	3	7	3	3	n/a	n/a	1	7	n/a	4	3	n/a	59
n/a	3	3	n/a	13	3	3	3	1	n/a	3	21	2	n/a	1	1	17	4	3	5	4	1	2	n/a	2	n/a	n/a	51
62	69	73	74	72	74	64	69	62	84	80	62	68	69	71	65	62	63	63	62	80	40	57	51	60	53	64	65

Benches in Palm Aire Village Park



Splash Playground in Osswald Park



Chapter 2

2.4.5 Northeast Quadrant Facility Ratings

Overview

The Northeast quadrant contains areas bound by E. Sunrise Blvd to the south, N. Andrews Ave to the west, and Fort Lauderdale city limits to the north and east. The area contains 18 parks, including a several parks on or near the beach.

Successes:

The following are examples of successes of the parks documented during site visits to the Northeast quadrant parks.

Condition, Comfort and Image

Many of the parks in the Northeast quadrant demonstrated an adequate level of comfort, safety and general appearance. A large majority of the parks are clean and free of litter, and most offer a good first impression with a high level of satisfaction evident from users. Maintenance appeared to be above average in a majority of parks in these areas, especially those that are close to the beach.

Effectiveness, Design and Construction

Many of the parks were meeting the needs of the people using them, providing activities for users of all ages. A majority of parks appear to be responding well to the neighborhood contexts, and most parks are readily accessible to the users being served. There is a significant level of improvement evident in many sites, and most parks encourage good health and fitness.

Access and Linkages

A large majority of the parks in the Northeast quadrant successfully connect people to primary amenities, and many parks have transit stops nearby. Most parks provide clean and open views into parks and contain adequate connections for pedestrians and bicycles.

Opportunities:

The following are examples of opportunities for the parks documented during site visits to the Northeast quadrant parks.

Environmental Sustainability

Average conditions in the parks indicate a lack of water quality improvement and environmental awareness through educational opportunities. Stormwater management and mitigation strategies should be a priority in future park improvements and development. Increasing the amount of educational signage and access to environmentally significant areas in these parks should also be incorporated, highlighting specific environmental benefits present in the parks.

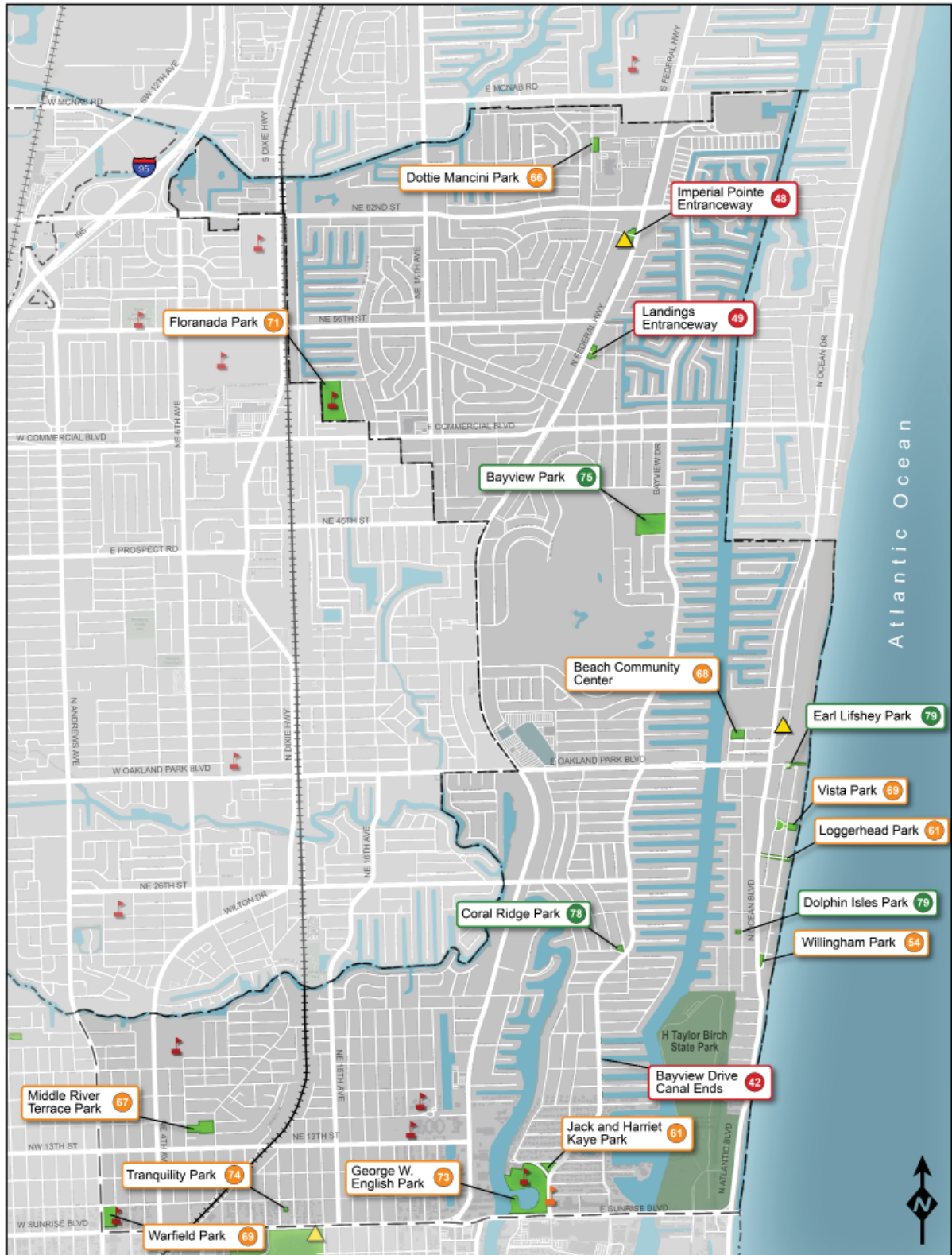
General Improvements to Amenities, Conditions and Accessibility

Moderate to lower scores for the parks throughout the Northeast quadrant can generally be attributed to a lack of places to sit and convenient location of amenities, as well as the similar access restrictions at school sites that are present in other quadrants. A variety of activities present in the parks can also be improved, in order to increase the balance of passive and active recreation opportunities for users.

Despite an adequate overall level of access throughout the Northeast quadrant, wayfinding, directional signage and ADA Accessibility can be improved throughout, and should be a priority with any improvements in the future.

Community Inventory and Assessment

Map 2-8: Northeast Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings



Legend

- Fort Lauderdale City Limits
- Northeast Quadrant Boundary
- Water Bodies
- Fort Lauderdale City Parks
- County Parks
- States Parks and Preservers
- Streets
- Railroads
- Proposed Streetcar Route
- Proposed Streetcar Station
- Public Schools (K-12)
- Colleges
- Libraries

Ratings Legend

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

0 .25 .5 1 Miles

Northeast Quadrant Park Ratings
City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

Chapter 2

Table 2-9: Northeast Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings

Legend:

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

- Design & Construction (Max: 30)**
 - Is the design and construction of this site meeting the needs of users served?
 - Is the site readily accessible to the users being served?
 - Have changing neighborhood characteristics made the site ineffective to users?
 - Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users?
 - Has the site been improved?
- Effectiveness (Max: 35)**
 - Is there clear indication that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials, etc.
 - Are people using the site, or is it empty?
 - Is the site used by people of different ages?
 - How many different types of activities are available?
 - Are there choices in intensity of activities are
 - Is there a balance of active recreation to do? passive or at will opportunities
 - Does the site encourage good recreation and fitness?
 - Does the site appear to serve users' needs?
- Condition (Max: 20)**
 - How would you rate the site's maintenance?
 - What level of satisfaction is evident from users? Recreation staff?
 - Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5= no/none)
- Comfort and Image (Max: 25)**
 - Does the site make a good first impression

Park Name	Design & Construction (Max: 30)							Effectiveness (Max: 35)							Condition (Max: 20)					Comfort and Image (Max: 25)		
Bayview Dr Canal Ends	10	2	3	2	1	2	n/a	11	1	n/a	2	2	2	2	2	6	4	n/a	n/a	2	15	2
Bayview Park	26	4	4	4	5	5	4	31	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	18	4	5	4	5	21	4
Beach Community Center	22	4	4	3	2	5	4	21	4	3	2	2	2	4	4	16	4	4	3	5	16	3
Coral Ridge Park	28	5	4	5	4	5	5	25	3	3	4	4	3	4	4	14	5	4	n/a	5	24	5
Dolphin Isles Park	25	4	3	4	4	5	5	23	2	n/a	4	4	4	5	4	10	5	n/a	n/a	5	24	5
Dottie Mancini Park	21	3	3	4	4	4	3	27	3	4	4	4	3	5	4	12	4	4	n/a	4	18	3
Earl Lifshy Park	26	4	4	5	4	5	4	26	5	4	4	3	2	3	5	14	4	5	n/a	5	19	4
Floranada Park	23	4	3	4	4	5	3	25	4	n/a	4	5	4	4	4	12	4	4	n/a	4	20	4
George W English Park/boat Ramps	22	4	4	3	4	4	3	31	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	12	4	4	n/a	4	16	3
Imperial Pointe Entranceway	16	2	2	2	3	4	3	15	2	4	1	3	3	1	1	10	4	2	n/a	4	15	4
Jack and Harriet Kaye Park	18	3	3	3	2	4	3	20	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	11	4	3	n/a	4	17	3
Landings Entranceway	16	2	3	2	2	4	3	11	2	n/a	1	2	2	2	2	8	4	n/a	n/a	4	15	4
Loggerhead Park	20	3	2	4	3	5	3	23	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	12	4	4	n/a	4	15	3
Middle River Terrace Park	18	4	4	4	3	3	n/a	25	4	4	3	3	3	4	4	11	4	4	n/a	3	17	3
Tranquility Park	26	5	4	2	5	5	5	16	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	10	5	n/a	n/a	5	24	5
Vista Park	21	3	3	4	4	4	3	26	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	13	4	5	n/a	4	18	4
Warfield Park	21	3	5	4	3	3	3	24	4	4	3	2	3	4	4	10	3	4	n/a	3	18	4
Willingham Park	15	3	2	2	2	3	3	14	2	1	2	2	2	3	2	10	3	3	n/a	4	16	3
Northeast Totals:	71	69	67	68	66	83	71	65	67	73	62	61	57	68	67	78	81	79	70	82	73	73

Accessible Entrance at Bayview Park



Open Space in Bayview Drive Canal Ends



Community Inventory and Assessment

- Are there enough places to sit and conveniently located
- Is the site clean and free of litter?
- Does the site feel safe?
- Do vehicles, roads, parking and/or maintenance dominate the site through access
- **Access and Linkages (Max: 30)**
- Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?
- Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site?
- Can people walk easily to the site from surrounding areas?
- Does the site function for people from nearby areas?
- Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities
- Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4 mile) of primary amenities
- **Sustainability (Max: 60)**
- **Sociability Sustainability**
- Does the site provide places for people to gather and reduce daily stress
- Does the site promote healthy lifestyle and/or access points
- **Environmental Sustainability**
- Does the site use energy, water and material resources efficiently?
- Does the site improve water quality?
- Does the site enhance, preserve, promote or contribute to biological diversity?
- Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?
- Does the site enhance environmental awareness and knowledge?
- **Economic Sustainability**
- Does the site create public or private revenue-generating opportunities?
- Does the site sustain or increase property values?
- Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment?
- Does the site promote or support permanent jobs?
- **Totals**

1	5	4	3	12	4	2	2	1	2	1	16	5	2	2	1	8	2	2	2	n/a	2	3	1	2	n/a	n/a	42
4	4	5	4	18	4	3	3	3	4	1	25	11	4	4	3	7	2	2	2	n/a	1	7	3	4	n/a	n/a	75
2	4	4	3	21	5	2	3	4	4	3	34	11	4	3	4	10	3	2	2	n/a	3	13	3	4	3	3	68
5	5	4	5	18	4	3	3	3	4	1	32	12	5	4	3	15	4	3	4	n/a	4	5	1	4	n/a	n/a	78
5	5	5	4	17	2	3	3	3	4	2	36	13	5	5	3	14	3	3	4	n/a	4	9	n/a	5	4	n/a	79
4	4	4	3	20	5	3	3	3	4	2	24	12	4	5	3	7	2	2	2	n/a	1	5	1	4	n/a	n/a	66
3	4	4	4	24	5	4	4	4	4	3	40	11	4	3	4	20	3	3	5	4	5	9	1	4	4	n/a	79
4	4	4	4	20	4	3	3	4	4	2	24	11	4	4	3	7	2	2	2	n/a	1	6	2	4	n/a	n/a	71
3	4	4	2	23	4	3	3	4	4	5	39	13	4	5	4	13	3	2	3	4	1	13	4	3	3	3	73
2	4	4	1	15	3	2	1	1	3	5	18	3	1	1	1	9	2	2	2	n/a	3	6	1	2	3	n/a	48
3	4	4	3	19	4	3	3	2	3	4	25	10	4	3	3	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	4	1	3	n/a	n/a	61
1	5	4	1	17	4	3	2	2	1	5	19	4	1	1	2	8	2	2	2	n/a	2	7	1	3	3	n/a	49
3	3	4	2	15	4	3	2	1	3	2	30	8	3	3	2	11	2	2	2	2	3	11	3	4	4	n/a	61
3	3	4	4	20	4	3	4	2	4	3	27	10	3	3	4	10	3	3	2	n/a	2	7	n/a	3	4	n/a	67
4	5	5	5	19	2	2	4	2	4	5	35	11	4	4	3	15	4	4	4	n/a	3	9	n/a	5	4	n/a	74
3	4	5	2	19	5	3	3	2	4	2	34	11	4	3	4	13	2	2	2	4	3	10	3	4	3	n/a	69
2	4	4	4	24	5	2	5	3	4	5	31	11	3	4	4	6	n/a	3	2	n/a	1	14	4	3	3	4	69
2	4	4	3	19	4	3	3	2	2	5	23	10	4	3	3	10	3	2	3	n/a	2	3	1	2	n/a	n/a	54
60	83	84	63	63	80	56	60	51	69	62	59	61	70	67	60	55	53	49	53	70	48	63	45	70	69	67	66

Fitness Station in Dolphin Isles Park



Beach Access at Earl Lifshey Park



Chapter 2

2.4.6 Southwest Quadrant Facility Ratings

Overview

The Southwest quadrant contains areas along the southern portion of the Interstate 95 corridor, a large portion of the South Fork New River, and areas north of the Fort Lauderdale International Airport. The boundaries for this area of analysis are W. Broward Blvd to the north, N. Andrews Ave to the east, and the Fort Lauderdale City limits to the south and west (Downtown Inset is excluded). The 24 parks in this area include a variety of park types and special use facilities.

Successes:

The following are examples of successes of the parks documented during site visits to the Southwest quadrant parks.

Condition, Comfort and Image

Many of the parks in the Southwest area appeared to be in above average condition, and exhibited a high level of maintenance and pride and satisfaction from users and staff. A large majority of parks demonstrated a high level of comfort and safety, with most parks providing a good first impression and appearing to be clean and free of litter.

Solar Lighting in Riverland Park



Design and Construction

A majority of parks provided an adequate amount of amenities and appeared to be meeting user needs. A large majority of the parks demonstrated above average design and construction, including site improvements and appropriate integration into the surrounding neighborhoods and communities.

Access and Linkages

A majority of the sites provided clean and open views lines into open spaces, and also contained adequate wayfinding and signage within the site. In general, parks in this area provided opportunities for users to walk easily to the parks from the surrounding areas.

Opportunities:

The following are examples of opportunities for the parks documented during site visits to the Southwest quadrant parks.

Environmental Sustainability

Average conditions within the assessed parks indicate that the Southwest quadrant lacked the promotion of biodiversity and the enhancement of environmental awareness and education. In order to improve the quality and sustainability of the parks in the Southwest quadrant, expansion of ecological connections between parks and preserves and use of native plants should be incorporated into any future improvements or development of parks and facilities.

General Improvements to Effectiveness, Comfort and Accessibility

Moderate to lower scores for the parks throughout the Southwest quadrant can be attributed to a lack of diverse recreation activities and balance between passive and active opportunities. Evaluation of park use and appropriate improvements can help increase park usage and diversity of users, creating a more balanced system in this area of the City.

Community Inventory and Assessment

Map 2-9: Southwest Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings



Legend

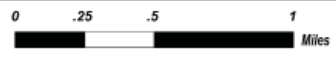
- Fort Lauderdale City Limits
- Southeast Quadrant Boundary
- Water Bodies
- Fort Lauderdale City Parks
- County Parks
- States Parks and Preserves

- Streets
- Railroads
- Proposed Streetcar Route
- Proposed Streetcar Station

- Public Schools (K-12)
- Colleges
- Libraries

Ratings Legend

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations



Southwest Quadrant Park Ratings

City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

Chapter 2

Table 2-10: Southwest Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings

Legend:

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

- Design & Construction (Max: 30)**
 - Is the design and construction of this site meeting the needs of users served?
 - Is the site readily accessible to the users being served?
 - Have changing neighborhood characteristics made the site ineffective to users?
 - Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users?
 - Has the site been improved?
- Effectiveness (Max: 35)**
 - Is there clear indication that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials, etc.
 - Are people using the site, or is it empty?
 - Is the site used by people of different ages?
 - How many different types of activities are available?
 - Are there choices in intensity of activities are
 - Is there a balance of active recreation to do? passive or at will opportunities
 - Does the site encourage good recreation and fitness?
 - Does the site appear to serve users' needs?
- Condition (Max: 20)**
 - How would you rate the site's maintenance?
 - What level of satisfaction is evident from users? Recreation staff?
 - Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5= no/none)
- Comfort and Image (Max: 25)**
 - Does the site make a good first impression

Park Name	Design & Construction (Max: 30)							Effectiveness (Max: 35)							Condition (Max: 20)					Comfort and Image (Max: 25)		
Ann Herman Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	32	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	22	5
Benneson Park	16	3	3	2	2	3	3	22	4	4	3	3	3	3	2	6	2	2	n/a	2	11	2
Bill Keith Preserve	20	4	3	5	3	2	3	20	2	3	3	2	3	4	3	8	2	3	n/a	3	17	4
Bryant H Peney Park	24	4	5	4	4	4	3	30	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	13	4	5	n/a	4	22	4
Coontie Hatchee Landing	23	4	4	3	4	4	4	33	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	12	4	4	n/a	4	25	5
Croissant Park	19	4	3	4	4	2	2	26	5	4	4	3	2	4	4	8	3	4	n/a	1	19	3
Dr. Elizabeth Hayes Civic Park	26	4	4	4	4	5	5	25	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	13	5	4	n/a	4	24	5
Esterre Davis Wright Park	18	4	3	4	1	4	2	18	2	2	3	2	2	3	4	8	5	n/a	n/a	3	16	4
Flamingo Park	19	3	3	3	3	4	3	23	4	3	3	3	3	4	3	12	4	4	n/a	4	20	4
Floyd Hull Stadium	22	4	3	4	5	3	3	30	4	5	4	4	3	5	5	12	4	4	n/a	4	21	4
Gore Betz Park	25	4	4	4	4	5	4	30	4	5	4	4	4	4	5	20	5	5	5	5	23	5
Guthrie-Blake Park	24	4	3	3	4	5	5	27	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	17	5	4	4	4	20	4
Hortt Park	21	4	3	2	5	4	3	30	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	11	4	4	n/a	3	20	4
Lewis Landing Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	26	3	4	4	3	3	4	5	14	5	4	n/a	5	25	5
Maj William Lauderdale Park	25	4	4	5	4	4	4	20	4	4	1	2	2	3	4	12	5	4	n/a	3	20	5
Riverland Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	34	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	19	5	5	5	4	25	5
Riverland Woods Park	23	4	4	4	4	4	3	25	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	11	4	3	n/a	4	17	4
Riverside Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	5	5	n/a	2	23	5
Sailboat Bend Preserve	21	3	3	3	4	4	4	17	1	4	2	2	2	2	4	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	20	4
Shirley Small Community Park	20	4	2	4	3	4	3	34	5	5	5	5	4	5	5	12	3	3	3	3	18	4
Snyder Park	29	5	5	5	5	4	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	12	4	5	n/a	3	22	5
Sunset Park	16	3	2	3	2	4	2	16	1	1	3	3	2	4	2	7	4	n/a	n/a	3	15	3
Townsend Park	26	5	5	4	4	4	4	20	1	4	3	2	2	4	4	9	5	n/a	n/a	4	21	5
Westwood Triangle Park	14	2	3	3	1	4	1	12	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	5	4	n/a	n/a	1	16	3
Southwest Totals:	77	80	74	78	75	81	72	74	70	75	73	69	66	81	83	80	83	81	88	68	80	84

Entrance to Gore Betz Park



Pedestrian and bicycle access and access to places to sit can be improved throughout the Southwest Quadrant, and should be a priority with any improvements in the future. While access and comfort were above average in a majority of parks, opportunities for additional accessible connections and amenities to improve comfort can enhance the parks in this area and the neighborhoods they serve.



Community Inventory and Assessment

Access and Linkages (Max: 30)					Sustainability (Max: 60)					Environmental Sustainability					Economic Sustainability					Totals							
Are there enough places to sit and conveniently located?	Is the site clean and free of litter?	Does the site feel safe?	Do vehicles, dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance	Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?	Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site?	Can people walk easily to the site from surrounding areas?	Does the site function for people from nearby areas?	Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities	Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4 mile) of primary amenities	Does the site provide places for people to gather and reduce daily stress	Is the site well connected with clear and safe access points	Does the site use energy, water and material resources efficiently?	Does the site improve water quality?	Does the site enhance, preserve, promote or contribute to biological diversity?	Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?	Does the site enhance environmental ecological and knowledge?	Does the site create public or private revenue-generating opportunities?	Does the site sustain or increase property values?	Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment?	Does the site promote or support permanent jobs?	Totals						
4	5	4	4	23	4	4	4	4	5	2	34	14	5	5	4	14	3	3	4	n/a	4	6	2	4	n/a	n/a	87
2	2	1	4	20	4	3	3	2	4	4	24	9	4	3	2	8	3	2	2	n/a	1	7	1	3	3	n/a	54
4	4	3	2	16	2	3	3	3	4	1	43	12	4	4	4	22	4	5	5	5	3	9	n/a	3	3	3	65
4	5	5	4	25	5	3	3	4	5	5	35	14	5	4	5	9	3	3	2	n/a	1	12	n/a	4	4	4	81
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5	5	5	4	21	4	3	4	3	4	3	26	13	5	4	4	8	3	2	2	n/a	1	5	2	3	n/a	n/a	75
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3	5	4	4	22	5	4	3	3	4	3	31	10	3	4	3	14	4	3	4	n/a	3	7	1	3	2	1	72
4	4	5	3	20	4	3	3	4	4	2	43	14	5	4	5	13	4	4	4	n/a	1	16	4	4	4	4	76
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3	5	5	5	24	5	4	5	4	5	1	39	14	4	5	5	15	4	4	4	n/a	3	10	2	5	3	n/a	88
2	5	5	4	22	2	4	3	4	4	5	45	9	2	4	3	25	5	5	5	5	5	11	n/a	4	4	3	71
4	3	4	3	18	2	3	3	3	4	3	32	12	4	5	3	10	3	3	3	n/a	1	10	3	4	3	n/a	71
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2	3	3	4	16	4	2	2	2	3	3	21	9	3	3	3	7	2	2	2	n/a	1	5	2	3	n/a	n/a	52
2	5	5	4	26	5	4	4	4	4	5	45	11	3	4	4	23	4	5	5	5	4	11	2	4	4	1	77
1	5	4	3	11	5	1	3	1	n/a	1	23	5	1	2	2	11	4	3	3	n/a	1	7	1	3	2	1	45
67	88	87	77	69	84	68	71	63	76	55	69	76	73	82	75	70	73	76	72	83	48	62	49	76	65	56	73

Fitness Trail at Shirley Small Community Park



Boat Launch at Riverland Woods Park



Chapter 2

2.4.7 Southeast Quadrant Facility Ratings

Overview

The Southeast quadrant contains areas bound by E. Sunrise Blvd to the north, N. Andrews Ave to the west, and Fort Lauderdale city limits to the south and east. (Downtown Inset is excluded). The area contains 18 parks, including several parks on or near the beach and canals throughout the area.

Successes:

The following are examples of successes of the parks documented during site visits to the Southeast quadrant parks.

Condition, Comfort and Image

Many of the parks in the Southeast quadrant demonstrated an above average level of comfort, safety and general appearance. A large majority were found to be in good condition, with a high level of maintenance and pride and satisfaction from users and staff appearing across the quadrant. Most of the parks were clean and free of litter; offering a good first impression.

Effectiveness, Design and Construction

A large majority of the parks exhibited high levels of design and construction, appearing to effectively respond to the neighborhood context, as well as provide adequate access and design and branding standards. In general, the parks in this area appear to be meeting the needs of a diverse group of users.

Access and Social Sustainability

Clear, open site lines and accessible routes were present in a large majority of parks in the Southeast quadrant and it was evident that residents could walk to many of the parks from surrounding areas. Most the parks are well connected to the neighborhoods, and promote opportunities for a healthy lifestyle and the reduction of daily stress.

Opportunities

The following are examples of opportunities for the parks documented during site visits to the Southeast quadrant parks.

Environmental Sustainability

Average conditions within the assessed parks indicate that the Southeast quadrant lacked the enhancement of environmental awareness and education, and the improvement of water quality. Incorporating stormwater management and mitigation strategies, as well as including educational signage can help improve water quality and enhance educational opportunities and ecological awareness. These components should be incorporated into future improvements and development of parks and facilities.

General Improvements to Amenities, Effectiveness and Accessibility

Like other areas of the City, the moderate to lower scores for the parks throughout the Southeast quadrant can be attributed to a lack of amenities and variety of activities in the more passive parks; specifically a lack of places to sit, convenient location of amenities, and balance of recreation opportunities. Additional amenities should be incorporated into future improvements and development, and the addition of facilities for both active and passive recreation opportunities should be explored in order increase the quantity and variety of recreation activities available.

While access and linkages were adequate in a majority of parks, ADA Accessibility can be improved throughout the Southeast quadrant, and should be a priority with any improvements in the future.

Community Inventory and Assessment

Map 2-10: Southeast Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings



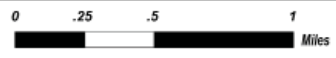
Legend

- Fort Lauderdale City Limits
- Southeast Quadrant Boundary
- Water Bodies
- Fort Lauderdale City Parks
- County Parks
- States Parks and Preservers
- Streets
- Railroads
- Proposed Streetcar Route
- Proposed Streetcar Station

- Public Schools (K-12)
- Colleges
- Libraries

Ratings Legend

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations



Southeast Quadrant Park Ratings
City of Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System Master Plan

Chapter 2

Table 2-11: Southeast Quadrant Facility Evaluation Ratings

Legend:

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

- Design & Construction (Max: 30)**
 - Is the design and construction of this site meeting the needs of users served?
 - Is the site readily accessible to the users being served?
 - Have changing neighborhood characteristics made the site ineffective to users?
 - Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users?
 - Has the site been improved?
- Effectiveness (Max: 35)**
 - Is there clear indication that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials, etc.
 - Are people using the site, or is it empty?
 - Is the site used by people of different ages?
 - How many different types of activities are available?
 - Are there choices in intensity of activities are
 - Is there a balance of active recreation to do? passive or at will opportunities
 - Does the site encourage good recreation and fitness?
 - Does the site appear to serve users' needs?
- Condition (Max: 20)**
 - How would you rate the site's maintenance?
 - What level of satisfaction is evident from users? Recreation staff?
 - Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5= no/none)
- Comfort and Image (Max: 25)**
 - Does the site make a good first impression

Park Name	Design & Construction (Max: 30)							Effectiveness (Max: 35)							Condition (Max: 20)					Comfort and Image (Max: 25)		
Annie Beck Park	24	4	4	5	3	4	4	29	5	5	3	3	4	5	4	15	3	4	5	3	20	5
Cliff Lake Park	13	2	3	3	1	4	n/a	20	3	4	2	2	2	4	3	9	4	3	n/a	2	14	4
Cortez Passive Triangle Park	14	3	4	2	2	3	n/a	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	3	n/a	n/a	3	11	3	
Cox Landing	23	5	4	4	2	4	4	25	5	3	4	2	3	3	5	13	5	4	n/a	4	23	5
D.C. Alexander Park	15	3	4	2	2	2	2	11	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	4	3	n/a	n/a	1	15	3
Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex	26	4	5	4	5	3	5	26	3	5	4	4	n/a	5	5	14	3	4	4	3	24	4
Fort Lauderdale Beach Park	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	19	5	5	5	4	24	5
Greenfield Park	24	4	3	4	4	5	4	26	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	14	5	4	n/a	5	23	5
Harbordale Park	28	5	4	4	5	5	5	32	4	5	4	4	5	5	5	13	5	4	n/a	4	25	5
Holiday Park	28	4	5	5	5	5	4	35	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	19	4	5	5	5	24	5
Idlewyld Park	9	1	2	3	1	1	1	6	1	n/a	1	1	1	1	1	4	3	n/a	n/a	1	13	3
Las Olas Marina	19	5	4	n/a	n/a	5	5	10	5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	5	8	4	n/a	n/a	4	17	4	
Merte Fogg Park	17	3	3	4	1	3	3	18	3	3	2	2	2	3	3	9	4	3	n/a	2	21	5
Peter Feldman Park	29	5	5	4	5	5	5	23	1	4	3	3	4	4	4	9	5	n/a	n/a	4	23	5
Poinciana Park	28	5	5	5	5	5	3	28	4	4	3	4	4	4	5	16	5	4	5	2	22	5
Purple Pickle Park	20	3	3	3	4	3	4	13	1	1	2	2	2	2	3	11	4	3	n/a	4	19	4
Victoria Park	25	4	4	5	4	4	4	29	5	5	3	3	4	5	4	12	5	4	n/a	3	21	5
Welcome Park	18	3	4	4	2	3	2	13	1	1	2	2	1	3	3	11	5	3	n/a	3	20	4
Southeast Totals:	75	76	79	78	66	77	75	65	63	71	58	56	61	69	74	80	83	77	96	63	88	83

Entrance to Harbordale Park



Bus Shelter in Cortez Passive Triangle Park



Community Inventory and Assessment

- Are there enough places to sit and conveniently located
- Is the site clean and free of litter?
- Does the site feel safe?
- Do vehicles, dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance
- **Access and Linkages (Max: 30)**
- Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?
- Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site?
- Can people walk easily to the site from surrounding areas?
- Does the site function for the site from needs?
- Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities
- Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4 mile) of primary amenities
- **Sustainability (Max: 60)**
- **Sociability Sustainability**
- Does the site provide places for people to gather
- Does the site promote healthy lifestyle and/or reduce daily stress
- Is the site will connected with clear and safe access points
- **Environmental Sustainability**
- Does the site use energy, water and material resources efficiently?
- Does the site improve water quality?
- Does the site enhance, preserve, promote or contribute to biological diversity?
- Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?
- Does the site enhance environmental awareness and knowledge?
- **Economic Sustainability**
- Does the site create public or private revenue-generating opportunities?
- Does the site sustain or increase property values?
- Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment?
- Does the site promote or support permanent jobs?
- **Totals**

2	5	4	4	22	5	4	4	4	4	1	40	9	1	5	3	20	4	4	5	4	3	11	1	5	3	2	75
1	4	2	3	10	3	1	2	1	1	2	37	6	1	4	1	22	5	5	5	4	3	9	n/a	4	4	1	56
1	4	2	1	20	4	1	3	4	3	5	22	5	1	2	2	13	4	3	4	n/a	2	4	1	1	1	1	44
3	5	5	5	22	4	3	4	5	4	2	43	9	2	3	4	17	4	4	4	3	2	17	5	4	4	4	76
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5	5	5	5	25	4	4	5	3	4	5	36	15	5	5	5	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18	5	4	4	5	86
5	5	5	4	19	4	3	3	3	4	2	57	15	5	5	5	22	4	3	5	5	5	20	5	5	5	5	95
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5	5	5	5	19	4	2	3	3	3	4	41	15	5	5	5	15	4	4	4	n/a	3	11	1	4	4	2	83
5	5	5	4	18	3	4	3	4	2	2	48	15	5	5	5	15	3	3	3	3	3	18	5	4	4	5	91
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5	5	4	4	22	4	3	5	4	5	1	33	12	3	4	5	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	10	1	4	4	1	79
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2	5	5	3	20	5	4	4	3	3	1	22	11	5	3	3	8	2	2	2	n/a	2	3	1	2	n/a	n/a	57
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2	5	4	5	18	5	4	3	2	3	1	31	9	2	3	4	12	4	4	3	n/a	1	10	1	3	3	3	59
62	94	84	70	70	88	64	73	66	66	62	66	70	61	74	73	66	68	66	71	77	47	62	49	72	69	56	71

Educational Signage in Fort Lauderdale Beach Park



Open Space in D.C. Alexander Park



Chapter 2

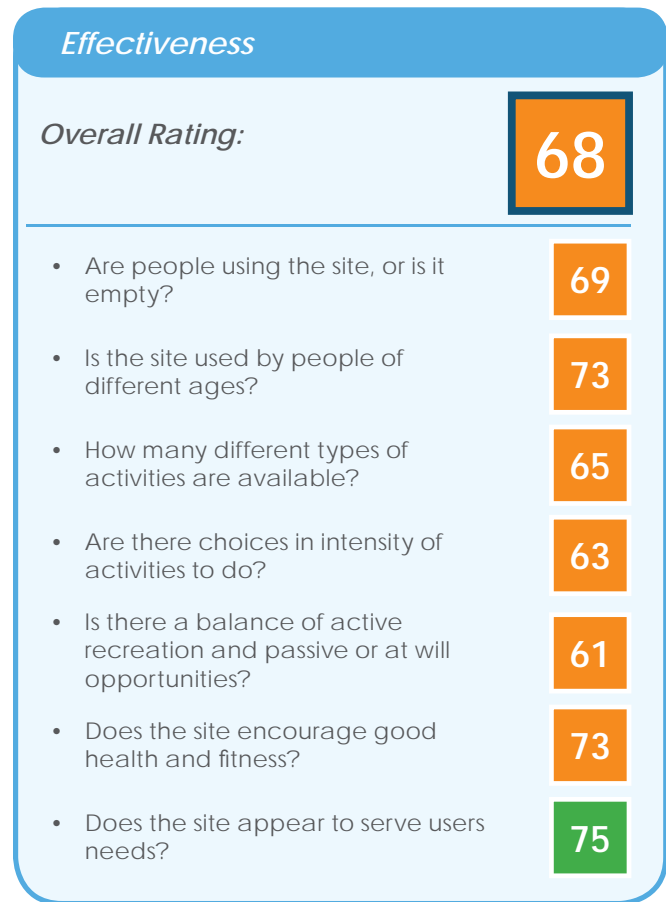
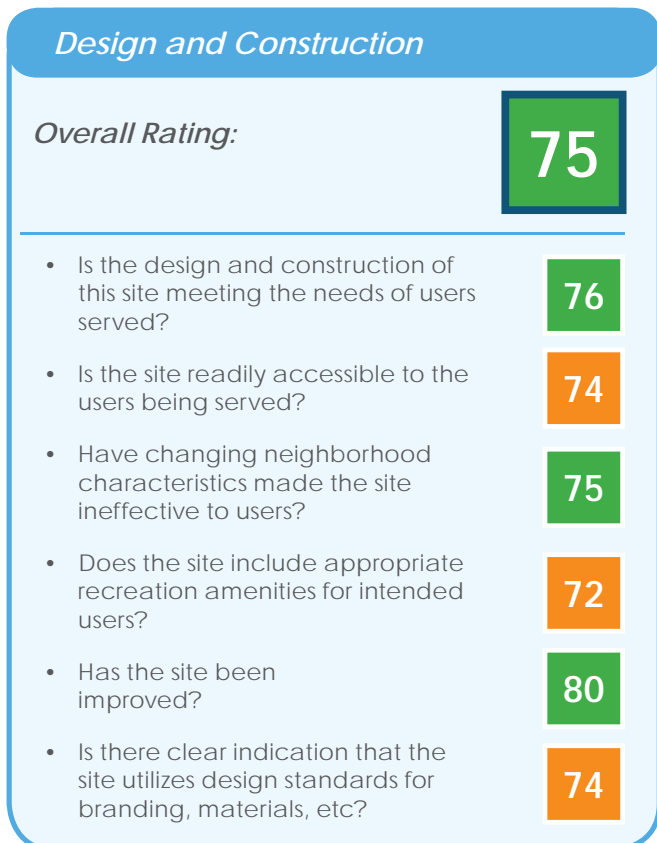
2.4.8 Facility Evaluations Summary

The existing Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System is highlighted by a diverse range of conditions and opportunities. By combining the results of each of the five specific areas, an overall summary of the ratings in each category can be calculated to represent the system as a whole. **Figure 2-24** on the following pages highlight system-wide results for each evaluation category, indicating the categories overall score as well the scores for each question. This allows for the identification of successes and opportunities that are present throughout the Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System.

Legend:

- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations

Figure 2-24: City of Fort Lauderdale System-wide Facility Evaluation Ratings



Community Inventory and Assessment

Comfort and Image

Overall Rating:

77

- Does the site make a good first impression? **78**
- Are there enough places to sit and conveniently located? **66**
- Is the site clean and free of litter? **84**
- Does the site feel safe? **82**
- Do vehicles dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance? **74**

Access and Linkages

Overall Rating:

69

- Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces? **80**
- Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site? **66**
- Can people walk easily to the site from surrounding areas? **71**
- Does the site function for people with special needs? **62**
- Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities? **73**
- Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4 mile) of primary amenities? **64**

Sustainability

Overall Rating:

66

Social

71

- Does the site provide places for people to gather? **68**
- Does the site promote healthy lifestyle and/or reduce daily stress? **76**
- Is the site will connected with clear and safe access points? **70**

Environmental

65

- Does the site use energy, water and material resources efficiently? **65**
- Does the site improve water quality? **66**
- Does the site enhance, preserve, promote or contribute to biological diversity? **66**
- Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat? **75**
- Does the site enhance environmental awareness and knowledge? **51**

Economic

62

- Does the site create public or private revenue-generating opportunities? **52**
- Does the site sustain or increase property values? **72**
- Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment? **65**
- Does the site promote or support permanent jobs? **59**

Chapter 2

System-wide Successes

Condition

The condition of the parks and facilities received above average rating throughout the Fort Lauderdale parks system. A high level of maintenance was found to be prevalent in most parks, with both user satisfaction and staff pride exceeding expectations.

Comfort and Image

The parks and recreation facilities in the Fort Lauderdale system generally make a good impression to visitors, with most sites being clean and free of litter. A majority of the parks feel safe, and in most cases are not dominated

by vehicles through access roads, parking or maintenance. Most parks and facilities appear to provide an adequate level of comfort, with the notable exception of the need for conveniently located places to sit.

Design and Construction

Adequate design and construction and evidence of improvement can be seen throughout the parks system. Most parks appeared to be readily accessible to the users being served and a large majority of parks and facilities were effective to users in the neighborhood context.

System-wide Opportunities

Access and Linkage, Design and Comfort

Most parks in the system have clear and open view lines into open spaces, however, wayfinding and signage appeared to be lacking in many parks, and pedestrian and bicycle access can be improved throughout the system. While most parks contained paths and/or roads that connected to primary amenities, there were several examples where accessible sidewalks and pathways ended before reaching amenities such as benches and picnic tables. Improving access and linkages in parks, as well as increasing wayfinding and signage, should be priorities for improvements and development of the parks in the system in order to ensure community-wide access.

While overall design and comfort is above average for the system, utilization of design standards, as well as providing convenient places to sit, are areas that could be improved. Incorporating these types of improvements will not only enhance the overall design and comfort of the parks and facilities, but will also help enhance access and linkage elements throughout the park system.

Sustainability

While the Fort Lauderdale Parks system is adequately providing facilities to support social sustainability, there is significant room for improvement in environmental sustainability. In particular, enhancement of environmental awareness and knowledge is lacking in many of the parks. Opportunities for environmental education should be incorporated throughout the system, using elements such as educational signage and increasing access to ecological features within the parks and facilities.

In general, lower economic sustainability rankings were attributed to the lack of revenue-generating opportunities and support for permanent jobs throughout many facilities in the parks system. Of the 99 parks evaluated, over 70 are open space or small neighborhood facilities. This creates challenges for system-wide revenue generation, where a majority of opportunities are concentrated in small number of larger parks. As the system continues to grow and develop, opportunities for creative revenue generation should be explored and incorporated where applicable.

Community Inventory and Assessment

Key Takeaways

- **Parks are well maintained, but most of the capital infrastructure is becoming worn and antiquated.**
A capital reinvestment program is needed to consistently bring facilities up to current standards and use patterns.
- **Wayfinding and signage in the parks has grown to be excessive and inconsistent.**
A comprehensive wayfinding and signage program should be developed to reduce visual clutter, convey a more positive message and provide a unique branding for the Parks and Recreation Department.
- **Bicycle and pedestrian access to the parks needs to be improved.**
Some improvements can be accomplished within the parks with better walkways at the edges of the parks, however most of the improvements needed are in the adjacent right-of-ways and surrounding neighborhoods. Some improvements are relatively simple, such as crosswalks and connecting walkways. Other improvements, such as crossing Sunrise Boulevard from Holiday Park to the neighborhoods to the north will be very difficult and require major changes to the roadway.
- **Incorporate more sustainability and resiliency measures into parks.**
Recently designed parks incorporate sustainability and resiliency measures that are positive for the park, the adjacent neighborhoods and the City as a whole. These measures such as storm water management, efficient lighting and xeriscaping should continue to be actively incorporated as standards throughout the entire system and improved as new techniques are identified and adopted.
- **Some of the originally envisioned venues and amenities in the Downtown and New River Areas do not appear to be supported by the user market.**
The concert stage at Huizenga Plaza is one example of limited demand for concerts and farmers' markets in the Downtown area.
- **Select older parks lack current safety standards/ or enforcement.**
Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) standards should be applied consistently in all parks and focused security measures should be taken in targeted parks.

2.5 Community Inventory and Assessment Findings

The community inventory assessment was conducted in order to obtain an understanding of the physical, aesthetic and social characteristics of the existing Fort Lauderdale Parks and Recreation System. Taken as a whole, the system has a number of successes and opportunities.

Demographics

The City of Fort Lauderdale is growing and diversifying. The city has an opportunity to catch up to past population growth and meet the parks, recreation and cultural resource needs of its current residents equitably. At the same time, it is imperative that the city plans for future growth by evaluating additional parkland needs in advance of growth and enhancing access, particularly in urbanizing areas.



Guiding Documents

Integration of the Master Plan with adopted or on-going plans, studies and policies is a key goal. Currently there are four categories of influencing documents: vision documents, context documents, complimentary city and county planning efforts, and parks and recreation department guiding documents. A sampling of significant City of Fort Lauderdale and other guiding plans or documents is included in **Section 2.1**.

The Fort Lauderdale planning efforts have been successful in clearly articulating the City's intended direction. The Fast Forward vision plan and Press Play strategic plan have set the framework for City decision-making that has been enforced and further articulated through multiple other planning efforts, as well as embraced by the City staff.

Cumulatively, these plans will be used to guide the direction of the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan to ensure that the plan promotes the goals of the City and works in harmony with other complimentary efforts. Review of existing or previously completed plans and studies will help recommendations developed through this master planning process progress into implementation through the leveraging and partnering to advance the common vision for the community. Additionally, upon completion of this planning process, the PRSMP will be shared back to other departments to help guide their further efforts.

Community Inventory and Assessment

Park System Resources

An observational review of Fort Lauderdale's existing parks and facilities found the following successes and opportunities:

Successes	Opportunities
Parks and facilities are in good condition with a high level of maintenance, user satisfaction and staff pride	Wayfinding and signage, accessible routes to parks, and neighborhood linkages
Parks and facilities make a good impression and are clean and free of litter	Design standards and convenient places to sit
Adequate design and construction with evidence of improvement	Environmental sustainability and enhancement of environmental awareness and knowledge
Readily accessible and effective to users in the neighborhood context	Revenue generating opportunities and support for permanent jobs

System-wide Ratings

100 - 75 Exceeding Expectations
 74 - 50 Meeting Expectations
 49 - 50 Not Meeting Expectations

Design and Construction

75

Effectiveness

68

Comfort and Image

80

Condition

77

Access and Linkages

69

Sustainability

66

Comparables Analysis

The parks systems reviewed in the Comparables section all play a major role in contributing to a high quality of life for residents. While there are many factors that create the characteristics found in these cities, a high-quality, well-connected and diverse park system is a commonality that all of these cities share. Many of the needs and priorities expressed during the community involvement phase focused on park system attributes that are exemplified by the comparable cities, such as; safe, high-quality spaces; high levels of accessibility throughout the system; partnerships for park funding and special events; and city-wide branding and recognition as a great place to live, work, play and raise a family.

Key takeaways from the Comparables Analysis include:

- Access improvements throughout the entire park system
- Multiple options for activities and events
- Public Private Partnerships (P3s) in design, planning and maintenance
- Branding and Recognition

