

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

GOAL 9.0. It is the goal of the Broward County Board of County Commissioners to provide safe and adequate recreation sites and facilities, including cultural art facilities, and open space to satisfy the current and future needs of residents and non-residents, including special populations such as pre-school age children, the elderly, and the disabled; to maintain or improve accessibility to recreation sites and facilities; and to encourage public and private involvement in developing a greenways system that supports state and other community greenway efforts.

Objective 9.1. Ensure public access to local and regional recreation sites and facilities, including greenways, water bodies and Broward County's beachfront.

Policy 9.1.1. Broward County shall continue to utilize the development review process of the Land Development Code to assure adequate local park sites are available within the sector where the proposed development is located.

Policy 9.1.2. Broward County shall continue to utilize the development review process of the Land Development Code to assure a regional park is available County-wide.

Policy 9.1.3. Broward County shall encourage the provision of public access to the beach at a minimum of one-half mile intervals.

Policy 9.1.4. Broward County, when planning beach nourishment and renourishment projects, shall maintain or improve the quality of public access to the beach, where economically feasible.

Policy 9.1.5. Broward County shall continue to maintain and retrofit existing recreation sites and facilities so that they are accessible to the elderly and the disabled, consistent with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA). New recreation sites and facilities shall also be designed consistent with the ADA.

Policy 9.1.6. Broward County shall increase the number of recreation sites that are accessible by bikeways and pedestrian paths to 60 by 2010.

Policy 9.1.7. Broward County shall encourage the development of a greenway system that supports the interconnectivity among and between recreational areas as a means of improving access.

Policy 9.1.8. Broward County shall, in coordination with other appropriate entities, develop and implement a "blueways" system plan that uses existing navigable waterways as a means of establishing accessibility to, and interconnectivity between

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and among, parks. The “blueways” system plan shall:

1. identify and map existing and proposed County parks, such as Secret Woods Park and the proposed “Boaters Park;”
2. explore the potential for new “pocket parks;”
3. explore the potential for including municipal parks within the system;
4. identify public sites where docking facilities and small boat houses can be established; and
5. identify those areas where the “blueways” system can be linked to the “greenways” system.

Policy 9.1.9. Broward County shall support the development of community cultural facilities which are accessible (located within 25 minutes drive-time) to the majority of residents.

Objective 9.2. Coordinate public and private resources to meet recreation demands.

Policy 9.2.1. Broward County shall continue to conduct the annual Public Participation Forum to assure public and private recreation facility providers are aware of local and regional recreation demands.

Policy 9.2.2. Broward County shall maintain and update its inventory of community cultural facilities and organizations and monitor community cultural facilities utilization on a periodic basis in order to determine whether the existing facilities are adequately meeting the needs of the County.

Policy 9.2.3. Broward County shall work with private and public organizations to encourage the availability of adequate public space in development plans for cultural purposes, such as exhibits, festivals and artist studios.

Policy 9.2.4. The Broward County Convention and Visitor's Bureau shall maintain and annually update its inventory of convention and visitor facilities.

Policy 9.2.5. The Convention and Visitor's Bureau shall coordinate with appropriate agencies in the provision of tourism amenities. Tourism amenities may include signage in parks and along scenic overlooks, and kiosks.

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Policy 9.2.6. Broward County shall facilitate and encourage private sector support and strong community involvement in greenway efforts.

Policy 9.2.7. Broward County shall encourage the private sector to develop and operate boat launches along the “blueways” system, where appropriate.

Policy 9.2.8. Broward County shall encourage the development and maintenance of equestrian trails and promote interconnectivity between the County’s equestrian trails and municipal equestrian trails.

Policy 9.2.9. Broward County shall coordinate with other governmental and/or non-governmental organizations that ensure the protection, conservation and enhancement of natural areas or open space utilized for outdoor recreation

Objective 9.3. Ensure that local parks and recreation facilities are adequately provided to meet the local park service demand.

Policy 9.3.1. Broward County shall complete the local parks acquisition and development plans identified in the Capital Improvements Element to serve residents of the Unincorporated Area.

Policy 9.3.2. Broward County shall continue to utilize the level of service (LOS) standard in Table 9-A for the County's local parks and recreation facilities which was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners to assess adequacy of service and concurrency.

**TABLE 9-A
LEVEL of SERVICE STANDARD for LOCAL PARKS**

Facility Type	Level of Service Standard
Local Park	3 acres per 1,000 persons

This LOS standard shall be used to determine adequacy at the time of plat approval for all properties that are required to plat in the Unincorporated Area and for those properties in the Unincorporated Area that are not required to plat, at the time of site plan approval. Also, this standard shall be utilized to determine concurrency at the time of application for a building permit under certain conditions as delineated in the Land Development Code.

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Policy 9.3.3. Broward County shall continue to use lease agreements with the Broward County School Board to correct existing local park deficiencies, where appropriate.

Policy 9.3.4. Broward County shall utilize the regional park acreage credit provision as specified in Subsection C, "Community and Regional Parks," Chapter IV, "Plan Implementation Requirements," Volume 1, Broward County Land Use Plan, to assist in meeting its local park requirement. The regional park acreage credit provision enables Broward County to add 20.0 acres to its local park inventory for Fern Forest (10 acres) and Quiet Waters (10 acres) regional parks.

Policy 9.3.5. In recognition of the Broward County Legislative Delegation's resolve to provide for all unincorporated areas within the County's developable area to be annexed or incorporated by 2010 and recognizing that annexation and incorporation of unincorporated areas may adversely affect local parks level of service standards requirements, the following shall apply:

1. Annexation and incorporations efforts shall not be deemed to cause the local parks level of service standard to be violated; and
2. When all the remaining unincorporated developable area is annexed or incorporated, Broward County shall initiate a Comprehensive Plan amendment to delete the local parks concurrency requirement.

Objective 9.4. Ensure that regional parks and recreation facilities are provided sufficient to meet the regional park service demand of 5,863 acres by 2010 and 6,342 acres by 2015.

Policy 9.4.1. Broward County shall complete the regional park development plans identified in the Capital Improvements Element to serve the County's population.

Policy 9.4.2. Broward County shall continue to utilize the level of service (LOS) standard in Table 9-B the County's regional parks and recreation facilities which was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners to assess adequacy of service and concurrency.

**TABLE 9-B
LEVEL of SERVICE STANDARD for REGIONAL PARKS**

Facility Type	Level of Service Standard
Regional park	3 acres per 1,000 persons

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This LOS standard shall be used to determine adequacy at the time of plat approval for all properties that are required to plat and for those properties within the Unincorporated Area that are not required to plat, at the time of site plan approval. Also, this standard shall be utilized to determine concurrency at the time of application for a building permit under certain conditions as delineated in the Land Development Code.

Objective 9.5. Ensure the provision of open space by public agencies and private enterprise.

Policy 9.5.1. Policies 13.6.3., 13.6.4., 13.6.5., 13.6.8., 13.7.2., and 13.6.9. of the Conservation Element shall be pursued to ensure the provision of open space.

Policy 9.5.2. Broward County shall continue to utilize the development review process of the Land Development Code to ensure the provision of pervious areas and greenspace by requiring developers to meet open space requirements of Chapter 5, Article IX, Section 5-192(a)(11), Pervious Areas and Greenspace, "Broward County Code of Ordinances.

Policy 9.5.3. Broward County shall continue to utilize the Conservation land use category on the Future Unincorporated Area Land Use Element Map Series to designate natural reservations such as the Water Conservation Area, regional parks, and other appropriate publicly owned lands in the Unincorporated Area.

Policy 9.5.4. The "Water Conservation Areas" west of Levees 33, 35A, 36, L-37 and L-35 shall continue to be zoned Conservation-1 District.

Policy 9.5.5. Broward County shall propose rezoning of the natural areas east of the "Water Conservation Areas" to Conservation-2 District which have been designated Conservation on the Future Unincorporated Area Land Use Element Map Series.

Policy 9.5.6. Broward County shall encourage the incorporation of urban open spaces, such as plazas, waterfronts, and linear corridors, into the greenway system.

Post-Adoption Revisions

1. This Element was amended in Cycle 99-2 by Ordinance Number 1999-77, adopted on December 14, 1999.
2. This Element was amended in Cycle 2001-1 by Ordinance 2001-25 and 26 adopted on June 26, 2001.

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3. This Element was amended in Cycle 2001-2 by Ordinance 2001-53 adopted on November 13, 2001. The amendment revised Objective 9.1 and added Policy 9.2.9 to enhance the ability of the County to acquire grant monies for the preservation of open spaces and natural areas.
4. This Element was amended in Cycle 2006-2 by Ordinance 2006-59 adopted on December 12, 2006.

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