



CITY OF CLERMONT  
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

CHAPTER X  
RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

Adopted June 23, 2009

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## CHAPTER X RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

**GOAL 1:** To provide adequate open space, parks and recreation facilities to serve the needs of all Clermont residents.

**Objective 1.1: Level of Service Standards for Parks.** To ensure adequate lands are provided for parks, the City shall utilize level of service standards for parks and other criteria specific to population, park size and location. For purposes of implementing this objective, the City may utilize parklands under the jurisdiction of Lake County and public parks provided within residential developments.

**Policy 1.1.1:** To ensure that its parks facilities keep pace with the impacts of sustained growth and to plan for future park and open space facilities, the City adopts the level of service (LOS) standard for park land of 10 acres per 1,000 residents. This standard includes both passive and active City parks and recreational facilities, and includes community, neighborhood and mini-parks.

**Policy 1.1.2:** The City shall utilize the following guidelines for recreational facilities:

Activity	Resource/Facility	Population
Baseball/Softball	Baseball/Softball Field	2,000
Basketball	Basketball Court	3,600
Football/Soccer	Football/Soccer Field	7,000
Equipped Play Area	Equipped Play Area	3,000
Golf Course	18-hole Golf Course	25,000
Recreational Building	Recreational Building	15,000
Racquetball/Handball	Racquetball Court	15,000
Shuffleboard	Shuffleboard Court	5,000
Swimming	Swimming Pool	35,000
Tennis	Tennis Court	2,000
Volleyball	Volleyball Court	6,000

**Policy 1.1.3:** The City of Clermont shall utilize the following guidelines for determining the type and location for parklands:

- *Community Park* - A facility designed to serve the needs of more than one neighborhood. This facility type shall serve a minimum of 5,000 City residents and is located no greater than three miles from those residents. The minimum size of any new community park should be five acres. Typical facilities found in community parks are designed to serve the entire family and include both passive and active recreation opportunities such as playground areas, recreation buildings, sports fields, paved multi-purpose courts, picnic areas, open or free play areas, swimming pools and landscaping.

- *Neighborhood Park* - A facility that serves an entire neighborhood or area with a minimum of 2,500 City residents and is located no greater than one-half mile from those residents. The minimum size of a neighborhood park should be two acres. Typical facilities provided include playground areas, recreation buildings, sports fields, paved multi-purpose courts, picnic areas, open or free play areas and landscaping.
- *Mini-Park* - A small park serving a concentrated or limited population of 500 to 2,500 residents within a radius of up to a quarter mile. A minimum size of one acre for each stand-alone park is recommended. Mini-parks primarily offer passive recreation and typical facilities provided include playground areas, benches, open space, picnic tables and landscaping.

**Policy 1.1.4:** The Land Development Code shall address standards for park development and improvements, which shall include buffering, landscaping, parking and siting facilities.

**Objective 1.2: Natural Areas and Open Space.** Consistent with plan implementation requirements, the City shall maintain a sufficient amount of natural areas and open space through public acquisition to provide a harmonious balance between the requirements of continuing urbanization and the spatial needs of an increasing population.

**Policy 1.2.1:** Those lands identified in this element as “parks” shall perpetually be held in public ownership for open space.

**Policy 1.2.2:** The City shall include any declared land acquisition for recreation space within the capital improvements schedule.

**Policy 1.2.3:** Consistent with the capital improvement program process, the City of Clermont shall budget for acquisition and actively negotiate to obtain property to ensure adequate park space in the future.

**Policy 1.2.4:** The City shall continue to investigate and utilize local, state and federal funding programs to enhance, acquire and expand recreation and open space facilities and natural reservations.

**Policy 1.2.5:** The City shall actively pursue coordination with Lake County to encourage that the county future land use map provides for areas to be reserved for neighborhood and community parks in the vicinity of Clermont.

**Policy 1.2.6:** The City will expand its greenways and recreation trail system through land acquisitions that provide extensions or connections to existing county and state trails.

**Policy 1.2.7:** The City shall maximize the use of existing recreation space by promoting recreation activities and programs.

**Policy 1.2.8:** The City shall utilize community meetings and surveys to assess the use of existing facilities and recreation preferences.

**Objective 1.3: Park Maintenance.** The City shall maintain and improve all City parks in a manner that is consistent with the recreation needs of City residents and shall maximize the potential of the individual facilities.

**Policy 1.3.1:** The City's parks and recreational facilities shall be renovated and/or upgraded as needed to provide improved recreational opportunities.

**Policy 1.3.2:** The City shall maintain an inventory of the location, size, condition and amenities available at each public park. This inventory shall be updated annually.

**Objective 1.4: Accessibility.** Within the planning timeframe, all recreation and open space areas shall be evaluated as to their accessibility to all Clermont residents regardless of physical condition, age or economic condition as outlined in the uniform federal accessibility standards.

**Policy 1.4.1:** All City parks and open space shall provide unobstructed access, when reasonably possible, through the following procedures:

- Existing facilities shall be evaluated and improved, if necessary, within the planning timeframe.
- Any new roadway or sidewalk construction required to access future sites shall be improved to engineering standards established in the Land Development Code.

**Policy 1.4.2:** Any park undergoing renovation shall incorporate wheelchair and bicycle access.

**Policy 1.4.3:** Within the planning timeframe, bicycle racks shall be provided at all recreation sites. The type and quantity of such facilities shall be determined by the City's parks and recreation coordinator.

**Objective 1.5: Private Parks and Recreation Facilities.** The City shall coordinate the provision of open space by private interests.

**Policy 1.5.1:** Private park dedication requirements for residential development, whether in the form of land or cash-in-lieu-of land, shall be addressed by the City at the time of the development review process.

**Policy 1.5.2:** Private parks that are available to the public may be included in LOS calculations.

**Objective 1.6: Joint Use of Facilities.** The City shall continue to coordinate with the public and private sector to avoid duplication of recreation facilities. This shall include provisions for joint use of school board or other public agencies' recreation facilities to meet the recreation demands of the City's citizens.

**Policy 1.6.1:** The City shall coordinate with private developers to provide public recreation facilities within their developments.

**Policy 1.6.2:** The City shall utilize the level of service review to recommend recreation improvements located within private development.

**Policy 1.6.3:** The City shall strengthen coordination with the Lake County School Board, including consideration of an interlocal agreement, to allow the use of school board facilities by the general public.

**Policy 1.6.4:** The City shall review updates of Lake County's parks and recreation master plan and make the necessary updates to the City's element to achieve consistency.

**Policy 1.6.5:** The City shall pursue an interlocal agreement with Lake County for the purpose of using Lake County parks for organized recreation activities for Clermont residents.