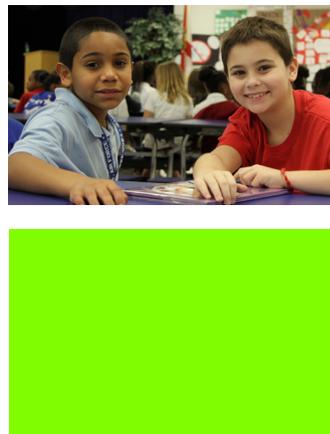


City of Tamarac Parks, Recreation, and Social Services Master Plan



Executive Summary

December 2014



Purpose

Initially planned as a retirement community by developer Kenneth E. Behring, the City of Tamarac has always paid special attention to providing its residents with a high quality of life, sustained by high quality and responsive customer service. Integral to this high quality of life are the recreation amenities and services that were at the forefront of the city's origins. As the city has grown from a retirement community of 250 homes to a city of 60,000 residents, so too has its parks system. The city's parks system currently boasts over 180 acres of park land, three recreation centers, seven baseball/softball fields, three football/soccer fields, a dog park, and an aquatics complex with an eight lane, 25 meter lap pool and interactive splash ground, just to mention a few of the amenities.

The purpose of this Parks, Recreation, and Social Services Master Plan is to develop a 20 year plan that ensures that residents continue to

enjoy a high quality of life that is supported by the high-quality parks and recreational programs and facilities they desire. Specifically, this master plan seeks to:

- Establish a clear understanding of the current conditions of the city's parks, recreation facilities, and open spaces and assess their relevance to existing and projected populations;
- Assess and evaluate the Parks and Recreation Department's current programs, management, and operations practices;
- Identify the community's recreational and social needs and priorities;
- Establish a long range vision to address the identified recreational and social needs and priorities including park land; historical, cultural, and natural resources; recreation facilities; and programs;

- Establish a 5, 10, 15, and 20 year implementation strategy that includes a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), maintenance and operations standards and guidelines, and funding opportunities.

To achieve this, the City of Tamarac Parks, Recreation and Social Services Master Plan is organized into the following four sections:

Existing Conditions Analysis - This section provides an understanding of the existing and planned conditions of the city, its population, and its parks and recreation system. It includes a brief overview of the history of the parks and recreation system, an inventory of the city's parks and recreation facilities, an analysis of relevant plans and studies, a demographics analysis, an analysis of the existing conditions of the city's park land and recreation facilities, and an evaluation of the current programs, management, operations, public relations, and marketing practices of the Parks and Recreation Department.



Needs and Priorities Assessment - This section provides a comprehensive, community participation-driven needs assessment process that uses proven qualitative, quantitative, and anecdotal analysis techniques to identify resident recreational and social desires, needs, and priorities. Techniques used include a variety of Level of Services (LOS) analysis, a statistically valid mail-in and telephone survey, an online survey, public workshops, and a series of one-on-one stakeholder meetings and focus groups.

Long-Range Vision - Based on the findings from the Existing Conditions Analysis and Needs and Priorities Assessment, this section establishes a long-range vision for the city's parks, recreation and social services system that is grounded in industry best practices and community input. This section also includes an estimate of probable costs for land acquisitions, park/facility development, programming/staffing, and operations and maintenance for the long-range vision.

Funding and Implementation Strategy - Based on the proposed long-range vision, the implementation strategy establishes a phased funding and implementation strategy to realize the proposed vision.



Existing Conditions Analysis

The purpose of this chapter is to gain a broad understanding of the current conditions of the City of Tamarac's parks, recreation facilities, and trails. 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.

The Beginning of the City of Tamarac Parks System

Kenneth E. Behring's idea for the City of Tamarac was to build a community of single family retirement homes with the conveniences of a condominium. Specifically, these conveniences would include no maintenance for residents and access to a variety of recreation amenities where residents could enjoy life because maintenance was handled by others.

From the city's inception to the present day, the parks system has experienced several periods of expansion, with the largest taking place between 2005 and 2010 when the city passed a \$15 million Capital Improvements Bond. This bond paid for

a variety of parks and recreation improvements and is largely responsible for creating the parks system that the city currently enjoys.

The Parks System As It Is Today

The City of Tamarac's parks system today includes approximately 184 acres of public park land spread throughout 21 sites across the city. The parks system is linked by a network of streets, trails, bikeways, and transit routes. The city's parks system is bolstered by an array of semi-private and private recreational facilities that Kenneth E. Behring and developers since him have built in residential developments throughout the city. These 159 sites encompass 180 acres. While not considered public park land, these private recreation facilities continue to play a major role in the social, cultural, and recreational lives of residents and are therefore an important component of the parks system.

Special to the City of Tamarac and important to the city's parks system are the historical and cultural elements that are located throughout the city. Over the last several years, the city has focused on

celebrating its history and expanding its cultural offerings through a variety of means including public art. The city currently boasts a variety of public art pieces ranging from benches to fences to sculptures, most of which are located within the parks system.



Guiding Documents

One of the core initiatives of this master plan is to provide a continuation of previously adopted plans and studies. Careful review and analysis of previous work ensures coordination with other official documents that may influence the development of the master plan. AECOM has researched multiple sources of information such as: city, regional documents and statewide documents; area or facility specific studies and plans; and previous recreation master plans. A listing, though not exhaustive, of significant city, regional and statewide documents and area or facility specific studies and plans includes:

- City of Tamarac Strategic Plan (2012)
- 2013 City of Tamarac DirectionFinder Survey, Final Report
- Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan (2008)

- 2013 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)
- City of Tamarac Comprehensive Plan (Adopted 2008, Amended 2009)
- City of Tamarac Biennial Budget

Demographic Analysis

The City of Tamarac is growing, diversifying and becoming younger. The city needs to ensure that it is meeting the parks, recreation and cultural resource needs of its current residents equitably, while at the same time preparing plans for future growth by acquiring more park land, establishing and enhancing joint-use agreements with other parks and recreation service providers, and facilitating the provision of additional programs.

Existing City Park Land Conditions Analysis

A critical step in the Parks, Recreation and Social Services master planning process is to evaluate the conditions of the City of Tamarac's existing public parks. An observational review of the City of Tamarac's existing parks and facilities was conducted using the following evaluation categories:

1. **ACCESS: Proximity, Access and Linkages**
2. **COMFORT: Comfort and Image**
3. **USE: Uses, Activities, and Sociability**
4. **BUILDINGS: Buildings Architecture**

Each of the sites was scored in the above categories using a scale of 1 to 5:

- 1 = Well Below Expectations
- 2 = Not Meeting Expectations
- 3 = Meets Expectations
- 4 = Exceeds Expectations
- 5 = Far Exceeds Expectations

Overall, the specific main categories where the parks system exceeded expectations included Comfort and Image as well as Buildings/Architecture. Categories where the parks system met expectations included Proximity/Access/Linkages and Uses and Activities & Sociability. Following is a summary of key findings and observations for the parks system based on the main park evaluation categories. A table showing the parks evaluation summary can be found on the next page.



City of Tamarac Current Management and Operations Practices

In addition to evaluating the City of Tamarac’s parks and recreation facilities, the management and operation of the Parks and Recreation Department were also evaluated. Areas covered include:

- Management and Operations Practices
- Public Services Operations
- Recreation Programs and Services
- Access and Opportunities to Participate
- Public Relations and Marketing

A table summarizing the strengths and weaknesses of each of the above categories can be found on the next page. These findings are compared with national benchmarks using a Parks and Recreation Trends Analysis. This helps provide an understanding of what the latest trends are in the parks and recreation industry, where the industry may be headed, and how the City of Tamarac Parks and Recreation Department can prepare for what might be ahead.

	Caporella Aquatics Complex	Caporella Park	Gary B Jones Park for People & Pups	Sunset Point Park	Tamarac Commons Park	Tamarac Community Center	Tamarac Multi-Purpose Center	Tamarac Park	Tamarac Sports Complex	Tamarac Park Recreation Center	Tephford Park	Veterans' Park	Total
Proximity/ Access/ Linkages (Max 5.0)	3.7	3.7	3.5	2.5	3.3	-	-	3.5	3.8	-	4.2	3.7	3.5
Visibility from a distance	3	3	5	2	5	-	-	1	4	-	5	5	3.7
Ease in walking to the park property	4	3	3	1	1	-	-	3	3	-	4	1	2.6
Transit Access (exclude neighborhood parks)	3	3	3	1	3	-	-	4	3	-	4	3	3.0
Clarity of information/ signage	3	3	3	3	3	-	-	3	3	-	3	3	3.0
ADA Compliance	5	5	5	5	5	-	-	5	5	-	5	5	5.0
Lighting	4	5	2	3	3	-	-	5	5	-	4	5	4.0
Comfort and Image (Max 5.0)	4.6	4.4	4.4	4.6	4.4	-	-	3.4	4.6	-	4.4	3.4	4.2
First Impression/overall attractiveness	4	5	4	4	4	-	-	3	5	-	4	4	4.1
Feeling of safety	4	5	4	4	5	-	-	3	5	-	4	4	4.2
Cleanliness/overall quality of maintenance	5	5	4	5	5	-	-	5	5	-	4	4	4.7
Comfort of places to sit	5	2	5	5	4	-	-	3	4	-	5	4	4.1
Protection from bad weather	5	5	5	5	4	-	-	3	4	-	5	1	4.1
Uses and Activities and Sociability (Max 5.0)	5.0	3.5	4.0	4.0	2.0	-	-	3.8	4.5	-	3.8	3.0	3.7
Mix of uses/things to do (excluding special use parks)	5	3	4	4	1	-	-	3	4	-	4	2	3.3
Evidence of Use	5	3	5	4	1	-	-	4	4	-	3	3	3.6
Sense of pride/ownership	5	4	5	4	5	-	-	5	5	-	4	4	4.6
Programming Flexibility	5	4	2	4	1	-	-	3	5	-	4	3	3.4
Buildings/Architecture (Max 5.0)	4.7	-	-	-	-	4.9	3.8	-	-	4.6	-	-	4.5
Image and Aesthetics	5	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	3	-	-	4.3
Clarity of Entry and Connections to Park	5	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	5	-	-	4.5
Interior Layout	4	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	4	-	-	4.0
Interior Finishes and Furniture and Equipment	4	-	-	-	-	4	3	-	-	5	-	-	4.0
Functioning Dimensions of spaces	4	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-	5	-	-	4.8
Structural Integrity	5	-	-	-	-	5	4	-	-	5	-	-	4.8
Building Enclosure	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-	5	-	-	5.0
Building Systems	5	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	5	-	-	4.5
Code Compliance	5	-	-	-	-	5	5	-	-	5	-	-	5.0
Energy and Sustainability	5	-	-	-	-	5	3	-	-	4	-	-	4.3
Average Score Without Building/Architecture (Max 5)	4.4	3.9	4.0	3.7	3.2	-	-	3.6	4.3	-	4.1	3.4	
Average Score with/for Building/Architecture (Max 5)	4.5	-	-	-	-	4.9	3.8	-	-	4.6	-	-	

Overall Average
4.0

- Far Exceeding Expectations
- Exceeding Expectations
- Meeting Expectations
- Not Meeting Expectations



City of Tamarac Area	Strengths	Weaknesses
Current Management and Operations Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The staffing pattern for the Department is lean and most employees cover a significant area of responsibility. The department's supervisory staff has the responsibility for developing and monitoring their own budget. The department has very strong record keeping regarding overall performance and evaluation by the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It appears that many job responsibilities are based on specific staff backgrounds and interests rather than on the requirements of the position and needs of the department. Like many parks and recreation agencies, the department relies on a significant number of part-time permanent and part-time temporary employees to deliver services. The ability to grow programs and services is limited by the lack of facilities to support additional activities.
Public Service Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The city's parks and recreation facilities are well maintained. Grounds Maintenance staggers its work schedule to cover evenings and weekends. Parks and recreation facilities maintenance can call upon the resources of the entire Public Works Department when needed. Grounds Maintenance has a playground inspection program in place that has a documented inspection form. Facilities has a system of monthly inspections of building operating systems and all buildings are inspected for cleanliness and safety daily 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The lack of a viable, comprehensive, maintenance plan for parks and recreation facilities is a major concern. Parks and Recreation services is split between three different departments or divisions. The contracting of building custodial services has been problematic and needs to be improved. Facilities staff work only until 4:30 pm on weekdays so if there are any other building maintenance issues, an individual on call must be notified.
Recreation Programs and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The department has a strong youth programming emphasis with an after school program during the school year and a summer camp program. There is a significant Athletics Division that conducts a number of youth team sports as well as adult team sports programs. The department provides a significant number of senior-based programs that are based out of the Community Center, including a Trip Program. Special events is another strength of the Parks and Recreation Department with a wide variety of events offered throughout the year. The Department has a strong commitment to providing a number of social service programs and services to the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are a very limited number of special needs programs that are offered. There are virtually no outdoor recreation programs available. Teen programming is minimal. There are limited education programs offered There does not appear to be a long-range program plan in place to guide future programming growth and provide a focus.
Access and Opportunities to Participate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The department successfully provides programs for most age groups. The Social Service Division has a critical role in providing a variety of services for residents of the community that have specific needs. The department has a comprehensive scholarship program. There is a strong transportation program for recreation programs as well as other important services. All programs and services are open and available to all people regardless of any ethnicity, gender or disability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are minimal changes in program and service offerings on a seasonal basis. Locations for most programs and services are the city's current recreation facilities that are all in the central area of the community. There is a general lack of programming that is directed at the family unit. Senior services are not directed toward younger more active seniors. There are limited programs specifically for people with disabilities.
Public Relations and Marketing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parks and Recreation Department recognizes the importance of public relations and marketing and has taken steps to integrate this into its operations. There are established policies in place regarding the use of social media in marketing efforts. There is also a recognition of the importance and value in utilizing social media as a mechanism to promote parks and recreation programs and services. The Public Information Officer (PIO) has a document that outlines the use of city logos and provides guidelines on the layout of city informational guidelines. There is a strong effort to have all staff actively involved in public relations and marketing of their areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> While the department has a marketing plan, it is no longer current and needs to be updated. Some efforts are rather disjointed and incomplete. Online registration is not currently being utilized for all programs and services that are offered in the Department. The city's and Parks and Recreation web site is rather basic in its information and is not very user friendly. The Customer Service Center is understaffed for their level of responsibility in serving the public.



Needs and Priorities Assessment

Building on the information gathered as part of the Existing System Overview, the project team utilized innovative techniques to conduct a comprehensive citywide needs and priorities assessment. Techniques used are a combination of qualitative and quantitative industry best practices that provide a system of cross-checks to determine the top needs and priorities for parks and recreation in the City of Tamarac.

The purpose of a needs assessment is to determine the gaps between existing and desired conditions and services for parks and recreation. The City of Tamarac Needs and Priorities Assessment incorporated a “triangulated” approach to identifying needs, meaning that various types of anecdotal, qualitative, and quantitative techniques were used to identify top priorities from different perspectives.

Additional qualitative needs assessment techniques included interviews, neighborhood workshops, focus group meetings, and an online survey. Additional quantitative needs assessment techniques included Level of Service (LOS) analysis for acreage, facilities,

access and quality; a statistically valid survey; and benchmark comparisons to similar communities and national averages. Findings from these different techniques were combined with the findings from the Existing Conditions Analysis to determine top priority parks and recreation needs in the community.

The results of the interviews, public workshops, and focus group meetings can be found on the following page.

Statistically Valid Survey

A seven-page survey was mailed to a random sample of 3,000 households throughout the City of Tamarac. Approximately three days after the surveys were mailed each household that received a survey also received an automated voice message encouraging them to complete the survey. In addition, approximately two weeks after the surveys were mailed, ETC/Leisure Vision began contacting households by phone. Those who had indicated they had not returned the survey were given the option of completing one by phone.



The goal was to obtain a total of at least 500 completed surveys. ETC/Leisure Vision exceeded that goal with a total of 522 surveys completed. The results of the random sample of 522 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision rate of +/-4.0%.

Public Involvement	Date	Top Priorities	
City Commission and Staff Interviews	May 20-22, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to existing parks, including new amenities and facilities such as basketball courts, rest rooms, shade, etc. A dog park on the east side of the City Additional parks and athletic fields, particularly in the east A unique attraction such as a zoo and/or signature facilities to draw people to Tamarac 	
Focus Group Meetings	May 22, 2014	Senior Focus Group (20 Participants) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional bus trips Expanded programs for jazzercise, Zumba, cardio and other programs Indoor racquetball court Practice walls for racquetball, handball, and tennis 	
		Youth Focus Group (15 Participants) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An outdoor public performance space, such as an amphitheater A recreation center on the east side of the City A unique attraction such as a zoo or Ferris wheel ("something that no one else has") Additional athletic facilities Tennis and racquetball courts Splash pad 	
		Athletic League Focus Group (3 Participants) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basketball courts, including indoor courts Additional athletic fields, including tackle football and 3-4 soccer fields, particularly on the east side of town Volleyball courts 	
West Side Public Workshop	May 21, 2014	Facilities	Programs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outdoor swimming pools/water parks Outdoor amphitheater Indoor fitness and exercise facilities Youth football fields Indoor running/walking tracks Walking and biking trails Basketball/volleyball courts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Senior adult programs Youth sports programs Transportation programs (route, paratransit) Youth Spanish classes
East Side Public Workshop	May 22, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Off-leash dog park Community center on east side Outdoor amphitheater Outdoor basketball courts Indoor fitness center Walking and biking trails 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Computer programs Adult fitness and wellness programs Social service programs (support groups, counseling, referral services, etc.) Water fitness programs Adult art, dance, performing arts Special needs programs Pickleball
Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee Workshop	May 22, 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Athletic fields for youth and adults A new Youth Recreation Center east of 441, west of Power Line Road Better public transportation to improve access and equity Before-school programs (parents are dropping kids off before school and telling them to hide because the parents cannot afford before school care/camps) A dog park on the east side of the City A high-tech library with Wi-Fi, computer center, etc. Teen center/area with computers, Wi-Fi, etc.; a place to socialize Separation between cyclists and walkers on the trail at Tephford Park Shade trees in parks 	



Benchmarking

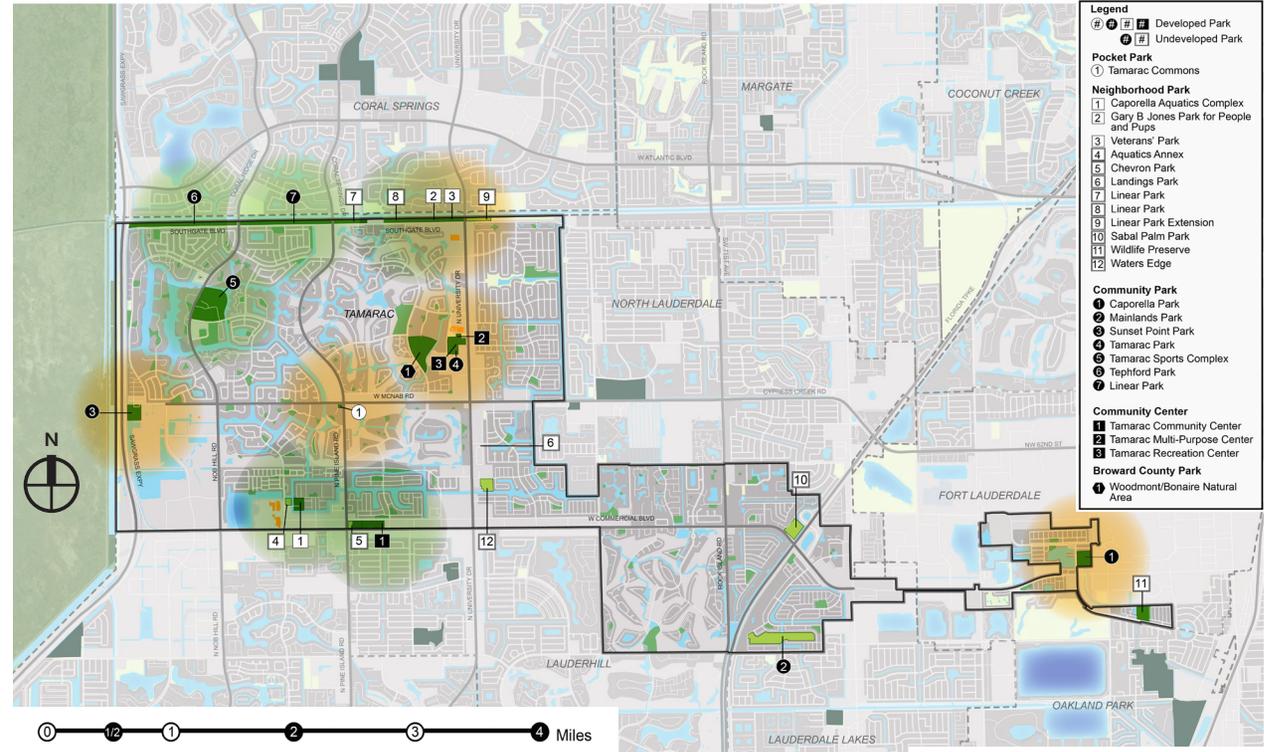
Because there are no national standards for the level of service (LOS) provided by parks and recreation agencies, it is helpful to benchmark the City of Tamarac's parks and recreation system against similar-sized cities in Florida and the United States. Three Florida cities selected for benchmarking were Coral Springs, Sunrise, and Deerfield Beach; La Mesa, CA was also selected based on similar demographics.

Level of Service Analysis

LOS Analysis is an important quantitative needs assessment technique in parks and recreation system planning. Inherently, LOS analyses are about citywide equity: are parks in the city equitably distributed? Are the parks of uniform quality, or do some neighborhoods have parks with better amenities? There are four major ways that the project team measures parks and recreation LOS in a city:

- **Acreage LOS** - Measures acreage in a ratio to the city's population (acres/1000 residents)
- **Facilities LOS** - Measures facility capacity in a ratio to the city's population, and compares it against a standard or guideline
- **Access LOS** - Measures distance or travel time to parks and recreation facilities. AECOM uses the existing roadway and pedestrian network to determine access

Quality LOS



Legend



- **Quality LOS** - Measures distribution of quality facilities across the community

All these LOS techniques were used for the City of Tamarac Parks, Recreation and Social Services Master Plan and in coordination with the City of Tamarac.

Summary of Needs and Priorities Assessment

Findings from the various needs assessment techniques were consistent. City residents are very supportive of the parks and recreation system, and feel that it is an integral part of the high quality of life in Tamarac. While residents are generally satisfied with the existing system, many would like to see it expanded to provide more equitable access, particularly on the east side of the city. Residents would also like to see it expanded to meet the needs of a growing and more diverse population. Top priority facility needs include; indoor walking/running track, outdoor amphitheater, indoor fitness and exercise facilities, picnic areas and shelters, off-leash dog parks, and walking and biking trails. Top priority program needs include adult art/dance/performing arts programs, environmental programs, computer programs, social service programs, and transportation.

The following tables provide a summary of the top priorities for facilities and programs based on all of the techniques utilized in the Needs and Priorities Assessment.

Summary of Needs Assessment Findings for Parks and Recreation Facilities

		Statistically Valid Survey	Steering Committee	City Commission + Staff Meetings	Focus Group Meetings	Public Workshop - West	Public Workshop - East	Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee	On-Line Survey	Open City Hall – Peak Democracy Survey	Benchmarking	LOS Acreage	LOS Quality	LOS Access	LOS Facilities
Priority	Indoor Running and Walking Track	X				X			X						
	Outdoor Amphitheater	X			X	X	X		X	X					
	Nature Trails	X							X					X	
Continued Emphasis	Indoor Fitness and Exercise Facilities	X				X	X								
	Picnic Areas and Shelters	X		X					X	X					
	Off-leash Dog Park	X		X			X	X		X					
	Walking and Biking Trails	X		X		X	X			X				X	
	Playground Equipment	X		X						X	X			X	X
	Outdoor Swimming Pools/ Water Parks	X				X				X	X				
Special Interest Lower Priority	Outdoor Pickleball Courts	X		X					X						
	Nature Center	X													
	Indoor Basketball/Volleyball Courts	X			X	X			X						
	Racquetball Courts	X		X	X						X				
	Youth Recreation Center	X									X				
	Outdoor Basketball Courts	X		X	X		X				X			X	X
Other	New Community Center on the East Side		X		X		X	X						X	
	Improvements to Existing Parks		X	X									X		
	New Parkland, Natural Area Acquisition		X	X							X				
	Unique Attraction			X	X										
	Additional Athletic Fields		X		X									X	X
	Tennis Courts				X									X	X
	Athletic Fields for Youths and Adults														X



Summary of Needs Assessment Findings for Parks and Recreation Programs

		Statistically Valid Survey	Steering Committee	City Commission + Staff Meetings	Focus Group Meetings	Public Workshop - West	Public Workshop- East	Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee	On-Line Survey	Open City Hall – Peak Democracy Survey	Benchmarking	LOS Acreage	LOS Quality	LOS Access	LOS Facilities
Priority	Adult Art, Dance, Performing Arts	X					X			X					
	Environmental Programs	X													
	Computer Programs	X					X		X						
	Social Services Programs	X					X								
Continued Emphasis	Transportation Programs	X				X		X							
	Senior Adult Programs	X				X									
	Adult Fitness and Wellness Programs	X					X		X	X					
	Water Fitness Programs	X					X		X						
	Youth Sports Programs	X				X									
	City Special Events	X													
	Youth Learn to Swim Programs	X													
Special Interest Lower Priority	Pickleball	X					X								
	Cooking Class	X													
	Youth Art, Dance, Performing Arts	X							X						
	Martial Arts Programs														
	Youth Recreation Center														
	Outdoor Basketball Courts														
Other	New Community Center on the East Side														
	Improvements to Existing Parks														
	New Parkland, Natural Area Acquisition														
	Unique Attraction														
	Additional Athletic Fields														
	Tennis Courts														
	Athletic Fields for Youths and Adults														

Individual Park Improvement Findings

In addition to identifying citywide needs, the planning team also looked at improvements for individual parks. The team used aerial photographs of each of the city's parks, each with major facilities and elements labeled and asked attendees to consider the following two questions for each of the parks:

- Are there any facilities that you believe are NOT USED/NOT NEEDED in each of the city's parks?
- What NEW Facilities, Amenities, Programs, and Improvements need to be ADDED in each of the city's parks?

An individual park improvement diagram for Tamarac Sports Complex is shown on the following page.

The numbers located adjacent to the responses represent the number of times the response was heard in the public workshop.



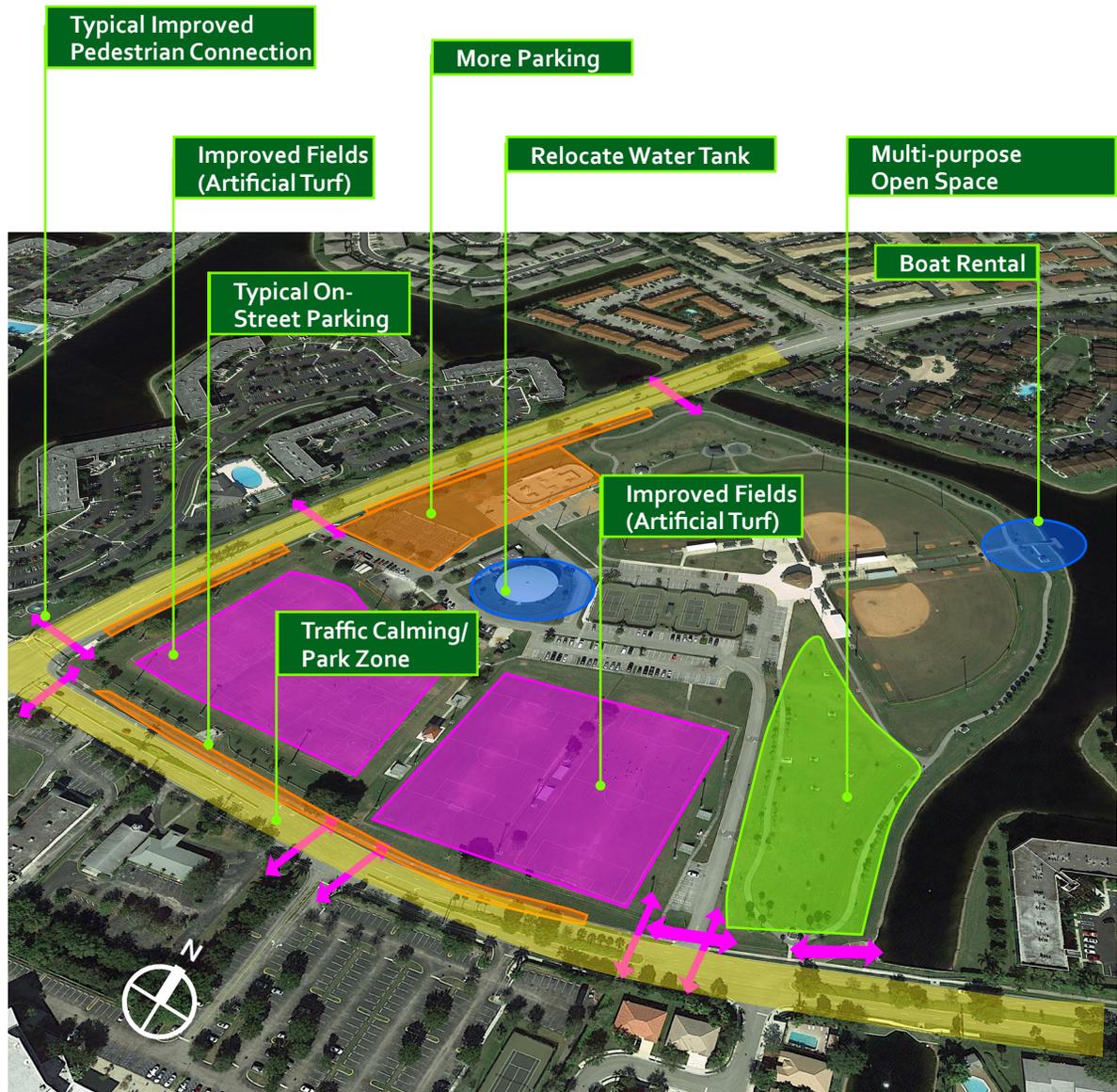
Tamarac Sports Complex

Priority:

- Need parking (6), parking garage with tennis on top
- Relocate water tank (3); include a shelter in its place
- Dry retention on the east side of the park with walking trail and picnic areas is not used (2)
- Parking closer to playground (2)

Other:

- Remove old playground on the north portion of the sports complex – it is not used that much
- Restroom and concession south of the water tank should be rebuilt
- Need a net or something to control soccer balls from going into NW 77th Street
- Traffic calming near pedestrian crossings – school zone type slow areas around parks to facilitate pedestrian crossing into city parks.
- Extra concession
- Add more trees
- Frisbee golf
- Artificial grass fields (rectangle)
- No smoking ordinance
- Picnic shelter for family functions
- Area to play catch, hit balls
- Driving Range
- Putt-Putt
- Adult softball teams
- Small boats, rentals to use on the lakes that surround the park, more storage
- Emergency phone at skate park
- Signage for fishing pier
- Adult splash pad
- More frequent concession hours
- Putting green, mini golf
- Rentals – putters, pickleball, skate gear, boats
- Festive paint on water tower/public art



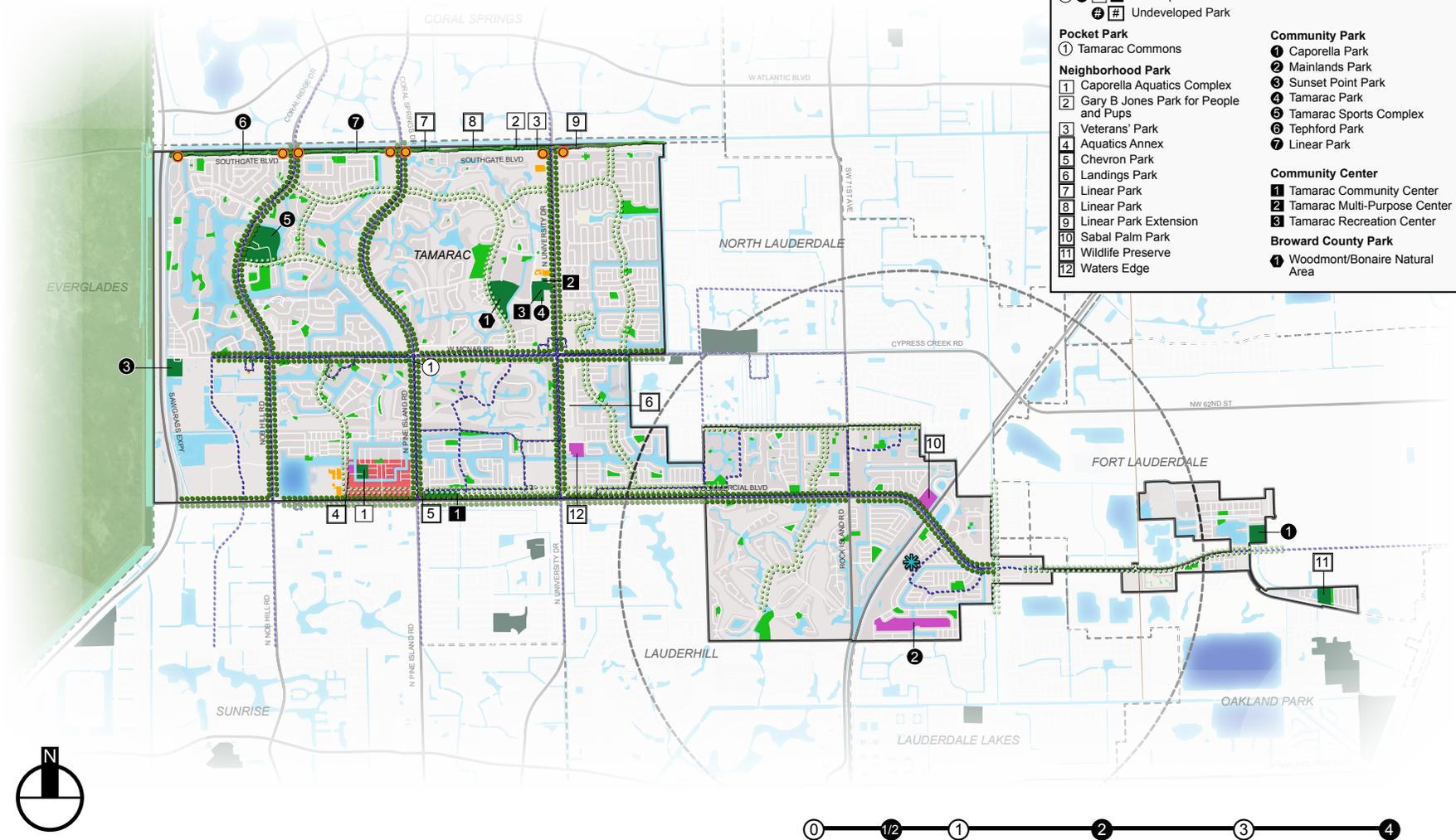
Long-Range Vision

Highlighted by extensive public input, the Parks and Recreation Department launched a workshop of visioning sessions to better understand the community's aspirations for its parks and recreation system. Combining the results from the workshop with previous steps allows the community to provide a comprehensive vision for the future.

Five key concepts form the updated framework for the city's parks and recreation system are shown below. Elements that contribute to the five key concepts are illustrated, including city parks, private recreation facilities serving as "Community Recreation Areas", improved connectivity through complete streets, the future Tamarac Village development, and the potential location of a new community center to provide access to residents living in the east side of Tamarac.



- 1. Protect and enhance the private "Community Recreation Areas" to meet residents' changing needs.*
- 2. Classify city-owned neighborhood and community parks as "City Parks", designed and programmed as public spaces to meet a wide variety of city-wide recreational, social, and educational needs.*
- 3. Expand the existing system of city parks to provide equity throughout the city.*
- 4. Contribute to City Sustainability through the Parks and Recreation System.*
- 5. Align City Programs, Social Services, Operations, and Maintenance with the Framework Outlined Above*



Legend

- ⊕ ⊖ ⊗ ⊘ Developed Park
- ⊕ ⊖ ⊗ ⊘ Undeveloped Park

Pocket Park

- ① Tamarac Commons

Neighborhood Park

- 1 Caporella Aquatics Complex
- 2 Gary B Jones Park for People and Pups
- 3 Veterans' Park
- 4 Aquatics Annex
- 5 Chevron Park
- 6 Landings Park
- 7 Linear Park
- 8 Linear Park
- 9 Linear Park Extension
- 10 Sabal Palm Park
- 11 Wildlife Preserve
- 12 Waters Edge

Community Park

- ① Caporella Park
- ② Mainlands Park
- ③ Sunset Point Park
- ④ Tamarac Park
- ⑤ Tamarac Sports Complex
- ⑥ Tephford Park
- ⑦ Linear Park

Community Center

- 1 Tamarac Community Center
- 2 Tamarac Multi-Purpose Center
- 3 Tamarac Recreation Center

Broward County Park

- ① Woodmont/Bonaire Natural Area

Legend

City of Tamarac Public Parks Developed	Everglades	Complete Streets	Recreation and Open Space	New Community Center with 2-mile Service Area
City of Tamarac Public Parks Undeveloped	School Sites	Transit Routes	Non-Residential	
Private Recreation Facilities	Tamarac City Limits	Bikeways	Residential	
Parks Within 2 Miles of City	Surrounding Municipalities	Greenways	Tamarac Village	
	Major Road Barriers	Trail Access		



Each of the five key concepts is expanded upon in the Long-Range Vision Chapter. This includes hypothetical examples of potential improvements to existing city parks and private recreation facilities.

The images on this page are illustrative examples of improvements that can be made to Mainlands 6 community recreation area. In addition to this hypothetical, graphic visualizations and plans are also included for Caporella Park and Caporella Aquatics Center. These recommendations are based on residents' needs and/or lifestyles, and the assumption that the neighborhood may wish to build new facilities. They may also wish to provide new programs for fitness, education, and/or recreation. If requested by the neighborhood, the city could provide assistance through education on the process for design, permitting, construction, and/or programming.

Mainlands 6 After



Sketch 1- Mainlands 6 Plan



Mainlands 6 Before



Existing Caporella Park Maintenance Levels



Potential Future Caporella Park Maintenance Levels



Potential Future Alternative Caporella Park Maintenance Levels



Proposed Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Recommendations

The Long-Range Vision Chapter provides 11 specific recommendations that build upon the five key concepts. Included are recommendations for parks and facilities, programs and services, operations and maintenance, access and opportunities, and public relations and marketing. Each recommendation includes specific lists of actions that can be taken to ensure that vision for the Tamarac Parks and Recreation system is realized, such as the recommendation for maintenance levels at Caporella Park shown above.

The Long-Range Vision Recommendations form the basis for the Implementation Strategy, which outlines the 11 specific recommendations and strategies for ensuring that Long-Range Vision can be implemented in accordance with the five key concepts.



Funding and Implementation Strategy

In order to honor the key concepts defined by Tamarac residents and advance the parks and recreation vision, identification of next steps is needed. As the final chapter of this master plan, the Implementation Strategy includes development of a general strategy and identifies tools that will help the Parks and Recreation Department move forward and achieve the visions stated in Chapter 3.

The Long Range Vision Chapter outlined the following 11 recommendations for implementation of the Parks and Recreation Framework (in no particular order of priority):

Implementation of each of these 11 recommendations requires a different mix of funding and implementation techniques including capital, staff, policies, codes, partnerships, efficiency, planning, facilitation, coordination, and others. Examples of these strategies are provided on the following pages. Also included is The SITES v2 Scorecard Summary, which is based on a voluntary set of guidelines and performance benchmarks for assessing sustainable site design, construction, and maintenance as identified by the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

1. *Continue to Develop an Interconnected Network of Sidewalks, Bike Lanes, Multipurpose Paths, and Shared Roads.*
2. *Protect and Enhance "Community Recreation Areas" (CRAs) to Meet Residents' Changing Needs*
3. *Classify City-Owned Neighborhood and Community Parks as "City Parks", Designed and Programmed as Public Spaces*
4. *Improve City Parks to Increase Citizen Use and Enjoyment*
5. *Acquire Additional Parkland for New Parks and/or Expansion of Existing Parks*
6. *Continue to Provide Recreation Programs, Social Services, and Facilities to Meet Residents' Needs*
7. *Enhance Current Operations and Management Practices*
8. *Enhance the City's Grounds Maintenance and Facilities Maintenance Division to Maintain the City's Parks, Open Spaces, Right of Ways and Recreation Facilities*
9. *Differentiate Between Core, Secondary, and Support Programs and Services to Make the Best Use of City Staff and Resources*
10. *Improve Access and Opportunities to Participate in Recreation Facilities, Programs and Services*
11. *Enhance Public Relations and Marketing*



Alternative Funding Sources

Funding Program	Grant Amount	Match Requirement	Types of Eligible Elements
Florida Urban Forest Health Initiative	\$24,000	no match required	Tree plantings, remedial pruning, removal of hazardous trees.
State Energy Efficiency Grant Program	Category 1: may not exceed 10% of \$12.4 million Category 2: small counties (<50,000) and small cities (<15,000) may not exceed \$250,000	no match is required	Programs that contribute to sustainable market transformation, achieve significant energy and cost savings and create jobs, result in new or innovative approaches to reduce fossil fuel emissions, reduce total energy use and increase energy efficiency, and are capable of being financially self-sustaining.
Economic Development Administration (EDA)	variable (\$216,927,370 available)	variable	Public Works investments to support the construction or rehabilitation of essential public infrastructure and facilities.
Hazard Mitigation Programs	n/a	2%	Cost-effective hazard mitigation activities prior to disasters that will reduce risk to people and property
Culture Facilities	\$500,000 maximum award	1:2	Renovation construction or acquisition of cultural facilities.
Florida Forever Program (FCT)	\$6.6 million maximum	Communities with less than 10,000- no required match Communities with more than 10,000- 75:25 match	Acquisition of land for community-based parks, open spaces and greenways that were identified as needs in local government comprehensive plans.
Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program	\$200,000 maximum	Grants up to \$50,000- no match requirement Grants more than \$50,000 and up to \$150,000- 75:25 Grants over \$150,000- 50:50	Acquisition and development of recreational facilities .
Highway Beautification	\$300,000	1:1 recommended	Landscaping and other roadway beautification projects on federal and state roadways.
Public Library Construction Grants	\$500,000	1:1	Development of public libraries.
Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)	\$200,000 maximum	1:1	Acquisition or development of recreational facilities.
Lowe's Neighborhood Grants	varies	n/a	Neighborhood beautification projects, education programs and community resources such as parks and safety programs.
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	\$200,000 for mixed-use and non-motorized trail projects \$510,000 for motorized trail projects	50:50, 60:40 or 80:20 (Higher match results in additional points)	Projects that construct, renovate or maintain recreational trails, trailheads and trailside facilities.
American Dermatology Academy Grants	\$500-\$8,000	50%	Projects developing shade structures in high-use public areas, with a concentration on facilities that serve children and seniors.
Transportation Enhancement Program (TEP)	\$500,000	80:20	Facilities for pedestrians and bicycles, safety and educational activities for pedestrians and cyclists, acquisition of scenic easements and scenic or historic sites, scenic or historic highway programs, landscaping and other scenic beautification rehabilitation and operation of transportation buildings, structures or facilities, preservation of abandoned railway corridors, control and removal of outdoor advertising.
Urban & Community Forest	\$10,000-\$25,000	50:50	Tree ordinances, tree inventories, management plans, master plans, in-house training, staffing, student internships, tree planting, tree protection, and maintenance projects, educational programs, Arbor Day programs, developing brochures and purchasing exhibits.



Funding Program	Grant Amount	Match Requirement	Types of Eligible Elements
American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP)	no max amount specified	20%	Projects that provide new or expanded access to broadband service for consumers residing in under-served areas of the country, community anchor institutions, public safety agencies, and stimulate the demand for broadband, economic growth and job creation.
Water Project Grant Program	\$50,000-\$3,600,000	not required but recommended at 50%	Drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, surface water recreation and other water management projects.
US Department of Housing and Urban Development ARRA Capital Fund Recovery Competitive Grant	varies (\$1.93 billion available)	10%	Purchase and redevelopment of foreclosed and abandoned homes and residential properties.
Florida Office of Trade Tourism and Economic Development Program	TBD	none	Infrastructure projects such as public gateways, water facilities, downtown improvements and other facilities promoting economic development.
US Tennis Association Public Facilities Grant	\$4,000-\$50,000	20%	Development and renovation of tennis facilities located in underserved areas.
Major League Baseball Tomorrow Fund	Maximum \$50,000	50%	Development and renovation of baseball facilities in under-served areas.
Florida Clean Energy Grant	\$500,000	none	Energy efficient programs, equipment, and market transformation activities that increase the adoption of energy efficient technology and practices in Florida, and renewable energy programs, equipment installations and market transformation activities that increase the generation of energy from renewable resources and consumer demand for renewable technology in Florida.
Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)	n/a	n/a	Rehabilitation and preservation of housing, water and sewer improvements, street improvements, economic development activities, downtown revitalization, parks and recreation projects, and drainage improvements.
Waterways Assistance Program, Florida Inland Navigation District	\$200,000 maximum	50:50	Navigation channel dredging, channel markers, navigation signs or buoys, boat ramps, dock facilities, fishing and viewing piers, waterfront boardwalks, inlet management, environmental education, boating safety programs, law enforcement equipment, beach re-nourishment, dredge material management, environmental mitigation and shoreline stabilization.
Historic Preservation- Special Category Grant	\$350,000	50:50	Acquisition, preservation, protection, restoration, rehabilitation and stabilization of historical and archaeological sites, investigation of archaeological sites, photography, the preparation of measured drawings and other records that record historical/archaeological sites and properties threatened with damage or destruction, planning for eligible Acquisition and Development activities, such as the preparation of plans and specifications.
Florida Boating Improvement Program (FBIP)	\$200,000	Projects with matching funds are awarded additional points	Boat ramps, piers, docks and other mooring facilities, aquatic plant control, boating education, economic development initiatives that promote boating.
Coastal Partnership Initiative (CPI)	\$15,000-\$50,000	50:50	Public access, creating remarkable coastal places, working waterfronts, and community stewardship.
Boating Infrastructure Grant Program	\$15,000-\$1,500,000 (no specific minimum of maximum)	Minimum matching funds of 25%, additional points are awarded to projects with higher matching funds	Transient slips for these recreation boats, mooring buoy, day docks, floating docks, safe harbors, dinghy docks, fixed piers, fixed and floating breakwaters, retaining walls, bulkheads, channel markers, buoys, directional information, support facilities designated for transient recreational boats such as restrooms, pump-out stations, dockside utilities, fueling stations, recycling and trash receptacles, debris deflection booms, and one-time dredging.



Project Name: _____

Project ID#: _____ Date: _____

SITES v2 Scorecard Summary

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	1: SITE CONTEXT		13	
Y			CONTEXT P1.1	Limit development on farmland		
Y			CONTEXT P1.2	Protect floodplain functions		
Y			CONTEXT P1.3	Conserve aquatic ecosystems		
Y			CONTEXT P1.4	Conserve habitats for threatened and endangered species		
			CONTEXT C1.5	Redevelop degraded sites	3 to 6	
			CONTEXT C1.6	Locate projects within existing developed areas	4	
			CONTEXT C1.7	Connect to multi-modal transit networks	2 to 3	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	2: PRE-DESIGN ASSESSMENT + PLANNING		3	
Y			PRE-DESIGN P2.1	Use an integrative design process		
Y			PRE-DESIGN P2.2	Conduct a pre-design site assessment		
Y			PRE-DESIGN P2.3	Designate and communicate VSPZs		
			PRE-DESIGN C2.4	Engage users and stakeholders	3	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	3: SITE DESIGN - WATER		23	
Y			WATER P3.1	Manage precipitation on site		
Y			WATER P3.2	Reduce water use for landscape irrigation		
			WATER C3.3	Manage precipitation beyond baseline	4 to 6	
			WATER C3.4	Reduce outdoor water use	4 to 6	
			WATER C3.5	Design functional stormwater features as amenities	4 to 5	
			WATER C3.6	Restore aquatic ecosystems	4 to 6	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	4: SITE DESIGN - SOIL + VEGETATION		40	
Y			SOIL+VEG P4.1	Create and communicate a soil management plan		
Y			SOIL+VEG P4.2	Control and manage invasive plants		
Y			SOIL+VEG P4.3	Use appropriate plants		
			SOIL+VEG C4.4	Conserve healthy soils and appropriate vegetation	4 to 6	
			SOIL+VEG C4.5	Conserve special status vegetation	4	
			SOIL+VEG C4.6	Conserve and use native plants	3 to 6	
			SOIL+VEG C4.7	Conserve and restore native plant communities	4 to 6	
			SOIL+VEG C4.8	Optimize biomass	1 to 6	
			SOIL+VEG C4.9	Reduce urban heat island effects	4	
			SOIL+VEG C4.10	Use vegetation to minimize building energy use	1 to 4	
			SOIL+VEG C4.11	Reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfire	4	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	5: SITE DESIGN - MATERIALS SELECTION		41	
Y			MATERIALS P5.1	Eliminate the use of wood from threatened tree species		
			MATERIALS C5.2	Maintain on-site structures and paving	2 to 4	
			MATERIALS C5.3	Design for adaptability and disassembly	3 to 4	
			MATERIALS C5.4	Use salvaged materials and plants	3 to 4	
			MATERIALS C5.5	Use recycled content materials	3 to 4	
			MATERIALS C5.6	Use regional materials	3 to 5	
			MATERIALS C5.7	Support responsible extraction of raw materials	1 to 5	
			MATERIALS C5.8	Support transparency and safer chemistry	1 to 5	
			MATERIALS C5.9	Support sustainability in materials manufacturing	5	
			MATERIALS C5.10	Support sustainability in plant production	1 to 5	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	6: SITE DESIGN - HUMAN HEALTH + WELL-BEING		30	
			HHWB C6.1	Protect and maintain cultural and historic places	2 to 3	
			HHWB C6.2	Provide optimum site accessibility, safety, and wayfinding	2	
			HHWB C6.3	Promote equitable site use	2	
			HHWB C6.4	Support mental restoration	2	
			HHWB C6.5	Support physical activity	2	
			HHWB C6.6	Support social connection	2	
			HHWB C6.7	Provide on-site food production	3 to 4	
			HHWB C6.8	Reduce light pollution	4	
			HHWB C6.9	Encourage fuel efficient and multi-modal transportation	4	
			HHWB C6.10	Minimize exposure to environmental tobacco smoke	1 to 2	
			HHWB C6.11	Support local economy	3	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	7: CONSTRUCTION		17	
Y			CONSTRUCTION P7.1	Communicate and verify sustainable construction practices		
Y			CONSTRUCTION P7.2	Control and retain construction pollutants		
Y			CONSTRUCTION P7.3	Restore soils disturbed during construction		
			CONSTRUCTION C7.4	Restore soils disturbed by previous development	3 to 5	
			CONSTRUCTION C7.5	Divert construction and demolition materials from disposal	3 to 4	
			CONSTRUCTION C7.6	Divert reusable vegetation, rocks, and soil from disposal	3 to 4	
			CONSTRUCTION C7.7	Protect air quality during construction	2 to 4	

YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	8. OPERATIONS + MAINTENANCE		22	
Y			O+M P8.1	Plan for sustainable site maintenance		
Y			O+M P8.2	Provide for storage and collection of recyclables		
			O+M C8.3	Recycle organic matter	3 to 5	
			O+M C8.4	Minimize pesticide and fertilizer use	4 to 5	
			O+M C8.5	Reduce outdoor energy consumption	2 to 4	
			O+M C8.6	Use renewable sources for landscape electricity needs	3 to 4	
			O+M C8.7	Protect air quality during landscape maintenance	2 to 4	

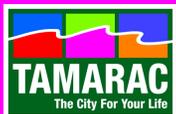
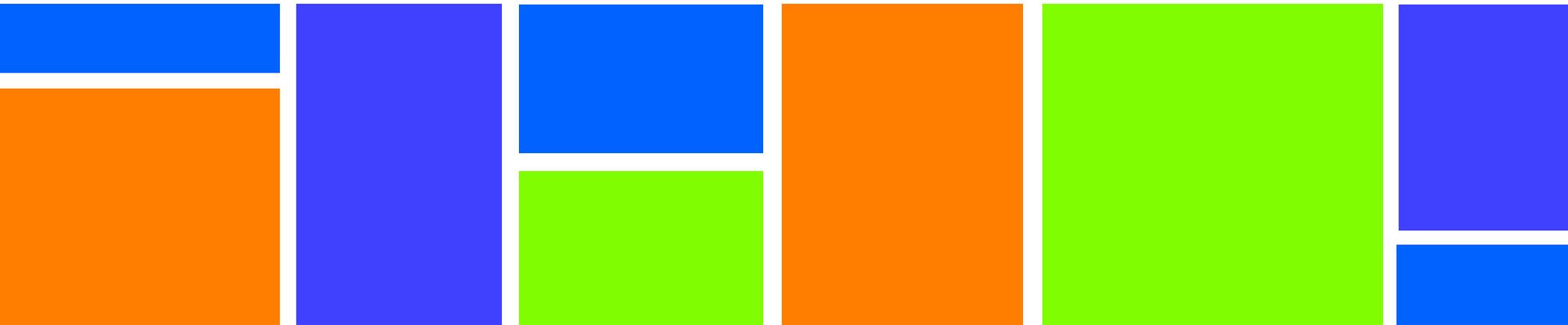
YES	?	NO			Possible Points:	
0	0	0	9. EDUCATION + PERFORMANCE MONITORING		11	
			EDUCATION C9.1	Promote sustainability awareness and education	3 to 4	
			EDUCATION C9.2	Develop and communicate a case study	3	
			EDUCATION C9.3	Plan to monitor and report site performance	4	

YES	?	NO			Bonus Points:	
0	0	0	10. INNOVATION OR EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE		9	
			INNOVATION C10.1	Innovation or exemplary performance	3 to 9	

YES	?	NO			Total Possible Points:	
0	0	0	TOTAL ESTIMATED POINTS		200	

KEY	SITES Certification levels	Points
YES Project confident points are achievable	CERTIFIED	70
? Project striving to achieve points, not 100% confident	SILVER	85
NO Project is unable to achieve these credit points	GOLD	100
	PLATINUM	135





City of Tamarac
Parks, Recreation and Social Services Master Plan