

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT - 9J-5.014(3), FAC

Goals, Objectives and Implementing Policies

This section establishes the goals, objectives, and implementing policies by which the City of Minneola shall manage existing and future provisions of recreation and open space and associated facilities.

Goal 6-1: Provide Adequate Recreation And Open Space.

PROVIDE ADEQUATE RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE THROUGH THE COORDINATED UTILIZATION OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SITES TO MEET THE NEEDS OF EXISTING AND FUTURE RESIDENT AND SEASONAL POPULATIONS.

Objective 6-1.1: Assure The Provision Of Adequate Recreation Space.

Assure the Provision of Adequate Recreation Space for Existing and Future Populations.

Policy 6-1.1.1: Level of Service Standards for Recreation Space.

The City of Minneola hereby adopts the following minimum level of service for the provision of recreation space, as defined in the Data Inventory and Analysis document, through the year 2025:

After 1993

2.00 acres per 1,000 Residents

Policy 6-1.1.2: Monitor Compliance of Recreation Space Land Requirements.

Minimum land requirements needed to comply with the above adopted level of service standard shall be monitored and evaluated on an annual basis (by February of each year) in the City's Concurrency Management System. Procedures for monitoring the level of service shall be included within this system.

Policy 6-1.1.3: Planned Capital Improvements Required to Meet Recreation Space Demands.

The City shall include any declared land acquisition for recreation space within the Capital Improvement Schedule.

Policy 6-1.1.4: Mandatory Dedication of Land for Recreation Space.

The City shall require new development to provide recreation space, or pay fees in lieu thereof, consistent with the minimum level of service acreage requirements as applied to anticipated population associated with said development.

Policy 6-1.1.5: Eliminate Existing Deficiency in Recreational Lands.

The City has acquired recreation land to eliminate the existing deficiency of recreation sites available to Minneola's citizens.

Policy 6-1.1.6: Provide Recreation Sites to Meet Future Needs.

The City provided a minimum of 0.12 acres of public recreation land until completion of

the new park along Lake Shore Drive by year 1993, at which time a minimum of 4.12 acres shall be available. Such capital improvements were included within the Five-Year Schedule of Capital Improvements for a fiscal year prior to 1996.

Policy 6-1.1.7: New Park Along Lake Shore Drive.

A linear park is open to the residents of Minneola along an existing abandoned railroad right-of-way abutting the east side of Lake Shore Drive. The park comprises of four (4) acres and contains playground facilities, a walking/bicycle path, lighting, and supporting facilities. The City has pursued grant funds from the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program to embellish existing plans for recreation facilities at Lake Shore Park.

Objective 6-1.2: Maximize Use Of Existing Recreation Space.

Maximize the Use of Existing Recreation Space By Promoting Recreation Activities.

Policy 6-1.2.1: Coordination with Lake County Recreation Coordinator.

The City Clerk shall contact with an official letter the Lake County Recreation Coordinator for the purpose of coordinating with as to the potential use of Minneola's existing and future park sites for organized recreation activities for the City's citizens.

Policy 6-1.2.2: Use of Lights.

In order to maximize the use of future recreation sites, the City shall analyze the feasibility of placing lighting at active-based parks at the time park and landscape design plans are drafted.

Objective 6-1.3: Assure Efficient And Convenient Access To Recreation Sites.

Recreation Sites Shall Be Accessible to the Public through Efficient and Convenient Entry to Parks and Facilities, and through Availability of Parking for All Recreation Participants.

Policy 6-1.3.1: Access to Recreation Sites.

The City shall assure that access ways leading to recreation sites shall contain right-of-way widths adherent to standards incorporated within policies of the Traffic Circulation Element.

Policy 6-1.3.2: Available Automobile Parking.

The City shall require the provision of designated parking areas, either paved or unpaved, at all recreation sites according to parking requirements established within the Land Development Regulations. Parking may not be required at recreation sites where sufficient land area is not available or where the site is within walking distance to the residences of its primary users.

Policy 6-1.3.3: Secure Storage Areas for Bicycles.

Bicycle storage areas shall be provided at all municipal recreation sites by 1993. The type and quantity of such facilities shall be determined by the City Council.

Policy 6-1.3.4: Access to Sites and Facilities for Transportation Disadvantaged.

The City shall assure that all recreation sites are accessible to transportation disadvantaged (handicapped and elderly) citizens through the provision of designated handicapped parking areas, as required by State law, and through design consideration to recreation facilities in order to enable their participation or entry. The City has inventoried all public recreation facilities to identify improvements required to accommodate these recreation site and facility access needs.

Objective 6-1.4: Assure Access To Lake Front Areas.

Provide Public Access Points to Lake Minneola and Lake Plum.

Policy 6-1.4.1: Maintain Access Points to Lakefront Areas.

The City opened a new linear park along Lake Shore Drive. The City shall also analyze the potential to acquire land adjacent to Lake Plum to allow public access to this water body.

Objective 6-1.5: Assure Provision Of Open Space.

Assure Provision of Open Space through Land Acquisition and through Designation of Land for Open Space Use on the Future Land Use Map.

Policy 6-1.5.1: Open Space Definitions to be Consistent with Land Use Designations of the Future Land Use Map.

The City hereby adopts the following definitions of open space types to be delineated on the Future Land Use Map under the general category of Open Space (Recreation is a type of open space but constitutes a separate land use category on the Future Land Use Map).

Conservation Open Space:

Conservation Open Space shall represent significant natural or historical resources that require protection from detrimental impacts associated with the encroachment of development. Natural areas that are unsuitable for development also are a form conservation open space. Wetlands and active or recent sinkholes shall be designated as Conservation open space on the Future Land Use Map. The City may designate areas in the 100-year floodplain, high aquifer recharge areas, and wildlife habitats for endangered and threatened species based on the need to protect these areas from the encroachment of development. This definition of open space is intended to be consistent with that defined under 9J-5.003(63), Florida Administrative Code. Areas which qualify for such designation are described within the Conservation Element.

Utility Open Space:

Areas unsuitable to development due to a potential public health/safety threat as a result of the presence of a public utility/service and areas that are not suitable for development due to the presence of a human service that would degrade the character of the site or adversely affect the value of investments constructed thereon. Such areas include cemeteries, drainage canals, airport flight path zones, and regional utility lines.

Corridor Open Space:

This open space constitutes areas separating development from transportation corridors, areas preserved for proposed transportation routes, and areas used to improve the aesthetic character of a transportation corridor. Such areas include open areas adjacent to roadways and bicycle paths, reserved right-of-way for future transportation corridors, and abandoned rail road right-of-way.

Policy 6-1.5.2: Designation of Open Space.

The City shall designate the former Minneola Beach Park on the east shore of Lake Minneola as open space on the Future Land Use Map.

Objective 6-1.6: Coordinate Public And Private Recreation Resources.

Coordinate Recreation Planning Activities with Local and State Governments to Avoid Duplication of Services.

Policy 6-1.6.1: Public Access to School Facilities.

The City has an established interlocal agreement with the Lake County Board of Education to allow public use of school recreation areas.

Policy 6-1.6.2: Coordination with Lake County.

The City shall continue to coordinate with Lake County for the purpose of the scheduling of recreation improvements in the City's Capital Improvement Element to assure that duplication of recreation services doesn't occur with Lake County facilities and that existing facilities are used to their maximum capacities. Coordination shall also include a review of the priority of County recreation improvements in order to incorporate Minneola recreation interests and needs.

Policy 6-1.6.3: Coordination with Florida Department of Environmental Protection.

The City shall contact with an official letter the Florida Department of Environment Protection Division of Recreation, to identify available grant funds for recreation and open space land acquisition and for development of recreation facilities.

Policy 6-1.6.4: Coordination with Private Recreation Space and Facilities.

The City shall contact the private development sector to assure that new residential developments within Minneola provide their share of recreation space and facilities demanded by their occupants.

Policy 6-1.6.5: Coordination with Lake County for a Trails System.

The City shall coordinate with Lake County and Lake Sumter MPO to provide for the planning of an area wide bicycle and pedestrian trail system.

Policy 6-1.6.6: The City shall coordinate with development review and approval to provide locations and facilities for a bicycle and pedestrian trail system to facilitate the creation of a city wide trail system as illustrated on the City Trails System Master Plan (Map 6-4).