**Policy 1.8.5:** The City shall coordinate with the SFWMD and other entities to encourage wetland mitigation, environmental protection, and water management efforts that support and optimize the functions of the East Coast Buffer and the Water Preserve Areas.

**Policy 1.8.6:** The City shall coordinate with the SFWMD and other entities to give priority to water supply for native ecosystems and other areas with significant plant and animal life.

**Policy 1.8.7:** The City shall coordinate with the SFWMD and other entities to encourage and support a coordinated regulatory and programmatic approach for protection of aquifer recharge areas and for environmental protection efforts.

# RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT GOALS, OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

**GOAL** To provide a broad range of public and private recreation and open space facilities and activities with convenient access for the citizens of Riviera Beach.

# **OBJECTIVE 1.1: Waterfront Access**

The City of Riviera Beach shall continue to preserve public access to all of its waterfront and enhance the 1,000 linear feet of city-owned, direct ocean beach park access.

**Policy 1.1.1:** The city shall continue to maintain direct public access to the City's municipal oceanfront beach from the Singer Island commercial center parking area, sidewalk, and beachfront. Ongoing redevelopment studies/efforts of this Ocean Mall site shall incorporate means to ensure that adequate and convenient public access to the waterfront is enhanced.

**Policy 1.1.2:** By 2010 the City shall identify publicly owned waterfront access points and their walkways with signage along AIA for use by the public.

**Policy 1.1.3:** The city shall maintain all public rights-of-way and open spaces that provide views or access to Lake Worth. Abandonment or relocation of these public rights-of-way will not be permitted without the provision of a qualitatively equal or better public right-of-way.

# **OBJECTIVE 1.2:** Recreation Standards and Facilities

The City of Riviera Beach shall continue to maintain a system of public recreation facilities that meets the needs of the population.

**Policy 1.2.1:** The City shall continue to provide to the public the following neighborhood and community parks and recreation facilities:

- 1. Cunningham Park
- 2. George Street Park
- 3. Goodmark Park
- 4. Monroe Heights Park
- 5. Jerry Schultz Park
- 6. Lone Pine Park
- 7. Timber Pines Park
- 8. Ben Flint Park
- 9. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Center
- 10. Dan Calloway/Tate Recreation Complex
- 11. Wells-Recreation Complex
- 12. Newcomb Hall Recreation Center
- 13. Bicentennial Park
- 14. Municipal Marina
- 15. Riviera Municipal Beach
- 16. Lindsey Davis, Sr. Community Center
- 17. Sugar Hill Cemetery & Passive Park

**Policy 1.2.2:** The City shall maintain at least a three acre/1,000 population level of service standard for neighborhood and community public recreation—including open space--sites in Riviera Beach, insuring adequate land to meet needs through 2015.

**Policy 1.2.3:** By 2015, the recreation impacts of development shall be measured by adopting the following Level of Service Standards (LOSS) for parks and recreation. The city may include both public and private facilities available when making this determination.

#### RIVIERA BEACH RECREATIONAL FACILITIES STATE OF FL RECREATIONAL/OPEN SPACE LEVEL OF SERVICE STANDARDS

Item	One (1) Facility per population	Existing Riviera Beach Recreational Facilities & State LOS based on existing population
Tennis courts	10,000	13; exceeds
Baseball/softball fields	10,000	5; exceeds
Football/soccer fields	25,000	2; exceeds
Handball/racquetball	20,000	2; exceeds
Basketball courts	20,000	34; exceeds
Swimming pools	50,000	1; exceeds
Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing, Power boating	12,500	3; exceeds
Freshwater & Saltwater beach activity	25,000	2 freshwater beaches (Phil Foster Park & Peanut Island) + 2 saltwater beaches (Ocean Reef Park & Riviera Municipal Beach); exceeds minimum

**Policy 1.2.4:** In order to meet the adopted levels of service for parks and recreation, the City will continue its upgrade of parks and recreation facilities, including compliance with ADA

accessibility requirements, softball fields, and handball/racquetball courts. The guiding document for these renovations is the Park and Recreation Department's "Redevelopment Capital Strategy" completed in 2005.

**Policy 1.2.5:** The City shall ensure use of the Riviera Municipal Beach and/or Bicentennial Park for tournament activities such as beach volleyball, concerts, festivals, and other public events and activities.

**Policy 1.2.6:** By 2010, the City (including the CRA) shall reevaluate the need for a downtown neighborhood playground or tot lot for the area, through the Community Redevelopment Plan.

**Policy 1.2.7:** A facility comparable to the current Newcomb Hall Community Center in size and location in the downtown area shall be made available at such time that the current facility is either reconstructed, demolished or relocated.

**Policy 1.2.8:** By 2015 the City shall complete the upgrade of its recreational facilities. This shall include, but not be limited to, the use of user fees collected and programmed to match State funding for improvements to enhance recreational and park facilities. The city may use its "Redevelopment Capital Strategy" completed in 2005, as the basis for these improvements.

**Policy 1.2.9:** The City shall continue to pursue grant opportunities, utilize its user/impact fees, and shall explore public-private partnerships to augment ad valorem funding of recreation.

**Policy 1.2.10:** Access to the waterfront and the City's level of service shall be preserved through the provision of a comparably-sized facility to replace Bicentennial Park in the event of its relocation.

# **OBJECTIVE 1.3:** Bikeways and Park Accessibility

The City shall enhance park accessibility, to insure availability to all ages and varying modes of transit, as measured by the following policies:

**Policy 1.3.1:** By 2010, the City shall prepare a bicycle route plan, coordinated with any bicycle route plans adopted by Palm Beach County.

**Policy 1.3.2:** By 2011, the City shall begin implementation of a bicycle plan.

**Policy 1.3.3:** By 2010, the City shall budget for the implementation of the bicycle route plan at a feasible level. Budgeting shall be accomplished through the Capital Improvements Program.

**Policy 1.3.4:** By 2010 the City's Bicycle Plan shall improve the linkage between US #1 and Singer Island and the mainland, and if possible improve accessibility to area parks through bikeways.

**Policy 1.3.5:** The City shall encourage development of alternative transportation modes (e.g. bus, vans, bikes) that increase public access to recreational facilities.

# **OBJECTIVE 1.4: Open Spaces**

The City shall continue to increase the availability of open space through the use of land development regulations in private developments and by 2010 shall inventory the acreage of such open space in order to exceed its adopted level of service.

**Policy 1.4.1:** The City through its land development regulations shall continue to add public and private open space to its inventory for City residents.

**Policy 1.4.2:** The City shall assure provision of public open spaces in the CRA through the redevelopment planning process and land development codes.

# **OBJECTIVE 1.5:** Recreational Programs

The city shall continue to provide recreational programs, as financially feasible, and based in part on resident need and demand, recognizing that recreation is not only an amenity but also serves an important social purpose.

**Policy 1.5.1:** The City shall continue to convene its teen advisory board to determine recreational programming input and shall document such input.

**Policy 1.5.2:** On an as-needed basis the City will conduct surveys for all park users and shall review age-based demands for recreation to determine whether its resources/programs are being effectively targeted.

**Policy 1.5.3:** The City shall continue to utilize the Recreation Advisory Board for programming input.

**Policy 1.5.4:** The City shall continue to encourage non-profit entities such as the Boy and Girls Club, or others to complement the City in providing recreational programming.

# OBJECTIVE 1.6: Intergovernmental Cooperation to Enhance Recreational Opportunities and Meet Levels of Service Guidelines

The City shall utilize the resources of other governmental agencies, such as the School District and County, to enhance recreational opportunities.

**Policy 1.6.1:** The City shall enter into interlocal agreements with the Palm Beach County School Board in order to assure school facilities are available for municipal programming.

**Policy 1.6.2:** The City shall cooperate with Palm Beach County and The Sheriff's Department to ensure safer environments with respect to recreational facilities that are located within the City limits such as Ocean Reef and Phil Foster Parks, and Peanut Island.

# **OBJECTIVE 1.7:** Public-Private Coordination

The City shall assure the coordination of public and private resources to meet recreational demands through 2015 by establishing an ongoing strategy to improve public/private input and

#### coordination.

**Policy 1.7.1:** The City Parks and Recreation Department shall, on an as-needed basis, conduct a survey of City citizens and/or park users to determine public recreational needs that complement private facilities.

**Policy 1.7.2:** By 2010 the City shall inventory all private recreational facilities, to determine what, if any, role they play in meeting its future-Level of Service needs.

**Policy 1.7.3:** The City shall investigate various options to assist in park improvements, including assistance from and partnerships with neighborhood and civic groups (e.g., "adopt a park") and the continued pursuit of grants.

#### **OBJECTIVE 1.8:** Library Services

The City shall continue to recognize the value of the Library as a essential educational need, and shall work to expand its physical plant & facilities in order to enhance its services to residents and meet higher state level of service standards.

**Policy 1.8.1:** By 2010, the City shall consider the adoption of enhanced levels of service guidelines for library service, to assist in additional high technology programming as documented in its 2005 – 2007 Technology Plan through the following:

- a. Allotting the Library additional square footage per capita to complement existing space in the City's future expansion plans for its governmental facilities;
- b. Allow for upgraded systems to accommodate wireless telecommunication needs, and
- c. Budgeting to allow for additional software and hardware, equipment and workstations.

**Policy 1.8.2:** The Library shall continue to implement its adopted 3-year plan, to insure continued eligibility for state funding assistance, and to upgrade its level of service standards:

- a. Increase the number of books, databases and audio-visual equipment;
- b. Allot for the hiring of a reference librarian;
- c. Meet the state L.O.S.S for community relations programming, and
- d. To provide for specific services as detailed in the Policy 1.8.2, City Public Library's Long-Range Plan (2005-2008).



Figure R.1. Public recreation sites.