City of Riviera Beach

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN

Amended June 2023

CITY OF RIVIERA BEACH
PALM BEACH COUNTY, FL

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Cunningham Park

Goodmark Park

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Bicentennial Park

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INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE OF THE PLAN

The City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP) is a long-range planning document intended to help shape the direction, development and delivery of the City's parks and recreation facilities and services over the course of the next 10-15 years. Based on a comprehensive planning approach, this plan considers previous planning documents, department goals, existing conditions, and an assessment of needs to provide a framework for the direction of the Vision, recommendations, and prioritization strategies.

This PRMP is the first Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Master Plan undertaken by the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department. While Riviera Beach has not had a formal Master Plan, the current state of the Parks and Recreation system presents unique opportunities and challenges. Plans such as this are often undertaken to help address system-wide deficiencies, operational inefficiencies , or years of deferred maintenance. In the City of Riviera Beach, that is not the case, as everything the Parks and Recreation department does, it does very well.

Multiple elements of this plan relate to the City's desire to improve the quality of life for its residents, while also addressing the population growth and remaining a great hometown. The development of PRMP is based on the acknowledgment that providing excellent parks and recreation facilities and program opportunities for a broader segment of the population will be a critical component of accomplishing the City's overarching goals.

Reimagine Riviera Beach

The purpose of this PRMP is to provide a fresh look at the Vision and goals of the Parks and Recreation Department, in an effort to take a Park System that is already very good and make it premier. The Vision for this document was developed to work in conjunction with the Reimagine Riviera beach effort conducted in 2021. Reimagine Riviera Beach establishes a long-range Vision for the City as whole, with parks and the public realm playing a critical role in building the community fabric of Riviera Beach. The development of the PRMP Vision is integrated into Reimagine Riviera Beach by establishing a community-defined set of priorities to provide a focused direction for development and delivery of the parks and recreation services for current and future residents. The shared community Vision advances the mission of the department and updates it to address changing needs and priorities, ensuring that the City of Riviera Beach remains a premier community well into the future.

The Changing Role Of Parks

Parks play a vital indispensable role in creating healthy, vibrant, and livable cities and communities which are capable of successfully attracting capital, creative talent and cultural assets within an increasingly competitive global marketplace.

Over time the functions of parks within the American cultural environment have changed. Today, the recognition that integrated park systems can form the core of successful communities is well documented and understood within the planning profession. Solving more problems through parks systems means that departments are asked to provide an increasingly diverse breadth of recreational facilities, services and programs in order to meet the needs of citizens.

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Galen Cranz with the University of California – Berkeley has studied the evolution of parks through design, purpose and function and has documented the benefits to communities. Over the last two centuries, parks in the United States have forged a distinct path that separates function from European design roots. Beginning with the Pleasure Ground era of the mid-19th century, parks were developed to reflect a natural, countryside landscape but without the perceived dangers of the wilderness. With many of the large urban parks such as Central Park in New York City and Forest Park in St. Louis, the vision was of civilized nature within a city. Most parks of this era had a purpose of providing a mental and physical reprieve from harsh and polluted city lifestyles. A downside was that few people, other than the wealthy, could travel to the parks as many were large and required land on the edge of cities. Working-class residents had few opportunities to enjoy the benefits provided by these new parks.

As a brief but impactful subset to the Pleasure Ground era, during the late-19th century, cities started to bring the principles of the large parks and adapting them to small urban parcels. The purpose was to bring the benefits of open space to the where people lived, in the cities. This adaptation was concurrent with growing efforts to promote safe places for children to play, out of the busy streets of cities full of carriages and the newly invented automobile. With the purpose of parks expanding from providing a healthy reprieve from the ills of the urban environment to include social reform and assimilation of a growing immigrate population, a new movement in parks was born, the Reform Park.

During the Reform Park era, which lasted until the early years of the Great Depression, a sharp transformation of the design and function of parks occurred. New parks were no longer located on the edge of cities; instead most were bounded on all sides by streets and newly zoned residential parcels. Parks were smaller with most ranging from a few city blocks square to a single block. The gentle planned countryside character of parks changed into symmetrical blocks of recreational amenities that included athletic fields, courts and fieldhouses.

For many of the working class, these parks where the first time a public space was provided close to them for a purpose other than working or transportation.

With the rise of the city planner Robert Moses in New York City, a new park era began when he proclaimed, "We'll make no more absurd claims about what can be accomplished with parks, but rather, fulfill the mandate to provide recreation services." The era of Recreation Parks had arrived and lasted until the mid-1960s. In a striking opposition to the first two park eras parks were now a recognized governmental service. In order to build a healthy, physically fit generation of servicemen, recreation became a top priority. Good outcomes from this era were that park advocates no longer had to document the social reform and assimilation benefits to justify the expenditures on parks. The downside was; boring parks with little to no artistic vision which still prevail in some cities.

As a symptom of the Recreation Park era and the mandated governmental funding of parks, cities began to experience difficulties in managing large assemblages of individual parks and miscellaneous properties. A new ideology began to take root, one based on the influence of theoretical works by landscape architects and planners such as Ian McHarg and Jane Jacobs. This new approach was based on the concept that the aggregation of parks and open spaces were a functioning 'system' of environmental resources, and when combined, these spaces have a higher recreational and social value to communities. This era, called The Open Space System, promoted creative uses of parks with artistic and social programming and an expansion in purpose of parks to include revitalization, civic participation, recreation, and the arts.

Dr. Cranz's work includes identification of a new, emerging era for parks. Coined as the Sustainable Park era, this era expands the purpose of parks even further to include ecological health, resource conservation, and psychological relief. Parks of this new era, marked by the beginning of the 21st century, seek to move beyond simply striking a balance between production and consumption

of resources, and more towards becoming net-positive contributors to surrounding communities.

As the post-industrial economy has continued to evolve and society has adapted, parks have become more than just recreation amenities that passively contribute to communities. Parks and open spaces are now the economic drivers and place-defining element cores of communities. Well designed and resourceful parks have become engines for attracting people and businesses seeking to benefit from a high quality of life.

Shifts in the priorities of the creative class, one of the key economic and social driving forces in post-industrial cities, as defined by noted urbanist Richard Florida of the University of Toronto, have placed a much heavier importance on parks and recreation-based opportunities as a necessity for a high quality of life. The changing trends in recreation demand driven by these affluent, knowledge-based workers, coupled with the simultaneous impacts of aging populations, growing inequity among households, and the highest immigration level in a hundred years, have resulted in the need for park systems that benefit a wide spectrum of users that all value parks as a critical component of their lifestyle.

For new residents of Riviera Beach parks and open space are not only an enticement to move to the City, but also serve as places to socialize, learn and assimilate with the community.

The Benefits Of Parks

With more research in the fields of parks, public health, urban planning, and landscape architecture, as well as increasing advocacy over the last decade, the positive contributions of parks are being recognized across a wide range of disciplines. One such aggregator is The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) which has documented several categories of contributions that parks and recreation provide to healthy and vibrant communities (Diagram on next page).

Figure 1-1: Three Pillars of the NRPA

Three Pillars of the NRPA

The National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) established a three-pillar philosophy that defines its work and guidance of parks and recreation service agencies around the country. These three pillars are conservation, health and wellness, and social equity. The organization's specific goal is that people are positively affected by parks

and recreation through avenues such as fitness and exercise, leisure, community engagement, access to nutritious food, and experiencing the benefits of clean air and water in preserved green and open spaces.

Pillar 1: Conservation

The NRPA champions the belief that connection to the outdoors and nature is vital for the well-being of every person and that parks and green space provide critical access to the life-giving benefits of the outdoors. As such, the NRPA pillar of conservation promotes stewardship of land, water, and natural resources. Many of our most critical and most overlooked ecosystems are found in our parks. They are vital to the health of our environment, clean air and water. The NRPA promotes park design with carbon-reducing sustainable landscapes that cleanse air and water, replenish aquifers, reduce stormwater runoff, and protect wildlife habitat. The organization believes that these types of parks allow for conservation of energy and precious resources thereby also contributing significantly to the economic well-being of our communities.

Pillar 2: Health and Wellness

The NRPA is well aware of the systemic physical challenges individuals and our communities face because of poor nutrition, hunger, obesity, and physical inactivity. In an effort to support good health for people of all abilities, ages, socio-economic backgrounds, and ethnicities, they advocate for comprehensive change through collaborative programs and policies that impact broad populations. The goal of the NRPA philosophy pillar of health and wellness is to provide connections to nature. It is based on studies that tie interaction with nature to lower levels of stress, stronger interpersonal relationships, and improved mental health. The NRPA actively supports greater public access to physical activity opportunities and the work of parks and recreation agencies to improve nutrition. They advocate for increased funding for health-related research into best practices that parks and recreation agencies can use to create healthy communities.

Pillar 3: Social Equity

The third pillar of the NRPA philosophy is social equity and is grounded on a foundational principle of the association that public parks and recreation services should be equally accessible and available to all people regardless of income level, ethnicity, gender, ability, or age. Public agencies have a duty to provide parks and recreation services and programs including the maintenance, accessibility, and safety of parks facilities on an equitable basis to all citizens of the communities that they serve. Because of the importance of natural environments to human life, the NRPA advocates that access to parks, recreation, and open green space is a right, not a privilege, for people nationwide. This pillar also cultivates community relationships through programs and services for all that connect people deeply to their community. Studies show that a strong sense of connection makes communities livable and desirable. Parks and recreation services provide a reason and space to enjoy quality leisure time, relaxation, and fun with family and friends, and this strengthens the social and family bonds that help provide belonging and satisfaction in life.

Categories of Contribution (NRPA):

- Physical Health

Simply put, communities with more parks are healthier. Studies by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), as well as academic and other public research have concluded that time spent outdoors completing physical activities lead to lower rates of chronic disease, lower rates of obesity and longer, richer life spans.

- Social Function

Parks are social destinations. By providing comfortable options to sit, relax and socialize, parks commonly becomes the meeting locations for neighbors. Research documents that communities with parks have more cohesion among neighbors leading to less isolation of at-risk populations and the elderly.

- Mental Health

For many people, a relaxing walk in a park is an unparalleled stress reliever. Studies have shown that having access to nature or open space can reduce stress, improve cognitive functions and reduce depression and anxiety.

- Youth Development

Commonly an under-represented segment of the population when tackling the challenges of society, youth can respond positively to being introduced to life-skills early through extracurricular activities, free play and artistic expression in parks.

- Environmental

Parks are where the impacts of urban environments meet the sensitivities of nature. When developed to be sustainable and resilient, parks can provide net-positive impacts to water quality and quantity, and healthy habitat restoration.

- Economic Impact

Parks provide some of the best return on investment a community can make. Studies have documented the wide-reaching impacts parks have economically on communities from sustaining or improving property values, to encouraging redevelopment or job creation, parks make for great public investments. Parks play a key role in attracting and retaining businesses and entrepreneurs seeking a community with a high quality of life. Cities like Bentonville Arkansas, the home of Walmart Headquarters, have invested heavily in parks and other quality of life improvements in order to encourage talented workers to move there.

- Resiliency

In addition to the contributions recognized by NRPA, many communities are seeking to leverage the environmental benefits of parks and open space to make neighborhoods more resilient to the impacts of climate change, natural disasters or energy scarcity.

- Social Equity

Ensuring that all people have access to the benefits of local parks and recreation provides a greater sense of community and social cohesion, and helps to break down potential barriers between people from different cultural backgrounds.

Recognized as one of the three pillars of the NRPA, social equity is essential to providing a social environment that serves people of all ages and promotes cultural diversity. Safe, equitable communities attract people with a wide variety of needs, and encourage participation in community building.

Through the development of this System Master Plan, the City of Riviera Beach has the opportunity to consciously prioritize the achievement of particular benefits via the careful crafting of its parks and recreation system.

INTRODUCTION

ELEMENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL PARKS SYSTEM

The elements of a successful parks system are based on a set of fundamental principles of park system planning that include:

- Access

Every resident should be able to safely and comfortably walk, bicycle, drive and/or ride transit from their home to work, school, parks, shopping, and community facilities.

- Equity

Every resident should be able to enjoy the same quality of public facilities and services regardless of income, age, race, ability or geographic location.

- Sustainability

Every action and improvement of the Park System, including facilities, programs, operations and management, should contribute to the economic, social and environmental prosperity of the City.

- Multiple Benefits

Every public action should generate multiple public benefits to maximize taxpayer dollars.

- Seamlessness

City parks and recreation services should work in concert with other local providers to provide integrated recreational opportunities to area residents.

- Resiliency and Sustainability

Planning for resiliency and sustainability should be incorporated in the decision-making process. Climate change/rising median global temperature, water demand as populations increase, severity of droughts/wildfires, potentials for energy scarcity, as well as other impacts should be considered.

- Placemaking

Placemaking in parks and public spaces and the inclusion of art and branding should be an integral part of park planning and design process. Placemaking capitalizes on a local community's assets, inspiration, and potential, with the intention of creating public spaces that promote people's health, happiness, and well-being.

- Livability

The concept of how parks contribute to making communities great places to live should be planned. This should include how residents and local employees can live, work and play all within close proximity to their homes.

- Health and Wellness

Health and wellness benefits are driving park infrastructure, park-centered urban design, and programs to a degree not expected in the past. This has been driven by unambiguous research findings showing correlation between increases in significant health care costs, premature mortality, and morbidity associated with physical inactivity. Cities and counties are responding to this interest with new partnerships, programs and opportunities that should be priorities in a new plan.

Cunningham Park

INTRODUCTION

PROJECT PROCESS

This document is intended to serve as a comprehensive guide for the planning, acquisition, development and operations of parks, trails, park facilities and recreation programs throughout the City. As such, this Parks and Recreation Master Plan will assist users in the formation of programming needs and priorities and long range visioning for the provision of parks and recreation facilities and programs.

This document has been developed in a linear process, building upon previous work; beginning with an overview of the existing parks system, analysis of public needs and priorities, formation of a long-range vision, and lastly a strategic plan for implementation.

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

VISION

IMPLEMENTATION

CHAPTER 2: SYSTEM INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

2.1 Guiding Documents

2.2 Demographics

2.3 High-Level Lifestyle Analysis

2.4 Parks System Resources

2.5 Level of Service Analysis

2.6 Programming, Operations & Maintenance Assessment

2.7 System Inventory & Analysis Summary

CHAPTER 3: NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 Community Involvement

3.2 Comparative Analysis

3.3 Online Community Survey

3.4 Statistically Valid Survey

3.5 Needs & Priorities Assessment Summary

The diagram on this spread illustrates the four step process utilized in this Master Plan. The System Inventory & Analysis provides the context in which needs and priorities are assessed. These Needs and Priorities are refined through the creation of publicly developed Vision, and detailed Strategic Plan. Together, these provide an achievable plan for the design, development, and delivery of parks and recreation facilities throughout Riviera Beach.

INTRODUCTION

Data Analysis Process

To gain an accurate understanding of the City of Riviera Beach's Parks and Recreation system, as well as, residents' needs, the consultant team will utilize a mixed methods, triangulated approach to data analysis. The following diagram identifies the techniques to be used:

Multiple Techniques for a Triangulated, Comprehensive Approach

Quantitative Techniques:
- Benchmarking
- High-level Lifestyle Analysis
- Level of Service Analysis
- Statistically Valid Survey

Community Needs & Priorities

Quantitative

Observations

Qualitative

Observational Techniques:
- Individual Park Evaluations
- Programming Analysis
- Operations and Maintenance Analysis
- Population and Demographic Overview

Qualitative Techniques:
- Stakeholder Interviews + Focus Groups
- Community Workshops
- Special Events
- Social Media
- Websites
- Online Survey

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5.2 Estimate of Probable Cost

5.3 Implementation Workshop

5.4 Capital Improvement Recommendations

5.5 Programming, Policy and Operations Recommendations

5.6 Phasing and Funding Plan

5.7 Priority Action Items

Dan Calloway Recreation Complex

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SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The purpose of the research presented in this chapter was to gain a thorough understanding of the existing state of the parks, facilities, programs, services and environmental practices of the City of Riviera Beach. At this time, during the development of this master plan, the City manages 9 community parks and 9 neighborhood parks. 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.

CHAPTER 2: SYSTEM INVENTORY AND ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Guiding Documents
- 2.2 Demographics
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- 2.5 Level of Service Analysis
- 2.6 Programming, Operations & Maintenance Assessment
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SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

2.1 GUIDING DOCUMENTS

Overview

The Guiding Documents of the City of Riviera Beach provide a clear expression of the needs and priorities of the City as well as the ongoing efforts to meet those needs. The Parks and Recreation Master Planning team conducted a thorough evaluation of the current documents of the City. This analysis provides a strong understanding of the current efforts of the City. It is critical that this Parks and Recreation Master Plan tie in with the existing goals of the City to chart a cohesive path forward for recreation in the community.
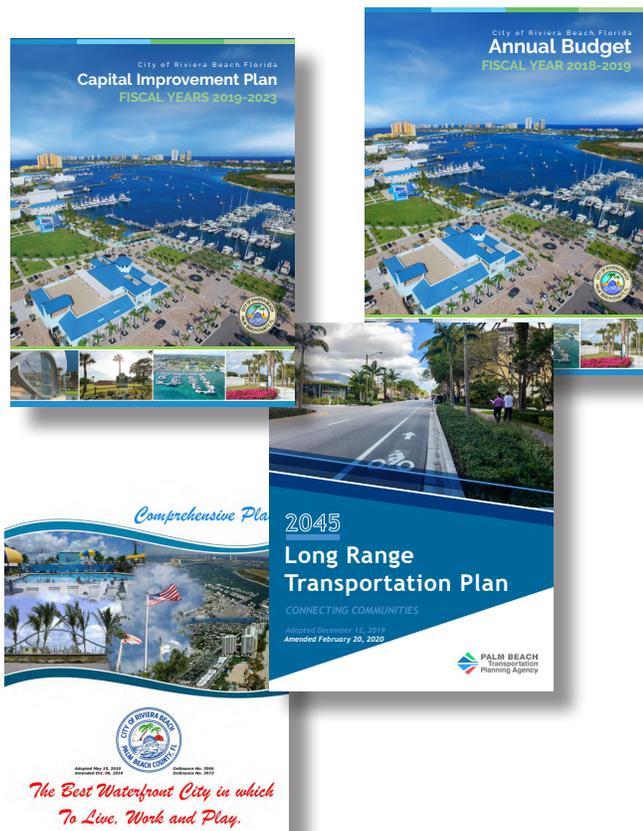
List of Guiding Documents

- City of Riviera Beach Comprehensive Plan (2010)
- City of Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Plan (2019 - 2023)
- City of Riviera Beach Annual Budget, Fiscal Years 2018 - 2019
- Palm Beach County 2045 Long-Range Transportation Plan

Guiding Documents Review

City of Riviera Beach Comprehensive Plan 2010

In May 2010, the City of Riviera Beach adopted a comprehensive plan that established a clear set of principles for the City that define the direction for the community. As part of this comprehensive plan, the City created a set of ten key elements of City management. Six of these elements and the associated goals, objectives, and policies establish values and aspirations for the City that tie directly into the sectors and work that this master plan addresses. A solid familiarity with this comprehensive plan is important for integrating future Parks and Recreation planning with the current work of the City. The six governmental elements in the plan that relate to Parks and Recreation are:

1. **Future Land Use**

Goal: To protect and enhance the residential, commercial, industrial, and natural resource areas of Riviera Beach.

Key initiatives: The future land use element expounds the community goal to protect its natural resources as part of development activities. Several of the tools which the City uses to do this include: the Land Development Code, used to assure adequate protection of natural resources and environmentally sensitive land; particularly mangroves, significant estuarine bottomlands, wetlands, the beach, and

Figure 2-1: City of Riviera Beach 2010 Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map

City of Riviera Beach, Florida

Future Landuse Map
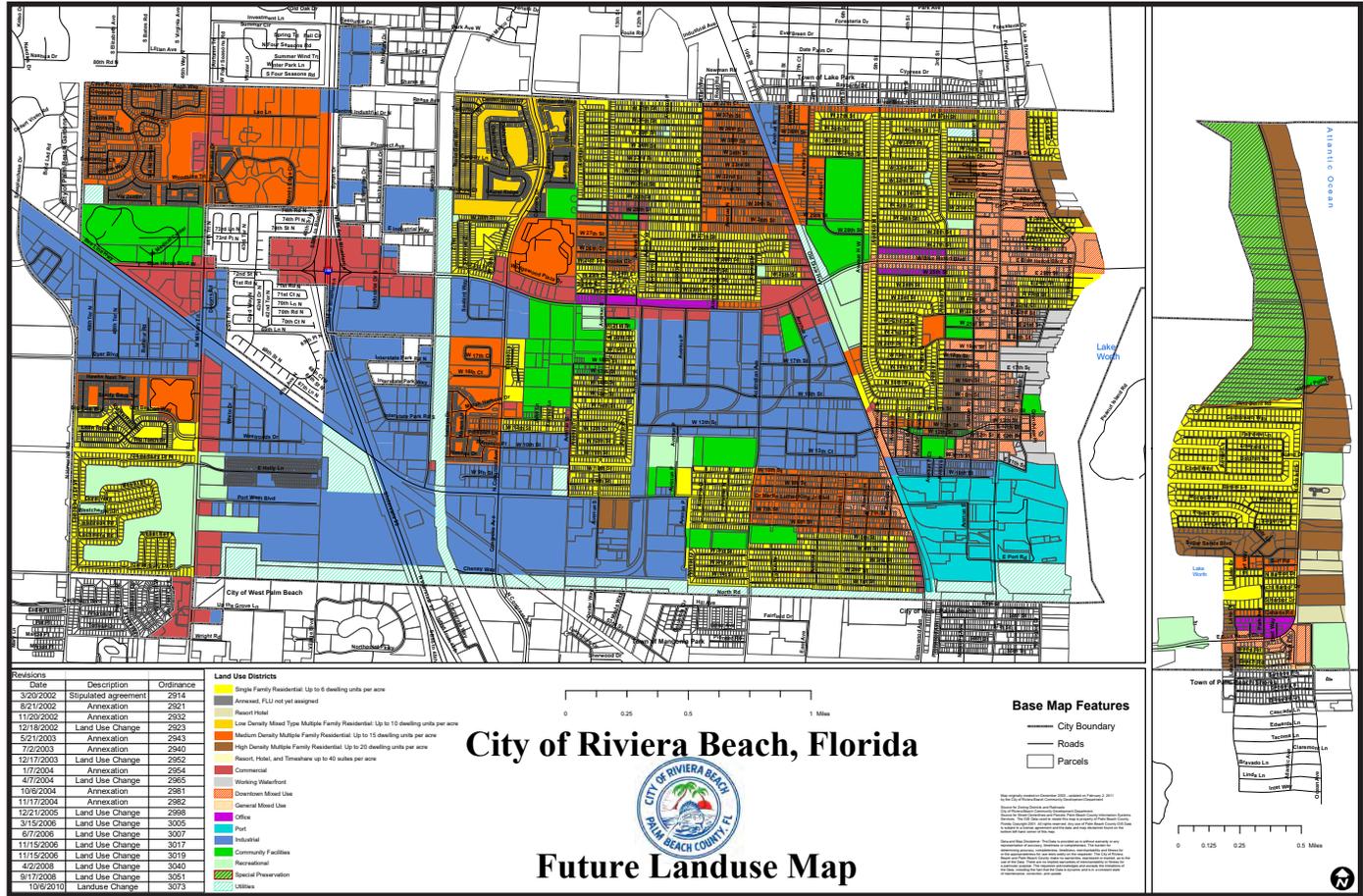
wellfields. Several policies in particular exude goals that support the parks and natural lands of the City and as such work in compliment to the goals of this master plan. Those two policies are the following:

- **The Wetlands Preservation Ordinance** that protects critical, otherwise endangered land including mangroves, adjacent wetlands, and significant estuarine bottomlands of the Singer Island lakefront habitat.

- **The Palm Beach County Wellfield Protection Ordinance** which amended the Land Development Code to prohibit any uses within wellhead protection areas which would be detrimental.

As part of these environmental efforts of the Land Development Code, it is also a policy of the City to pursue the public acquisition of submerged lands and thereafter preclude their development, as well as to implement and promote the predominant use of native vegetation.

Another objective of the Future Land Use element that ties into Parks and Recreation is Innovative Land Development. The City develops and encourages utilization of innovative land regulations like the Downtown Mixed Use category, which provides for a wide range of uses including retail, commercial, residential, restaurant, entertainment, civic, parks, marinas, and boardwalks. Some of the purposes are to establish a vibrant, mixed-use, regional waterfront destination around Bicentennial Park and the Riviera Beach Marina; allow for intense mixed-use development along the Broadway corridor in the core of the downtown area; ensure existing access to and views of the Intracoastal waterway are retained and increased; and ensure the street network is maintained and enhanced. The City is also working to facilitate development of the bio-science industry within the general industrial land use category.

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The City maintains an objective to enhance the community and improve quality of life, focusing on programs to 1) Stabilize neighborhoods and reduce land use conflicts, and 2) to improve the appearance of major corridors. Ongoing work like streetscape improvement efforts along they City "gateways" include updated decorative lighting, beautification of Blue Heron Boulevard, and maintenance of City entrance ways.

2. Transportation

Goals: Preserve and enhance desirable development patterns that support the City's vision to provide for a safe, convenient, and efficient motorized and non-motorized transportation system that satisfies the transportation needs of the City's residents and visitors. Provide a safe, convenient, continuous, comfortable and aesthetically pleasing transportation environment that promotes walking, biking, and public transit. This system should support residents, businesses, and visitors, with a particular emphasis on adequate service for the local "transportation disadvantaged" population within the City.

Key initiatives: Adopt and maintain urban street design standards to foster all modes of transportation and complement adjacent land uses. These standards should incorporate livable community features such as narrow travel lanes, wide sidewalks, prominent crosswalks, curb extensions/bulb-outs, street trees, on-street parking, bus stops, bicycle lanes, traffic calming, pedestrian-scaled lighting, low speed turning radii, reduced use of right turn lanes, modest building setbacks and signal timings based on lower average vehicle speeds and narrower pedestrian crossing distances. Improve pedestrian safety on streets within the City by providing adequate facilities such as wider sidewalks, buffers from travel lanes, shade trees, pedestrian-scale lighting, shorter crossing distances, refuges in large intersections, and street furniture.

The City continues to update its inventory of existing sidewalks on all arterial, collector, and local streets and maintains the inventory in its geographic information system (GIS) database to assist City staff in identifying gaps and priorities.

The City, in coordination with the CRA, set a goal to prepare a plan that inventories the need for pedestrian enhancements within the TCEA boundaries, including filling sidewalk gaps, installing street furniture, adding landscaped curb extensions, and other pedestrian enhancements. The plan included a goal that it would have an affordable and feasible schedule for making such improvements.

3. Infrastructure

Goals: To provide and maintain the public infrastructure in a manner that will insure public health, safety, and quality of life for Riviera Beach. The City shall achieve the capability to reduce water consumption by 15 percent in times of a water supply emergency and reduce water consumption by 5 percent on a permanent basis for City-owned or maintained areas.

Key initiatives: To promote water conservation the City encourages and supports a coordinated regulatory and programmatic approach for the protection of aquifer recharge areas and for environmental protection efforts. The City provides educational materials to the public focusing on water conservation techniques and water conserving devices and requires the use of treated wastewater for irrigation in new development and redevelopment projects. The City also integrates water conservation measures as part of its routine maintenance program.

4. Recreation and Open Space

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.

Key initiatives: Access is preserved in Riviera Beach for all of its waterfronts and efforts are being made to enhance the 1,000 linear feet of City-owned, direct ocean beach park access. This property is maintained for public use of the City's municipal oceanfront beach from the Singer Island commercial center parking area, sidewalk, and beachfront. Redevelopment

Table 2-1: Riviera Beach 2010 Comprehensive Plan Recreation and Open Space Level of Service Standards

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**
Singer Island Dune Restoration	10,000	13; exceeds
Tennis Courts	10,000	5; exceeds
Baseball/softball fields	25,000	2; exceeds
Football/soccer fields	20,000	2; exceeds
Handball/racquetball	20,000	34; exceeds
Swimming pools	50,000	1; exceeds
Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing, Powerboating	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 Beach Municipal Beach Park); exceeds minimum

studies/efforts of Ocean Mall site incorporate means to ensure that adequate and convenient public access to the waterfront is enhanced.

The City established a goal to identify publicly owned waterfront access points and their walkways with signage along AIA for use by the public. As part of maintaining its level of access to the waterfront and the City planned provision for a comparably-sized facility to replace Bicentennial Park in the event of its relocation. All public rights-of-way and open spaces that provide views or access to Lake Worth are regularly maintained. Abandonment or relocation of these public rights-of-way are not permitted without the provision of a qualitatively equal or better public right-of-way. The City has a goal to maintain high recreation standards and a system of public recreation facilities that meets the needs of the population and provides access from neighborhoods to community parks and recreation facilities. In order

to meet the adopted levels of service for parks and recreation, the City continues to upgrade parks and recreation facilities, including design that is in compliance with ADA accessibility requirements, softball fields, and handball/racquetball courts. The City ensure the use of the Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park and/or Bicentennial Park for tournament activities such as beach volleyball, concerts, festivals, and other public events and activities. A downtown neighborhood playground or tot lot was planned as part of the Community Redevelopment Plan. The City affirmed that a facility comparable to the Newcomb Hall Community Center in size and location in the downtown area would be made available at such time that the current facility was either reconstructed, demolished, or relocated.

5. Conservation

Goals: To preserve, protect, and enhance the City's natural resources, encourage the highest possible environmental quality, and maintain best long-term management of natural resources. To protect human life and native ecosystems by controlling air pollution through initiatives for the protection of air quality. To conserve, appropriately use, and protect the natural functions of native communities and ecosystems.

Key initiatives: The City provides information and educational activities for the citizens of Riviera Beach to assist them in understanding the needs and issues related to the conservation and sustainable use of the City's natural resources. Riviera Beach continues to pursue a citizen involvement/public education project relating to the environmentally-sensitive and unique estuarine mangrove habitat located in the Lake Worth Lagoon on the northern end of Singer Island. This element mandates no loss of shoreline bordering the estuary on the island.

The Conservation Element chartered the way for a "Green Canopy Program" with the purpose and means of urban beautification to reduce the urban heat island effect and improve of air quality. The goals of the Green Canopy Program are: 1) to inventory the need for urban trees; 2) to prepare a guide for selection, planting procedures, and care for urban trees; 3) to allow for the private contribution of funds into a program that increases the number of trees in public spaces; and 4) to ensure all new City road improvements include streetscaping plans that add to the City's urban tree canopy.

To reduce air pollution and carbon monoxide emissions in particular, the City is committed to promoting mass transit whenever and wherever possible. One initiative that is part of this is City efforts to coordinate with the County in implementing a bus shelter policy to enhance bus transit travel. Another goal is to increase the attractiveness of bus usage by including bus shelters and other incentives in the Broadway redevelopment area and throughout the City. Alongside ongoing redevelopment, the City determined to investigate the feasibility of establishing

and sustaining a shuttle bus to link the public beaches to downtown and local neighborhoods to assist in reducing air pollutants.

With a goal to protect and ensure the representation of native plant communities and ecosystems, the City prioritizes environmentally sensitive lands. One example of efforts to better preserve these lands and their environmental systems is a project charted in the comprehensive plan to research various conservation tools to protect the estuary along the Lake Worth Lagoon. The City also uses the Land Development Code to regulate the protection of environmentally sensitive lands and native communities and set about investigating incentives available to encourage this objective. The City facilitates the acquisition, protection, and long-term maintenance of native plant communities through mechanisms including, but not limited to, conservation easements, grants and matching funds, and donations of land. Using the development review process, joint acquisition and management process, and interlocal agreements, the City coordinates with all applicable public and private entities to protect and conserve environmentally sensitive lands and native ecosystems **(Figure 2-2)**.

As part of its conservation plan, the City is supporting the utilization of Peanut Island as a passive recreation resource alongside supporting with the amenities added by Palm Beach County.

The City is also conducting several initiatives of special preservation for mangroves, wetlands, and special estuarine bottomlands. The mangroves and special estuarine bottomlands are protected by Federal, State and local agencies involved with preservation, dredging, and fill permitting, as well as hydrological modifications. The City's objective is to regulate to the maximum extent possible the development of these types of submerged Lands that are not specifically permitted by the land development code.

The City maintains the functions and values provided by freshwater and marine wetlands with the express objective that there is no decrease in their function and value due to development or other activities. The measures are also designed to regulate the quantity and timing of water availability to existing wetlands or

altering their water regimes. The City maintains a policy of implementing the Wetlands Protection Section of the Land Development Code and reviews and comments on wetland alteration applications being reviewed by other agencies to ensure that no activity results in the net loss of wetland values and functions, being particularly diligent in the review of any coastal zone or wetland projects, in order to protect the most environmentally sensitive lands in the City.

The City of Riviera Beach ensures that the following steps are taken when assessing proposed activities that may result in wetland impacts:

- Avoidance of wetland impacts

- Minimization of unavoidable wetland impacts

- Compensation for wetland impacts through mitigation

The Riviera Beach Land Development Code requires development activities adjacent to or within wetland areas to have a buffer zone of native vegetation, which may include canopy, understory, and ground cover, as appropriate. Maintenance of these buffers when they are included around wetlands, is also required as part of this policy.

The Land Development Code provides wetlands preservation guidance listing prohibited uses in or near wetlands and their transitional buffer zones. It is also the policy of the City to support wetland creation, restoration, enhancement, and preservation and encourage public and private sector initiatives for these efforts. The City coordinates with Palm Beach

Figure 2-2: City of Riviera Beach Estuarine Systems and Wetlands
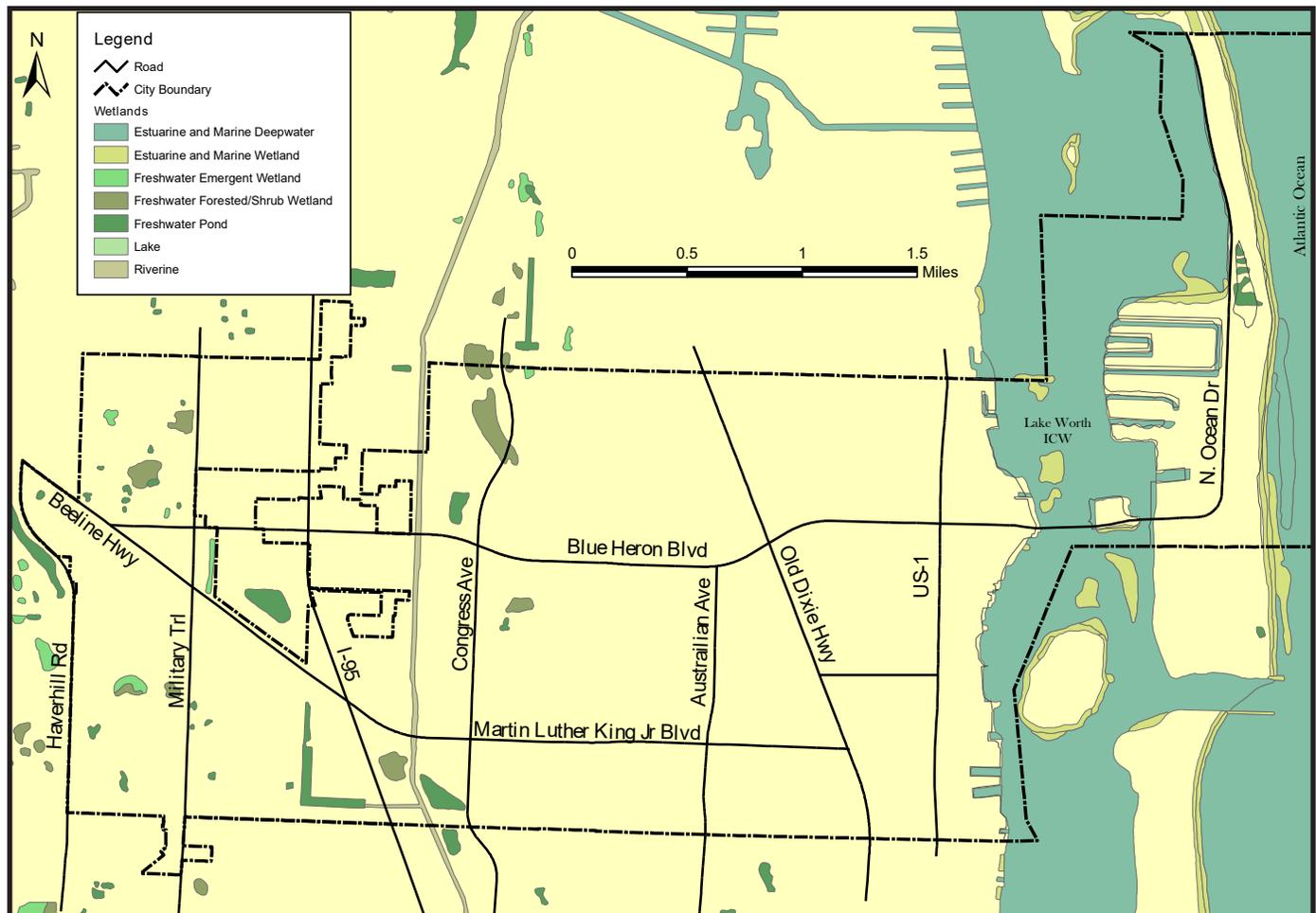
County, the SFWMD, and the FDEP, as well as other municipalities along Lake Worth Lagoon to preserve and protect the Lake Worth Lagoon and the natural Singer Island lakefront habitat using the Wetlands Preservation Ordinance.

The City adopted land development regulations that mandate "no net loss of the 7,000 linear feet of natural shoreline bordering the Lake Worth Lagoon estuary on Singer Island." This initiative works in tandem with efforts to remove non-native/exotic species/vegetation as a tool in the preservation of this environmentally-sensitive area.

6. Coastal Management

Goals: To preserve, protect, and enhance coastal resources, wetlands, marine resources, coastal beaches, barriers, wildlife, and wildlife habitat. To discourage development activities that would damage or destroy coastal resources.

Key initiatives: The City of Riviera Beach maintains and develops programs, and seeks funding to expand efforts to protect, preserve, and enhance coastal and estuarine wetlands, living marine resources, coastal barriers, and wildlife habitat. The City protects freshwater, estuarine and marine wetlands, including mangroves, seagrasses, saltmarsh vegetation, offshore natural reefs, and submerged habitats. The City prohibits shoreline alteration and construction that have the potential to significantly degrade the natural functions and values of wetlands. Where adverse impacts to water quality and natural habitats are unavoidable, Riviera Beach requires mitigation.

The City also acquires and manages coastal and wetland properties and properties adjacent to such habitats for the purpose of preservation and/or environmental enhancement. The Lake Worth Lagoon Estuarine Mangrove Boardwalk that preserves and protects the fragile ecosystem on Singer Island is an example of a measure developed and implemented by the City for restoration,preservation, and educational purposes.

The City protects manatees and manatee habitats in cooperation with Palm Beach County's Manatee Plan, approved in August 2007. This plan improves protections for manatees while ensuring adequate public access to County waterways.

As part of its shoreline protections objective, the City of Riviera Beach enhances and restores the beaches and dunes through implementation and maintenance of the Palm Beach County Shoreline Protection Plan. This work is regulated and accomplished through the permitting process.

Relevance to Master Plan

The City of Riviera Beach Comprehensive Plan lays out specific goals and policies that are shaping the City's future. These goals have already been defined by residents as critical to their vision for their community's future. The policies in the comprehensive plan also help to define the City's environmental and recreational values. Ongoing initiatives of the comprehensive plan such as those related to the City's progressive transportation goals, initiatives focused on water conservation, sensitive ecosystem preservation and restoration, as well as the City's dedication to public beach access, tie directly into the work and scope of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Understanding Riviera Beach's comprehensive plan and it initiatives will inform and prepare the planning team to unite the Vision of this Master Plan with the City's' stated, ongoing community objectives. Those goals and initiatives will help direct the implementation strategies of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

City of Riviera Beach Annual Budget, Fiscal Years 2018 - 2019

Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department Structure

Department Overview

The Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department provides high quality recreational opportunities for residents of all ages. The Department manages neighborhood-based recreational programs and activities, the scheduling of City parks for athletic use, and the maintenance and management of recreational parks and City-owned facilities. The Department coordinates recreational, sports, and swimming programs as well as special events. The Parks and Recreation facilities offer critical training and opportunities like swimming lessons at the Barracuda Bay Aquatic Center and activities for children and families at the City's parks. The Department consists of three divisions: Recreation, Aquatics and Parks Maintenance **(Figure 2-3)**.

Department Mission

To provide, promote, and maintain a safe and easily accessible system of recreation facilities and programs.

Department Vision

To promote and maintain world class facilities and programs to further the City as a great place to work, live, and play.

The City of Riviera Beach has four primary budget funds:

- **General Operating Budget - $74,994,567**

- **The Government Capital Budget - $29,187,019**

- **The Utility Special District Operating Budget - $27,529,921**

- **The Enterprise Capital Budget - $62,141,856**

Figure 2-3: Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department Structure
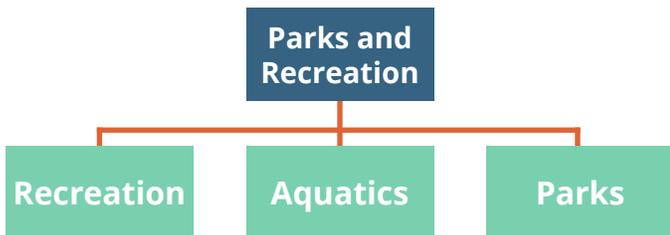
Table 2-2: City of Riviera Beach FY 2018-2019 Budget Parks and Recreation Department Financial Overview

Category	FY 2017 Actual	FY 2018 Budget	FY 2019 Budget
Personnel	$2,454,759	$2,528,869	$2,789,839
Operating	$1,941,762	$ 2,075,614	$2,110,131
Total Expenditures	$4,396,521	$4,604,483	$ 4,899,970
Full-Time Equivalent Budgeted Employees	38.5	47.5	46.5

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Riviera Beach Budget Major Fund Descriptions

General Fund – The City's primary operating fund which accounts for the financial resources of the general government, except those which are required to be accounted for in another fund **(Figure 2-4)**.

Capital Project Funds – Accounts for financial resources used to account for infrastructure and major equipment acquisitions of the City which are included in the City's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). These funds include: Acquisition Capital Projects Fund, Public Improvement Revenue Bonds Projects Fund, and Pay-As-You-Go Fund **(Figure 2-5)**.

Utility Special District Funds – Accounts for the water and wastewater activities for the City. All activities necessary to provide such services are accounted for in this fund, including the administration, maintenance, operations, capital acquisition, repair and renewal, and debt service **(Figure 2-6)**.

The Riviera Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Fund is used to account for the CRA, a component unit of the City. The CRA fund is considered a major fund of the City for financial reporting purposes. The CRA develops its own budget and adopted independently by its Council. The CRA's budget is not included in the City's budget.

FY 2019 City Grants and Programs Related to Parks and Recreation:

Development Services

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) - The CDBG program provides funding to address a wide range of community development needs. The City uses CDBG funds for street improvement projects within the City. **($177,587)**

Figure 2-4: Riviera Beach General Operation Budget

FY 2019 General Operating Budget: $74,994,567

- 67% Taxes
- 16% Charges for Services
- 7% Licenses, Fees, and Permits
- 6% Intergovernmental
- 1% Transfers in
- 1% Fines and Forfeitures
- 1% Miscellaneous
- 1% Interest Earnings
- <1% Grants and Contributions

Expenditures by Category

- 55% Personnel
- 22% Operating
- 15% Transfers Out
- 7% CRA TIF
- 1% Capital
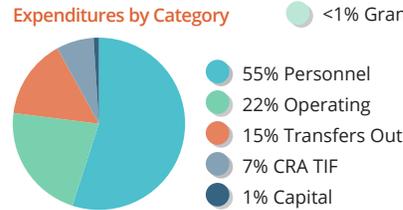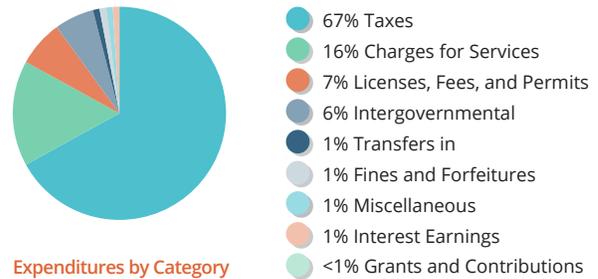
Figure 2-5: Riviera Beach Government Capital Budget

FY 2019 General Operating Budget: $74,994,567

- 63% Capital Projects Funds
- 30% Capital Bonds
- 4% Grants and Contributions
- 1% Gas Tax
- 1% Impact Fees
- 1% Interest

Expenditures by Category

- 44% City Facilities
- 31% Streets
- 10% Infrastructure
- 7% Technology
- 5% Community Park
- 2% Equipment
- 1% Economic Development
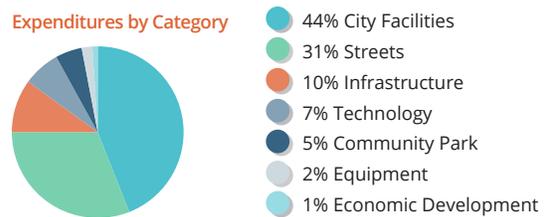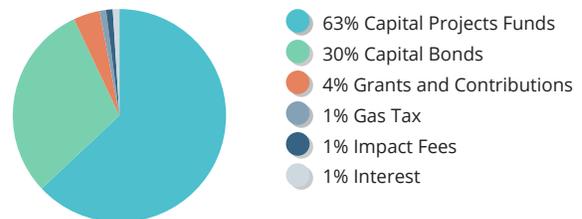
Figure 2-6: Riviera Beach Special District Budget

FY 2019 General Operating Budget: $74,994,567

- 60% Water System
- 37% Wastewater System
- 2% Interest
- 1% Other Chargers

Expenditures by Category
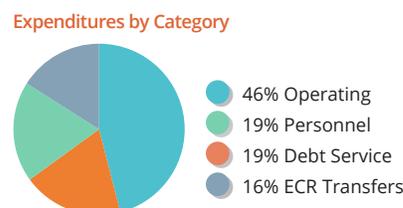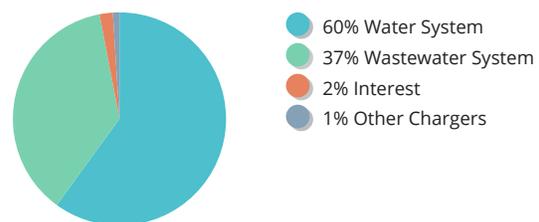
- 46% Operating
- 19% Personnel
- 19% Debt Service
- 16% ECR Transfers

South Florida Water Management District - This program offers cooperative funding for the roadway improvement of Yacht Harbor Manor, South Singer Island. **($150,000)**

Parks and Recreation

Florida Department of Environmental Protection Land and Water Conservation Fund Program - This program provides funding for beach access to renovate beach access facilities, public picnic facility, waterfront access trails, restrooms, installation of new playground, new signage, and landscaping. **($200,000)**

Stormwater

Statewide Surface Water Restoration and Wastewater Projects - This project is funded through the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection to assist with the capital improvement needs for Avenue O canal. The grant covers the costs for survey, design, permitting, and construction. **($425,000)**

Utility Special District

Statewide Surface Water Restoration and Wastewater Projects - This project is funded through the State of Florida Department of Environmental Protection to assist with the capital improvement needs for the Water Treatment Plant Disinfection Project to improve water quality and drinking water standards by upgrading the existing infrastructure to cover construction costs. **($500,000)**

Marina

Florida Inland Navigation District (F.I.N.D.) Waterway Assistance Program - This grant is for local governments established by the Florida Legislature and the District for the purpose of financially cooperating with local governments to alleviate problems associated with the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway associated waterways within the District. This grant is for the Marina Phase IIB for the continuation of the replacement and redesign of the City's Marina which includes Floating Dock G for 13 new slips, Dock A with 6 lifts, and the replacement, reconfiguration, and expansion of Pier F. **($2,357,000)**

Riviera Beach Governmental Fund Revenue Sources Related to Parks and Recreation:

Impact Fees

Impact fees - are charged to contribute to the costs associated with infrastructure and public services that need to be expanded as a direct result of new development in the growth areas of the City, which require substantial investment and construction of capital facilities before or in conjunction with future development and are determined based on the type of development. Impact fees are used to fund fire rescue, law enforcement, public buildings, roads, libraries, parks and recreation, general government, public safety, and transportation capital improvement projects.

Funds collected from impact fees may only be used to provide for new capital facilities which are necessary as a result of the new development. Impact fees are based on various factors based on land use and building size. FY 2019 projected revenues are based on economic conditions and development activity and projections.

State Revenue Sharing–Gas Tax

The municipal revenue sharing program - is administered by the Department of Revenue, and monthly distributions are made to eligible municipal governments. The program is comprised of state sales taxes, municipal fuel taxes, and state alternative fuel user decal fees that are collected and transferred to the Trust Fund. Funds derived from the municipal fuel tax on motor fuel can be used only for the purchase of transportation facilities and road and street rights-of-way; construction and maintenance of roads, streets, bicycle paths, and pedestrian pathways; and other

allowable transportation-related expenses. The Florida Department of Revenue distributes funds to the City by electronic funds transfer.

FY 2019 revenue projections are based on July 1st estimates from Florida Office of Economic & Demographic Research.

Recreational Activity Fees

Recreational activity fees - are received from users of specific services such as, activities fees for sports, facility rental, senior programs and activities, and concessions. Fees are determined based on usage and the amount of subsidy the City is willing to bear of providing recreational activities.

FY 2019 revenue projections are based on historical data, economic conditions, and projected number of participants registering for programs and activities.

Riviera Beach Enterprise Fund Revenue Sources Related to Parks and Recreation:

Stormwater Management Utility

SMU charges - are used for operating expenses and capital improvements directly related to the management of the stormwater system, including improvements designed to improve water quality in the City's waterway, including the improvement of existing stormwater systems.

Stormwater Management Fees

Stormwater Management Charges - are included on the City's utility bill. The City has the authority to increase the rate charged for storm water each year.

FY 2019 revenue projections are based on historical data and economic development and conditions.

Service Charges for Mangonia Park - The City charges a fee to maintain the canals for the City of Mangonia Park. The City and Mangonia Park has an agreement wherein Mangonia Park pays 20% of the annual cost to maintain the canal. The City bills Mangonia Park twice per year.

Marina

The City's Marina is managed by Seven Kings Management, a third party company. FY 2018 revenue projections are based on historical data and the number of potential customers.

Dockages Fees

Dockage fees - are the primary source of revenue for the Marina, which are charged to a vessel to use the dock. Charges are based on the size of vessel, slip size, type of storage, and rental period.

Fuel Sales

Fuel sales - are generated from the sale of fuel at the Marina's dock.

Miscellaneous Charges for Marina Services

Miscellaneous Charges - include retail sales, parking fees, utility service charges, laundry fees, and other services at the Marina.

FY 2019 Budget Department Key Objectives and Initiatives Related to Parks and Recreation:

Objective 1. **Promote public safety and address the challenges and opportunities to improve the quality of life for residents and enhance the relationships within the community.**

Initiatives

- Complete an evaluation of Parks infrastructure.
- Provide a prioritized action plan for bringing infrastructure to safe and usable conditions.
- Identify the operational efficiencies that are available, such as lighting upgrades and irrigation upgrades.
- Include action plan in the FY 2020 Operating and Capital Improvement Plan.
- Continue to leverage budgeted dollars with grant funding through FY2019.

Objective 2. Promote and foster a friendly business atmosphere and work to strengthen and create mutually beneficial partnerships.

Initiatives

- Complete a Parks Master Plan.
- Present draft Parks Master Plan to City Council.
- Leverage funded dollars with grant dollars to implement prioritized Parks and Recreation initiatives.
- Initiate a Code Compliance Reinvestment Program, where a portion of revenue generated by fines is allocated towards assisting eligible residents and improving neighborhoods.
- Host a library cultural event with the Parks and Recreation Department.

Objective 3. Develop a strategic framework that addresses a broad range of infrastructure needs to provide a sustainable and livable community for future generations.

Initiatives

- Complete evaluation of existing conditions of facilities and develop an action plan.
- Identify a prioritization of repairs, replacement, and upgrades.
- Include analysis and action plan in the Parks Master Plan.
- Implement a City-wide beautification initiative

for enhancing the appearance of City infrastructures.

- Enhance the appearance of City infrastructures.
- Put the City in a good state of repair, and implement programs to protect the environment.
- Coordinate housing and economic development policies to increase revenue for the City.
- Maintain an aesthetically pleasing community through design and maintenance practices.
- Improve the response time for inspections and repairs for the sidewalk repair program.
- Maintain a safe and efficient transportation network.
- Develop economic competitiveness with surrounding communities.
- Develop a comprehensive menu of program offerings.
- Coordinate with the School District on their needs in the Community as a support system
- Research and develop a community based system that requires an academic standard for participation.

Objective 4. Value and support racial, socio-economic, cultural, and religious diversity for the City.

Initiatives

- Continue to seek funding for cultural programs and events.
- Collaborate with others to produce cultural programming and special events.

Objective 5. Enhance departmental collaboration and innovation.

Initiatives

- Continue the implementation of the Parks Management System with the Information Technology Department.

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Relevance to Master Plan

The Riviera Beach FY 2018-2019 budget addresses four important elements that relate specifically to Parks and Recreation and this Master Plan. Those elements include, current funding methods and sources, on-going projects in the City, an overview of the City's budget structure, and goals and objectives already defined by the community. Knowledge of the funding sources for current City initiatives related to Parks and Recreation in Riviera Beach is vital to the master planning team to understand how the community currently funds and supports Parks and Recreation services. This will help guide financial and implementation proposals in this plan by identifying what funding tools the City is currently leveraging and those that could be expanded. It is also helpful for the team to establish if there are new sources currently unused by the City that could be developed for future projects. The budget also highlights immediate, ongoing projects that are shaping the City's infrastructure. As such, these projects are likely laying the groundwork for integrated, comprehensive design strategies and proposals of this master plan that can tie into existing planning and projects. By reviewing the 2018-2019 FY budget, the team also developed familiarity with the City's budget structure and how departments work together and complement the efforts of one another. This is a mission that this plan will prioritize as well. The annual objectives of the budget inform the team of defined goals for the City. This plan can partner with other departments in accomplishing those objectives through services related to Parks and Recreation. These objectives can work alongside the community outreach portion of this master planning process to provide insight and comparison into a broader time frame of thinking by the community about desired initiatives and their vision for the future.

Parks and Recreation Grants Awarded to the City of Riviera Beach

Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program - Funded portions of the Cunningham Park renovations. Completed May 2018

Small Communities Energy Retrofit - Retrofitted all of the court lighting at Dan Calloway Park to LED. Completed November 2019

Cultural Programs Grant MLK Celebration 2020 - Funded activities during the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration. Completed May 2020

Land and Water Conservation Grant for Municipal Beach Park - Replaced the playground, new signage, installed new landscaping, painted and installed new floors in the restrooms, added exercise equipment, new garbage bins, and added landscape curbing. Completed May 2020

Land and Water Conservation grant for Dan Calloway - Replace park fixtures, tables, benches and waste bins, upgrade electric at amphitheater, upgrade restrooms, and upgrade fields and courts. Estimated completion May 2021

Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program Lone Pine Park - Replace park fixtures, upgrade courts and playground. Estimated completion May 2021

Recreational Trails Program Lone Pine Park - Construct a walking trail, add exercise equipment, level multi-purpose area and upgrade landscaping. Estimated completion December 2021

City of Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Plan 2019 - 2023

Government Capital Improvement Projects

As the home of one of the premier waterfront coastlines in the United States as well as lands hosting invaluable nationally sensitive ecosystems, the City of Riviera Beach takes great pride in maintaining a high quality of life for its residents and a high standard of quality for its environment. The City, as part of this objective, has established a set of strategic investments for the community, the environment, and its infrastructure. The City's infrastructure, like much critical transportation and utility infrastructure nation-wide has reach an age where rapid reinvestment is paramount to modernize the City's assets. According to the Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Plan, the cost of these investments calculates to about $45 million over a five-year period. These projects fall into the category referred to in the Capital Improvement Plan as Governmental projects. The total amount of capital investment for these Government Projects in FY 2019 was projected to be $29.2 million.

The one cent sales tax law passed in November 2016, is also expected to leverage an additional $23.9 million of private-sector monies over a 10-year period to support these projects.

> **Total 2019 Capital Budget = $29,187,019**
>
> **Total 5-Year - Parks and Recreation Capital Budget = $1,533,138**

Government Project Funds - The City receives Government Project funding related to Parks and Recreation from the following sources:

- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) : CDBG program provides funding to address a wide range of community development needs. The City uses CDBG funds for street improvement projects within the City. **($332,587)**

- Florida Department of Environmental Protection: Grant provides funding to assist with capital improvement needs for the municipal beach. **($350,000)**

- Impact Fees: Impact fees are used to fund fire rescue, law enforcement, public buildings, roads, libraries, parks and recreation, general government, public safety, and transportation capital improvement projects. Funds collected from impact fees may only be used to provide for new capital facilities which are necessary as a result of the new development. Impact fees are based on various factors based on land use and building size. **($200,000)**

The Parks and Recreation Department is the fourth largest expenditure category in the 2019 Capital Improvement Plan after Public Works, Fire, and IT **(Figure 2-7)**. The City's five-year plan does not project any increase to the department budget between 2020 and 2023 **(Table 2-3)**. This could reflect substantial upfront funding for the Municipal Beach Park Renovation and Cunningham Park, two major, multi-year park projects in the Capital Improvement Plan **(Table 2-4)**.

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Figure 2-7: Capital Improvement Governmental Projects Funding by Department

Department	Funding
City Administration	$375,957
Police	$677,203
Development Services	$732,020
Library	$857,587
Parks and Recreation	$1,533,138
Information Technology	$1,949,552
Fire	$3,417,933
Public Works	$19,643,629
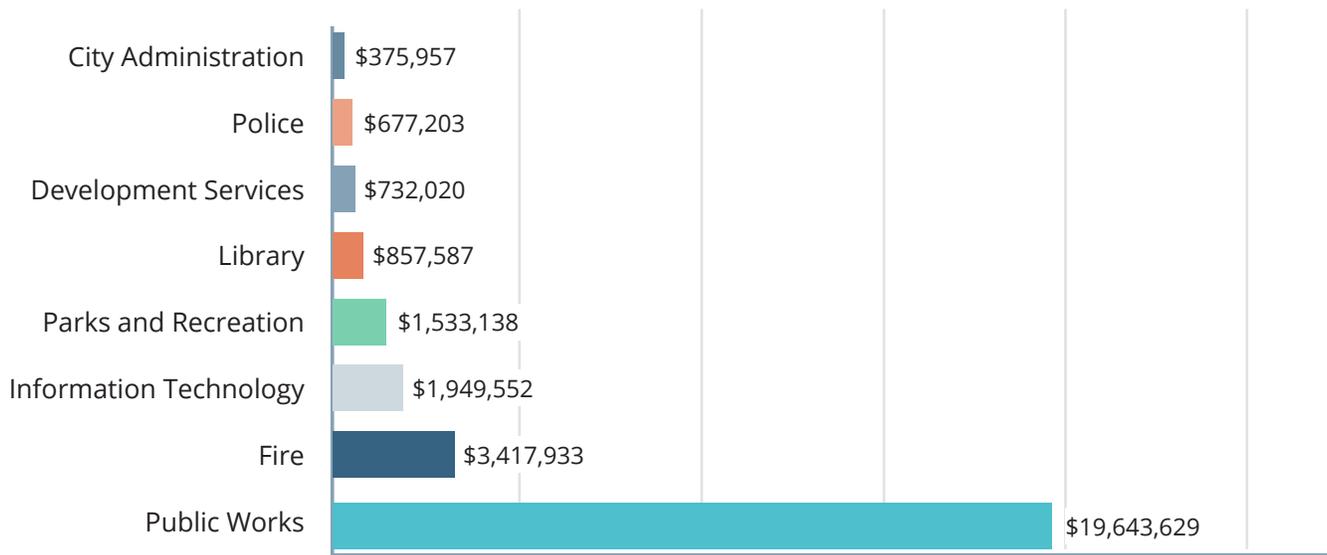
Table 2-3: Governmental Projects Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan by Department

Department	Prior Years	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	5-Year Total
City Administration	-	$375,957	$104,462	$48,415	-	-	$529,014
Police	$322,217	$677,203	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$80,000	$997,203
Development Services	$221,600	$732,020	$750,000	$750,000	$750,000	$750,000	$3,732,020
Library	$357,587	$857,507	$500,000	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	$4,357,587
Information Technology	$949,552	$1,949,552	$1,000,000	$1,000,000	-	-	$3,949,552
Parks and Recreation	$1,410,615	$1,533,138	-	-	-	-	$1,533,138
Fire	$300,610	$3,417,933	$4,550,000	$1,900,000	-	-	$9,867,933
Public Works	$15,211,913	$19,643,629	$150,000	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000	$19,943,629
Total By Department	**$18,774,094**	**$29,187,019**	**$7,134,642**	**$4,828,415**	**$1,880,000**	**$1,880,000**	**$44,910,076**

Table 2-4: Governmental Projects Five-Year Capital Improvement Parks and Recreation Projects

Municipal Beach Park Renovation	Parks and Recreation	1	$400,000
Cunningham Park	Parks and Recreation	1	$983,138
Parks and Recreation Master Plan	Parks and Recreation	1	$750,000
		Parks and Recreation Total	**$1,533,138**

Capital Improvement Plan 2019-2023 Projects Related to Parks and Recreation

The following **(Table 2-5)** shows the funding sources for Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Government Projects. **Table 2-6** provides a description and budgeted costs associated with a selection of the Government Projects from the Capital Improvement Plan that may not fall under the Parks and Recreation department but have a relationship to Parks and Recreation services. These projects help outline a path for the planning team to know what reinvestment work is already ongoing in Riviera Beach as well as to identify potential projects that the Vision for Parks and Recreation presented in this Master Plan can complement and with which it can coordinate.

Enterprise Capital Improvement Projects

The second type of project detailed in the Capital Improvement Plan is Enterprise Projects. These projects are funded by a different method than the Government Projects. They are paid for with Enterprise Funds, which are collected via a fee-for-service structure **(Figure 2-8)**.

Enterprise Project Funds - These funds account for operations that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises. The costs of providing goods or services to the general public are financed or recovered primarily through user charges.

Enterprise funds are used to account for business-type activities of the Utility Special District (USD), Stormwater Management Utility (SMU), Solid Waste Collection, and the Marina.

These entities are primarily based on a services provided and a fee for service structure. The enterprise funding operation is projected to collect about $37.5 million in revenues in FY 2019. The fees for services contribute to the costs required to fund these operations, the largest of which is USD, which accounts for approximately $27 million annually in revenue. Charges for services is the largest revenue source for the Enterprise funds, representing over 95% of the revenues budgeted for in the Enterprise funds. The adopted FY2019 rate included an increases of 3.05% for water and 8.79% for wastewater. This increase went into effect on October 1, 2019. There is ongoing evaluation by the Board regarding the impacts of the proposed

Figure 2-8: City of Riviera Beach 2019 Capital Improvement Enterprise Projects
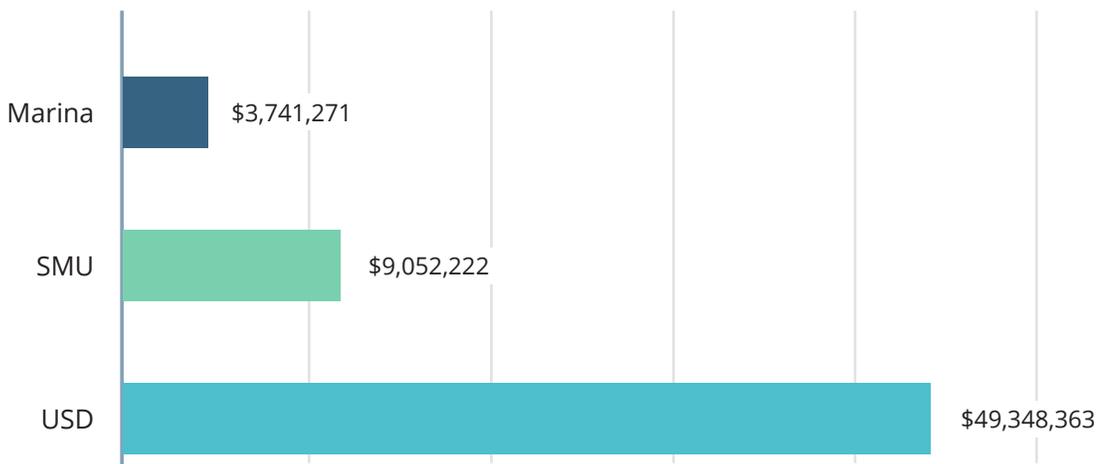
SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Figure 2-5: Government Capital Improvement Projects Funding Sources

Fund No.	FUNDING SOURCES	DESCRIPTION	In Progress Funding
211	U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)	CDBG program provides funding to address a wide range of community development needs. The City uses CDBG funds for street improvement projects within the City.	$332,587
261	Solid Waste Authority of Palm Beach County Distressed Property Clean-up and Beautification Grant	Grant provides funding for the rehabilitation and beautification of Cunningham Park.	$137,820
261	Contributions, Donations, and Sale Proceeds	Contributions and donations from private sources and proceeds from sale of property to assist with capital improvement projects and economic development activities within the City.	$376,762
217	Florida Department of Environmental Protection	Grant provides funding to assist with capital improvement needs for the municipal beach.	$350,000
301	Gas Tax Capital - Second Local Option Fuel Tax	Florida Statutes entitles the City to receive taxes on motor fuel sold within the County. The Second Local Option Fuel Tax is the second tax which is one to five cents levied on every net gallon of motor fuel sold within a county. Diesel fuel is not subject to this tax. The proceeds may only be used for transportation expenditures needed to meet the requirements of the capital improvements element of an adopted local government comprehensive plan.	$285,037
303	Impact Fees	Impact fees are charged to contribute to the costs associated with infrastructure and public services that need to be expanded as a direct result of new development in the growth areas of the City, which require substantial investment and construction of capital facilities before or in conjunction with future development and are determined based on the type of development. Impact fees are used to fund fire rescue, law enforcement, public buildings, roads, libraries, parks and recreation, general government, public safety, and transportation capital improvement projects. Funds collected from impact fees may only be used to provide for new capital facilities which are necessary as a result of the new development. Impact fees are based on various factors based on land use and building size.	$200,000
305	Capital Improvement Funds	As per the 2004 Asset Purchase Agreement between the City and USD, USD is required to pay the City half of water and wastewater impact fees collected.	$3,926,886
309	Contributions and Donations	Contributions and donations from private sources used to assist with capital improvement projects within the City.	$157,549
310	Capital Bond Proceeds	Funds received by the City from USD for the transfer of the water and wastewater operations in 2004. These funds are used for capital improvement projects.	$1,704,701
311	Capital Bond Proceeds	In 2015, the City issued Public Improvement Revenue Bond, Series 2014 to finance capital improvement projects.	$6,792,165
312	Pay as you go	Pay as you go funding is derived from the additional property tax revenues received by the City from the FPL power plant improvements. Funds are transferred from the General Fund to a Capital Projects Fund and are used to finance capital improvement projects as opposed to incurring debt to pay for capital projects.	$14,923,512
		Total Funding Sources	**$29,187,019**

Table 2-6: Government Capital Improvement Projects Related to Parks and Recreation Services

Project Title	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCES	In Progress Funding	FY19	FY20-FY23	TOTAL
Singer Island Dune Restoration	Singer Island, north of Ocean Reef Park has historically experienced major erosion. The condo minimum buildings and surrounding improvements are threatened by erosion. On September 19, 2012 the City entered into a long term (10 year) cost sharing agreement with the County to fund dune restoration. The agreement stipulates that the City fund 20% of future project costs	Pay as you go	–	$500,000	$2,000,000	**$2,500,000**
Public Library Construction	Public Library Construction Grant providing funding for a new Library (32,000 square feet). During FY 2018 and FY 2019, the Library should be under contract for construction. Project is programmed as a design/build/finance. FY 2020 to FY 2022 reflect future lease payments.	Grants and Contributions	–		$500,000	$3,857,578
		Pay as you go	$357,587	$500,000	$3,000,000	
Municipal Beach Park Improvements	Replace metal benches, waste receptacles and bike racks. Replace playground. Renovate the restrooms. Revamp the volleyball courts. Re-fit lift station. Improve beach access.	Grants and Contributions	–	$200,000	–	$400,000
		Impact fees		$200,000		
Cunningham Park Improvement – Community Park	The renovation of Cunningham Park includes new basketball court re-surfacing, tennis courts, restroom building, small and large pavilions, playground equipment, landscaping, irrigation, lighting, signage, park furniture and new entry feature. Funding below is being supplemented through Neighborhood Sector Funds.	Capital Bonds	$845,318	–	–	$983,138
		Grants and Contributions	$137,820			
Parks and Recreation Master Plan - Under Contract	Planning, conducting and completing Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	Pay as you go	–	$150,000	–	$150,000
City Welcome Signs – Under Contract	Construction of welcome signs at various locations throughout the City. Signs will have the same design as other newly constructed welcome signs in the City.	Grants and Contributions	–	$157,549	–	$565,780
		Capital Bonds		$408,231		
Palm Beach Isles Bridge – Under Design	The culverts that provide access to the residents of Palm Beach Isles require replacement due to deterioration. The culverts has reached the end of its useful life and re-placement is needed. Funding below is being supplemented through Neighborhood Sector Funds.	Pay as you go	$1,228,655	–	–	$1,543,144
		Capital Improvement	$314,489			
Singer Island Beach Access Path - Planning	Creation of a beach access path on Singer Is-land leading from North Ocean Boulevard to the beach. The proposed beach access path will be located on the south property line of the Via Delfino Condominiums.	Capital Improvement	$90,163	–	–	$90,163
Singer Island South Storm water – Under Construction	Storm water system improvement	Grants and Contributions	–	$150,000	–	$150,000
Southside Community Center – Under Construction	The Southside Community Center is a proposed building that is approximately 3,500 square feet in size and is located at Avenue G and West 5th Street. The project includes the construction of the building, parking lot, landscaping, and lighting improvements.	Capital Bonds	–	$524,617	–	$524,617

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Table 2-6: Government Capital Improvement Projects Related to Parks and Recreation Services

Project Title	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCES	In Progress Funding	FY19	FY20-FY23	TOTAL
Neighborhood Sector 1 - Planning	District 1: The Neighbor-hood Sector Plan will be divided equally between each of the four non-CRA sectors and will provide solutions for rising crime rates, increasing traffic through residential streets, and monitor future nearby developments. The plan aims to create a sense of pride, ownership, and belonging among the residents in each sector.	Pay as you go	$789,718	–	–	$789,718
Neighborhood Sector 2 – In Progress	District 2: The Neighbor-hood Sector Plan will be divided equally between each of the four non-CRA sectors and will provide solutions for rising crime rates, increasing traffic through residential streets, and monitor future nearby developments. The plan aims to create a sense of pride, ownership, and belonging among the residents in each sector.	Pay as you go	$79,545	–	–	$79,545
Neighbor-hood Sector 3 – In Progress	District 3: The Neighbor-hood Sector Plan will be divided equally between each of the four non-CRA sectors and will provide solutions for rising crime rates, increasing traffic through residential streets, and monitor future nearby developments. The plan aims to create a sense of pride, ownership, and belonging among the residents in each sector.	Pay as you go	$149,843	–	–	$149,843
Neighbor-hood Sector 4 – Under De-sign	District 4: Funds to support business, economic development, and job creation projects.	Pay as you go	$516,960	–	–	$516,960
Streets Mill and Resurface - Planning	Milling and resurfacing of streets within the established CDBG concentration area: W. 30th St. from Ave R to Ave O; Ave O from W. 30th St.; W. 28th St., from Ave R to Ave 0; W. 36th St. from Ave O to Obama Hwy.; Ave N from W. 36th St. to W. 35th St.	Grants and Contributions / Pay as you go	–	$155,000 / $210,000	–	$365,000
Sidewalk Repair and Re-placement – Planning and Design	The sidewalk repair and replacement project re-places damaged and broken sidewalks throughout the City.	Gas Tax	$135,037	$100,000	$100,000	$335,037
Marina Expansion – Phase 2 - Planning	Marina Phase IIB is the continuation of the replacement and redesign of the City's Marina which includes Floating Dock G for 13 new slips and Dock A with 6 lifts. This project also includes the replacement, reconfiguration, and expansion of Pier F.	Grant and Contributions / Renewal & Replacement	$425,000 / –	$1,932,500 / $642,500	–	$3,000,000
Stormwater Improvements for Roadways - Designed	Storm water improvements during the City's roadway improvement projects. Various roads in all four voting districts.	Capital Bonds	–	$9,052,222	–	$9,052,222

annual rate adjustments of approximately 5% for FY2020 through FY2023. Future rate adjustments are necessary as available for pay-go funding of capital is reducing annually and budgeted contingency has been reduced to about 3.5% for FY2019.

The following **(Table 2-7)** shows the funding sources for Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Enterprise Projects. **Table 2-8** provides a description and budgeted costs associated with the two FY2019

Enterprise Capital Improvement Projects that have a relationship to Parks and Recreation. It is critical that the planning team be aware of these ongoing investments and projects so that this Parks and Recreation Master Plan Vision ties seamlessly in with initiatives of the Enterprise Funding operation.

Table 2-7: Enterprise Capital Improvement Projects Funding Sources

NEW FUND N.	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCES	FY 2019 AMOUNT
422	Marina Renewal and Replacement	On an annual basis, the Marina operating fund transfers 5% of its gross revenues for the preceding fiscal year to the Renewal and Replacement fund to pay for the costs of the repair, renewal or replacement of capital assets of the Marina. The amount transferred from the Operating fund to the Renewal and Replacement fund may change from time to time.	$1,383,771
422	Florida Inland Navigation District (FIND) Grant	FIND Waterway Assistance Program is a grant for local governments established by the Florida Legislature and the District for the purpose of financially cooperating with local governments to alleviate problems associated with the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway associated waterways within the District. The program is authorized by Section 374.976 Florida Statutes, and is administered under the provisions of Chapter 66B-2, Florida Administrative Code.	$2,357,500
461	Stormwater Revenue Bond Proceeds	In 2016, SMU issued the Stormwater Management Utility Revenue Bonds, Series 2016 to finance the costs of certain improvements to the stormwater system.	$9,052,222
242	Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) Grant	FDEP provides grant funding to assist with the capital improvement needs for the USD Water Treatment Plan Disinfection project to improve water quality and drinking water standards by upgrading the existing infrastructure to cover construction costs.	$500,000
412	USD Renewal and Replacement	On an annual basis, USD's operating fund transfers 5% of its gross revenues for the preceding fiscal year to the Renewal and Replacement fund to pay for the costs of the repair, renewal or replacement of capital assets of the water and wastewater system. The amount transferred from the Operating fund to the Renewal and Replacement fund may change from time to time.	$12,288,015
413	USD Impact Fees	USD charges impact fees for new development for the purpose of providing new or expanded water and wastewaster system to serve that new development.	$4,122,981
415	USD Revenue Bond Proceeds	In 2016, USD issued Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, Series 2016 to finance the costs of acquiring, constructing, and equipping improvements and upgrades to the combined water supply, treatment and distribution system and wastewater collection system.	$32,437,367
		Total Funding Sources	**$62,141,856**

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Table 2-8: Enterprise Capital Improvement Projects Related to Parks and Recreation Services

Project Title	DESCRIPTION	FUNDING SOURCES	In Progress Funding	FY19	FY20-FY23	TOTAL
Haverhill Road Improvements - Palm Beach County Project	Palm Beach County is improving and widening Haverhill Road from north of Caribbean Blvd to the Beeline Hwy. The proposed improvements include a large widening portion that may impact the location of existing water ans sewer infra-structure. USD is re-quired to accommodate the road improvements and relocate conflicting infrastructure.	Renewal & Replacement	–	$50,000	$500,000	$550,000
Silver Beach Road Improvement – Palm Beach County Project	Palm Beach County is improving and widening Silver Beach Road from Old Dixie Highway to Congress Avenue which will include widening a portion that will have an impact on the location of existing water mains. USD is required to accommodate the road improvements and relocate existing water mains.	Capital Bonds	$178,862	$300,000	–	$478,862

Relevance to Master Plan

The Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Plan lays out a collection of vital improvement projects for the City. This work is in-progress, which means it is eminently shaping the future of the City. It is important for the Parks and Recreation Master Planning team to be aware of these projects. Environmental restoration initiatives can provide opportunities to partner with education organizations to teach about sensitive environmental systems that intersect with the built environment and that require preservation and ongoing reinvestment. Sidewalk and street projects have potential to partner in moving towards more green storm water infrastructure, shaded paths, trails, linear parks, and traffic calming methods in neighborhood and urban settings. Pairing these types of projects with ongoing construction and design can expedite diversification of transit methods that support community exercise, traffic-reduction, lesser-polluting transportation options, and less expensive transit like biking, buses, and walking. A community of pedestrian friendly and multimodal transit helps increase safe, equitable access to parks, open spaces, and recreational activities. Community Centers and library construction can lead to increased needs for multimodal transit infrastructure like bike lanes, protected paths, and green ways to provide safe access to these new facilities from surrounding neighborhoods.

Storm water projects are increasingly partnered with park design that can ease storm pressures on traditional storm water management infrastructure while also providing additional retention and ecological services through increased wetland habitat and sequestration and filtering of pollutants from transportation runoff prior to it entering major waterways. Signage projects can have an impact on City-wide branding potentially associated with Parks and Recreation messaging across the City. Awareness of these projects will help guide the master planning team in establishing most urgent needs, project hierarchy, opportunities for collaboration, and implementation proposals for this plan.

Palm Beach County 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan

The Palm Beach County 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a comprehensive analysis of the full county transportation system and provides 25-year projections that guide decision-making on state and federal transportation systems. The plan identifies significant transportation projects and services including transit corridors; major roadway improvements and new interchanges; freight capacity projects (roadways, railways, seaport and airport facilities); and non-motorized amenity networks (bicycle facilities, sidewalks, and shared-use paths). The goal of the LRTP is to advance the Palm Beach Transportation Planning Agency's vision for a safe, efficient, connected, and multimodal transportation system that sufficiently and diversely meets the needs of both the broader and smaller localized communities.

The Palm Beach County 2045 LRTR separately identifies pedestrian and bicycle networks as Tier 1 and Tier 2 priority networks. In addition to these networks, other factors were considered such as:

- High Pedestrian and Bicycle Crash Locations
- Traditionally underserved areas
- High Ridership Transit Corridors
- Connections to transit hubs

These networks and other factors are used to determine locations with the greatest connectivity need within the county's urban areas. Additionally, the LRTR establishes goals for future bicycle facility planning:

- To create separated bicycle facilities for a safe and connected bicycle network for all ages and abilities.

Map 2-1: 2045 Riviera Beach LRTP Bicycle Networks
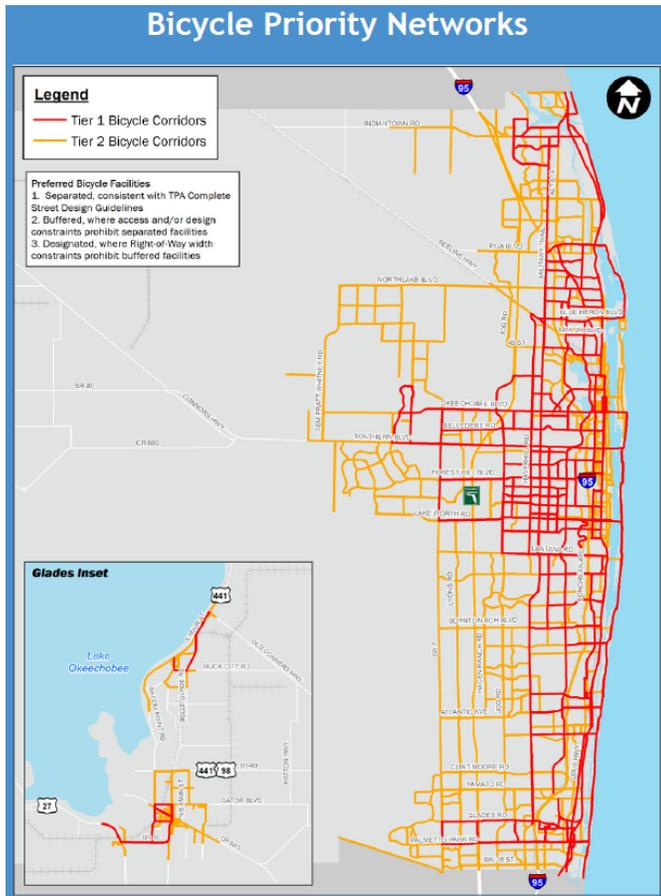
Map 2-2: 2045 Riviera Beach LRTP Sidewalk Gaps
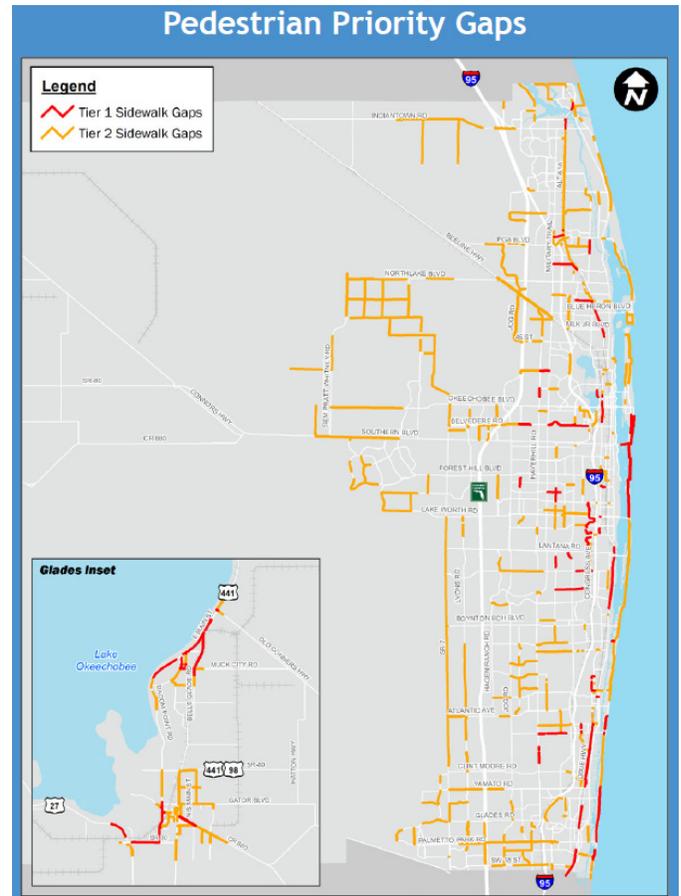
Table 2-9: Revenue Forecast for New Construction Projects

Program	20-24 (TIP)	25-30	31-35	36-45	Total
TPA Prioritzation					
Funding Available for TPA Priortization					
TPA Projects on State Roads	$117.5	$161.2	$157.7	$417.2	$853.6
District Dedicated Revenue (DDR)	$85.3	$84.1	$82.3	$217.6	$469.3
Primary Highways & Public Transportation Office (DS)	$32.3	$77.1	$75.4	$199.5	$384.3
Local Initiatives - TPA Projects on County/City Roads	$120.9	$137.8	$114.8	$229.6	$603.0
Surface Transportation - Urbanized (SU)	$102.2	$122.6	$102.2	$204.3	$531.2
Surface Transportation - Any Area (STP-A)	$18.7	$15.2	$12.7	$25.3	$71.8
Transportation Alternatives - TPA Ped/Bike Projects	$15.5	$18.6	$15.5	$31.0	$80.6
Surface Transportation - Alternatives (TALU)	$7.8	$9.3	$7.8	$15.5	$40.3
Surface Transportation - Alternatives Any Area (TALT)	$7.8	$9.3	$7.8	$15.5	$40.3

- To encourage bicycling as a means of transportation to places people live, work, learn, play and access transit.
- To establish a hierarchy of separated bike lanes and/or shared use pathways, buffered bicycle lanes, and designated bicycle lanes where they would be most highly utilized on the federal-aid eligible roadway network.

Relevance to Master Plan

The Palm Beach County 2045 LRTP expresses the importance of non-motorized facility networks and the TPA's vision to provide safe, efficient, connected and multimodal transportation systems.

A substantial set of Tier 1 and Tier 2 bicycle corridors spread across the City along major thoroughfares **(Map 2-1)** that connect commercial, residential, and recreational areas along busy north/south and east/west roadways with a focus on moving people efficiently through the City. The pan also outlines the major gaps in the corridors **(Map 2-2)**.

The projected revenue for TPA's bike and pedestrian projects is $80.6 million from 2020 to 2045 **(Table 2-10)**. These corridors are the basis for non-vehicular access to parks and open spaces. It is important for the planning team to be aware of the current system as well as the 2045 projections to partner recreation planning with methods of transit and the City's transit goals to continue to maintain Level of Service standards and make parks accessible to the entire community.

2.2 DEMOGRAPHICS

Introduction

An analysis of population demographic data and housing characteristics in Riviera Beach revealed important existing conditions and current trends of the City. A thorough Parks and Recreation Master planning process requires this foundational knowledge which will allow the plan to respond to the needs of the Riviera Beach community and chart a relevant path forward reflecting the existing culture and values. Research of future projections also allowed the team to identify changes that have the potential to impact delivery of City parks and recreation services over the next 10+ years.

Between 1990 and 2010, the City of Riviera Beach saw fairly consistent growth between 8.0 and 9.0%. While the growth during this time was consistent with trends across the state, it was lower in Riviera Beach than in Palm Beach County and statewide **(Table 2-10)**. In 2000, the county saw over 30.0% growth, and the state saw 23.53% growth. While county growth slowed to 16.70% by 2010 and State growth slowed to 17.63%, Riviera Beach remained consistently steady in its growth during this same time. Going into 2010, the population of Riviera Beach was 32,488 people. From 2010 to 2020, the community experienced an uptick in growth of 3.35% reaching a growth rate of 12.06% and surpassing the rate of Palm Beach County at 11.3%. Currently the population of Riviera Beach is 36,407 people. In the next five years, Riviera Beach is expected to continue to grow, but at a slower rate than in the last thirty years, and it's growth is also expected to stay very similar to that of the county.

Table 2-10: City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and State of Florida

Year	City of Riviera Beach		Palm Beach County		State of Florida	
	Population	% Change	Population	% Change	Population	% Change
1990	27,639	-	863,365	-	12,938,071	-
2000	29,884	8.12%	1,131,191	31.02%	15,982,824	23.53%
2010	32,488	8.71%	1,320,134	16.70%	18,801,310	17.63%
2020	36,407	12.06%	1,465,800	11.03%	21,236,667	12.95%
2025	39,043	7.24%	1,547,200	5.55%	22,943,900	8.04%
2030	40,691	4.22%	1,616,500	4.48%	23,872,566	4.05%
2035	42,138	3.56%	1,676,600	3.72%	25,397,400	6.39%
2040	43,132	2.36%	1,729,500	3.16%	26,426,400	4.05%

Source: Bureau of Economic and Business Research - Projections of Florida Population by County,   2020–2045, with Estimates for 2019 Palm Beach County Planning Division - 2019 Population Model - County-wide Population Projections through 2040 By Jurisdiction 2019 Population Model - County-wide Population Projections through 2040 By TAZ, Palm Beach County Planning Division - County Profile

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Between 2020 and 2025 the City is expected to grow by 7.24%. Then there is a projected drop in growth to 4.22% and the rate is projected to gradually slow to 2.36% by 2040. Moving forward, Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and the State of Florida expect to see slowing but moderate population growth in the next 15 to 20 years.

With the growth of the last 20 years and the recent uptick in that growth coming into 2020, as well as the continued but slowing population growth expected over the next 20 years, a very timely opportunity arises to re-evaluate the City's parks and recreation needs and determine priorities that will begin to address those needs for the larger population currently and the growing community in the future. Increased density both in population and demand for employment along the southern edge of Blue Heron Blvd. is creating an evolving labor force and new housing conditions in the City. Increased population and housing in the West, along the southern and norther borders and along the eastern coastal communities exhibits the extensive, and dispersed nature of Riviera Beach changes and gives insight into the heightened, comprehensive recreation demands likely resulting from those changes. This data provided the team evidence that a re-evaluation of the entire City's trends and community desires was paramount to best inform any plan to improve access to parks and recreation services for this increased population.

This re-evaluation process would provide insight into just how much Riviera Beach has changed and how it should continue to meet existing and new needs over the next decade. The characteristics of a population transform with growth, and parks and recreation needs associated with population characteristics are strongly impacted as neighborhoods and urban settings become increasingly dense. As such, the master planning team studied three primary demographic categories; population growth, population characteristics, and housing characteristics. The following sections of this study highlight significant findings.

Population Growth

In the 30 years following the incorporation of Riviera Beach in September 1922, the City experienced significant population growth. The community was home to fewer than 2,000 residents in 1922, but by 1959, the population has grown to 13,000 as which time, the Town was renamed the City of Riviera Beach.

Riviera Beach is located in the east central portion of Palm Beach County, about 5 miles north of West Palm Beach and 70 miles north of Miami. The City is bordered to the north by the Town of Lake Park, to the south by the Town of Mangonia Park, the Town of Palm Beach Shores and the City of West Palm Beach, to the west primarily by unincorporated Palm Beach County, and to the east by the Atlantic Ocean, which provides the City some of the most valuable, beautiful, environmentally sensitive coastline in the county.

Today, the City of Riviera Beach has a land area of approximately 8.52 square miles. The City is predominantly urban. Service and industry are key players of the economy. Riviera Beach has the power by statute to extend its corporate limits through annexation, when deemed appropriate by the Council, which periodically leads to increases in land and population.

In the early 2000s, the City saw growth and economic expansion, which was curbed sharply by the 2007 recession leading to City-wide economic downturn and a considerable slowing of new construction. During this challenging time, the population of the City remained fairly stable but experienced the resulting high unemployment rate that spread across most of the country. With 2019 data indicating a cautious, but encouraging decline in unemployment to 5.7%, signs such as a strengthening housing market began to appear again indicating growth in the local economy.

After multiple years of population increases that remained steady but notably lower than that of Palm Beach County and the state of Florida, The City saw a jump in population of 12.06% in 2020. This increase

brought the growth rate in the City above that of the County and nearly equal to that of the state. Future population growth in Riviera Beach is expected to be similar to the county and state with a projected drop to a 7.24% increase in 2025 and steadily slowing to 2.36% growth in 2040 **(Map 2-3)**.

Data from the Directions 2040 - Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization Long Range Transportation Plan **(Map 2-4)** projects strong population increases along Blue Heron Blvd. centered near the interchanges of N. Congress Ave. and President Barack Obama Hwy. The greatest growth increases are projected along Blue Heron Blvd. near Interstate Hwy 95. Additional stronger growth is projected in the southern portion of the City south of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Riviera Beach Heights.

Strongest employment growth is projected east of Broadway on the northern and southerner sides of Blue Heron Blvd. with some additional strong growth northwest of Broadway **(Map 2-5)**. Employment growth is also projected west of Australian Ave. along Blue Heron Blvd. In the southern portion of the City, employment is expected to strengthen south of Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd. along the western and eastern sides of Broadway.

Future growth, while slowing, will likely still create capacity concerns for certain facilities and programs especially on the heels of the rapid population increase coming into 2020. Needs and priorities of the community have been evolving faster as a result of this growth. With those needs comes a requirement for more access to transit and walkable facilities in densely populated areas, as well as an emphasis on providing parks and open spaces in the growing urban areas along the City's main transit corridors. However, in order to maintain a uniformly high quality of park services for all residents in the City, in both urban and more suburban and rural locations, updates and programmatic service adjustments will be necessary across the entire parks and recreation system.

Map 2-3: City of Riviera Beach and Palm Beach County 2045 Population and Job Density (People Per Acre)
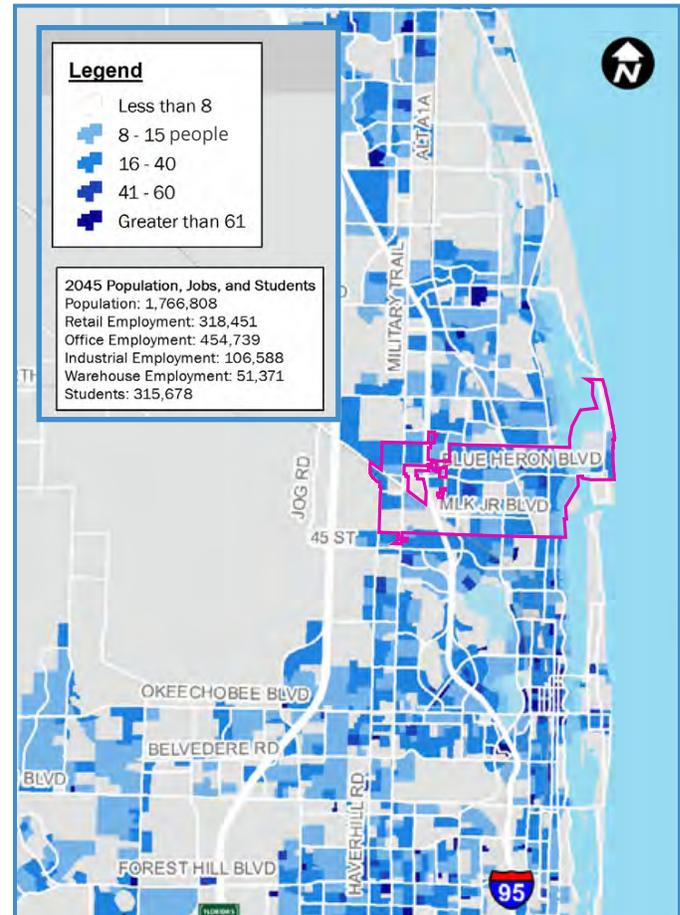
Data Source: Palm Beach MPO 2045 Long Range Transportation Plan

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Map 2-4: Riviera Beach Population Growth (2010-2040) in Persons Per Acre
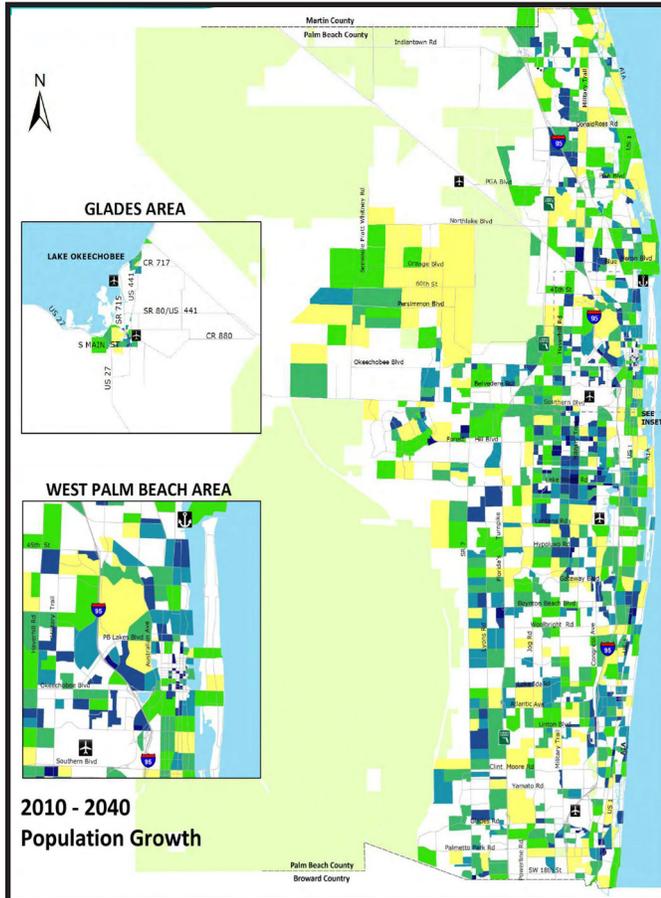
Data Source: Palm Beach MPO 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

Map 2-5: Riviera Beach Employment Growth (2010-2040) in Persons Per Acre
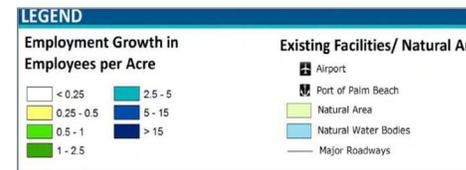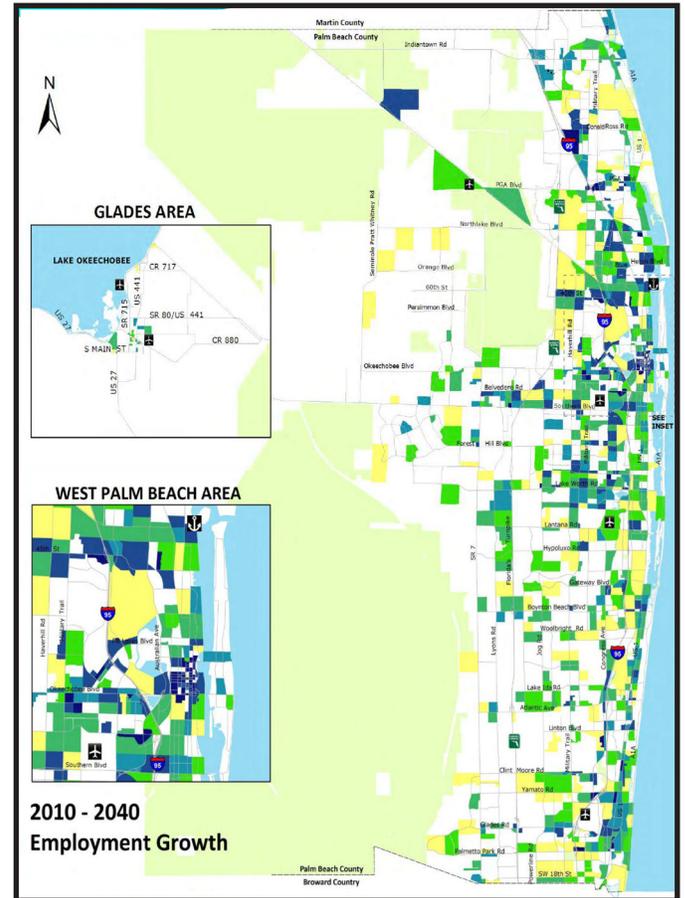
Data Source: Palm Beach MPO 2040 Long Range Transportation Plan

Population Characteristics

In a City that has experienced consistent growth over the last thirty years, it is vital to assess the entire population and its growth trends to determine broad level of service goals in the community. Specific population characteristics also help define the types of facilities that will serve a community best **(Table 2-5)**. Data collected from Riviera Beach between 2010 and 2019 through the U.S. Census, American Community Survey (ACS) reveals these types of population trends. Comparing the City's data with that of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida during the same time period, reveals the trends specific to Riviera Beach and puts them in a temporal, geographic context. The characteristics and historic growth trends unique to Riviera Beach begin to surface through this comparative process. This population characteristics analysis is documented in the follow sections and is one of the important factors used to establish the needs for Riviera Beach parks and recreation services.

Race/Ethnicity

A majority of the Riviera Beach population consists of the Black/African-American community, who represent 69.1% of the City's total population (**Table 2-6**). This percentage is notably higher than that of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida where the Black/African-American community represents 18.1% and 15.4% of the total population. This community also saw the greatest increase in population in Riviera Beach in the last ten years with a 2.6% increase. Similar to the City, the Black/African-American population has seen a 1.7% increase in Palm Beach County as a whole since 2010. The second most populous community in Riviera Beach is the Non-Hispanic White population representing 20.3%. of the population. Since 2010, this community has seen a decrease of 1.8%, which is a similar trend across the county and state. The decrease in the Non-Hispanic White community was smaller in Riviera Beach than in the county which saw a decrease of 4.5% and the state with a 4.7% percentage drop. The

Non-Hispanic White community represents a smaller percentage of the population in Riviera Beach than in Palm Beach County overall which has a 55.3% Non-Hispanic White population and the State of Florida, which has a similar percentage of 54.4%.

One demographic unique in Riviera Beach when compared with the rest of the state is in the City's Hispanic/Latino population. Palm Beach County and the State of Florida have a larger percentage of Hispanic/Latino population than in Riviera Beach representing 18.0% of County and 15.4% of the state. The Hispanic/Latino population represents 6.4% of the Riviera Beach community and are the third highest population in the City overall. The Hispanic/Latino population saw a small decline of 0.8% in Riviera Beach between 2010 and 2019, whereas the community has seen a 3.9% increase in the County and 3.6% increase in the State at large during that same time. Other ethnic communities stayed fairly consistent experiencing only minor change between 2010 and 2019.

Table 2-11: Race/Ethnicity in the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2000-2019

Race/Ethnicity	City of Riviera Beach			Palm Beach County			State of Florida		
	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change
Non-Hispanic White	22.1%	20.3%	-1.8%	61.7%	55.3%	-6.4%	59.1%	54.4%	-4.7%
Black/African-American	66.5%	69.1%	2.6%	16.4%	18.1%	1.7%	15.1%	15.4%	0.3%
Hispanic/ Latino (any race)	7.2%	6.4%	-0.8%	18.0%	21.9%	3.9%	21.6%	25.2%	3.6%
Asian	2.6%	1.9%	-0.7%	2.2%	2.7%	0.5%	2.4%	2.7%	0.3%
American Indian	0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%
Pacific Islander or Native Hawaiian	0.1%	0.0%	-0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Other Race	0.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%
Two or More Races	1.1%	1.7%	0.6%	1.0%	1.6%	0.6%	1.3%	1.8%	0.5%

Source: 2010: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

Figure 2-9: Ethnicity by Percentage of the Population in Riviera Beach
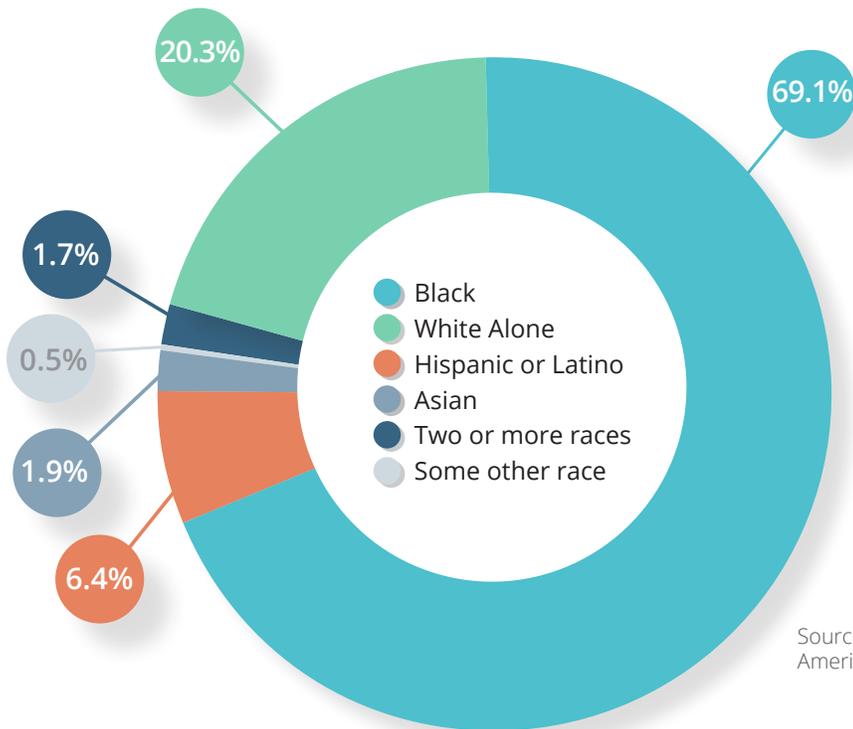
Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2019 American Community Survey

Age

The population of Riviera Beach is younger than that of Palm-Beach County and the rest of the State of Florida **(Table 2-12)**. The median age in Riviera Beach is 36.1, which is lower than that of Palm Beach County at 44.6 and that of the State of Florida at 41.9 years of age. In the last ten years, the median age in Riviera Beach has increased by 0.8; however, this increase is also lower than that in Palm Beach County and of Florida which have both seen an increase of 1.5 or higher in the population median age. In order to have a more thorough understanding of these unique characteristics in the Riviera Beach community and their causes, a closer examination was made of smaller population age groups.

Palm Beach County has seen a 1.4% decline in its population age group of 24 years old and younger, whereas the State of Florida has seen a 2.3% decline over the last ten years. Riviera Beach has seen a greater decrease in this age group of 4.2%.

That younger age bracket includes 20.1% of the Riviera Beach population, which is under the age of 14 and is a higher percentage in than in the county and the state with 15.8% of the county and 17.3% of the state population in this age group. So, a larger portion of the Riviera Beach community is younger than the county or state population. Where Riviera

Figure 2-10: Notable Age Group Growth Rates in Riviera Beach (2010-2019)
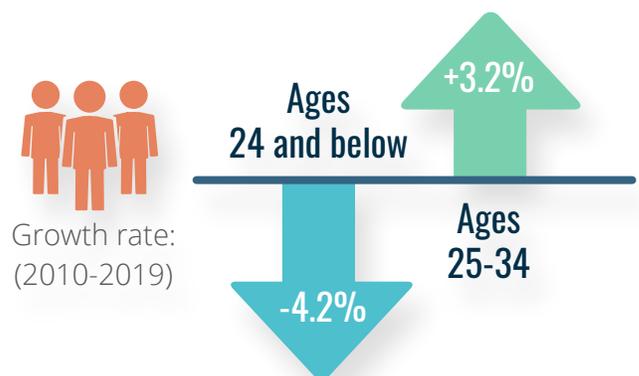
Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2019 American Community Survey

Table 2-12: Population by Age in the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2000-2019

Age (Years)	City of Riviera Beach			Palm Beach County			State of Florida		
	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change
Under 5	8.3%	7.1%	-1.2%	5.4%	5.1%	-0.3%	5.8%	5.4%	-0.4%
5 to 14 years	14.1%	13.0%	-1.1%	11.4%	10.7%	-0.7%	11.9%	11.2%	-0.7%
15 to 24 years	15.1%	13.2%	-1.9%	11.6%	11.2%	-0.4%	13.2%	12.0%	-1.2%
25 to 34 years	12.0%	15.2%	3.2%	11.0%	11.9%	0.9%	12.2%	12.9%	0.7%
35 to 44 years	12.5%	10.5%	-2.0%	13.3%	11.5%	-1.8%	13.6%	12.1%	-1.5%
45 to 54 years	12.2%	13.2%	1.0%	14.1%	13.3%	-0.8%	14.4%	13.3%	-1.1%
55 to 64 years	10.9%	11.5%	0.6%	11.8%	13.0%	1.2%	12.0%	13.2%	1.2%
65 to 74 years	8.7%	8.5%	-0.2%	9.6%	11.4%	1.8%	8.8%	10.9%	2.1%
75 to 84 years	4.8%	5.8%	1.0%	8.3%	7.9%	-0.4%	5.9%	6.2%	0.3%
85 years or older	1.3%	2.1%	0.8%	3.6%	4.0%	0.4%	2.2%	2.6%	0.4%
Median Age	35.3	36.1	0.8	43.1	44.6	1.5	40.3	41.9	1.6
Under 18	27.3%	24.3%	-3.0%	20.6%	19.4%	-1.2%	21.7%	20.1%	-1.6%
Over 65	14.8%	16.4%	1.6%	21.4%	23.3%	1.9%	16.9%	19.7%	2.8%
Male	46.4%	47.3%	0.9%	48.4%	48.5%	0.1%	48.9%	48.9%	0.0%
Female	53.6%	52.7%	-0.9%	51.6%	51.5%	-0.1%	51.1%	51.1%	0.0%

Source: 2010: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

Beach further differs from the county and state is in its middle-aged population of 25 to 34 years of age, which saw a 3.2% increase compared to the county's 0.9% increase and the state's 0.7% increase. A smaller percentage of Riviera Beach is in older age brackets when compared to the county as well. 23.4% of the county population is above the age of 65 compared to Riviera Beach's 16.4%. This, along with the larger middle-aged and younger populations in the City begins to shed light on the younger overall median age in Riviera Beach. Notable trends in ages can be found in **Figure 2-10**.

Gender

When evaluating transformations in gender distribution demographics, it is important to begin with a understanding that large changes do not generally occur in this demographic category unless some type of transformation happens that impacts the broader community such as the closing or establishment of a military base. The U.S. 2010 Census revealed that women represented 53.6% of the Riviera Beach population compared to 46.4% being men **(Table 2-13)**. By 2019, the proportions had increased 0.9% for men with 52.7% of the

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City female and 47.3% male. This change is more noteworthy when compared to Palm Beach County which saw an increase of 0.1% in male population and when compared to the overall State of Florida which saw no change in distribution. Despite the larger increase in male population over the last 20 years in the City, men still represent a smaller portion of the Riviera Beach community than they do in Palm Beach County and the state. In the county men equal 48.5% of the population and in the state they represent 48.9%.

Income

Residents in Riviera Beach like most residents across Florida have seen an increase in their incomes over the last 10 years **(Table 2-13)**. The 2010 Census indicated that the median household income in Riviera Beach was $37,539 per year. Between 2010 and 2019, the median income of the City increased by $7,332 and is now equal to $44,871 per year. This increase is higher than the increase that residents of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida saw with $6,701 and $5,606 increases respectively. This strong financial growth is indicative of a city like Riviera Beach that is expanding in population and is also an indication of a growing economy. However, even with its stronger growth than other parts of Florida, Riviera Beach still has

Table 2-13: Median Household Income in the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2000-2019

Year	City of Riviera Beach			Palm Beach County			State of Florida		
	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change
Less than $10,000	10.9%	8.5%	-2.4%	6.3%	5.9%	-0.4%	7.3%	6.8%	-0.5%
$10,000 to $14,999	7.3%	6.4%	-0.9%	5.0%	4.0%	-1.0%	5.6%	4.7%	-0.9%
$15,000 to $24,999	15.7%	12.1%	-3.6%	10.7%	9.7%	-1.0%	11.8%	10.5%	-1.3%
$25,000 to $34,999	13.0%	12.1%	-0.9%	10.6%	9.7%	-0.9%	11.8%	10.7%	-1.1%
$35,000 to $49,999	14.5%	15.3%	0.8%	14.4%	13.0%	-1.4%	15.6%	14.3%	-1.3%
$50,000 to $74,999	17.9%	17.1%	-0.8%	18.0%	17.4%	-0.6%	18.9%	18.4%	-0.5%
$75,000 to $99,999	8.5%	9.1%	0.6%	11.8%	11.5%	-0.3%	11.5%	11.9%	0.4%
$100,000 to $149,999	7.1%	10.5%	3.4%	12.6%	13.8%	1.2%	10.5%	12.5%	2.0%
$150,000 or more	5.2%	8.9%	3.7%	10.6%	15.0%	4.4%	7.0%	10.2%	3.2%
$200,000 or more	2.7%	5.2%	2.5%	6.2%	8.7%	2.5%	3.6%	5.4%	1.8%
Median Income	$37,539	$44,871	$7,332	$53,242	$59,943	$6,701	$47,661	$53,267	$5,606

Source: 2010: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

Figure 2-11: Median Income in the Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida 2010-2019

City of Riviera Beach
$44,871
+$7,332
(2010-2019)

Palm Beach County
$59,943
+$6,701
(2010-2019)

State of Florida
$53,276
+$5,606
(2010-2019)

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2019 American Community Survey

an overall lower median income than the rest of Palm Beach County and state. The current median income in Palm Beach County is $59,943 and in the State of Florida, the median annual income in $53,267. The Parks and Recreation Master Planning Team evaluated changes in individual income brackets to better understand the income trends unique to Riviera Beach. Trends in median income are shown in **Figure 2-11**.

The City of Riviera Beach has seen a notable decline in the percentage of households in lower income brackets. Between 2010 and 2019, there was a 6.9% decrease in Riviera Beach households making $24,999 per year or less. Palm Beach County saw only a 2.4% decrease in this income range during this same time and the state saw a 2.7% decrease. The 2020 Federal Poverty Income Level is $26,200, which means that the number of households in Florida with an income below the federal poverty line is decreasing, and in Riviera Beach these households are decreasing by a greater percentage at a faster rate than the rest of the state. Riviera Beach saw a 0.8% increase in households in the middle-income bracket of $35,000 to $49,999 whereas the county and state saw declines in this middle-income bracket of 1.4% and 1.3% respectively.

Higher household income brackets in Riviera Beach and across the state saw similar growth rates over the last 10 years. Riviera Beach households making $75,000 or more per year saw growth of 7.7% between 2010 and 2019. The same group in Palm Beach County saw a similar increase of 7.8%. The state saw an increase of 7.0%. Overall, however, Riviera Beach has a smaller percentage of 28.5% of households in this

income bracket making $75,000 per year whereas 40.3% of county households and 34.6% of statewide households have a yearly income of $75,000. The stronger middle-income growth and a smaller percentage of overall population in higher income brackets compared to the county and state provide insight into a lower median income in the City overall.

Strong growth like that experienced over the last 10 years in higher income bracket households in Riviera Beach, allows for budgets with greater disposable resources. With this type of change often comes stronger community desire for specialized parks and recreation services. As a result, Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation department leadership should proactively prepare for increasing interest in more diverse recreation options.

Educational Attainment

The most prevalent educational attainment type in Riviera Beach is a high school degree with 33.3% of the population in this category **(Table 2-14)**. This is a higher percentage than in the county where 24.5% have attained a high school degree and the state where 28.8%. have completed a high school degree. High school degrees also saw the greatest growth of any category of educational attainment in Riviera Beach increasing by 2.1% from 2010 to 2019. The second highest growth in educational attainment in Riviera Beach was in people getting a Master's degree or higher which experienced a 1.9% increase between 2010 and 2019 and represents 9.6% of

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Table 2-14: Educational Achievement in the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2000-2019

Education (% of pop. 25 and older)	City of Riviera Beach			Palm Beach County			State of Florida		
	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change
Less than 9th grade	6.3%	5.0%	-1.3%	5.7%	5.8%	0.1%	5.7%	4.9%	-0.8%
9th - 12th grade, no diploma	13.3%	9.1%	-4.2%	7.4%	6.0%	-1.4%	9.0%	7.1%	-1.9%
High school graduate	31.2%	33.3%	2.1%	26.7%	24.5%	-2.2%	30.3%	28.8%	-1.5%
Some college, no degrees	20.2%	19.1%	-1.1%	20.5%	19.2%	-1.3%	20.6%	20.2%	-0.4%
Associate's degree	7.7%	8.8%	1.1%	7.9%	8.8%	0.9%	8.5%	9.8%	1.3%
Bachelor's degree	13.5%	15.0%	1.5%	20.1%	22.2%	2.1%	16.8%	18.5%	1.7%
Master's degree or higher	7.7%	9.6%	1.9%	11.7%	13.5%	1.8%	9.1%	10.6%	1.5%

Source: 2010: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

the City population. While the overall percentage of Riviera Beach residents with a Master's Degree or higher is lower than the percentage of Palm Beach County at 13.5% and the State of Florida's percentage of 10.6%, the growth rate in Riviera Beach in people receiving a Master's Degree or higher was stronger than the county's 1.8% and the state's 1.5%. during the same time period.

Figure 2-12: Educational Attainment in Riviera Beach

33.3% High school graduate

19.1% Some college, no degrees

8.8% Associate's degree or higher

15.0% Bachelor's degree

9.6% Master's degree or higher

85.8%
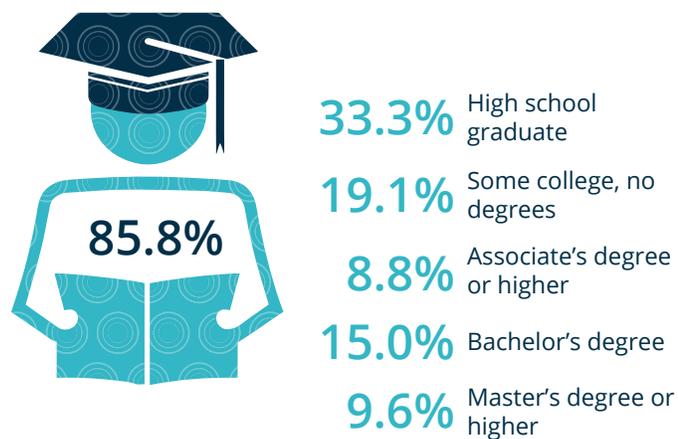
High School Degree or Higher

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2019 American Community Survey

The percentage of residents with a Bachelor's degree or higher represents 15.0% of the City, which is lower the county's percentage of 20.1% but more similar to the statewide percentage of 18.5%. Associate's degrees grew by 1.1% in Riviera Beach between 2010 and 2019 and represent 8.8% of the Riviera Beach population, which is equal to the county percentage and very close to the statewide average of 9.8%. Overall, 86.9% of Riviera Beach residents have graduated from high school and received their degree which is a little bit lower than the county's 88.2% but only slightly lower than the statewide percentage of 87.9%. **Figure 2-12** highlights trends in educational attainment.

Employment

Between 2010 and 2019, the City of Riviera Beach saw a 0.5% decrease of its population in the labor force. This percentage is a smaller decrease than Palm Beach County which saw a 0.7% decrease and the state which saw a much greater decrease of 2.6% of its workforce **(Table 2-15)**. Riviera Beach also has a notably higher percentage of its population active in the labor force. 62.5% of Riviera Beach residents

Table 2-15: Employment Characteristics in the Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2000-2019

Employment (Pop. 16 years and older)	City of Riviera Beach			Palm Beach County			State of Florida		
	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change
% In Labor Force	63.0%	62.5%	-0.5%	60.5%	59.8%	-0.7%	61.3%	58.7%	-2.6%
% Unemployed	7.7%	5.7%	-2.0%	5.4%	3.9%	-1.5%	5.4%	3.7%	-1.7%
Drove Alone	77.7%	75.5%	-2.2%	78.7%	78.2%	-0.5%	79.4%	79.4%	0.0%
Carpooled	11.4%	13.4%	2.0%	11.2%	9.9%	-1.3%	10.4%	9.2%	-1.2%
Public Transit	2.0%	3.9%	1.9%	1.5%	1.8%	0.3%	2.0%	1.9%	-0.1%
Walked	2.0%	1.4%	-0.6%	1.7%	1.5%	-0.2%	1.6%	1.4%	-0.2%
Other	1.3%	3.1%	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%	0.2%	2.2%	2.2%	0.0%
Worked at Home	5.6%	2.7%	-2.9%	4.9%	6.5%	1.6%	4.4%	5.8%	1.4%
Mean Travel Time (min)	21.7	22.0	0.3	24.7	25.6	0.9	25.7	27.4	1.7

Source: 2010: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

are employed in the labor force compared to the county's 59.8% and the statewide percentage of 58.7%. Unemployment also dropped by 2.0% in Riviera Beach between 2010 and 2019, which was a greater percentage than the county at 1.5% and the state at 1.7%. Overall, however, Rivera Beach has a noticeably higher unemployment rate of 5.7% compared to the county percentage of 3.9% and the state rate of 3.7%. High labor force participation and the drop in unemployment indicates an economy very able to support the community with jobs. The quality of labor forced pared with the increases in annual incomes implies a strengthening financial state in the City.

Mode of Commute

A majority of the Riviera Beach labor force, 75.5%, drives alone to work **(Table 2-16)**. An encouraging trend in the City since 2010 is that 2.2% fewer people are driving alone now than ten years ago. The overall percentage of people driving to work in Riviera Beach is lower than the county 78.2% and the state 79.4%, and the 2.2% decrease in

numbers of people in Riviera Beach driving alone is also noticeably higher than that of the county or state which saw little to no movement in this demographic. As a result, another trend in the City is that a larger percentage of the population is using alternative methods to driving alone to get to work when compared with the rest of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida. A diversifying system of transportation can be an indicator that more options are beginning to better meet people's transit needs. Other types of transit were analyzed closely to understand these changes.

Data from 2010 to 2019 indicates that carpooling and public transit in particular have helped take the place of solo vehicular travel to work in Riviera Beach. Carpooling increased by 2.0%, which was higher than the county increase or state increase, and the overall percentage of people carpooling in Riviera Beach is 13.4% making it the second most popular method of commute. Public transit usage also increased by 1.9% and a total of 3.9% of residents use public transit to get to work **(Figure 2-13)**. This percentage is also higher than the county's 1.8%

and state 1.9% who use public transit. This strong growth in the use of public transit is a positive trend and is also clearly unique from the county and state where residents are more often choosing instead to work from home. Working from home decreased by 2.9% in Riviera Beach, which indicates that the Riviera Beach workforce prefers to travel to their place of work but are also proactively seeking alternative methods to standard solo driving. The Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation department should consider methods to support residents in their new choices of alternative transit options and should consider how to tie its services into the design of public transit facilities. By continuing to make public transit and other travel methods accessible and attractive to Riviera Beach residents, the current City trends put it on course to be a leader and example for establishing a well-used, integrated/complete, diversified transportation network.

A result of this type of transit system is smaller travel times to and from work. Currently, travel times are increasing across all of Florida. The mean travel time in Riviera Beach is 22.0 minutes. This is lower than the county mean time of 25.6 minutes and the state time of 27.4 minutes. Travel times have increased across the City, County, and State in the last ten years. By supporting its ongoing trends of diversification of transit methods, Riviera Beach has an opportunity to capitalized on its current successes allowing for less vehicular traffic and residents spending even smaller amounts of their day community to work.

Housing Characteristics

Housing characteristics reveal additional significant trends and details about a population. High levels of homeownership typically signify stable communities, whereas high levels of vacancy can indicate a struggling local economy. Additionally, the number of new residential units not only mirrors population growth but can provide clues as to how densely and rapidly a community is growing based on the residential building types. This information

Figure 2-13: Modes of Commute in the City of Riviera Beach in 2019

75.5%
Drove Alone

21.4%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2019 American Community Survey

Alternative Modes

Worked from home
2.7%

Walked
1.4%

Public Transit
3.9%

Carpooled
13.4%

can provide input in the amount of additional future parkland or facilities needed or even the type of facilities based on an increase in urban densities which represent an evolving lifestyle.

Housing Units

In absolute numbers, the quantity of housing units in Riviera Beach declined by 5.6%, 958 units, from a total 17,074 to 16,116 between 2010 to 2019. This housing trend is noticeably different from those of Palm Beach County and the State of Florida **(Table 2-16)**. In the county, 25,565 units were added between 2010 and 2019, which was a growth of 3.9%. In the state overall, housing units increased by 485,632 units, a growth of 5.5%, in the same time period. The vacancy rate of housing units in the Riviera Beach fell by 0.7%, which was very consistent with the county and state. The total housing unit vacancy percentage, however, of Riviera Beach is significantly higher than the county or state. A total of 28.9% of units in Riviera Beach are vacant compared to 19.7% in Palm Beach County and 18.5% in the state.

The percentage of housing units that are owner-occupied has decreased across all of Florida including Riviera Beach. 53.8% of units in the City are owner-occupied, and 68.6% and 65.0% are owner-

Table 2-16: Housing Characteristics in the City of Riviera Beach, Palm Beach County, and Florida, 2000-2019

Housing	City of Riviera Beach			Palm Beach County			State of Florida		
	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change	2010	2019	Change
Households with families	64.2%	67.0%	2.8%	62.1%	62.3%	0.2%	65.3%	64.4%	-0.9%
Family w/ kids under 18	28.1%	24.0%	-4.1%	24.9%	23.0%	-1.9%	26.5%	22.9%	-3.6%
Family w/o own kids under 18	36.1%	43.0%	6.9%	37.2%	39.3%	2.1%	38.8%	41.5%	2.7%
Non-Family	35.8%	33.0%	-2.8%	37.9%	37.7%	-0.2%	34.7%	35.6%	0.9%
HHs w/ people under 18	33.0%	31.2%	-1.8%	27.2%	25.7%	-1.5%	29.8%	26.2%	-3.6%
HHs w/ people over 65	29.0%	32.6%	3.6%	36.2%	41.0%	4.8%	30.3%	37.2%	6.9%
Avg. HH size	2.69	2.98	0.29	2.45	2.60	0.15	2.53	2.65	0.12
Avg. Family size	3.39	3.68	0.29	3.07	3.28	0.21	3.11	3.27	0.16
Total Housing Units	17,074	16,116	-958	657,106	682,671	25,565	8,863,057	9,348,689	485,632
% Units Occupied	70.4%	71.1%	0.7%	79.6%	80.3%	0.7%	80.7%	81.5%	0.8%
% Vacant	29.6%	28.9%	-0.7%	20.4%	19.7%	-0.7%	19.3%	18.5%	-0.8%
% Owner-Occupied	59.1%	53.8%	-5.3%	73.6%	68.6%	-5.0%	69.7%	65.0%	-4.7%
% Renter-Occupied	40.9%	46.2%	5.3%	26.4%	31.4%	5.0%	30.3%	35.0%	4.7%

Source: 2010: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

occupied in the county and state respectively. The quantity of renter-occupied housing units in the City of Riviera Beach increased by 5.3% since 2010. An increase in renting has been a consistent trend across the state of Florida. Renting increased in Palm Beach County by 5.0%, and statewide renting increased by 5.3% in the last ten years. The total amount of rented units in Palm Beach County is 31.4% and statewide it is 35.0%, which are both notably lower rates compared to the renter-occupied percentage of housing units in Riviera Beach, which is 46.2%.

Households and Families

The household type most common in Riviera Beach is family households with their own children under 18 (**Table 2-11).** This type of household represents 43.0% of all Riviera Beach households and increased by 6.9%, more than any other household type, between 2010 and 2019. This is both a greater total quantity and greater increase than in this same type of household in Palm Beach County or the State of Florida. It is reflective of the City's larger youth population compared to the county and state. The next most common households are non-family households where tenants are not immediate family members, which represent 33.0% of households in the City. The is a small amount compared to the county and state and this type of household also decreased in the City by 2.8% between 2010 and 2019. The third common household type is households with people over 65 years of age, which equals 32.6% of Riviera Beach households and saw a 3.6% increase, which was the second highest increase of any household type in the last ten years. This is also indicative of the rise in the City's older community between 2010 and 2019.

Households in Riviera Beach on average are larger than those in the county and state. The average number of household members also increased more in Riviera Beach in the last ten years than in the county or the state. Riviera Beach households increased by 0.29 to an average of 2.98 people. The county increased by 0.15 to an average of 2.60 people, and the state average increased by 0.14

to 2.67 people per household. Two factors that could be contributing to the increase in household size could be the rise in households with young children as well as the number of residents who may now have older family members living with them as the City's older populations increased. The average family size in Riviera Beach is growing with an increase of 0.29 to an average of 3.68 people between 2010 and 2019, which is higher than the county average of 3.28 and the state average of 3.27 people. Trends in households and families can be found in **Figure 2-14 and 2-15**.

Figure 2-14: Households with Families and Non-Family Households

Family

+ 2.8%
(2010-2019)

67.0%
of Riviera Households

Non-Family

- 2.8%
(2010-2019)

33.0%
of Riviera Households
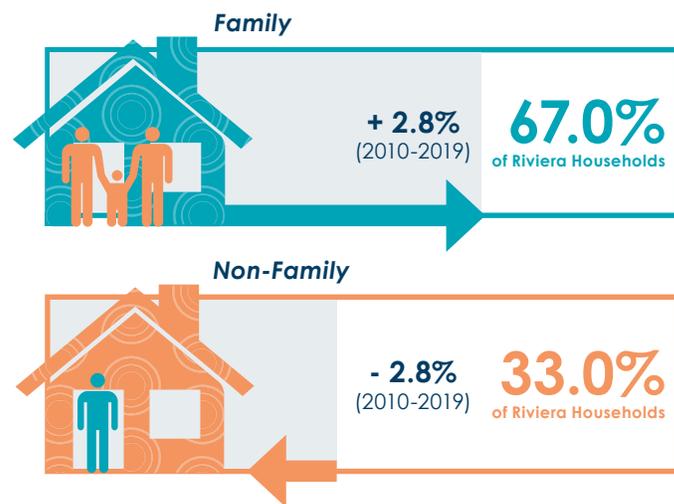
Figure 2-15: Household and Family Size in Riviera Beach

H.H. **2.69**
Fam. **3.39**

H.H. **2.98**
Fam. **3.68**

Size

Year   *2010*   *2019*
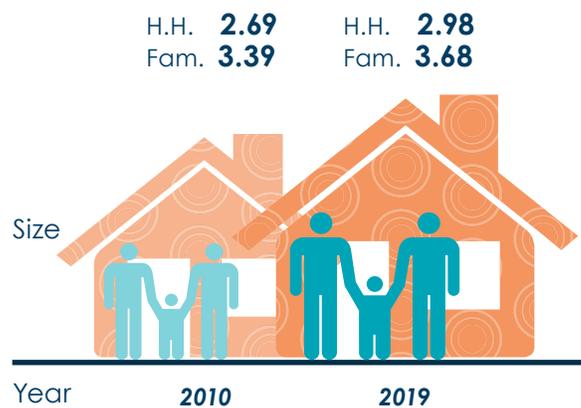
Source: U.S. Census Bureau - 2019
American Community Survey

Demographics Summary

Growth

- Between 2020 and 2025 the City is expected to grow by 7.24%. Riviera Beach is expected to see slowing but moderate population growth in the next 15 to 20 years.

- Data from the Directions 2040 - Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization Long Range Transportation Plan projects strong population increases along Blue Heron Blvd. centered near the interchanges of N. Congress Ave. and President Barack Obama Hwy. The greatest growth increases are projected along Blue Heron Blvd. near Interstate Hwy 95. Additional stronger growth is projected in the southern portion of the City south of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. in Riviera Beach Heights.

Housing Characteristics

- In absolute numbers, the quantity of housing units in Riviera Beach declined by 5.6%, 958 units, from a total 17,074 to 16,116 between 2010 to 2019.

- The household type most common in Riviera Beach is family households with their own children under 18 (43.0%)

- The average household size is 2.98 people. Two factors that could be contributing to the increase in household size could be the rise in households with young children as well as the number of residents who may now have older family members living with them as the City's older populations increased.

- The average family size in Riviera Beach is growing with a current average of 3.68 people which is higher than County and State numbers.

Population Characteristics

- 69.1% of the population in Riviera Beach is Black.

- The median age in Riviera Beach is 36.1 years which is lower than the County and State numbers. Riviera Beach has seen a decrease in population in ages 24 and below and an increase in the 25-34 age group.

- The City has witnessed strong income growth over the last 10 years in higher income bracket households in Riviera Beach which allows for budgets with greater disposable resources. Median income in the City has been increasing over the years is currently equal to $44,871 per year.

- The most prevalent educational attainment type in Riviera Beach is a high school degree (33.3%).

- Riviera Beach has a notably higher percentage of its population active in the labor force. 62.5% of Riviera Beach residents are employed in the labor force compared to the county's 59.8% and the statewide percentage of 58.7%.

- A majority of the Riviera Beach labor force, 75.5%, drives alone to work.

2.3 High-Level Lifestyle Analysis

Overview

One shortcoming of a demographic analysis is the compartmentalization of information about people. In truth, it is the combination of many characteristics that drive a person's behaviors and preferences. Environmental Systems Research Institute (Esri) is the leading worldwide supplier of Geographic Information System (GIS) software and services to most federal, state, local, and non-profit agencies as well as all 50 U.S. State Health and Transportation Departments. One of the company's major innovations is the aggregation of demographic data into composite lifestyle groups called "Tapestry segments". Segmentation systems operate on the theory that people with similar tastes, lifestyles, and behaviors seek others with the same tastes- "like seeks like". These behaviors can be measured, predicted, and targeted. Esri's Tapestry Segmentation system combines the "who" of lifestyle demography with the "where" of local neighborhood geography to create a model of various lifestyle classifications or segments of actual neighborhoods with addresses—distinct behavioral market segments.

A detailed description about the background and data collection methodology used by the analysis can be found in **Appendix A**.

Dan Calloway Recreation Complex

Methodology

Tapestry segments represent a compilation of different socioeconomic data into cohesive lifestyle profiles. Esri's Tapestry Segmentation provides a robust, powerful portrait of the 65 US consumer markets. The 65-segment Tapestry Segmentation system classifies US neighborhoods based on their socioeconomic and demographic compositions. To provide a broader overview of these segments, Esri combined them into 12 LifeMode Summary Groups, abbreviated as L1 through L12 based on lifestyle and lifestage composition, The 65 segments in Tapestry Segmentation are also organized into 11 Urbanization Summary Groups to highlight another dimension of these markets, abbreviated as U1 through U11, based on geographic and physical features such as population density, size of City, location in or outside a metropolitan are, and where it is part of the economic and social center of a metropolitan area. Generally, lower LifeMode numbers indicate a higher economic impact.

Three types of analysis were completed using Esri's Tapestry data to better understand the division's customer profiles. One analysis captures Riviera Beach's Tapestry LifeMode Groups and Urbanization Groups within the City limits and the immediate surrounding areas. Additional analysis techniques also capture recreation expenditures for 2020, as well as sports and leisures participation for households during the past 12 months.

Analysis

Tapestry LifeStyle Segments

Within Riviera Beach, there is one dominant lifestyle group, followed by two other prevalent groups, and several other groups in smaller percentages **(Figure 2-16)**. About one-third of households in the core of the City can be classified as "Modest Income Homes", and about one in six are "Bright Young Professionals" and "Silver and Gold". **Table 2-17** lists the top 10 Lifestyle Segments in the City, and compares their proportions to the national average.

Table 2-17: Top 10 Tapestry Lifestyle Segments for Riviera Beach, 2020

Rank	LifeStyle Segment	2020 Riviera Beach Households Percent	2020 U.S. Households Percent
1	Modest Income Homes (12D)	31.7%	1.3%
2	Bright Young Professionals (8C)	17.8%	2.3%
3	Silver & Gold (9A)	15.6%	0.8%
4	Family Foundations (12A)	7.3%	1.0%
5	City Commons (11E)	6.3%	0.9%
6	Metro Fusion (11C)	6.2%	1.4%
7	Up and Coming Families (7A)	6.0%	2.5%
8	The Great Outdoors (6C)	4.9%	1.6%
9	Social Security Set (9F)	2.6%	0.8%
10	Retirement Communities (9E)	1.1%	1.2%
	Total	99.5%	13.8%

The following section details the group characteristics of the top five Tapestry LifeStyle Segments for Riviera Beach in 2020.

Figure 2-16: Top 10 Tapestry Lifestyle Segments for Riviera Beach vs U.S.
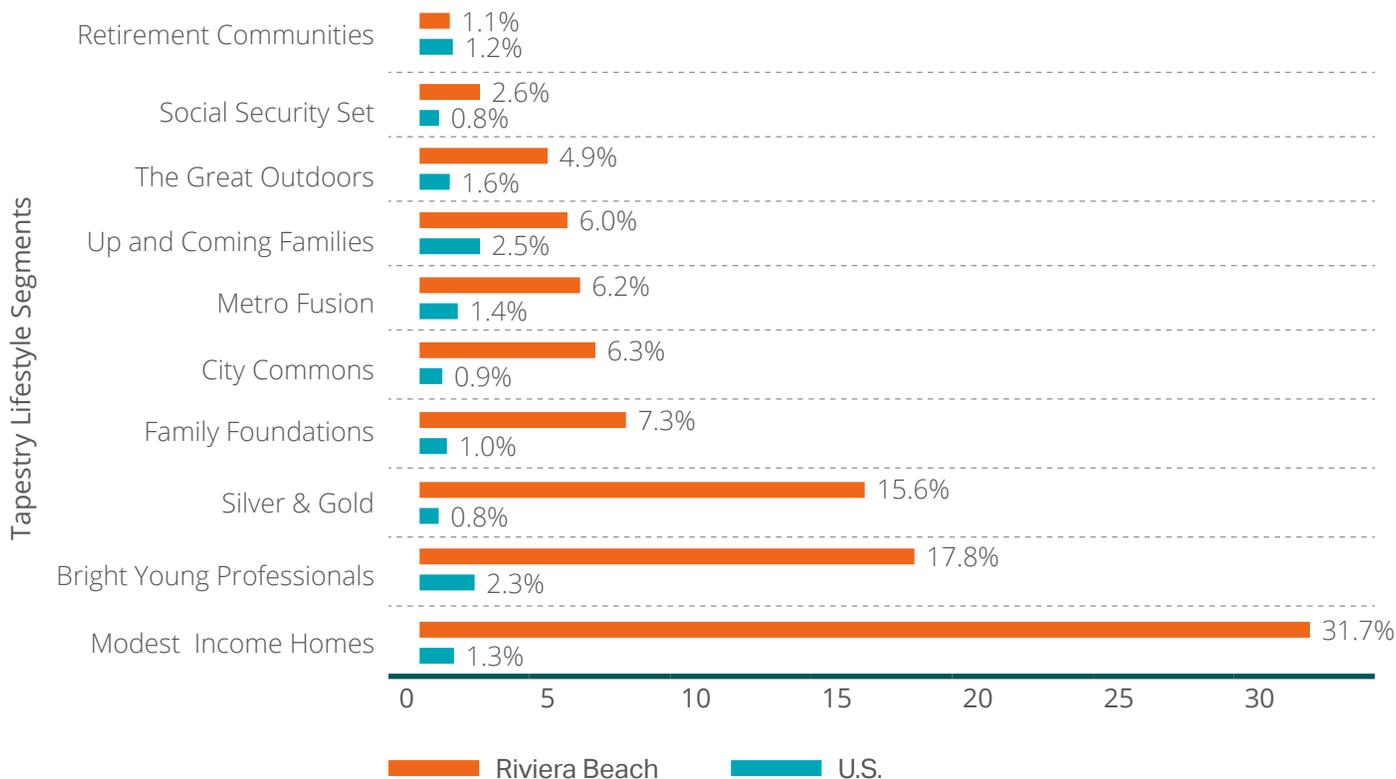
Lifestyle Segment: Modest Income Homes

With 4,201 households, "Modest Income Homes", form the most common Lifestyle Profile in Riviera Beach at 31.7%. This profile is part of the "Hometown" LifeMode Group. Highlighted in **Figure 2-17**, this profile is characterized by households with single person or single parent (usually female) households with an average household size of 2.56. Many residents are primary caregivers to their elderly family members. Consumers in this market consider traditional gender roles and religious faith very important. Over half of the homes in this category are renter occupied with average rent lower than U.S average. The median household income in this groups averages $23,900. Income is less than half of the US median income; more than one in three households are in poverty, dependent on Social Security, public assistance,and Supplemental Security Income. Reliance on Social Security and public assistance income is necessary to support single-parent and multi-generational families. Most households have one car (or no vehicle) and nearly a third rely on car pooling, walking, biking or public transportation. The median age of this group is 37 years. Almost a quarter of adults aged 25 or more have no high school diploma.

Lifestyle Segment: Bright Young Professionals

Highlighted in **Figure 2-18**, "Bright Young Professionals", form the second highest Lifestyle Profile in Riviera Beach at 17.8%. This profile is part of the "Middle Group" LifeMode Group. These communities are home to young, educated, working professionals with an average household size of 2.41. Labor force participation is high, generally white-collar work, with a mix of food service and part-time jobs (among the college students). Approximately 57% of the households rent, with more than two-fifths of the households living in single-family homes. The median household income in this group averages

Figure 2-17: Lifestyle Segment- Modest Income Homes

37 Median Age

2.56 Average Household Size

$23,900 Median Household Income

Transportation (46)
Housing (45)
Food (45)
Health Care (45)
Entertainment & Recreation (44)

Average Household Budget Index* (Top 3)
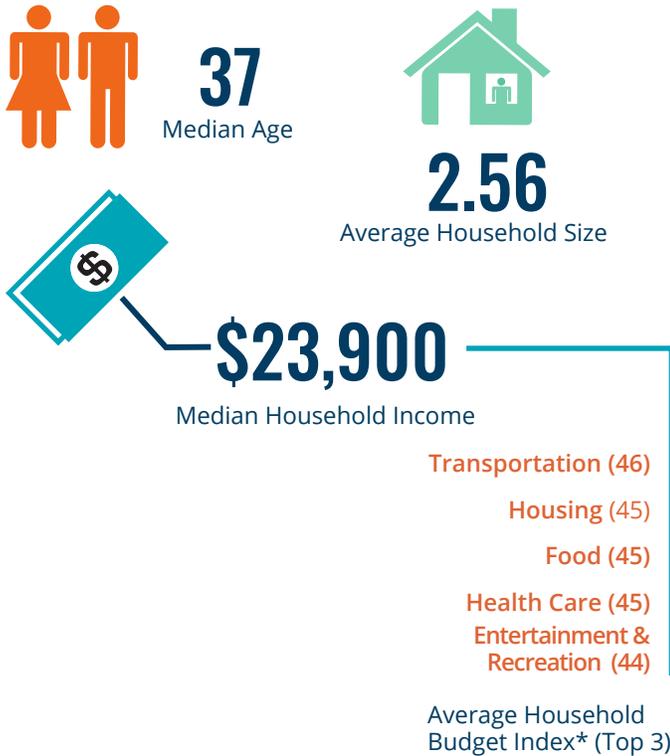
Figure 2-18: Lifestyle Segment- Bright Young Professionals

33 Median Age

2.41 Average Household Size

$54,000 Median Household Income

Food (90)
Apparel & Services (89)
Housing (88)
Transportation (88)

Average Household Budget Index* (Top 3)
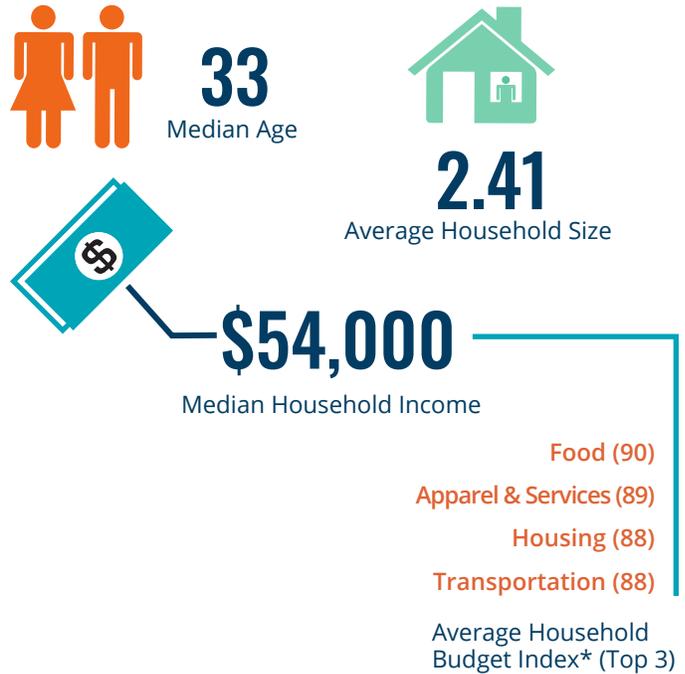
$54,000. The median age of this group is 33 years. A Median household income, median home value, and average rent are close to the US values. Residents of this segment are physically active and up on the latest technology.

Lifestyle Segment: Silver and Gold

The third highest Lifestyle Group in Riviera Beach is the "Silver and Gold" category, at 15.6%. Highlighted in **Figure 2-19**, this profile is part of the "Senior Styles" LifeMode Group. This is the most affluent senior market and is still growing. The affluence of Silver and Gold has afforded the opportunity to retire to sunnier climates that feature exclusive communities and vacation homes. They have an average household size of 2.03 comprising of mostly older married couples with no children. This category predominantly reside in single-family, owner-occupied homes. The median household income in this primarily retired group averages $72,100. The median age of this group is 63.2 years. These consumers have the free time, stamina, and resources to enjoy the good life.

Lifestyle Segment: Family Foundations

The "Family Foundations", at 7.3%, category occupy a relatively lower percentage in Riviera Beach compared to the first three categories. Highlighted in **Figure 2-20**, this profile is part of the "Hometown" LifeMode Group. Family and faith are the cornerstones of life in these communities. Older children, still living at home, working toward financial independence, are common within these households. They have a slightly higher average household size of 2.71. Residents are a mix of married couples, single parents, grandparents, and children, young and adult. More than two-thirds are homeowners living in single-family homes. The median household income in this group averages $43,100, with over a third of households currently receiving Social Security Benefits. The median age of this group is 39.6 years. These consumers households usually have own vehicles at their disposal. Family Foundations

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Figure 2-19: Lifestyle Segment- Silver & Gold

63.2
Median Age

2.03
Average Household Size

$72,100
Median Household Income

Health Care (153)
Other (145)
Entertainment &
Recreation (139)

Average Household
Budget Index* (Top 3)
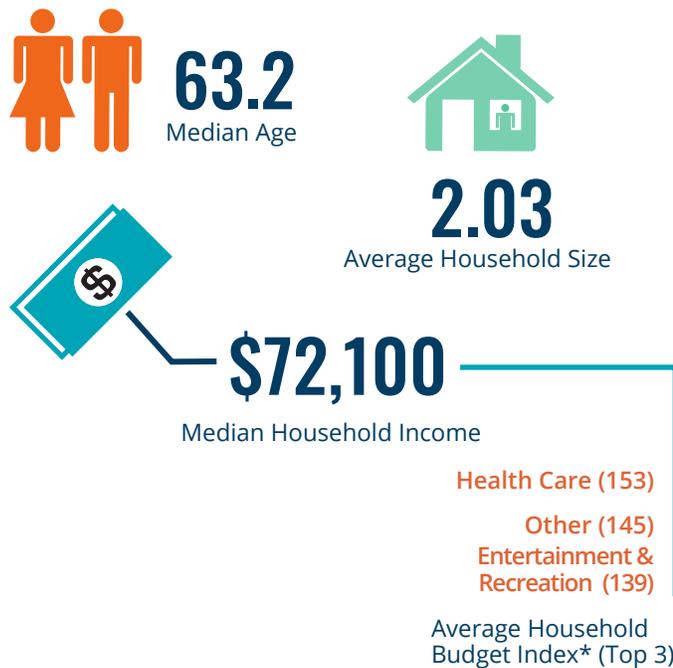
Figure 2-20: Lifestyle Segment- Family Foundations

39.6
Median Age

2.71
Average Household Size

$43,100
Median Household Income

Health Care (73)
Transportation (71)
Housing (70)
Food (70)

Average Household
Budget Index* (Top 3)
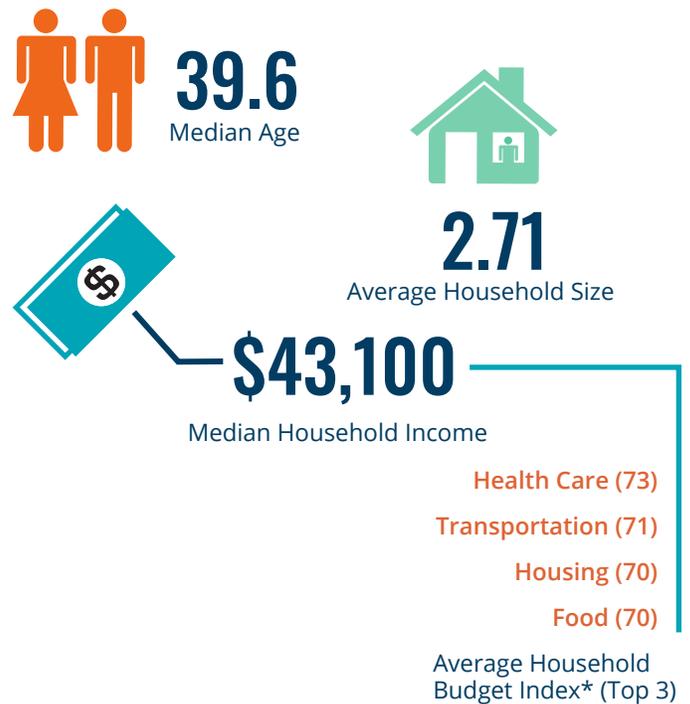
Lifestyle Segment: City Commons

"City Commons", at 6.3%, rounds up the top five Tapestry Category groups in Riviera Beach. Highlighted in **Figure 2-21**, this profile is part of the "Midtown Singles" LifeMode Group. This segment is one of Tapestry's youngest markets, primarily comprised of single-parent and single-person households living within large, metro cities. While more than a third have a college degree or spent some time in college, nearly a quarter have not finished high school, which has a profound effect on their economic circumstance. They have an average household size of 2.67, which is slightly higher than the U.S. average. Residents are a mix of married couples, single parents, grandparents, and children, young and adult. Residents in this category mostly rent apartments in midrise buildings. The median household income in this group averages $18,300, receiving income from wages and salaries. The median age of this young group is 28.5 years. These consumers households usually either own vehicles or use public transportation, prefer eating out and staying up-to-date with fashion trends.

Figure 2-21: Lifestyle Segment- City Commons

28.5
Median Age

2.67
Average Household Size

$18,300
Median Household Income

Housing (40)
Food (40)
Transportation (39)
Education (39)

Average Household
Budget Index* (Top 3)
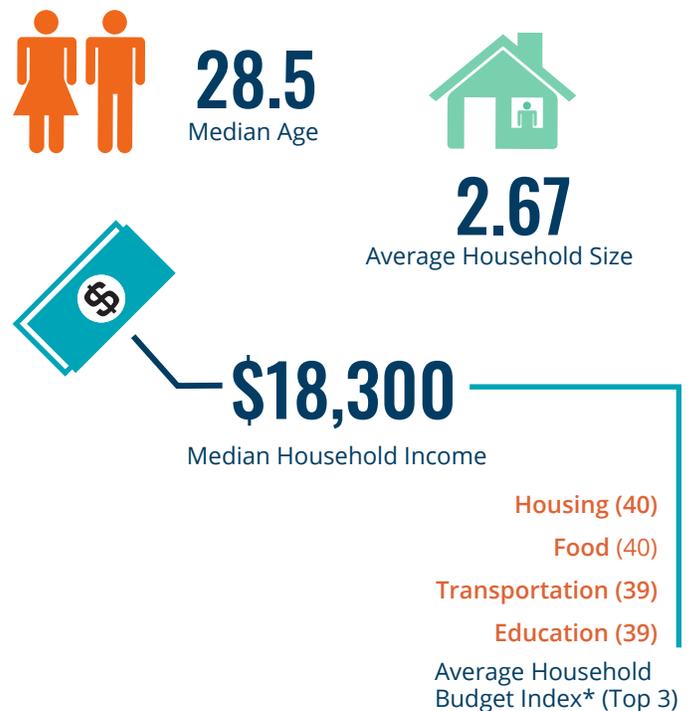
Tapestry LifeMode Groups

To provide a broader overview of the LifeStyle segments, Esri combined the 65 segments into 12 LifeMode Summary Groups. Segments within a LifeMode summary group based on lifestyle and lifestage composition such as being born in the same time period or a trait such as affluence. **Table 2-18** shows the top four LifeMode Groups that have the highest occurrence in the City of Riviera Beach.

Hometown

Households in this group prefer growing up and staying close to home; single householders. They are close knit urban communities of young singles (many with children). Many are owners of old, single-family houses, or renters in small multi-unit buildings.

Table 2-18: Top Four Tapestry LifesMode Groups for Riviera Beach, 2020

Rank	LifeMode Group	2020 Riviera Beach Households		2020 Adult Population	
		Number of Households	Percent	Number of Households	Percent
1	Hometown	5,173	39.1%	11,348	42.2%
	Family Foundations (12A)	972	7.3%	2,306	8.6%
	Modest Income Homes (12D)	4,201	31.7%	9,042	33.6%
2	Senior Styles	2,614	19.7%	4,592	17.1%
	Silver & Gold (9A)	2,068	15.6%	3,465	12.9%
	Golden Years (9B)	46	0.3%	73	0.3%
	The Elders (9C)	6	0.0%	9	0.0%
	Retirement Communities (9E)	146	1.1%	220	0.8%
	Social Security Set (9F)	348	2.6%	825	3.1%
3	Middle Ground	2,359	17.8%	4,783	17.8%
	Bright Young Professionals (9F)	2,359	17.8%	4,783	17.8%
4	Midtown Singles	1,647	12.4%	3,341	12.4%
	Metro Fusion	819	6.2%	1,809	6.7%
	City Commons	828	6.3%	1,532	5.7%
	Total	11,783	89.0%	24,064	89.5%

(***Note for Figures 2-17**,**2-18**,**2-19**,**2-20**,**2-21**:
Average Household Budget Index - The index compares the average amount spent in this market's household budgets for housing, food, apparel, etc., to the average amount spent by all US households. An index of 100 is average. An index of 120 shows that average spending by consumers in this market is 20 percent above the national average. Consumer expenditures are estimated by Esri.)

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Sadie McCray Park

Middle Ground

Middleground group comprises of lifestyles of the thirty-somethings, millennials in the middle: single/married, renters/homeowners, middle class/working class. They live in an urban market mix of single-family, townhome, and multi-unit dwellings Majority of residents attended college or attained a college degree. They are online all the time: use the Internet for entertainment (downloading music, watching YouTube, finding dates), social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn), search for employment. Leisure includes night life (clubbing, movies), going to the beach, some travel and hiking

Senior Styles

Senior lifestyles reveal the effects of saving for retirement. Households are commonly married empty nesters or singles living alone; homes are single-family (including seasonal getaways), retirement communities, or high-rise apartments. More affluent seniors travel and relocate to warmer climates; less affluent, settled seniors are still working toward retirement. Cell phones are popular, but so are landlines. Many still prefer print to digital media: avid readers of newspapers, to stay current. They subscribe to cable television to watch channels like Fox News, CNN, and The Weather Channel. Residents prefer vitamins to increase their mileage and a regular exercise regimen

Midtown Singles

The Midtown singles group comprises of millennials on the move—single, diverse, urban. These millennials seek affordable rents in apartment buildings. They work in the service industry, usually close to home or public transportation. Some are single parents who depend on their paycheck to buy supplies for their very young children. Midtown Singles embrace the Internet, for social networking and downloading content, from music and movies to soaps and sports, radio and television fill their lives. They are rand savvy shoppers select budget friendly stores.

Tapestry Urbanization Groups

In addition to LifeMode Groups and Lifestyle Profiles, the Tapestry Segmentation Area Profile also breaks populations into six Urbanization Summary Groups. This classification is categorized by markets that share similar locales, from the urban canyons of the largest cities to the rural lanes of villages or farms. **Table 2-19** shows the four Urbanization Summary Groups that have the highest occurrence in the City of Riviera Beach.

Urban Periphery

This segment comprises of households that prefer the city life for starting families in neighborhoods that fringe major cities. They live in the earliest suburbs, built before 1970, primarily single-family housing with some apartments. These are households of young families with children, diverse population. Households in this group are homeowners living closer to the City, with below average vacancy rates. Leisure focuses on the children (visits to theme parks or water parks), sports (soccer, basketball, football) and movies. Spending also emphasizes the children-clothing, toys and baby products. Households are parents of small children who favor family restaurants and fast food. Smartphones are popular, for social contacts, downloading apps, games and music.

Table 2-19: Top Four Tapestry Urbanization Groups for Riviera Beach, 2020

Rank	Urbanization Group	2020 Riviera Beach Households		2020 Adult Population	
		Number of Households	Percent	Number of Households	Percent
1	Urban Periphery	8,355	63.1%	17,949	66.7%
	American Dreamers (7C)	4	0.0%	9	0.0%
	Bright Young Professional (12D)	2,359	17.8%	4,783	17.8%
	Metro Fusion (11C)	819	6.2%	9,042	6.7%
	Family Foundations (12A)	972	7.3%	2,306	8.6%
	Modest Income Homes (12D)	4,201	31.7%	9,042	33.6%
2	Suburban Periphery	2,916	22.0%	4,592	19.6%
	Up and Coming Families (7A)	796	6.0%	1,740	6.5%
	Silver & Gold (9A)	2,068	15.6%	3,465	12.8%
	Golden Years (9B)	46	0.0%	73	0.3%
	The Elders (9C)	6	0.0%	9	0.0%
3	Metro Cities	1,322	10.0%	4,783	9.6%
	Retirement Communities (9E)	146	1.1%	220	0.8%
	Social Security Set (9F)	348	2.6%	825	3.1%
	City Commons (11E)	828	6.3%	1,532	5.7%
4	Rural	646	4.9%	3,341	4.1%
	The Great Outdoors (646)	646	4.9%	1,096	4.1%
	Total	13,239	100.0%	24,064	100.0%

Suburban Periphery

This group embodies urban expansion: affluence in the suburbs or city-by-commute. They are the most populous and fast-growing among Urbanization groups, Suburban Periphery includes one-third of the nation's population. Commuters value low density living, but demand proximity to jobs, entertainment and the amenities of an urban center Well-educated, two-income households, accept long commute times to raise their children in these family-friendly neighborhoods. Many reside in newly built, single-family homes. Older householders have either retired in place, downsized or purchased a seasonal home. Suburbanites are the most affluent group, working hard to lead bright, fulfilled lives. Residents invest for their future, insure themselves against unforeseen circumstances, but also enjoy the fruits of their labor

Metro Cities

Residents in this group are attracted to the affordable city life including smaller metropolitan cities or satellite cities that feature a mix of single-family and multi-unit housing. They usually comprise of single householders seeking affordable living in the City: usually multi-unit buildings that range from mid to high-rise apartments; average monthly rents and home value below the U.S. average. Consumers in this group include college students,

Affluent Gen X couples, and retirement communities. Residents share an interest in City life and its amenities, from dancing and clubbing to museums and concerts. Many residents rely upon the Internet for entertainment (download music, play online games) and as a useful resource (job searches).

Rural

Households in this group prefer country living featuring single-family homes with acreage, farms and rural resort areas. Very low population density distinguishes this group- typically less than 50 people per square mile. Over half of all households are occupied by persons 55 years and older; many are married couples without children at home. This is the least diverse group, with over 80% non-Hispanic White. Mostly home owners (80%) , but rentals are affordable in single-family or mobile homes. Blue collar jobs dominate the landscape including manufacturing, agriculture, mining and construction. Many are self-employed, retired, or receive income from Social Security. Satellite TV and landline phones are necessary means to connect. The members in this group are more conservative in their spending practices and beliefs. They are comfortable, established and not likely to move

Riviera Beach Marina

Recreation Expenditures

Recreation expenditures are also an indicator of a population's preferences for leisure-related activities. Esri data provides recreation expenditures for the residents of Riviera Beach for 2015. **Table 2-20** lists the top seven recreation and leisure activities that residents spent money on. The highest ranked expenditure for 2020 is TV/ Video/ Audio totaling at $13,560,339. Also ranking highly were expenditures on entertainment/ recreation fees and admissions, purchase of sports and exercise equipment.

Sports and Leisure Market Potential

In addition to recreation expenditures, Esri also tracks consumer behavior to evaluate the market potential for sports and leisure activities. In this case, participation in recreation activities is tracked using households and participation during the past 12 months. **Table 2-21** shows the top 10 activities based on participation during 2020, including the number and percentage of adults/ households that have participated in each. A majority of these activities are related to at-will fitness and exercise activities, with walking for exercise receiving the highest participation rates.

Table 2-20: Top Seven Recreation Expenditures for Riviera Beach, 2020

Expenditure Category	Average Amount Spent	Total
TV/ Video/ Audio	$1,024.27	$13,560,339
Entertainment/ Recreation Fees and Admissions	$553.40	$7,326,451
Toys/ Games/ Crafts/ Hobbies	$102.81	$1,361,142
Recreational Vehicles and Fees	$97.48	$1,290,585
Sports, Recreation and Exercise Equipment	$168.95	$2,236,675
Photographic Equipment and Supplies	$41.88	$554,481
Reading	$88.18	$1,167,375

Table 2-21: Top 10 Sports and Leisure Activity Participation in Riviera Beach, 2020

Activity	Expected number of Adults/ HHs	Percent
Walking for Exercise	5,092	18.9%
Attend Sports Events	3,171	11.8%
Swimming	2,893	10.8%
Jogging/ Running	2,244	8.3%
Basketball	2,150	8.0%
Bowling	2,019	7.5%
Aerobics	1,1936	7.2%
Fishing (Fresh Water)	1,918	7.1%
Bicycling (Road)	1,898	7.1%
Weight Lifting	1,896	7.0%

High-level Lifestyle Analysis Summary

Esri's High Level Lifestyle Analysis reveals some important characteristics about Riviera Beach's demographics socioeconomic behaviors and preferences. These targeted results could help determine the parks and recreation needs of the people of the City. Major percentage of the population falls under the Tapestry Lifestyle segment of Modest Income Homes that comprise of multi-generational families that rely on car pooling, walking/ biking and public transportation for commute, which varies vastly from the national standard, followed by Bright Young Professionals and Silver and Gold segments. While determining the parks and recreation needs of the City special attention is to be paid to the preferences of these particular segments as they would reflect the overall needs of th City.

From the profiles created by Esri, identified by national trends for each lifestyle profile, general parks and recreation needs such as playcourts and playfields, outdoor and indoor event spaces, walking and biking trails, playgrounds, and fitness equipment feature prominently as the recreational facility needs for the major Lifestyle Segment Groups for Riviera Beach. (**Table 2-22**)

Table 2-22: Parks and Recreation Facility Needs for the Top 10 Lifestyle Segments of Riviera Beach

		2020 Riviera Beach Households	Typical Parks and Recreation Facility Needs
Rank	LifeStyle Segment	Percent	Percent
1	Modest Income Homes (12D)	31.7%	Basketball courts, community centers, playgrounds
2	Bright Young Professionals (8C)	17.8%	Urban open spaces, walking and biking trails, music/event venues, fitness equipment
3	Silver & Gold (9A)	15.6%	Walking and biking trails, fitness equipment, golf courses, boating facilities, tennis courts
4	Family Foundations (12A)	7.3%	Basketball courts, Play fields, playgrounds, community centers
5	City Commons (11E)	6.3%	Urban open spaces, walking and biking trails, playgrounds, fitness equipment
6	Metro Fusion (11C)	6.2%	Football and soccer fields, music/event venues, urban open spaces
7	Up and Coming Families (7A)	6.0%	Walking and biking trails, playgrounds, music/event venues, fitness equipment, play fields, community center, indoor fitness programs
8	The Great Outdoors (6C)	4.9%	Walking and biking trails, camping grounds
9	Social Security Set (9F)	2.6%	Community centers, playgrounds, basketball courts, walking and biking trails
10	Retirement Communities (9E)	1.1%	Community centers, swimming pools, indoor fitness programs, pickleball courts, walking and biking trails

2.4 Park System Resources

System Overview

The Parks and Recreation Department oversees a diverse park system and a variety of recreation programs that have grown in size and scope over time. The department now manages a system that includes:

- **7** multi-purpose fields
- **10** playgrounds
- **16** basketball courts
- **10** tennis courts
- **4** racquetball courts
- **3** splash pads
- **7** volleyball courts
- **2** gyms

The parks in the system, as well as other key facilities and planned greenways are shown in **Map 2-6**, and an inventory of each facility is shown in the tables below.

Park Evaluations

Methodology

The methodology utilized by the Master Planning team is based on research and validation by the Project of Public Spaces (PPS). This research has shown, through the evaluation of thousands of public spaces around the world, that there are common qualities shared universally among the spaces celebrated as successful by a majority of users. These spacial qualities include: they are accessible; people are engaged in activities; the space is comfortable and has a good image; and the space is a social one where people gather and meet one another.

Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The PPS methodology for evaluating public spaces is a derivative of the pioneering work of William (Holly) Whyte who specialized in the study of human behavior in urban settings. During the late 1960s and early 1970s, Whyte studied pedestrian behavior and city dynamics for the New York City Planning Commission. At the core of Whyte's research titled 'Street Life Project' was a notion of perseverance and sanctity of public spaces. Three perspectives developed by Whyte later influenced the PPS's approach to evaluating public spaces.

Since the development of Whyte's perspectives, additional emphasis has been placed on how a public space benefits not only the user but also the environment while positively contributing to the economics of society, which is burdened with the costs of developing and maintaining the space. For these considerations, the Project Team has expanded upon the criteria developed by PPS to incorporate observations regarding how a public

space performs as sustainable development, including its design and construction. Defined by the United Nation's World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987, sustainable development consists of 'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs,' by striking a balance between economic and social development and environmental protection.

Whyte's Three Key Perspectives for Public Spaces

1 Social life in public spaces contributes fundamentally to the quality of life of individuals and society as a whole. Whyte felt there is a moral responsibility to create physical places that facilitate civic engagement and community interaction.

2 Bottom-up place design as a new way of designing public spaces. Whyte believed that design should begin with a thorough understanding of the way people use spaces and how they want to use space. This belief emphasizes the power of providing a comfortable space for users.

3 Clear observation of spaces without theoretical or aesthetic biases. Whyte felt that by looking hard at a space with a clear mind, sometimes more than once, an observer must believe what is seen and learn from the successes and failures.

Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center

Combining Whyte's research that led to PPS's definitive approach to evaluating public spaces, with the principles of the UN's definition of sustainable development, creates a more comprehensive spectrum of observational fundamentals. Grouped into six categories or topics, specific questions have been developed that are evaluated through the observation of each space. These six categories are:

- **Design and Construction:** Includes observations of the quality of design, materials, use of standards and incorporation of current codes or requirements, and the durability of a space.
- **Effectiveness:** Includes the observation of users or evidence of users of a space, range of offerings, balance of activities and contextual consistency. (See PPS's 'The Power of 10+)
- **Condition:** Includes observations of the quality of upkeep of a space, evidence of pride of users and maintenance, and presence of deferred improvements.
- **Comfort and Image:** Includes observation of a space's first impression, comfort of users, visual attractiveness, and perception of safety. (See Crime Prevention Through Environment Design – CPTED)
- **Access and Linkages:** Includes observation of universal accessibility barriers, multimodal connectivity, dominance of the space by a transportation use other than pedestrian and bicycles and ease of access from surrounding areas. (See Parks and Inclusive Play)
- **Sustainability:** As a three-part category, observations focus on social interactions and connections to surrounding neighborhoods, environmental considerations and promotion that result in net positive contributions, and economic viability and contributions.

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Park Evaluation Questions

To observe system wide successes and opportunities, representatives of the project team reviewed each of the parks and facilities operated by the City and completed an observational form for each site. The following criteria was used and is based in part on guidelines developed by Project for Public Spaces (PPS), a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities.

Design and Construction:

- Is there evidence that the design and construction of the site meets the needs of users served?
- Is the site readily accessible to the users being served (waking, biking, vehicle, etc.)?
- Does the site utilize durable materials or products?
- Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users? (field, courts for athletics, docks for boats, etc.)
- Has the site been developed or recently renovated?
- Is there evidence that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials etc.

Effectiveness:

- Are people using the site, or is it empty?
- Is there evidence that the site is used by people of different ages?
- How many different types of activities are available?
- Are there choices in intensity of activities? (passive/at-will or active/programmed)
- Is there a balance of active recreation (programmed spaces) and passive (at-will) opportunities?
- Is there evidence that the site serves users' current needs for recreation, relaxing or other activities?

Condition:

- How would you rate the site's maintenance? (grass cutting, working equipment, etc.)
- What level of use is evident from users?
- What level of pride is evident from staff regarding maintenance or customer service?
- Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5 = no/none)

Comfort and Image:

- Does the site make a good first impression?
- Are there ample places to sit and are they conveniently located?
- Is the site clean and free of litter?
- Does the site provide feeling of safety or perceived safety (CPTED standards, etc.)
- Do vehicles dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance?

Access and Linkages:

- Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?
- Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site?
- Can people easily walk to the site from surrounding areas?
- Does the site function for people with special needs?
- Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities?
- Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4-mile) and/or parking and bike racks near of primary entrance points?

Sustainability:

Social Sustainability

- Does the site provide places for people to gather?
- Does the site promote healthy lifestyle and/or reduce daily stress?
- Is the site connected with clear and safe access point(s)?

Environmental Sustainability

- Does the site use energy, water, and material resources efficiently?
- Does the site improve water quality?
- Does the site enhance, preserve, promote, or contribute to biological diversity?
- Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?
- Does the site enhance environmental awareness and knowledge?

Economic Sustainability

- Does the site create public and/or private revenue-generating opportunities?
- Does the site sustain or increase adjacent property values?
- Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment potentials?
- Does the site provide permanent jobs?

Evaluation Results

The following section details the scoring range of evaluations along with documentation of each key success and opportunities for each park, greenway, or open space observed. Additional contributing information is included for three tools or sets of standards that are part of the evaluation criteria through the use of individual questions or themes.

Every space observed was assigned a score for each categorical question based on the qualitative assessment of how the park met the aforementioned criteria at the time of observation. Once all scores were assigned, a matrix was created **(Table 2-23)** that allowed trends to become visible across the entire system. It is important to note that there is no "one size fits all" set of criteria that can accurately evaluate every type of park. However, seeing each individual park's score and system-wide scores allows for the identification of unique trends, and a general comparison of parks within the system.

Exceeding Expectations

Parks with scores in this range are defined as parks with new or recently enhanced facilities or features, readily accessible through multiple modes of transportation, exhibit multiple features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users, and that exhibit a maintenance quality that meets or exceeds the standards of the City:

- These parks are functioning as intended and are also exceptionally well maintained, aesthetically pleasing, safe, and often demonstrate sustainable techniques.
- The park accommodates a wide variety of uses and maintains a consistently high level of activity while still remaining flexible.
- The park shows clear evidence of good design standards and embraces heritage resources (if applicable).
- There are many ways for users to access the park including via mass transit, walking, and biking.
- Multi-purpose fields or lawn surfaces are well maintained and could be considered tournament/competition grade.
- Sports fields may contain premium amenities such as score boards, en closed dugouts, bleachers and lighting.
- These parks score in the **75-100** range.

Meeting Expectations

Parks with scores in this range are defined as parks with serviceable facilities or features providing functional recreational access for the public, accessed primarily by vehicle with some connections to adjacent neighborhoods. These parks exhibit few features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users beyond a minimal recreational access capacity, and that exhibit a maintenance level sufficient for the uses in the park but would benefit from additional maintenance:

- From a programmatic level, these parks function as intended.
- They are generally well maintained, and may be aesthetically pleasing.
- The park can accommodate several different activities and has a moderate level of activity.
- This park may or may not have a transit stop nearby and has reasonable sidewalk connectivity.
- This park is generally compatible with the surrounding land uses and provides the user with a feeling of safety.
- Field surfaces are well maintained and playable, but typically do not include the premium features that may be present in parks that "exceed expectations."
- These types of parks score in the **50-74** range.

Not Meeting Expectations

Parks within this score range are generally defined as parks with facilities or features that have exceeded their functional life span and/or need enhancement or replacement to provide functional recreational access for the public, accessed primarily by vehicle and are disconnected from adjacent neighborhoods. These parks exhibit few, if any, features that enhance the comfort and experience of park users, and that exhibit a maintenance level insufficient to continue to provide the desired uses and recreational access:

- These parks are not currently performing as intended.
- Although they can still be well maintained and/or aesthetically pleasing, many typically are not.
- These parks may have a consistently low level of activity; few accommodated uses, and may not be compatible with the surrounding land uses.
- These parks may not be perceived as safe by their users.
- It is common for these parks to be difficult to access either by public transit, bicycle, or on foot.
- Field surfaces are not typically well maintained, or the fields are so over-programmed that adequate maintenance is impossible.
- These types of parks score in the **0-49** range. Specific needs identified for each park noted during observations forms are addressed in Chapter 3 - Needs and Priorities. Scores are shown via a matrix (see Table 2-3) that allows trends to become visible across the entire system.

Park Evaluation Results

A review of the scores shown in the park evaluation matrix helps in identifying system-wide successes and opportunities. Though individual parks have their own successes and opportunities, a system-wide analysis helps to identify weaknesses and strengths in the park system which the City will able to develop a strategy to improve or promote. Individual park improvements are further identified in the Long-Range Vision Chapter and are based on public input and identified need.

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

N

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1
Miles

Map 2-6: Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation System Map
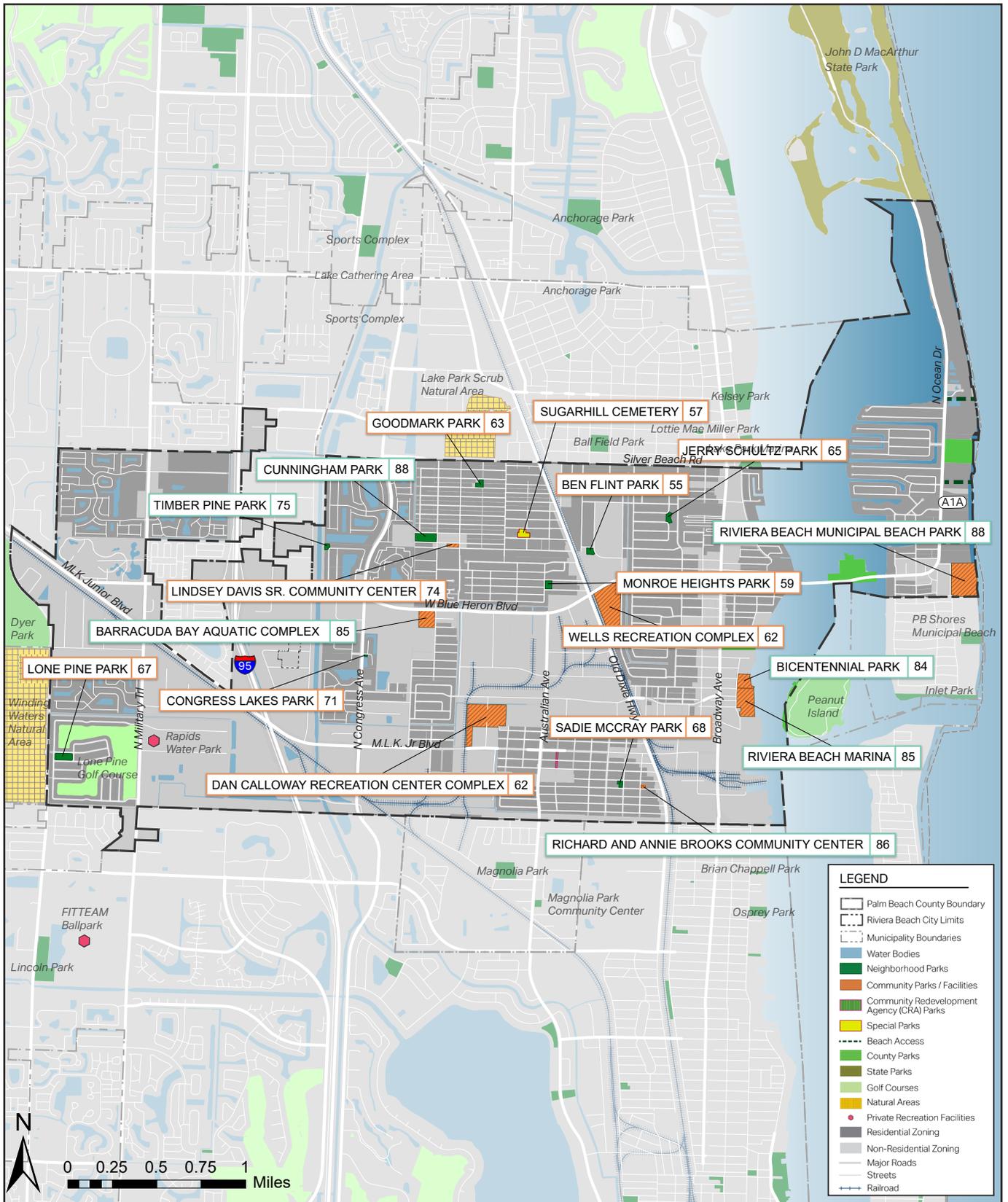
Map 2-7: Riviera Beach Parks and Open Spaces System Evaluation Ratings

Park Evaluation Ratings shown on map:

- GOODMARK PARK — 63
- SUGARHILL CEMETERY — 57
- JERRY SCHULTZ PARK — 65
- CUNNINGHAM PARK — 88
- BEN FLINT PARK — 55
- TIMBER PINE PARK — 75
- RIVIERA BEACH MUNICIPAL BEACH PARK — 88
- LINDSEY DAVIS SR. COMMUNITY CENTER — 74
- MONROE HEIGHTS PARK — 59
- BARRACUDA BAY AQUATIC COMPLEX — 85
- WELLS RECREATION COMPLEX — 62
- LONE PINE PARK — 67
- BICENTENNIAL PARK — 84
- CONGRESS LAKES PARK — 71
- SADIE MCCRAY PARK — 68
- RIVIERA BEACH MARINA — 85
- DAN CALLOWAY RECREATION CENTER COMPLEX — 62
- RICHARD AND ANNIE BROOKS COMMUNITY CENTER — 86

LEGEND

- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park

Table 2-23: Facility Evaluation Ratings

Legend:

- 🟩 Exceeding Expectations
- 🟧 Meeting Expectations
- 🟥 Not Meeting Expectations

Community Parks and Special Use Facilities

Park Name	Design & Construction (Max: 30)	Is there evidence that the design and construction of the site meets the needs of users served?	Is the site readily accessible to the users being served? (walking, biking, vehicle, etc.)	Does the site utilize durable materials or products?	Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users? (fields and courts for athletics, docks for boats, etc.)	Has the site been developed or recently renovated?	Effectiveness (Max: 30)	Are people using the site, or is it empty?	Is there evidence that the site is used by people of different ages?	How many different types of activities are available?	Are there choices in intensity of activities are (passive/at-will or active/programmed)	Is there a balance of active recreation (programmed spaces) and passive (at-will) opportunities?	Is there evidence that the site serves users' current needs for recreation, relaxing, or other activities?	Condition (Max: 20)	How would you rate the site's maintenance? (grass cutting, working equipment, etc.)	What level of use is evident from visitors?	What level of pride is evident from staff regarding maintenance or customer service?	Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5= no/none)	Comfort and Image (Max: 25)	Does the site make a good first impression?
Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex	28	5	5	5	4	4	5	26	5	5	4	4	4	4	19	5	4	5	5	21	4
Bicentennial Park	29	5	5	5	4	5	5	26	5	5	4	4	4	4	19	5	4	5	5	21	5
Dan Calloway Recreation Complex	17	3	3	3	3	2	3	23	4	4	4	4	4	3	12	3	3	4	2	17	3
Lindsey Davis Sr. C.C.	24	4	4	4	4	4	4	23	5	4	4	3	3	4	16	4	4	4	4	16	4
Richard and Annie Brooks C.C,	30	5	5	5	5	5	5	24	4	4	4	4	4	4	20	5	5	5	5	20	5
Riviera Beach Marina	29	5	5	5	4	5	5	25	5	4	4	4	4	4	19	5	4	5	5	22	5
Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park	28	4	5	5	4	5	5	27	5	5	4	4	4	5	17	4	5	4	4	23	5
Wells Recreation Complex	18	3	4	3	4	2	2	23	4	4	4	4	4	3	11	3	4	3	1	13	3
Sugar Hill Cemetery	18	3	4	3	3	2	3	19	4	3	3	3	3	3	11	4	3	3	1	14	2
Weighted Averages	82	82	89	84	78	76	82	80	91	84	78	76	76	76	80	84	80	84	71	74	80

Neighborhood Parks

Park Name																					
Ben Flint Park	14	2	3	3	2	2	2	12	2	2	2	2	2	2	11	4	2	4	1	16	3
Congress Lakes Park	21	3	4	4	3	3	4	20	4	4	3	3	3	3	15	4	4	4	3	19	4
Cunningham Park	28	4	5	4	5	5	5	26	5	5	4	4	4	4	18	5	4	5	4	24	5
Goodmark Park	19	3	3	3	4	3	3	21	3	3	4	4	4	3	12	3	3	4	2	16	3
Jerry Schultz Park	19	4	3	3	3	3	3	21	4	4	4	3	3	3	13	4	3	4	2	17	4
Lone Pine Park	18	3	3	3	3	3	3	22	4	4	3	4	4	3	14	4	3	4	3	22	4
Monroe Heights Park	18	3	4	3	4	2	2	22	4	4	4	4	4	2	12	3	3	4	2	15	2
Sadie McCray Park	21	3	4	4	3	3	4	23	4	4	4	4	4	3	13	4	3	4	2	16	3
Timber Pine Park	24	4	4	4	4	4	4	24	4	4	4	4	4	4	16	4	4	4	4	18	4
Weighted Averages	67	64	73	69	69	62	67	71	76	76	71	71	71	60	69	78	64	82	51	72	71
Weighted Average for All Parks	**75**	**73**	**81**	**77**	**73**	**69**	**74**	**75**	**83**	**80**	**74**	**73**	**73**	**68**	**74**	**81**	**72**	**83**	**61**	**73**	**76**

Are there ample places to sit and are they conveniently located?	Is the site clean and free of litter?	Does the site provide a feeling of safety or perceived safety? (CPTED standards, etc.)	Do vehicles dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance?	Access and Linkages (Max: 30)	Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?	Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site?	Can people easily walk to the site from surrounding areas?	Does the site function for people with special needs?	Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities?	Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4 mile) and/or parking and bike racks near primary entrance points?	Sustainability (Max: 60)	Sociability Sustainability	Does the site provide places for people to gather?	Does the site promote a healthy lifestyle and/or help to reduce daily stress?	Is the site well connected with clear and safe access point(s)?	Environmental Sustainability	Does the site use energy, water, and material resources efficiently?	Does the site improve water quality?	Does the site enhance, preserve, promote, or contribute to biological diversity?	Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?	Does the site enhance environmental awareness or knowledge?	Economic Sustainability	Does the site create public and/or private revenue-generating opportunities?	Does the site help sustain or increase adjacent property values?	Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment potentials?	Does the site provide permanent jobs?	Totals
4	5	4	4	27	4	4	4	5	5	5	36	13	4	5	4	11	3	4	2	n/a	2	12	4	4	n/a	4	85
4	5	4	3	26	4	4	4	4	5	5	39	12	4	4	4	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	16	4	4	4	4	84
3	4	4	3	17	3	3	2	3	3	3	26	9	3	4	2	10	2	4	2	n/a	2	7	4	3	n/a	n/a	62
2	3	4	3	23	4	4	4	4	4	3	35	11	4	3	4	12	3	4	3	n/a	2	12	4	4	n/a	4	74
3	5	4	3	26	4	4	4	5	5	4	43	13	4	4	5	14	4	4	4	n/a	2	16	4	4	4	4	86
4	5	4	4	26	4	4	4	4	5	5	40	12	4	4	4	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	17	5	4	4	4	85
5	5	4	4	26	4	4	5	4	5	4	51	14	5	5	4	18	4	4	4	4	2	19	5	5	4	5	88
2	3	3	2	16	3	2	3	2	2	4	37	11	3	4	4	10	2	3	3	n/a	2	16	4	4	4	4	62
3	3	2	4	18	3	2	4	3	4	2	20	7	2	2	3	10	3	3	2	n/a	2	3	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	57
67	84	73	67	76	73	69	76	76	84	78	67	76	73	78	76	54	60	71	58	40	40	73	76	78	67	73	76

Are there ample places to sit and are they conveniently located?	Is the site clean and free of litter?	Does the site provide a feeling of safety or perceived safety? (CPTED standards, etc.)	Do vehicles dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance?	Access and Linkages (Max: 30)	Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces?	Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site?	Can people easily walk to the site from surrounding areas?	Does the site function for people with special needs?	Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities?	Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4 mile) and/or parking and bike racks near primary entrance points?	Sustainability (Max: 60)	Sociability Sustainability	Does the site provide places for people to gather?	Does the site promote a healthy lifestyle and/or help to reduce daily stress?	Is the site well connected with clear and safe access point(s)?	Environmental Sustainability	Does the site use energy, water, and material resources efficiently?	Does the site improve water quality?	Does the site enhance, preserve, promote, or contribute to biological diversity?	Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat?	Does the site enhance environmental awareness or knowledge?	Economic Sustainability	Does the site create public and/or private revenue-generating opportunities?	Does the site help sustain or increase adjacent property values?	Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment potentials?	Does the site provide permanent jobs?	Totals
2	4	4	3	21	4	4	4	3	3	3	23	8	2	3	3	12	3	4	3	n/a	2	3	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	55
3	4	4	4	24	4	4	4	4	4	4	25	11	4	3	4	10	3	3	2	n/a	2	4	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	71
5	5	5	4	28	5	4	4	5	5	5	35	14	5	4	5	13	4	4	3	n/a	2	8	4	4	n/a	n/a	88
3	3	3	4	20	3	3	4	3	4	3	23	9	3	3	3	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	3	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	63
3	4	3	3	21	3	4	4	3	4	3	23	9	3	3	3	10	3	3	2	n/a	2	4	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	65
3	5	5	5	19	5	3	3	2	4	2	22	8	2	3	3	10	3	3	2	n/a	2	4	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	67
3	4	2	4	17	2	3	2	3	4	3	20	8	3	3	2	9	3	2	2	n/a	2	3	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	59
3	3	3	4	21	3	3	4	3	4	4	25	9	3	3	3	12	3	4	3	n/a	2	4	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	68
3	4	3	4	24	4	4	5	4	4	3	25	10	3	3	4	11	3	3	3	n/a	2	4	n/a	4	n/a	n/a	75
62	80	71	78	72	73	71	76	67	80	67	65	64	62	62	67	54	62	64	51	n/a	40	77	80	73	n/a	n/a	68
64	82	72	72	74	73	71	76	73	82	73	66	70	68	70	71	53	61	68	54	40	40	75	84	76	67	73	72

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Successes:

Design and Construction

Two clear successes of the parks and recreation system in the City of Riviera Beach are the design and construction of current sites and amenities. The community and special use facilities in particular performed very well during evaluation with overall scores of **76** or higher. There is evidence that the current designs of these spaces are meeting the needs of users. The sites are scoring notably high in accessibility to the community. Locations of parks, community centers that are in neighborhoods, walking paths around the City, and the availability of recreation options is supporting the ability of the Riviera Beach community to use its recreation system. The facilities are also designed in a way that provides unity of branding with construction standards that exceed expectations. In many cases the material choices at the parks are durable and designed to withstand the extreme heat, humidity, and storms that challenge coastal Florida cites.

Effectiveness

A highly effective recreation system is one that practically and attractively meets the needs of all populations and age groups it serves. The Riviera Beach system is excelling in this area. The parks exhibit strong support and usage by residents. Many of the parks were not only actively being used during observation, but were being utilized by groups of youth and adults for organized and at-will recreation activities. There is a clear sense of pride and dedication to using parks and recreation spaces and facilities to build community in the City. Because the sites are well-used now, updates, improvements, and expansion of programs, if tailored to existing needs and desires of residents, will benefit from this strong interest and participation.

Opportunities:

Comfort

While the current system amenities are well-designed and well-used by the community, there are several elements of welcoming recreation and outdoor settings that could be developed further. Throughout the system, a need for more, convenient, shaded seating could improve the comfort of parks for older populations, parents, and care-takers who often value places to rest to read and to relax outside. Additional seating and shaded respites could encourage more pedestrian access, which would help reduce areas of vehicular dominance in the existing system.

Environmental Sustainability

Riviera Beach is a coastal City with beautiful beaches and highly sensitive ecosystems. The City has established a clear goal in its guiding documents to support sustainable design and preservation of these invaluable spaces. Many of the City parks and community facilities currently score low in environmental sustainability. There are, however, numerous opportunities where critical habitat, ecological corridors, and green stormwater infrastructure could be integrated with new design and updates. The City's parks are in a primed condition to take on these types environmental and ecological duties, and the City has an opportunity to lead on the cutting edge of progressive parks and recreation design. These types of ecological responsibilities are becoming the trademarks of impactful park systems with the measurement of the success a parks system increasingly tied to its ability to mitigate environmental hazards and provide the origin for sustainable community development.

Preservation efforts like the ones at Singer Island have helped advance the recognition of parks as vital infrastructure in both urban and rural environments. Parks are being designed to manage storm water, to mitigate the urban heat island, and to educate the community about critically endangered ecological systems. The Riviera Beach parks provide great opportunities to integrate sustainable design, education, and awareness into the community.

Bicentennial Park

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

The existing Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation System is highlighted by a diverse range of conditions and opportunities. By combining the results of each of the five specific areas, an overall summary of the ratings in each category can be calculated to represent the system as a whole. **Figure 2-22** highlights system-wide results for each evaluation category, indicating the categories overall score as well the scores for each question. This allows for the identification of successes and opportunities that are present throughout the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation System.

Figure 2-22: Park & Facility System-wide Evaluation Ratings

Design and Construction

Overall Rating: **75**

- Is there evidence that the design and construction of the site meets the needs of users served? **72**
- Is the site readily accessible to the users being served (waking, biking, vehicle, etc.)? **81**
- Does the site utilize durable materials or products? **77**
- Does the site include appropriate recreation amenities for intended users? (field, courts for athletics, docks for boats, etc.) **73**
- Has the site been developed or recently renovated? **69**
- Is there evidence that the site utilizes design standards for branding, materials etc. **74**

Effectiveness

Overall Rating: **75**

- Are people using the site, or is it empty? **83**
- Is there evidence that the site is used by people of different ages? **80**
- How many different types of activities are available? **74**
- Are there choices in intensity of activities? (passive/at-will or active/programmed) **73**
- Is there a balance of active recreation (programmed spaces) and passive (at-will) opportunities? **73**
- Is there evidence that the site serves users' current needs for recreation, relaxing or other activities? **68**

Condition

Overall Rating: **74**

- How would you rate the site's maintenance? (grass cutting, working equipment, etc.) **81**
- What level of use is evident from users? **72**
- What level of pride is evident from staff regarding maintenance or customer service? **83**
- Does the site need improvements? (1= very much, 5 = no/none) **61**

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Comfort & Image

73

Overall Rating:

- Does the site make a good first impression? **76**
- Are there ample places to site and are they conveniently located? **64**
- Is the site clean and free of litter? **82**
- Does the site provide feeling of safety or perceived safety (CPTED standards, etc.) **72**
- Do vehicles dominate the site through access roads, parking and/or maintenance? **72**

Access & Linkages

74

Overall Rating:

- Are there clear and open view lines into open spaces? **73**
- Is there clear and useful wayfinding/signage within the site? **70**
- Can people easily walk to the site from surrounding areas? **76**
- Does the site function for people with special needs? **71**
- Do paths and/or roads connect people to primary amenities? **82**
- Are there transit stop(s) near (within 1/4-mile) and/or parking and bike racks near of primary entrance points? **72**

Sustainability

66

Overall Rating:

Social Sustainability

- Does the site provide places for people to gather? **68**
- Does the site promote healthy lifestyle and/or reduce daily stress? **70**
- Is the site connected with clear and safe access point(s)? **71**

Environmental Sustainability

- Does the site use energy, water, and material resources efficiently? **61**
- Does the site improve water quality? **68**
- Does the site enhance, preserve, promote, or contribute to biological diversity? **54**
- Is the site a node within a larger ecological corridor or habitat? **40**
- Does the site enhance environmental awareness and knowledge? **40**

Economic Sustainability

- Does the site create public and/or private revenue-generating opportunities? **84**
- Does the site sustain or increase adjacent property values? **76**
- Does the site contribute to nearby property development or redevelopment potentials? **67**
- Does the site provide permanent jobs? **73**

2.5 Level of Service Analysis

Overview

The purpose of an Existing Level of Service (LOS) analysis is to quantify how well the existing parks system is meeting the needs of residents. The National Recreation and Park Association's definition of LOS is "an allocation mechanism for the delivery of park land and basic recreation facilities throughout a community. By adoption of such a standard, a community in essence says that all citizens, […], will have an equal opportunity to share in the basic menu of services implicit in the standard and accompanying spatial distribution and allocation of policies."

The City of Riviera Beach LOS analysis was measured based on three basic principles that will be continually refined based on public input in subsequent phases of this planning process. While LOS can typically be analyzed using acreage and facility quantities compared to population, LOS can also be measured using access to park facilities. For Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the LOS analysis is based on three methodologies:

- Acreage Level Of Service (Amount of Park Land)
- Facilities Level Of Service (Amount of Facilities)
- Access Level Of Service (Distance or Travel Time)

Acreage Level of Service

The most common way to measure LOS for existing acreage is the number of public park acres per 1,000 residents in a community. Currently, there are 121.56 acres of public park lands within the City limits out of which 90.36 acres is operated by the City of Riviera Beach. The 2020 population of Riviera Beach is estimated by the U.S. Census Bureau to be 36,407 residents, which translates into an Acreage LOS of 2.48 acres per 1,000 residents when considering the City's parks. Based on estimates for the planning area that includes Riviera Beach, from the 2045 Palm Beach County Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), the population growth rate over the next 20 years is 2.98%, providing the 2040 population estimate of 43,132. If no additional park land is acquired, the acreage LOS will drop to 2.09 acres per 1,000 residents in 2040. **Table 2-24** shows the LOS analysis for each park type and calculates the projected LOS for 2030 and 2040, as well the acreage needed to maintain current acreage LOS figures as the population grows.

While Acreage LOS helps ensure a commitment to park land as the City develops, it has shortcomings. Comparison to other cities may be difficult as some cities operate golf courses, conservation areas, or other non-recreational facilities which are high in acreage but low in available capacity. Acreage LOS also does not consider amenities that are accessible to residents but owned and operated by entities other than the municipality or consolidated municipal/county park systems. Examples include school ball fields and playgrounds, parks operated by other agencies located adjacent or near to the municipal border, and privately-operated programs. Riviera Beach also has similar park acreage within its City limits in the form of County operated parks and Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks.

For these reasons, this Master Plan explores additional techniques such as Existing Facility LOS and Access LOS to better determine the extent to which parks, recreation and cultural resource facilities and programs are able to meet the needs of Riviera Beach residents. This methodology assumes the following principles:

Table 2-24: Riviera Beach Acreage LOS

City Park Type	Number of Parks	Acreage	Riviera Beach Existing LOS (2020) acreage/ 1000 pop.	Riviera Beach LOS (2030) acreage/ 1000 pop.	2030 Acreage needed to meet Current LOS	Riviera Beach LOS (2040) acreage/ 1000 pop.	2040 Acreage needed to meet Current LOS
Neighborhood Parks	9	11.1	0.30	0.04	1	0.26	2
Community Facilities	8	77.6	2.13	0.91	9	1.80	14
Sugar Hill Cemetery	1	1.66	0.05	3.20	0	0.04	0
Total City Parks	18	90.36	2.48	2.22	25	2.09	17

Facilities (Amount of Facilities)

- Every resident should have similar opportunities to use recreation facilities; and

Access (Distance or Travel Time)

- Every resident should be able to access specific park facilities within similar walking, bicycling, public transit and/or driving distances.

Acreage LOS Findings

The 2019 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) does not provide a standard for acreage LOS, as agency recommendations are shifting more towards an access-based model. However, the 2020 NRPA Agency Performance review found that a typical park and recreation agency oversees 9.9 acres of parkland per 1,000 residents. Riviera Beach's LOS is relatively lower than this figure at 2.48, and will continue to maintain that level with projected population growth. However, these figures are similar to many municipalities in the South Florida area. Acreage LOS is useful in establishing a baseline for understanding how population growth may place a strain on the available parkland for future resident access. As the City's population experiences growth in the next

15 years, the overall park system will need to add over 46 acres of new park land in order to maintain current LOS levels.

Almost the entire percentage of the system's park acreage is contained within neighborhood parks and community facilities. The City has around 30 acres of County Parks within its limits that cater to some of the recreational needs of the City and supplement the overall park acreage of the City.

From an acreage distribution perspective, it may appear that park system is unbalanced. However, this evaluation does not take into consideration the context of the smaller parks throughout the system or the access level of service that the system provides. The facilities and amenities found in each site will also provide a better understanding of how well each park site is meeting the needs of the users it serves. While **Table 2-24** provides deficit figures for each park type, this acreage may be better allocated to certain park types or areas of the City and should be evaluated based on a combination of acreage distribution, facility priorities, and access needs.

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Facility Level Of Service

Another technique used to measure existing parks and recreation LOS is by the number of facilities per population. Like acreage, there are no strict standards for the number of facilities that a community needs. This section documents the evaluation and comparison of the number of facilities per population to averages in the Southeast Region of Florida found in the 2019 Florida Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Demand for Outdoor Recreation

The 2019 SCORP document contains a survey conducted in 2016 that included responses from 4,000 residents regarding their participation in outdoor recreation activities during the previous 12 months, as well as their primary reasons for participating in these activities. Highlighted in **Table 2-20** and **Table 2-21**, the top activities for households in the southeast include fitness walking/jogging, cycling, and wildlife viewing, and the top reasons for participation in outdoor recreation activities include relaxation, scenery, and general health. The survey also identified the most desired facilities, show in **Table 2-22**, with the top

facilities including hiking/walking trails, bike paths, community parks, and beach access. These facilities align with the activities and participation rates and indicate the types of facilities that receive the most use from current and future populations.

In addition to providing the results from the survey, the SCORP document also provides 2017 recreation expenditures for outdoor activities in Palm Beach County. Analyzing recreation expenditures provides a better understanding the demand for facilities/activities, as this provides an indication of what people are willing to spend their disposable income on. When considering total spending from both residents and tourists, total spending for the county was nearly $6 Billion. The activities receiving the most spending included saltwater beach activities, fitness walking/jogging, bicycle riding, wildlife viewing, picnicking and hiking. The results from the survey are generally in line with the level of recreation expenditures associated with the top activities. This is helpful in determining the kind of recreational activities that citizens wish to engage in and spend money on, and identifying the types of facilities that can best serve these demands.

Table 2-25: Top Outdoor Recreation Activities Household Participation Percentage Rates for Southeast Region Residents and Statewide (Top 10)

Activity	Southeast	Statewide
Freshwater fishing	28%	34%
Saltwater fishing	35%	36%
Swimming (outdoor pools)	43%	38%
Hiking	34%	42%
Picnicking	49%	44%
Visiting historical sites	42%	46%
Bicycling	55%	49%
Saltwater beach activities	52%	54%
Wildlife viewing	54%	61%
Fitness walking/jogging	67%	68%

Table 2-26: Primary Reasons for Participation in Outdoor Activities for Southeast Region Residents and Statewide Based on Percentage of the State Resident Participation

Activity	Southeast	Statewide
For the challenge	10%	12%
Variety of available opportunities	21%	26%
I live/stay close by park/rec area	26%	26%
Spend time by myself	29%	27%
It's affordable	38%	45%
Be close to nature	43%	46%
Mental well-being	46%	50%
Be with friends and family	51%	51%
General health	52%	54%
Physical fitness	52%	54%
Enjoy the scenery	55%	60%
Relaxation	62%	66%

Table 2-27: Top 10 Most Desired Recreation Facilities for Southeast Region Residents and Statewide

Rank	Southeast	Statewide
1	Hiking/walking trails	Hiking/walking trails
2	Biking paths/trails	Biking paths/trails
3	Community parks	Nature/interpretive trails
4	Beach access/parking	Community parks
5	Wildlife viewing areas/over-looks	Wildlife viewing areas/over-looks
6	Nature/interpretive trails	Paved walkways
7	Playgrounds for children	Playgrounds for children
8	Paved walkways	Beach access/parking
9	Off-leash dog areas	Off-leash dog areas
10	Outdoor public swimming pools	Campgrounds

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Supply of Recreational Opportunities

The Florida SCORP uses the supply of recreation services and compares them to the resident demand figures to establish a LOS for the supply of resources. In order to more accurately relate the supply metrics to the demand, SCORP considers the percentage of participation in its LOS calculations for recreation supply of facilities. This means that LOS is measured in the amount of resources and facilities that are available to support an activity, expressed in terms of units of supply per 1,000 participants.

Each region's level of service was estimated for 26 activities to provide a geographically relevant standard to which counties and municipalities can compare. The Southeast Region serves as the benchmark by which Riviera Beach can be compared. In addition to supplying participation data for these 26 activities, the SCORP divides the results into two categories: resource-based facilities, and user-oriented facilities. Resource-based facilities are those that are dependent upon some element or combination of elements in the natural or cultural environments that cannot be easily duplicated. Activities supported by these facilities include beach access, fishing, hiking, biking, and nature

study. User-oriented facilities are those that can be provided almost anywhere for the convenience of the user. These facilities support more specific activities that include soccer, tennis, baseball, basketball, golf and pool swimming **(Table 2-28)**.

Facility LOS Findings

Table 2-29 shows the current facility LOS for Riviera Beach and the Southeast Region of Florida. This data is evaluated based on the percentage of resident participants each unit is serving. The LOS for these facilities is compared to the Southeast Region LOS, and facility deficits in Riviera Beach have been identified for the current population, and the population estimates for 2030 and 2035. Facilities that are not quantified in the LOS calculations by SCORP are evaluated based on growth, with units needed to maintain current LOS figures provided.

When compared to the SCORP LOS figures for the Southeast Region, Riviera Beach has an adequate number of swimming pools, and tennis courts, with a significant surplus of basketball courts. The City currently has a minimal deficit in baseball/softball fields, soccer fields, football fields and boat launch lanes, and these conditions are projected to continue as the population gradually increases over the next 10 years.

Table 2-28: Top 10 Expenditures for Recreation Activities in Palm Beach County

Rank	Activity	Resident Spending	Visitor Spending	Total Spending (Resident + Visitor)
1	Saltwater beach activities	$320,159,461	$409,077,944	$729,237,406
2	Fitness walking/jogging	$234,508,205	$244,167,762	$478,675,967
3	Bicycling	$136,418,864	$267,064,521	$403,483,385
4	Wildlife viewing	$7,544,136	$355,743,811	$363,287,947
5	Picnicking	$33,014,117	$312,430,947	$345,445,063
6	Hiking	$12,171,028	$314,154,477	$326,325,505
7	Golfing	$130,516,927	$187,074,628	$317,591,555
8	Nature Study	$8,771,040	$272,342,525	$281,113,564
9	Saltwater fishing	$19,938,331	$258,805,590	$278,773,921
10	Visiting historical sites	$4,543,851	$226,706,284	$231,250,135

Table 2-29: Riviera Beach Facility Level Of Service

Facility Type	Southeast Region LOS units/ 1000 pop. (2016)	Number of Facilities in Riviera Beach Parks	Riviera Beach Existing LOS (2019) units/ 1000 pop.	2020 Units Needed to meet Southeast Region LOS ()=Surplus	Riviera Beach LOS (2030) units/ 1000 pop.	2030 Units Needed to meet Southeast Region LOS ()=Surplus	Riviera Beach LOS (2035) units/ 1000 pop.	2030 Units Needed to meet Southeast Region LOS ()=Surplus
Baseball/Soft-ball Fields	0.65	0	0.00	3	0.00	3	0.00	3
Basketball Courts	0.83	16	3.20	(12)	0.40	(11)	2.65	(11)
Swimming Pools	0.06	1	0.07	(0)	0.03	0	0.05	0
Tennis Courts	1.03	10	1.22	(2)	0.25	(1)	1.01	0
Soccer Fields	0.09	0	0.00	1	0.00	1	0.00	1
Football Fields	0.27	0	0.00	2	0.00	2	0.00	2
Boat Launch Lanes	0.19	0	0.00	1	0.00	1	0.00	1
Facilities not Quantified by SCORP								
Multipurpose Fields	n/a	7	0.20	-	0.18	1	0.16	1
Gymnasiums	n/a	2	0.06	-	0.05	0	0.05	0
Volleyball	n/a	7	0.20	-	0.18	1	0.16	1
Canoe/ Kayak Launches	n/a	1	0.03	-	0.03	0	0.02	0
Playgrounds	n/a	10	0.28	-	0.25	1	0.23	2
Splash Pad	n/a	3	0.08	-	0.08	0	0.07	1
Racquetball Courts	n/a	4	0.11	-	0.10	0	0.09	1
Covered Pavilions	n/a	19	0.53	-	0.48	2	0.44	4

The user-oriented facilities that are not quantified in the SCORP LOS calculations are evaluated based on the units that will be needed to maintain the current Riviera Beach LOS figures. Like the facilities discussed in the previous paragraph, almost all of the facilities necessary to maintain current levels are needed in the next 10 years. As these estimates are not based on SCORP participation levels, further input from the community will be necessary to identify the facilities that have the greatest unmet needs and highest demand. It should also be noted that this facility LOS evaluation only includes facilities that are in the Parks and Recreation System inventory, and excludes all school sites, private recreation areas, and parks run by other agencies that are not in the park system inventory. Many of these sites contain additional facilities that could potentially supplement the deficits experienced in the user-oriented categories. However, public access to these facilities may be limited.

Access Level of Service

A third approach explored to better determine existing LOS is analyzing the level of access that residents have to park facilities. This is typically measured as a distance, either in miles or travel time. The NRPA uses access as a key component in the concept of Park Equity, which is defined as "ensuring that all people have access to the benefits of local parks and recreation" The 2019 SCORP discusses the emergence of park access as the recommended metric by which agencies set their LOS standards. In addition to Riviera's park types, access LOS will also be evaluated for select facilities, consistent with the park classification or park type each facility is typically found in. Facilities types analyzed are also consistent with facilities identified in the Facility LOS section of the chapter. Elements analyzed include:

Existing Park Type Classifications

- Neighborhood Parks - 1/2-mile and 1-mile
- Community Facilities - 2-mile
- Special Parks - 1/2-mile and 1-mile

Synthesis Analysis

- All Parks and Open Spaces - 1/2-mile and 2-mile

Neighborhood Serving Facilities

- Basketball Courts - 1/2-mile and 1-mile
- Playgrounds - 1/2-mile and 1-mile
- Tennis Courts - 1-mile and 2-mile
- Volleyball Courts - 1-mile and 2-mile

Community-Serving Facilities

- Splash Pads - 2-mile and 3-mile
- Multipurpose Fields - 2-mile and 3-mile
- Gymnasiums - 2-mile and 3-mile
- Canoe / Kayak Launches - 2-mile and 3-mile

Regional-Serving Facilities:

- Aquatic Facilities - 4-miles

Access LOS Findings

Park Classifications

In general, the majority of the smaller neighborhood parks and open spaces are located in the central and eastern parts of the City and provide adequate level of service to those areas when analyzed at 1/2-mile and 1-mile services areas. Apart from a single neighborhood park facility in the south-western corner of the City, the western part of the City does not have any access to neighborhood parks. The City has one Special Park, Sugar Hill Cemetery, which is also analyzed at 1-2mile and 1-mile level of access.

Analyzed at a 2-mile service area, community parks and facilities provide service to a majority of Riviera Beach, with the exception of some of the western parts of the City. MLK Junior Boulevard creates a barrier to access to a majority of the western portion of the City.

Park Synthesis Analysis

To provide a better understanding of the access LOS for the entire Park System, **Map 2-8** combines the different City park types and analyzes access at a walking and biking range. All parks in Riviera Beach are included in this analysis, in effort to provide a graphic representation of how easy it is for residents to access a park in their neighborhood.

Analyzing the 1-2-mile and 2-mile access Level Of Service for all of Riviera Beach's parks and recreation facilities, reveals gaps in LOS in the north-western, western and southern sections of the City. Smaller pockets of gaps exist along the northeastern and eastern edges of the City. The central and eastern parts of the City are well served by parks and recreational facilities. The north-western areas with the largest gaps are primarily large residential properties, so the demand for walkable access may be high without sufficient access to parks. The results of this analysis may indicate that some neighborhoods in the City may not have walkable access to open spaces, however the need for walkable facilities will need to be analyzed alongside the community input as well as future growth patterns.

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

Map labels: John D MacArthur State Park, Anchorage Park, Kelsey Park, Lottie Mae Miller Park, Lake Park Scrub Natural Area, Ball Field Park, Lake Park Marina, Silver Beach Rd, Sports Complex, N Ocean Dr, A1A, PB Shores Municipal Beach, Inlet Park, Peanut Island, W Blue Heron Blvd, Australian Ave, Old Dixie Hwy, Broadway Ave, Congress Ave, MLK Junior Blvd, N Military Trl, I-95, Dyer Park, Winding Waters Natural Area, Lone Pine Golf Course, Rapids Water Park, M.L.K. Jr Blvd, FITTEAM Ballpark, Lincoln Park, Magnolia Park, Magnolia Park Community Center, Brian Chappell Park, Osprey Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND
- Neighborhood Parks, and Special Parks - 1/2-mile Level of Service
- Neighborhood Parks, and Special Parks - 1-mile Level of Service

N

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1
Miles

Map 2-8: Rivera Beach Neighborhood Parks, and Special Parks - 1/2-mile and 1-mile LOS

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Facility Access LOS

The facility access LOS analyzes neighborhood-serving, walk-to facilities at 1/2-mile and 1-mile service area, while neighborhood facilities that may serve a slightly larger population are analyzed at a 2-mile and 3-mile service area **(Map 2-9 through 2-17)**. Generally, playgrounds, basketball courts and tennis courts have adequate coverage throughout the central and eastern portion of the City, but large gaps in service exist in the western part of Riviera Beach. The SCORP LOS figures highlight a surplus of basketball courts in the City. However, most of these courts are concentrated in the central part of the City with large gaps in the eastern and western parts of the City. Volleyball courts provide access to residents in the eastern and some southern portions of the City, but are not present in any other areas.

Community-serving facilities have service areas that are generally accessible within two to three miles of the facility location. In Riviera Beach, multipurpose fields, and gymnasiums provide adequate coverage throughout the eastern and southern portions of the City but the City do not have any such facilities in the western and central part of the City. Splash pads provide City-wide uniform access with minimal gaps. The City's sole canoe/kayak launch provides access to the eastern part of the City.

Regional-serving facilities such as boat ramps and aquatic facilities are analyzed at a four-mile service area **(Map 2-18 and 2-19)**. This is due to specialized nature of these facilities and the tendency for them to serve as more of a destination for residents from throughout the City and surrounding communities. The City's Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex provides aquatic facility access to the region and is currently accessible by a major portion of western and central Riviera Beach but eastern part of the City mostly falls out of the access area.

Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center

Community and Special Use Facilities

1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks

1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks / Facilities

1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks

1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND

- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND

- Community Parks / Facilities - 2-mile Level of Service

Map 2-9: Rivera Beach Community Facilities - 2-mile LOS

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

Map 2-10: Rivera Beach Neighborhood Parks, Community Facilities, and Special Parks - 1/2-mile and 2-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND
- Playgrounds 1/2-mile Level of Service
- Playgrounds 1-mile Level of Service

Map 2-11: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Playgrounds) - 1/2-mile and 1-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND
- Tennis Courts 1/2-mile Level of Service
- Tennis Courts 1-mile Level of Service

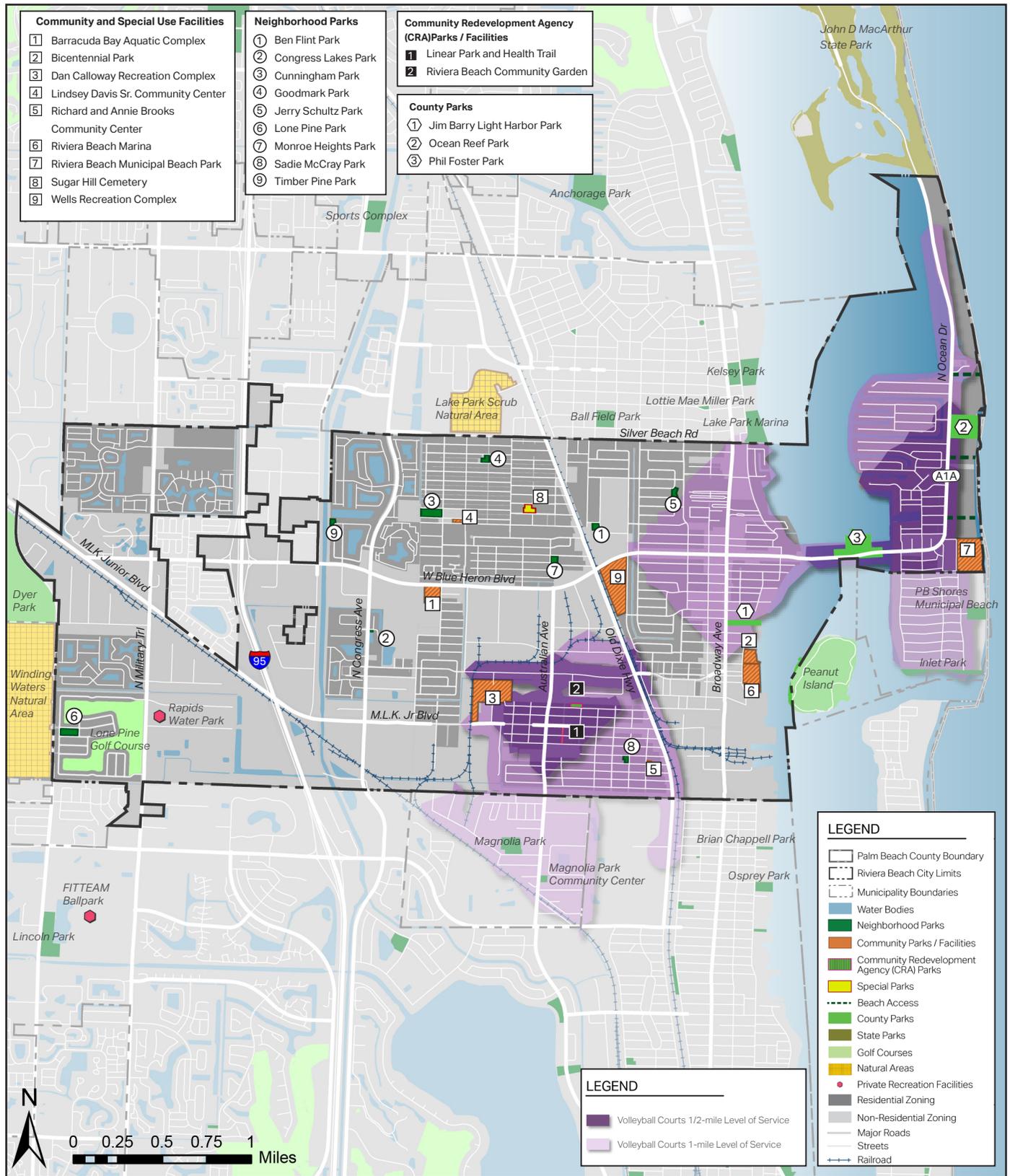**Map 2-12: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Tennis Courts) - 1/2-mile and 1-mile LOS**

Map 2-13: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Basketball Courts) - 1/2-mile and 1-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND
- Volleyball Courts 1/2-mile Level of Service
- Volleyball Courts 1-mile Level of Service

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1   Miles

Map 2-14: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Volleyball Courts) - 1/2-mile and 1-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND
- Multipurpose Fields 2-mile Level of Service
- Multipurpose Fields 3-mile Level of Service

Map 2-15: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Multipurpose Fields) - 2-mile and 3-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Gymnasiums 2-mile Level of Service
- Gymnasiums 3-mile Level of Service

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

0 0.25 0.5 0.75 1 Miles

Map 2-16: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Gymnasiums) - 2-mile and 3-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Splash Pads 2-mile Level of Service
- Splash Pads 3-mile Level of Service

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

Map 2-17: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Splash Pads) - 2-mile and 3-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities

1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks

1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities

1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks

1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND

- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND

- Boat Launch Areas 2-mile Level of Service
- Boat Launch Areas 3-mile Level of Service

Map 2-18: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Canoe/ Kayak Launch) - 2-mile and 3-mile LOS

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND
- Splash Pads 3-mile Level of Service

Map 2-19: Rivera Beach Facility Level of Service (Aquatic Facility) - 4-mile LOS

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Level of Service Summary

By utilizing a three-level approach to analyze the level of service for park and recreation facilities a number of trends can be identified that, in conjunction with the Needs Assessment, can help inform the Vision for the park system and future facility development.

Acreage LOS

- When compared to NRPA agency averages, Riviera Beach's current acreage level of service is below the national average, and this acreage would decrease with future population growth. This park acreage is divided between smaller neighborhood parks and larger community facilities.

- The community's need for access to walkable, neighborhood parks will need to be continuously monitored to maintain an equitable park system.

Facility LOS

- Riviera Beach enjoys a wealth of high quality recreation facilities that in most cases, provide a significant surplus of facilities, particularly a surplus of basketball courts, when compared to SCORP standards.

- These surpluses will continue as the community grows, with the only deficit showing for baseball/softball fields.

- For the facilities not measured by SCORP, the City is comfortably set with ample number of facilities like playgrounds, multipurpose fields and volleyball courts.

Access LOS

- In general, the parks and recreation system in Riviera Beach is providing a high level of access to parks and recreation facilities for its residents.

- When considering all neighborhood parks and community facilities, the neighborhoods in the northern, central, southern and eastern parts of Riviera Beach typically enjoy walkable or bikeable access to a nearby park.

- The majority of the gaps are in the western, and north-western parts of the City.

- In terms of facilities, the larger community and regional-serving facilities generally provide adequate coverage, while the neighborhood-serving facilities are typically aligned with the same trend present in the park synthesis analysis.

- While the north-western part of the City is generally underserved in terms of neighborhood and community level of facilities like playgrounds, play courts, and multi-purpose fields it is amply served by regional facilities such as the aquatic facility.

2.6 Programming, Operations & Maintenance Assessment

Recreation Programs Evaluation and Recommendations

The following section provides an evaluation of the City of Riviera Beach's Parks and Recreation Department's current recreation programs and services. Information documented in this section was gathered through staff interviews, and a review of information and documents supplied by the Department.

Recreation Programs Evaluation

The City of Riviera Beach currently has a limited offering of recreation programs for its citizens.

- Riviera Beach faces challenges in the delivery of recreation programs in a cost effective and efficient manner, much like other communities in south Florida.
- The Parks and Recreation Department focuses the majority of its programming efforts on youth sports, aquatics, seniors and youth programs. The overall level of programming is low considering the population that the Department serves.
- Recreation programs are planned and delivered through the three main recreation facilities in the City (Lindsey Davis Senior/ Community Center, Dan Calloway Recreational Complex and Wells Recreation Complex) as well as Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex.
- Recreation programs do not have the benefit of having well established marketing efforts, a seasonal program brochure or computerized registration.
- Most programs and services are low or no fee, especially for youth.
- The Parks and Recreation Department has very few performance measures and record keeping regarding recreation programs and services.

Programming Classifications

The categories in **Table 2-30** represent the major areas of focus for current Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department recreation programs and services by categories commonly found in parks and recreation agencies nationally. Program lists are based on a review of program offerings for 2019-2020, that were provided by the Department.

National Program Area Definitions:

Sports – Team and individual sports including camps, clinics and tournaments. Also includes adventure/non-traditional sports.

Fitness – Group fitness classes, personal training, wellness education and nutrition.

Cultural Arts – Performing arts classes, visual arts classes, music/video production and arts events.

Aquatics – Learn to swim classes, aqua exercise classes, competitive swimming/diving, SCUBA, and other programs (artistic swimming, water polo, etc.).

Youth – Before and after school programs, summer/ school break camps, and preschool.

Education – Language programs, tutoring, science (STEM) classes, computer and financial planning.

General Interest – Personal development classes.

Special Needs– Programs for the physically and mentally impaired. Also, inclusion programs.

Special Events – City wide special events that are conducted throughout the year.

Outdoor Recreation – Environmental education, hiking, camping, kayaking, and other activities.

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Table 2-30: Programming Classifications - Current Major Areas of Focus

Area	Focus	Program
Sports	Youth Sports	Basketball, Football, Track, Cheerleading, T-Ball/ Baseball
	Adult Sports	Softball, Basketball
Fitness	Youth	N/A
	Adult	N/A
Cultural Arts	Youth	No Consistent Programs
	Adult	No Consistent Programs
Aquatics	Youth	Swim Lessons, Swim Team, Junior Lifeguard
	Adult	Swim Lessons, Senior water Aerobics
Youth		Summer Camps, After-school
Education	Youth	N/A
	Adult	N/A
General Interest	Youth	N/A
	Adult	N/A
Special Needs	Youth	N/A
	Adult	N/A
Special Events		Martin Luther King Day, Black History Month, July 4th, Juneteenth, Kwanzaa
Outdoor Recreation	Youth	Fishing
	Adult	Fishing
Seniors		Special Events, Senior Trips, Arts & Crafts, Cards, Line Dancing, Senior Prom, Lincoln-Douglas Ball, Congregate Meals
Teens		N/A
Self-Directed	Youth	Drop-in Swimming
	Adult	Lap/ Drop-in Swimming, Fitness, Basketball
Social Services		Summer Feeding Program

(Note: No participation information available for 2019 and 2020)

Seniors – Programs and services that are dedicated to serving the needs of seniors. This can include all of the activity areas noted above plus social service functions.

Teens - Programs and services that are focused on serving the needs of teens. This can include all of the activity areas noted above (except seniors).

Self-Directed – This includes the opportunities for individuals to recreate on their own. This can include activities such as open-gym, use of weight/cardio space and lap/recreational swimming. Although not an organized program, time and space must be allocated for this purpose.

Social Services – This can include nutrition and feeding programs, job training, life skills training, and other activities such as health screenings.

Program Participants / Facility Use Information

Table 2-31 provides basic program participation numbers for general program areas for the last 10 years.

It is important to note that the highest participation numbers come from use of Barracuda Bay, swim lessons, and football/cheer. After 2012, Barracuda Bay saw a significant reduction in use. Not all the programs that are offered by the Department are included in these numbers.

Other Providers

In addition to the recreation programs and services that are provided directly by Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department staff, there are also a number of other organizations that provide services in the City.

Table 2-31: General Program Areas Participation Numbers

Activity	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Barracuda Bay	28,164	19,568	22,155	20,086	4,509	6,710	6,100	8,396	7,565	6,556
Swim Lessons	262	497	530	675	558	175	600	466	35	681
Junior Lifeguard	31	38	30	26	34	58	60	28	10	5
Football/ Cheer	334	260	250	270	210	250	250	219	400	475
Summer Program	86	71	60	65	75	250	250	192	300	300
Seniors Program	100	85	80	80	80	80	100	100	150	175
Youth Basketball	200	190	215	190	130	130	600	191	250	100
T-Ball/ Baseball, Tennis	175	195	100	100	125	125	250	56	80	0
Total	29,352	20,904	23,420	21,492	5,721	7,778	8,210	9,648	8,790	8,292

Riviera Beach Library – The City's library does provide some recreational and cultural programs to the community. Most of these are oriented toward youth.

Youth Recreation Association – Is a community group that has provided services for youth since the 1960's.

Port of Palm Beach – Although they are not an actual provider of recreation activities, they have much of the historical, education, and event space in the City.

Max M Fisher Boys & Girls Club – The facility serves over 800 boys and girls in Riviera Beach. They focus on after school and summer camp programs.

Palm Beach County – The County is a provider of a number of parks and recreation facilities in the greater Riviera Beach area, but they are not a major provider of recreation programs for the community presently.

The School District of Palm Beach County – Although not a large provider of actual recreation services, the school's facilities are locations for other community organizations to conduct their sports and recreation programs. The City has an IGA with the school district but does not utilize their facilities very often as a location for programming.

Other Cities – The other communities that are immediately next to Riviera Beach offer a variety of recreation programs and services that are available to residents of the community. This is particularly true of West Palm Beach and Palm Beach Gardens.

Private – In the City itself, there are only a few private recreation providers. This includes a gymnastics studio, a couple of fitness centers and a cheer facility. However, within the adjacent communities there are a much higher number of private recreation, sports and fitness providers. This includes a significant number of private health clubs, dance studios, martial arts studios, and other facilities.

With the presence of other providers in the Riviera Beach area, their role in providing services both now and in the future must be recognized and considered when the Department establishes its program plan for the next 5-10 years.

Gaps in Programming

With limited Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department based recreation programming available, there are significant gaps in most categories of recreation programming. This requires other organizations or providers in the market to fill this need or they are simply not available at all. Moving forward, the City of Riviera Beach will need to make a determination if they want to increase the level of recreation programming that is offered or continue to rely on others for these services.

The following table **(Table 2-32)** identifies and summarizes current core programs, secondary programs, and support program areas for the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department. The placement of programs into these three categories does not indicate the overall importance of these activities in the community but rather the role of the Department in providing these programs.

- **Core Programs** – are those programs that are a primary responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department to provide as City based activities.
- **Secondary Programs** – are those programs that are a lower priority to be provided directly by the Parks and Recreation Department.
- **Support Programs** – are programs that are not a priority for the Parks and Recreation Department to be providing directly to the community.

The Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department will need to determine if the focus on the core program areas should continue in the future or should be altered to reflect different community needs and expectations. The following is a general assessment of the major program areas.

Table 2-32: Current Core, Secondary, and Support Program Areas

Programs	Core	Secondary	Support
Youth Sports	○		
Adult Sports		○	
Fitness / Wellness			○
Cultural Arts			○
Aquatics	○		
Youth	○		
General Interest			○
Education			○
Special Needs			○
Special Events		○	
Outdoor Recreation			○
Seniors	○		
Teens			○
Self-Directed		○	
Social Services		○	

Core

- **Youth Sports** – The cornerstone of the Parks and Recreation Department has always been its youth sports program and particularly football and basketball. This scenario is likely to continue into the future with the start of a Police Activities League (PAL) program.
- **Aquatics** – With the presence of the Barracuda Bay Aquatic Center, there is a strong number of Learn to Swim classes that are offered along with other aquatic programs as well.
- **Youth** – The Department has a summer camp program and relatively informal after-school programming based out of the community centers.

- **Seniors** – The Parks and Recreation Department provides a number of programs and services that are focused on seniors.

Secondary

- **Adult Sports** – The City provides a limited number of adult sports programs, primarily in softball and basketball.
- **Special Events** – The Parks and Recreation Department offers a small number of special events on a City-wide basis. However, the Department also permits a significant number of other special events that are organized by other organizations.
- **Self-Directed** – Even though these types of activities are not formal programs they do require that the Department provide the opportunities and time in facilities for this to occur. With community centers, an aquatic complex, and other facilities, self-directed activities area a basic program area.
- **Social Services** – The Department integrates some social service programs into its youth and senior programs. Many of these services are run out of other City departments.

Support

- **Fitness/Wellness** – Despite the fact that the Parks and Recreation Department has two community centers, there has been little fitness programming due in part to limited fitness amenities, and a lack of emphasis on more general wellness services.
- **Cultural Arts** – This is program area currently receives very little emphasis in the Department. There are limited facilities to support this type of programming as well.
- **General Interest** – There are virtually no programs in this area, these services are generally offered by other providers.

- **Education** – Currently the Department does not really have an educational focus in its programming, other than what occurs as part of the youth after-school program. Most specialized programming in this area is provided by local school districts, education-based non-profits, or private providers.
- **Special Needs** – The Department does not currently have any programming for individuals with special needs. This is a difficult program area for smaller departments to provide on their own.
- **Outdoor Recreation** - There currently is very little emphasis given to this program area by the Department.
- **Teens** – There are virtually no programs offered in this area even though there is a substantial number of teens in the community.

Current Program Assessment

The following is an overall assessment of the current level of recreation programming that is offered by the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department.

Strengths – Programming strengths include the following:

- The Department has a strong youth sports program.
- There is an emphasis on youth activities and programs, especially after-school and summer camp.
- There is a significant number of swimming lessons that are offered at the aquatic complex.
- There is a strong emphasis on serving the recreation and social needs of seniors.

Weaknesses – Programming weaknesses are noted below:

- There are no special needs programs that are offered.
- There are virtually no outdoor recreation programs.
- Teen programming does not really exist.
- There is virtually no fitness programming in place.
- Cultural arts offerings are virtually non-existent.
- There are no educationally based programs available.
- There is very little intergenerational programming or family-based programming available.

Other Recreation Programming Concerns

Beyond what is noted above, there are a number of other operations and administration issues and concerns that have an impact on the current delivery of recreation programs and services. These include:

- There is no formal recreation program plan in place for the Department that identifies current and future program priorities and the methodology for organizing, conducting, and evaluating these activities.
- There is not program registration software program in place which makes tracking basic program participation and revenues very difficult. There is also no on-line registration capabilities.
- The Department has fee-based programs, but the fees are very inexpensive.
- There is very little diversity in overall program offerings.
- Despite a number of parks, recreation complexes, community centers, and an aquatic complex overall there is a low level of programming being offered.
- Record keeping (performance measures) that tracks participation statistics in recreation programs and services is not a high priority and are not current.

- The Department does not have a program evaluation system for use by patrons and program participants.
- Currently the Department has minimal marketing and promotions activities in place. Most information comes from the City's web site and/or flyers put out at the individual community centers/complexes. The web site needs to be upgraded and improved to better convey program and facility information. However, there is no printed or electronic seasonal program catalog or brochure.

Assessment of Facilities that Support Recreation Programs and Services

The City has a number of parks, an aquatic complex, and community center/complexes that can support a variety of recreation services.

Parks – The City has a significant number of athletic fields that are utilized for youth and adult sports leagues. Many of these are utilized by the Parks and Recreation Department for their recreation programs or are used by other sports organizations for their activities. There are also outdoor basketball courts that can support youth and adult leagues and tennis/pickleball courts.

Community Center/Complexes – The City has three primary community center/complexes that are utilized for recreation programming by the Parks and Recreation Department. The Dan Calloway Recreation Complex and the Wells Recreation Complex feature both indoor and outdoor amenities and are primary locations for youth activities and sports as well as adult sports programs. The Lindsey Davis Senior/Community Center serves primarily senior needs but is also utilized for general recreation purposes. In addition, the City's newest facility is the Brooks Center which is utilized primarily as a location for community activities and rentals.

Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex – The City has a first-class aquatic center that meets both the recreational and more traditional aquatic needs (swim lessons, swim team) of the community. The high school uses the facility for swim and water polo team practices. However, this facility has been under utilized in the last five plus years. It is open seasonally from Spring Break until the first of October.

Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Recreation Staffing and Budget Assessment

The Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department for 2020 is comprised of 36 full-time staff plus 9 part-time and 24 seasonal staff. This includes not only administration, recreation facilities operations but also programs and services as well as parks maintenance.

Recreation Staffing

Parks and Recreation Department Staffing Plan: The Parks and Recreation Department has three basic areas of responsibility or divisions.

Administration – Although this is not a formal division, this area is made up of the Director of Parks and Recreation as well as the Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation.

- These two positions are responsible for the administration of the Department including personnel, budgeting, operations, and other functions.
- These two positions are budgeted out of the Recreation and Parks budgets.

Recreation – This division is responsible for the management of recreation facilities and programs.

- There are 15 full-time positions and 1 part-time in this division.
- This division operates and programs the Dan Calloway Recreation Complex, Wells Recreation Complex, Brooks Center, and the Lindsey Davis Senior/Community Center.

Aquatics – This division is responsible for the management and programming of the aquatic complex in the City.

- There are 3 full-time positions and 6 part-time in this division.
- This division operates the Barracuda Bay **Aquatic Complex.**

Parks – This division is responsible for the maintenance of all park areas in the community.

- There are 16 full-time and 2 part-time in this division.

Dan Calloway Recreation Complex

Parks and Recreation Department Organizational Chart

Below is the existing organizational chart for the Department as of 2020.

```
                        CITY MANAGER
                        
                   DEPUTY CITY MANAGER
                   
              DIRECTOR PARKS AND RECREATION
                   Richard Blankenship
                   
         ASSISTANT DIRECTOR PARKS AND RECREATION
```

STAFF ASSISTANT	ADMIN AIDE P/T	
Latisha Neeley	Rashad Romes	

RECREATION	AQUATICS	PARKS

Wells Recreation Complex	AQUATIC	PARKS

RECREATION

Wells Recreation Complex

REC CENTER COORDINATOR (1)
Kenneth Payne
PROGRAM AIDE FT (5)
Masson, Erica
Horacio Jackson

TATE RECREATION CENTER

RECREATION LEADER FT (1)
Bell, Shaleena F
PROGRAM AIDE FT (6)
Roney, Krystle N

LINDSEY DAVIS COMMUNITY CENTER

RECREATION LEADER FT (1)
Oats, Gwendolyn
PROGRAM AIDE FT (1)
Alice McCullough

AQUATICS

AQUATIC

AQUATICS SUPERINTENDENT
Frank Souder
AQUATICS CENTER DIRECTOR (1)
Hollins, Wilbert E
POOL LIFEGUARD PT (4)
CONCESSION MANAGER (1)
Daniels, Alex
CONCESSION ATT PT (1)
Wilkerson, Elizabeth

PARKS

PARKS

CREW LEADERS FT (2)
Poitier Drexel D
Rod Sanders
MAIN MECHANIC FT (1)
Russel Eduardo
MAINT WORKERS FT (12)
Russ, Jacarra A
Jokes II, Gregory Van
Taylor, Terry
Brooks, Darryl
Thomas, Vincent V
Coleman, Marcus
General, Ambrose
Stubbs, Calvin
Aaron Weaver
MAINT WORKERS PT (2)
Pierce, John
Moore, Tim

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

Operations Budgets

The current operations budget of the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department has been reviewed with a focus on the different budget accounts in the Department, the fee philosophy and policy, and basic operational policies and procedures.

Current Operational Budgets

The Parks and Recreation Department has a number of budget accounts. A summary of budgets are shown in **Tables 2-33 through 2-35**.

Table 2-33: Parks and Recreation Budget Summary

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Budget	2019 Budget
Expenses	$3,246,785	$3,824,414	$4,604,483	$4,899,970
Revenues	N/A	$244,738	$301,096	$237,741
Difference	N/A	($3,579,676)	($4,303,387)	($4,662,229)

Table 2-34: Parks and Recreation Expenses by Budget Area

	2016 Actual	2017 Actual	2018 Budget	2019 Budget
Recreation Activities	$1,129,838	$1,531,053	$1,838,756	$1,980,871
Brooks Community Center	N/A	N/A	N/A	$64,036
Barracuda Bay	$442,797	$529,027	$555,207	$669,544
Lindsey Davis Community Center	$118,319	$117,758	$173,494	$183,285
Parks Maintenance	$1,555,831	$1,646,576	$2,037,026	$2,002,234

(Note: The Brooks Community Center did not open until the 2019 budget year)

Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center

Table 2-35: Parks and Recreation Budget Summary

	2020 Actual
General Programs	
Girls Program	$200
Karate	$2,759
Activity Fees	$10,531
Sub-Total	**$13,490**
Youth Sports	
Basketball	$10,996
Baseball	$4,986
Cheerleading	$2,025
Football	$22,692
Sub-Total	**$40,699**
Special Events	
Special Events	$824
Private Events	$10,398
MLK Events	$856
MLK Fees	$16,351
MLK Gala	$2,098
Sub-Total	**$30,527**
Aquatics	
Swim Lessons	$13,976
Pool Fees	$21,567
Concessions	$10,332
Sub-Total	**$45,875**
Youth Programs	
After Care Program	$35,000
Summer Programs	$58,293
Sub-Total	**$93,293**

	2020 Actual
Rentals	
Park Rental	$7,441
Gym Rental	$4,124
Sub-Total	**$11,565**
Other	
Sponsorships	$91
Donations	$2,111
Sub-Total	**$2,202**
Grand Total	**$237,651**

Recreation Budget Summary

The following are general comments regarding the operating budgets of the Parks and Recreation Department with an emphasis on recreation focused budget categories.

- The Parks budget has the largest expenditure level of all the budget categories. This budget has also seen significant gains over the last four years.

- Recreation has broken down its operating budget into four basic cost centers that help to isolate out expenses by facility and type of service. However, further breakdown will likely be needed in the future to expand this concept.

- In the last four budget years the recreation budgets have seen a significant increase. This is particularly true for Recreation Activities and Barracuda Bay.

- The recreation operating budgets include minor capital expenditures but do not contain large capital improvements.

- The largest revenue categories are Youth Programs, Aquatics, Youth Sports and Special Events.

- Revenues are not directly linked to expenditure budgets.

- There are very few budget performance measures in place that quantify the benefits that are derived for the public.

Fee Philosophy and Policy

- Despite the fact there are lower fees for parks and recreation services, it is still important for a successful parks and recreation department to have a well-defined fee philosophy to guide fee setting policies.

- Despite the lack of a formal fee philosophy, affordability for the general public and especially youth is a primary goal.

- With an emphasis on affordability, there is only a small focus on a fee for service concept for most programs and services.

- Rental rates are more aggressive and are designed to generate stronger revenues.

- It is not possible to pay for programs and services on-line (rentals, etc.).

Operational Policies and Procedures

Parks and Recreation best practices call for departments to have comprehensive operational policies in place that are updated on a regular basis. These procedures deal with everything from staff/supervisor policies, financial transactions, customer service, safety and security, to emergency action plans.

- The Department is deficient in general operating policies and procedures and most of the facilities and programs do not have specific plans as a result.

- A key aspect of operational policies and procedures is a comprehensive emergency action plan. At this point the Department does not have such a plan in place.

- There are virtually no performance measures being tracked.

- There is very little use of technology to help with management and operations of the Department. This includes staff hours tracking, financial transactions and systems tracking.

Programming Operations and Maintenance Assessment Summary

Recreation Programs Recommendations

- Provide multi-generational recreation program opportunities
- Partner with other providers to bring a full spectrum of recreation programs and services to the community
- Priorities for general programming include- Fitness/ Wellness, Youth, Sports, Outdoor Recreation, Special Events, and Social Services
- Move three program areas from Support to Secondary: Fitness/ Wellness, General Interest, Outdoor Recreation.
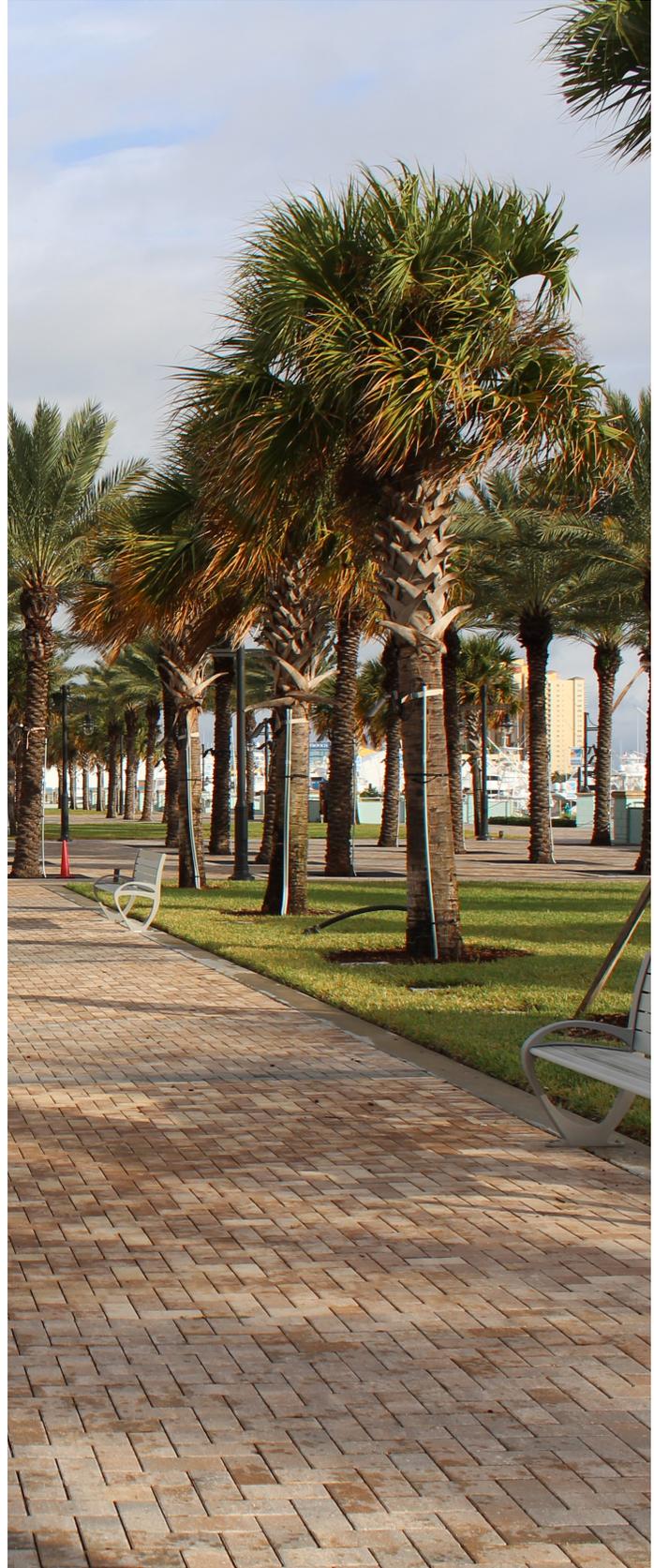
Riviera Beach Marina

SYSTEM INVENTORY & ANALYSIS

2.7 System Inventory & Analysis Summary

Demographics Summary

Growth

- Data from the Directions 2040 - Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization Long Range Transportation Plan projects strong population increases along Blue Heron Blvd. centered near the interchanges of N. Congress Ave. and President Barack Obama Hwy. The greatest growth increases are projected along Blue Heron Blvd. near Interstate Hwy 95.

Housing Characteristics

- The household type most common in Riviera Beach is family households with their own children under 18 (43.0%).
- The average household size is 2.98 people.
- The average family size in Riviera Beach is growing with a current average of 3.68 people.

Population Characteristics

- 69.1% of the population in Riviera Beach is Black.
- The median age in Riviera Beach is 36.1 years.
- Median income in the City has been increasing over the years is currently equal to $44,871 per year.
- 62.5% of Riviera Beach residents are employed in the labor force.
- A majority of the Riviera Beach labor force, 75.5%, drives alone to work.

Guiding Documents Summary

- The City of Riviera Beach Comprehensive Plan lays out specific goals and policies that are shaping the City's future which will help direct the implementation strategies of the PRMP.
- The Riviera Beach Capital Improvement Plan lays out a collection of vital improvement projects for the City which also includes parks and recreation projects. These projects would help direct the implementation of the proposed cost estimates for future parks and recreation projects.
- The Palm Beach County 2045 LRTP expresses the importance of non-motorized facility networks and the TPA's vision to provide safe, efficient, connected and multimodal transportation systems. It also highlights areas of future growth for the City which could help direct the Vision for the future of the parks and recreation system plan.

Programming, Operations and Maintenance Assessment Summary

- Provide multi-generational recreation program opportunities
- Partner with other providers to bring a full spectrum of recreation programs and services to the community
- Priorities for general programming include- Fitness/ Wellness, Youth, Sports, Outdoor Recreation, Special Events, and Social Services.
- Recommendations for adding the following staffing positions- Fitness/ Wellness Coordinator, Special Events Coordinator, Outdoor Recreation Coordinator, Parks Maintenance Workers.
- Plan for significant growth in the recreation budget accounts over the next 5-10 years to reflect the expansion of programs and services.

High Level Lifestyle Analysis Summary

- Major percentage of the population falls under the Tapestry Lifestyle segment of Modest Income Homes that comprise of multi-generational families that rely on car pooling, walking/ biking and public transportation for commute

- General parks and recreation needs for the major Lifestyle Segment Groups for Riviera Beach are: playcourts and playfields, outdoor and indoor event spaces, walking and biking trails, playgrounds, and fitness equipment.

Level of Service Summary

Acreage LOS

- When compared to NRPA agency averages, Riviera Beach's current acreage level of service is below the national average, and this acreage would decrease with future population growth.

Facility LOS

- When compared to SCORP standards the City has a surplus of most facilities particularly basketball courts, with the only deficit showing for baseball/softball fields.

Access LOS

- The neighborhoods in the northern, central, southern and eastern parts of Riviera Beach typically enjoy walkable or bikeable access to a nearby park or community facility.

- The majority of the gaps are in the western, and north-western parts of the City.

Park System Resources Summary

Successes

- High quality of design and construction of facilities.

- Parks and facilities are in good condition with a high level of maintenance, user satisfaction and staff pride.

- Material choices at the parks are durable and designed to withstand the extreme weather conditions.

- Unity of branding with construction standards that exceed expectations

Opportunities

- Need for more, convenient, shaded seating in parks.

- Environmental sustainability and enhancement of environmental awareness and knowledge.

- Utilization of park spaces to maximize efficient uses and flexible park needs.

- Capital improvements to parks could increase their functionality and comfort.

System-wide Ratings Summary

Overall Rating:

Design and Construction	75
Effectiveness	75
Condition	74
Comfort and Image	73
Access and Linkage	74
Sustainability	66

Congress Lakes Park

3

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Building on the information gathered as part of the System Inventory and Analysis, the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan's team utilized a wide-range of innovative techniques to conduct a comprehensive, City-wide needs and priorities assessment. Techniques utilized are a combination of qualitative and quantitative industry best practices that provide a system of cross checks to determine the community's top parks and recreation needs an priorities. Unique to this plan is the inclusion of a robust virtual engagement effort in order to provide safe, accessible engagement opportunities for residents across the City.

The following pages summarize the findings for each engagement technique.

CHAPTER 3: NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 Community Involvement

3.2 Comparative Analysis

3.3 Online Community Survey

3.4 Statistically Valid Survey

3.5 Needs & Priorities Assessment Summary

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

3.1 COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Overview

The City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan is built on a foundation of an extensive community involvement process which forms the cornerstone of the qualitative research methodology grounding the plan. A primary goal of the community involvement was to reach out to the general public and stakeholders to gather their input on making the parks and recreation system of Riviera Beach equipped for the future. The first component of this public participation approach included conducting a community meeting held through an online platform. The community meeting was offered on a weekday evening making it possible for a larger number of people to attend. The second component of community involvement was conducting 7 topic-based focus groups addressing a selection of community recreation elements. The third component included 13 stakeholder interviews with elected officials, Parks and Recreation staff, community officials and community leaders in Riviera Beach. The following are summaries of findings for each method of outreach.

Each method of data collection: public participation, community surveys, and inventory analysis, provide an integral component of information, and when combined, contribute to a mixed methods, triangulated approach that can demonstrate community trends in needs and priorities. Eight comprehensive methods of input or data collection were utilized as part of this triangulated approach **(see Figure 3-1)**. Though some techniques are more statistically valid than others, by utilizing a comprehensive group of eight select techniques, the planning team can cross-check results to better determine an accurate understanding of community needs and priorities.
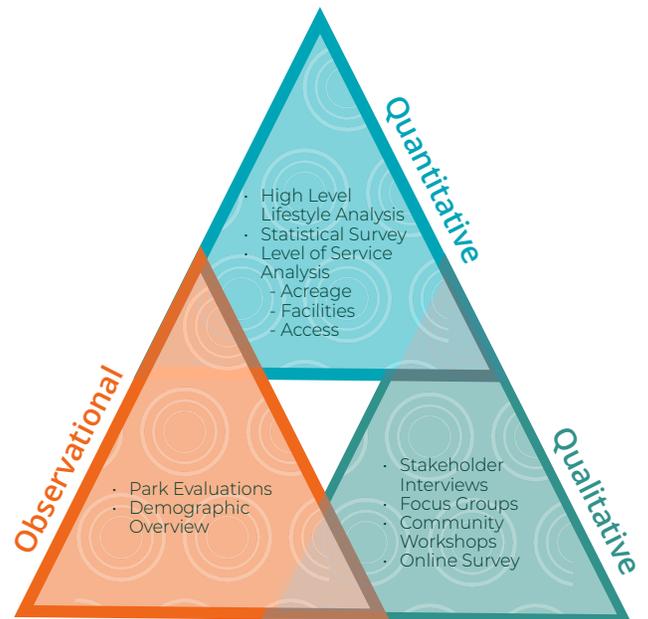
Figure 3-1: Mixed Methods, Triangulated Approach

Virtual Platform

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting public health concerns, a decision was made to utilize a virtual platform for a major portion of the community engagement. This platform was run through PublicInput.com, and utilized the URL, www.playrivierabeach.com as the landing page for all online engagement. The platform served as the access point for project information and updates, the Virtual Community Meeting, and online survey. Extensive outreach was conducted to encourage access to this platform, as well as provide input opportunities for those that may have difficult accessing the site. Common themes from feedback obtained from the Virtual Community Meeting and Virtual Kick-off are shown in **Figures 3-2 through 3-4**.

Virtual Kick-Off Meeting

The kick-off community meeting for the project was held on the above mentioned virtual platform on November 16, 2020. The intent of the meeting was to share with the community the purpose of the project and receive their feedback.

Virtual Kick-Off Meeting Discussion

Fitness equipment in parks is important.

- Older neighborhoods need better access to parks.
- Older neighborhoods need parks.
- There is a strong need for pocket parks throughout Riviera Beach
- Many parks lack sufficient parking - Cunningham Park is an example.
- Parks across the City need beautification.
- Additional recreation opportunities are needed in the parks.
- Accessibility to the parks needs to be improved.
- There should be increased access to the beaches.
- Developmental growth is a critical focus.
- Blue Heron Drive is currently acting as a barrier.
- There is interest in developing pickleball further in the City.
- Purchase Lone Pine Golf Course.
- The City needs an amphitheater space.
- Increase beach access and programming options for seniors.
- Create better programming for residents that experience mobility concerns.
- Incorporate walkways down to the water at Bicentennial Park.
- Add beach volleyball amenities in Bicentennial Park.
- Take better advantage of the opportunity for increased numbers of events at the updated marina.
- Consider a newsletter for the community.

Virtual Kick-off Meeting Summary

- Promotion of exercise in parks by adding fitness equipment
- Older neighborhoods need pocket parks.
- Parks lack parking.
- Beautification of existing parks is a priority.
- Access to all parks needs to be improved.
- Better access to beaches is needed.
- Increase water play activities.
- Social and wellness activities for senior community members
- Programming for community members with limited mobility needs
- Improve communication about parks and recreation.

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Common Themes from Participant Comments in Kick Off Meeting

Greenways and Trails

Parks Beautification

Pocket Parks

Improve Existing Parks

Better Restroom Facilities

Park Accessibility

Universal Beach Access

Educational Opportunities

Grant Funding

Water Play

Parking

More Diverse Programming

Dog Parks

Wellness Activities

Community Meeting - Idea Boards Results
What type of facilities or activities would you like to have access to in 5, 10 and 20 years?

5 Years
- Water access
- Neighborhood parks
- Fishing
- Places to sit
- Places to meet

10 Years
- Public water access
- Park facilities in redevelopment areas
- Commercial destination recreation
- Neighborhood parks

20 Years
- Expanded access to Lake Worth Inlet
- Greenways

Figure 3-2: Type of Activities the Community will be Doing in 5, 10, 20 Years

4,067
Virtual Platform Visits

188
Community Meeting Visits

50
Engagement Responses

More

67%	Bicentennial Park
33%	Barracuda Bay Aquatics Center
33%	Riviera Beach Municipal Park
33%	Riviera Beach Marina
33%	Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
33%	Special Events/ Festivals
33%	Phil Foster Park

Less

0%   20%   40%   60%   80%
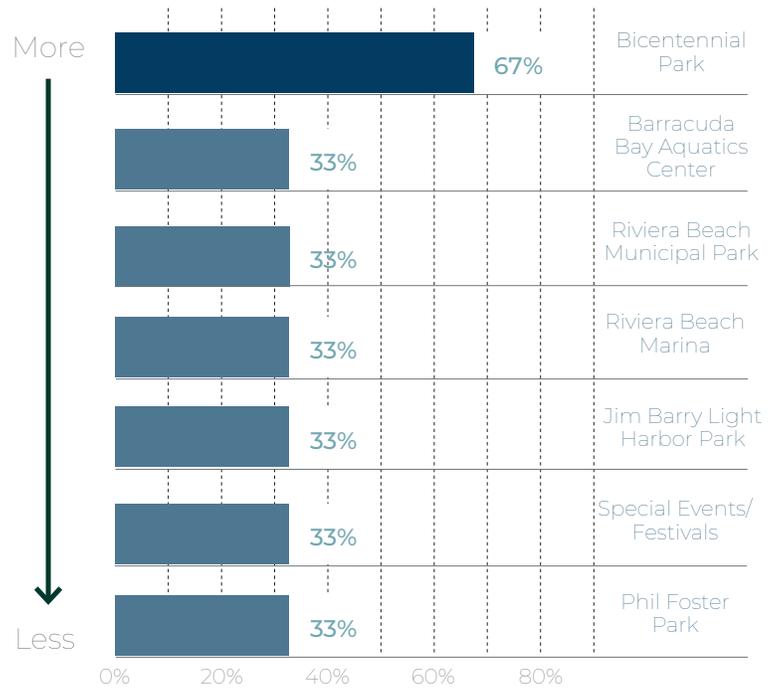
Figure 3-3: Top 7 Most Visited Parks

ACTIVITIES YOU CURRENTLY PARTICIPATE IN OR HAVE A NEED FOR

Top 3

Playgrounds · Historical Places · Walking

Kayaking/Boating · Go to Beach · Tennis · Volleyball · Fitness Classes · Visit Museums

Exercising Outdoor · Festivals · Swimming · Splash Pad · Water Fitness

Figure 3-4: Most Needed Activities

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Focus Groups

7 topic-based focus groups addressing a selection of community recreation topics and communities were conducted through an online platform over three days. The focus groups included people from different fields of expertise associated with the City's Parks and recreation facilities. These community members shared their thoughts about the current status of the system and offered ideas for future improvements.

Each meeting was approximately one hour in length and started with a brief introduction of the planning process, followed by an in-depth discussion of needs and priorities, then capped by a discussion of preliminary vision ideas for each topic and potential implementation strategies.

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Focus Group - Monday, November 16, 2020
- Seniors Focus Group- Tuesday, November 17, 2020
- Department Heads and Administration Focus Group - Tuesday, November 17, 2020
- Teen Focus Group- Tuesday, November 17, 2020
- Aquatics & Marine Industry Focus Group- Wednesday, November 18, 2020
- Youth Sports Organizations Focus Group - Wednesday, November 18, 2020
- HOAs/Neighborhood Associations Focus Group - Wednesday, November 18, 2020

Wells Recreational Center

Records of these meetings can be found in Appendices, along with comments recorded from each meeting. The following summarizes questions, comments and directions that emerged during the focus group meeting.

Focus Group Discussions

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Focus Group - Monday, November 16, 2020

- Some concern with parks being excessive but not taking into consideration the age of people living near the parks
- Strong desire for pocket parks with exercise equipment
- The call for football and basketball represents a portion of the community but does not encompass the needs and desires of everyone.
- There is interest in purchasing a golf course.
- More diverse opportunities
- People may not want the amenities in the parks.
- Create exercise opportunities for the senior population.
- Enhance parks - move away from status quo activities like basketball and football.
- A desire for baseball/softball
- Improvements and substantial upgrades to Wells Recreation Complex including better utilization of facility spaces
- Implementation of additional programming in parks
- Recognition of popularity of pickleball in broader community than seniors alone
- Repurposing of tennis courts
- Better communication of park locations
- An interest in buying Lone Pine Golf Club
- Older neighborhoods are in need of quiet, small open spaces.

- Repurpose under-utilized land and vacant properties like those near Rapids.
- There is a need for pocket parks.
- Improve existing parks in the City.
- Add playground equipment/shade structures to parks.
- Incorporate walking trails and fitness courses in parks.
- Transform the old abandoned canal area into a linear park.
- Increase greenways and trails.
- There is desire for additional pickleball amenities, programs, and engagement.
- Utilization of parks for family activities and increasing facilities that support those activities
- Need for post-pandemic plan for state activation of parks
- Lack of interest by renters in the City to be responsible for policing and monitoring of parks
- Encourage better utilization of current parks through high quality maintenance and more availability of facilities.
- Hygiene will continue to be of importance in parks in the future because of and after COVID.
- Consider ambassador programs for park monitoring (in CRA areas).
- Green space or open land is not being utilized and can be turned into pocket parks.
- Pursue additional grant funding sources like FRPA/State/and National grants.
- Establish partnerships with schools like Inlet Grove High School and Kennedy Middle School to reinitiate use of fields and gyms as in the past.
- Better utilization of existing infrastructure
- Implement more programming and activities to provide additional offerings for the municipality.
- Gated communities have limited amenities.
- A pocket park is needed near the intersection of Blue Heron and Congress.

Seniors Focus Group - Tuesday, November 17, 2020

- Better utilization and upgrades are needed for Lone Pine Park.
- These types of parks can be a financial benefit to the community.
- Desire for the preservation of Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
  - Children are very familiar to with the facility.
  - Two schools are very close to it.
  - Swim teams utilize the facility.
  - It is used as a rental space.
- While state of the art parks sounds good, those standards are hard to keep up with.
- Bathroom facilities at parks must be improved, and at many parks they are not available.
- Add accommodating restrooms for communities with various needs.

- The City community of seniors would benefit from a park dedicated for them.
- Outdoor spaces for gathering and neighborhood meetings
- There is concern that the maintenance required along side the beautification of parks will be a lot for the City to handle.
- There should be acknowledgment of the fact that the COVID pandemic is forcing more people to get outside.
- Parks should be designed with more than just children in mind.
- Parks could include additional programs like the boys and girls club.
- Gyms and other community facilities could accommodate educational programming such as aftercare, tutoring, technology support for students, and mentoring opportunities.

Wells Recreation Complex

- Bring back youth sporting events, and prioritize care for youth in the community.

- Prioritize care for seniors.

- Increase the number of festivals.

- Revamp a spirit of parks and recreation.

- Encourage programs that help reduce the screen time that most people are experiencing.

- Consider how to address specific health issues.

- Promote and support natural systems.

- Add walking trails throughout the City.

- Increase the amount of programming for special needs populations.

- The community would like to have more art in the parks.

- Parks can serve as spaces to encourage environmental education.

- Pursue more grant funding.

- Utilize and upgrade tennis courts and promote lessons and competition for the sport.

- Redevelop Wells Recreation Complex and replace old buildings with newer facilities.

- Design facilities for both seniors and students.

- Provide space for indoor and outdoor activities.

- Many existing parks and open areas are underutilized.

- Provide greater cleanliness in parks.

- Increase monitoring and safety of the parks through police presence or City staff.

- Walking trails, paved trails, and bike trails need to be added across the park system.

- Provide rock climbing facilities and amenities.

- Design parks to promote wildlife, pollinators, and birds.

- Design an educational walking trail system.

- Increase security in parks for visitors and bikes so the community feels safe in the City parks.

- Those who are displaced and populations without homes are currently using parks, and help to address their situation and presence in the City parks should be considered moving forward.

Department Heads and Administration Focus Group - Tuesday, November 17, 2020

- Embrace technology by integrating it into facilities.

- Expand usage of libraries in parks by establishing partnerships.

- Increase the usage of libraries.

- Create archives for the City.

- Design a dog friendly park.

- Incorporate activities that people ages 13-18 are interested in.

- Explore ideas for funding.
  - Expand partnerships for parks and recreation.
  - Establish joint ventures through use agreements with the school district.
  - Coordinate with Fortune 500 companies.
  - Sponsorships with private sector

- Safety is a critical priority - more staff is needed to monitor parks.

- Lighting is a priority.

- A regional perspective is key to establishing facilities that accommodate multiple sports opportunities.

- Expand water access and usage so that kids know how to fish and participate in water related activities.

- Diversification of types of programs that can take place in spaces.

- More educational opportunities

- Expand traditional sports activities

- Create more variety in sports.

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Teen Focus Group - Tuesday, November 17, 2020

- Community parks are important for the youth population.
- There is strong community interest in sports.
- More parks should be accessible to the ocean.
- Youth would like to have more community pools.
- Special events should be increased.
- Many City lots remain vacant and underutilized
- There should be greater public access to water in the City parks.
- There is support for coordination with Peanut Island.
- A small amphitheater would allow the community to gather and put on talent shows or other artistic events.

Aquatics & Marine Industry Focus Group - Wednesday, November 18, 2020

- Both new parks and renovations should be considered.
- The creation of destination parks is of interest.
- The unique history of the area such as the maritime history of Riviera Beach could be a theme for such a park.
- Highlight the City's boat building history.
- Support diverse fishing opportunities throughout the City.
- Design educational spaces in the parks.
- Blue Heron Bridge and the area surrounding it should be addressed.
- Revitalize and bring activity to the marina area.
- Encourage creative utilization of City space.
- The City needs a dog park.
- Include more dedicated fitness areas in parks.
- Take better advantage of the coastal nature of the City.

- Be intentional about designing spaces to be COVID-conscious.
- Create more opportunities targeting both adults and kids.
- Larger cities are investing in fitness equipment in their parks.
- Consider methods for how fitness investments in parks can be a revenue generator.
- Investigate possible partnerships with trainers for outdoor classes.
- Encourage small businesses to utilize the parks for outdoor activities.
- These types of investments in parks will impact property values, and that needs to be thoroughly considered and addressed.
- After COVID, restart festivals like Ocean Walk and increase the number of street fairs and outdoor music event.
- Greater emphasis on live and local talent
- Promote opportunities and places for people to get outside for events.
- Establish partnerships with Palm Beach Shores, Palm Beach County and Riviera Beach for greenways, fitness opportunities, and trails.
- Be more transparent with potential vendors.
- Seek out additional grant funding to support parks.
- Do not forget the humanity that exists in business.
- An end goal is to improve the community.
- Provide safe clean parks for everyone.
- The decisions made in this plan provide a critical opportunity to not be left behind in current parks design and mission.
- Make inclusion a key emphasis of the park system through incorporation of methods such as "universal play."
- Design playgrounds that allow all children to play together.

- Add destination playgrounds that provide new and different types of activities in the City.
- Design facilities that address the different needs of children and provide opportunities accordingly.
- The aquatic complex is underutilized. Consider new ways to use it possibly for triathlon training and revenue generation.

Youth Sports Organizations Focus Group - Wednesday, November 18, 2020

- Cheerleading needs more support and opportunities in the City.
- The City parks staff do a great job and work very hard to do the best with what they have.
- Facilities are the primary concern - they are old and in need of renovation and facilities are needed that the City currently does not have.
- Bathrooms need to be improved.
- The City offers a wide range of opportunities but facilities are not sufficient and need to be bigger

- Coaches face problems like bathrooms being locked and fields unavailable for practice.
- Bathrooms are dirty enough that there is concern from a health standpoint.
- The parks system has great potential but lacks the structure needed to advance and sustain quality programming.
- Upgrading athletic facilities should be a priority in this long range-plan.
- Water parks and aquatic play are lacking in the City.
- Multi-use parks are needed.
- Accessible safe play structures need to replace the ones existing in parks today.
- There should be more neighborhood parks so they are close to people's homes.
- In addition to providing more athletics facilities, the City should prioritize investment in athletic programming which would yield strong returns.
- New locations are less of a concern than improving existing sites.

Riviera Beach Marina

- Sports that people want to see increased include football, basketball, baseball, and soccer, which is on the rise.
- More multi-purpose fields are needed throughout the City.
- Many existing parks are underutilized.
- Partnerships with schools are important.
- Great new parks are less valuable if they are not utilized well.
- There is a desire to have a lot of parks to meet demand.
- Better communication about programming and facilities and parks in general is needed because it is very challenging to learn about what is being offered.
- The parks and recreation department needs to increase its outreach to residents.
- Marketing needs to improve and upgrade to newer methods as old communication methods are no longer working.
- The City may need to consider outsourcing certain parks and recreation services.
- Busy parents and children have short attention spans and parks facilities should to address modern needs.

HOAs/Neighborhood Associations Focus Group - Wednesday, November 18, 2020

- There is concern about the current status of Lone Pine Park.
- Lone Pine Park needs additional amenities and multi-generational facilities.
- Walking access amenities need to be included at Lone Pine Park.
- The City needs more neighborhood parks.
- There is also a strong need for open spaces in commercial areas.
- Park capacity for walking trails, fitness areas, and an amphitheater is important. There are some disparities in park maintenance since some are well cared for and others are not.

- More attention should be paid in this master plan to neighborhood parks.
- Parks across the City need to be more equitable.
- More places are needed for events and activities around the Marina to activate that space.
- For what does Riviera Beach want to be known?
  - 5 or 6 great big parks
  - Many smaller open spaces that are accessible
  - Ample places to sit
  - Educational opportunities
- Lack of sufficient parking is an important and ongoing concern at parks.
- Infill and density is making parking more difficult.
- Because parking is cramped already, transit to parks is an increasing problem across the parks system.
- It would be a positive step to see something in the budget for each park.
- There is a lot of competing interest about which parks we should prioritize.
- Expand partnerships to improve existing parks to provide healthier park spaces and housing.
  - Partner with developers to invest in improving nearby parks rather than developing more "tot lots."
- Add water parks in the City.
- More water features would be welcomed throughout Riviera Beach.
- Combine development of nicer facilities with places for community gathering and events.
- Great park systems provide destinations for people.

Focus Groups Summary

Information gathered from each focus group meeting was recorded in meeting notes and consistent themes of community-wide needs and priorities were identified. The primary themes from the focus groups included:

- Improvements to existing park facilities
- Need for multi-generational facilities and programming
- Walking trails, paved trails, and bike trails need to be added across the park system.
- Introduce educational opportunities and spaces in parks
- Increase security in parks
- Increase water access and usage
- Include wellness and fitness opportunities in parks
- Highlight the City's maritime history through its parks
- Increase social events and gathering spaces for events
- Need for sports and multipurpose fields
- Need for more neighborhood parks
- Restroom improvements

Cunningham Park

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Stakeholder Interviews

In order to better understand the priorities that the City of Riviera Beach's elected officials are facing, the consultant team conducted a series of ten interviews with the Mayor, City council members, and various department and community leaders. Each interviewee was asked a series of questions regarding the issues they are hearing from constituents throughout their district or the City, thoughts on comparable cities or regions, and potential implementation strategies for improvements or enhancements to the parks and recreation system. Responses were recorded by the consultant team to identify consistent themes. The following is a comprehensive compilation of the discussion from the interviews:

Stakeholder Interview Discussions

Improve Utilization of Existing Facilities

- Use existing parks and recreation buildings for increased programming.
- Increase the number of specialty programming facilities in the parks system.

Stakeholders identified two key opportunities for parks and recreation facilities in the City of Riviera Beach. First, existing parks and existing recreation buildings can be utilized for increased programming. Investment is needed in the local parks to make them high quality outdoor spaces that emphasize opportunities for joy, safety, wellness, and leisure. Many open spaces that are one-dimensional today could host multiple sports and recreation services to activate them for the community throughout the year. This should be prioritized over considerations

Wells Recreation Complex

for alternative purposes for these properties. Stakeholders suggested that broader utilization of parks facilities could include community creative services like arts, crafts, and music activities in both indoor and outdoor settings. Other potential investments included updated playground equipment, new sports courts and fields, and habitat and ecological benefits incorporated into park landscapes. The second key need is to increase the number of targeted programming facilities. More parks would strengthen the ability of the system to disperse equitable and diverse recreation services across the City. These new target parks could include sporting facilities such as a boxing center, indoor/outdoor tracks, more community pools, and sites for pro-social activities. Stakeholders recommended the community consider investing in state-of-the-art sporting facilities that could attract national sports organizations. These types of facilities would help make the City of Riviera Beach a destination community. This dual redevelopment and expansion strategy would reactivate and care for existing parks and address unmet recreation needs in the community.

Additional Parks Amenities in Facilities

- Add dog parks across the parks system
- Marked trail and greenway system connecting parks
- Historical signage and local community narratives in parks
- Replaced and update old amenities

Stakeholders shared several specific examples of parks investments that are priorities. Dog parks are needed across the City to create spaces for owners to enjoy the outdoors and to welcome their dogs in the parks. A marked trail and greenway system could connect the parks throughout the City with monuments and spatial design highlighting the narratives and history of each community and neighborhood. Damaged park amenities should be replaced with structures that are sturdy, safe, and easy to maintain.

Increase Diversity of Programming

- Design facilities to meet the needs of a diverse community
- Teen youth and older populations need more programming across the City
- Create flexible parks that meet the needs of many ages in the same space
- Bring people together for activities and events that can help address social challenges

Riviera Beach parks stakeholders emphasized that City facilities should be designed to meet the needs of a diverse community particularly including more programs and spaces targeting older youth. This type youth programming space could include sporting activities and facilities with inclusive flexibility so that young people can choose the activities that most interest them. Alongside active play spaces, the parks should also welcome walking, exercising, and outdoor enjoyment through integration of tracks, pathways, nature trails and public gardens. Programs should encourage diversity of users. Outdoor spaces can bring people together and include community programing that helps address challenges of societal disparities related to underserved neighborhoods and communities. An example shared by stakeholders of an activity that brings people together through a community service is public movies on the lawn at regional parks.

Stronger Community Outreach

- Utilize parks across the City to have events in people's local public spaces
- Include City law enforcement members in local park and neighborhood programs to build relationships with the community
- Hire several staff members to help with education opportunities addressing issues of crime

Form partnerships with local schools to host professional and career development activities programs Parks and recreation outreach to the

community is another concern for stakeholders. Community outreach and involvement could be increased by using the parks and recreation sites all across Riviera Beach so that everyone in the City feels welcomed to events they can enjoy comfortably in their local public spaces. There should a focus on creating more high-quality programs that are centered around neighborhoods and parks. Law enforcement should be included in these programs to form mutual relationships with the community that will help lower potential for dangerous activities in parks and neighborhoods. Riviera Beach can also consider hiring several staff members to highlight learning opportunities and relationship building around solving issues of crime. Communication outreach needs to be strengthened to make program details easily accessible and clearer for the public. Stakeholders also recommended the City form strong partnerships with local schools to host activities centered around professional and career development that supports people in reaching their professional goals. These activities could be jobs fairs, networking, conferences, and career-building events using indoor and outdoor parks and recreation spaces.

Recreation Closer to Home

- Diverse activities should be available to youth close to their homes
- Access to water like canals and beaches should be increased
- Create spaces that promote local recreation and youth socializing
- Implement strategies to make parks unique to their locations and neighborhood

Stakeholders believe that diverse activities should be available to youth close to their homes so that young people do not feel the need to leave the City to find recreation outlets. Places to access water like the canals should increase throughout the City. Water activity facilities should be more commonly available to community youth, and beaches, in particular, should be improved as places where young people want to stay

and enjoy socializing. Stakeholders recommend the City implement strategies to make parks unique to their locations and neighborhood through localized events.

Multi-generational Facilities and Programming

- Design spaces for diverse groups to gather for planned events and spontaneous activity
- Accommodate families and family members of all ages
- Multi-generational interaction is a priority

The community would benefit from activity spaces that allow diverse groups to gather for planned events and spontaneous activity. Stakeholders said that activities that need these additional planned and spontaneous spaces in the City include soccer, skateboarding, and staged music events. These spaces should be designed to accommodate families and family members of all ages. Multi-generational interaction is a priority and can be encouraged by providing facilities that meet everyone's needs in the same space rather than separating services by age. Seniors should be considered in park design making access easy for them and to include services targeting to their needs. Parks should have social spaces and resources like outdoor WiFi that encourage young people to stay and play in the City. Designing with these age-related focuses could transition parks and recreation areas over time to help them serve the entire community regardless of age. It would also help facilitate creative, community-led recreation.

Increase Funding Methods

- Welcome community professional sports to help funding missions and raise support for parks and recreation
- Consider corporate sponsors, local businesses, and community organizations to develop mutual partnerships
- Connect with environmental organizations to promote and expand ecological benefits of local parks
- Consider additional local funding methods like a penny sale tax, a parks bond, and neighborhood marketing

Lastly, stakeholders shared some of their vision for increasing awareness and financial support for parks and recreation. The Riviera Beach community has a broad group of leaders in the professional sports realms that could help guide funding missions and raise support for parks and recreation programs. They also represent universities like UF and FAU that would be great partners in funding endeavors. Corporate sponsors, local business, and community organizations should be considered to develop partnerships because of their expanded outreach and also because of their existing interest in the success of their regional communities. They are equipped to provide services that complement the mission and programs of the parks and recreation department while increasing their business community engagement. Environmental partners such as the Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge could help extend the mission of the local parks and highlight the potential of parks to serve as broader ecological infrastructure in the urban and suburban fabric. Stakeholders expressed a mix of perspectives about including some pay as you go activities in the parks and open spaces. Existing local support could be tapped further through a penny sales tax, a parks bond to fund targeted projects, revenue bonds, and neighborhood marketing.

Stakeholder Interview Summary

In order to better understand the priorities that the City of Riviera Beach's elected officials are facing, the consultant team conducted a series of ten interviews with the Mayor, City council members, and various department and community leaders. Some of the key themes that emerged from these meetings were:

- Improve utilization of existing facilities
- Additional park amenities in facilities
- Increase diversity of programming
- Stronger community outreach
- Recreation closer to home
- Multi-generational facilities and programming
- Increase funding methods

3.2 COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Overview

A comparative analysis was performed to compare the City of Riviera Beach parks and recreation resources with five similar or aspirational municipalities of Florida. The parameters for comparison included: parks per capita; park facilities, open spaces, and recreational/ sports facilities per capita; and budget per capita. This benchmarking analysis helped determine the current status of the City's park system in comparison to other municipalities. This also helped determine the parameters that the City required to work on in order to improve in parameters where it ranked low on the benchmarking list.

Table 3-1 highlights the results of the Comparative Analysis. The data for the various municipalities was sourced from their annual budget documents, US Census data, and parks and recreation websites.

Benchmarking Comparison of Parks and Recreation Resources

A three-level approach was utilized to analyze the level of service for park and recreation facilities. There are a number of trends that can be identified which, in conjunction with the Needs Assessment, can help inform the Vision for the park system and future facility development.

Municipality Benchmarking Analysis Summary

The City of Riviera Beach's parks and recreation system is creating this plan to chart a trajectory for parks and recreation for the next 50 years. As part of that process, it is extremely valuable to compare the existing parks system with that of similar municipalities. Riviera Beach scores well in terms of its existing quantity of public land compared with immediately similar communities. The current interest of the community in expansion of the system will continue to put the City in a strong position to meet recreation needs as the City grows. Riviera Beach also scores well in its budget per capita, and expansion of funding resources will only strengthen this leadership quality the City already exhibits.

Table 3-1: Benchmarking Data

City	Current Population (2018 US Census)	City Size (land area -sq. miles)	Acres	Number of parks	Total Park System Acreage (Developed and Undeveloped)	Acres/ 1,000	% of City as Parkland	Annual Budget 2018/2019	Budget per Capita
Riviera Beach	34,674	9.8	6272.0	17	91	2.62	1.45%	$4,899,970	$141.32
Lake Worth Beach	38,107	6.5	4134.4	20	130	3.41	3.14%	$7,257,360	$190.45
Royal Palm Beach	38,592	10.1	6464.0	24	512	13.27	7.92%	$5,141,299	$133.22
Boynton Beach	77,992	16.6	10598.4	27	324	4.15	3.05%	$6,457,964	$82.80
Deerfield Beach	80,571	16.3	10432.0	53	470	5.83	4.51%	$13,255,648	$164.52
Pompano Beach	110,043	25.4	16256.0	52	610	5.54	3.75%	$12,150,731	$110.42
West Palm Beach	110,022	58.2	37248.0	54	578	5.25	1.55%	$18,076,236	$164.30

Source: 2018: US Census, 2019: ACS 5-Year Estimates Data Profiles

3.3 ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY

The City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan online survey was conducted via a survey website. The purpose of the online survey was to begin a process of collecting insight and feedback for the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Planning process. The survey was designed seeking input from the public for this planning project on various topics such as demographics, usage patterns, barriers to usage, priorities, and communications. Surveys were collected over several months. So far, the site has had 2,250+ visitors and 60 responders. The following collective of charts and data highlights results from the online survey.

Summaries of responses from the Online Survey can be found in **Figures 3-5 through 3-18**, and detailed results of all the survey questions can be found in Appendices.

87%

Survey respondents have visited the City of Riviera Beach parks or open spaces in the past 24 months

92%

Survey respondents live and/or work in the City of Riviera Beach

Figure 3-5: Survey Respondents Demographics
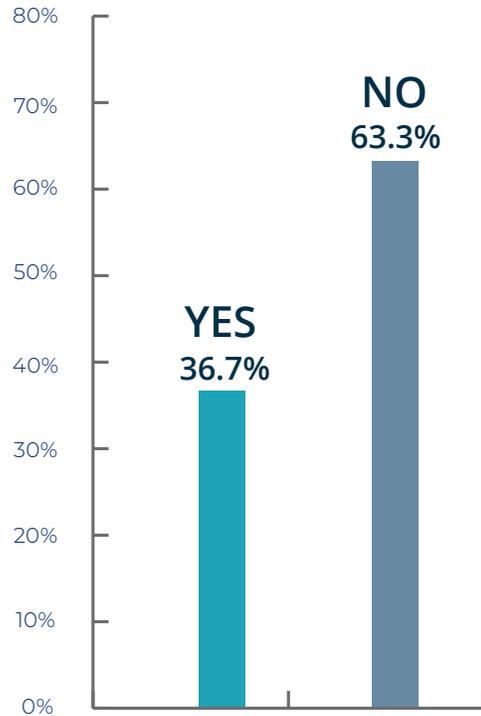
Figure 3-6: Are any members of your household under the age of 18?

Facilities Level of Satisfaction

The majority of the online survey respondents expressed a high level of satisfaction with each type of City's recreation facilities. The level of dissatisfaction percentages were relatively lower in comparison. The various levels of satisfaction responses were calculated and converted to weighted averages; lower weighted averages equaling higher levels of satisfaction. Bigger community facilities like the Barracuda Bay Aquatics Center, larger community parks, and open space lawns had the lowest weighted averages while restrooms, fitness equipment, and outdoor sports courts had the highest weighted averages. These sentiments were reflected throughout the survey with calls for additional facilities similar to those that are already being used and enjoyed as well as calls for improvements to or increased numbers of larger gathering and events spaces. There was also a need expressed for more diversity of programming in existing targeted facilities such as the Aquatics Complex or large community parks.

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Weighted Average

Level of Satisfaction

Facility	Value
Restrooms	2.91
Fitness Equipment	2.90
Outdoor Sport Courts	2.79
Community Center	2.75
Playgrounds	2.67
Walking Paths	2.57
Small Neighborhood Parks	2.53
Splash Pad	2.44
Athletic Fields	2.43
Open Space or Lawn	2.38
Large Community Parks	2.16
Barracuda Bay Aquatics Center	2.00
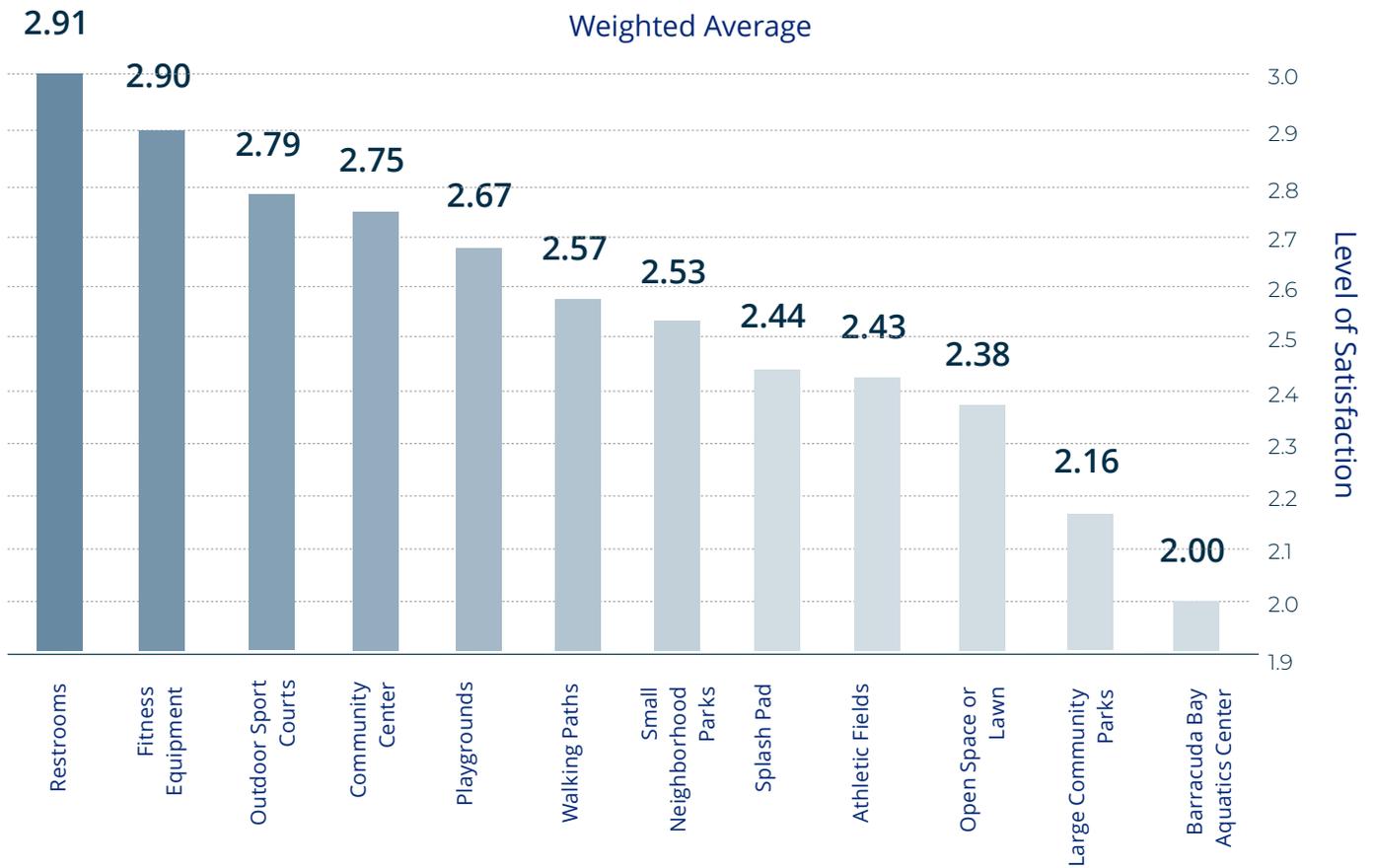
Figure 3-7: Level of Satisfaction with the City of Riviera Beach Recreation Facilities

Facilities

Facility	Percent
Large Community Parks	18.3%
Walking Paths	16.8%
Small Neighborhood Parks	16.4%
Playgrounds	12.5%
Restrooms	11.3%
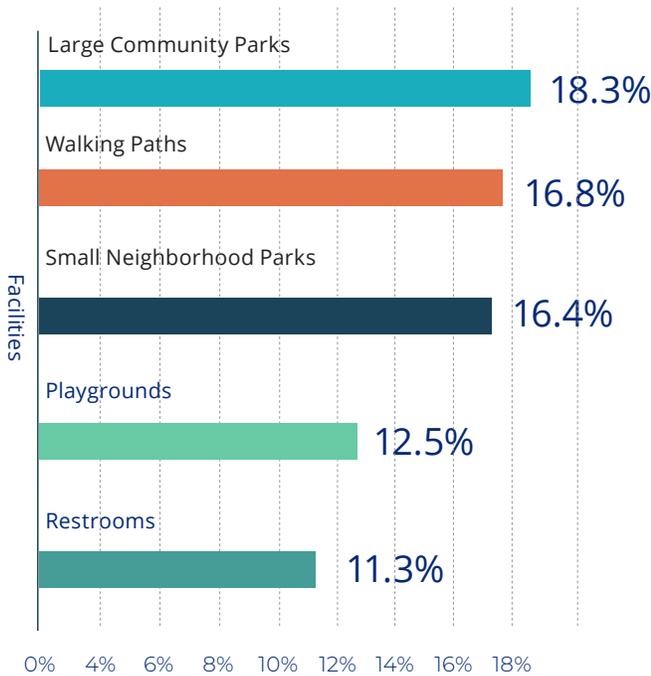
Figure 3-8: Riviera Beach Recreation Facilities that Require the Most Attention (Top 5)

Facilities

Facility	Percent
Large Community Parks	16.0%
Small Neighborhood Parks	14.0%
Walking Paths and Sidewalks	12.2%
Natural Parks and Preserves	10.5%
Community and Social Gathering Space	6.7%

Figure 3-9: Riviera Beach Recreation Facilities that are Most Important to Households (Top 5)

Natural Parks and Preserves (11%)
Community/Social Gathering Spaces (9%)
Outdoor Pool (s) (9%)
Community Gardens (9%)
Larger Community Parks (7%)

Fully Met

Walking Paths / Sidewalks (43%)
Walking / Running Track(s) (35%)
Smaller Neighborhood Parks (32%)
Trails / Multi-use Paths (30%)
Picnic Areas / Shelter(s) (30%)

Not Met

Skate Parks(s) (79%)
Pickleball Courts(s) (77%)
Outdoor Pool (s) (76%)
Community Gardens (72%)
Larger Community Parks (64%)

Do not have a need for this facility

Figure 3-10: Needs met by City of Riviera Beach recreation facilities (Top 5)

Security is Insufficient/Loitering — 19.4%
I Do Not Know What is Being Offered — 12.2%
Facilities are Not Well Maintained — 12.1%
Program or Facility Not Offered — 8.5%
Lack of Sidewalk of Bike Lane Access — 8.2%

Activities

0% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14% 16% 18% 20%
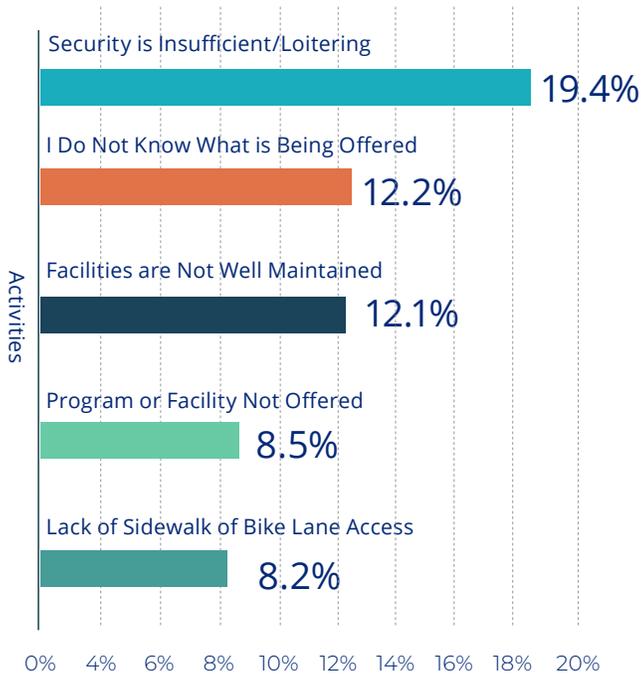
Figure 3-11: Reasons Preventing Use of Parks, Recreational Facilities and Programs (Top 5)

Nature Enjoyment — 13.5%
Youth Sports — 11.4%
Performing Arts — 7.8%
Family Events — 7.5%
Outdoor/Adventure Recreation — 6.1%

Activities

0% 4% 6% 8% 10% 12% 14%
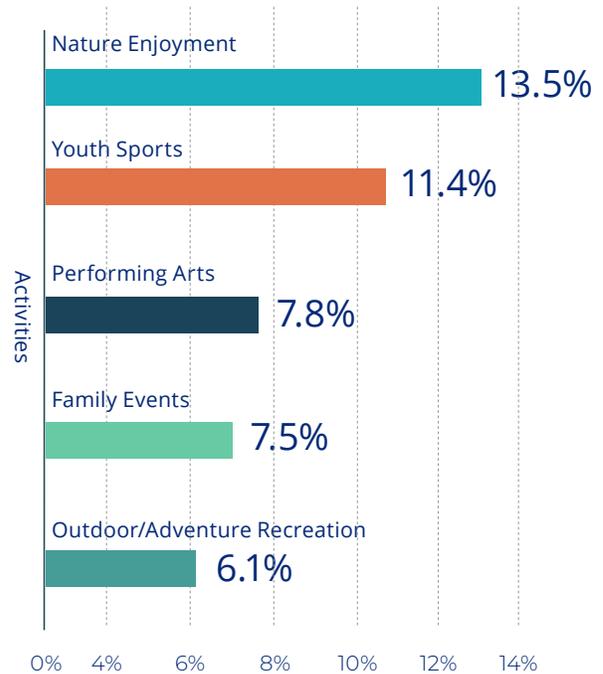
Figure 3-12: Riviera Beach Recreation Activities that are Most Important to Households (Top 5)

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Weighted Average

Level of Satisfaction

Category	Value
Quality of Facility Where Program is Offered	4.00
Quality of Instructors	3.95
Ease of Online Registration	3.93
Fees Charged for Value Received	3.89
Quality of Customer Service	3.83
Availability of Web-based Program Information	3.68
Times Programs are Offered	3.59
Location of Programs	3.59
Ease of Use of Website	3.52
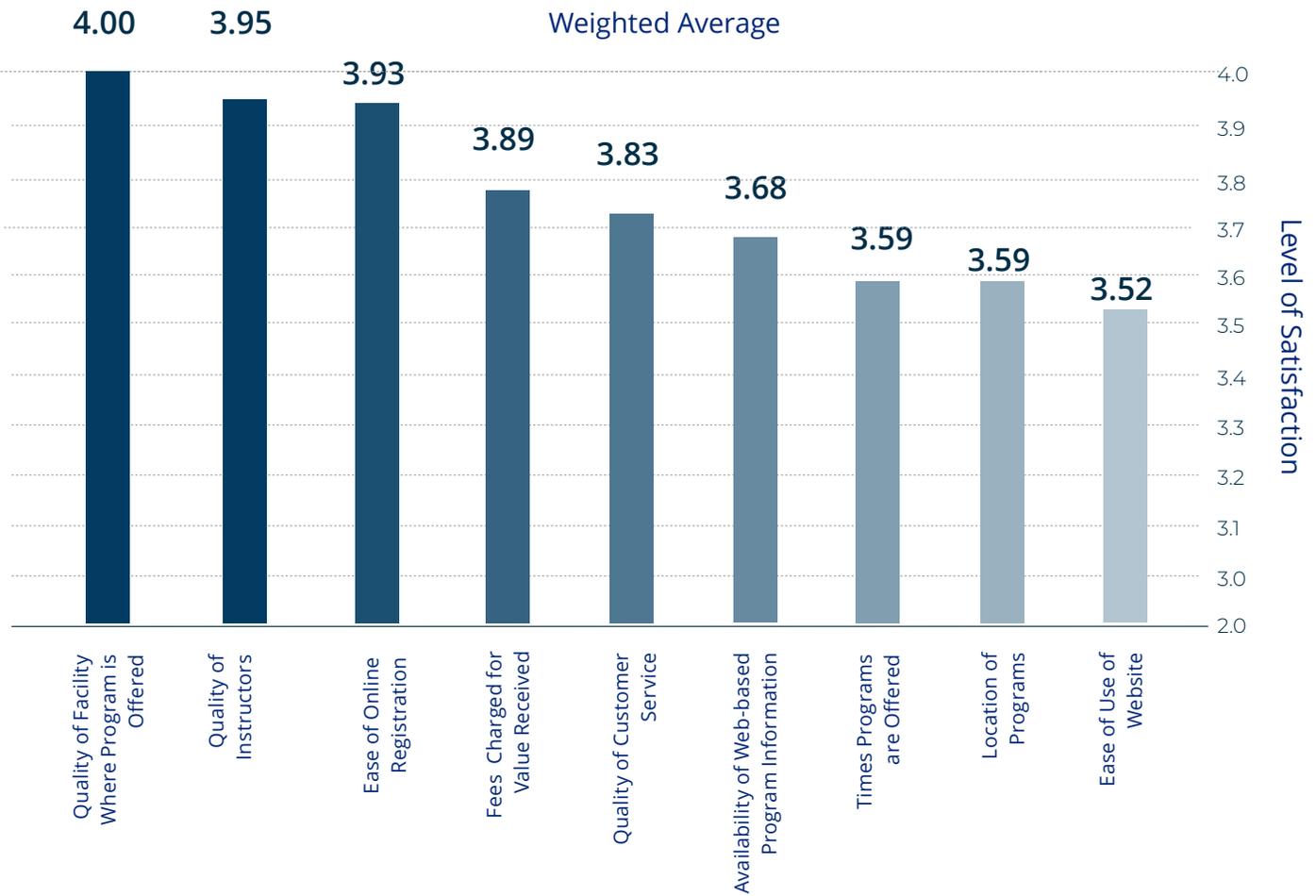
Figure 3-13: Level of Satisfaction with the City of Riviera Beach Recreation Program Services

89%

of respondents feel it is important to have public open spaces within walking distance of home and work

Figure 3-14: Survey Responses to Parks and Green Space Facility in Walking Distance

51%

of respondents feel there are sufficient parks and green space within walking distance of their residence
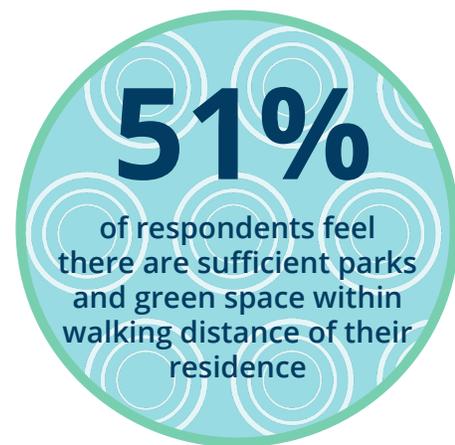
Figure 3-15: Survey Responses to Parks and Green Space Facility Quantities
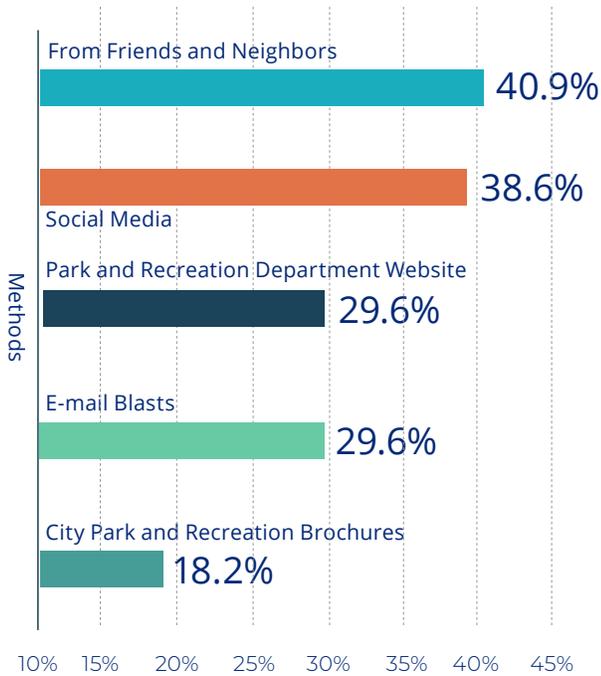
Figure 3-16: Ways that you Learn about City of Riviera Beach Recreation Programs and Events (Top 5)

Figure 3-17: Actions for which you are Most Willing to Fund with Tax Money (Top 5)

Programming Level of Satisfaction

The majority of those surveyed expressed a very high level of satisfaction with the City's parks and recreation staff and customer service. Much of the positive feedback surrounded issues of community such as neighbor to neighbor sharing about activities, special events, and youth, and volunteer opportunities. Some of the feedback for opportunities to grow relate to expansion of methods for modernized communication to make the community aware of facilities and the programming the City offers. There is very strong support for increasing the maintenance quality of existing parks, facilities, fields, and trails. Development of indoor recreation centers and neighborhood parks and general expansion of the parks and City public land acquisition are also supported in survey responses. Some of the activities that responders expressed need for include art and historical resources programming and fitness and wellness opportunities.

Special Events (7%)
Aquatics (5%)
Volunteer Opportunities (5%)
Water-Related Opportunities (5%)
Youth Camp (4%)

Fully Met

History and Museums (56%)
Performing Arts (47%)
Visual Arts (44%)
Fitness and Wellness (42%)
Yoga/Pilates/Zumba (42%)

Not Met

Figure 3-18: Level of Needs met by City of Riviera Beach Recreation Activities (Top 5)

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Online Survey Summary

- Respondents expressed a high level of satisfaction with each type of City's recreation facilities.

- Bigger community facilities like the Barracuda Bay Aquatics Center, larger community parks, and open space lawns had the lowest weighted averages in Levels of Satisfaction while restrooms, fitness equipment, and outdoor sports courts had the highest weighted averages.

- Top five facilities in Riviera Beach that needed the most attention are: **large community parks**, **walking paths**, **small neighborhood parks**, **playgrounds**, and **restrooms**.

- Top five recreational activities that responders indicated as most important to households are: **nature enjoyment**, **youth sports**, **performing arts**, **family events**, **and outdoor/ adventure recreation**.

- Some of the activities that responders expressed need for include: **art and historical resources programming** and **fitness and wellness opportunities**.

Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park

3.4 Statistically Valid Survey

Overview

As part of the Master plan process a Community Interest and Opinion Survey was conducted by ETC Institute on behalf of the City of Riviera Beach during the fall of 2020. The purpose of the survey was to establish needs and priorities for the future development of parks, trails, recreation facilities, programs and services within the community. The survey was designed to obtain statistically valid results from households throughout Riviera Beach and was administered by a combination of mail, telephone, and website.

The final survey was six printed pages in length and contained 22 questions. A target sample size of 600 was set for mail, telephone and website responses and that goal was exceeded with 601completed surveys. Questions focused on parks, park and recreation facilities, needs and priorities, satisfaction, communications, funding, and sample demographics, which were used to validate the survey to the demographics of Riviera Beach.

Methodology

The survey packet was mailed to a random sample of households in the City of Riviera Beach. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it on-line at www.RivieraBeachSurvey.org. Ten days after the surveys were mailed, Emails were sent to the households that received the survey to encourage participation. The emails contained a link to the on-line version of the survey to make it easy for residents to complete the survey.

The goal was to obtain completed surveys from at least 600 residents. The goal was exceeded with a total of 601 residents completing the survey. The overall results for the sample of 601 surveys have a precision of at least +/- 3.9% at the 95% level of confidence.

A detailed copy of the findings report can be found in the Appendices.

Sadie McCray Park

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Amenity, Facility, and Park Use and Ratings

Amenity / Facility Use

Residents were asked to select all major parks and recreation amenity types, provided by Riviera Beach, they use **(Figure 3-19)**.The major parks and recreation amenities (Top 5) used by most residents are:

- Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
- Riviera Beach City Marina
- Walking Paths
- Riviera Beach Marina Village Event Center
- Large Community Parks
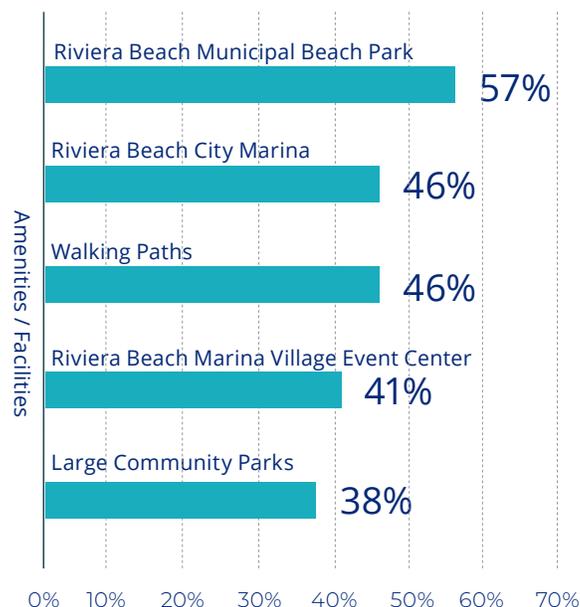
Figure 3-19: Most Used Amenity / Facility (Top 5)

Amenity / Facility Satisfaction

The major amenities/facilities, provided by Riviera Beach, that received the highest ratings of satisfaction (the sum of "satisfied" and "very satisfied" responses) by residents, who had an opinion, were:

- Riviera Beach Marina Village Event Center **(91%)**
- Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center **(90%)**
- Riviera Beach City Marina **(89%)**
- Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park **(88%)**

The City of Riviera Beach amenities/facilities that received the highest ratings of dissatisfaction (the sum of "dissatisfied" and "very dissatisfied" responses) by residents who had an opinion, were:

- Outdoor Sports Courts **(34%)**
- Wells Recreation Complex **(32%)**
- Playgrounds **(32%)**
- Restrooms **(30%)**

Parks and Recreation Amenities - Future Focus

Based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, the parks and recreation facilities/amenities that residents think should receive the most attention from the City over the next two years are:

- Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park **(24%)**
- Walking Paths **(23%)**
- Wells Recreation Complex **(21%)**
- Riviera Beach City Marina **(20%)**

Quality of Parks and Recreation Amenities

Respondents were asked to rate the overall quality of City of Riviera Beach parks and recreation amenities they and/or members of their household have used during the past two years **(Figure 3-20)**.

Method of Travel

Residents were asked to select all methods they/ members of their household use to travel to parks and recreation facilities they use.

- Almost three-quarters (74%) of residents drive,
- 45% indicated they walk,
- 22% bike, 2% use public transportation, and
- 2% use an other elective motor vehicle (scooter, cart, etc.).

Green Space

Four out of ten residents (41%) feel there are sufficient parks and green space areas within walking distance from their house, 34% do not feel this way, and 25% did not provide a response to this question.

Figure 3-20: Quality of Parks and Recreation Amenities Rating by Households

Dan Calloway Recreation Complex

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Amenity, Facility, and Park Needs and Priorities

Facility Needs

Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 27 facilities and rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, the number of households in the community that had the greatest "unmet" need for various facilities was estimated **(Figure 3-21)**.

The four facilities with the highest percentage of households whose needs for facilities are being partly or not met are listed below:

- Walking paths/sidewalks: **approximately 5,291 households (or 34%)**
- Natural parks and preserves: **approximately 4,456 households (or 28%)**
- Walking/running tracks: **approximately 4,150 households (or 26%)**
- Community gardens: **approximately 4,065 households (or 26%)**

The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for the top 10 facilities that were assessed is shown in the below:
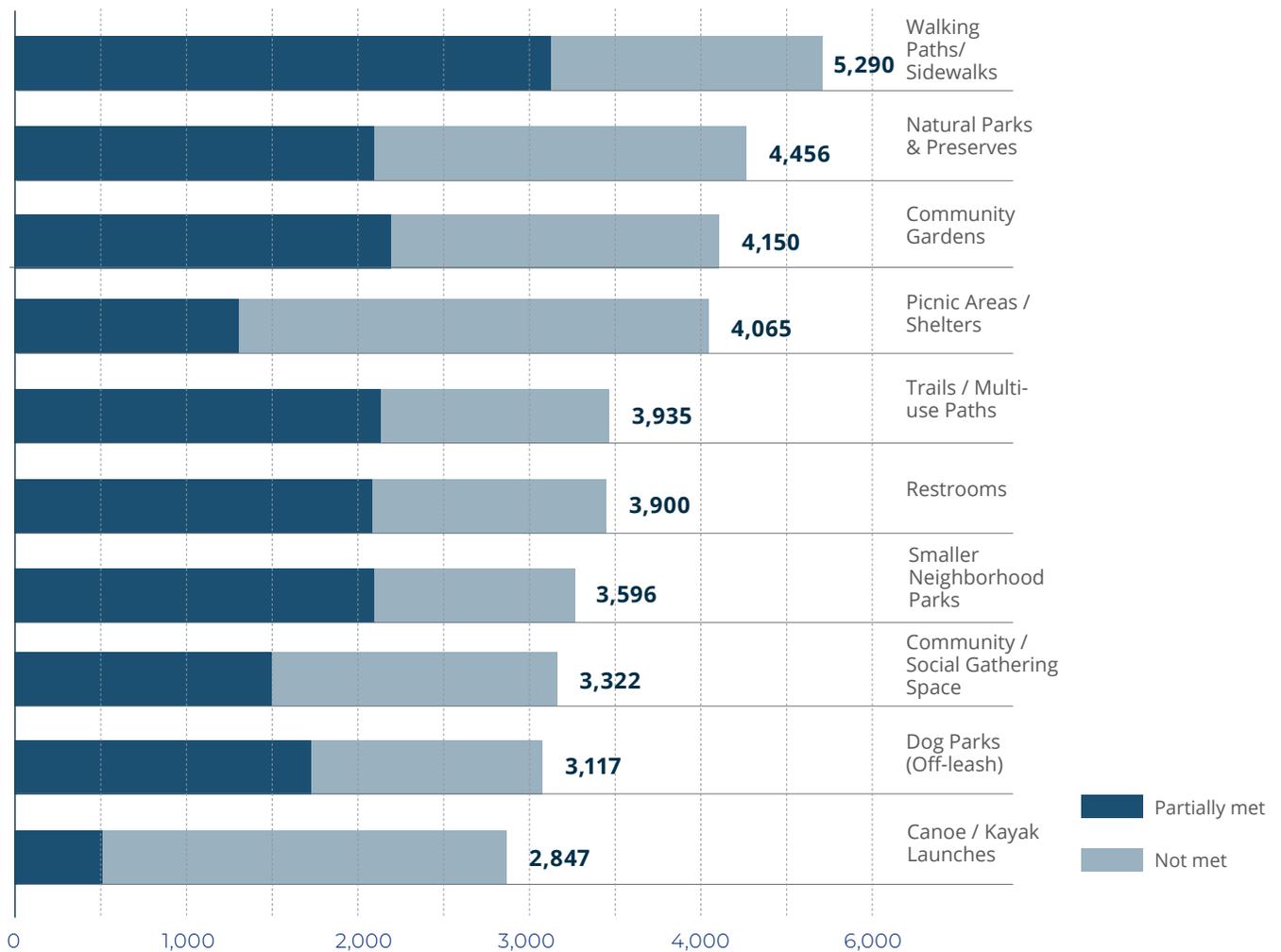
Figure 3-21: Estimated Number of Households whose Needs for Facilities are being Partly Met or Not Met (Top 10)

Facility Importance

In addition to assessing the needs for each facility, there was also an assessment of the importance that residents placed on each facility. Based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, the four most important facilities to residents were:

- Walking paths / Sidewalks **(25%)**
- Natural Parks and Preserves **(19%)**
- Smaller Neighborhood Parks **(13%)**
- Picnic Areas / Shelters **(11%)**

The percentage of residents who selected each facility as one of their top three choices is depicted in **Figure 3-22** below (Top 10 Choices):
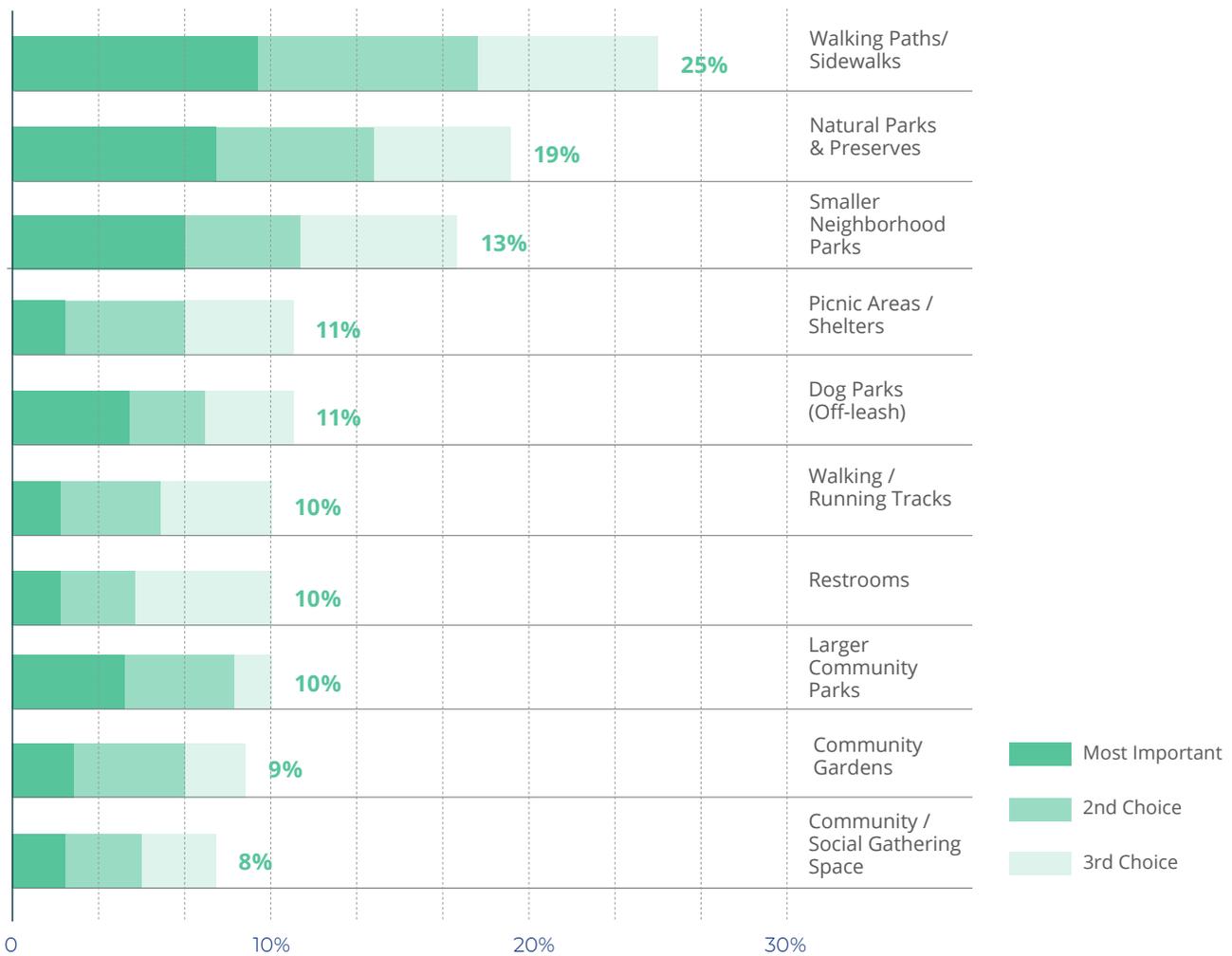
Figure 3-22: Facilities that are Most Important to Households (Top 10)

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Priorities for Facility Investments

The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) was developed to provide organizations with an objective tool for evaluating the priority that should be placed on Parks and Recreation investments. The Priority Investment Rating (PIR) equally weighs (1) the importance that residents place on each facility/amenity/program and (2) how many residents have unmet needs for the facility/amenity/program.

Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the seven facilities that were rated as high priorities for investment are listed below:

- Walking paths/sidewalks **(PIR=200.0)**
- Natural parks and preserves **(PIR=160.0)**
- Picnic areas/shelters **(PIR=120.4)**
- Walking/running tracks **(PIR=119.6)**
- Smaller neighborhood parks **(PIR=116.4)**
- Community gardens **(PIR=113.5)**
- Restrooms **(PIR=107.5)**

Figure 3-23 below shows the PIR for each amenity that was rated.
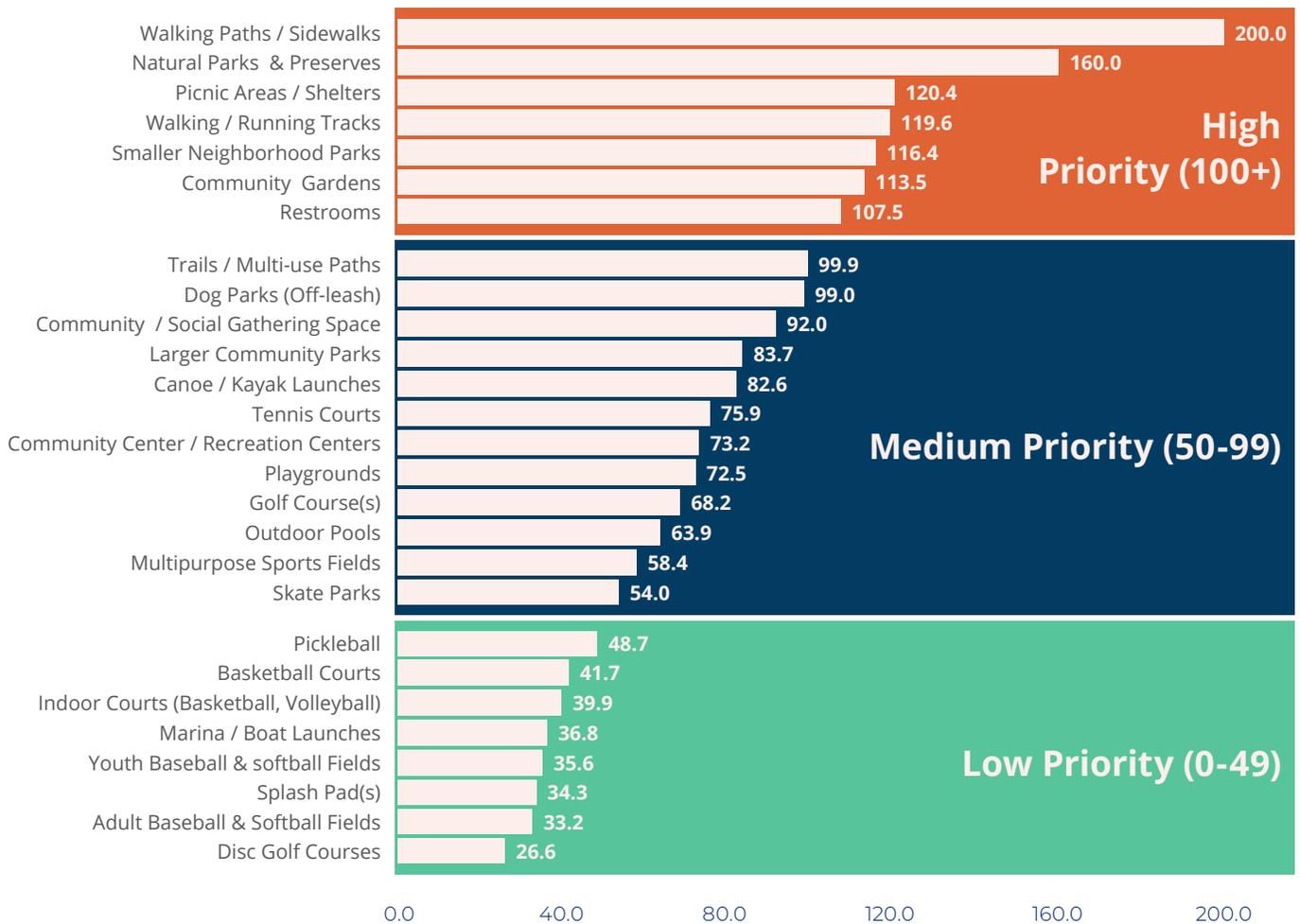
Figure 3-23: Top Priorities for Investment for Facilities Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR)

Program and Activity Use and Ratings

Program Participation

Eighty-two percent (82%) of respondent households indicated they or members of their household have not participated in any recreation programs and 18% indicated they or members of their households have participated in recreation programs. The households that have participated in recreation programs (18%) were asked approximately how many recreation programs they had participated in over the past 24 months.

- Twenty-three percent **(23%)** of participating households indicated they had partaken in **1 program** offered by Riviera Beach
- **45%** had participated in **2 to 3 programs**
- **20%** had participated in **4 to 6 programs**
- **5%** had participated in **7 to 10 programs**
- **4%** had participated in **11 or more programs**
- **4%** did not provide a response

Satisfaction with Program Services

The responding households that participated in recreation programs, provided by Riviera Beach, were asked to rate their satisfaction with various program services that are provided. The program services, provided by the City, that had the highest ratings of satisfaction (based on the sum of "satisfied" and "very satisfied" responses) by residents who had an opinion, were:

- The location of programs **(90%)**
- Times programs are offered **(85%)**
- Quality of instructors **(78%)**
- Fees charged for the value received **(78%)**

Quality of Programs

The responding households that participated in recreation programs (18%) were asked to rate the overall quality of the programs that they participated in **(Figure 3-24)**.
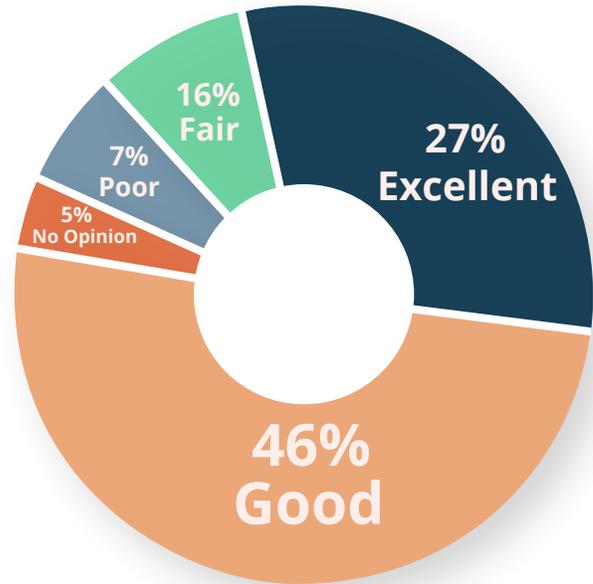
Figure 3-24: Quality of Programs

Program and Activity Needs and Priorities

Activity Needs

Respondents were asked to identify if their household had a need for 26 activities and rate how well their needs for each were currently being met. Based on this analysis, it was estimated that the number of households in the community that had the greatest "unmet" need for various activities. The four activities with the highest percentage of households whose needs for them are being partly or not met are listed below:

- History and museums: approximately **5,568 households (or 36%)**
- Fitness and wellness: approximately **5,555 households (or 35%)**
- Performing arts: approximately **5,030 households (or 32%)**
- Nature enjoyment: approximately **4,954 households (or 32%)**

The estimated number of households that have unmet needs for each of the Top 10 activities that were assessed is shown in **Figure 3-25** below:
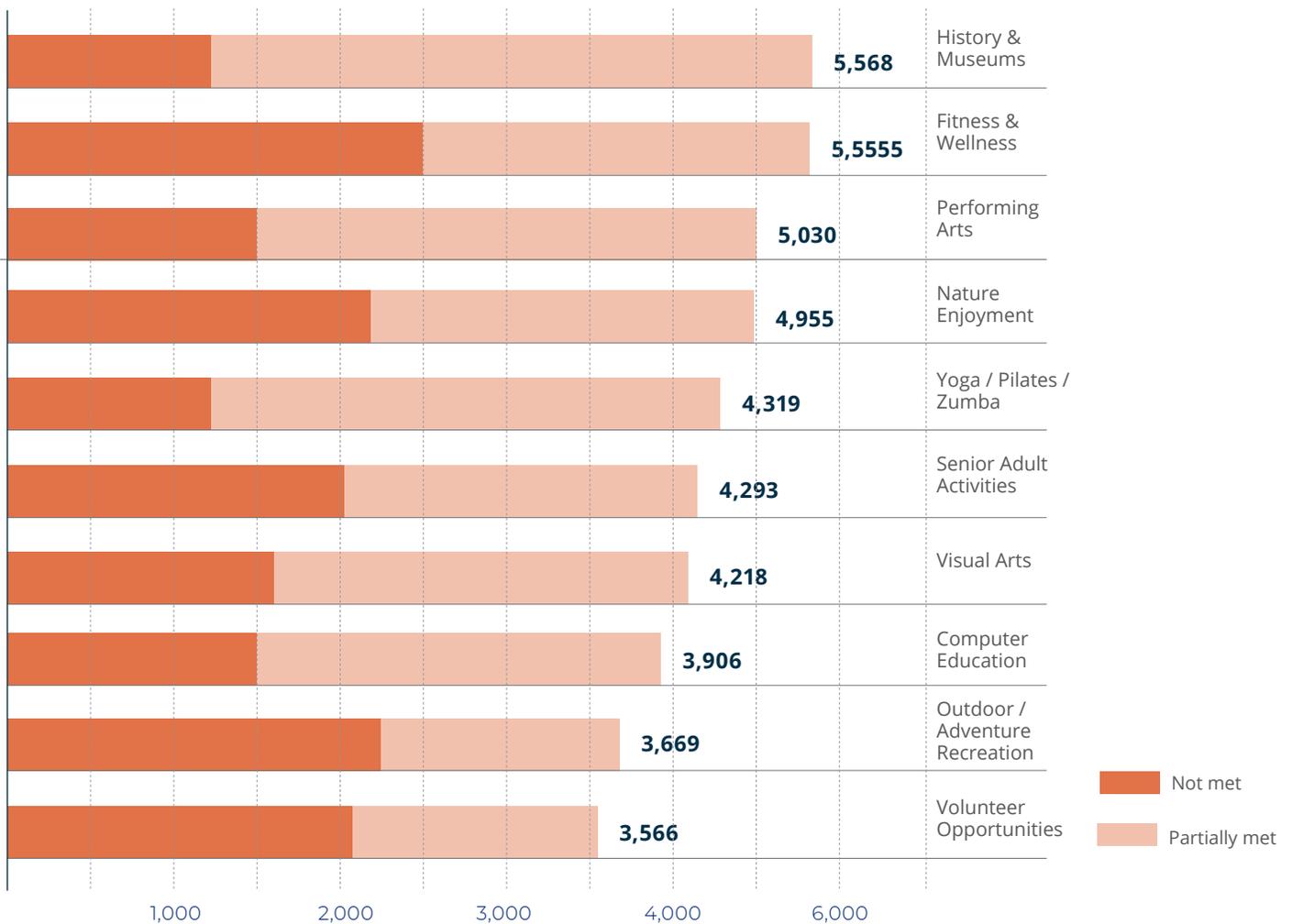
Figure 3-25: Estimated Number of Households whose Needs for Recreation Activities are being Partly Met or Not Met (Top 10)

Activity Importance

In addition to assessing the needs for each activity, an assessment was done on the importance that residents placed on each activity. Based on the sum of respondents' top three choices, the four most important activities to residents were:

- Nature Enjoyment **(20%)**
- Fitness and Wellness **(18%)**
- Senior Adult Activities **(15%)**
- Performing Arts **(14%)**

The percentage of residents who selected each activity as one of their top three choices is depicted in **Figure 3-26** below. (Top 10 Choices):
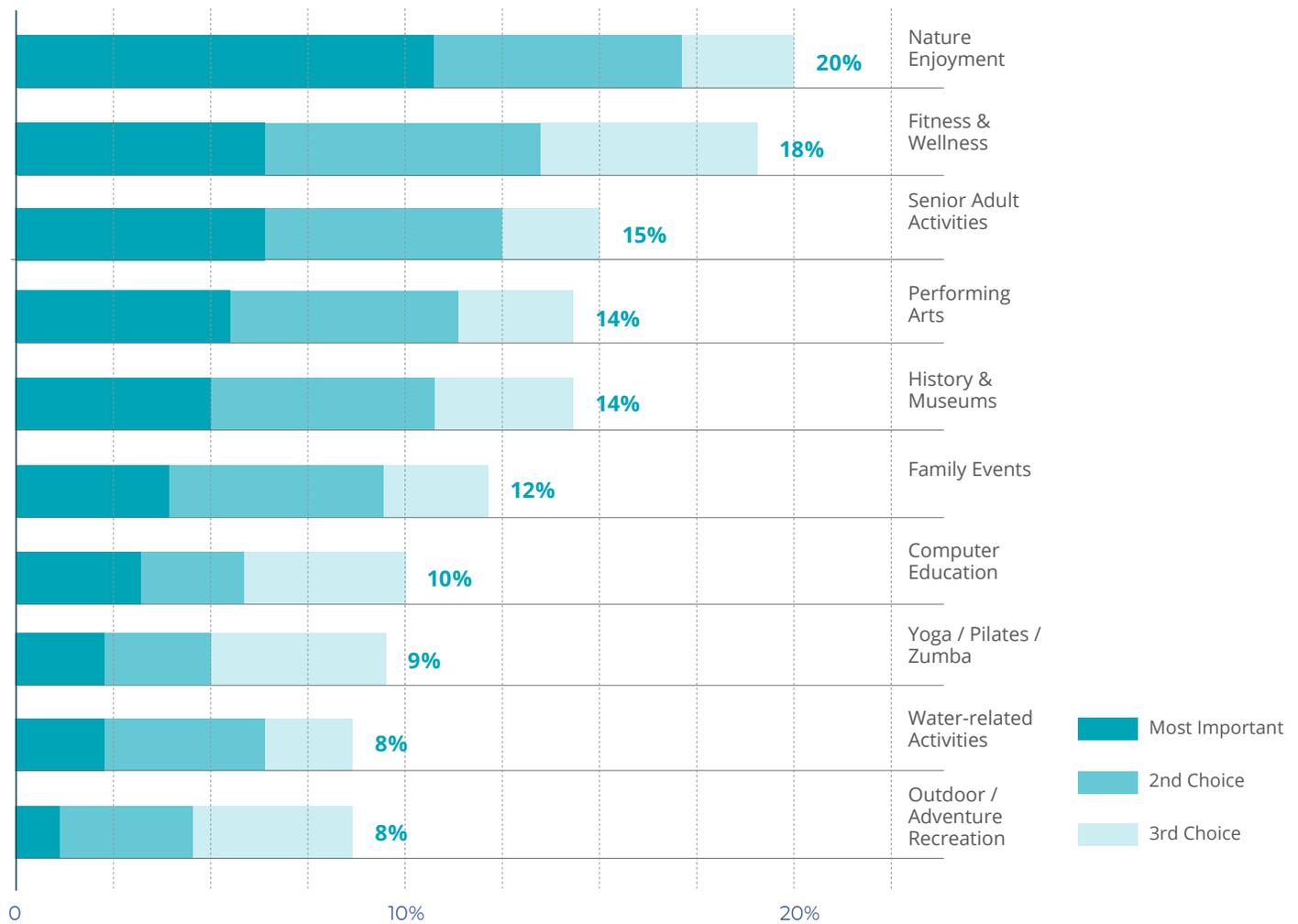
Figure 3-26: Recreation Activities that are Most Important to Households (Top 10)

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Priorities for Activity Investments

Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the 10 activities that were rated as high priorities for investment are listed below:

- Nature enjoyment **(PIR=189.0)**
- Fitness and wellness **(PIR=187.5)**
- History and museums **(PIR=169.6)**
- Performing arts **(PIR=160.0)**
- Senior adult activities **(PIR=149.6)**
- Yoga/Pilates/Zumba **(PIR=120.2)**
- Family events **(PIR=120.1)**
- Computer education **(PIR=117.7)**
- Outdoor/adventure recreation **(PIR=105.1)**
- Water-related activities **(PIR=100.0)**

Figure 3-27 below shows the PIR for each activity that was rated.

Activity	PIR
Nature Enjoyment	200.0
Fitness & Wellness	187.5
History & Museums	169.6
Performing Arts	160.0
Senior Adult Activities	149.6
Yoga / Pilates / Zumba	120.2
Family Events	120.1
Computer Education	117.7
Outdoor / Adventure Recreation	105.1
Water-related Activities	100.0

High Priority (100+)

Activity	PIR
Visual Arts	99.3
Using Wi-Fi	96.3
Socializing	92.1
Volunteer Opportunities	91.5
Special Events	89.2
Adult Sports	84.4
Aquatics	83.1
Aerobics / Spinning	77.8
Boating / Sailing	69.8
Tennis	67.4
Teen (6th-12th) Activities	63.2
Youth (K-5th) Activities	60.8
Youth Sports	58.0
Youth Camp	55.7

Medium Priority (50-99)

Activity	PIR
eSports (Video Games)	27.5
Special Populations	23.0

Low Priority (0-49)

Figure 3-27: Top Priorities for investment for Activities Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR)

Additional Findings

Day and Times of Park Use

Residents were asked what days and times they frequently use parks facilities and programs. Forty-five percent **(45%)** of residents most frequently use parks facilities/programs on **weekday evenings**, **43%** frequently use them on **weekend during the day**, **38%** frequently use them on the **weekend evenings**, **31%** frequently use them on **weekday mornings**, **30%** frequently use them on **weekdays during the day**, and **20%** frequently use them on **weekend mornings**.

45% of residents most frequently use parks facilities/programs on weekday evenings

Potential Improvements

Respondents were asked to rate their level of support for potential actions the City of Riviera Beach could take to improve the Parks and Recreation System. The potential improvement actions that received the highest rankings of support (based on the sum of "supportive" and "very supportive" responses) by residents who had an opinion are shown in **Figure 3-28** below:

- Maintain/improve existing parks **(77%)**
- Maintain/improve existing beach parks **(76%)**
- Maintain/improve existing recreation/ community centers **(73%)**
- Maintain/improve existing sports fields and courts **(68%)**
- Develop new trails and connect existing trails **(64%)**

Figure 3-28: How much additional money are households willing to pay per month to fund improvements to existing parks/facilities and the development of new parks/facilities?

Potential improvement actions that residents would be most willing to fund with tax dollars, based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, were:

- Maintain/improve existing parks **(45%)**
- Maintain/improve existing beach parks **(41%)**
- Maintain/improve existing recreation/ community centers **(29%)**
- Develop new trails and connect existing trails **(22%)**

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Benchmark Analysis of Statistical Survey Results

Results from household responses for Riviera Beach were compared to National Benchmarks to gain further strategic information. The results of the benchmark analysis provide an unparalleled data base of information to compare responses from household residents in Riviera Beach to "national averages" and therefore provide a unique tool to assist organizations in better decision making.

Communities within the data base include a full range of municipal and county governments from 20,000 in population through over 1 million in population. They include communities in warm weather climates and cold weather climates, mature communities and some of the fastest growing cities and counties in the country.

"National averages" have been developed for numerous strategically important parks and recreation planning and management issues including: customer satisfaction and usage of parks and programs; methods for receiving marketing information; reasons that prevent members of households from using parks and recreation facilities more often; priority recreation programs, parks, facilities and trails to improve or develop; priority programming spaces to have in planned community centers and aquatic facilities; potential attendance for planned indoor community centers and outdoor aquatic centers; etc.

Overall Satisfaction with Parks

Respondents indicated a strong need for improved and increased recreation facilities in the City of Riviera Beach. The overall satisfaction with parks in the City was **42%**, which is half the national average. This can be an indicator both of a need for updates and improvements to existing facilities as well as a City-wide general need for more park spaces and recreation amenities **(Figure 3-29)**.

Figure 3-29: Overall Rating of Quality of Parks as Excellent or Good (Rivera Beach vs. National Average)

Overall Satisfaction with Programs

Survey responders expressed greater satisfaction with City Parks and Recreation programming. The satisfaction of respondents was **69%** compared to the national average of **80%**. While this amount is it still lower than the national average, compared with the low percentage of responders' satisfaction with park facilities, this higher number indicates that Riviera Beach parks and recreation staff are doing a good job meeting needs and providing quality service and programming with the facilitates currently available **(Figure 3-30)**.

Figure 3-30: Overall Rating of Recreation Programs as Excellent or Good (Rivera Beach vs. National Average)

Households with Needs for Sports Facilities in Riviera Beach vs. National Average

Responders to the survey indicated a greatest need for tennis courts **(29%)**, multi-purpose fields **(22%)**, and basketball courts **(22%)**. The need that is most unique to Riviera Beach, however, is the desire for skate parks in the City, which is almost double the nation average at **21%**. While there is desire for additional golf courses, baseball and softball fields, and disc golf in the City, all three categories are in less demand than the national average **(Figure 3-31)**.
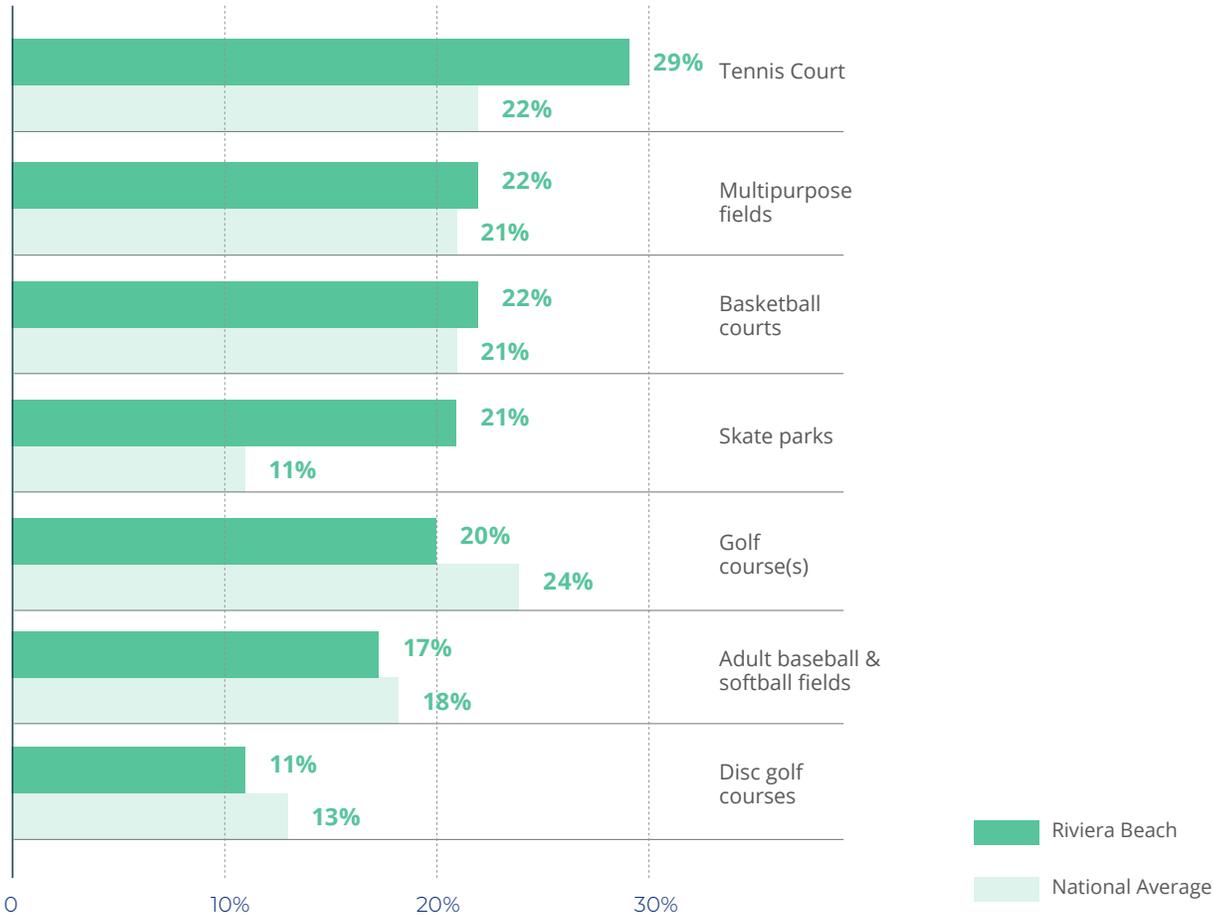
Figure 3-31: Household with Needs for Sport Facilities (Rivera Beach vs. National Average)

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Households with Needs for Other Recreation Facilities in Riviera Beach vs. National Average

The survey revealed a need for greater connection throughout the City. Walking paths and sidewalks were the greatest need **(57%)** with trails and multi-use paths also making the top five greatest needs in the City. Access to nature and outdoor spaces was also a high priority with parks and preserves being the second greatest need of respondents **(46%)** and neighborhood parks and community gardens additionally in the top seven priorities. Places for sheltered picnics was the third greatest need indicated in the survey **(43%)**. **Figure 3-32** provides a summary of survey responses to this question.
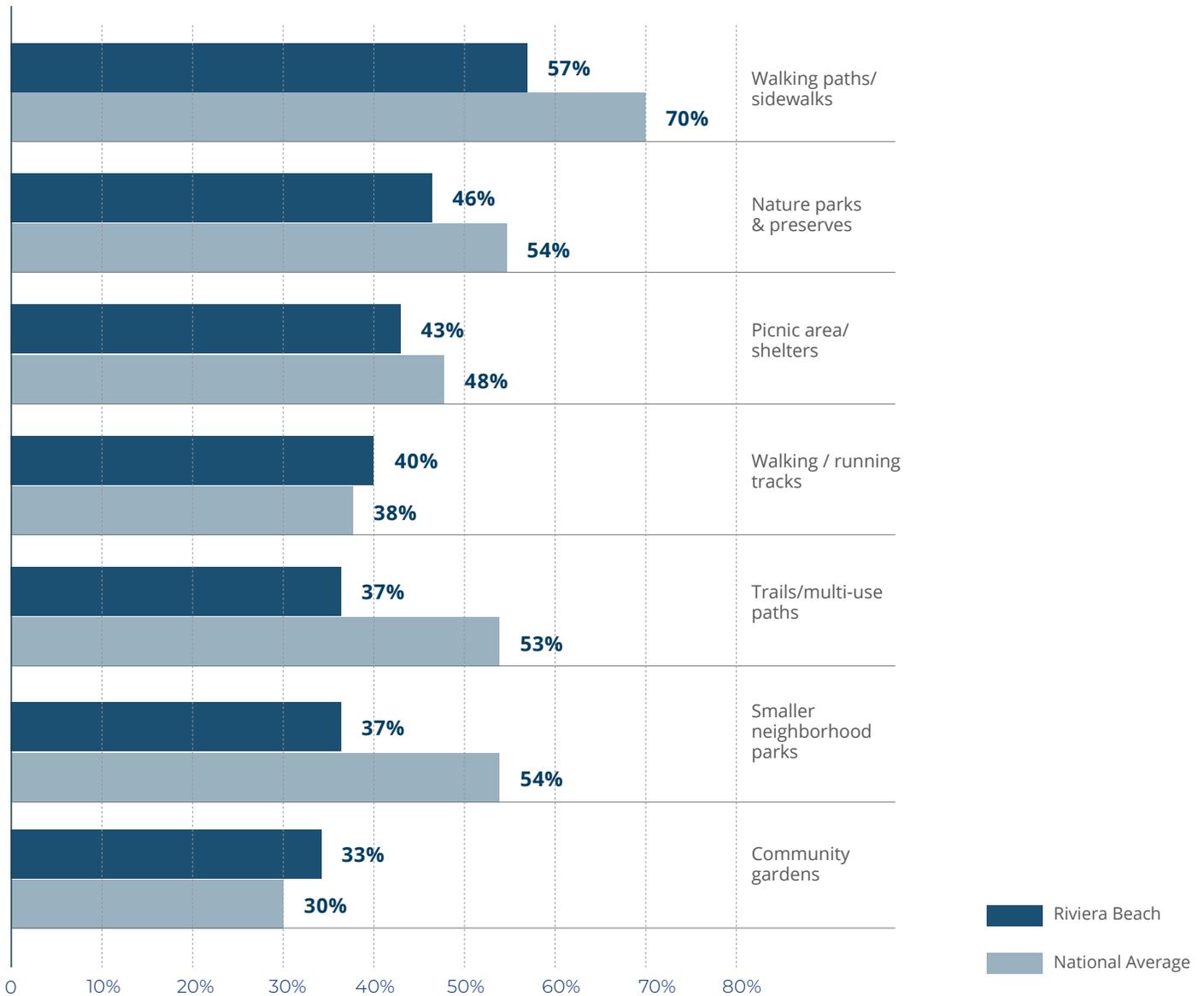
Figure 3-32: Households with Needs for other Recreation Facilities (Rivera Beach vs. National Average)

Households with Needs for Other Recreation Programs in Riviera Beach vs. National Average

Survey responders indicated their greatest recreation need is for fitness and wellness programs **(51%)**. Also, compared to national averages, there is a very strong desire for nature enjoyment opportunities **(49%)**, senior adult activities **(40%)**, and performing arts programs **(40%)** in Riviera Beach **(Figure 3-33)**.
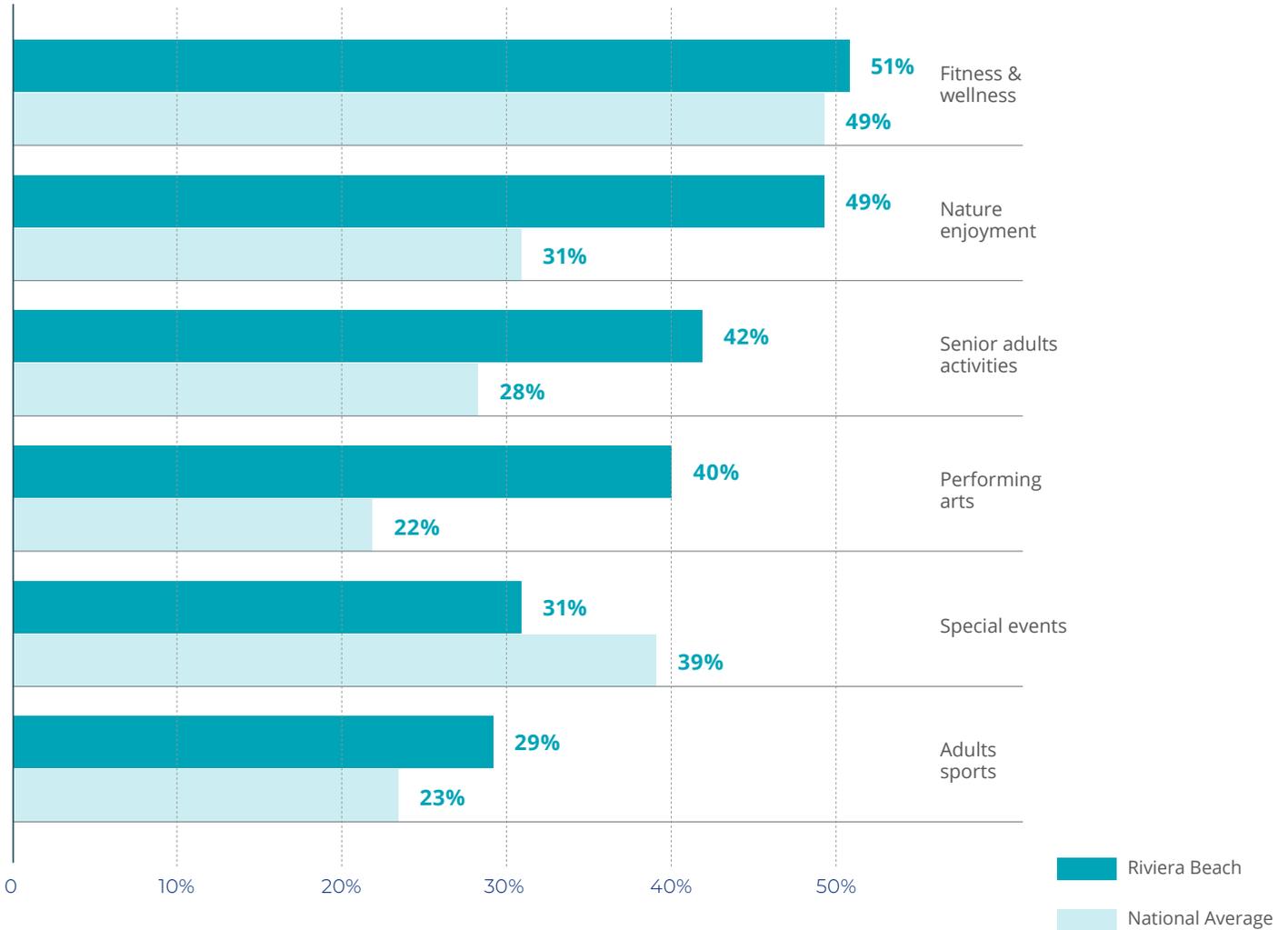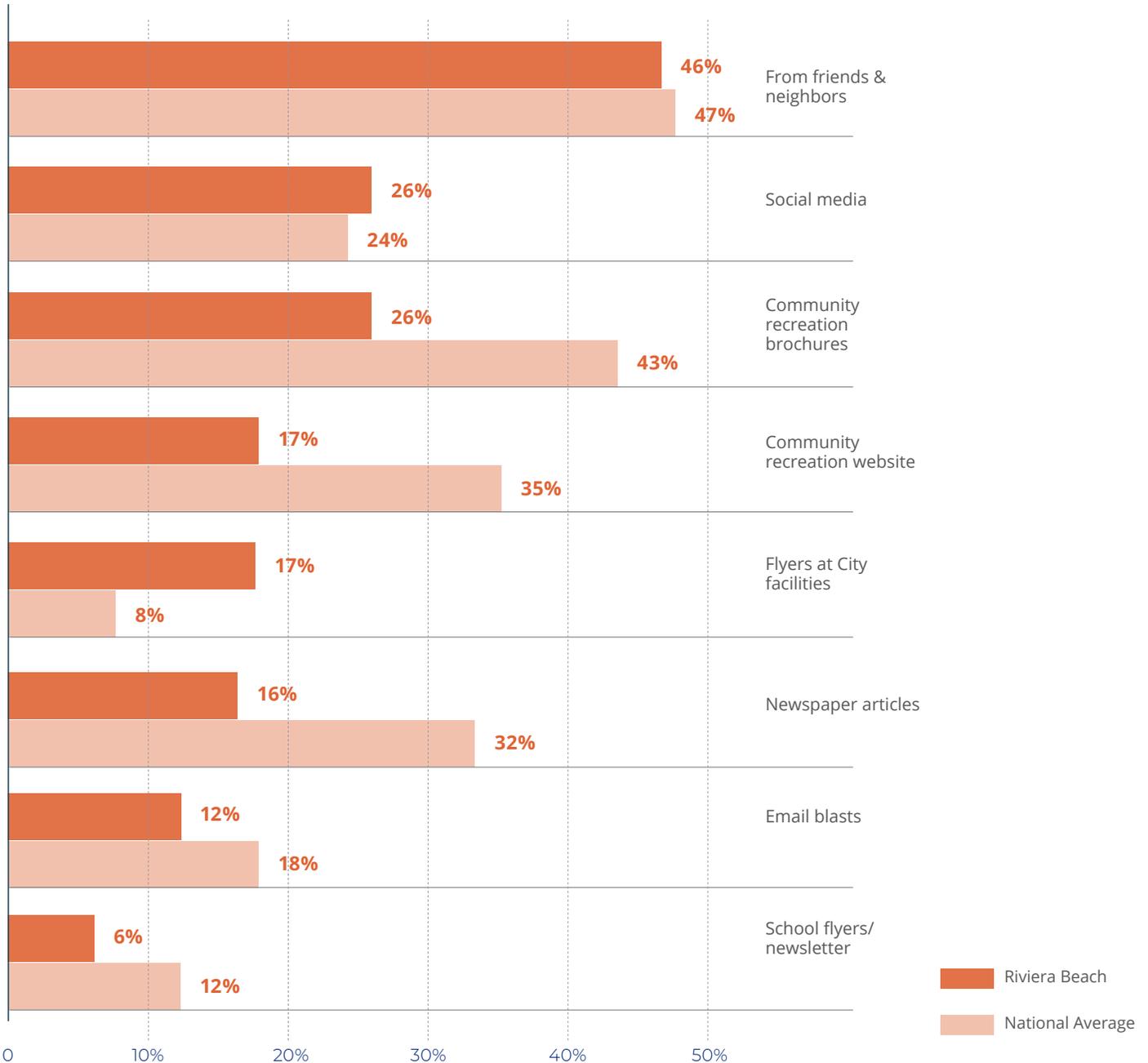

Figure 3-33: Households with Needs for other Recreation Programs in Riviera Beach (Rivera Beach vs. National Average)

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

Methods used to Access Information about Recreation Programs and Activities

Survey responses showed that **46%** of people learn about Riviera Beach programs from friends and neighbors, which is nearly identical to the national average of **47%**. Social media is the second most popular means of learning about Riviera Beach programs **(26%).** While community brochures **(26%)** and the department website **(17%)** are the third and fourth most popular means of communication, at this time, both are noticeably less effective compared to the national average and could indicate opportunities for further marketing development **(Figure 3-34)**.

Figure 3-34: Methods used to Access Information about Recreation Programs (Riviera Beach vs. National Average)

Reasons Preventing the Use of Parks and Recreation Facilities and Programs in Riviera Beach vs. National Average

According to survey responses, a need for better security of parks is by far the number one reason preventing people from using the recreation and parks facilities **(39%)** in Riviera Beach. There is also a problem with people not being aware of what is offered **(32%)**, which is a little better than the national average of **34%**. The third biggest hurdle is people not knowing where facilities are **(23%)**. Facilities **(21%)** and parks **(17%)** maintenance are also causing noticeable concerns for those surveyed compared to the national averages **(Figure 3-35)**.

Reason	Riviera Beach	National Average
Security is insufficient/ loitering	39%	10%
I do not know what is being offered	32%	34%
I do not know location of parks/ facilities	23%	14%
Facilities are not well maintained	21%	10%
Parks are not well maintained	17%	5%
I have physical healthy limitations	17%	7%
Parks/facilities too far from residence	14%	13%
Use private or other community's facilities	13%	11%
Program or facility not offered	13%	17%
Lack of parking	12%	7%
Poor customer service by staff	10%	3%
Lack of accessibility	6%	4%
Park operating hours not convenient	5%	8%
Lack of public transportation	5%	3%

Figure 3-35: Reasons Preventing Use of Parks and Recreation Facilities and Programs (Riviera Beach vs. National Average)

Statistically Valid Survey Summary

- Top three facilities that residents think should receive the most attention from the City over the next two years are: **Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park**, **Walking Paths**, **Wells Recreation Complex**, and **Riviera Beach City Marina**.

- Four facilities with the highest percentage of households whose needs for facilities are being partly or not met are: **Walking Paths/Sidewalks**, **Natural parks and Preserves**, **Walking/Running Tracks**, and **Community Gardens**.

- Four activities with the highest percentage of households whose needs for them are being partly or not met are: **History and Museums**, **Fitness and Wellness**, **Performing Arts**, and **Nature Enjoyment**.

- Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the seven facilities that were rated as high priorities for investment are: **Walking paths/sidewalks**, **Natural Parks and Preserves**, **Picnic Areas/Shelters**, **Walking/Running Tracks**, **Smaller Neighborhood Parks**, **Community Gardens**, and **Restrooms**.

- Based on the Priority Investment Rating (PIR), the top five activities that were rated as high priorities for investment are: **Nature Enjoyment**, **Fitness and Wellness**, **History and Museums**, **Performing Arts**, and **Senior Adult Activities**.

- Riviera Beach responders displayed a higher need of **Sports Facilities** such as **Tennis Courts** than national averages.

- Riviera Beach responders showed a slightly higher than national average need for **Walking/ Running Tracks and Community Gardens**.

- **Nature Enjoyment, Performing Arts Programs and Senior Adults Activities** were surveyed as recreational programs with the highest need in Riviera Beach when compared to national averages.

Barracuda Bay

3.5 NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Through the compilation of findings from various research techniques, a number of parks and recreation needs and priorities emerged. The table below is an overview of the findings from each analysis technique, which were further refined based on additional public input and analysis.

Three types of research were utilized in a mixed methods, triangulated approach as part of the needs assessment process: observational; qualitative; and quantitative. Together these three types of research provided ten techniques to cross-check results and better determine an accurate understanding of the needs and priorities of the residents of Riviera Beach. **Table 3-2** summarized the synthesized findings of these methods, which included observational evaluations, two community surveys, community and stakeholder meetings, and a level of service analysis.

The top facilities and program needs are highlighted in **Table 3-2**. These facilities and activities are identified through these ten techniques to have the highest level of importance and largest unmet need by the community.

Table 3-2: Needs Assessment Summary

● = Indicates Highest Need
○ = Indicates Need

	Needs Assessment Techniques									
	Park System Resource Evaluation	High-Level Lifestyle Analysis	Community Meetings	Focus Groups	Stakeholder Interviews	On-line Public Opinion Survey	Citizen Opinion and Interest Survey	Acreage Level of Service Analysis	Facility Level of Service Analysis	Access Level of Service Analysis
Facilities										
Walking Paths/Sidewalks	●	●	●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●
Natural Parks and Preserves	●	○	○				●	○		○
Picnic Areas/Shelters	○		○		○	●	●			●
Walking/Running Tracks	●	○	○	●			●			●
Small Neighborhood Parks	●		●	●	○	●	●	●	●	●
Playgrounds			●	○		●	○			
Restrooms	○		○			●	●		○	
Fitness Equipment	○	○	○	○		○			○	
Educational Opportunities/Elements			○	●		○	○			
Multi-Generational Facilities	○	○	○	○	●	○	○		○	●
Programs and Activities										
Fitness & Wellness	●	●	●	●	○	●	●			
Nature Enjoyment	●	●	●	○			●			
Outdoor/Adventure Recreation	○		○	○			●			
Youth Activities			●	○	●	○	○			
History & Museums			○	●	○	●	●			
Performing Arts			○	○		●	●			
Aquatics	○		○	○		○	○			
Water-related Activities	○	○	●	●	○	○	●			
Senior Adult Activities		●	○	●	●		●			
Family Events	●	○	●	●	○	○	●			

NEEDS & PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

In addition to the identification of the top community-wide needs, from the public participation and survey techniques, overall priorities have emerged. The lists on the right are a summary of the top priority themes as identified by the following methods:

- **Park System Resource Evaluation**
- **High-Level Lifestyle Analysis**
- **Community Meetings**
- **Focus Groups**
- **Stakeholder/ Elected Officials Interviews**
- **Online Public Opinion Survey**
- **Citizen Opinion and Interest Survey**
- **Existing Level of Service Analysis**

Top Facility Needs and Priorities

- Walking paths/sidewalks
- Natural parks and preserves
- Picnic areas/shelters
- Walking/running tracks
- Smaller neighborhood parks
- Playgrounds
- Restrooms
- Fitness equipment
- Educational Opportunities/ Elements
- Multi-generational facilities

Top Activity Needs and Priorities

- Fitness and Wellness
- Nature Enjoyment
- Outdoor/Adventure Recreation
- Youth Activities
- History and Museums
- Performing Arts
- Aquatics
- Water-related Activities
- Senior Adult Activities
- Family Events

Goodmark Park

4

VISION

The Vision for the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan was highlighted by comprehensive stakeholder and public participation. The Vision process began by hosting a multi-faceted workshop with sessions dedicated to better understanding the community's desires for its parks and recreation system. The results from the workshop combined with the feedback from previous planning phases allowed the community to provide an extensive, detailed Vision for their parks and recreation programs. The following chapter shares the results of this process and also summarizes the Vision sub-systems distilled from that process that collectively represent the comprehensive, long-range Vision for the Riviera Beach Park System.

CHAPTER 4: VISION

4.1 Vision Approach

4.2 Vision Sub-systems

VISION

4.1 VISION APPROACH

Approach

The approach for developing the Riviera Beach Vision is composed of three parts:

1. A multi-phased community involvement process (Chapter 3) revealed residents' needs and priorities for parks and recreation facilities and programs.

2. City staff and the consultant team then completed a supplementary technical review of the existing parks system that identified needed improvements in order to maintain a high level of service for existing and future residents.

3. Stakeholder and community input was gathered on several themes identified through the needs assessment phase during a multi-session Vision Workshop event followed by virtual public engagement to record comments on the findings and ideas.

The Riviera Beach Vision was developed to be an integrated part of the Reimagine Riviera Beach effort, which is a community-centered, ongoing public input process focused on developing a long-range Vision for the City. Throughout 2021, the City hosted interactive community workshops to engage residents and develop ideas for reimagining Riviera Beach. The purpose of the workshops was to receive feedback from residents about what projects, improvements, or community initiatives could be implemented in the future to provide a visionary community. The information from the workshops will form the foundation for an ambitious capital improvements plan for the entire City, as well as the visionary elements of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

Vision Workshop and Public Engagement

Outreach Efforts

During September and October 2021, outreach efforts were conducted in advance of the Vision Workshop to make the local community and key stakeholders aware of the event. All of those who participated in engagement events during the Needs and Priorities Assessment were notified of the public portion of the Vision Workshop, and the event was also advertised through the City's website and social media outlets. Key staff and the advisory committee received invitations to their respective sessions of the workshop.

The project website was also utilized to advertise the event flyer with scheduling and location information for the event, as well as the opportunity to register for the event.

Methodology

The Riviera Beach Vision is intended to guide the parks and recreation system over the next 10 years. Its goals and objectives were developed to reflect the combined results of public input and analysis completed in Chapter 2 (System Inventory and Analysis) and Chapter 3 (Needs and Priorities Assessment) of this planning document. The goal and objectives are targeted to reflect community desires, but are also intended to allow for flexibility and modification to meet needs and changing priorities of the community over time. This intentional flexibility is an important part of meeting goals and needs in a timely manner through the anticipated growth of the City over the next ten years. In the next chapter, action items are identified that will implement this Vision for the City. These items specifically focus on community priorities, funding strategies and defined roles. They are intended to be updated on a regular basis by staff to reflect the changing trends, priorities and roles within the community.

Held on October 21st, 2021, the Vision Workshop was a collaborative effort to develop goals, strategies, and potential projects or actions for the long-range Vision. The workshop was held with

Parks and Recreation staff, City department leaders, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. This workshop utilized an interactive format that allowed for active participation from attendees during group exercises and collective discussions.

Workshop Results

The Vision Workshop resulted in the development of a Comprehensive Vision and goal-oriented sub-systems for the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation System. The Vision was created as a cumulative representation of the ideas and thoughts shared by the community and stakeholders throughout the Master Plan Process. The Master Plan will play a key role in the continued development of Riviera Beach parks recreation facilities, and program opportunities. The Vision outlines a continued investment in these contributing community assets and the consistency with the needs and priorities expressed through extensive engagement efforts.

Implementation of the goals for each sub-system will enable the City of Riviera Beach to develop a robust park and recreation system that will enrich the lives of people in its communities. The Master Plan will serve as a guideline for creating a robust parks and recreation system by identifying ongoing improvements and additions, enhancing city-wide connectivity and water access; incorporating sustainable and resilient strategies into park development and improvement; promoting cultural assets as an integral part of the park system fabric; establishing equitable connections and access throughout neighborhoods; building a network of community parks; and, developing facilities that meet the programming needs of the community, the Master Plan would serve as a guideline for creating a robust parks and recreation system. Detailed results from the Vision Workshop are shown in **Figures 4-1 through 4-5** below.

Vision Workshop Feedback By Vision Subsystem

Figure 4-1: City-wide Connectivity and Water Access

VISION GOALS	PRIORITY PROJECTS / ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
• Enhance accessibility to parks • Connect parks to neighborhoods • Increase park safety and security • Increase public engagement • Provide more transit methods • Provide more recreation trails that connect to parks • Activate the canals banks in the City • Coordinate with national, state and county parks throughout the City • Increase land use for trails	• Exercise stations on walking trails • Mile-marker signage on trails • Safe crossings across major corridors • Walking and bike paths • Trolley system • Ensure bus connections to key facilities • Create a City-wide trail system connecting parks and water • Uniform signage • Canal trails project • Opportunities for rails to trails • Lone Pine golf course conversion, potential trail	• Sustainable and cost effective projects • Better transportation routes • Adopt a trail land use policy for the City • Trail concurrency ordinance for developers

VISION

Figure 4-2: Sustainable and Resilient Park System

VISION GOALS	PRIORITY PROJECTS / ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
• Improve accessibility to parks • Promote a cost effective and self sustaining park system • Create spaces that are sustainable and efficient, by using less water, durable materials and LED lighting • Implement going green initiatives • Design parks systems that are sustainable and resilient with an emphasis on the environment and equity	• Solar panels in park facilities • Storm protection • Neighborhood drainage • Energy efficient buildings • Well-lit parks • Easier plants to maintain • Permeable parking lots • More trees to reduce water use and increase shade • Establish low-maintenance operations - xeriscaping • Develop activities that are centered around nature	• Going green resilience policy - diversified, and align with the NRPA • Establish partnerships with schools • Establish partnerships with developers • Establish relationships with other governmental agencies

Figure 4-4: Cultural Resources and Community Assets

VISION GOALS	PRIORITY PROJECTS / ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
• Preserve remaining cultural resources and preserve assets • Include thoughtful public art that is unique to our community • Establish cultural art programs • Promote local history elements in programs	• Stage at Bicentennial Park • Identify cultural resources through tagging • Establish a diverse, inclusive cultural arts and performing arts programs • Family events • Identify historical landmarks and historical elements that can be used in design of new facilities	• More effective marketing • Leverage community assets more effectively • Reinvest and market in Bicentennial Park and other key locations • Cultural arts plan • Establish a historic preservation committee • Register with the national registry after landmarks are identified • Establish partnerships with governmental non-profits, and private to assist in providing programs

Figure 4-3: Neighborhood Parks and System-wide Equity

VISION GOALS	PRIORITY PROJECTS / ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
• Increase and provide baseline amenities within all parks • Establish creative and adequate physical spaces that provide access for neighborhood residents to conveniently recreate	• Weather-resistant facilities • Determine City-owned properties that can be reused for recreational purposes	• Update the comprehensive plan to reflect the goals of the master plan • Adopt, share, and support the goals of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan • Seek grant funding to use at neighborhood parks • Work with staff and consultants to design parks that uniquely characterize certain neighborhoods

Figure 4-5: Community Parks and Athletics Facilities

VISION GOALS	PRIORITY PROJECTS / ACTIONS	POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
• Develop comprehensive facilities - include wellness and recreation opportunities • Implement an active and robust, diverse programming in facilities • Renovate legacy parks • Improve the existing community parks • Build facilities and programs across all groups and backgrounds - including sports programs and health and wellness programs that are not currently available	• Create a robust fitness and wellness program • Establish a unique youth program that exposes youth to new activities • Multi-generational facilities	• Encourage more resources in community parks • Partnership with health and wellness agencies • Adult community education • Adopt, share and support the Parks and Recreation Master Plan through other agencies that can assist in providing programs

VISION

4.2 VISION SUB-SYSTEMS

City-wide Connectivity and Water Access

Introduction

As a result of the previous efforts documented in this chapter, the Vision is based on a framework of key insights distilled from broad public input and a comprehensive analysis. The approach for the City of Riviera Beach established a set of sub-systems that help guide the development of the parks and facilities across the system.

The guiding principles and Vision recommendations for each of these subsystems are intended to guide the parks and recreation system over the next 10 years. Guiding principles have been developed to reflect the combined results of input and analysis completed in Chapter 2 (Existing Conditions Analysis) and Chapter 3 (Needs and Priorities Assessment) of this planning document. These principles and the associated Vision concepts are intended to be modified, as needed, to ensure achievement of the subsystem Vision, and ensure its contribution to the overall Vision of the City of Riviera Beach. In the next chapter, a comprehensive implementation strategy for achieving this Vision is presented with a focus on community priorities, funding strategies and defined roles. This Implementation Plan is intended to be updated on a regular basis by staff to reflect the changing trends, priorities and roles within the community.

TOP VISION WORKSHOP NEEDS AND PRIORITIES

Accessibility to Parks

Security & Safety

Increased Programming Offered for People of All Ages

Sustainability & Resiliency

City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan Visioning Workshop

VISION SUB-SYSTEMS

Collectively these sub-systems form a vibrant and dynamic system that contributes to a high quality of life for all residents and furthers the achievements of Riviera Beach's overall Vision and goals. The City's system of parks, open spaces, recreation facilities, arts, and natural areas, all elements of the public realm, are woven into the fabric of what makes Riviera Beach a great place to live, work, and play. This Vision integrates components of previous and on-going City-wide efforts to achieve the overall Vision and goals for the City defined in previous planning efforts.

City-wide Connectivity and Water Access

- More Opportunities for Walking and Biking
- Blueways and Water Access
- Regional Connectivity

Sustainable and Resilient Park System
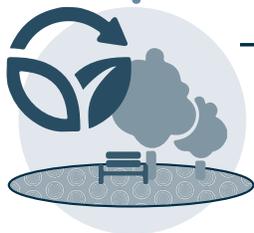
- Sustainable Planning and Design in all Parks
- Resilience at the System-wide Level
- Environmental Education Opportunities

Cultural Resources and Community Assets

- Emphasis on Historical Character
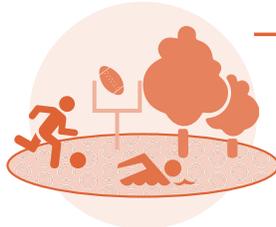- Public Art in Parks and Open Spaces
- Integration of Cultural Resources
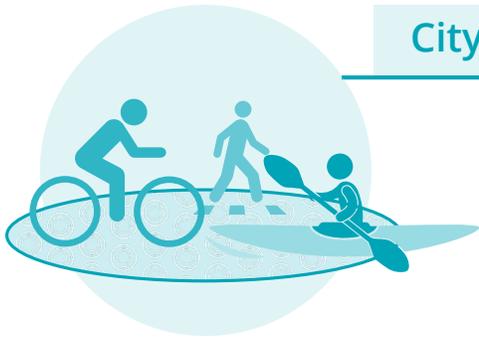
Neighborhood Parks and System-wide Equity

- Reinvestment in Existing Parks
- Equity and Access to Neighborhood Parks
- Variety of Amenities in Parks

Community Parks and Athletic Facilities

- Increased Capacity and Availability
- Programs for a Diverse Population
- Emphasis on Health and Wellness

VISION

City-wide Connectivity and Water Access

- More Opportunities for Walking and Biking
- Blueways and Water Access
- Regional Connectivity

Top Activity Needs and Priorities

- Fitness and Wellness
- Nature Enjoyment
- Outdoor/Adventure Recreation
- Water-related Activities

Top Facility Needs and Priorities

- Walking paths/Sidewalks
- Walking/Running tracks
- Educational Opportunities/ Elements

Introduction

One of the most prevalent topics during the community engagement process was the need for greenways and trails, and access between parks and communities. Access as a concept can be applied to the entire park system's overall Vision. The guiding principles for access are supported by other City and County initiatives that seek to improve multi-modal transportation, overall quality of life for residents, and stimulate economic growth throughout the City. The sub-system goals established through the Vision Workshop include more opportunities for walking and biking, blueway and water access, and regional connectivity.

More Opportunities for Walking and Biking

Through conversations with community members, City staff, and City leaders, the theme of better connectivity and access to parks and recreation was consistent. The community expressed a strong desire to see more opportunities for safe crossings across major corridors to help facilitate park access. Potential safe connectivity strategies utilized could include protected cross walks, bike lanes, and transit infrastructure across the City and park system.

The long-term intent to promote walking and biking opportunities for the City of Riviera Beach should include new design standards that enhance the safety of residents by creating highly visible crosswalks that prioritize pedestrians and multi-modal transit - making it easier for motorist to see them. Strategies such as setbacks, street trees, and pedestrian-friendly vegetation, help protect

pedestrians from busy traffic, create safe routes to key destinations, and promote outdoor recreation experiences for residents of all ages.

Blueways and Water Access

Throughout the Community Needs Assessment, water-related activities emerged as one of the top recreation activities desired by residents. Both community members and stakeholders expressed a need to have direct access to water and blueways for recreational activities and programming, such as canoe/ kayak launches or outdoor education. Input received form the Vision Workshop included activating canal banks and exploring waterways as a potential mode of transit, expanding canal trail projects, and creating a City-wide blueway system that connects water access and parks.

Utilizing gaps identified from the access Level of Service analysis, the Department should consider adopting the recommended water access points that can be found on **Map 4-1** on the following page. Water access locations could be implemented at locations adjacent or within proposed parks currently in the City of Riviera Beach Park System. These potential access points can enhance the mobility of citizens by creating opportunities for water-based activities and other neighborhoods, while also providing unique recreation opportunities in the natural environment.
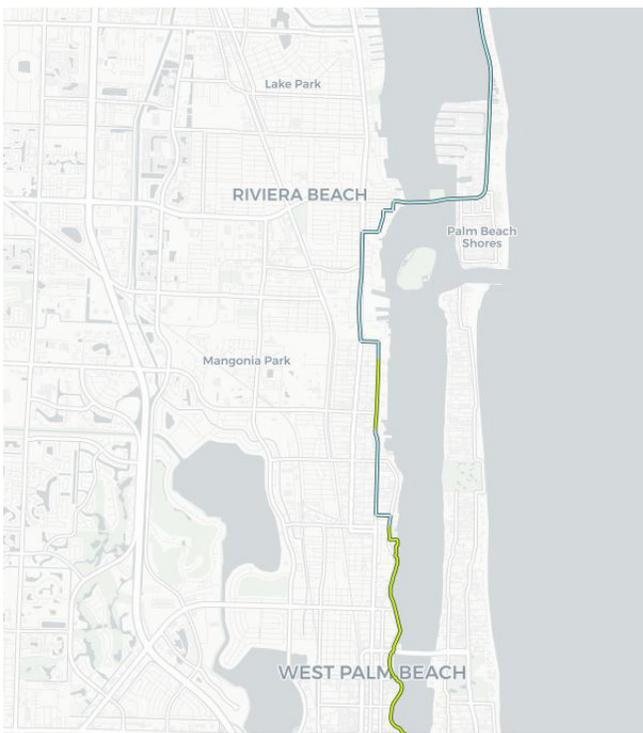

Phil Foster Park

Regional Connectivity

Riviera Beach is uniquely situated in the rapidly-growing region of South Florida, which provides many opportunities to integrate local planning efforts within a robust regional context. During the Vision Workshop, many stakeholders and community members recognized the need to coordinate with national, state, and county planning initiatives to increase connectivity and accessibility.
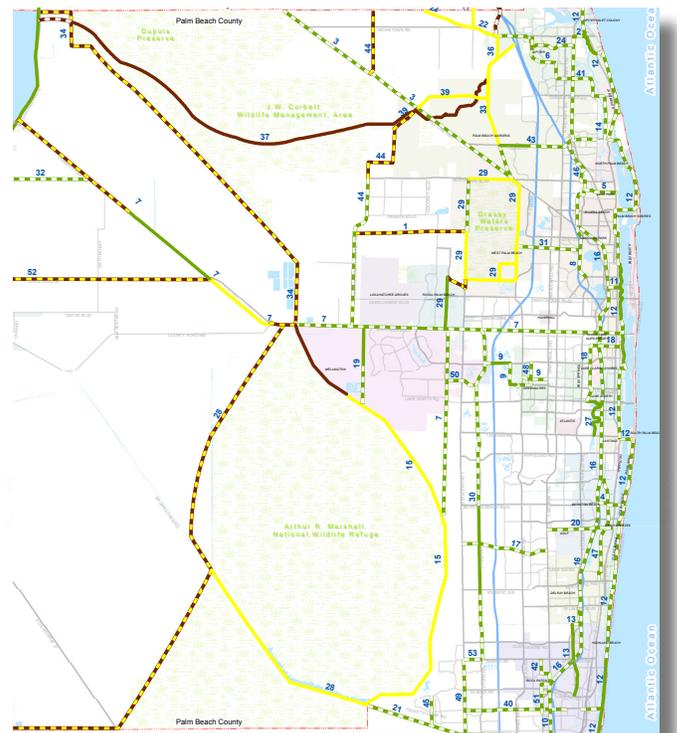
Working with other regional municipalities and participating in more scalable system plans such as the Regional Greenways & Trails Plan by Palm Beach County and the East Coast Greenway can further the City's connectivity goals **(Map 4-1)**. Community members and stakeholders value the importance of developing a large, multi-faceted system that increases natural lands, trail connectivity, improved public awareness of both local and regional opportunities. Implementing regional connectivity through a multi-modal transit system can not only bolster recreational participation, but the multi-modal infrastructure will also serve as a community

asset that enhances the overall quality of life for City residents. Establishing regional connectivity to promote access is intended to create a network of neighborhoods that connect the fabric of the City of Riviera Beach. This can be done by using existing, proposed, and potential multi-modal paths to connect neighborhoods to parks, activity, and regional corridors.

Key components of creating better connections include developing comprehensive goals for the entire system and prioritizing critical projects for implementation. By defining a hierarchy of projects, City staff will be able to successfully position for funding and ensure projects are meeting the needs of the community. Elements that should be considered during prioritization include developing connectivity amenities at key transit hubs and intersections, working with developers to ensure access and connectivity planning is integrated into new development projects, and reaching out to partners in the community to strategically develop a strong community Vision and support around the significance of multi-modal transit.

East Coast Greenway through Riviera Beach

Palm Beach County Regional Greenways and Trails Plan

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND
Sidewalks
Bike Lanes
Proposed Multi-use Path
Potential Multi-use Path
Priority Neighborhood Connections
Existing Water Recreation Access Point
Proposed Water Recreation Access Point
Major Trailhead
Neighborhood Trailhead

LEGEND
Palm Beach County Boundary
Riviera Beach City Limits
Municipality Boundaries
Water Bodies
Neighborhood Parks
Community Parks / Facilities
Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
Special Parks
Beach Access
County Parks
State Parks
Golf Courses
Natural Areas
Private Recreation Facilities
Residential Zoning
Non-Residential Zoning
Major Roads
Streets
Railroad

Map 4-1: Rivera Beach Connectivity & Access Vision - Priority Bicycle & Pedestrian Networks & Water Access Points

VISION
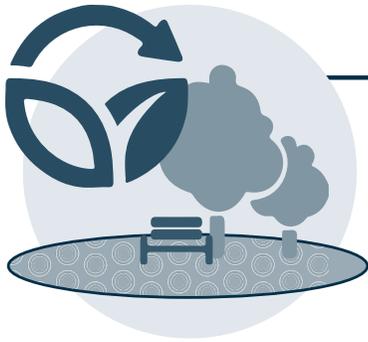
Sustainable and Resilient Park System

- Sustainable Planning and Design in all Parks
- Resilience at the System-wide Level
- Environmental Education Opportunities

Top Activity Needs and Priorities

- ○ Nature Enjoyment
- ○ Outdoor/Adventure Recreation
- ○ Water-related Activities
- ○ Family Events

Top Facility Needs and Priorities

- ○ Natural parks and preserves
- ○ Smaller neighborhood parks
- ○ Educational Opportunities/ Elements
- ○ Multi-generational facilities

Introduction

A sustainable and resilient park system begins with planning, designing and implementing best practices and strategies at each individual park. The incorporation of these practices establishes a culture in which every park contributes to sustainability, resilience, and the overall success of the natural environment through the City. Utilizing best practices such as sustainable materials, alternative energy opportunities, efficient lighting, innovative stormwater mitigation, and abundant shade trees can enhance the overall environmental quality of the parks and the system as a whole. These scalable features can be incorporated in applicable parks throughout the City to provide ecological benefits, and resilient park infrastructure with an emphasis on environmental and educational opportunities.

Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park Natural Areas

Sustainable Planning and Design at All Parks

Throughout the community engagement process, as well as the Visioning Workshops, residents and stakeholders showed strong support for green initiatives at individual parks and a system-wide level. The primary goal for the City is a sustainable and resilient park system that seeks to address both short and long-term ecological impacts, while also providing educational opportunities for park users. The City's park system currently offers a diverse range of user experiences and opportunities to engage the natural environment in various ways. A key element of these experiences is the environmental value of the City's parks, and their ability to integrate users into a larger natural system.

As the City of Riviera Beach continues to grow in population and density, the sustainability and resilience of its natural systems will become more critical. Increasing development alongside sensitive ecosystems will provide the setting for environmental challenges that require both system-wide planning strategies and interventions at the park level. The park system's integration into the natural environment presents a unique opportunity to implement design strategies that can help communities respond to these challenges and continue to have access to a quality recreation system. A few examples of sustainable and resilient design strategies are shown in below.

Living Shoreline in Miami-Dade County

Hybrid Sea Wall in Palm Beach County

Hunter's Point South Waterfront Park, New York (Source: AIA New York)

Flood protection measures incorporated into the landscape at Bishan-ang Mo Kio Park, Singapore (Source: ramboll)

Examples of Sustainable and Resilient Design in Parks

VISION

Resilience at the System-wide Level

Resilience was one of the top priorities across all methods of engagement during the Needs and Priorities Assessment, as well as point of discussion during all sessions of the Vision Workshop. Resilience throughout the park system is a great way to plan for a sustainable future and protect critical natural infrastructure. These concepts will become increasingly more important as the City develops and more residents move to the area. City-wide resilience will help the City ensure it develops in alignment with green initiatives, succeeds economically, promotes environmental awareness and implements best practices at a site-specific level, including energy efficient buildings, durable public amenities, and low maintenance recreation facilities.
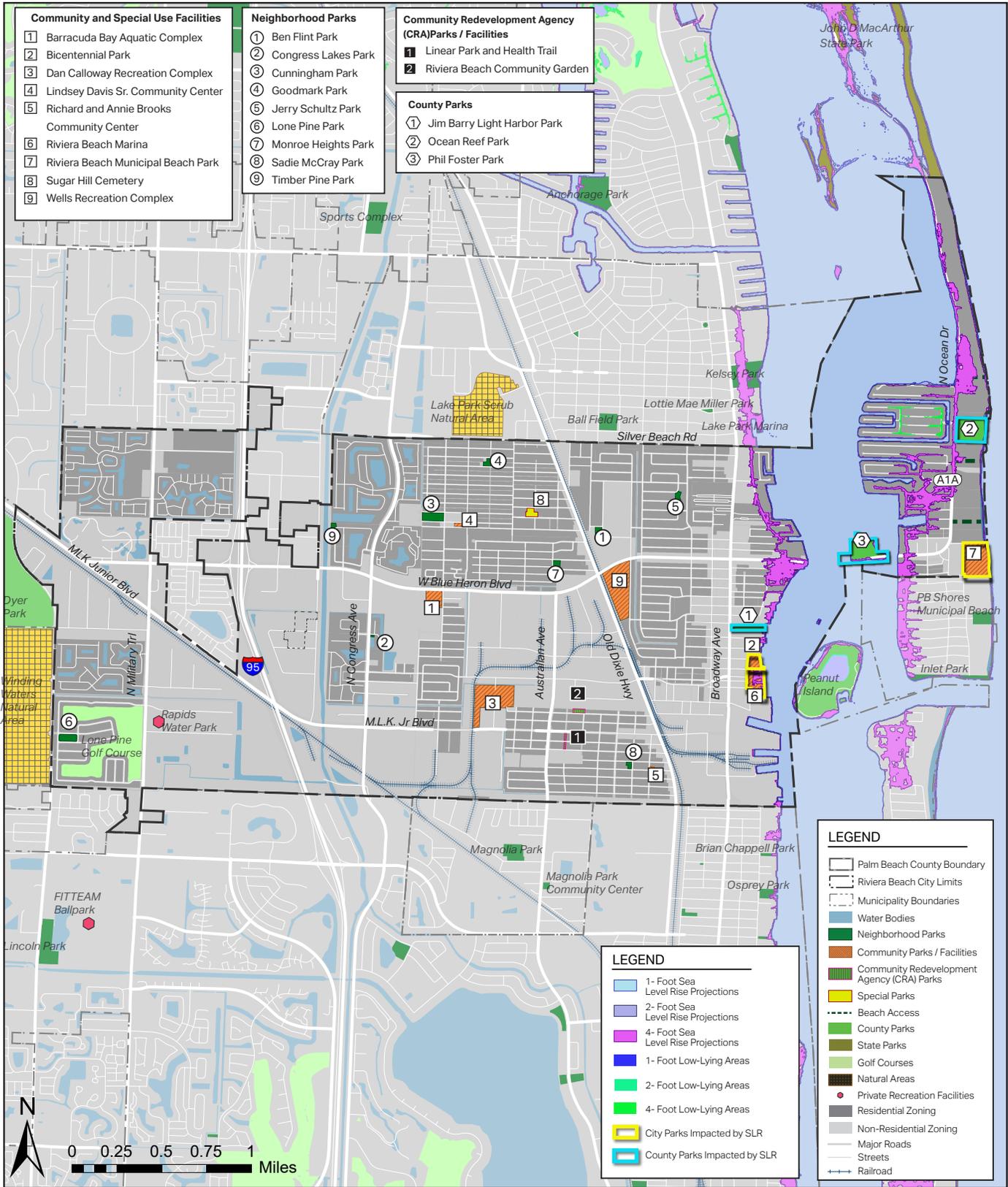
As Riviera Beach experiences more climate vulnerabilities, the social, economic, and environmental conditions can be impacted rapidly by climate shocks and stressors. These sudden events and external pressures can often overwhelm City management. Partnerships with national, regional, and state-wide agencies as well as, community groups can help position City staff to be better prepared to address challenges that face the South Florida region as a whole. Strategic partnerships can provide Riviera Beach community members with services and activities, as well as integrate new residents with environmental stewardship programs that promote resiliency guidelines. Maintaining these types of relationships will encourage new and existing community members to participate in City promotions that enrich their spaces.

Due to the coastal environment and numerous canals that are found within Riviera Beach, the City is susceptible to severe flooding often a result of large coastal storms coupled with high tide or high intensity rainfall events. As shown in **Map 4-2**, the seven highlighted parks contribute to the physical resilience of the community by being the frontline of defense against coastal floods. It is critical to utilize resilient design strategies at the park level for the system as a whole to mitigate the impacts from climate shocks and stressors.


Riviera Beach Marina

Community and Special Use Facilities

1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks
   Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks

1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities

1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks

1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND

- 1- Foot Sea Level Rise Projections
- 2- Foot Sea Level Rise Projections
- 4- Foot Sea Level Rise Projections
- 1- Foot Low-Lying Areas
- 2- Foot Low-Lying Areas
- 4- Foot Low-Lying Areas
- City Parks Impacted by SLR
- County Parks Impacted by SLR

LEGEND

- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

N

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1   Miles

Map 4-2: Rivera Beach Parks and Recreation System with NOAA Sea Level Rise Projections and Impacted Parks

VISION

Environmental Education Opportunities

Access to environmental education through the park system was consistently one of the top priorities from all groups of stakeholders and community members throughout the planning process. Whether the educational opportunities exist within the parks, greenways, or water-base recreation areas, City residents value their natural areas and express a strong desire for additional outdoor activities where they can gain skills, environmental awareness, knowledge, and participation in outdoor activities.

The environmental education concept and nature play areas are intended to be nature-based amenities that provide interactive play and outdoor classrooms without introducing formal buildings. This would allow for expanded programming opportunities for youth and teens, seniors, and special need users. As the City grows utilizing the greenway and parks system to incorporate educational signage, facilitate demonstration projects, and allow for a more structured setting for outdoor exhibits to promote environmental awareness. These types of environmental education outreach efforts can enhance outdoor engagement.
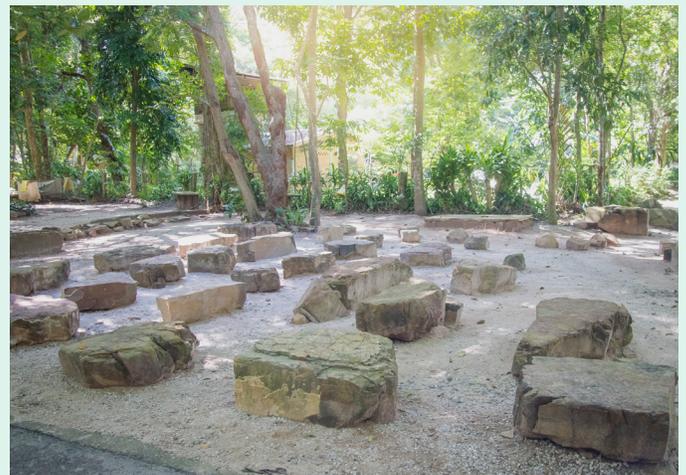
Examples of Environmental Education Spaces

VISION

Cultural Resources and Community Assets

- Emphasis on Historical Character
- Public Art in Parks and Open Spaces
- Integration of Cultural Resources

Top Activity Needs and Priorities

- History and Museums
- Performing Arts
- Family Events

Top Facility Needs and Priorities

- Educational Opportunities/Elements
- Multi-generational Facilities

Introduction

The need to protect cultural resources and preserve community assets is a high priority for Riviera Beach residents. Top priority activities such as history and museums, performing arts, and visual arts indicate residents' desire for a recreation system that fosters culture and enriches the lives of community members of all ages. Recreation programs and special events are also critical components of the park system that provide positive community identity for City residents. The following principles will help establish and guide the Vision for Cultural Resources and Community Assets.

Emphasis on Historical Character

Riviera Beach has a wealth of historic resources, however, community feedback reveals that another consistent hurdle to people utilizing parks and recreation services is simply being unaware of what is available in the community. Smaller improvements that can be made quickly such as identifying historical resources through physical or digital platform while a more substantial program is developed. These installations will increase community participation and help users feel more connected to their parks. Consistency and comprehensive integration across the system will begin to develop a visual language that people associate with parks and recreation destinations, events, and services.

A successful cultural language can help foster an environment that promotes social diversity within the community, leading to positive social and economic impacts for the City. By integrating historical elements and identifying means to

communicate with partners, park users, and department staff, the cohesive cultural language can lead to increased community identity and healthy habits of citizens by growth in participation. As Riviera Beach continues to grow and become more diverse, establishing a committee that is informed of the City's historical background will be an asset to build upon the unique foundation. This committee can help lead creative pursuits to customizable communication strategies that engage with community members, identify landmarks around the City and registering the new attractions with the National Registry. Promote awareness to cultivate character and goodwill within the community.

Public Art in Open Spaces

Public art is a great way to engage residents of all ages, create a sense of community, and civic pride. This will become increasingly important as the City continues to grow, and the art placed throughout park system reflect the unique community characteristics for new residents. A key component to establishing a one-of-a-kind experience is developing a cohesive urban design language that ties the City together. This includes components such as signage and wayfinding, park furnishings, sculptures, and visual and performance art that are representative of the community and its cultural assets.

Particular attention should be paid to ensuring that each neighborhood and community retain the characteristics that make them unique while also incorporating elements that tie into the overall City vernacular. In addition to public art incorporated into parks and open spaces, it is important to integrate art into the public realm whenever possible. This is especially important in more urban areas that have the potential to be destinations. Potential collaborations could be created with other public art projects within the City such as the Palm Beach County Art in Public Places program.

Integration of Cultural Resources

Throughout the Needs and Priorities Assessment, as well as the Vision Workshop, the need to integrate cultural resources to spur economic development was a top priority for both residents and City staff. Many community members felt that utilizing cultural resources to develop activity areas would be critical to create something that sets Riviera Beach apart from other municipalities in the region. Parks, open spaces, and event venues present the opportunity to develop integrated cultural arts programs. In addition to program integration, there are several cultural resources that can leverage community assets more effectively. Reinvestment in Bicentennial Park and other key locations to establish cultural arts programs would be effective for raising awareness and support. Establishing partnerships with governmental and non-profit agencies, and private organizations to assist in providing programs would offset cost and increase marketing opportunities to improve community participation.

Palm Beach County Art in Public Places

The Palm Beach County Art in Public Places program is managed by the Facilities Development and Operations Department of Palm Beach County. The mission of the program is to provide art that complements public buildings, parks and plazas; creates a sense of place and enhances community identity; improves the design quality of public infrastructure; and contributes to the missions of the county departments where projects are sited.

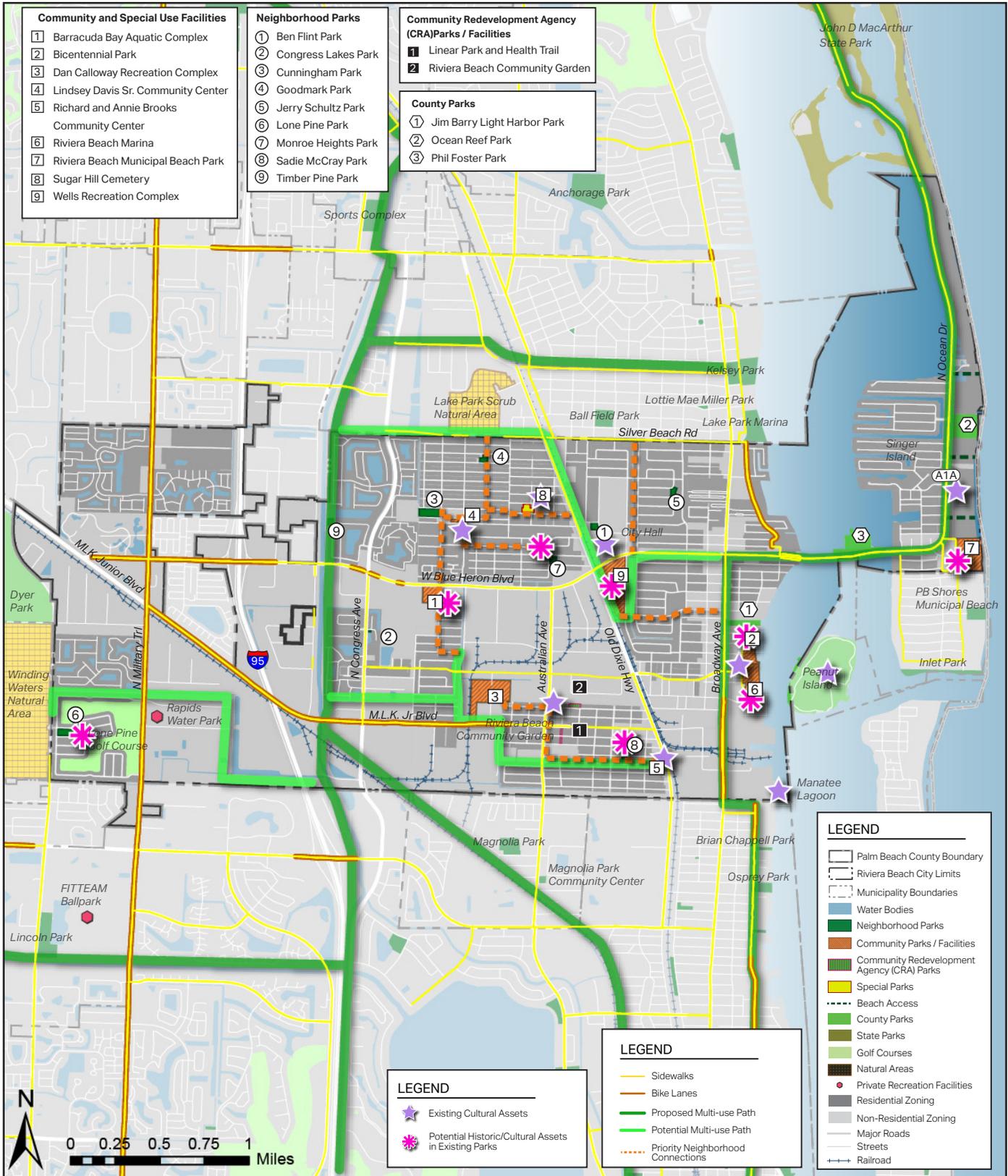*Palm Beach County Art in Public Places Project Example*

VISION

The rich history and cultural landmarks in the City of Riviera Beach present ample opportunity to highlight the historical character and combine cultural resources such as public art into the park system. Map 4-3 on the following page shows the location of existing cultural assets and potential cultural assets in existing parks. Connecting these sites creates an opportunity for an additional network of accessible historic destinations.

A majority of these sites lie along the corridors of existing bike routes as well as multi-use paths. The wealth of cultural resources along these trails can be emphasized by integrating cultural and historic routes into these segments of the trail system. To create a comprehensive trail system signage and wayfinding can be incorporated to indicate significant places and provide educational information about its importance. By utilizing a trail system to tell the City's historic and cultural sites, residents and visitors will have the opportunity to access recreation amenities and resources that strengthen the fabric of the community.

Examples of Arts, Cultural & Historic Resources In Parks

Community and Special Use Facilities

1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks

1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities

1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks

1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND

Existing Cultural Assets

Potential Historic/Cultural Assets in Existing Parks

LEGEND

Sidewalks
Bike Lanes
Proposed Multi-use Path
Potential Multi-use Path
Priority Neighborhood Connections

LEGEND

Palm Beach County Boundary
Riviera Beach City Limits
Municipality Boundaries
Water Bodies
Neighborhood Parks
Community Parks / Facilities
Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
Special Parks
Beach Access
County Parks
State Parks
Golf Courses
Natural Areas
Private Recreation Facilities
Residential Zoning
Non-Residential Zoning
Major Roads
Streets
Railroad

Map 4-3: Rivera Beach Existing and Potential Cultural Assets

VISION

Neighborhood Parks and System-wide Equity

- Reinvestment in Existing Parks
- Equity and Access to Neighborhood Parks
- Variety of Amenities in Parks

Introduction

Riviera Beach parks and open spaces serve as a major contributor to the sense of community that makes the City a unique place to live. These physical spaces provide access for residents to park space and quality recreation experiences with close proximity to their homes. Neighborhood Parks provide open space and recreation experiences that meet the needs and priorities of each individual community. These smaller parks provide all residents an opportunity to refresh, explore and play, while also contributing to the unique characteristics that help define certain neighborhoods and communities. Using community input from the Needs Assessment and Visioning Workshop, the following guiding principles were developed for neighborhood parks and system-wide equity.

Neighborhood Park Ratings Summary

Overall Rating:

Design and Construction	67
Effectiveness	71
Condition	69
Comfort and Image	72
Access and Linkage	72
Sustainability	65

Top Facility Needs and Priorities

- Walking paths/Sidewalks
- Picnic areas/Shelters
- Smaller Neighborhood Parks
- Playgrounds
- Restrooms
- Fitness Equipment
- Educational Opportunities/ Elements

Cunningham Park

Reinvestment in Existing Parks

The park evaluations conducted for Neighborhood Parks during the System Inventory and Analysis revealed many potential investment opportunities including the condition, access, design, and effectiveness of facilities and amenities. As noted in the overall rating summary for Neighborhood Parks on the previous page, Neighborhood Parks as a whole are meeting expectations for all categories and are generally effective and in good condition. However, many of these parks contain facilities and amenities that may be nearing the end of their life span and may not be fully meeting the needs of park users in these neighborhoods. Continued growth and demand for resources will accelerate this trend, as more residents use existing park infrastructure more frequently.

While the implementation chapter of this Master Plan identifies capital improvements to help maintain the quality and functionality of all parks in the system, the department will need to take this a step further and develop a replacement schedule for all amenities within their parks, particularly those that serve core neighborhood experiences. The replacement schedule will help the capital improvement plan to be further refined and adjusted when needed. The schedule will also allow the department to identify unique procurement opportunities, particularly when the schedule aligns the replacement of similar amenities at multiple locations.

Ben Flint Park

Monroe Heights

Goodmark Park

Jerry Schultz Park

VISION

Equity and Access to Neighborhood Parks

Neighborhood Parks play a fundamental role in enhancing the physical environments in which we live. Despite the importance of parks and other recreational open spaces, many residents do not have adequate access to these important community resources. This is particularly true in areas where park access is often inequitably distributed or there are significant barriers to access, which puts certain populations at risk for health problems associated with inactivity. Riviera Beach currently faces challenges stemming from incomplete sidewalk networks, walkability gaps in neighborhood parks access, and general lack of awareness of what is available to residents.
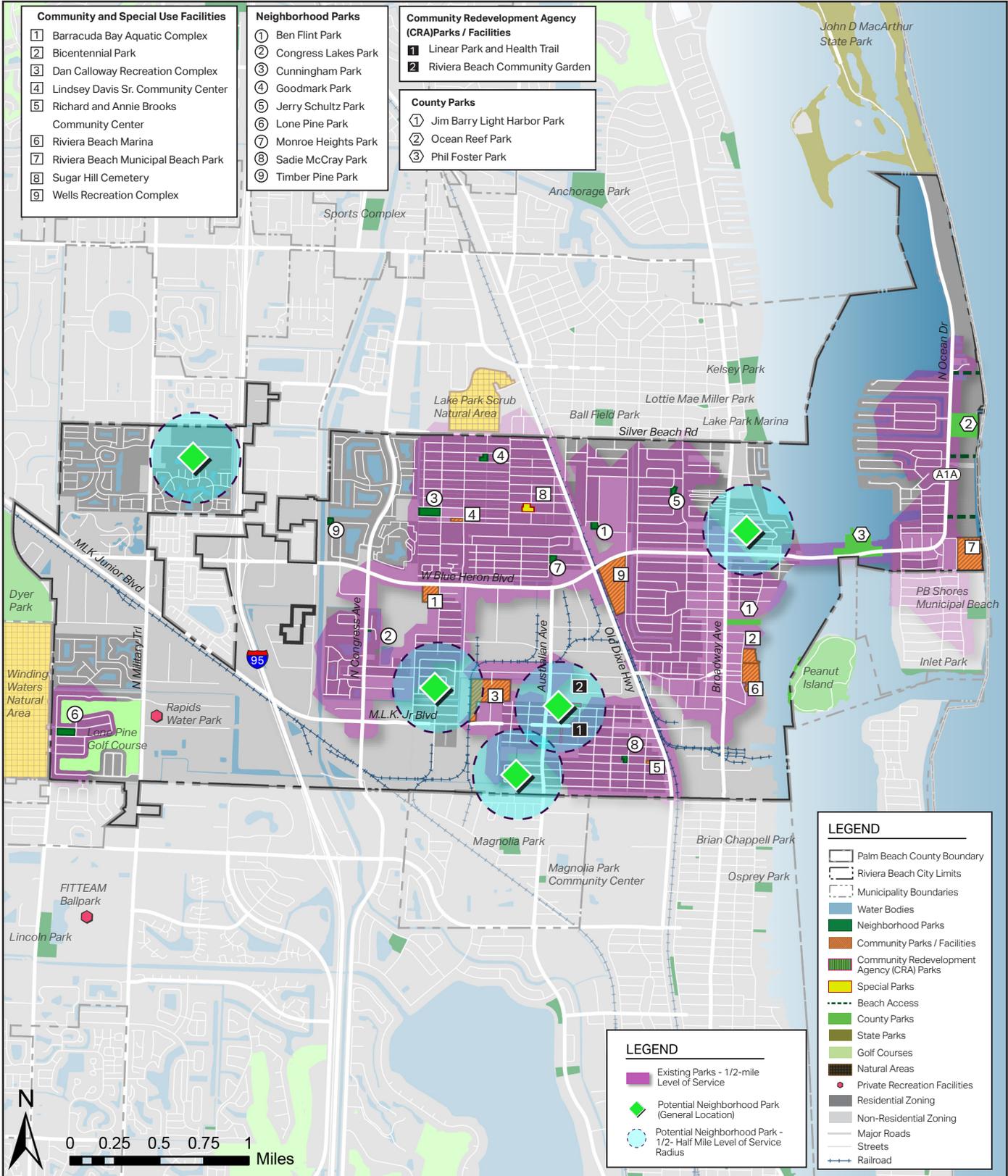
To provide an equitable, comprehensive parks system, all community members should have easy access to parks and open spaces. In park systems across the country, there have been consistent lessons learned over time with regard to barriers to park access. These barriers often prevent entire neighborhoods and sections of the community from utilizing the park system. Creating park connections and highlighting accessibility is essential to create a comprehensive system. Parks have the ability to build healthy communities by creating stable neighborhoods and strengthening community development. Parks achieve this by providing opportunities for people to work together, build trust, and foster companionship. Neighborhood parks provide residents with a sense of a place and allow them to take ownership of these special assets in their communities.

Map 4-4 identifies potential locations for future park sites. The map also highlights the current level of service for all of Riviera Beach parks that provide open access at 1/2-mile area, a typical walking distance supported by community neighbors. The potential park locations are identified in residential areas with gaps in service where additional neighborhood parks would improve access to parks. The level of service layer has been overlaid with potential sites for future parks and areas with parks resulting in five site locations that can promote park accessibility and provide open spaces that are within walking distances for underserved neighborhoods.

Sadie McCray Park

Community and Special Use Facilities

1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks

1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA)Parks / Facilities

1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks

1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

LEGEND

- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

LEGEND

- Existing Parks - 1/2-mile Level of Service
- Potential Neighborhood Park (General Location)
- Potential Neighborhood Park - 1/2- Half Mile Level of Service Radius

N

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1   Miles

Map 4-4: Rivera Beach Existing 1/2-Mile Level of Service and Potential Neighborhood Park Locations

VISION

Variety of Amenities in Parks

While much of the focus of this section has been on the equitable access to neighborhood parks and ensuring that existing parks have the investment to provide high-quality recreation facilities, it is equally important for City residents to have a wide variety of amenities that meet the needs and priorities of users. One of the top priorities from residents is to increase the variety and availability of amenities within all parks. The highest priority amenities for residents of Riviera Beach include community gardens, walking paths, pavilions, and dog parks.

Though the Master Plan and its resulting recommendations are built on extensive community input, the City must acknowledge that recreation preferences change over time. Providing a variety of amenities that can be used by people of all ages provides something for everyone. As the City continues to grow and more families move to new neighborhoods, having a wide variety of amenities offered within each neighborhood park will promote user participation. Working with community members, partners, and stakeholders, to continually refine neighborhood needs and priorities will ensure park elements and program support the needs of users they serve.

Examples of Amenities in Parks based on top Needs and Priorities

Cunningham Park
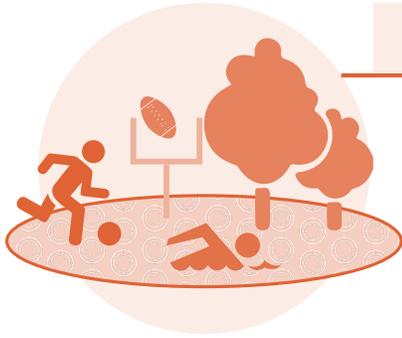
VISION

Community Parks and Athletic Facilities

- Increased Capacity and Availability
- Programs for a Diverse Population
- Emphasis on Health and Wellness

Introduction

Community parks have long served as an anchor for the Riviera Beach park system, providing the greatest variety of recreation opportunities for park users. While the parks currently provide playgrounds, walking trails, basketball courts, tennis courts, sports fields, and aquatic facilities there are opportunities for the addition of community-wide facilities to provide an even greater variety and availability of recreation experiences. The safety and security of residents have always been the top priorities for the City of Riviera Beach. Recreation programs, athletics, aquatics, and large community parks were common topics from stakeholders and residents during the community engagement. Facility availability and expansion have emerged as a need through multiple engagement techniques, and the following guiding principles were developed to help address community park and athletic facility needs in the future.

Top Activity Needs and Priorities

- Fitness and Wellness
- Youth Activities
- Aquatics
- Water-related Activities
- Senior Adult Activities
- Family Events

Top Facility Needs and Priorities

- Walking Paths/Sidewalks
- Restrooms
- Fitness Equipment
- Educational Opportunities/Elements
- Multi-generational Facilities

Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center

Increased Capacity and Availability

The community engagement conducted during the Visioning Workshops revealed a desire to increase programs and activities available through the Parks and Recreation Department. The expansion of programs and activities could include adapting facilities and programs to better address the current growth of the City. As Riviera Beach continues to grow this will bring an influx of user participation and the existing recreational activities will continue to be limited in quantity and availability.

Based on residential input and the System Inventory and Analysis, the community parks and athletic facilities provide a wide-range of recreation opportunities, and are highly effective and in good condition. However, the success of these parks has created increased user demand that the City is currently struggling to meet. This will only continue to become more of a burden as demographics and recreational needs change over time.

The Community's desire for more program offerings is also limited by the availability and capacity of existing facilities that can host such programs. Many

Examples of Desired Activities based on top Needs and Priorities

programs and athletic offerings require larger parks and indoor facilities to operate, and new community facilities are difficult to develop due to land acquisition challenges. Fortunately, Riviera Beach is well positioned to utilize existing community facilities, to improve availability through strategies that seek to increase capacity and provide flexible, multi-use spaces that support a wider variety of programming opportunities.

As Riviera Beach adds more programs and events to its offerings, recreation staff should explore creative ways to take programming into the parks, which will not only allow for more programs, but also disperse availability throughout the community. Consolidating athletic facilities into core Community Parks can also help alleviate pressure on staff to provide and maintain quality athletic fields and recreation centers. Two of the City's largest parks, Dan Calloway Recreation Complex and Wells Recreation Complex, are slated for redevelopment

Dan Calloway Conceptual Plan - Low Intensity Concept

and present the opportunity for improvements that can increase the quality and availability of athletic facilities. Reconfiguring these parks to add more facilities, utilizing low-maintenance materials such as artificial turf, and upgrading lighting are improvements that could make these facilities more effective for hosting athletic programs. The concepts for Dan Calloway Recreation Complex, shown below, illustrate potential consolidations and improvements that can increase capacity and provide quality recreation experiences.

While Riviera Beach is a primary provider of recreation programming and services to the community, it is important to acknowledge the important role of partnerships with public, private, and nonprofit groups. These groups increase youth recreation leagues, special events, fitness and wellness opportunities, and programs for users of all ages.
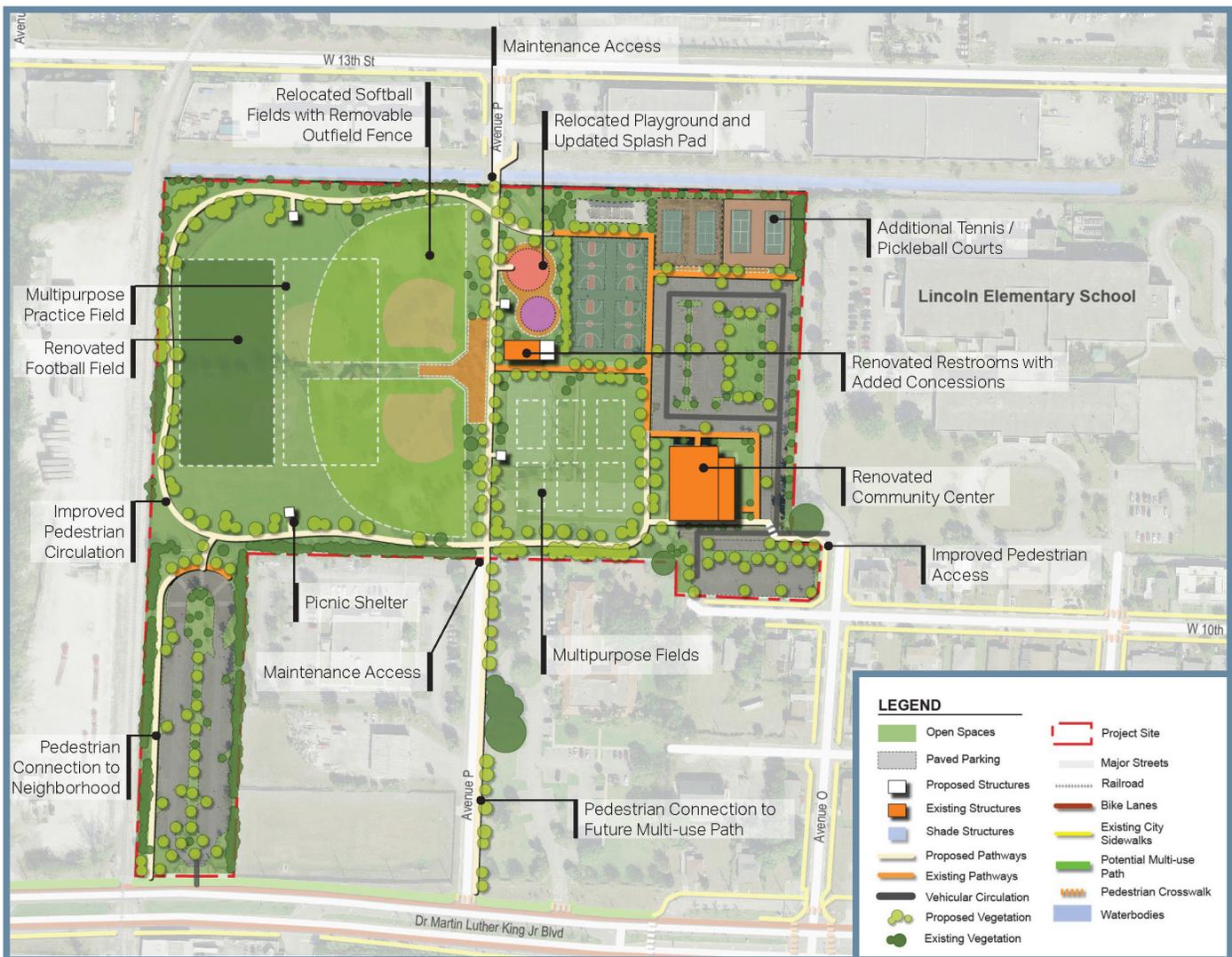
VISION

Programs for a Diverse Population

The community engagement results, and the Vision Workshop discussions revealed a need to diversify existing programs. Input from the community involvement phase of the Master Plan has indicated that there is a desire for a wide range of programming and opportunities for people of all ages. This is particularly true for youth and teens, seniors, special need users, and young adults with families – essentially providing a program for everyone. As the City continues to grow and more families move to new neighborhoods, the demand for a wide range of offerings will only increase. The diversification could include adapting facilities and programs to better address current and changing demographics specifically to serve the needs of seniors, young adults, teens, and special populations.

While previous sections have discussed the potential for new recreation facilities that will allow expanded programming and service delivery, it is important that these facilities are developed in response to the programming needs and priorities of the Riviera Beach community. Because of significant resources required for these facilities, the demand for such investment must be demonstrated through programming metrics, as well as substantial public input. The community should be engaged throughout the planning, design, and construction of such facilities. Flexibility of programming and adaptive uses will be a key consideration in development, ensuring these facilities function for the greatest range of users.

Variety of Activity Opportunities

Emphasis on Health and Wellness

Public park and recreation agencies create healthy communities and play a fundamental role in enhancing the physical environments that we live in. Through facilities, outdoor settings, and services provided, they support good health for people of all abilities, ages, and backgrounds. The input from the community involvement phase of the Master Plan has indicated that there is a desire for an emphasis on health and wellness within the Riviera Beach park system for people of all ages. With the development of a more robust fitness and wellness program, there is a greater opportunity for populations to be exposed to new activities that cultivate shared experiences between community members.

Forming partnerships with health and wellness agencies can bring more resources to Community Parks and provide more programs to multi-generational populations around the City. Incorporating natural areas into a park system can help improve psychological and social health. Exposure to nature can aid in medical applications, improve mental health, and increase the quality. This not only brings awareness to the benefits of parks but also helps bring in support for necessary funding to improve the park system. Parks provide children with opportunities in the development of muscle strength and coordination, language, and cognitive abilities. It is recommended that the Department continues to highlight these benefits, and actively encourage residents to engage in both physical parks and programming offered within them.
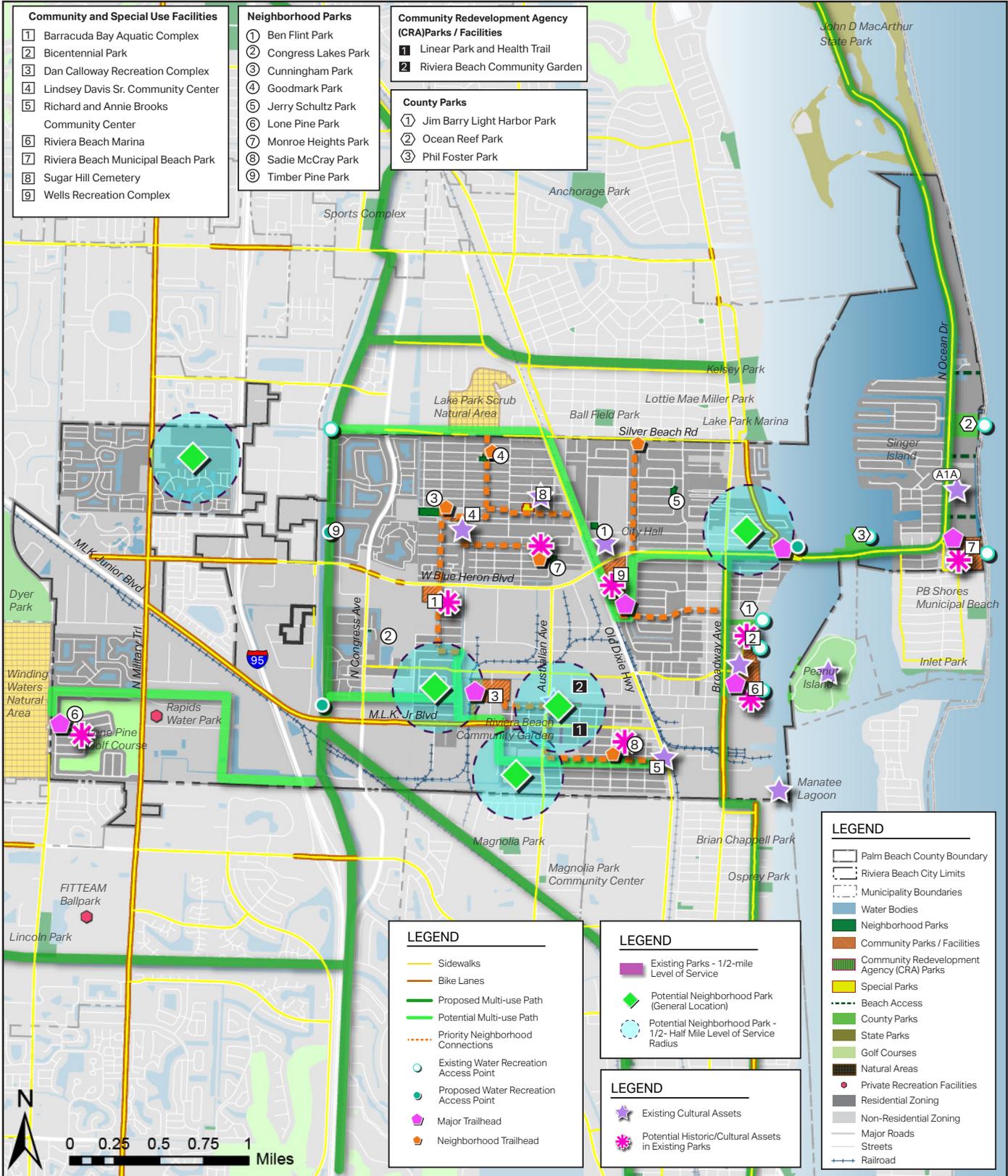

Emphasis on Health and Wellness

VISION

THE VISION SUMMARY

The comprehensive Vision is a cumulative representation of the ideas and thoughts shared by residents and stakeholders during the Visioning Workshops. The compilation of findings from various research techniques allows the community to provide a robust plan for the future of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation system. A comprehensive Vision can be distilled down by each of the sub-systems and guiding principles. As noted in previous sections, the Parks and Recreation Department will play a key role in the continued development of Riviera Beach and its communities. This Vision outlines a continuation of investment in these contributing community assets and is consistent with the needs and priorities expressed through public participation.

The long-range Vision for the Riviera Beach Parks System is shown collectively on **Map 4-5**. These sub-systems begin to develop a resilient parks and recreation system that not only enriches the lives of the people in its community but serves as a prime attraction for people visiting the City. The Vision provides a direction for the parks and recreation facilities to be more than just outdoor spaces for recreation but also a contributor to the health and development of the City.

Community and Special Use Facilities
1. Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex
2. Bicentennial Park
3. Dan Calloway Recreation Complex
4. Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center
5. Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center
6. Riviera Beach Marina
7. Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park
8. Sugar Hill Cemetery
9. Wells Recreation Complex

Neighborhood Parks
1. Ben Flint Park
2. Congress Lakes Park
3. Cunningham Park
4. Goodmark Park
5. Jerry Schultz Park
6. Lone Pine Park
7. Monroe Heights Park
8. Sadie McCray Park
9. Timber Pine Park

Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks / Facilities
1. Linear Park and Health Trail
2. Riviera Beach Community Garden

County Parks
1. Jim Barry Light Harbor Park
2. Ocean Reef Park
3. Phil Foster Park

Map labels: John D MacArthur State Park, Anchorage Park, Sports Complex, Lake Park Scrub Natural Area, Ball Field Park, Kelsey Park, Lottie Mae Miller Park, Lake Park Marina, Silver Beach Rd, Singer Island, City Hall, W Blue Heron Blvd, N Congress Ave, Australian Ave, Old Dixie Hwy, Broadway Ave, PB Shores Municipal Beach, Inlet Park, Peanut Island, N Ocean Dr, Dyer Park, MLK Junior Blvd, N Military Trl, I-95, Winding Waters Natural Area, Rapids Water Park, Lone Pine Golf Course, M.L.K. Jr Blvd, Riviera Beach Community Garden, Manatee Lagoon, Magnolia Park, Magnolia Park Community Center, Brian Chappell Park, Osprey Park, FITTEAM Ballpark, Lincoln Park

LEGEND
- Sidewalks
- Bike Lanes
- Proposed Multi-use Path
- Potential Multi-use Path
- Priority Neighborhood Connections
- Existing Water Recreation Access Point
- Proposed Water Recreation Access Point
- Major Trailhead
- Neighborhood Trailhead

LEGEND
- Existing Parks - 1/2-mile Level of Service
- Potential Neighborhood Park (General Location)
- Potential Neighborhood Park - 1/2- Half Mile Level of Service Radius

LEGEND
- Existing Cultural Assets
- Potential Historic/Cultural Assets in Existing Parks

LEGEND
- Palm Beach County Boundary
- Riviera Beach City Limits
- Municipality Boundaries
- Water Bodies
- Neighborhood Parks
- Community Parks / Facilities
- Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) Parks
- Special Parks
- Beach Access
- County Parks
- State Parks
- Golf Courses
- Natural Areas
- Private Recreation Facilities
- Residential Zoning
- Non-Residential Zoning
- Major Roads
- Streets
- Railroad

N

0   0.25   0.5   0.75   1   Miles

Map 4-5: Rivera Beach Parks and Recreation Comprehensive System-wide Vision

Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park

5

IMPLEMENTATION

In order to advance the parks and recreation Vision established by the residents of Riviera Beach, implementation strategies must be defined and priorities established. As the final chapter of this Master Plan, the Recommendations and Implementation includes: estimation of probable cost of the Vision established in Chapter 4; a summary of the Implementation Workshop; capital improvement recommendations; programming, policy and operations recommendations; evaluation of funding sources; phasing recommendations; and priority action items.

CHAPTER 5: IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Introduction

5.2 Estimate of Probable Cost

5.3 Implementation Workshop

5.4 Capital Improvement Recommendations

5.5 Programming, Policy and Operations Recommendations

5.6 Phasing and Funding Plan

5.7 Priority Action Items

IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

The implementation plan for the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan focuses on the implementation of the Vision and guiding principles through two critical components: funding and phasing, and priority action items. Priority of individual action items are tied to public input gathered and documented throughout the Needs and Priorities Assessment. Together, these three components will allow the Parks and Recreation Department to review and, as needed, efficiently revise this strategic plan in the future to reflect changing conditions, demographics or priorities. The Vision (Chapter 4) of the Master Plan identified five subsystems defined through a series of goals and objectives. Outlining these goals allowed the project team to better understand how to address the needs and priorities that were identified throughout the planning process, as well as the individual park needs that resulted from the System Inventory and Analysis. Utilizing the park evaluations completed for each park and facility in the system, recommendations intended to satisfy system-wide Vision objectives were developed at an individual park level. These recommendations formed a portion of the probable cost estimate that will be discussed in this section.

In addition to costs associated with the Vision recommendations, the cost estimate also incorporates projects that have been previously identified by the Town and the Department, projects identified in the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), and projects identified during the facility evaluation process.

The Phasing and Financial Plan focuses on the Implementation of the Vision and objectives by identifying existing funding available for priority protects, as well as alternative funding the Town may consider. These may include leveraging or 'stacking' potential grants, partnerships with public, private or non-profit agencies, and bond sales for parks and recreation improvements. Analyzing available existing and potential funding sources lays the foundation for the phasing recommendations for funding the probable cost estimates. For the phasing recommendations, three categories of time have been identified; short-term represents CIP recommendations to be completed in the next 2-3 years; medium-term, which represents CIP recommendations to be completed in a 4 to 6 year time-frame; and long-term, to be completed in a 7-10 year time frame.

Goodmark Park

IMPLEMENTATION

5.2 ESTIMATE OF PROBABLE COST

Cost Estimate

Based on cost estimates derived from the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation facility assessments, projects identified in the CIP, and recommendations associated with the Master Plan Vision, the estimated probable cost is approximately $91,272,363 M in 2022 dollars for complete implementation of all aspects of the Vision (Table 5-1). The Vision includes system improvements anticipated to occur to establish and maintain parks delivery within the next ten years consistent with the growth anticipated in the City. The following provides a more detailed description of the Vision probable cost estimate:

- **City-wide Connectivity and Water Access**

  Improvements and/or enhancements to pedestrian facilities to provide better and safer connections in parks and on routes to and from park facilities.
  (Total: $2,400,120)

- **Sustainable and Resilient Park System**

  Projects in existing and new facilities that contribute to system-wide sustainability and resilience. **(Total: $2,405,000)**

- **Cultural Resources and Community Assets**

  Enhancement of existing historic cultural resources and opportunities for new installations in public places.
  (Total: $2,011,093)

- **Neighborhood Parks and System-wide Equity**

  Projects include the addition of new facilities in existing neighborhood parks, and development of new parks.
  (Total: $6,705,084)

- **Community Parks and Athletic Facilities**

  Projects intended to expand programming capacity and availability, and promote health and wellness. **(Total: $51,546,500)**

- **Greenways**

  Projects include pedestrian and bicycle friendly pathways or multi-use trails throughout the City. **(Total: $13,983,840)**

- **Operations and Maintenance**

  Additional maintenance, programming and marketing costs associated with new facilities and department goals at full build-out of the Vision. **(Total: $4,323,240)**

Table 5-1: Cost Estimate by Vision Sub-system

VISION ELEMENTS	
City-wide Connectivity and Water Access	$2,060,120
Sustainable and Resilient Park System	$2,405,000
Cultural Resources and Community Assets	$2,011,093
Neighborhood Parks and System-wide Equity	$6,705,084
Community Parks and Athletic Facilities	$51,546,500
Greenways	$13,983,840
Planning, Design & Permitting + Contingency for Existing Improvements	$6,622,336
Improvement Total	**$85,333,973**
Operations and Maintenance	$5,938,390
Vision Total	**$91,272,363**

2021 Cost

The figures provided in this chapter are order-of-magnitude costs that are intended for planning purposes only. Acquisition costs for new facilities on land that is not currently owned by the City shall be evaluated on a project-specific basis once individual parcels have been identified.

The proposed Vision may be modified over time in response to actual population growth, future resident desires, and available funding sources. Additionally, it is recommended that each proposed project should undergo a detailed feasibility and cost analysis prior to physical implementation. Final actual costs could vary significantly depending on many factors including but not limited to:

- Time-frame of implementation
- Individual project scale
- Changing land acquisition costs
- Property market values rise/decline
- Raw products and materials costs

Congress Lakes Park

IMPLEMENTATION

5.3 IMPLEMENTATION WORKSHOP

Overview

The Implementation Plan for the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Master Plan is intended to provide achievable steps for the realization of the Vision established through community engagement, City staff, and the Advisory Board Vision Workshops. In order to maintain continuity with this process, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board engaged through an Implementation Workshop to discuss recommendations and priorities.

Held on January 26, 2022, the Implementation Workshop began with an overview of the project findings, including the Vision framework and sub-systems established in the Vision Workshop (Chapter 4). Participants were then asked to identify priority projects, policy changes, program needs, and top priority projects for short-term completion. When discussing these projects and changes, participants were also asked to consider time-frames and potential partners. The following tables provide the responses from project participants. These responses, shown in **Table 5-2** help shape the phasing plan and priority action items discussed later in this chapter.

Table 5-2: Implementation Workshop Results

PRIORITY PROJECTS			
PROJECTS	TIME-FRAME	FUNDING	PARTNERS
Trails	Short, Ongoing	State/Federal Funding	State of Florida, Fed.
Pocket Parks	Long	CIP	Developers
Connecting outdoor/park assets	Short, Ongoing	State/Federal Funding, Grants	State of Florida, Fed.
Golf course property - community trail	Long	Impact fee	Developers
Canal system - connect park amenities	Medium	State/Federal Funding, Grants	State of Florida, Fed.
Trails along railway corridors	Medium	State/Federal Funding, Grants	State of Florida, Fed.
Redevelopment of Calloway - municipal sports complex	Short	State/Federal Grants	State of Florida, Fed.
Redevelopment of Wells - wellness center	Short-Medium	State/Federal Grants, P3	State of Florida, Fed.
Incorporate technology into the spaces that we have	Short	CDBG	County
Aquatics - variety of aquatic facilities/activities	Medium-Long	State/Federal Funding, Grants	State of Florida, Fed.
Access to water-based activities and natural areas	Short, Ongoing	State/Federal Grants	SFWMD, State, Federal, FIND
Ongoing small neighborhood park renovations	Short, Ongoing	CIP	n/a
Federal Gardens Connector	Short	CIP, State/Federal Funding, Grants	State of Florida, Fed.

Table 5-2: Implementation Workshop Results

POLICY CHANGES & PROGRAM NEEDS		
ACTIONS	**RESPONSIBILITIES**	**PARTNERS**
Revisions to Impact Fee	Finance	City Officials
Comp Plan Update - Trail development, LOS	Planning	City Officials, Consultants
Focus on health and wellness	Parks and Recreation	CBOs, Foundations, Health Orgs, etc.
Health & Wellness Coordinator Position	Parks and Recreation	CBOs, Foundations, Health Orgs, etc.
Focus on cultural events and programs	Parks and Recreation	CBOs, Foundations, Health Orgs, etc.
Cultural Programming Coordinator Position	Parks and Recreation	CBOs, Foundations, Health Orgs, etc.

Cunningham Park

IMPLEMENTATION

5.4 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Vision Cost estimates is intended to inform the Parks and Recreation Department's 10-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) by providing an order of magnitude cost estimates for capital projects throughout the park system that are based on community input.

The Phasing Plan ultimately will serve as the 10-year recommendations for the CIP, providing a list of projects and estimated costs per each year. These recommendations are informed by the summary of improvement at each park, as well as proposed facilities, and the results of prioritization efforts during the Implementation Workshop with City Staff. Included on the following page is a summary of the cost estimates as it relates to park and facility type- redevelopment of existing facilities and cost estimates for proposed facilities.

In addition to the breakdown by park, the cost estimate is also broken up into improvement type, to provide a better understanding of the specific improvements as they relate to the Vision Cost Estimate. These improvement types are shown in **Tables 5-3 through 5-5**, along with the percentages of the total improvements each category represents.

Table 5-3: CIP Improvements to Existing Parks

EXISTING PARKS, OPEN SPACES, AND FACILITIES	
Community/ Special Use Parks and Facilities	
Bicentennial Park	$145,000
Dan Calloway Recreation Complex	$6,516,500
Lindsey Davis Sr. Community Center	$130,000
Richard and Annie Brooks Community Center	$110,000
Riviera Beach Marina	$150,000
Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park	$1,345,000
Sugar Hill Cemetery	$100,000
Wells Recreation Complex (Relocated to Inlet Grove Recreation Complex)	-
Neighborhood Parks and Facilities	
Ben Flint Park	$193,600
Congress Lakes Park	$35,000
Cunningham Park	$75,000
Goodmark Park	$605,000
Jerry Schultz Park	$518,600
Lone Pine Park	$540,000
Monroe Heights Park	$605,000
Sadie McCray Park	$660,200
Timber Pine Park	$96,700
Planning, Design & Permitting + Contingency for Existing Improvements	$6,622,336
Art in Public Places Allowance (1.5%)	$276,719
Existing Park Improvements Total	**$18,447,936**

Table 5-4: CIP - New Parks, Open Spaces and Facilities

PROPOSED PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND FACILITIES	
City-Identified New Parks	
Inlet Grove Recreation Complex	$45,240,000
Potential New Parks	
Neighborhood Parks - 4 new Parks	$5,005,984
Water Access Points	
Multiple Locations - 3 Access Points	$795,144
Trails and Greenways	
Neighborhood Connections	$599,976
Neighborhood Greenways	$1,926,288
Multi-use Paths for Potential Greenways	$12,057,552
Art in Public Places Allowance (1.5%)	$984,374
Proposed Parks, Open Spaces & Facilities Total	**$66,609,318**

Table 5-5: CIP Improvements by Improvement Type

IMPROVEMENT TYPE		
Access Improvements	$545,000	0.7%
Neighborhood Park Improvements & Amenities	$2,309,100	2.9%
Community Park Improvements & Amenities	$7,676,500	9.8%
Sidewalks and Pathways	$839,976	1.1%
Landscape, Greenspace & Stormwater Management	$1,115,000	1.4%
Historic and Cultural Resources	$1,641,093	2.1%
Lighting	$135,000	0.2%
Greenways and Trails	$13,983,840	17.8%
Water Access	$780,144	1.0%
New Parks	$49,685,984	63.1%
Planning, Design & Permitting + Contingency for Existing Improvements	$6,622,336	-
Total	**$48,044,903**	

5.5 PROGRAMMING, POLICY AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

Recreation Programs Recommendations

The following are future recreation programs and services recommendations for the City of Riviera Beach's Parks and Recreation Department. Recommendations were based on community input gathered through the master plan process, staff interviews, and parks and recreation industry best practices.

Public Input Summary

As a part of the overall master plan, a number of input mechanisms (focus groups, surveys, etc.) were utilized to gain input from the community regarding parks and recreation needs. Key survey findings regarding recreation programs included:

Program/Activity Priorities

- More diverse programming
- Fitness/wellness
- Senior wellness
- Nature based programming and beach/water activities
- Special events

Future Recreation Program Recommendations

Based on the analysis of existing programs, and the input received from the public, the following are basic recommendations for future recreation programs and services.

Establish a Programming Philosophy

The Parks and Recreation Department should develop an overall basic programming philosophy with the following objectives:

- Provide recreation program and service opportunities to all ages, incomes, abilities, and ethnic groups. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are critical pillars of the plan
- Work to meet the recreation needs of full-time residents, seasonal residents, and visitors
- Provide recreation program and service opportunities in areas of interest that are identified as a need in the community
- Partner with other providers to bring a full spectrum of recreation programs and services to the community
- Recreation program and service offerings should be delivered on both a City wide and community center/complex level
- Recreation and program service offerings will respond to identified community needs in a cost effective and efficient manner

Develop a Program Plan

Utilizing the Programming Philosophy as a base, developing a program plan for the overall Department that includes the general direction of recreation programming for the next 5 to 10 years should be undertaken. This would include the following areas of programming focus:

- Priorities for general programming to include:
  - Fitness/Wellness
  - Youth
  - Sports
  - Outdoor Recreation
  - Special Events
  - Social Services
- Priorities for demographic specific programming to include:

- **Youth** – Programs that serve a variety of interest areas beyond just traditional team sports, after-school and camps. This should include an emphasis on STEAM programming as well

- **Teens** – Activities designed specifically for teens that are both organized and drop-in in nature

- **Seniors** – Programs and services that serve a wide range of ages and also have an appeal to the younger more active based senior

- **Intergenerational/Multi-generational** – Offering programs and services that have an appeal to multiple generations or across generations, and families

- **Ethnic Based** – There should be an effort to offer programs and services that are appropriate for the cultural orientation of the community

• To accomplish these priorities the following program areas will need **continued focus**:

- **Youth**- After School and Summer Camp

- **Sports** – Including youth individual and non-traditional as well as PAL opportunities

- **Aquatics** – Expanded programming beyond swim lessons and swim team

- **Seniors** – Greater emphasis on younger and active based programs

• The following program areas will need an increase in focus:

- **Fitness/Wellness-** For both adults and youth

- **Outdoor Recreation-**Nature and waterfront based programming

- **Special Events** – Additional community-based events and festivals to draw a wider audience

- **Social Services** – Addressing issues associated with access to healthy food

• Other issues to address:

- Increasing the overall level and diversity of programming that is offered in each community center/complex

- Increasing the overall level and diversity of programming that is offered in each community center/complex

- Continuing to offer some level of virtual programs even after COVID has passes.

- Determine the role of other organizations and recreation providers in the area

- Clearly identify areas of programmatic responsibility among providers to ensure that there is not overlap in resource allocation

- Establish clear staffing and operational budget requirements to support the program plan

- Offering different tiers of fee-based programs. Having a range of fee-based programs often provide more value to residents and there is often a willingness to pay for specialty or quality programs and services

From this, each of the three community centers/complexes and Barracuda Bay, would then develop their own five-year plan with a specific and detailed implementation plan for each year.

There is a realization that funding is limited, and the program plan should be developed incrementally to allow for better use of budgetary resources and reduce stress on staff time requirements.

IMPLEMENTATION

Program Classification Recommendations

The following chart identifies and summarizes proposed core programs, secondary programs, and support program areas for the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department. The placement of programs into these three categories does not indicate the overall importance of these activities in the community but rather the role of the Department in providing these programs.

- Core Programs – programs that are a primary responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department to provide as City based activities
- Secondary Programs – programs that are a lower priority to be provided directly by the Parks and Recreation Department but may be offered by other organizations through contract with the City
- Support Programs – programs that are not a priority for the Parks and Recreation Department to be provided directly to the community

Program Classification Recommendations Summary

The following summarizes the anticipated program classification changes for the next 5-10 years.

- Three program areas move from Support to Secondary. This includes:
  - Fitness/Wellness
  - General Interest
  - Outdoor Recreation
- Although not changing classifications, there will be an increase in programming in two other program categories.
  - Special Events
  - Social Services

In the future, the Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department will need to approach the each of the major program areas in the following manner, shown in **Table 5-6**.

Programs	Core	Secondary	Support
Youth Sports	○		
Adult Sports		○	
Fitness / Wellness		○	←
Cultural Arts			○
Aquatics	○		
Youth	○		
General Interest		○	←
Education			○
Special Needs			○
Special Events		○	
Outdoor Recreation		○	←
Seniors	○		
Teens			○
Self-Directed		○	
Social Services		○	

Table 5-6: Program Classification Recommendations

Core

Youth Sports – Integrate the new PAL program into the youth sports program currently being offered by the Department. It may be necessary to add programs for individual sports and non-traditional sports in the future as well. There may also be opportunities to offer youth sports camps and clinics to support sports run both internally as well as by other organizations. This program will need to continue as an area of emphasis well into the future but must include more than football and basketball.

- **Youth** – With the Department's after school and summer camp program, youth programming is a primary area of emphasis for recreation and it is anticipated that this will remain so well into the future. The ability to integrate education (STEAM), social services and fitness/wellness into these programs will be important for the future. The Department should assume a more active role in directly providing these services

- **Aquatics** – With the existing Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex, a strong effort is needed to have increased aquatic programming in the future. Additional water exercise classes as well as more specialty programs should be top priorities for aquatics

- **Seniors** – With an older population base that is expected to grow substantially in the coming years, the level of programming that is available for seniors will need to increase. There will also need to be a greater focus on the more active, younger senior (the Baby Boomers). This is a significant market segment that is not being adequately served at this time

Secondary

- **Adult Sports** – The Department is a limited provider of adult sports leagues, primarily in basketball and softball. In the future this may need to expand to include individual and non-traditional sports (such as pickleball). Much of the programming growth in this area should be expected to be provided by Parks and Recreation

- **Fitness/Wellness** – In addition to traditional fitness classes, this area should focus on wellness and healthy living activities and events, particularly for adults and seniors. Fitness and Wellness is an opportunity to develop partnerships with other stakeholders, such as healthcare facilities to provide expertise and contribute to educational programs. Programs and offerings could also be expanded to existing non-City owned fitness and wellness amenities, such as the existing three community centers

- **General Interest** – To expand the overall diversity of programs being offered by the Department, there should be growth in the offerings in this area in the future

- **Special Events** – With the desire for more types of special events, the primary responsibility for providing special events on a City-wide basis should continue to reside with Parks and Recreation but the Department will need to assist with the identification of the types of other events that other organizations could provide to meet community needs. The Parks and Recreation Department should add at least 2 (if not 3) community wide special events and festivals in the future and at least one should have an emphasis on beach/waterfront activities

- **Outdoor Recreation** – Providing a variety of programs in the areas of water/beach-based activities, nature education, and conservation are recommended. Many of these activities are likely to be provided by Parks and Recreation but should also be organized by organizations that have a strong background in outdoor type programming

- **Self-Directed** – With community centers/complexes, an aquatic complex, beaches, and other facilities, self-directed activities will remain as a significant program area. Increasing use of Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex should be primary goal

- **Social Services** - The incorporation of social services with on-going recreation programs for both youth, adults, and seniors will need greater emphasis in the future, but this should be taken on through partnerships with other City departments and community organizations

Support

- **Cultural Arts** – The Department currently has very limited involvement in programming in this area. Other community arts groups should be major contributors to programming of this type, but the Department will need to coordinate these efforts

- **Education** – Educational programs are currently focused primarily on youth. Any additional future programming in this area should be coordinated with the school district, specialized non-profits, or private providers

- **Special Needs** – The Department is not providing programming in this area at the present time. It is often difficult for cities to take on this type of service without partnerships due to the facility and staffing requirements. As a result, there is often a regional consortium of agencies that work together to provide special needs services or there are partnerships formed with other community agencies that specialize in this area. Consequently, the Department is not seen as being a direct provider of special needs

services moving forward but should be prepared to work with other agencies to bring these services to Riviera Beach

- **Teens** – There is limited programming focused on teens. Any future programs and services targeted to this age group will likely be the responsibility of other providers with direct experience with this age group

Role of Other Providers

In the future Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation will increasingly need to rely on other groups and organizations to provide recreation programs and services for the community.

- The Department will need to be a "clearinghouse" for recreation programs and services provided by other organizations in Riviera Beach. This should involve promotion of their activities, coordinating of some programs, and permitting of facilities. However, this process needs to be closely managed to be successful

- The Parks and Recreation Department will still need to be a provider of many of the facilities (especially community centers/complexes, Barracuda Bay Aquatic Complex, parks, and athletic fields) for other organizations to use

- Partnerships with other organizations and entities will continue to be necessary to develop and expand recreation programs. All partnerships should be backed up by a memorandum of understanding or contract to formalize the relationship. This should clearly identify specific roles and expectations as well as limits to facility scheduling, fees, and operations. Partnerships with organizations should reflect the needs and culture of the specific markets they will be providing the services for

For partnerships to occur, the Department should focus on the following activities:

- Actively pursue and sell the benefits of the partnership
- Weigh the benefits vs. the cost of the partnership
- Do not compromise on the original Vision and mission of the Parks and Recreation Department
- Establish a shared partnership vision.
- Expect compromises to meet different needs and expectations
- Clearly define development and operations requirements

Before determining which programs, and services to contract or have provided by others, an assessment of the specific pros and cons of such a move needs to be completed. A major aspect of this analysis should be to determine the financial impacts and quality of the services that will be provided. Key questions to be asked include:

- How does this fit with the program plan that has been developed?
- Will this be the most cost-effective method to obtain the program, service, or function?
- Does the Department have the resources and equipment to provide the program, service, or function?
- Will the quality of the program, service or function suffer if it is contracted to other organizations?
- Are there other more qualified organizations that should provide the program, service, or function?
- Is the service, program, or function only available from a contract provider?
- Are the safety and liability risks too high to provide the program or service in house?

Other organizations that could or should provide recreation activities (or provide assistance in this effort) include:

- **Riviera Beach Library** – Although they are part of the City, coordinating with the library on recreation programming will enhance opportunities for the community and limit the possibility of overlapping services
- **Port of Palm Beach** – As has been noted, they are not an actual provider of recreation programs and services but the utilization of their space for some programming and especially special events should be considered
- **Youth Sports Organizations** – Even though most team-based youth sports are provided by Parks and Recreation, for any new or emerging team sports, serious consideration should be given to having other established youth sports organizations provide these services. The Police Activities League (PAL) program will need to factor into this plan as well. There would need to be strict operations and management requirements in place and the Department would still need to provide most if not all the facilities for these activities
- **Palm Beach County** – It is not anticipated that the county will have much impact on recreation programs and services in Riviera Beach in the future, but the Department should still pursue this possibility, especially for specialize services such as special needs programming
- **School District of Palm Beach County** – Coordinating with the school district to provide some youth-based programs and services, education classes for youth (and even adults), as well as youth sports (location for practices and games), will need to be considered. The school's facilities should be a location for some recreation programming to take place when City facilities are not adequate

- **Other Government Organizations** – There needs to continue to be strong efforts to partner with other governmental agencies in the area to develop programs and services. This is most likely to occur with neighboring communities. Program areas that could be provided by other organizations through a partnership include special events, outdoor recreation, special needs and cultural arts activities

- **Non-Profit Providers** – Coordinating with a variety of non-profit providers to deliver recreation services needs to continue to be pursued. Organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club, YMCA, Youth Recreation Association, sports groups, cultural arts groups, etc. should be encouraged to expand programs in Riviera Beach and there may be opportunities to partner on programs and facilities

- **Private Providers** – There are limited private recreation, sports and fitness providers located in Riviera Beach proper (health clubs, dance, martial studios, and arts studios), but these entities could provide more specialized activities that are not easy for the public sector to conduct. They may also be able to help provide fitness and wellness services

- **Faith Based Organizations** – With a number of churches and other faith-based institutions in the community, they often provide some recreation services for their congregation and community. These organizations should be seen as possible providers of some basic community-based recreation services and facilities as well

- **Medical Providers** – Coordinating with medical providers provides an opportunity for partnerships around programming for fitness and wellness activities

- **Social Service Agencies** – There is a trend with parks and recreation departments in Florida and throughout the country to integrate social services with recreation services. This is particularly true for youth, teen and senior activities. To expand social services there should be a renewed effort to grow partnerships with other agencies in the area

- **Community Organizations** – Developing working relationships with community organizations and service clubs could provide much needed support for programs as well as facilities. They could also be event sponsors

- **Business and Corporate Community** – It is important to approach the corporate community with a variety of sponsorship opportunities to enhance the revenue prospects of the Department's programs and facilities
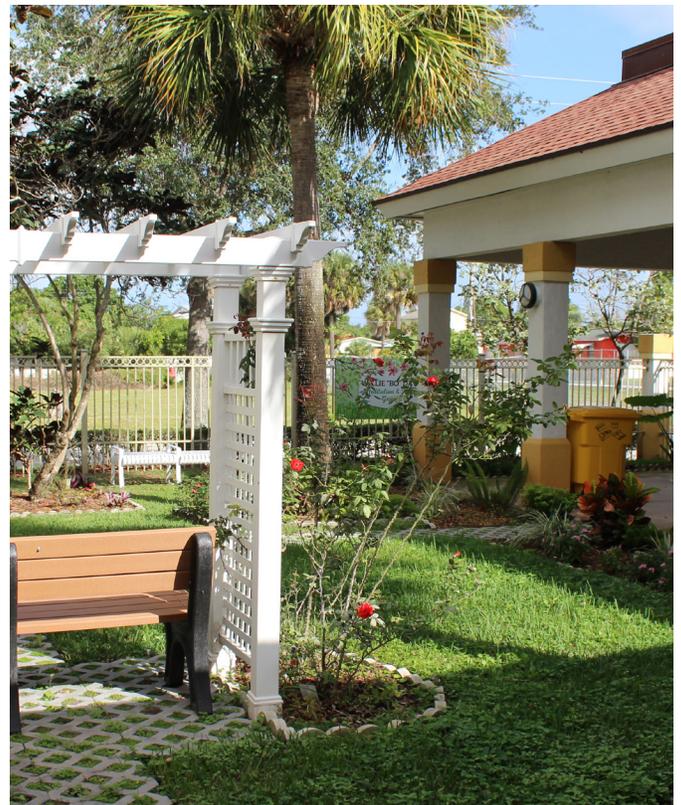
Lindsey David Sr. Community Center

Future Programming Challenges

As a summary, the future challenges to improving and increasing the delivery of parks and recreation programs and services in Riviera Beach are:

- **Funding** – There will need to be a commitment to increasing operational funding to expand recreation programming

- **Staffing** – There will need to be a commitment from staff to implement and manage the program plan for it to be successful. There will also need to be adequate staffing on the administrative, supervisory and delivery levels to implement the plan. Staff will also need to be trained and committed to increasing overall program and service growth

- **Facilities** – In order to increase programming in the areas noted above, there will need to be specific indoor spaces added for fitness and wellness activities. There will also need to be adequate space for more general recreation programs as well

- **Facilities Maintenance** – Besides having the necessary facilities in place to support programs and services, they must also be maintained at a high level to attract program users. This requires a well-defined maintenance plan for the Parks division as a whole and for each individual park or facility

- **Performance Measures** – There needs to be a concerted effort to implement program performance metrics in the Department. These will need to be updated on a seasonal basis with comparisons to prior years. Recreation programming performance measures should include:
  - Rates of fill for programs and activities (capacity vs. actual numbers)
  - Participation numbers and comparisons to past years/seasons
  - Rate of program cancellations (should be between 15% and 20%)
  - Financial performance including cost per participant
  - Evaluations from participants
  - Annual report for recreation programs and services that utilizes the same format and reporting methods for all program areas

- **Marketing** – To maximize the program offerings by the Parks and Recreation Department, as well as other providers in the community, there needs to be a strong marketing effort to inform and promote the recreation programs and services that are available. This can best be accomplished by having a Department marketing plan for recreation programs and services. This document needs to be a simple, easy to implement, document that serves as a guideline for specific marketing efforts. There should be a more visionary 5-year plan as well as a very specific yearly plan that outlines areas of focus, specific marketing tools and tasks, as well as the responsible staff member for implementation, financial resources that are required and a thorough evaluation process. The marketing plan should focus on the following areas:
  - Website enhancement to better promote programs and services
  - The development of a 2-3 time a year program catalog
  - Utilizing a registration, point of sale and rental tracking software program. This will need to include on-line registration and payments for rentals and permits
  - Program options available City wide and in each community center/complex
  - Programs and services offered by other providers

- **Support Issues** – Other important issues that can support and enhance recreation program offerings include:
  - **Registration Software** – It is imperative that the Department purchases a registration software program that handles all program and service registrations, allows for on-line registration, point of sale, and remote on-site use. All programs (regardless if a fee is collected or not) should have all participants registered for the activity
  - **Fee Policy** – A document that outlines how fees are established for facility use, programs and services, as well as facility rentals. This should include the establishment of a fee assistance program for those that do not have the financial means to take programs or use facilities.

    A key aspect of a fee policy needs to be the requirement that any contract program pay at least 30% of all revenue collected back to the City
  - **Programming Policies and Procedures** – Having comprehensive policies in place that provide a framework for program administration, development, and implementation is an important management tool. Some examples of policies could include:
    - While the department currently utilizes a program proposal form, the comprehensive use of this form for every new program or service will help determine the direct cost of offering the activity as well as the minimum number of registrants needed to conduct the

program. This proposal form should also evaluate the need for the program, its market focus, and the ability to support the program plan and priorities of the Department
  - Follow-up when each program or service is completed, with a program report that itemizes the exact cost (and possible revenues) that were generated by the program and the number of individuals served. This will determine if the program or service met its financial goals and its service goals
  - All in-house programs should have strict minimum numbers of registrants that ensure enrollment, budget and revenues are adequate and there is the best use of space and time at Department facilities
  - A lifecycle analysis of the Department's recreation programs and services needs to be undertaken where program registrations by interest area are tracked and reviewed on a seasonal basis. Programs should be slotted into the following categories:
    - New – programs in the start-up phase that are just starting to build in popularity.
    - Mature – programs that have consistent high levels of registrations and are still growing in popularity.
    - Old – programs that are seeing a decline in popularity

Program offerings should be reasonably distributed among the three areas noted to have a healthy and vibrant programming focus. Programs that are in the old category should ultimately be changed, updated or discontinued

- **Evaluation and Adjustments** – One of the keys to having a dynamic program plan for recreation programs and services is having an internal and external evaluation process in place. The evaluation of the overall plan on a City-wide basis as well as by each community center/complex must be outcome based.

The process will need to integrate staff assessments with those of the users and the general community. The results of the evaluation process need to be utilized to adjust the programming process as well as individual programs themselves

- Trends Analysis - The Department should track program trends on a regional and national basis to ensure that program offerings are current and reflect the opportunities that are available

Lone Pine Park

IMPLEMENTATION

Recreation Staffing and Budget Recommendations

For the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department to support the mission of the organization and the Vision that has been outlined as part of this master plan, there will need to be changes to the Department's staffing plan and budgeting process to meet the needs of the community in an effective and efficient manner.

Recreation Staffing

While the Parks and Recreation Department has a traditional but strong organizational structure in place, with the expectations for continued growth in programs and services as well as parks and facilities; there will need to be additions of staff.

Organizational Structure and Staffing Goals

- The organizational structure must have the ability to grow with the Department
- Provide strong administration of the Department through resource allocation, performance tracking and community interface
- Support an increase in the number of recreation programs and services that are offered
- Adequately maintain the existing parks and athletic fields and support the addition of new parks and recreation facilities

Staffing Recommendations

The following are general recommendations for additions to the current staffing plan.

- Fitness/Wellness Coordinator – responsible for developing a City-wide fitness/wellness program. They would work with community center/complexes staff to integrate fitness/wellness programs into their facilities
- Special Events Coordinator – responsible for organizing City-wide special events and festivals, coordinating special events with other organizations, and managing permits for other event providers
- Outdoor Recreation Leader – develops of more outdoor recreation programming for both youth and adults
- Parks Maintenance Workers – as parks and other facilities are added as part of the implementation plan for the master plan, additional parks maintenance staff will need to be added. This could also include another Crew Leader as well

All job descriptions for full-time and part-time staff should be updated to adequately reflect the actual duties of each position. These job descriptions should clearly delineate job tasks and functions as well as required education, work experience and skills necessary for the position.

Critical to the long-term success in recreation programming is a commitment to staff training and ultimately certification. Developing a formal annual training program is essential.

Operations Budgets

To implement the recreation program recommendations as well as adequately operate any new facilities, additional financial resources will need to be allocated by the City.

- Plan for significant growth in the recreation budget accounts over the next 5-10 years to reflect the expansion of programs and services

- It must be recognized that recreation is a discretionary use of an individual's time and money and as a result there needs to be an adequate budget and staff commitment to marketing and promotions on an annual basis

- While there are currently four budget accounts that cover recreation programs and facilities, there should be additional cost center budgeting accounts added. This involves the Recreational Activities budget which is currently too broad. Breaking this into sub accounts that cover Dan Calloway Recreation Complex and the Wells Recreation Complex as well as major program areas such as fitness should be considered

- Recreation/Facility budget accounts should be directly linked to the revenues that are generated by these programs and/or facilities

- Sound financial practices require good budget monitoring procedures and strong record keeping. The operational budgets need to be monitored on at least a monthly basis with any possible deviations or modifications noted at that time

- An important aspect of the formal fee policy is the development of the actual methodology for determining fees and establishing a continuum for fee setting based on cost recovery goals

- Continue to develop five year a 5-year Department wide CIP budget with breakdowns for major park and facility areas

- Increase the number of budget performance measures and develop five-year budget comparisons

- Complete an annual report for all aspects of the Department's operation. There should be an annual report that succinctly summarizes yearly financial statistics and utilization rates and compares them with previous years. Each area should utilize the same format and the information should be available in a single document for the Department

General Operational Policies and Procedures

- The Department needs to make a commitment to updating the basic policies and procedures of the organization including staff/supervisor policies, financial transactions, customer service, safety and security, and emergency action plans

- There should be a comprehensive, staff and operations manual for the Department based on general operations requirements of the City in general

- It is critical that the Department develop a continuity plan that covers possible interruptions of operations from natural disasters, pandemics, terrorist acts or other conditions. This needs to outline a process for maintaining basic services associated with maintenance and operations of parks, recreation facilities, trails, and natural areas, as well as recreation programs and services

- Critical to growing recreation programs and services, is the assurance that participant's safety and security is being addressed on an on-going basis. This requires a safety and emergency action plan for each facility being utilized for facility being utilized for formal programs and services

- The Department should establish goals and metrics for social equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility for parks, facilities, and recreation programs. These goals must also be integrating into agreements with instructors, associations, and/or other providers. These metrics will need to be monitored to make sure that the goals are being met

- Staff schedules, maintenance plans, tracking of inventories, facility inspections and need to be fully automated

IMPLEMENTATION

5.6 PHASING AND FUNDING PLAN

Funding Analysis

Historical and Projected Funding

Over the last five years, the Parks and Recreation Department budget has seen General Fund appropriations gradually increase, with an average general fund appropriation of $4.7M. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts to recreation participation, the general fund appropriations for FY 2020 are slightly reduced, however funding quickly rebounded to exceed $5M in 2022 **(Figure 5-1)**.

When evaluating Capital Improvement Project (CIP) Spending, the department is currently receiving $785,392 from the general fund, and is forecasted to receive $618,000 in 2022. Projections for years 2023 to 2023 drop to $500,000 per year **(Figure 5-2)**. The department has also historically received several grants per year to help assist in funding CIP projects.

When considering time frames of projects discussed later in this section in the Vision cost estimates, the department could fund a significant amount of the short-term and medium-term projects for both existing and proposed facilities. Increasing current CIP funding for FY 2024, with gradual increases over the remainder of the Vision will allow for a significant amount of meaningful park improvements, as well as contribute matching funds for competitive grants.

Figure 5 1: Parks and Recreation Department Historic Funding - 2017-2022

Potential Grants

Over two dozen grants have been identified for projects proposed in the Vision, with a potential total (not including any leveraging) of approximately $21.7M, with many providing options to apply annually.

Individual grants may apply to multiple projects, therefore, the projected funding totals for each project may include the use of overlapping grants for a different project. The following tables **(Table 5-7 through Table 5-12)** include summarized descriptions of project-based potential funding sources, organized into the Vision sub-section to which they may be applicable.

The integration of stormwater, libraries, and other emergency management features into projects such as a recreation center or recreation trail can significantly increase the funding opportunities available to the City. Examples of design features that would facilitate additional funding opportunities would include: the construction of parking areas to act as drainage and/or treatment basins for severe weather events; stormwater retention ponds that alleviate localized flooding as part of park or trail project; and the hardening of an indoor facility such as a recreation center to act as a shelter and/or public outreach center before and after a disaster.

Figure 5 2: Parks and Recreation Department Projected CIP Funding - 2022-2026

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-7: Funding Opportunities- Multi-use Pathways / Neighborhood Trails/ Bike Lanes

FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT AMOUNT	MATCH REQUIREMENT	TYPES OF ELIGIBLE ELEMENTS	ANTICIPATED DEADLINE
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF)	$1,000,000	100%	Trails, Parking, Landscaping and Other Supporting Facilities	January
Urban Water Restoration	$35,000	100%	Urban Wildlife Corridors, Green Infrastructure, Stormwater	January
Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)	$1,000,000	0%	Pedestrian & Bicycle Trails and Greenways	February
Bank of America Community Resilience Grant	$50,000	0%	Landscaping, Stormwater, LID Elements	March
Recreation Trails Program (RTP)	$400,000	20%	Construction of Trails and Support Facilities	March
AARP Community Challenge	$50,000*	100%	Park Improvements, Mobility, Public Health	April
Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant	$400,000*	20%	Stormwater/ Water Quality Projects	April/ October
Waterway Assistance Program (FIND)	$300,000*	100%	Kayak/ Canoe Facilities Blueway Facilities	April
Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)	$200,000	100%	Ballfields, Courts, Trails, Fishing Facilities, Playground, Restrooms, Shade Structures, Lighting, Landscaping	October
OGT Land Acquisition Program	$1,000,000*	0%	Acquisition of Trails/ Greenways that Enhance the State System	October
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	$1,000,000*	25%	Stormwater including integrations with open space and trails	November
Urban & Community Forestry Grants (UCF)	$20,000	100%	Tree Plans/ Programs, and Planting	November

Table 5-8: Funding Opportunities- Waterfront Facilities

FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT AMOUNT	MATCH REQUIREMENT	TYPES OF ELIGIBLE ELEMENTS	ANTICIPATED DEADLINE
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF)	$1,000,000	100%	Boating Facilities, Kayak/ Canoe, Courts, Fields, Trails, Fishing Facilities, Outdoor Classroom, Restrooms, Shade Structures, Lighting, and Landscaping	January
Urban Water Restoration	$35,000	100%	Urban Wildlife Corridors, Green Infrastructure, Stormwater	January
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	$400,000	20%	Waterway Trails, Kayak/ Canoe, Trailhead Facilities	March
AARP Community Challenge	$50,000*	100%	Park Improvements, Mobility, Public Health	April
Florida Boating Improvement Program (FBIP)	$200,000*	5%	Boating Ramps, Day Docks, Other Boat Facilities	April
Waterway Assistance Program (FIND)	$300,000*	100%	Boating Facilities, Waterfront Recreation Elements, Navigation Facilities	April
Rebuild Florida Mitigation General Infrastructure Program	$5,000,000*	0%	Waterfront Infrastructure, Resiliency Improvements (Seawalls, LID, Flood Prevention)	July
Boating Infrastructure Program (BIGP)	$1,500,000*	25%	Boat Facilities for Vessels Larger than 26'	August
Coastal Resiliency Implementation Grant	$500,000	0%	Nature Based Stormwater Management, Elevation of Public Facilities	October
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	$1,000,000*	25%	Stormwater including integrations with open space and trails	November
Urban & Community Forestry Grants (UCF)	$20,000	100%	Tree Plans/ Programs, and Planting	November

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-9: Funding Opportunities- Stormwater / Emergency Management

FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT AMOUNT	MATCH REQUIREMENT	TYPES OF ELIGIBLE ELEMENTS	ANTICIPATED DEADLINE
Urban Waters Restoration	$35,000	100%	Urban Wildlife Corridors, Green Infrastructure, Stormwater	January
Water Quality Restoration Grant (SWAG)	$500,000*	50%	Stormwater, Water Quality Projects	April
Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant	$400,000*	40%	Stormwater, Water Quality, LID Projects	April/October
Rebuild Florida Mitigation General Infrastructure Program	$5,000,000*	0%	Waterfront Infrastructure, Resiliency Improvements (Seawalls, LID, Flood Prevention)	July
Coastal Resiliency Implementation Grant	$500,000	0%	Nature Based Stormwater Management, Elevation of Public Facilities	October
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	$1,000,000*	25%	Structure Hardening, Flood Protection	November
Water Project Funding	$500,000*	100%	Stormwater, Water Quality, Alternative Water	November
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)	$1,500,000*	25%	Structure Hardening, Flood Protection	TBD

The integration of stormwater and other emergency management features into projects such as a recreation center or recreation trail can significantly increase the grant funding opportunities available to the City. Examples of design features that would introduce additional grant opportunities would include the construction of parking areas to act as drainage basins for severe weather events, stormwater retention ponds that alleviate localized flooding as part of park or trail project, and the hardening of an indoor facility such as a recreation center to act as a shelter and/or public outreach center before and after a disaster.

Table 5-10: Funding Opportunities- Cultural Facilities / Community Centers / Education Facilities

FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT AMOUNT	MATCH REQUIREMENT	TYPES OF ELIGIBLE ELEMENTS	ANTICIPATED DEADLINE
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF)	$1,000,000	100%	Outdoor Classroom, Amphitheater, Performance Areas, Restrooms, Trails, Support Facilities	January
Urban Waters Restoration	$35,000	100%	Urban Wildlife Corridors, Green Infrastructure, Stormwater	January
SFWMD Cooperative Water Program	$100,000*	50%	Irrigation, Plumbing Fixtures	February
Environmental Education Grants	$91,000*	25%	Educational Elements, Signage, Nature Trails, Internet Applications	April
Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant	$400,000*	40%	Stormwater/Water Quality Projects	April/ October
Cultural Facilities Grant Program	$500,000	200%	Educational, Amphitheater, Nature, Art Elements	June
Our Town Grant	$150,000	100%	Innovative Public Art Projects	August
Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	$1,000,000*	25%	Structure Hardening, Flood Protection	November
National Leadership Grants for Museums	$500,000	100%	Nature Centers, Museums, Botanical Gardens, Children's Museums	December
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program	$1,500,000	25%	Structure Hardening, Flood Protection	TBD

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-11: Funding Opportunities- Neighborhood Parks

FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT AMOUNT	MATCH REQUIREMENT	TYPES OF ELIGIBLE ELEMENTS	ANTICIPATED DEADLINE
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF)	$1,000,000	100%	Ballfields, Courts, Trails, Fishing Facilities, Playground, Restrooms, Shade Structures, Lighting, Landscaping	January
Urban Waters Restoration	$35,000	100%	Urban Wildlife Corridors, Green Infrastructure, Stormwater	January
SFWMD Cooperative Water Program	$100,000*	50%	Irrigation, Plumbing Fixtures	February
Bank of America Community Resilience Grant	$50,000	0%	Landscaping, Stormwater, LID Elements	March
Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	$400,000	20%	Construction of Trails and Support Facilities	March
AARP Community Challenge	$50,000*	100%	Park Improvements, Mobility, Public Health	April
Cultural Facilities Grant Program	$500,000	200%	Educational, Amphitheater, Nature, Art Elements	June
Our Town Grant	$150,000	100%	Innovative Public Art Projects	August
Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)	$200,000	100%	Ballfields, Courts, Trails, Fishing Facilities, Playground, Restrooms, Shade Structures, Lighting, Landscaping	October
Urban & Community Forestry Grants (UCF)	$20,000	100%	Tree Plans/Programs, and Planting	November
MLB Tomorrow Fund	$40,000*	100%	Renovation and Development of Ballfield Related Elements	Rolling
U.S. Soccer Foundation Grant	$50,000*	100%	Field Turf, Lighting, Irrigation, Program Equipment	TBD

Table 5-12: Funding Opportunities- Park Land Acquisition

FUNDING PROGRAM	GRANT AMOUNT	MATCH REQUIREMENT	TYPES OF ELIGIBLE ELEMENTS	ANTICIPATED DEADLINE
Land and Water Conservation Fund Program (LWCF)	$1,000,000	100%	Land Acquisition of Passive and Active Recreational Facilities	January
Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program	$750,000	100%	Land Acquisition for Outdoor Recreation Facilities	July
Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)	$200,000	100%	Land Acquisition of Passive and Active Recreational Facilities	October
OGT Land Acquisition Program	$1,000,000*	0%	Acquisition of Trails/Greenways that Enhance the State System	October
Florida Communities Trust	$5,000,000	25%	Land Acquisition of passive and active recreational facilities including those for unique and disabled persons	December

Sugar Hill Cemetery

Funding Opportunities by Facility Type

Table 5-13: Funding Opportunities by Facility Type

● = Indicates Funding Potential

Funding Opportunities

Facility Type	Land and Water Conservation Fund Program	Urban Waters Restoration	Doppelt Family Trail Grant	SFWMD Alternative Water Supply	Transportation Alternative Program (TAP)	Bank of America Community Resilience Grant	Recreational Trails Program	AARP Community Challenge	Environmental Education Grant	Florida Boating Improvement Program	Green Stormwater Infrastructure Case Study	NRPA/Disney Play Space Grant	Section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Grant	Water Quality Restoration Grant (SWAG)	Waterway Assistance Program (FIND)	Cultural Facilities Grant	Historic Preservation Small Matching Grant	Special Category Grant	BUILD Transportation Grant	Outdoor Recreation Legacy Partnership Program
Trails	●		●		●		●	●				●	●	●	●				●	●
Land Acquisition	●															●				●
Environmental Ed. / Interpretive Facilities		●						●	●			●	●	●	●	●				
Active Recreational Elements	●							●				●								
Stormwater		●			●	●					●		●	●		●			●	●
Picnic Facilities	●							●							●					●
Cultural Facilities	●							●								●				●
Support Facilities	●				●		●	●		●						●				●
Landscaping	●	●		●		●	●	●				●	●	●	●	●			●	●
Water Access (Piers, Observation Decks)	●							●		●					●					●
Streetscape/Sidewalks					●														●	
Historic / Heritage																	●	●		●
Structure Hardening / Elevation						●													●	●

Grant Stacking

Utilizing multiple funding sources has become the most effective way of maximizing the amount of funding a community can obtain. "Grant Stacking" allows a project to draw funding from several sources. The idea of "Grant Stacking" refers to grouping grants of varying levels (federal, state, and local) to support on project. Careful selection of grants can result in one grant providing the matching funds requirement for another grant and the reciprocal as well. This process can address acquisition and development in phases to best meet a project's intent and time schedule.

General Notes:

- Funding is based on the City's eligibility to apply for the listed grant opportunities. Prior awards or current projects may effect the ability of the City to obtain listed grants.

- Grant amounts are based on maximum award possible. The cost elements will ultimately determine the maximum amount to be obtained.

- Other funding opportunities may be available; however, those listed are stable grant programs that normally occur every year. This lit does not include line items appropriations from local, state, or federal governments.

Funding Opportunities

Rebuild Florida Mitigation General Infrastructure Program	Boating Infrastructure Grant Program (BIG)	Our Town Grant	Coastal Resiliency Implementation Grant	Florida Recreational Development Assistance Program	Greenways and Trails Land Acquisition Program	Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC)	Urban & Community Forestry Grants	Water Project Funding	Florida Communities Trust	National Leadership Grants for Museums	MLB Tomorrow Fund	Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)
				●								
				●	●				●			
		●	●	●			●			●		
●			●	●		●		●				●
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		●		●						●		
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●				●		●					●	●

Summary

The Funding Analysis highlights historical and projected funding that may be utilized to advance capital projects. Though the overall shared-community Vision created during the master plan process is estimated at $52M in 2022 dollars, the City has several funding sources available that can be utilized for implementation, many of which can be phased or even enhanced for additional funding opportunities to help address economic fluctuations and changing City priorities over time **(Table 5-14)**. Through the analysis of existing sources, projections of future funding options and recommendations are as follows:

- **General Fund CIP** – While the department currently has over $600,000 allocated for CIP improvements in 2023, it is recommended that increasing this to $1M, with gradual increases of $200,000 or more each year will help achieve a significant portion of the Vision, particularly for existing parks and proposed connectivity improvements.

- **Grants** – Through the identification of over $40M in grant opportunities annually, the department has the potential to increase capital improvement based grants to $1.5M annually, resulting in approximately $15M+ over the next ten years.

- **Park System Improvements with Impact Fees** – The City is currently finalizing an update of their Impact Fee schedule, including Parks and Recreation Impact Fees. These fees are intended to provide park and recreation facilities in locations with new development and to increase capacity at existing parks that experience increased demand due to development. Estimates of the potential impact fees are to be determined, however a minimum of $5M should be targeted for capacity improvements to existing parks.

- **Partnership Opportunities** – The City of Riviera Beach has a successfully history of utilizing Public-Private Partnerships, or P3s for the development of public facilities. Opportunities for implementation of this funding strategy at the larger community parks, particularly Wells Recreation Complex. While the funding from this opportunity cannot be forecast at this time, the City should target approximately $5M for assistance with the Wells Recreation Complex improvements.

- **Borrowing** – As a funding source, general obligation bonds have historically received support from many communities in Florida. While A potential option to consider is utilizing projected funding through CIP, grants and taxes to fund certain improvements to existing parks, while utilizing a bond to fund the proposed improvements. A parks and recreation bond of $40MM would provide substantial funding to complete the larger proposed improvements at existing parks, new parks, community centers, aquatic facilities, and greenways, while also providing incentive for potential partners or private developers to contribute additional funds. It is recommended that the City explore the feasibility of a bond through additional public engagement and financial analysis.

Table 5-14: Potential Funding Over Next Ten Years

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	
General Fund CIP	$15M
Grants (Capital)	$15M
Park Impact Fees	$5M
Partnership Opportunities	$5M
Parks and Recreation Bond	$40M
Total	$80M

IMPLEMENTATION

Phasing Plan

The Phasing Plan for Capital Improvement Projects is comprised of three different phases based on community needs and priorities. These phases, summarized to the right in **Table 5-15**, to the right provide a framework for the implementation of approximately $77M in capital improvement projects over the next 10 years. The remaining $8M of the Vision is projected to be implemented in the 11+ year time-frame or as additional funding becomes available.

Table 5-15: Phasing Plan Totals

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 1-3 YEAR TOTAL	
Year 1	$7,779,669
Year 2	$11,285,076
Year 3	$16,547,857
Total	**$35,612,602**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 4-6 YEAR TOTAL	
Year 4	$15,153,715
Year 5	$15,783,032
Year 6	$926,745
Total	**$31,863,492**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 7-10 YEAR TOTAL	
Year 7	$2,099,270
Year 8	$1,987,957
Year 9	$2,525,036
Year 10	$3,077,521
Total	**$9,689,784**
1-10 Year Total	**$77,165,878**

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 11+ YEAR TOTAL	
Year 11+	$8,168,096

Vision Total	**$85,333,973**

Note: All yearly totals include estimates for design, planning, permitting and contingency.

Phase 1: Short-term Capital Projects (1-3 Years) - $35,612,602

Phase 1 is focused on immediate needs and the highest priorities of the community; reinvestment in existing facilities and parks; additions/ improvements to increase capacity at community parks, neighborhood connectivity, water access, and greenways. These immediate actions will help to increase the capacity of the facilities at community parks, improve connectivity, and position the City to achieve medium-term improvements.

Phase 2: Medium-term Capital Projects (4-6 Years) - $31,863,492

Phase 2 projects continue the reinvestment and improvements at community parks, as well as improvements at smaller neighborhood parks. Continued investment in these facilities will provide additional capacity to programming opportunities throughout the City, while additional access and connectivity improvements will advance the core needs of the community.

Phase 3: Long-term Capital Projects (7-10 Years) - $9,689,784

Phase 3 projects include additional projects at community parks and neighborhood parks throughout the City. Greenways and trails projects also increase during this term, and the development of a new neighborhood park is implemented at the end of the long-term time frame.

11+ Years Capital Projects - $8,168,096

Projects beyond the 10-year time frame include additional greenways and trails and new neighborhood parks.

IMPLEMENTATION

Included in the three capital project phases are on-going efforts that should be conducted concurrently across the ten-year period. These projects, shown in **Table 5-16** help advance longer term projects including trails and greenway development, new park development, land acquisition, water access and public art installations.

Considering Phases 1-3 in the ten-year time-frame, on-Going projects total approximately $9.2 M, with an additional $6.3M of on-going projects projected

In order to determine recommendations for phasing of projects. The projects team assigned a category to each project in the cost estimate. These categories are:

- Improvements to Existing Neighborhood Parks
- Improvements to Community Neighborhood Parks
- Additions/Improvements to Neighborhood Parks and Community Facilities
- Proposed Parks, Open Spaces and Recreation Facilities
- Ongoing Projects
  - Tails and Greenways
  - Land Acquisition
  - Public Art

These categories help provide a clear picture of where parks and recreation funding should be allocated over the next 10+ years. Over the next ten years, over 90% of the Capital improvement projects are targeted towards reinvestment in existing neighborhood and community parks, new water access, neighborhood connectivity, and greenways and trails.

Each phase of the implementation is shown in detail on the following pages, with **Tables 5-17 through 5-21** providing categories and capital improvement project figures for each year.

Table 5-16: Ongoing Project Totals

ONGOING PROJECTS	
Year 1	$268,665
Year 2	$568,500
Year 3	$890,644
Year 4	$1,062,619
Year 5	$794,045
Year 6	$782,169
Year 7	$1,045,802
Year 8	$1,044,157
Year 9	$1,682,636
Year 10	$1,690,801
Total	**$9,830,038**

Note: All yearly totals include estimates for design, planning, permitting and contingency.

Bicentennial Park

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-17: Phase 1 - Short-Term Capital Improvement Projects (1-3 Year)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 1-3 YEAR							
Improvement Category	Year 1	Parks & Facilities Included	Year 2	Parks & Facilities Included	Year 3	Parks & Facilities Included	1-3 Year Total
Improvments to Existing Neighborhood Parks	-		-		-		-
Improvements to Existing Community Parks	$1,741,500	Dan Calloway, Lindsay Davis, Riviera Beach Municipal Park	$1,500,000	Dan Calloway Field Renovations	$1,875,000	Dan Calloway Additional Improvements	**$6,991,500**
Sub Total	**$1,741,500**		**$1,500,000**		**$1,875,000**		**$6,991,500**
Design Planning and Contingency	$975,240		$840,000		$1,050,000		$3,915,240
Proposed Parks, Open Spaces and Recreation Facilities	$3,000,000	Planning, Design & Permitting for Water Access, Inlet Grove, Phase 1	$5,384,600	Neighborhood Connections, Inlet Grove, Phase 2	$8,234,800	Neighborhood Greenways, Inlet Grove Phase 3	**$16,619,400**
Design Planning and Contingency	$1,794,264		$3,015,376		$4,611,488		$9,421,128
Short-Term Subtotal	**$7,511,004**		**$10,739,976**		**$15,771,288**		**$34,022,268**
Ongoing Projects							
Regional Trails and Greenways	$100,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$150,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$250,000	Regional Trail Allowance	**$500,000**
Land Acquisition	$0		$150,000	Water Access Land Acquisition	$150,000	Water Access Land Acquisition	**$300,000**
Public Art	$112,665		$161,100		$236,569		**$510,334**
Sub Total	**$212,665**		**$461,100**		**$636,569**		**$1,310,334**
Design Planning and Contingency	$56,000		$84,000		$140,000		$280,000
Total	**$7,779,669**		**$11,285,076**		**$16,547,857**		**$35,612,602**

Table 5-18: Phase 2 - Medium-Term Capital Improvement Projects (4-6 Year)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 4-6 YEAR							
Improvement Category	**Year 4**	**Parks & Facilities Included**	**Year 5**	**Parks & Facilities Included**	**Year 6**	**Parks & Facilities Included**	**4-6 Year Total**
Improvments to Existing Neighborhood Parks	$833,600	Ben Flint, Congress Lakes, Goodmark	$600,200	Sadie McCray			**$1,433,800**
Improvements to Existing Community Parks	$1,000,000	Dan Calloway Gymnasium Renovations	$1,875,000	Dan Calloway Additional Improvements			**$2,875,000**
Sub Total	**$1,833,600**		**$2,475,200**				**$4,308,800**
Design Planning and Contingency	$1,026,816		$1,386,112				$2,412,928
Proposed Parks, Open Spaces and Recreation Facilities	$7,317,400	Water Access Improvements, Inlet Grove Phase 4	$7,000,000	Inlet Grove Phase 5	$120,480	New Park Planning for 1 Park	**$14,437,880**
Design Planning and Contingency	$3,983,480		$3,920,000		$24,096		$7,927,576
Short-Term Subtotal	**$14,161,296**		**$14,781,312**		**$144,576**		**$29,087,184**
Ongoing Projects							
Regional Trails and Greenways	$500,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$500,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$500,000	Regional Trail Allowance	**$1,500,000**
Land Acquisition							
Public Art	$212,419		$221,720		$2,169		**$436,308**
Sub Total	**$712,419**		**$721,720**		**$502,169**		**$1,936,308**
Design Planning and Contingency	$280,000		$280,000		$280,000		$840,000
Total	**$15,153,715**		**$15,783,032**		**$926,745**		**$31,863,492**

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-19: Phase 3 - Short-Term Capital Improvement Projects (7-10 Year)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 7-10 YEAR						
Improvement Category	Year 7	Parks & Facilities Included	Year 8	Parks & Facilities Included	Year 9	Parks & Facilities Included
Improvments to Existing Neighborhood Parks	$675,300	Jerry Schultz, Sadie McCray, Timber Pine	$605,000	Monroe Heights	$540,000	Lone Pine
Improvements to Existing Community Parks						
Sub Total	**$675,300**		**$605,000**		**$540,000**	
Design Planning and Contingency	$378,168		$338,800		$302,400	
Proposed Parks, Open Spaces and Recreation Facilities	-		-		-	
Design Planning and Contingency	-		-		-	
Short-Term Subtotal	**$1,053,468**		**$943,800**		**$842,400**	
Ongoing Projects						
Regional Trails and Greenways	$500,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$500,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$750,000	Regional Trail Allowance
Land Acquisition	$250,000	New Parkland Acquisiton Allowance	$250,000	New Parkland Acquisiton Allowance	$500,000	New Parkland Acquisiton Allowance
Public Art	$15,802		$14,157		$12,636	
Sub Total	**$765,802**		**$764,157**		**$1,262,636**	
Design Planning and Contingency	$280,000		$280,000		$420,000	
Total	**$2,099,270**		**$1,987,957**		**$2,525,036**	

Year 10	Parks & Facilities Included	7-10 Year Total
$75,000	Cunningham	$1,895,300
$505,000	Bicentennial, Richard and Annie Brooks, Marina, Sugar Hill Cemetery	$505,000
$580,000		$2,400,300
$324,800		$1,344,168
$401,600	Development of 1 New Park	$401,600
$80,320		$80,320
$1,386,720		$4,226,388
$750,000	Regional Trail Allowance	$2,500,000
$500,000	New Parkland Acquisiton Allowance	$1,500,000
$20,801		$63,396
$1,270,801		$4,063,396
$420,000		$1,400,000
$3,077,521		$9,689,784

Table 5-20: Capital Improvement Projects (11+ Years)

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS: 11+ YEARS
Continuation of Ongoing Projects
These projects include the continuation of trail and greenway development, new park development, land acquisition, and public art.
$8,168,096

Table 5-21: Capital Improvement Projects Phasing Summary

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT & ONGOING PROJECTS: TOTALS	
1-3 Year	**$35,612,602**
4-6 Year	**$31,863,492**
7-10 Year	**$9,689,784**
11+ Years	**$8,168,096**
Total	**$85,333,973**

IMPLEMENTATION

Operations and Maintenance Estimates

With the addition of park acreage and new facilities, operation and maintenance (O&M) costs can be expected to increase. These increases, however, can be off-set by the fact that a significant portion of recommended capital improvements are for the replacement or enhancement of existing facilities or parks. In many cases, replacement of worn park amenities or facilities in poor conditions can result in cost savings due to lower needs in maintenance and staffing to repair, inspect facilities, or in equipment and material costs. This plan is conservative in the assumption that replacement of existing park amenities or facilities will result in a net zero cost adjustment for operations and maintenance.

Adding parkland or new facilities, however, will commonly result in additional O&M costs. With full implementation of the Vision, approximately 4 acres of new park land will be added to the system, along with 10 miles of greenway trails. With this comes the need to secure sites, mow grass, pick up litter, and other basic needs. Upon development of each new park site, additional O&M costs are provided to staff new centers and programs and maintain new park amenities. Tables **5-22 through 5-25** identify the estimated phased annual O&M costs for new or expanded facilities.

Table 5-22: O&M Estimates within 1-3 Year Timeframe

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COST (1-3 YEAR)				
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 1-3 Total
New Facilities in Existing Parks	$161,150	-	$187,500	$348,650
Proposed Parks and Open Spaces	$100,000	$300,000	$500,000	$900,000
Trails and Greenways	$10,000	$53,460	$148,480	$211,940
Staff Additions	-	$45,000	$90,000	$135,000
Increase in Programming Allowance	$10,000	$25,000	$25,000	$60,000
Increase in Marketing	$10,000	$25,000	$25,000	$60,000
Total	**$291,150**	**$448,460**	**$975,980**	**$1,715,590**

Table 5-23: O&M Estimates within 4-6 Year Timeframe

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COST (4-6 YEAR)			
	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Year 4-6 Total
New Facilities in Existing Parks	-	$187,500	-	$187,500
Proposed Parks and Open Spaces	$531,740	$500,000	-	$1,031,740
Trails and Greenways	$50,000	$50,000	$50,000	$150,000
Staff Additions	$90,000	$135,000	$135,000	$360,000
Increase in Programming Allowance	$50,000	$50,000	$75,000	$175,000
Increase in Marketing	$35,000	$35,000	$40,000	$110,000
Total	**$756,740**	**$957,500**	**$300,000**	**$2,014,240**

Table 5-24: O&M Estimates within 7-10 Year Timeframe

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COST (7-10 YEAR)					
	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 7-10 Total
New Facilities in Existing Parks	-	-	-	-	-
Proposed Parks and Open Spaces	-	-	-	$40,160	$40,160
Trails and Greenways	$50,000	$50,000	$75,000	$75,000	$250,000
Staff Additions	$135,000	$135,000	$180,000	$180,000	$630,000
Increase in Programming Allowance	$100,000	$115,000	$150,000	$150,000	$515,000
Increase in Marketing	$55,000	$75,000	$100,000	$100,000	$330,000
Total	**$340,000**	**$375,000**	**$505,000**	**$545,160**	**$1,765,160**

Table 5-25: O&M Estimates - 11+ Year and Total

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COST (11+ YEAR)
Year 11+
Additional O&M costs for new parks, greenways and trails
$443,400

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE COST TOTAL
Full Vision
$5,938,390

IMPLEMENTATION

5.7 PRIORITY ACTION ITEMS

Introduction

The funding analysis, phasing plan, and operations and maintenance sections outline an approach to implementing various park facility improvements needed to address the shared-community Vision for the City of Riviera Beach Parks and Recreation Department. In addition to the components found in the Long-range Vision, the strategic plan incorporates elements from the Existing Conditions Analysis and the findings from the Needs and Priorities Assessment.

The following pages and tables **(Tables 5-26 and Table 5-27)** identify action items for the Vision that can help implement priority projects identified in the previous section. Each action item advances the objectives of the Vision, as well as the priorities identified by parks and recreation staff. Three categories of time have been identified: "priority" represents priority action items to be completed in the next five years; "continued emphasis" represents action items that may take up to ten years to complete; and "aspirational," represents action items that may take more than ten years to fully complete.

Dan Calloway Recreational Complex

Action Items

Table 5-26: Priority Action Items

ITEM	PRIORITY ACTION ITEMS (COMPLETION IN 1-3 YEARS)
Capital	
C-1	Continue to refine the department CIP and seek to increase funding for improvements to existing parks and neighborhood greenways and trails.
C-2	Implement a focused approach for capital improvements and investments in existing parks to promote safety, user experience and community character.
C-3	Secure additional grants by leveraging dedicated funding sources targeted for capital improvements from State, Federal and Non-profit sources - particularly for community parks, greenways and trails.
C-4	Implement the new parks and recreation impact fee- use these funds to expand capacity at existing community parks and acquire and develop new parkland and trail corridors to meet growth needs.
C-4	Secure funding for a phased approach to the redevelopment of Dan Calloway Recreation Complex.
C-5	Identify priority neighborhood park connections and neighborhood greenway connections to improve access to parks for residents across the City, including the Federal Gardens Connector and Avenue P.
C-6	Establish a fund for a Regional Trail Allowance to be used as a match for state and federal grants to develop regional greenway and trail corridors.
C-7	Identify and prioritize the development of water access points in existing parks, and key acquisitions for new access points.
C-8	Establish a dedicated funding program for public art and historic/cultural installations thought the
C-9	Develop a master plan for the redevelopment of Wells Recreation Complex, including phasing, funding and programming and capacity

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-26: Priority Action Items

ITEM	PRIORITY ACTION ITEMS (COMPLETION IN 1-3 YEARS)
Policies & Programming	
P-1	Integrate Master Plan recommendations into the City of Riviera Beach Comprehensive Plan, particularly for trail development and Level of Service recommendations.
P-2	Establish a programming strategy to maintain capacity and availability during renovations of Dan Calloway Recreation Complex and Wells Recreation Complex.
P-3	Continue to expand the availability and variety of program opportunities, emphasizing fitness and wellness, senior wellness, youth programs, nature-based opportunities, and special events
P-4	Establish a programming philosophy for the department that meets the needs of all community members, and develop a Program Plan for the future development and delivery of programs ans services.
P-5	Continue to focus on programs that support community health and wellness - establish a department position for a Health & Wellness Coordinator
P-6	Continue to focus on programs that support cultural events and programs- establish a department position for a Cultural Programming Coordinator
Initiatives	
I-1	Continue to coordinate with the Imagine Riviera Beach effort to ensure parks and recreation facilities are integrated into the Vision for the City as whole.
I-2	Increase marketing and communication efforts through a variety of outlets to enhance community-wide knowledge of parks, facilities programs, natural resources and special events.
I-3	Develop a system-wide branding and wayfinding strategy that enhances existing connections to parks and helps establish dedicated routes from neighborhoods to recreation facilities.
I-4	Work in conjunction with other City departments to develop a parks-oriented approach to access, connectivity, sustainability and resilience.
I-5	Integrate technology such as Wi-Fi, interactive park features, and enhanced security in existing parks.

Table 5-26: Continued Emphasis Action Items

ITEM	CONTINUED EMPHASIS (COMPLETION WITHIN 10 YEARS)
C-1	Continue to seek partnering and funding opportunities to develop greenway and trail corridors throughout Riviera Beach.
C-2	Work with developers to establish new neighborhood and pocket parks within new residential communities.
C-3	Continue to monitor the status of the golf course property and develop a strategy for developing the proposed community trail.
C-4	Establish a strategy for the development of new aquatic facilities to improve access, availability and a variety of experiences for park users.
C-4	Develop a funding strategy for a phased approach to the redevelopment of Wells Recreation Complex.
C-5	Expand maintenance staff as needed to ensure new facilities maintain consistent high quality.
C-6	Develop education programs in coordination with local schools and other community partners to encourage nature-based activities, health and wellness, and environmental education.
C-7	Continue to promote system-wide sustainable efforts with small-scale interventions at each park.
C-8	Actively seek to acquire parkland in areas with gaps in access level of service, developing new parks that meet the needs and priorities of residents in these neighborhoods.
C-9	Develop a replacement schedule for key amenities at neighborhood parks.

IMPLEMENTATION

Table 5-27: 10-year Capital Priorities

ITEM	PRIORITY CAPITAL PROJECTS (1-5 YEAR TIMEFRAME)	
1	Inlet Grove High School Recreation Complex (Replacement of Wells Recreation Complex / Level of Service Improvement) Aquatics facility, multipurpose fields, track, community center / multi-generational facility, gymnasium, play courts, playground)	$45,000,000 +/-
2	Dan Calloway Recreation Complex Reoriented and upgrades multi-purpose fields, additional multi-purpose fields, upgrade baseball/softball fields, upgrade courts, upgrade splash pad and playground	$10,000,0000 +/-
3	Riviera Beach Municipal Beach Park Upgrade/add courts, new shade sail system, upgrade restroom and shower facilities, upgrade pavilions	$1,000,000 +/-
4	Improved Park and Community Connectivity Additional park connections, walking paths, fitness elements along paths	$2,000,000 +/-
5	Reinvestment into Existing Neighborhood Parks	$1,000,000 +/-

Note: Approximate costs shown in this table include construction, planning, design & permitting, and contingency.