

Maitland, Florida

Parks and Recreation Department Master Plan

DRAFT 1

January 2016

This DRAFT Report will not be formatted until all edits are implemented into the Final Report. Please review for content, typos, etc. and not formatting issues.

Final formatting will include:

Spacing

Page breaks

Table numbers added and linked

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Photographs inserted

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WORKING DRAFT

Appendices (Sample)

A. Focus Groups Summary

B. Level of Service and Existing Conditions Report

Staff Documents (separate)

I. Survey Summary and Charts

II. Amenities Inventory and Analysis

I. Executive Summary

This section of the report will not be completed until all edits have been made to the draft report. The edited information for the suggested section titles below and will be summarized and implemented into the Executive Summary of the final report.

Purpose of this Plan

Planning Process Summary

Key Issues Summary (bulleted)

Inventory Assessment Summary

Recommendations

II. Introduction of the Master Planning Context

A. Introduction

The City of Maitland provides a comprehensive Parks and Recreation system that greatly contributes to the quality of life in the City of Maitland and surrounding areas. In order to plan for the future of this valuable Parks and Recreation system, the City of Maitland Parks and Recreation Department began a planning process to develop this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Development of the plan took place from March 2015 to February 2016, and included a public input process, services inventory and analysis, park inventory and level of service analysis, needs assessment, operational and maintenance analysis, and financial analysis. The Master Plan provides the framework to respond to the evolving needs of this unique community. During the master planning process the Department changed its name back to The Department of Parks and Recreation from the Leisure Services Department.

The City of Maitland Parks and Recreation Department Mission

“To deliver quality cost-effective, recreational services and opportunities to all Maitland residents.”

B. The City of Maitland Parks and Recreation Department Overview

The City of Maitland has developed a diverse Parks and Recreation system with a wide array of parks including a community park, neighborhood parks, school parks, natural resource areas, athletic fields, a Senior Center, Lake Boat Ramp, Museum and historical buildings, and a Community Park Clubhouse. The park system includes a compliment of 22 properties designated as park land, covering just over eighty-two (82) acres of active and passive parks, and three natural resource areas. Additionally, Parks and Recreation offers a variety of recreational programs, adult and youth athletics, special events, senior services, and handles room and shelter reservations.

C. Related Planning Efforts and Integration

As part of the master planning process, GreenPlay evaluated and utilized information from recent past and/or current planning work. We consolidated relevant information from these planning documents, inventory maps, budgets, work plans, and funding plans utilized by the Parks and Recreation Department to facilitate the comprehensive coordination of direction and recommendations.

Documents included:

- 2002 Parks and Recreation Master Plan
- 2030 Comprehensive Development Plan
- Bike/Pedestrian Master Plan
- Wayfinding Study
- Cultural Corridor Master Plan
- Downtown Maitland Revitalization Plan
- Independence Lane / Festival Street Design

D. Timeline for Completing the Master Plan

Start-up	March 2015
Community Input Process	April 2015
Inventory and Assessment of Existing Facilities	April - August 2015
Demographic and Trends Analysis and Projections	April – July 2015
Community Needs Assessment Survey	August - October 2015
Findings Compilation Report and Presentation	November 2015
Draft Master Plan Recommendations	December, 2015
Draft Master Plan	January, 2016
Presentation and Adoption of Master Plan	March, 2016

III. What We Want - Our Community and Identified Needs

Maitland Profile and Demographic Study

Understanding community demographics and needs is an important component of the City of Maitland’s Parks and Recreation Master Planning. The population data used in this demographic profile comes from ESRI Business Information Solutions, based on the 2000 and 2010 U.S. Census data.

Table 1: City of Maitland Summary Demographics- 2014

Summary Demographics	
Population	16,767
Households	7,385
Average Household Size	4,308
Median Age	41.1
Median Household Income	\$59,100

A. Maitland Population and Demographic Trends

Population Projections

Although future population growth cannot be predicted with certainty, it is helpful to make assumptions about it for planning purposes. **Table 1** contains actual population figures based on the 2010 U.S. Census for Maitland and ESRI’s estimate for 2014 and projection for 2020 and 2025. The annual growth rate from 2000 through 2010 was 0.68%. ESRI’s projected growth rate for 2014 through 2019 is 1.91% for Maitland, compared to the projected 2014 – 2019 annual growth rate for State of Florida (at 1.06%) and for the United States as a whole (at 0.73%). The Maitland population growth trend is graphically represented in **Figure 1**.

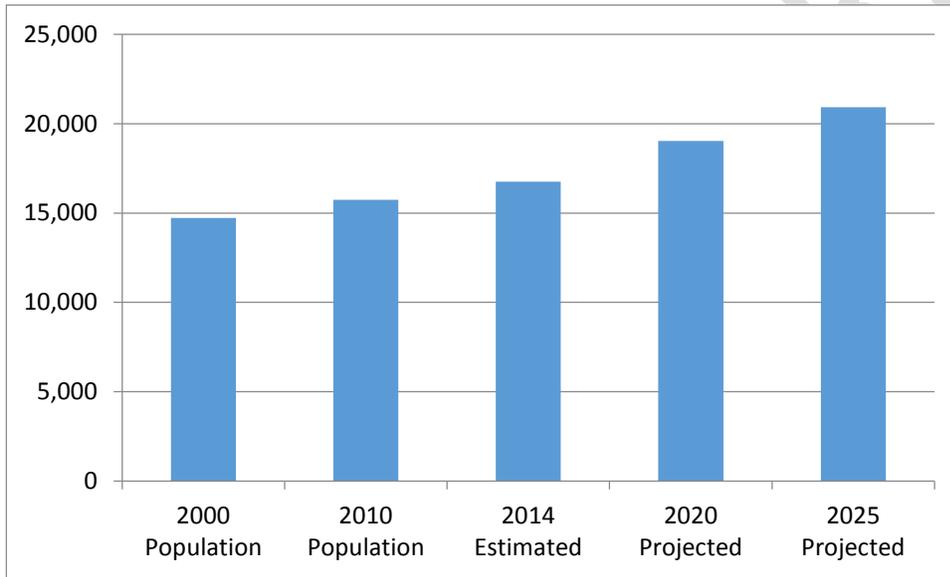
Table 2: Maitland Population Projections*, 2000-2025

US Census (2000 and 2010) and ESRI Projections	
2000 Population	14,723
2010 Population	15,751
2014 Estimated	16,767
2020 Projected	19,032
2025 Projected	20,920

Source: 2000 and 2010 Census and ESRI Business Information Solutions 2014 Demographic and Income Profile.

*GreenPlay, LLC, calculated projected populations for 2020 and 2025 based on ESRI growth multiplier of 1.91% for Maitland. The U.S. Census and ESRI do not create projections for 2020 or 2025.

Figure 1: Maitland Population Growth Trend

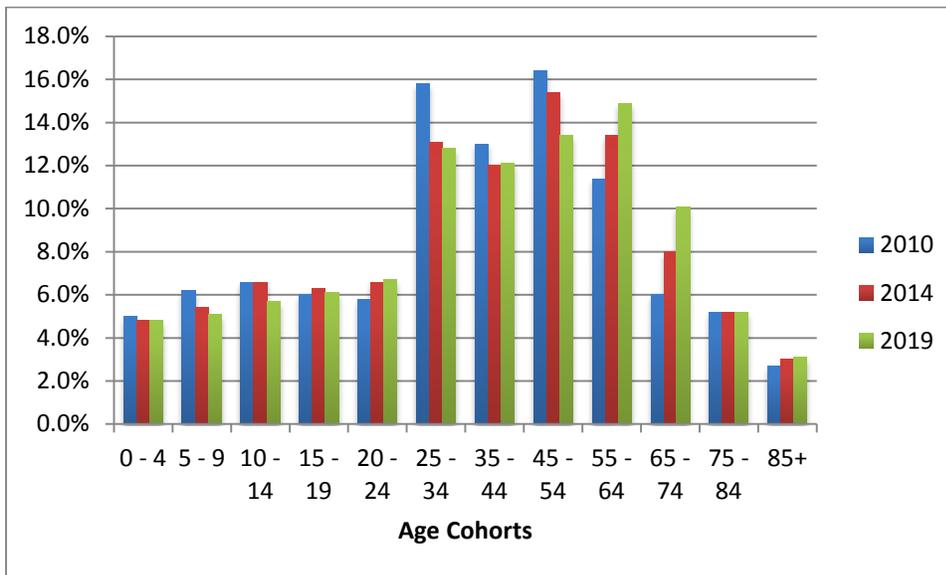


Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions. GreenPlay, LLC, calculated projected populations for 2020 and 2025 based on ESRI growth multiplier of 1.91% for Maitland.

Population Age Distribution

A comparison of the estimated population break down by age for Maitland from 2010 to 2019 is shown in **Figure 2**. The gender distribution in 2014 was 48.2% male to 51.8% female. The median age in 2014 was 41.1.

Figure 2: Population Age Distribution for the Years 2010, 2014, and 2019



Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions 2014 estimate based on the 2010 U.S. Census.

The age demographics have undergone a number of changes in Maitland from 2010 to 2014 with these trends predicted to continue through 2019. The cohorts representing the 55 – 74 age range is predicted to jump by a total of 7.6% to represent close to a 25% demographic in 2019. At the same time, the 25 – 34 age cohort is predicted to drop 3%, from 15.8 to 12.8% of the population, from 2010 to 2019.

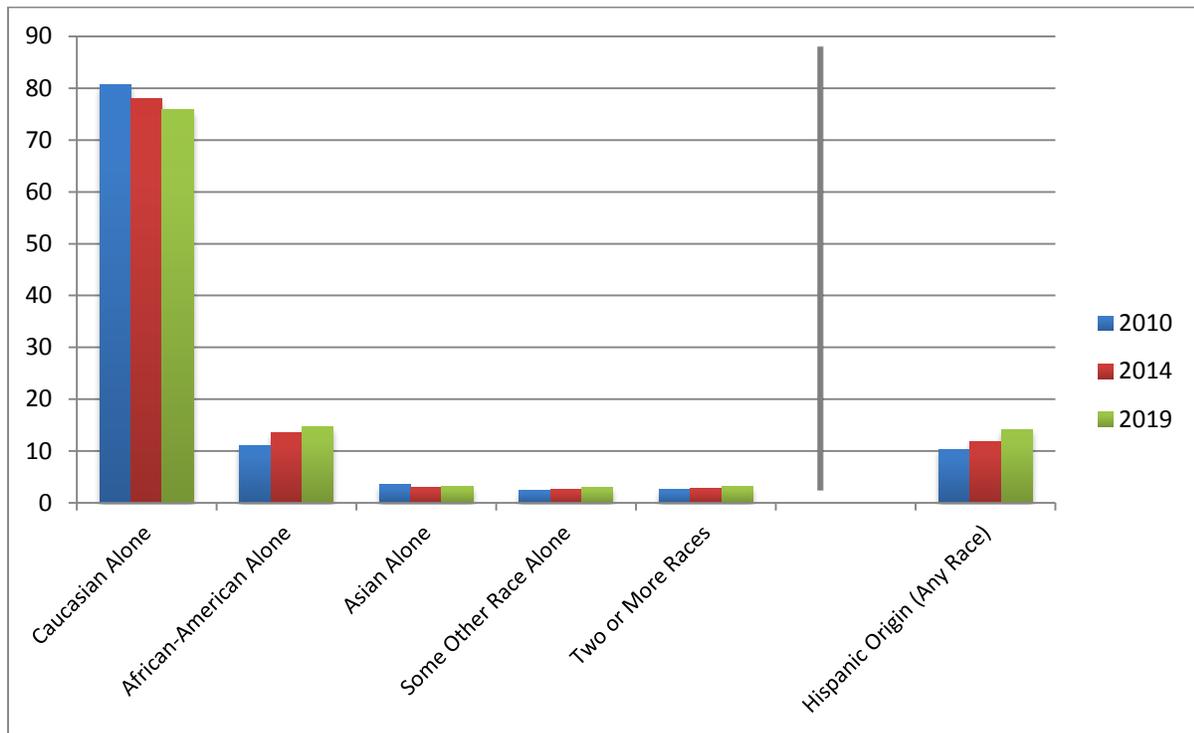
Race/Ethnicity

Figure 3 reflects the racial/ethnic population distribution for Maitland. 78% of the population was Caucasian in 2014, with an African American population at 13.6% and an Asian population at 3%. The population of Hispanic origin* provides separate look at the population, irrespective of race and this population was at 14.2% in 2014.

- The Caucasian population is trending downward from 80.6% in 2010 to a predicted 75.9% in 2019.
- The African American and Asian populations are trending slightly upward, along with those who identify with two or more races, with each group growing about 1% from 2010 to 2019.
- The population of Hispanic origin (irrespective of race), at 10.4% in 2010, is expected to grow to 14.2% of the population by 2019.

* Hispanic origin can be viewed as the heritage, nationality, lineage, or country of birth of the person or the person’s parents or ancestors before arriving in the United States. In the U.S. census, people who identify as Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish may be any race and are included in all of the race categories. Figure 3 represents Hispanic Origin as recorded in the U.S. Census.

Figure 3: Maitland Racial/Ethnic Distribution (2014)



Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2014 estimate from 2010 U.S. Census.

Educational Attainment

As shown in **Table 3**, the highest ranking educational cohorts in Maitland are those residents with a Bachelor’s degree (32.4%), Graduate/Professional Degree (22.6%) and those with a some college, no degree (16.1%), followed by high school graduates (12.9%). According to a census study, education levels had more effect on earnings over a 40-year span in the workforce than any other demographic factor, such as gender, race, and ethnic origin.¹

¹ Tiffany Julian and Robert Kominski, “Education and Synthetic Work-Life Earnings Estimates” American Community Survey Reports, US Census Bureau, <http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/acs-14.pdf>, September 2011.

Table 3: Maitland, Florida – 2014 Educational Attainment

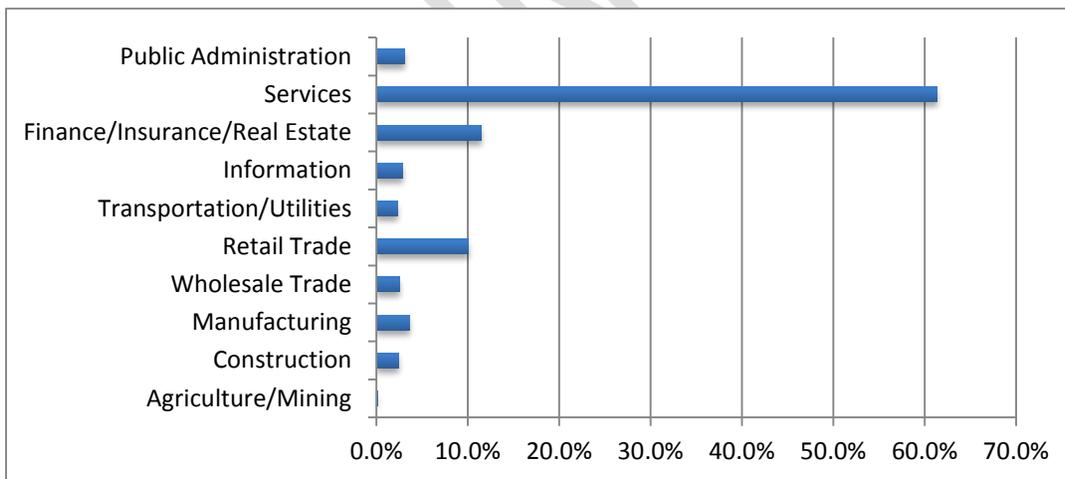
Educational Attainment	Service Area Percentage
Less than 9 th Grade	1.1%
9 th – 12 th Grade, No Diploma	4.3%
High School Graduate	12.9%
GED/Alternative Credential	1.5%
Some College, No Degree	16.1%
Associate’s Degree	9.1%
Bachelor’s Degree	32.4%
Graduate/Professional Degree	22.6%

Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions 2014 estimate based on the 2010 U.S. Census.

Employment

According to the ESRI estimates for 2014, the industries in Maitland providing the greatest employment percentages are the Service Industry (61.4%), Finance/Insurance/Real Estate (18.2%), Retail Trade (10.1%) and Manufacturing (3.6%). **Figure 4** reflects the ESRI estimate of employment by industry in Maitland in 2014.

Figure 3: 2014 Employment by Industry



Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions 2014 estimate based on the 2010 U.S. Census.

Household Information

As reflected in **Table 4**, in 2014 Maitland had 8,748 housing units with a 48.6% owner-occupied housing rate, compared to 35.9% renter occupied rate. The owner occupied housing rate has dropped since 2000 when 64.4% of the housing in Maitland was owner occupied. The average household size in 2014 was 2.25.

Table 4: Maitland Housing Statistics

	2000	2010	2014	2019
Total Housing Units	6,368	8,137	8,748	9,518
Percent Owner Occupied	64.4%	50%	48.6%	48.6%
Percent Renter Occupied	30.1%	35%	35.9%	37%
Percent Vacant	5.5%	15%	15.5%	14.4%

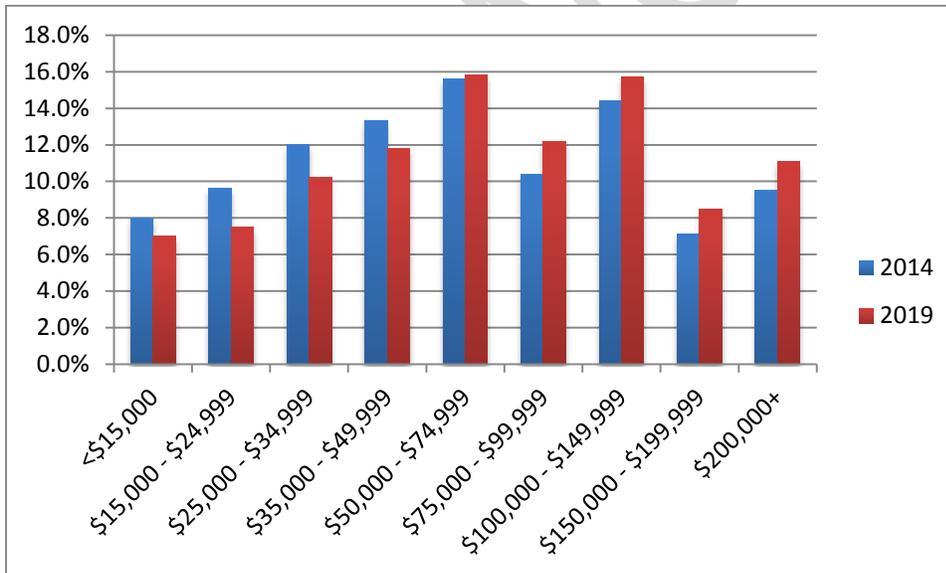
Source: 2010 U.S. Census; 2014 estimates and 2019 forecasts provided by ESRI Business Information Solutions.

Household Income

The estimated 2014 median household income for residents of Maitland was \$59,100 and is expected to grow to \$69,986 by 2019. **Figure 5** illustrates the full income distribution estimated for Maitland in 2014 and projected for 2019.

- In 2014, most residents had an income in the \$50,000 - \$74,999 income range (15.6%) followed by the \$100,000 - \$149,999 (14.4%) income range and \$35,000 - \$49,999 income ranges (13.3%).
- Income distribution in the income ranges of \$75,000 - \$99,999 and higher is expected to rise by about 1.5% per income range, from 2014 to 2019.

Figure 4: Annual Household Income Distribution Comparison (2014 - 2019)



Source: ESRI Business Information Solutions, 2014.

Health Ranking

The United Health Foundation has ranked Florida 32nd in its *State Health Rankings* in 2014 up from 33rd in 2013. The State's biggest strengths include:

- Low prevalence of smoking
- Low prevalence of obesity
- Low levels of air pollution

Some of the challenges the State faces include:

- Low rate of high school graduation
- High incidence of Salmonella
- Many poor physical health days

In the 2014 Florida County Health Rankings (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, [countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org)), out of 67 counties ranked, Orange County ranked 13th for health outcomes and 18th for health factors. As explained in the health ranking report, "Health outcomes represent how healthy a county is while health factors represent what influences the health of the county"².

Source: U.S. Census, Current Population Survey, November 2012.

B. Current Trends

It is a challenge and an opportunity for parks and recreation providing agencies to continue to understand and respond to the changing recreation interests of serviced populations. In this fast-paced

² Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, "County Health Rankings and Roadmaps: 2014 Rankings – Florida", <http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/florida/2015/rankings/orange/county/factors/overall/snapshot>, accessed on May 13, 2015.

society, it is important to stay on top of current trends. The following information highlights relevant regional, and national outdoor recreation trends from various sources that may influence the City of Maitland recreation planning for the next several years. The full Parks and Recreation Trends report relevant to the City of Maitland may be found in **Appendix X**.

Demographic Trends

- As baby boomers enter retirement, they will be looking for opportunities in fitness, sports, outdoors, arts and cultural events, and other activities that suit their lifestyles. With their varied life experiences, values, and expectations, baby boomers are predicted to redefine the meaning of recreation and leisure programming for mature adults. With their varied life experiences, values, and expectations, baby boomers are predicted to redefine the meaning of recreation and leisure programming for mature adults. Boomers are second only to Gen Y/Millennials (born between 1980 and 1999) in participation in fitness and outdoor sports.
- Millennials lead structured lives filled with rules and regulations. Less accustomed to unstructured play than previous generations and apprehensive of the outdoors, they spend most of their time indoors, leaving home primarily to socialize with friends and families. With an upbeat and with a can-do attitude, this generation is more optimistic and tech-savvy than their elders.
- Young adults engage in mobile data applications at much higher rates than adults in age brackets 30 and older. It is also a fact that minority Americans lead the way when it comes to mobile internet access.
- In our country, Hispanic participants and nonparticipants alike cite a lack of access to nearby places to participate in outdoor activities as a barrier to participation more often than other ethnicities.

Facility Trends

- Design of a community's infrastructure is directly linked to physical activity – where environments are built with bicyclists and pedestrians in mind, more people bike and walk. Higher levels of bicycling and walking also coincide with increased bicycle and pedestrian safety and higher levels of physical activity. Increasing bicycling and walking make a big impact on improving public health and life expectancy.
- 2014 was the third year that dog parks were the top planned addition to parks and recreational facilities in the country. Dog parks can be as simple as a gated area, or more elaborate with “designed-for-dogs” amenities like water fountains, agility equipment, and pet wash stations, to name a few.
- Communities around the country are considering adding shade structures as well as shade trees to their parks, playgrounds and pools, in response to raising concerns of skin cancer.
- That a connected system of trails increases the level of physical activity in a community has been scientifically demonstrated through the Trails for Health initiative of the Center for Disease Control (CDC). Trails can provide a wide variety of opportunities for being physically active.

- Park and recreation agencies have begun installing “outdoor gyms,” with equipment comparable to what would be found in an indoor workout facility, such as leg and chest presses, elliptical trainers, pull down trainers, etc. Such equipment can increase the usage of parks, trails, and other outdoor amenities while helping to fight the obesity epidemic and increase the community’s interaction with nature.
- Additional amenities such as spray pads or interactive fountains are becoming increasingly popular. These amenities are defined as an artificially constructed depression or basin for use by children, into which potable water is sprayed but not allowed to accumulate in the bottom.

Programming Trends

- Figures from the Association for Interpretative Naturalists demonstrate that nature-based programs are on the rise. The growth of these programs is thought to come from replacing grandparents as the teacher about the “great outdoors”. It is also speculated that a return to natural roots and renewed interest in life’s basic elements was spurred as a response to September 11, 2001.
- Participation in walking for pleasure and family gatherings outdoors were the two most popular activities for the U.S. population as a whole as reported in a 2012 report. These outdoor activities were followed closely in popularity by viewing/ photographing wildlife, boating, fishing, and swimming. There has been a growing momentum in participation in sightseeing, birding and wildlife watching in recent years.
- Some of the top ten athletic activities ranked by total participation in the US include: exercise walking, swimming, exercising with equipment, camping, and bicycle riding.
- A national trend in the delivery of parks and recreation systems reflects more partnerships and contractual agreements reaching out to the edges of the community to support specialized services.
- The majority of Americans agree that preserving undeveloped land for outdoor recreation is important. A large percentage of outdoor participants also believe that developing local parks and hiking and walking trails is important and that there should be more outdoor education and activities during the school day.

Funding Trends

- According to *Recreation Management Magazine’s* 2014 State of the Industry Report, survey respondents from parks and recreation departments/districts reporting about their revenues from 2011 through 2013 reveals the beginning of a recovery from the impact of the Recession of 2008. From 2011 to 2012, 82.6% of respondents reported that their revenues had either stabilized or had increased. This number grew to 84.8% of respondents when reporting on the 2012 to 2013 time frame and, by 2015, 95% of parks and recreation department respondents are expecting revenues to either increase (49.7%) or remain stable (45.4%).

Marketing Trends

- Mobile marketing is a growing trend. Social websites and apps are among the most used features on mobile phones. Popular social marketing electronic tools include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Tagged and LinkedIn. Private messaging apps such as Snapchat and WhatsApp are being used more and more for live media coverage.³

C. Community and Stakeholder Input

Public input was held April 7-8, 2015 at various locations within the City of Maitland. The meetings comprised focus groups, staff meetings, and an open public forum. Focus groups were by invitation extended via parks and recreation staff with the idea of mixing area residents and stakeholders with differing points of view to solicit broad-based perspectives. Each meeting was approximately 90 minutes long. A series of questions were facilitated by GreenPlay and Tindale-Oliver to ensure adequate input was received from all attendees.

There were a total of 5 focus groups with the public and staff. A total of 45 individuals participated to give their input.

Strengths and opportunities for improvement

The residents of The City of Maitland benefit from a generally good geographic distribution of parks throughout the city, with some underserved areas. Participants embrace the fact that their parks are visually appealing and form the heart of the community. They feel like the programs offered are well run, diverse, affordable, and operated by dedicated employees. They specifically called out the Farmer's Market as one of the model programs. Participants indicate that they feel the quality of programs offered currently are good. Due to the popularity of programs, city staff does as much as they can with limited resources, and that causes a strain on amenities. Some of the facilities are dated and in need of renovations, and there is concern about adequate staff to program, operate and maintain facilities. General items such as lack of parking, restrooms, connectivity, and safety were all identified as opportunities for improvement. Along with physical improvements, improvement of communication and availability of information are also important to users.

Programming, activities, and locations

The City of Maitland residents love their programs. Although they are generally satisfied, they do have an apparent demand for more program offerings. Included among the desired programs are more fitness programs, enrichment classes, environmental education and gardening, and non-traditional and adventure water sports like kayaking and Standup Paddleboarding. As new programs are developed participants wanted to create a balance between passive and active recreation. Certain demographics may also be underserved including seniors, tweens and teens.

³ Jacqueline Woerner, "The 7 Social Media Trends Dominating 2015," Emarsys Blog, <http://www.emarsys.com/en/resources/blog/the-7-social-media-trends-dominating-2015/>, accessed February 26, 2015.

New facilities

When asked to “dream big” the following were suggestions for new parks and recreation facilities in the City:

- Neighborhood park west of I-4
- Permanent outdoor stages/performance area
- Recreation center
- Park Downtown
- Lake access
- Spray Park downtown
- Skateboard Park/Facility
- Quinn Strong Park Development completion
- Wayfinding for parks and other cultural resources
- Bikeways/bike paths - connectivity

Funding and Partners

The idea for a new bond was met with good support from the meeting participants. Most felt that if it was a transparent process with a good plan in place, it would be supported. In addition to a bond, other ideas for funding included increased impact fees, taxes, and user fees. Everyone seemed to support the idea of utilizing a mix of funding methods to advance the department. In addition to dollars, a long list of potential partners for the city to explore was generated and can be found in **Appendix X**.

Values

The City of Maitland residents value their parks and recreation system and feel like they get very good service from staff. Users would like to see increased support for greenspace and trees, maintenance of what the city currently has, community engagement, and sustainable principles integrated into facilities that already exist. They see the need to address the development and redevelopment in the downtown core, as well as completion of park projects that already exist. They also want good communication about events, services and program offerings. Quality and affordable programming is a priority, while ensuring access to diverse offerings throughout the entire City. Connectivity and public access to the lakes, along with balancing active and passive recreation were values the participants expressed.

D. Summary of Community Survey

Introduction & Methodology

The purpose of this study was to gather public feedback on City of Maitland parks and recreation facilities, services, and programs. This survey research effort and subsequent analysis were designed to assist the City of Maitland's Department of Parks and Recreation in updating the City's Parks and Recreation Master Plan for existing and future enhancements, facilities, and services.

The survey was conducted using three primary methods: 1) a mail-back survey, 2) an online, invitation-only web survey to further encourage response from those residents already within the defined invitation sample, and 3) an open-link online survey for members of the public who were not part of the invitation sample.

This community survey section is a summary of the survey results. Many survey result charts and statements are utilized throughout this document. The complete survey results including the open ended comments were provided as a separate staff resource document due to the large number of pages.

A total of 3,500 surveys were mailed to a random sample of Maitland residents in September 2015. After accounting for undeliverable addresses (421 total), 3,079 survey mailings were delivered and 334 responses were received, resulting in a fairly high response rate of 10.8 percent. The margin of error for the 334 statistically valid responses is approximately +/- 5.4 percentage points calculated for questions at 50% response⁴. Additionally, the open link survey received approximately 245 responses after removing blank partial responses.

Current facilities and programs

Respondents were asked to indicate the importance of the availability of local parks and recreation opportunities to their household on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 meaning "not at all important" and 5 meaning "very important". Invitation respondents generally noted that local parks and recreation is highly important to their households, with almost all respondents (89 percent) providing a "4" or "5" rating and an average rating of 4.5.

Importance of Facilities to Household

Respondents rated the importance of Maitland Leisure Services facilities to their households on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is "not at all important" and 5 is "very important." Figure 4 to follow illustrates the percentage of invitation respondents providing each rating. Facilities are then sorted by their midpoint rating. The highest average ratings and largest shares of "4" and "5" responses were given for the following facilities:

⁴ For the total invitation sample size of 334, margin of error is +/- 5.4 percent calculated for questions at 50% response (if the response for a particular question is "50%"—the standard way to generalize margin of error is to state the larger margin, which occurs for responses at 50%). Note that the margin of error is different for every single question response on the survey depending on the resultant sample sizes, proportion of responses, and number of answer categories for each question. Comparison of differences in the data between various segments, therefore, should take into consideration these factors. As a general comment, it is sometimes more appropriate to focus attention on the general trends and patterns in the data rather than on the individual percentages.

- Pathways/trails (average rating 4.6; 91 percent provided a 4 or 5 rating)
- City parks (4.5 average; 90 percent rated 4 or 5)
- Playgrounds (3.9 average; 71 percent rated 4 or 5)
- Picnic shelters (3.9 average; 72 percent rated 4 or 5)
- Access to lakes (3.9 average; 67 percent rated 4 or 5)
- Community/recreation center (3.9 average; 67 percent rated 4 or 5)
- Athletic fields (3.6 average; 59 percent rated 4 or 5)

A second tier of facilities that were rated somewhat lower include tennis courts (average rating 3.4), indoor gym space, ball fields, event/meeting space (each 3.3), splash pads, Senior Center, and outdoor basketball courts (each 3.2). These facilities are generally less important to the majority of invitation respondents.

Importance vs. Needs-Met Matrix – Current Facilities/Services

Plotting and comparing the facility ratings for level of importance and degree to which community needs are being met using an “Importance vs. Needs-Met” matrix is a useful exercise. Ratings are displayed in the matrix in **Figure X** on the following page using the midpoints for both questions to divide into four quadrants. The Importance scale midpoint was 3.5 (the median importance rating across all facilities); the Needs-Met midpoint was 3.6.

Depicted in the upper right quadrant are facilities that are highly important to community members and also have a high level of needs being met? These amenities are essential and should be maintained in the future as they are important to most respondents, but are less of a priority for improvements as needs are currently being adequately met:

- City parks
- Playgrounds
- Picnic shelters
- Community/recreation center (on the cusp of low needs met)

Facilities found in the upper left quadrant have a fairly high level of importance but a lower level of needs being met, suggesting that these are areas for potential improvements. Improving these facilities would positively affect the degree to which community needs are met overall:

- Pathways/trails
- Athletic fields
- Access to lakes (on the cusp of high needs met)

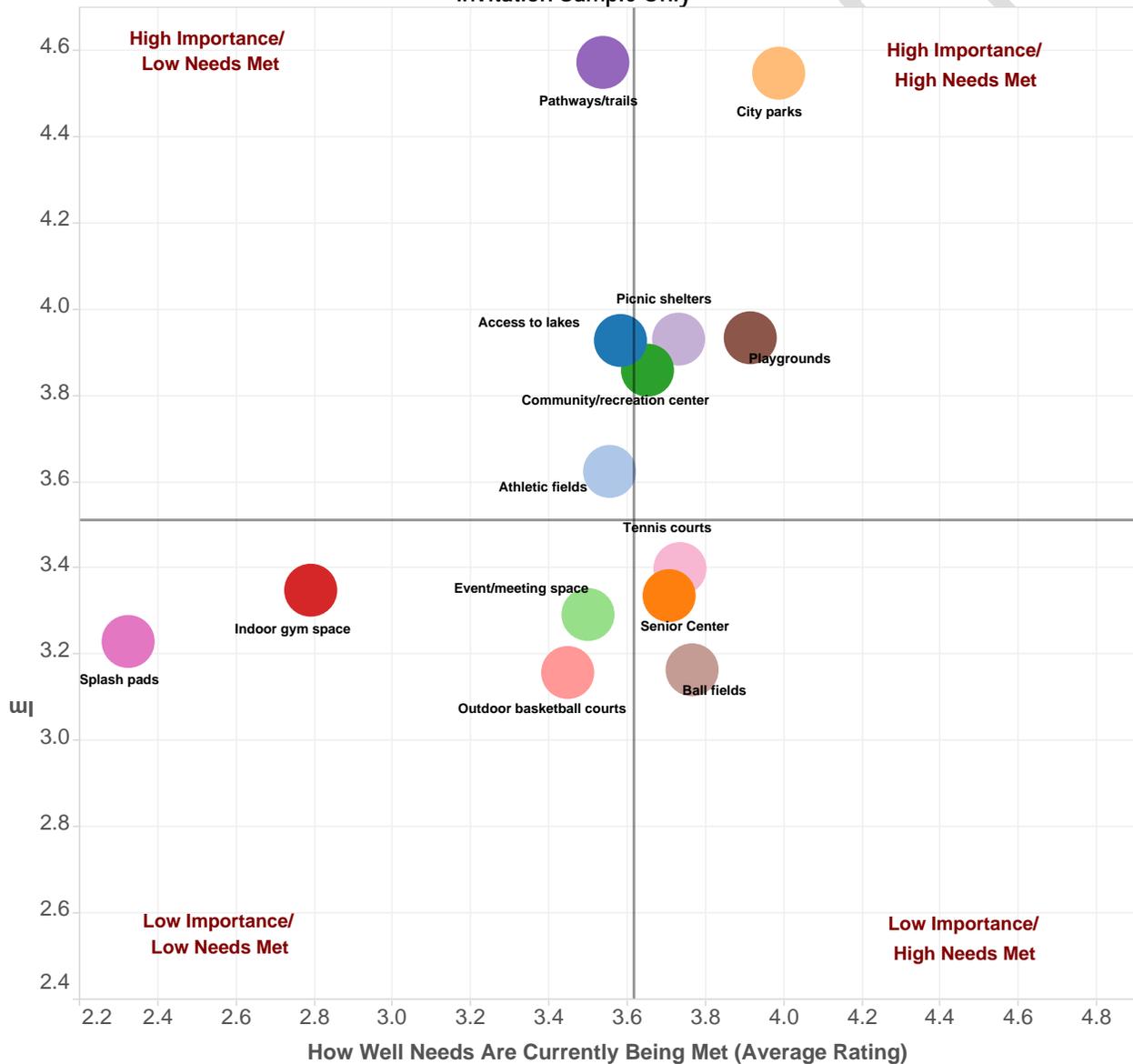
The lower right quadrant shows facilities that are less important to most households, yet are meeting the needs of the community well. Future discussions evaluating whether the resources supporting these facilities outweigh the benefits may be constructive:

- Tennis courts
- Senior Center
- Ball fields

Lastly, facilities located in the lower left quadrant are generally not meeting community needs but are also important to only a small group of residents. These “niche” facilities have a small but passionate following, so measuring participation and planning for future improvements may prove to be valuable:

- Indoor gym space
- Event/meeting space
- Splash pads
- Outdoor basketball courts

Figure 5: Current Facilities – Importance vs. Needs Met Matrix
Invitation Sample Only



Importance vs. Needs-Met Matrix – Current Programs

Another “Importance vs. Needs-Met” matrix allows a similar comparison of programs/events based on level of importance and degree to which community needs are being met. Scores are illustrated in the matrix **Figure X** on the following page by using the mid-points for both questions to divide the grid into four quadrants. The Importance scale midpoint was 3.2 (the median importance rating across all programs and events); the Needs-Met midpoint was 3.4.

Programs/events in the upper right quadrant have a high level of importance to respondents and are also perceived to be meeting the needs of the community well. Though immediate enhancements are less of a priority for these programs, it is important to maintain them so that community satisfaction continues to be high:

- Farmers’ Market
- Community events
- Family programs
- Youth sports

The upper left quadrant depicts programs and events that are generally important to respondent households but have a lower level of community needs being met. As a result, implementing improvements to these programs and events may boost the degree to which residents feel overall needs are being met:

- Adult programs
- Adult sports (on the cusp of low importance)

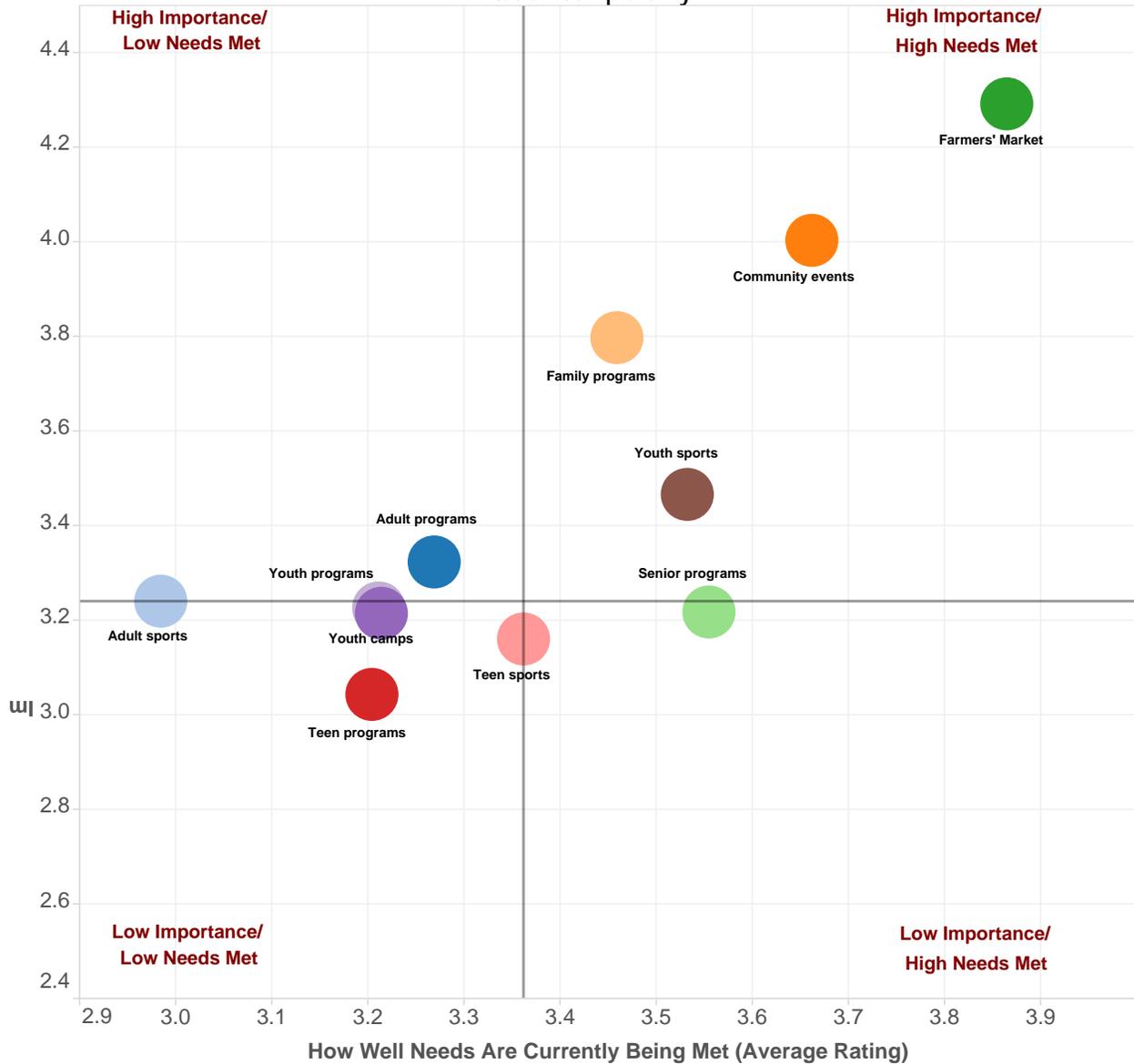
The programs found in the lower right quadrant have a lower level of importance, but are currently meeting community needs well. Allocated resources for these programs and events may need to be evaluated to ensure that funding is best spent to support community needs:

- Senior programs (on the cusp of high importance)
- Teen sports (on the cusp of low needs met)

Finally, programs and events displayed in the lower left quadrant are not meeting community needs adequately even though they are important to a smaller group of households. These programs are identified as “niche” amenities, as they are typically not important to a majority of residents, but should be monitored to ensure community satisfaction:

- Youth programs (on the cusp of high importance)
- Youth camps
- Teen programs

Figure 6: Current Programs – Importance vs. Needs Met Matrix
Invitation Sample Only



Top Areas Parks & Recreation Should Focus on Improving

Respondents were asked to identify five community issues that Maitland's Park and Recreation Department should focus on improving from a list of fifteen potential areas. From the list, respondents indicated their number one priority, number two priority, and so on. The top areas of focus by far among invitation respondents include maintenance and upkeep of parks and facilities (63 percent selected this as one of their top five priorities) and pathway connectivity (61 percent). Other frequently selected areas of focus include promoting healthy/active lifestyles (45 percent), safety and security (43 percent), community-wide special events (42 percent), land preservation/acquisition (42 percent), public art and landscaped areas (41 percent), family-oriented activities (40 percent), and developing new parks in underserved areas (38 percent).

IV. What We Have Now –Public Programs and Spaces

A. Summary of Services

The Parks and Recreation Department strives to help citizens live healthy lives, thereby encouraging them to participate fully in their community. Additionally, they work to be good stewards of the environment and promote stewardship among the citizenry so that the people might value the place where they live and actively engage with their surroundings and each other through recreational activities.

The mission of the City of Maitland Parks and Recreation Department is to deliver quality, cost-effective recreational services and opportunities to all Maitland residents. Residents and visitors to the City's park facilities interact with first-rate employees. The City's facilities and programs enjoy brand recognition and institutional status among the variety of recreational opportunities available within the City. The parks are filled with people who reflect the diversity of the City of Maitland. Their participation fosters in them a sense of ownership in the community which in turn generates social involvement and environmental stewardship. The Department keeps pace with the recreational needs of its constituents and responds positively to citizen input.

The Parks & Recreation Department consists of seven (7) areas of responsibility:

- Administration
- Youth Services
- Senior Services
- Parks Services
- Athletics
- Community Events
- Community Relations

Parks and Recreation develops and implements leisure time activities that promote positive opportunities to enhance the quality of life for youth, teens, adults and seniors; encourages physical, creative and imaginative participation that serves and expands the interest and opportunities for participants beyond school, work or home. The Parks and Recreation Department oversees:

- 13 Parks
- 4 Natural Resource Areas
- 4 School Parks
- 2 Chain of Lake Boat Ramps
- Community Park Clubhouse
- Senior Center
- Museum
- Athletic Fields

The City also has a seven (7) member Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. This Board advises and assists the City Council in the planning of City parks and recreational facilities and related programs. During the master planning process the Department changed its name back to The Department of Parks and Recreation from the Leisure Services Department of Parks and Recreation.

Administration:

The Administrative Services mission is to provide overall direction and leadership to the Parks and Recreation Department to ensure that services are professionally and efficiently delivered to Maitland.

Administrative Services includes:

- Grant application and oversight
- Master Plan implementation
- Citizen advisory board liaison

Senior Services:

Senior Services makes a difference in people's lives by creating recreational opportunities that are diverse, interesting, accessible, and meet the needs of Maitland residents who are seniors.

Senior Services include:

- Providing recreational, educational, travel and social opportunities for Maitland's Senior population
- Conducting outreach and marketing programs to encourage participation in Senior activities

Park Services:

The mission of Park Services is to provide attractive, safe park facilities including playgrounds, basketball courts, picnic facilities, tennis and racquetball courts, gazebos, and indoor meeting spaces. Parks Services greets Community Park visitors with friendly, helpful assistance and efficient program registration and facility reservations.

Park Services include:

- Coordinating on-site reservations for Parks and Recreation programming
- Park facilities and pavilion rentals
- Community park program opportunities

Athletic Services:

Athletic Services provides organized athletic programs for youth and adults in an environment of active fun. Athletic Services offers high quality recreational experiences through organized adult league play with an emphasis on development of healthy lifestyles.

Athletic Services includes:

- Providing year-round adult and youth athletic opportunities
- Coordinating athletic and concession contractor services
- Coordinating field and facilities use scheduling

Community Events:

The mission of Community Events is to offer a diverse scope of one-time and annual recreational events that are festive in spirit, showcase City parks, and celebrate community traditions. Community Events strives to provide fun, meaningful, and relevant activities that are focused on meeting the diverse interests of our community.

Community Events includes:

- Coordinating community recreational events and celebrations
- Coordinating employee appreciation events
- Event sponsorship program development

B. Level of Service Analysis

Introduction

The City of Maitland is taking a closer look at the City's park system and its facilities to update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan that was created in 2002. The purpose of this study is to make sure that the City is on track to continue to move forward with parks development in the order most beneficial to the citizens. Since the time that the previous master plan was written new National Parks & Recreation Association (NRPA) design standards have become the norm. This criterion proposes that a city's park system is tailored to their community's distinctive needs instead of determining a successful park system by a ratio of neighborhood and community parks per community member. This Parks & Recreation master Plan update is being viewed with a hybrid approach of both old and new standards.

The current population of the City of Maitland is approximately 15,751 residents and as the City continues to annex in properties to the west of town and developers keep building more multi-family units within the city limits, the population of the City will continue to grow, placing a greater stress on the City's current Parks and Recreation facilities and services. This growth needs to be taken into consideration when determining future level of service recommendations for the city. As the City grows, its parks and recreation system will face new challenges. To prepare for these planned improvements, we studied the current assets of the park system and compared these to current and future needs of the city's residents.

Level of Service Methodology

Creating the Inventory

The Level of Service (LOS) analysis process involves a detailed inventory of public physical assets such as park amenities available for City residents, how the existing LOS as adopted in the city's Comprehensive Development Plan is being met, as well as comparing existing infrastructure to the needs of residents expressed during public input. The inventory was created using a comprehensive process to ensure the accuracy of the inventory effort.

The basic approach for these studies utilizes aerial analysis and site visits for each facility. The site visit and inventory process allows our team to verify the amenities for each of the City's facilities, assesses the condition of those amenities, and make suggestions for improvement. The data collected during the amenities inventory will set the foundation for the City to build on when facilitating future planning and general operations. This data will provide the City with a living document that can be kept up-to-date by city staff in off-planning years.

The amenities inventory currently includes: public parks, recreation facilities, and trails managed by the City of Maitland. The City currently has a total of 18 properties designated as city park land. Eight of these properties function as both a special use facility and fulfill a neighborhood park designation. One property

has a designation of a 'community park' and provides indoor activities as well as outdoor recreational facilities. More detail on each of these park land parcels will be addressed in future sections of this document. For the purposes of this study, only parks and recreation facilities managed and operated by the City were inventoried and documented. Properties available for City programs via joint use agreements with outside entities have not been considered for the study other than noting quantity of fields available to the City for programming.

To begin the analysis process we first cataloged the various parks and facilities from aerial imagery using GIS as a tool to help us locate the parks for our study, geo-locate the amenities within those parks, and input specific data on each amenity. Next, site visits were performed for each of the parks to verify the quantity and condition of the existing amenities such as; benches, trash receptacles, pavilions, court surfaces, restrooms, etc.

Amenities were graded as either being a 1, 2, or 3. The descriptions of each score are as follows; 1 – Does not meet expectations for general parks function, 2 – Meets expectations, and 3 – Exceeds expectations. For example, a playground will be given a rating of 1 if it has peeling or faded paint, no shade, inadequate surfacing, limited or no ADA access, etc. A playground rated as a 2 may be lacking only a few of these features, for instance it may have brand new play equipment but lack adequate surfacing or shade. A playground rated as a 3 will have all of these desired features; preferred surfacing such as pour-in-place rubber, a shade sail, new or updated equipment, proper fall zone spacing, ADA accessibility, etc.

General notes and observations are also made on the context of the park, taking into consideration its surroundings, accessibility, and function based on the type of area or neighborhood being serviced. Often neighborhood, community, regional, or special needs are adjectives used to describe the type of park and its context. As mentioned earlier these categories were previous guidelines established by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) and were adopted by the City in the 2002 Parks & Recreation Master Plan and incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). The NRPA's new guidelines instruct the City to tailor its park system to address any special use that is unique to the community. With this master plan update Maitland is moving towards utilizing these new guidelines. Until the CDP document can be revised to reflect these updates both classifications systems will be utilized during the transition period.

The City's definition of a 'Neighborhood Park' is a parcel of land approximately 5 to 10 acre in size that supplies both active and passive recreation that is planned for the community that lives within ½ mile of the property. The park is accessed through residential streets allowing for greater walkability to the site. Very few or no parking spaces are include and are typically used most heavily by the immediate surrounding neighborhood.

A 'Community park typically is a larger parcel, approximately 20 acres or larger, that services a larger community and often times will contain a community center such as the one found in the City of Maitland 'Community Park'. These parks typically supply a greater range of active recreation choices and are frequented by users from further away who drive to use the park. The uses offered determines the quantity of parking spaces designed for the site.

'Specialty' or 'Special Use Parks' - commuters travel from all over the city for use of their specific facilities such as baseball fields, tennis courts or other unique amenities. They typically offer a wide variety of activities and amenities for a large range of user types.

Lastly, Maitland's parks were closely scrutinized from the perspective of a park patron, assessing comfort level, existing shade and opportunities for sitting. Understanding how the parks are used and how they are servicing the public is vital in order to develop accurate conclusions for the Level of Service.

Parks Inventory and Amenity Summary

Amenity Summary

A complete Inventory Matrix is produced as part of the Level of Service analysis. The matrix provides quantitative data gleaned from the site visits to each park. It lists each type of amenity and its condition as well as any facility on site. This was accomplished over the course of this master plan process and completed in the fall of 2015.

An itemized schedule of park amenities is included in *Appendix section B* of this document. The Park Inventory and Assessment sheet was also a resource in the Level of Service Analysis; this document grades each amenity in a park and gives the overall park grade. This report can be found in *Appendix section A*; this report lists each amenity and its associated grade as a line item for each park.

Inventory Summary

In general, the overall impression of the City's park system is as follows:

- Park lands can be divided into two categories, ones that are developed and well used and maintained and ones that are either undeveloped currently or developed and unusable because of maintenance issues.
- There is approximately 600 acres of water bodies within the city limits with only one boat ramp for access at Lake Maitland. Additional waterfront access and use of the City's abundant lakes would be a significant benefit to the City's residents and visitors.
- Many of the parks thought to fit the definition of a Neighborhood Park classification in the 2001 Parks Master plan either have not been developed or upgraded as of yet to meet the community needs. The Park system has numerous gaps as categorized by the classification system but has many specialty parks that reflect the majority of the community's common interests.
- Upgrade of existing amenities is required throughout many of the park properties. Minor repairs such as water fountain adjustments and leveling of settled benches makes dysfunctional amenities useable and inviting.
- Some evidence of vandalism was evident in several of the more isolated parks.
- As stated earlier, the field maintenance, mowing of lawns, removal of litter and general upkeep is performed at a greater regularity at ballfield and special use active recreation facilities than at less prominent parks. LOS is significantly better concerning active recreation league use facilities.
- The City has many dense treed areas in numerous parks and damage can be caused to new park amenities or injury can occur if trees are not routinely inspected and limbed up. More regular tree inspections and tree 'limbing' would help with ongoing maintenance issues and would improve park usage.
- The majority of facilities require upgrading or servicing of park amenities.

Level of Service Analysis

Study maps were generated to evaluate the outdoor park facilities network, special use areas, distribution of park properties throughout the City and connectivity via the City's bike-path and sidewalk system. Also a series of maps were created to analyze actual park services areas vs projected areas in the 2001 Parks Master Plan. Recommendations were based on this information as well as site visits and inspections.

A specified radius is drawn around a park or trail. These destinations are accessed by a variety of transportation modes. These include: walking, biking, by car, public transportation, or any combination

thereof. The transportation mode is often determined, at least in part, by the distance to be travelled. Bike paths and trail systems can aid in this service calculation.

The city of Maitland is a compact city of approximately 7 square miles of acreage. The City has a sidewalk system program and a bike path/ on-road bike lanes that connect the City. There are many gaps in the routes but the City is working to create safe, fun trails for those who choose an alternate means of transportation while recreating.

One of the major detriments to the system has been the major road systems and train lines that divide the City. Two major highway divisions occur north to south and one major road bisects the city from east to west. The largest obstacle to this recreational/ transportation system has been the crossing of I4. Now with the proposed installation of the pedestrian bridge over I4 that is part of the highway upgrades, the City's pedestrian transportation network will finally be linked between this east-west deterrent.

This connection will allow a much greater ability for recreational users to access facilities on either side of the highway that at one time they would have been inclined to drive to due to the time required for the full trip. The Neighborhood Park definition states that a neighborhood park should be within a 15 minute walk on low volume streets or pathways to service the community in this manner. This connection will expand the community's travel options to access both special use parks and neighborhood parks while utilizing the path system for recreational purposes.

LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

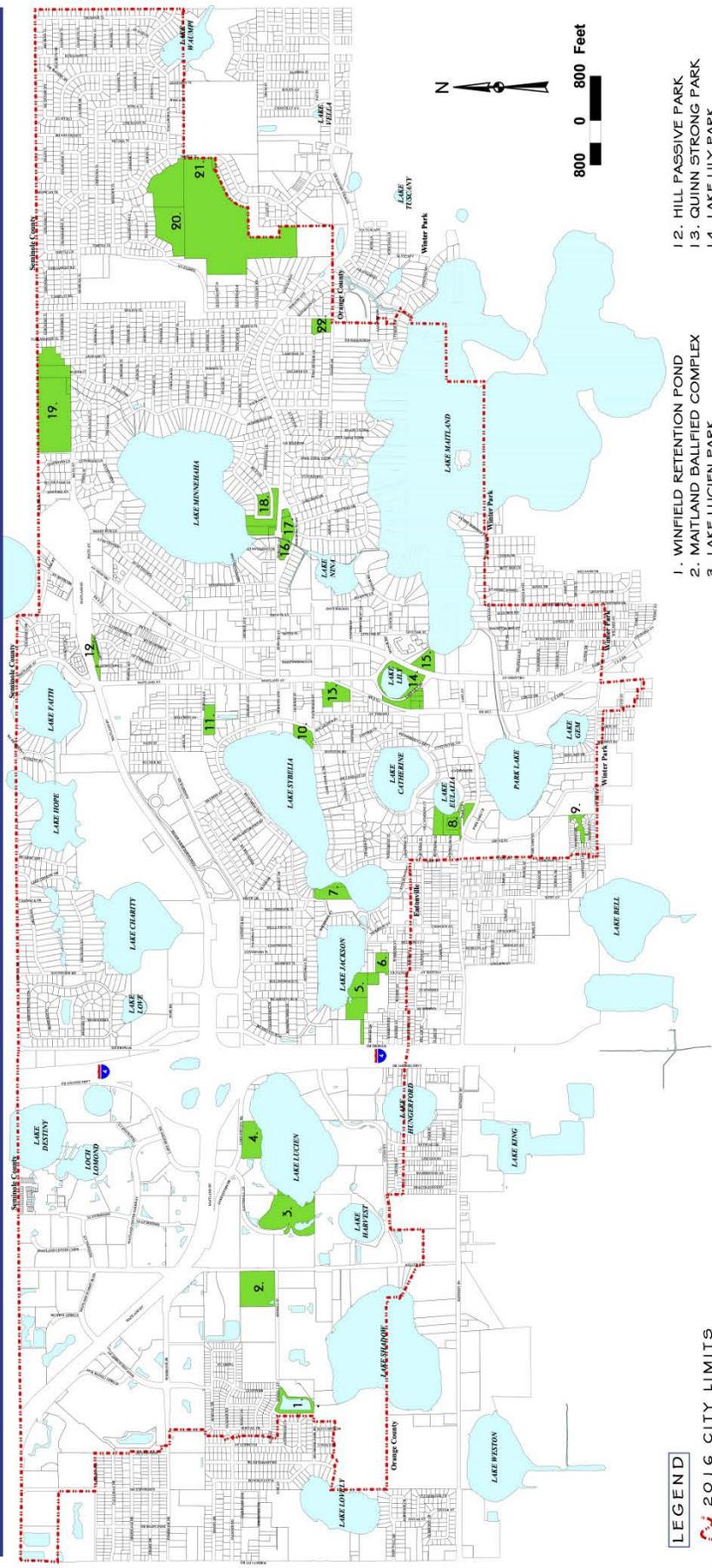
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Additional maps along with enlarged areas are included in this document as Appendix X for greater clarity.



PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

INVENTORY OF THE CITY OF MAITLAND'S DESIGNATED PARK LAND



LEGEND

2016 CITY LIMITS

LAKES

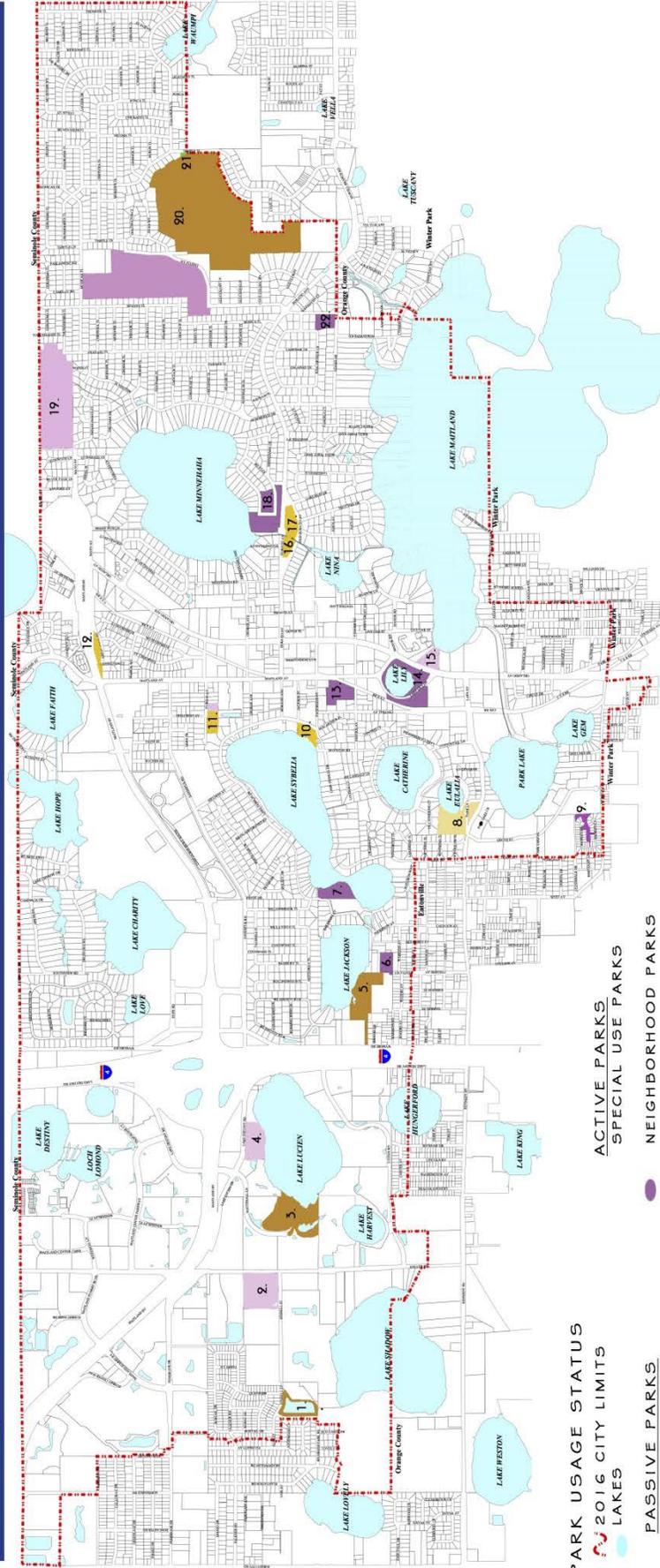
MAITLAND PROPERTIES DESIGNATED AS PARK LAND

- 1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
- 2. MAITLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
- 3. LAKE LUCIEN PARK
- 4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER CEMETERY
- 5. LAKE JACKSON
- 6. BELLAMY PARK
- 7. SYBELLA POINT PARK
- 8. O'HEIR PROPERTY
- 9. HAMLET PARK
- 10. LAKE SYBELLA BEACH
- 11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
- 12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
- 13. QUINN STRONG PARK
- 14. LAKE LILY PARK
- 15. FORT MAITLAND PARK
- 16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK
- 17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
- 18. MINNEHAHA PARK
- 19. MAITLAND COMMUNITY PARK
- 20. WILDERNESS PARK
- 21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
- 22. KINGS ROW PARK



PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

INVENTORY OF THE CITY OF MAITLAND'S DESIGNATED PARK LANDS - CURRENT USES OR DEVELOPMENT



- PARK USAGE STATUS**
- 2016 CITY LIMITS
 - LAKES
 - PASSIVE PARKS
 - OPEN SPACE DEVELOPED
 - OPEN SPACE UNDEVELOPED
 - WETLAND AREAS
 - LEASED CITY PARK LAND

- ACTIVE PARKS**
- SPECIAL USE PARKS
 - NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS
 - COMMUNITY PARK
 - NON-CITY FACILITIES

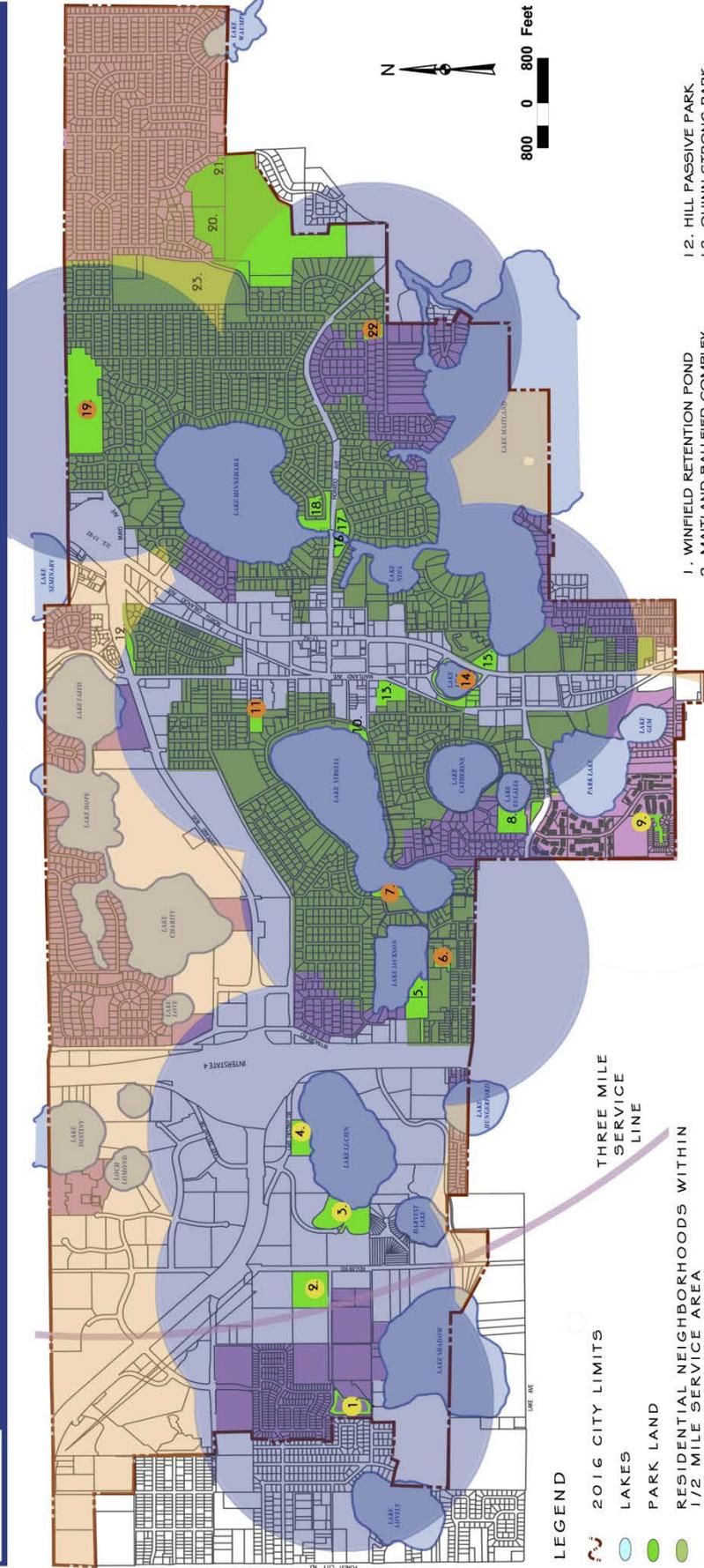
- LOCATIONS**
1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
 2. MAITLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
 3. LAKE LUCIEN PARK
 4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER CEMETERY
 5. LAKE JACKSON
 6. BELLAMY PARK
 7. SYBELLA POINT PARK
 - *8. O'HEIR PROPERTY
 9. HAMLET PARK
 10. LAKE SYBELLA BEACH
 11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
 12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
 13. QUINN STRONG PARK
 14. LAKE LILY PARK
 15. FORT MAITLAND PARK
 16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK
 17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
 18. MINNEHAHA PARK
 19. MAITLAND COMMUNITY PARK
 20. WILDERNESS PARK
 21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
 22. KINGS ROW PARK





PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS - UNSERVICED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN 2016



1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
2. MATLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
3. LAKE LUCIEN PARK
4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER CEMETERY
5. LAKE JACKSON
6. BELLAMY PARK
7. SYBELIA POINT PARK
- *8. O'HEIR PROPERTY
(leased to privately owned bed & breakfast)
9. HAMLET PARK
10. LAKE SYBELIA BEACH
11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
13. QUINN STRONG PARK
14. LAKE LILY PARK
15. FORT MATLAND PARK
16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK
17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
18. MINNEHAHA PARK
19. MATLAND COMMUNITY PARK
20. WILDERNESS PARK
21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
22. KINGS ROW PARK
23. MATLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL BALLFIELDS

- LEGEND**
- 2016 CITY LIMITS
 - LAKES
 - PARK LAND
 - THREE MILE SERVICE LINE
 - RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS WITHIN 1/2 MILE SERVICE AREA
 - RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS WITHIN 3 MILE SERVICE AREA
 - EXISTING NEIGHBORHOOD PARK CLASSIFICATION PER 2001 PARKS MASTER PLAN STANDARDS
 - SPECIALTY PARKS OR UNDEVELOPED LANDS THAT COULD MEET NEIGHBORHOOD PARK STANDARDS
 - AREAS NOT SERVICED BY NEIGHBORHOOD PARK LANDS
 - 1/2 MILE SERVICE RADIUS

Level of Service Considerations

- Focus on upgrading the existing parks. A number of the parks have been re-master planned and are waiting for funding to proceed with the construction. A coordinated capital improvements plan for the execution of park upgrades should be a priority.

The park system does not meet the basic level of service needs established in 2001. A solid effort needs to be made to move forward with the City's existing park land properties and improve them so as to upgrade the overall system. Currently many are just stockpiled for future use and the properties are being proposed for other uses since no action has been taken to use them for recreation purposes. Parks that have been recently upgraded need to have continued funding to keep the high quality established with the redevelopment so it does not quickly deteriorate and fall below basic level of service criteria again.

- Increase funding for maintenance activity in the parks. With the recent park upgrades and the joint use agreement with Orange County Public Schools for use of the ballfields, maintenance staff and dollars are stretched to their limits. Commitment needs to be made to fund maintenance of park facilities through increased CIP dollars.
- Master plan and reconstruct the following parks:
 - Hill Passive Park
 - Hill Recreation Center
 - Ft Maitland Park
 - Maitland Ballfield renovation project
 - Lake Sybelia Beach Park

Community input meetings for specific parks are likely to reveal insights as to what facilities are important to the citizens to be located in their neighborhood facility. This input would lend itself to establishing a park system that truly reflects the needs of the neighborhood and allow for any new trends that they may determine necessary for their recreational needs.

- Construct parks that have already been master planned:
 - Winfield park
 - Lake Destiny Park
 - Quinn Strong Park Phase II
- Create a cohesive identity for the City's parks. Wayfinding, site furnishings, lighting standards, playground equipment, and paving materials generally differ from park to park. While it is important to give parks a unique design corresponding to the needs of its immediate users, it is also important for the overall park system to be clearly identified as being a part of the City's brand and to simplify maintenance equipment and supplies.
- Initiate or increase park inspections to make sure that the parks and trail systems are brought and kept up to high standards.
- Investigate the City's conservation/ wetland properties to see if any or all of it is actually developable into an amenity for the citizens. If not, then determine what other properties can supplement the current park land system to supply the lower ratio of recreation lands per community members.

Determine if the wetland areas that the city currently owns can be made into an environmental learning center as once discussed. Plan for uses that allow these areas to be part of the calculation for open green space for the CDP requirements but also add amenities that the City currently does not have available to its citizenry.

- Invest in providing better play surfaces for playgrounds throughout the City. Evaluate parks for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and develop a plan to address any such deficiencies quickly. Mulch surfacing is hard to transverse, ADA Accessible surfaces such as pour-in-place surfacing, or an equivalent long-lasting surface, would be preferred. The benefit to pour-in-place is that it is a smooth surface that provides better access for wheelchair, scooter, and special needs users. It also significantly upgrades the aesthetic of the play area adding color, potential themes and visual interest. Play structures should also be shaded to protect equipment from wear and children from sun exposure.
- Look for opportunities to create connectivity from park to park, trail to trail, and greenspace to greenspace for pedestrians, cyclists, and other non-motorized users. With the east-west link being constructed, wayfinding signage is extremely important to give direction and announce amenities along the bike path systems.
- Create a better wayfinding system and provide unique identities for the City's parks. Include facilities of other providers, such as County schools/parks within this wayfinding system especially as linkages continue to be built and tie into regional systems
- Determine the best use of city properties to take advantage of lakefront access, whether it is opening views to the waterways or providing access and creating 'Blueways' where possible. The City is fortunate to have a significant amount of waterfront park land.
- Consider and research water re-use as a sustainable practice. The City of Maitland is committed to utilizing low impact design standards to treat the City's stormwater runoff into its water bodies and to the City's stormwater system. Enhancing and introducing these practices provides environmental education and helps create a more sustainable community.
- Analyze and coordinate the Stormwater Master Plan with the Parks Master Plan to see what areas and/or improvements needs to be addressed to enhance the community and the quality of life of the residents.
- Continue to analyze existing parks and future park improvements for compliance with principals of CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design) to reduce crime and enhance community safety through natural surveillance, natural access control, territorial enforcement, and maintenance.

V. Great Things to Come - Recommendations and Action Plans

A. Recommendations

After analyzing the Findings that resulted from this process, including the Key Issues Matrix, a summary of all research, the qualitative and quantitative data, inventory, LOS analyses, and input assembled for this study, a variety of recommendations have emerged to provide guidance in consideration of how to improve parks, recreation and greenways/trails/bike paths in the City of Maitland. This section describes ways to enhance the level of service and the quality of life with improvement through organizational efficiencies, financial opportunities, improved programming and service delivery, and maintenance and improvements to facilities and amenities.

Goal 1: Continue to Improve Organizational Efficiencies

Objective 1.1 – Maintain existing level of service goal

The City of Maitland currently has a Level of Service (LOS) that is 5 acres of park land per 1,000 population. Based on the parks and recreation element of the Maitland Comprehensive Development Plan, the level of service is calculated as 2.5 acres of *Neighborhood Park* and 2.5 acres of *Community Park* to reach the 5 acres per 1,000 population. Based on the current classification system and inventory the city is not meeting the current LOS because several of the parks do not conform to the current classification. The City should remove the subcategories of *Neighborhood Park* and *Community Park* but maintain the overall LOS at 5 acres of park land per 1,000 population. Additionally, the City should include a Level of Service Standard that considers components within parks and a radius of .5 miles per component for walkability.

Objective 1.2 – Enhance and improve internal and external communication regarding Department activities and services.

The Parks and Recreation Department should develop a Marketing Plan that will guide the department's efforts in communicating and promoting its activities and facilities. This will create great awareness and should include all recommendations in the Master Plan for programs, services, and facility upgrades. The Marketing Plan should address the Department's website, use of Social Media, and use of online administrative tools for registrations, reservations and payments. The Department had previously offered an online option to citizens without significant acceptance. Using an educational and promotional strategy will help increase the success of online administrative tools. Also as part of the Marketing Plan, the Department should develop signage standards for parks and update existing park signs as parks are renovated to meet the new standard and create a brand for the Department. Finally, the Marketing Plan should be reviewed annually, updated as needed and include marketing strategies that incorporate the efforts of partner departments and projects.

Objective 1.3 – Provide improved signage agency-wide to make it easier for patrons to find and use parks, facilities, and pathways.

The Parks and Recreation Department should continue to evaluate directional and wayfinding signage to facilities on roadways, pathways, and within parks. The City conducted and adopted a Wayfinding Study,

this study should be used as the framework for future improvements. Improved wayfinding signage will contribute to a greater connectivity of parks, facilities and pathways.

Objective 1.4 – Maintain existing facilities and amenities.

There was a great public response to make sure that Parks and Recreation maintains and improves existing facilities. The Department should continue to improve and upgrade existing facilities and amenities as well as address low scoring components for the master plan inventory through the CIP Plan, Fixed Asset Replacement and the Cyclical Maintenance Plan. The Department should continue to work closely with the Public Works Department and the implementation of the Cyclical Maintenance Programs to insure consistent application of maintenance standards and cost efficiencies.

Objective 1.5 – Upgrade and increase the use of technology to improve customer service and efficiencies.

Mobile marketing is trending upward. Usage rates of mobile applications demonstrate that chronologically across all major age groups, Millennials tend to get information more frequently using mobile devices such as smart phones. Parks and Recreation should explore additional social media uses and navigation apps for parks and pathways. The Department should also revisit the use of online registration, facility booking and payments to improved customer service and increase efficiencies in service delivery. Additionally, the Department's website must be kept current and updated regularly with ongoing events, services and amenities to provide efficiencies and increase customer service.

Objective 1.6 – Increase appropriate partnerships within the community.

The City of Maitland Parks and Recreation Department currently partners with a number of agencies to provide programs, activities and events to the community. The Department should continue to explore additional opportunities as well as build on its existing partnerships. Where not already in place, the Department should ensure that all existing and future partnerships are accurately portrayed in a signed partnership agreement.

Objective 1.7 – Staff appropriately to meet current demand and maintain established quality of service.

As recommendations in the Master Plan for programs, services, new facilities, greenways, bike paths and trails, parks and facility upgrades are implemented, it is important to maintain staffing levels to achieve current performance standards. This will require new positions both in Parks and Recreation divisions.

Objective 1.8 – Maintain and keep current the Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Policies.

The Parks and Recreation Department is governed by City Code and internal standards of operations and policies. The Department should review the City Code Chapter and the CDP for parks and recreation periodically and recommend updates as needed. Additionally, they should review Department SOPs and policies annually and update as needed and coordinate policies that incorporate the efforts of partner departments and other organizational units and projects.

Objective 1.9 – Expand Volunteer Program.

The Department's current Volunteer Program should be reviewed periodically and when demand and new development require it, and expanded to meet those growing needs. Additionally, it should continue to make use of other volunteer opportunities for park projects and events.

Objective 1.10 – Coordinate implementation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan with other City departments and other City planning efforts.

The City of Maitland has completed or is in the process of completing several master planning processes that will affect the Department of Parks and Recreation. Those plans include the Bike and Ped Plan, Wayfinding Study, Cultural Corridor Master Plan, Downtown Maitland Revitalization Plan, and Independence Lane / Festival Street Design. It will be important that the Parks and Recreation Department work closely with the other departments to implement the recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Master Plan and insure that its implementation is coordinated with these other planning processes and there is no duplication of efforts or conflicts.

Goal 2: Increase Financial Opportunities

Objective 2.1 – Maintain and keep current the Department Revenue Policy.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has adopted a Department Revenue Policy that outlines the resource allocation and cost recovery philosophy, model, and policy that is grounded in the values, vision, and mission of the City of Maitland, while generating adequate revenues to help sustain City facilities, parks, programs, and services. This policy should be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Objective 2.2 – Pursue grant and philanthropic opportunities.

The Department currently takes advantage of grant opportunities available for programming and facility improvements. The Parks and Recreation Department should continue to pursue any and all grant opportunities at the federal, state, regional, and local levels. To accomplish this, the Department should consider contracting with a dedicated grant writer to research, submit, and track such grants.

Objective 2.3 – Explore Additional Funding Options.

The Department should continue to explore opportunities and develop strategies to seek alternative funding sources that may include donations, grants, sponsorships and a dedicated tax. A dedicated tax is a possible strategy for a sustained revenue source to meet park upgrades and maintenance demands.

Objective 2.4 –Evaluate Developer Impact Fee Ordinance.

The current Parks and Recreation Impact Fee, Ordinance 1183 establishes an impact fee schedule of \$2,151 per single family dwelling and multi-family dwelling. This schedule should be reviewed and based on the level of service adopted in the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan, and propose the implementation of separate impact fees for single family and multi-family dwellings based on the difference in the population density of each.

Objective 2.5 – Explore a Bond Referendum for Parks.

Based on community input and the results from the community wide survey, the community appears willing to support the issuing of a Bond to pay for the improvements that come out of this Parks and Recreation Master Plan. A campaign for an increased community investment may be a successful way of implementing the long term recommendations in the Master Plan.

Goal 3: Continue to Improve Programs and Service Delivery

Objective 3.1 – Explore opportunities to increase recreational opportunities based on demand and trends.

The Department should continue to look for opportunities to expand recreational programs and activities based on community demand and current trends. As new programs are developed, continue to monitor recreational trends to stay current. As popularity in program offerings and activities increases, continue to look for opportunities to expand programs around working hours and commuting citizens' schedules. As new programs and services are developed and implemented, continue to create a balance between passive and active recreation.

Objective 3.2 – Explore opportunities to increase the number of events based on demand and trends.

The department should continue to look for opportunities to expand neighborhood and community special events. In order to ensure events reflect the diversity of the community, the Department should engage the community in event development.

Objective 3.3 – Explore offering more non-athletic and non-traditional programs.

Based on demand and current trends in the industry the Department should explore opportunities to develop and expand programs that are outdoor/nature-based/environmentally focused. There are also opportunities to develop or expand on non-traditional sports programs such as disc golf, pickle ball, and/or ultimate Frisbee.

Objective 3.4 – Work with Other Service Providers to develop programs and service to meet demand and trends.

As popularity in program offerings, events, and activities increases, continue to look for opportunities to expand these while working with other service providers within the City, and formalize these agreements in writing.

Goal 4: Maintain and Improve Facilities and Amenities

Objective 4.1 – Maintain and improve existing facilities.

The Department should continue to implement existing plans, the CIP, Public Work's Cyclical Maintenance, and the Master Plan. Additionally the Department needs to address the deferred maintenance backlog focusing on low scoring components identified as part of the inventory. These plans should be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

Objective 4.2 – Expand greenways, bike paths and trails and connectivity.

The Department should continue to implement the existing bike/ped plan and update as needed based on annual reviews. As new and existing greenways, bike paths and trails are designed and implemented, the Department should consider adding fitness stations and family fun stations in appropriate locations along the greenways, bike paths, and trails.

Objective 4.3 – Develop additional recreational opportunities.

Based on feedback from focus group participants and the survey results, there is a need for additional indoor recreation space. The Department should continue to explore opportunities to add additional indoor recreation space either through partnerships, purchase of an existing facility, or construction of a community center or recreation center. Additionally, focus groups and survey respondents wanted

additional opportunities to gain access to the lakes for non-motorized activities like canoeing, kayaking, and standup Paddleboarding.

Objective 4.4 – Develop individual Park Master Plans.

Based on the Inventory and Level of Service recommendations in the Master Plan, develop individual park master plans to address low scoring components and repurpose spaces for better usage. Those parks that were identified during the inventory and LOS analysis are:

- Ft Maitland Park
- Hill Passive Park
- Hill Recreation Center
- Lake Sybelia Beach Park
- Maitland Ballfield renovation project

Additionally, there are several parks that have been master planned, but those plan have not been implemented. Also based on the inventory and LOS analysis those plans should be reviewed, undated if needs have changed, and implemented. Those parks are:

- Lake Destiny Park
- Quinn Strong Park Phase II
- Winfield park

Objective 4.5 – Continue to improve ADA accessibility at all facilities.

According to the ADA.gov website, *“Access to civic life by people with disabilities is a fundamental goal of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). To ensure that this goal is met, Title II of the ADA requires State and local governments to make their programs and services accessible to persons with disabilities... One important way to ensure that Title II's requirements are being met in cities of all sizes is through self-evaluation, which is required by the ADA regulations. Self-evaluation enables local governments to pinpoint the facilities, programs, and services that must be modified or relocated to ensure that local governments are complying with the ADA.”*

Parks and Recreation currently does not have an ADA Accessibility Transition Plan which identifies needed changes during a self-evaluation process. The Department needs to conduct a self-evaluation and develop a comprehensive transition plan. Once the ADA Transition Plan is developed and adopted, improvements should be made, and the Plan should be updated at least every 5 years.

Objective 4.6 – Upgrade convenience and customer service amenities to existing facilities.

As the Department is making upgrades to and improving existing facilities, it should explore opportunities to add ADA accessibility, shade, public art, storage, security lighting, seating, and other amenities appropriately at existing facility.

Objective 4.7 – Address identified service gaps.

Based on the LOS analysis and population distribution, the Department needs to continue to address unused or undeveloped properties for additional, future park development. When considering new parks, priority should be given to areas where LOS is below threshold and barriers exist to access recreation opportunities, such as I-4 and Maitland Boulevard

Objective 4.8 – Create plans that address development, acquisition and use of vacant spaces.

Develop a plan to identify the current inventory of available, developable parkland for future expansion, assessing the current inventory of available, unused or under-used facilities for future redevelopment or expansion. The current Bike/Pedestrian Plan and the Sidewalk Upgrade Study inventory existing sidewalks, pathways, trails, and greenways, and should be used to identify possible connections as well as gaps in connectivity.

B. Recommendations with Actionable Planning, Cost Estimates and Prioritization

The following Goals, Objectives, and Action Items for the recommendations are drawn from the public input, inventory, level of service analysis, findings feedback, and all the information gathered during the master planning process with a primary focus on maintaining, sustaining, and improving the City of Maitland parks, recreation, lakes, and greenways/trails. All cost estimates are in 2015 figures where applicable. Most costs are dependent on the extent of the enhancements and improvements determined.

Timeframe to complete is designated as:

- Short-term (up to 3 years)
- Mid-term (4-6 years)
- Long-term (7-10 years)
- Ongoing (occurs on a continuous basis)

Goal 1: Continue to Improve Organizational Efficiencies

Objective 1.1: <i>Maintain and increase the existing level of service quality to citizens</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.1.a Continue the planning goal of 5 acres of developed park land per 1,000 population.	TBD	TBD	Short Term
Objective 1.2: <i>Enhance and improve internal and external communication regarding department activities and services</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.2.a Develop a Marketing Plan.	\$0	Staff Time	Short Term
1.2.b Review annually and update the Marketing Plan as needed.	\$0	Staff Time	Mid Term Long Term
Objective 1.3: <i>Provide improved signage city-wide to make it easier for patrons to find and use parks, facilities, greenways and trails</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.3.a Enhance and update existing park signs as parks are renovated.	TBD	Staff Time	Short Term Mid Term
1.3.b Improve connectivity by implementation of recommendations from the adopted Wayfinding Study.	TBD	Staff Time	Short Term Mid Term
Objective 1.4: <i>Maintain existing facilities and amenities</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.4.a Continue to improve and upgrade existing facilities and amenities as well as address low scoring components through the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).	Use CIP	Staff Time	On-going
1.4.b Working with the Public Works Department, develop a Cyclical Maintenance Program to insure consistent application of maintenance standards and cost efficiencies to address low scoring components.	Cyclical Maintenance Programs	Staff Time	Short Term
Objective 1.5: <i>Upgrade and increase use of technology to improve customer service and efficiencies</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.5.a	\$0	Staff Time	Short Term

Explore opportunities to expand the use of technology department wide such as online registration and payments, mobile application, etc.			
Objective 1.6: <i>Increase appropriate partnerships and collaborations within the community</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.6.a Explore additional partnership opportunities as well as build on existing partnerships.	\$0	Staff Time TBD Potential increased revenue or decreased expenses	On-going
1.6.b Ensure all existing and future partnerships are accurately portrayed in a signed partnership agreement (Sample Partnership Policy can be found in Appendix E).	\$0	Staff Time	Short Term
1.6.c Collaborate with other City Departments to achieve goals and objectives, and increase efficiencies.	\$0	Staff Time TBD Potential decreased expenses	On-going
Objective 1.7: <i>Staff appropriately to meet current demand and future need to maintain established quality of service</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.7.a Hire, conduct orientation with, and train staff for current and future recreation programming and facility usage demands.	\$0	TBD	On-going
Objective 1.8: <i>Maintain and keep current the Department Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) and Policies</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.8.a Review Department SOP and policies annually and update as needed.	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
1.8.b Review the City Code Chapter for Parks and Recreation periodically and recommend updates as needed.	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
Objective 1.9: <i>Expand Volunteer Program</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete

1.9.a Improve and develop additional volunteer opportunities.	\$0	Staff Time	Short-Term
1.9.b Continue to make use of other volunteer opportunities for park projects and events.	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
Objective 1.10: <i>Coordinate implementation of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan with other city departments and other city planning efforts</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
1.10.a Work with other City departments to implement the recommendations from the Parks and Recreation Master Plan.	\$0	Staff Time	Short-Term
1.10.b Work with other City departments to coordinate other City planning processes to avoid duplication and conflict.	\$0	Staff Time	Short-Term

Goal 2: Increase Financial Opportunities

Objective 2.1 <i>Maintain and keep current the Department Revenue Policy</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
2.1.a Review Department Revenue Policy annually and update as needed.	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
Objective 2.2: <i>Pursue grant and philanthropic opportunities</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
2.2.a Continue to pursue grant opportunities and philanthropic donations using the City of Maitland Parks Foundation as the non-profit vehicle.	\$0	Staff Time	Short Term
Objective 2.3: <i>Explore additional funding options</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
2.3.a Develop strategy to seek alternative funding sources that includes donations, grants, sponsorships and a dedicated tax.	\$0	Staff Time	Short-Term
2.3.b Develop strategy to explore a dedicated tax as a sustained revenue source for park improvements and maintenance demands.	\$0	Staff Time	Short-Term

Objective 2.4: <i>Evaluate Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Ordinance</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
2.4.a Review Parks and Recreation Impact Fee Ordinance 1183 based on the 2016 Parks and Recreation Master Plan and recommend updates as needed.	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
Objective 2.5: <i>Explore a Bond Referendum for Parks</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
2.5.a Develop and employ strategy to pursue a Bond Referendum in the future that includes an educational component as well as a marketing strategy.	TBD	Staff Time	Short Term
2.5.b Develop and implement an Educational and Marketing Campaign that will create awareness within the community about the needs and effects of the Bond.	Amount of the Bond	Staff Time	Short Term
2.5.c Find opportunities within the City to foster champions for a Bond Referendum to assist with education and marketing.	TBD	Staff Time	Short Term

Goal 3: Continue to Improve Programs and Service Delivery

Objective 3.1: <i>Explore opportunities to increase recreational programs and services based on demand and trends</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
3.1.a Continue to monitor recreational trends and demand to stay current with programming	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
3.1.b Continue to look for opportunities to expand programs around working hours and commuting citizens.	\$0	Staff Time	On-going
3.1.c As new programs and services are developed and implemented, continue to create a balance between passive and active recreation.	\$0	Staff Time	Ongoing
Objective 3.2: <i>Explore opportunities to increase the number of events based on demand and trends</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete

3.2.a Continue to look for opportunities to expand and increase the number community events based on demand.	\$0	TBD	Short Term Mid-Term
Objective 3.3: <i>Explore offering more non-athletic and non-traditional programs</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
3.3.a Look for opportunities to develop and expand programs that are outdoor/nature-based/environmental focused.	\$0	TBD	Ongoing
3.3.b Look for opportunities to develop and expand non-traditional sports programs that meet current trends.	TBD	TBD	Ongoing
Objective 3.4: <i>Work with Other Service Providers to develop programs and service to meet demand and trends</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
3.4.a Continue to look for opportunities to expand programs while working with the other service providers within the City, and formalize these agreements in writing.	\$0	TBD	Ongoing

Goal 4: Improve Facilities and Amenities

Objective 4.1 <i>Maintain and improve existing facilities</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
4.1.a Continue to implement existing plans, Capital Improvements Plan, Master Plan, and Cyclical Maintenance Program to address low scoring components.	\$???	\$0	Ongoing
Objective 4.2: <i>Expand greenways, bike paths and trail connectivity</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
4.2.a Working with the updated bike/ped plan, continue to develop greenways and expand to connect neighborhoods and parks.	Costs will vary based on location and design	\$0	Ongoing
Objective 4.3: <i>Develop additional recreational opportunities</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete

4.3.a Explore opportunities to provide additional indoor recreation space.	TBD	TBD	Mid-Term Long Term
4.3.b Explore opportunity to provide access to lakes for non-motorized activities like canoeing, kayaking and standup paddleboarding.	TBD	TBD	Mid Term
Objective 4.4: <i>Develop individual Park Master Plans</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
4.4.a Based on the Inventory and LOS recommendations, develop individual park master plans to address low scoring components and repurpose spaces for better usage.	TBD	TBD	Short Term Mid Term Long Term
Objective 4.5: <i>Continue to improve ADA accessibility at all facilities</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
4.5.a Develop a Parks and Recreation specific ADA Transition Plan.	TBD	TBD	Short Term Mid-Term
4.5.b Update the ADA Transition Plan every 5 years.	\$0	Staff Time	Mid Term Long Term
Objective 4.6: <i>Upgrade convenience and customer service amenities to existing facilities</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
4.6.a Explore opportunities to add shade, storage, public art, security lighting, seating, etc., appropriately at existing facilities.	TBD	TBD	Ongoing
Objective 4.7: <i>Identify gaps that are need of service</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete
4.7.a Develop a strategy to address areas of low service based on the LOS analysis and consider geographic barriers when looking at future facilities and services.	TBD	TBD	Ongoing
Objective 4.8: <i>Create a plan that addresses development, acquisition and use of vacant spaces</i>			
Actions	Capital Cost Estimate	Operational Budget Impact	Timeframe to Complete

<p>4.8.a Develop a plan to identify the current inventory of available, developable parkland for future expansion.</p>	TBD	TBD	Short-Term
<p>4.8.b Develop a plan to address the current inventory of available, unused or under used facilities for future redevelopment or expansion.</p>	TBD	TBD	Short-Term

WORKING DRAFT

Appendix A: Focus Group Summary

Community and Stakeholder Input Introduction

Public input was held April 7-8, 2015 at various locations within The City of Maitland. The meetings entailed focus groups, staff meetings, and an open public forum. Focus groups were by invitation extended via parks and recreation staff with the idea of mixing area residents and stakeholders with differing points of view to solicit broad-based perspectives. Each meeting was approximately 90 minutes long. A series of questions were facilitated by GreenPlay and Tindale-Oliver to ensure adequate input was received from all attendees.

There were a total of 5 focus groups with the public and staff. There were a total of 45 individuals that participated to give their input.

Strengths and opportunities for improvement

The residents of The City of Maitland benefit from a generally good geographic distribution of parks throughout the city, with some underserved areas. Participants embrace the fact that their parks are visually appealing and form the heart of the community. They feel like the programs offered are well run, diverse, affordable, and operated by dedicated employees. They specifically called out the Farmer's Market as one of the model programs. Participants indicate that they feel the quality of programs offered currently are good. Due to the popularity of programs, city staff does as much as they can with limited resources, and that causes a strain on amenities. Some of the facilities are dated and in need of renovations, and there is concern about adequate staff to program, operate and maintain facilities. General items such as lack of parking, restrooms, connectivity, and safety were all identified as opportunities for improvement. Along with physical improvements, improvement of communication and availability of information are also important to users.

Programming, activities, and locations

The City of Maitland residents love their programs. Although they are generally satisfied, they do have an apparent demand for more program offerings. Included among the additional programs are more fitness programs, enrichment classes, environmental education and gardening, and non-traditional and adventure water sports like kayaking and Standup Paddleboarding. As new programs are developed participants wanted to create a balance between passive and active recreation. Certain demographics may also be underserved including seniors, tweens and teens.

New facilities

When asked to "dream big" the following were suggestions for new parks and recreation facilities in the City:

- Neighborhood park west of I-4
- Permanent outdoor stages/performance area
- Recreation center
- Park Downtown
- Lake access
- Spray Park downtown
- Skateboard Park/Facility
- Quinn Strong Park Development completion

- Wayfinding for parks and other cultural resources
- Bikeways/bike paths - connectivity

Funding and Partners

The idea for a new bond was met with good support from the meeting participants. Most felt that if it was a transparent process with a good plan in place, it would be supported. In addition to a bond, other ideas for funding included increased impact fees, taxes, and user fees. Everyone seemed to support the idea of utilizing a mix of funding methods to advance the department.

Values

The City of Maitland residents value their parks and recreation system and feel like they get very good service from staff. Users would like to see increased support for greenspace and trees, maintenance of what the city currently has, community engagement and sustainable principles integrated into facilities that already exist. They see the need to address the development and redevelopment in the downtown core, as well as completion of park projects that already exist. They also want good communication about events, services and program offerings. Quality and affordable programming is a priority, while ensuring access to diverse offerings throughout the entire City. Connectivity and public access to the lakes, along with balancing active and passive recreation were values the participants expressed.

The follow are the lists of responses from the Focus Groups and the Stakeholder meetings. These are the raw responses and they are not in priority order. Those responses with an asterisk (*) represents multiple or repeated responses.

Focus Group Questions

- 1) How long have you been a resident of Maitland?
 - 3/ <5 years
 - 1/ 5-9 years
 - 4/ 10-19 years
 - 9/ 20+ years
 - 4/ Not a resident but use programs / facilities

- 2) What are the strengths of the Parks and Recreation Department that should be continued over the next several years?
 - Significance of the green space and the trees***
 - Visual Appeal - Parks are attractive, well maintained, landscaped, pretty**
 - Senior Center*
 - City upkeep of ballfields/park maintenance*
 - Current staff
 - Willingness of City to look for new park sites and opportunities
 - City creative/resourceful in providing service under a tight budget
 - Fiscal responsible
 - Programming – farmers market is impressive
 - The Maitland Community Park
 - Tennis programs managed/run well (Mayo Park – well established, safe, kids play)
 - Keeps kids active

- School personnel – go above and beyond to maintain/coordination with Joint Use Agreement (civic interactions)
- 3) Conversely, what are the major weaknesses that need to be addressed through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan?
- Connectivity and walking paths (sidewalks and bike paths)*****
 - West side/east side connection (hard on west side to get to the south side of Maitland Blvd on west side – new overpass may help)**
 - Communication/marketing voids*** (people do not know where all the parks are – work on types of communication)
 - Need more safe bike paths that are family and recreational user friendly**(multi-purpose)
 - Lack of communication and collaboration with residents and HOAs*
 - More historic, cultural and environmental information such as signage and markers**
 - Undeveloped and Underutilized parks such as Quin Strong Park*
 - Very little public access to the lakes for non-motorized (maybe a safety issue if more traffic on lakes, especially on the weekends) *
 - Lack of funding for facilities, and maintenance
 - Need more facilities
 - Need more parks on the west side of I-4
 - Natural resources education
 - Implementation of park planning
 - Lack of Parking at the parks
 - Lack of staging for outdoor performances
 - Central Downtown Park is needed* (urban park design, passive park, outdoor entertainment venue)
 - Maintenance services and budget is controlled by public works not parks and recreation
 - Little park near Horatio Avenue (Minihaha Park) – public outreach to some of the residents did not happen. Did not talk to any moms. Playground area is a concern (playground equipment looked dangerous; safety concerns). Communication issue – did not talk to all residents.
 - Wayfinding
 - Need more water fountains
 - What can we do with Dog Island
- 4) How satisfied are you with the quality of current programs offered? Why?
- 3/ Excellent - 7/ - Very Good – 3/ Good – 1/ Fair – 1/ Poor
- No places for yoga mat
 - People do not know what is available***
- 5) What additional programs or activities do you feel the Department should offer that are currently not available?
- Need to better communicate, market and coordinate current programs available within the Maitland community (public, private and non-profit) to promote what is available **
 - Fitness/wellness programs and social classes (i.e. cooking classes, health education)*
 - Gardening classes
 - Environmental classes

- Provide parks that encourage people to be active but not necessarily city going out to promote/market a sport/fitness outlet (other than tennis)
 - Fee-based sports activities (basketball)
 - Summer Activity pass for youth
 - Additional special events – for economic development (Lake Lily and Quin Strong Park)
 - Croquet
- 6) How satisfied are you with the overall quality of the existing park and recreation facilities provided by the Maitland Parks and Recreation Department? Why?
4/ Excellent - 11/ Very Good – 2/Good – 1/Fair – 0/ Poor
- Depends on the park
- 7) How would you rate the overall level of maintenance at the facilities owned or operated by the Department? Please identify the location and specifics of any maintenance concerns.
6/ Excellent - 10/ Very Good – 3/ Good – 1/ Fair – 1/ Poor
- there is an issue about the lack of control of park maintenance by the parks and recreation department because it is taken care of by public works
 - Homerhuff is kind of a jungle – good idea, well done. Good public access to Lake Sybellia
- 8) What improvements are needed at existing facilities? Where are these improvements needed?
- More space for yoga at the Senior Community Center
 - Coordinate with alternative providers
 - Need to integrate public art throughout the community and parks
 - Clean up to provide better access to water resources
 - Some equipment needs to be evaluated for safety and user-ability
 - Add some land to Homerhuff next to Lake Sybellia Park
 - Upgrades to Quin Strong
 - Lake Lily – additional land was supposed to be made part of park but not – incorporate into Lake Lily
 - Make school track a rubberized track (lots of use by residents) (Maitland Middle)
 - Resurface the tennis courts
 - Underpass connecting Horatio and Minnehaha needs to be more attractive and safer
- 9) Are there any portions of the community that are being underserved? Please explain (i.e., where and what type of amenities are needed, what market segment needs more attention, etc.).
- West of I-4*** (there's newly annexed properties south side of Maitland Blvd and SR 434) Overpass would help the underserved.
 - NW side (north of Maitland Blvd)
 - Youth school age in general (K-9)
 - Bicyclists and pedestrians (can't walk, can't ride a bike, can't paddle board because of limited water access)
- 10) What additional park and recreation facilities would you like to see the community provide?
- Spray Park downtown at Central Park (lake Lily to George)**

- Restrooms *
- Skateboard Park/Facility *
- Outdoor stages/performance area at parks – permanent *
- Larger indoor space for you activities – recreation center
- Quin Strong Park Development
- People do not know where our parks are – need better wayfinding for parks and other cultural resources (Homer Huff Park – where is it – on Sybiila Point Park)
- More indoor and activities and facilities for night time
- Bikeways/bike paths – no paths within Maitland to other places/communities
- Neighborhood park west of I-4 somewhere (to go from somewhere to somewhere)
- Mini-parks (e.g. at entrance of subdivisions or developments to make it feel like a much better community)
- Pickelball Courts
- Croquet Courts or equipment
- Active Outdoor Education Station - Pods

- 11) Are there any facilities and/or programs currently available that should be eliminated? If so, which ones and why?
- No problem
 - Maybe the Ballfield on the west side should be evaluated to see if it should be repurposed into a neighborhood or community park
 - Nothing that needs to be eliminated or repurposed

Focus Group 3 – we skipped

- 12) How would you rate the quality of customer service provided by the Parks and Recreation staff? Please elaborate. 10/- Excellent - Very Good – Good – Fair – Poor

DID NOT WANT TO ANSWER – Focus group 1

- 13) How effective is the Department in seeking feedback from the community and users on improving its performance? 6/Excellent - 1/Very Good – 8/ Good – 2/ Fair – 0/ Poor

- Still lots of parts of Maitland that continue to not get heard
- Not sure they have the tools to get the word out
- Festival Signs are great way

- 14) The Parks and Recreation Department’s programs and facilities are currently funded through a combination of revenue sources, including General Fund, User Fees, Impact Fees, and Partnerships. Do you think this is an appropriate way to fund the department?

Yes: 10/__ No: 2__ Do Not Know: 1__

DID NOT ANSWER IN FOCUS GROUP 1

Other ways to fund:

- Too much “horse-trading and politics” in the political process

- Increase in user fees for vendors for events (increased burdens on events/vendors) has resulted in loss of economic benefits from the event participants (i.e. police service, electric, etc. used to be provided in kind)
- Create partnerships to provide services
- City shouldn't charge for anything – provide the infrastructure and let others handle programs
- Portion of new tax to go towards funding of parks and recreation events/programs (meals tax, etc.)
- Resident and non resident fees

15) Who are the key partners and stakeholders in the community with regards to assisting with the implementation of this plan?

- All Recreation Leagues **
- Women's Club*
- Maitland Men's Club*
- Rotary Club*
- Schools (public and private, PTAs)**
- Florida Hospital/Winter Park Health Foundation (Mayor's Soul Challenge)*
- Healthy Central FL*
- Business community*
- JCC *
- Churches
- Orange County
- PRAB
- Arts & History Center
- Venue on the Lake
- Cultural Organizations
- Civic Center
- Non-profits
- Chamber
- Birds of Prey
- New Hope for Kids
- March of Dimes
- Library
- Parent/Teacher Assoc.
- RDV
- There needs a clearing house so people know where all these groups are
- Garden Club
- Little League
- Group to help integrate transportation planning with parks planning
- HOAs
- Universities (UCF, Full Sail)

16) What are the key issues and values in the Maitland community that need to be considered while developing this Master Plan?

- Strong sense of community
- Community wants to be involved

- Cultural amenities
- Not a drive thru community
- Connectivity – a connected community
- Embrace, support greenspace and trees – commitment to greenspace
- Meshing with the cultural groups in Maitland
- Perception is that people come to Maitland to put their kids in to our sports program
- Decline in sports activities – soccer fields demand increase
- Family
- Safety
- Money/budgetary considerations
- Embrace diversity (in past, hadn't been that diverse)
- Effects on the Little League (Keller Fields)
- Address needs of all ages (kids, active seniors/older adults, safe access for persons with disabilities) and populations with special needs
- Preservation of green space *
- Preservation of Lakes (blueways) *
- Traffic (safety and congestions)
- Parking at the Parks
- Density

17) Are there any political sensitivities we should be aware of that could impact the success of the city's planning efforts?

- People feel strongly about a lot of things
- A lot of passion
- Raising taxes will not pass politically
- Need to look at outcome/big picture and not be nitpicky – because it causes stagnation and has caused stagnation in the past. Need to be open and bring about positive change. Stop catering to the vocal minority/squeaky wheel.
- Avoid “central park” completely. A lot of other facilities that need to be embraced and improved.
- Identify where the main parties lie in their ability to back up the Master Plan; should not be a political issue. Two sides need to come together and not be split between the two factions and nothing gets done/funded.
- Should be care about the politics??
- If we write this from the Community and not the Council or Mayor we are ok

18) During the next 5-10 years, what are the top priorities for the Parks and Recreation Department?

- Communication and Marketing - Make public more aware of the community needs so that they will be more supportive of the needed changes (including funding, taxing, etc.) – AWARENESS is a top priority - Comprehensive video of all the cultural and recreation facilities into one thing **
- Connectivity and multi-use paths and (bikepath/walk path) from SunRail Station to downtown **
- Wayfinding *
- Education markers for art, culture, history and environmental resources *
- Welcoming central cultural corridor

- Central Downtown Park (City Hall)
- Communications, promotions and marketing program
- Enough funding to implement plan
- Appropriate staffing
- Re-energizing Quin Strong Park
- West side park (repurpose ballfields)
- Public Art
- Anything that involves land acquisition should be done sooner rather than later because land values continue to increase
- Provide alternatives to transportation (planning for walkability, bicycling, etc. to connect Maitland to sister cities not just around Maitland) – want people to shop/spend money here
- Education and awareness on zoning and regulations on what is allowed here
- Environmental sensitivity
- Anything about the utilization of the parks – the more we use the more valuable it is

Stakeholder Interview Questions and Responses

- 1) What are the strengths of the Parks and Recreation Department that should be continued over the next several years?
 - Great relationships with schools and rec organizations
 - Excellent on providing new events, step away and keep things fresh
 - Networking to get resources through partnerships
 - Works well with other departments, responsive to needs
 - Focus on overall needs of the City
 - Excellent job with limited resources, especially to make events pay for themselves
 - Fiscally responsible *
 - The existing master plan is used and followed as a tool – Good use of master plan and other documents
 - Awareness of natural resources – try to be good stewards of natural resources
 - Excellent follow up to public and PRAB
 - Try to find solutions and are very service oriented
 - Provide great customer service
 - Creative*
 - Resourceful with budget
 - Longevity of staff provides great institutional knowledge
 - The PRAB works well with staff and the PRAB is active to assist
 - Strong board advocacy
 - Strong relationships with organized sports
 - Farmers Market
 - Great staff
 - Lake Lily and all the programming around it
 - The amount of land we have even on the west side
 - Flexibility of programming – keeping fresh
 - Variety of parks

- 2) Conversely, what are the major weaknesses that need to be addressed through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan?
- Lack of funding (dedicated) **
 - Dedicated staff **
 - Lack of public lake access – both motorized and non-motorized **
 - Need to streamline the process to get park projects done **
 - Lack of facilities and land to expand*
 - Lack of connectivity *
 - Lack of communication, marketing and promotion of parks as a value to the City and Community *
 - Weak communications and marketing *
 - Lack of awareness of the parks and programs *
 - Maintenance *
 - Landlocked – nothing left to annex *
 - Need for wayfinding
 - There are not successful implementation strategies in the master plan
 - Lack of understanding of the importance of the PRMP by others such as Council, Board, other Departments and public
 - Lack of recognition that parks and recreation are important to building community and economic development
 - Promote what we are doing better
 - Need to be able to communicate the value of parks and recreation facilities as an economic development tool – people come to a city because of their PR facilities, services and programs
 - Need a mechanism/education program to influence the political powers to be
 - Economic downturn has left a void and when people see new park development people are getting excited
 - People think that Lake Lily is enough and Lake Lily is over used – there are 57 events plus 40 Sundays for farmers market
 - People can't see the beauty of the lakes we have – lack of view sheds
 - Connectivity needs to be addressed (pedestrian amenities, bikes, trails, greenways) – family oriented
 - Safe crossing is needed across 17-92
 - I-4 divides the City and we need to meet the needs of both east and west (socio-economic needs)
 - Need to preserve open space
 - Can't put things off because it just gets more expensive
 - Needs to be a dedicated revenue source other than impact fees (more reliable funding source(s))
 - There needs to be an understanding regarding the cost of the operating and management costs
 - Challenge of people understanding the difference between public and private event spaces –
 - People must pay for play (there is a fee policy – seniors not 100% cost recovery, adul/youth rec is 100% cost recovery) and there is a problem with people want to pay or understanding why they have to pay – education
 - Infrastructure falling apart
 - Disconnect of park maintenance to public works is a problem **
 - We need to have more unique parks and offerings

- How we are classifying our parks may need to be looked at
 - Park security
- 3) What additional programs or activities do you feel the Department should offer that are currently not available?
- Technology training programs for adults, children and teens **
 - Paddle boarding and kayaking
 - Skate board park/facilities
 - Non-sports *
 - Community gardening *
 - Performing Arts (Cultural programming such as theater in the park) *
 - Volunteer opportunities (shredding day, park clean-up, community service day) *
 - Additional Special Events
 - Aquatics
 - CPR training
 - Environmental programs
 - Community health and programming
 - Youth programming – out of school time programming
 - Adult programs and leagues such as volleyball
- 4) What improvements are needed at existing facilities? Where are these improvements needed?
- Integrate public art in existing facilities such as trails
 - Environmental informational signage **
 - Improved maintenance for deferred maintenance **
 - Improved information signage and wayfinding *
 - Safe access to our parks **
 - Racquetball park needs to be repaired
 - Tennis courts resurfacing
 - Sod replacement at Minnehaha
 - Bikeway maintenance
 - Landscaping
 - Park security and safety features (AEDs, lighting detector at Lake Lily)
 - Technology such as aps, Wi-Fi
 - Water fountains
 - Keeping up with infrastructure
 - Park off Greenwood should have an accessible trail
 - Manage the habitat at the Maitland Community Park
 - Connectivity between the parks and outside of the City
 - Parks should be dog friendly and have the appropriate facilities (water, doggy pots)
 - Rental bikes at Maitland Community Park – learn to ride course
- 5) Are there any portions of the community that you feel are underserved? Please explain (i.e., where and what type of amenities are needed, what market segment needs more attention, etc.).
- West of I-4 ***
 - South of Lake Avenue (area)
 - Ridgewood Area (people want to walk here)

- Youth (tweens 5-9th grade)
- Skateboarders
- Dog owners – off leash facilities
- Shut in seniors

6) What additional park and recreation facilities would you like to see the community provide?

- East-west/NS multi-purpose trails – 17/92 and I-4 **
- Skateboard park **
- Interactive Water Feature/Splash pad *
- Central Park downtown to energize the downtown with gathering place *
- Pickelball courts
- Fitness Center
- Community center
- Lake access (piers and docks for non-motorized)
- Safe crossings
- Volleyball court
- Indoor/outdoor community space
- Meeting space
- Neighborhood park on the west side
- Rental bikes Kiosks

7) The Parks and Recreation Department's programs and facilities are currently funded through a combination of revenue sources, including General Fund, User Fees, Impact Fees, and Partnerships. Do you think this is an appropriate way to fund the department?

Yes: _____ No: _____ Do Not Know: _____

- 50% general fund and 50% user fees
- Impact fees for 100% impact fees **
- .02 mils for maintenance for trust funds
- Ok for right now once we catch up from the recession yes *
- Need for a dedicated funding source **
- West side annex has a 10 acre park - new development
- More partnerships with development and businesses (naming)
- Fund raising programs for new parks
- Recognition of People that Donate

8) Who are the key partners and stakeholders in the community with regards to assisting with the implementation of this plan?

- Businesses Community **
- Schools (public and private)
- Cultural Partners (ie, library)
- Jewish Community Center (JCC)
- RDV (Amway)
- PRAB
- City

- Maitland Center
- Local Developers
- Friends Group (Speakers Bureau)

9) What are the key issues and values in the Maitland community that need to be considered while developing this Master Plan?

- We have been given direction to serve the Maitland community not surrounding areas (non-residents) - non-regional
- Development and redevelopment in the downtown core
- Connections to SunRail station
- Consideration for office parks on the west side (day time)
- Consider new multi-family residential growth on the west side
- Preserve greenspace and tree canopy (We love trees, landscaping and visual ambiance – need to preserve)
- Park system approach
- Communication - telling the story
- Collaboration and transparency
- Quality – whatever we do
- Need to remember our daytime business community and embrace them (Westside – restaurants, connections)

10) During the next 5-10 years, what are the top priorities for the Parks and Recreation Department?

- Family-friendly connectivity (sidewalks, multi-purpose) **
- Dedicated funding source as number 1 *
- Take care of what we have – infrastructure *
- Westside parks (community and neighborhood) *
- Keep what we have at the highest level (address deferred maintenance) *
- Staffing Improvements and Raises *
- Improve community communications, marketing and promotions including branding * (need to let people know about what is available)
- Improve working relationships between parks and public works
- Downtown park (Central Park)
- Educational signage
- Need long term look – 40 years (land acquisition now)

Appendix B: Level of Service and Existing Conditions

THE CITY OF MAITLAND LEVEL OF SERVICE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

Introduction

The City of Maitland is taking a closer look at the City's park system and facilities that are offered to the community to update the Parks and Recreation Master Plan that was created in 2001. The purpose of this study is to make sure that the City is on track to continue to move forward with parks development in the order most beneficial to the citizens. Since the time that the previous master plan was written new National Parks & Recreation Association (NRPA) design standards have become the norm. This criterion proposes that a city's park system tailors their parks to their community's distinctive needs instead of determining a successful park system by a ratio of neighborhood and community parks per community member. This Parks & Recreation master Plan update is being viewed with a hybrid approach of both old and new standards.

The current population of the City of Maitland is approximately 15,751 residents and as the City continues to annex in properties to the west of town and developers keep building more multi-family units within the city limits, the population of the City will continue to grow placing a greater stress on the City's current Parks and Recreation facilities and services. This growth needs to be taken into consideration when determining future level of service recommendations for the city. As the City grows, its parks and recreation system will face new challenges. To prepare for these planned improvements, we studied the current assets of the park system and compare these to current and future needs of residents.

LEVEL OF SERVICE METHODOLOGY

Creating the Inventory

The Level of Service (LOS) analysis process involves a detailed inventory of public physical assets such as park amenities available for City residents, how the existing LOS as adopted in the city's Comprehensive Plan is being met, as well as comparing existing infrastructure to the needs of residents expressed during public input. The inventory was created using a comprehensive process in order to ensure the accuracy of the inventory effort. The basic approach for these studies utilizes aerial analysis and site visits for each facility. The site visit and inventory process allows our team to verify the amenities for each of the City's facilities, assesses the condition of those amenities, and make suggestions for improvement. The data collected during the amenities inventory will set the foundation for the City to build on when facilitating future planning and general operations. This data will provide the City with a living document that can be kept up-to-date by city staff in off-planning years. The amenities inventory currently includes; public parks, recreation facilities, and trails managed by the City of Maitland. The City currently has a total of 18 properties designated as city park land. Eight of these properties function as both a special use facility and fulfill a neighborhood park designation. One property has a designation of a 'community park' and provides indoor activities as well as outdoor recreational facilities. More detail on each of these park land parcels will be addressed in future sections of this document. For the purposes of this study, only parks and recreation facilities managed and operated by the City were inventoried for this study. Properties available for City programs via joint use agreements with outside entities have not been considered for the study other than noting quantity of fields available to the City's for programming.

To begin the analysis process we first cataloged the various parks and facilities from aerial imagery using GIS as a tool to help us locate the parks for our study, geo-locate the amenities within those parks, and input specific data on each amenity. Next, site visits were performed for each of the parks to verify the quantity and condition of the existing amenities such as; benches, trash receptacles, pavilions, court surfaces, restrooms, etc. Amenities were graded as either being a 1, 2, or 3. The descriptions of each score are as follows; 1 – Does not meet expectations for general parks function, 2 – Meets expectations, and 3 – Exceeds expectations. For

example, a playground will be given a rating of 1 if it has peeling or faded paint, no shade, inadequate surfacing, limited or no ADA access, etc. A playground rated as a 2 may be lacking only a few of these features, for instance it may have brand new play equipment but lack adequate surfacing or shade. A playground rated as a 3 will have all of these desired features; preferred surfacing such as pour-in-place rubber, a shade sail, new or updated equipment, proper fall zone spacing, ADA accessibility, etc. General notes and observations are also made on the context of the park, taking into consideration its surroundings, accessibility, and function based on the type of area or neighborhood being serviced. Often neighborhood, community, regional, or special needs are adjectives used to describe the type of park and its context. As mentioned earlier these categories were previous guidelines established by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA) and were adopted by the City in the 2001 Parks & Recreation Master Plan and incorporated into the City's Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). The NRPA's new guidelines instruct the City to tailor its park system to address any special use that is unique to the community. With this master plan update Maitland is moving towards utilizing these new guidelines. Until the CDP document can be revised to reflect these updates both classifications systems will be utilized during the transition period.

The City's definition of a 'Neighborhood Park' is a parcel of land approximately 5 to 10 acre in size that supplies both active and passive recreation that is planned for the community that lives within ½ mile of the property. The park is accessed through residential streets allowing for greater walkability to the site. Very few or no parking spaces are include and are typically used most heavily by the immediate surrounding neighborhood.

'Community park's typically are a larger parcel approximately 20 acres or larger that services a larger community and often times will contain a community center such as the one found in the City of Maitland 'Community Park'. These parks are typically supply a greater range of active recreation choices and are frequented by users from further away who drive to use the park. Depending on the uses offered determines the quantity of parking spaces designed for the site

'Specialty' or 'Special Use Parks' are commuted to by users from all over the city for use of their specific facilities such as baseball fields, tennis courts or other unique amenities. They typically offer a wide variety of activities and amenities for a large range of user types.

Lastly, Maitland's parks were closely scrutinized from the perspective of a park patron, assessing comfort level, existing shade and opportunities for sitting. Understanding how the parks are used and how they are servicing the public is vital in order to develop accurate conclusions for the Level of Service.

PARKS INVENTORY AND AMENITY SUMMARY

Amenity Summary

A complete Inventory Matrix is produced as part of the Level of Service analysis. The matrix provides quantitative data gleaned from the site visits to each park. It lists each type of amenity that is provided and an inventory of the site amenities and their condition as well as any facility on site. This was accomplished over the course of this master plan process and completed in the fall of 2015.

An itemized schedule of park amenities is included in *Appendix section B* of this document. The Park Inventory and Assessment sheet was also a resource in the Level of Service Analysis; this document grades each amenity in a park and gives the overall park grade. This report can be found in *Appendix section A*; this report lists each amenity and its associated grade as a line item for each park.

Inventory Summary

In general, the overall impression of the City's park system is as follows:

- Park lands can be divided into two categories, ones that are developed and well used and maintained and ones that are either undeveloped currently or developed and unusable because maintenance issues.
- There is approximately 600 acres of water bodies within the city limits with only one boat ramp for access at Lake Maitland. Additional waterfront access and use of the City's abundant lakes would be a significant benefit to the City's residents and visitors.
- Many of the parks thought to fit the definition of a Neighborhood Park classification in the 2001 Parks Master plan either have not been developed or upgraded as of yet to meet the community needs. The Park system has numerous gaps as categorized by the classification system but has many specialty parks that reflect the majority of the community's common interests.
- Upgrade of existing amenities is required throughout many of the park properties. Minor repairs such as water fountain adjustments and leveling of settled benches makes dysfunctional amenities useable and inviting.
- Some evidence of vandalism was evident in several of the more isolated parks.
- As stated earlier the field maintenance, mowing of lawns, removal of litter and general upkeep is performed at a greater regularity at ballfield and special use active recreation facilities than at less prominent parks. LOS is significantly better concerning active recreation league use facilities
- The City has many dense treed areas in numerous parks and damage can be caused to new park amenities or injury can occur if trees are not routinely inspected and limbed up. More regular tree inspections and tree limbing would help with ongoing maintenance issues and would improve park usage
- The majority of facilities require upgrading or servicing of parks amenities.

LEVEL OF SERVICE ANALYSIS

Study maps were generated to evaluate the outdoor park facilities network, special use areas, distribution of park properties throughout the City and connectivity via the City's bike-path and sidewalk system. Also a series of maps were created to analyze actual park services areas vs projected areas in the 2001 Parks Master Plan. Recommendations were based on this information as well as site visits and inspections.

A specified radius is drawn around a park or trail. These destinations are accessed by a variety of transportation modes. These include: walking, biking, by car, public transportation, or any combination thereof. The transportation mode is often determined, at least in part, by the distance to be travelled. Bike paths and trail systems can aid in this service calculation.

The city of Maitland is a compact city of approximately 7 square miles of acreage. The City has a sidewalk system program and a bike path/ on-road bike lanes that connect the City. There are many gaps in the routes but the City is working to create safe, fun trails for those who choose an alternate means of transportation while recreating. One of the major detriments to the system has been the major road systems and train lines that divide the City. Two major highway divisions occur north to south and one major road bisects the city from east to west. The largest obstacle to this recreational/ transportation system has been the crossing of I4. Now with the proposed installation of the pedestrian bridge over I4 that is part of the highway upgrades the City's pedestrian transportation network will finally be linked between this east-west deterrent. This connection will allow a much greater ability for recreational users to access facilities on either side of the highway that once they would have been inclined to drive to due to the time required for the full trip. The Neighborhood Park definition states that a neighborhood park should be within a 15 minute walk on low volume streets or pathways to service the community in this manner. This connection will expand the community's travel options to access both special use parks and neighborhood parks while utilizing the path system for recreational purposes.



PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

INVENTORY OF THE CITY OF MAITLAND'S DESIGNATED PARK LAND



LEGEND

2016 CITY LIMITS

LAKES

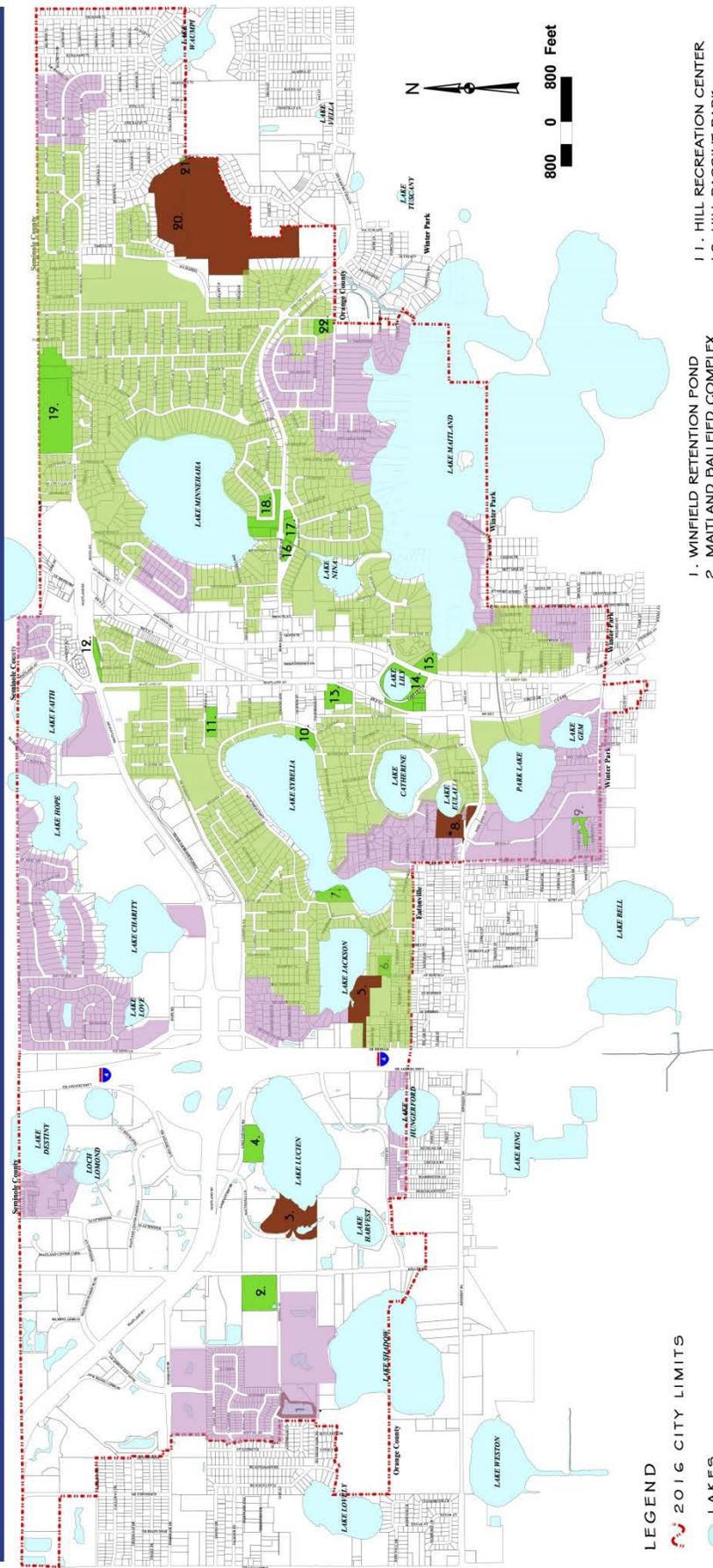
MAITLAND PROPERTIES DESIGNATED AS PARK LAND

- 1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
- 2. MAITLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
- 3. LAKE LUCIEN PARK
- 4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER CEMETERY
- 5. LAKE JACKSON
- 6. BELLAMY PARK
- 7. SYBELLA POINT PARK
- 8. O'HEIR PROPERTY
- 9. HAMLET PARK
- 10. LAKE SYBELLA BEACH
- 11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
- 12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
- 13. QUINN STRONG PARK
- 14. LAKE LILY PARK
- 15. FORT MAITLAND PARK
- 16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK
- 17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
- 18. MINEHAHA PARK
- 19. MAITLAND COMMUNITY PARK
- 20. WILDERNESS PARK
- 21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
- 22. KINGS ROW PARK



PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

PARK LANDS NOT CURRENTLY DEVELOPED FOR PARK SERVICES



800 0 800 Feet

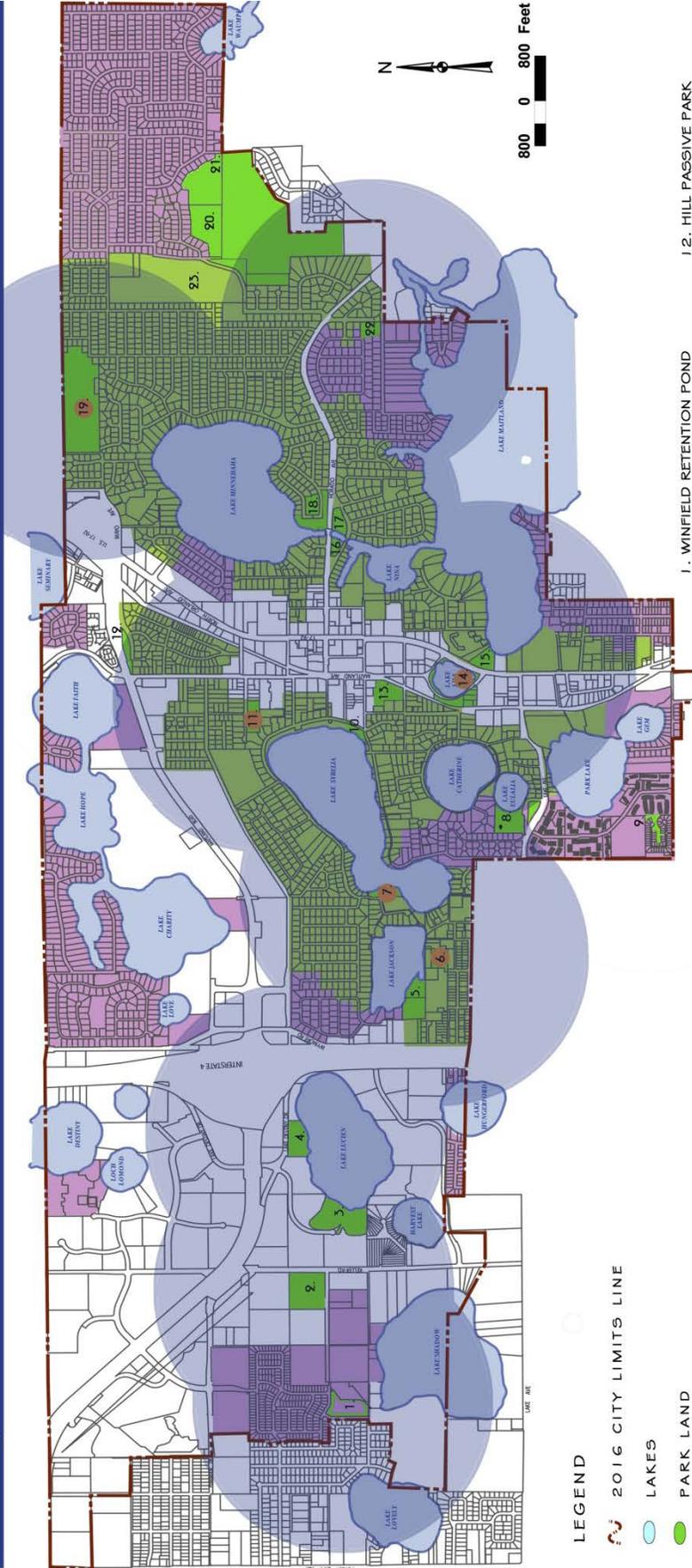
LEGEND

- 2016 CITY LIMITS
 - LAKES
 - PARK LAND DEVELOPED FOR PUBLIC USE
 - PARK PROPERTIES NOT USED FOR PUBLIC PARK SERVICES.
 - RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES WITHIN 1/2 MILE OF A NEIGHBORHOOD PARK PER 2001 PARKS MASTER PLAN
 - RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES WITHIN 3 MILE OF A COMMUNITY PARK PER 2001 PARKS MASTER PLAN
-
- 1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
 - 2. MATLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
 - 3. LAKE LUCIEN PARK
 - 4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER CEMETERY
 - 5. LAKE JACKSON
 - 6. BELLAMY PARK
 - 7. SYBELIA POINT PARK
 - *8. O'HEIR PROPERTY (lease to privately owned bed and breakfast)
 - 9. HAMLET PARK
 - 10. LAKE SYBELIA BEACH
-
- 11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
 - 12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
 - 13. QUINN STRONG PARK
 - 14. LAKE LILY PARK
 - 15. FORT MAITLAND PARK
 - 16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK
 - 17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
 - 18. MINNEHAHA PARK
 - 19. MAITLAND COMMUNITY PARK
 - 20. WILDERNESS PARK
 - 21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
 - 22. KINGS ROW PARK



PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

1/2 MILE SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS PER 2001 PARKS MASTER PLAN STANDARDS



LEGEND

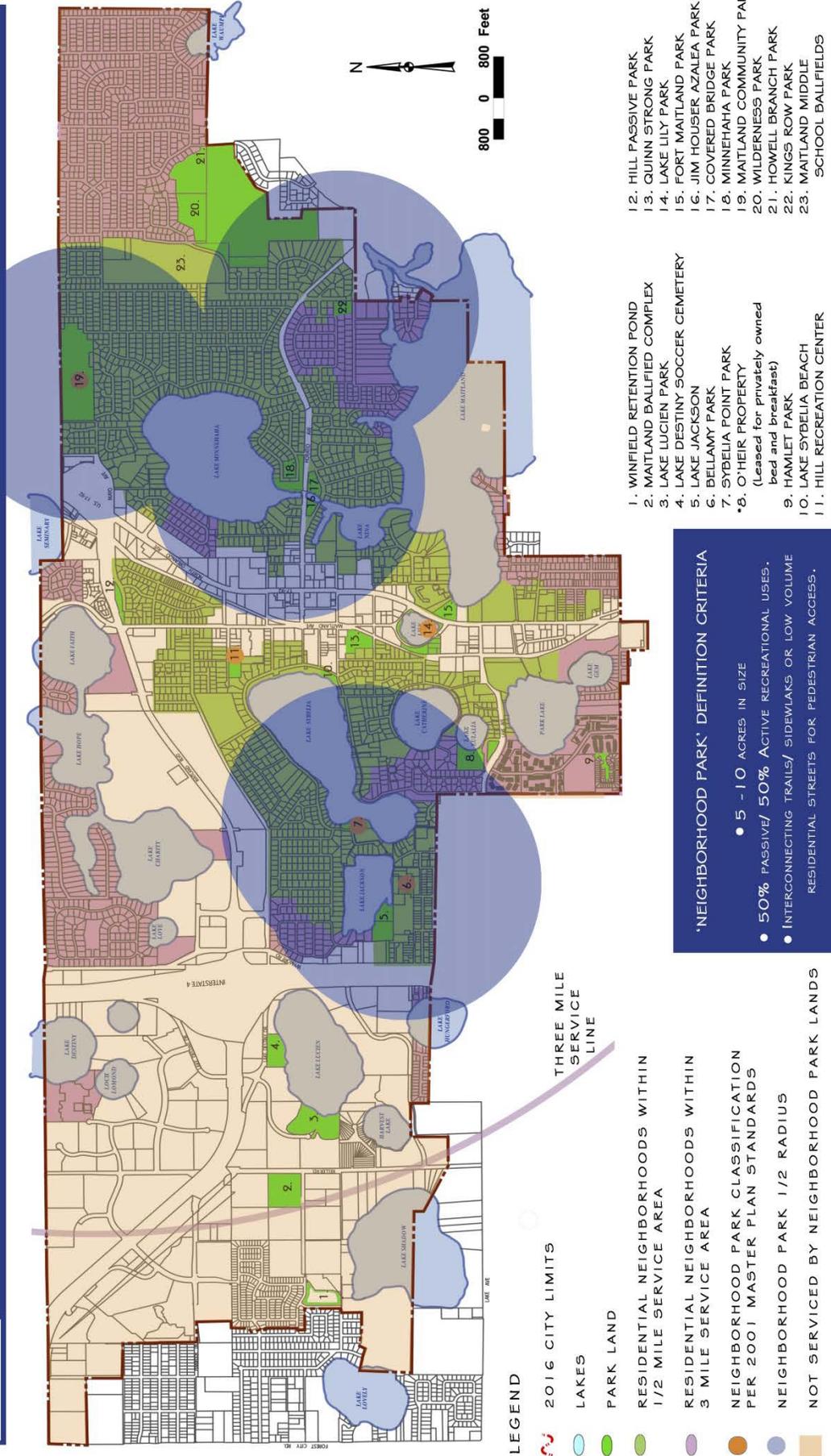
- 2016 CITY LIMITS LINE
- LAKES
- PARK LAND
- RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS WITHIN 1/2 MILE SERVICE AREA
- RESIDENTIAL NEIGHBORHOODS OUTSIDE 1/2 MILE SERVICE AREA
- NEIGHBORHOOD PARK CLASSIFICATION PER 2001 MASTER PLAN STANDARDS
- 1/2 MILE SERVICE RADIUS

1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
2. MAITLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
3. LAKE LUCIEN PARK
4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER CEMETERY
5. LAKE JACKSON
6. BELLAMY PARK
7. SYBELIA POINT PARK
- *9. O'HEIR PROPERTY
(Leased to privately owned bed and breakfast)
9. HAMLET PARK
10. LAKE SYBELIA BEACH
11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
13. QUINN STRONG PARK
14. LAKE LILY PARK
15. FORT MAITLAND PARK
16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK
17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
18. MINNEHATA PARK
19. MAITLAND COMMUNITY PARK
20. WILDERNESS PARK
21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
22. KINGS ROW PARK
23. MAITLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL BALLFIELDS



PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

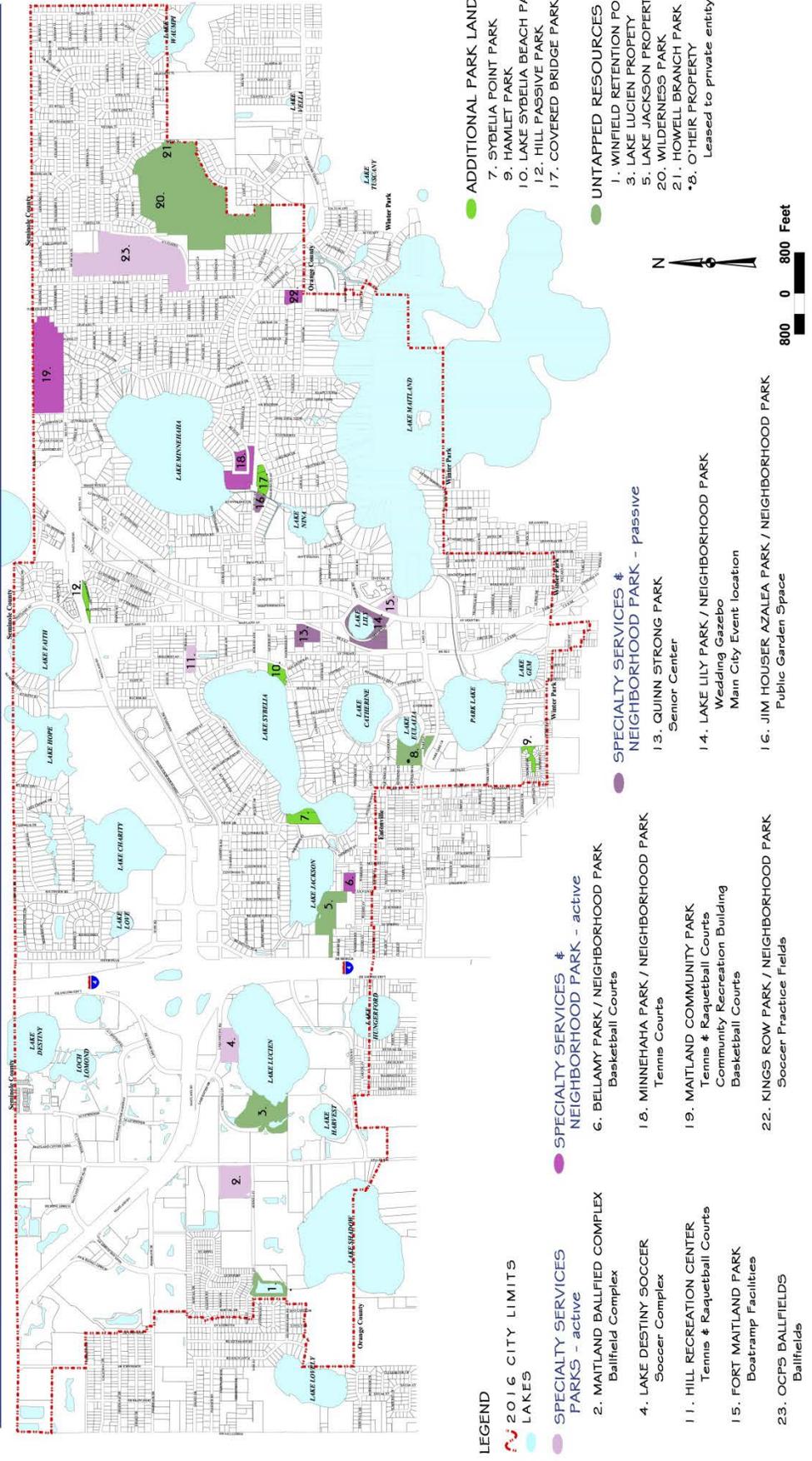
SERVICE AREA ANALYSIS - UNSERVED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES IN 2016 APPLYING THE CURRENT NEIGHBORHOOD PARK DEFINITION





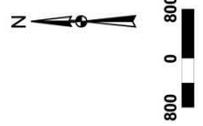
PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

INVENTORY OF THE CITY OF MAITLAND'S DESIGNATED PARK LANDS - HYBRID CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM



LEGEND

- 2016 CITY LIMITS
- LAKES
- SPECIALTY SERVICES PARKS - active
 - 2. MAITLAND BALLFIELD COMPLEX
Ballfield Complex
 - 4. LAKE DESTINY SOCCER
Soccer Complex
 - 11. HILL RECREATION CENTER
Tennis & Raquetball Courts
 - 15. FORT MAITLAND PARK
Boat Ramp Facilities
 - 23. OCF5 BALLFIELDS
Ballfields
- SPECIALTY SERVICES & NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - active
 - 6. BELAMY PARK / NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Basketball Courts
 - 18. MINNEHAHA PARK / NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Tennis Courts
 - 19. MAITLAND COMMUNITY PARK
Tennis & Raquetball Courts
Community Recreation Building
Basketball Courts
 - 22. KINGS ROW PARK / NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Soccer Practice Fields
- SPECIALTY SERVICES & NEIGHBORHOOD PARK - passive
 - 13. QUINN STRONG PARK
Senior Center
 - 14. LAKE LILY PARK / NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Wedding Gazebo
Main City Event location
 - 16. JIM HOUSER AZALEA PARK / NEIGHBORHOOD PARK
Public Garden Space
- ADDITIONAL PARK LANDS
 - 7. SYBELLA POINT PARK
 - 9. HAMLET PARK
 - 10. LAKE SYBELLA BEACH PARK
 - 12. HILL PASSIVE PARK
 - 17. COVERED BRIDGE PARK
- UNTAPPED RESOURCES
 - 1. WINFIELD RETENTION POND
 - 3. LAKE LUCEN PROPERTY
 - 5. LAKE JACKSON PROPERTY
 - 20. WILDERNESS PARK
 - 21. HOWELL BRANCH PARK
 - *8. O'HEIR PROPERTY
Leased to private entity



PARKS - EXISTING CONDITIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Bellamy Park (789 Kentucky Ave)

Bellamy Park is approximately 1.1 acres and is located at the northern terminus of Kentucky Avenue. The parcel is shown on the Orange County Property Appraiser's website as part of the Lake Jackson park acreage. Since it is shown as an individually named park it has been listed here separately.

Bellamy Park is a developed recreation site with both active and passive uses. The overall site is heavily canopied with mature trees which give much shade to the park except near the basketball court. The court appears to receive sun most of the day making the activity quite hot when playing. The park facilities include the basketball court; a restroom facility; large picnic pavilion with barbeque grills and picnic tables; playground equipment and a small unpaved parking lot. It functions as a neighborhood park responding to the needs of the immediate neighborhood. There is security lighting on the restroom facility and a mural painted on the side of the building. A water fountain is also located on the structure.

Accessibility has been achieved with a concrete striped and signed parking space and sidewalk system throughout the park. Wheelchair accessible picnic tables have been provided in the pavilion area however the playground is not ADA accessible. The surfacing material at the base of the structure is a mulch product that is very deep and also the ramp leading into the playground appears to have been installed in the wrong direction which will bottom out the wheels of a wheelchair. It was quite obvious that the park maintenance was lacking. The trashcans were overflowing, the water fountain was full of paper product and the site in general appeared unkempt.

We recommend the following:

Signage

- Replace faded signage at the entrance.

Recreation Elements

- Change the playground base material & rotate the ramp to make the structure 'inclusive'.
- Add shade to the Basketball court

Maintenance

- Increase park maintenance schedule.



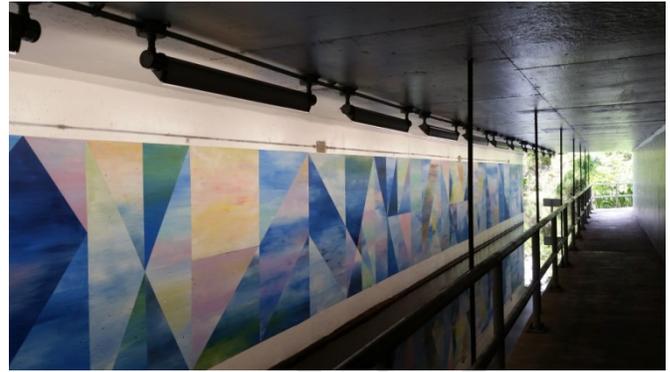
Covered Bridge Park (701 Horatio Ave.)

Covered Bridge Park was designed to function as a dry retention area to control stormwater runoff from Horatio Avenue and also capture any additional stormwater generated from the downtown redevelopment projects. During the dry months it is utilized as open green space for passive recreation and is located centrally between two adjacent parks connecting them via a pedestrian underpass. The pervious sidewalk system follows to the Nina Canal which flows under Horatio Avenue. Covered Bridge joins Minnehaha Park on the north side of the road to Jim Houser Memorial Azalea Garden on the south side of the avenue and offers and off road linkage for pedestrian users.

The site is approximately 2 acres and as recent as 3 months ago renovations to the park have been completed. They include: educational and park informational signage; public art; pavilions and picnic tables; bike racks; pervious trail surfacing; landscaping; and new lighting at the underpass for safety and illumination of the 90 foot mural located within. Two of the three picnic areas have shade structures, the third is in direct sun near the road and needs shade and a visual barrier between the roadway and the amenities to make that area comfortable to use. The amenities are new and in good condition except for some areas of the pervious sidewalk material. It has been damaged in several areas due to vehicular traffic either from riding mowers driving along its edge and degrading it or occurring due to a recent City construction project that was underway to upgrade the pipe system that runs along Horatio Avenue. The pervious surfacing allows weeds to grow up through it and will need special care to maintain. Also attention will need to be given in areas that may wash out due to proximity to the edge of the retention pond slopes. The new outdoor educational signage also needs maintenance more often due to weather and bird droppings.

We recommend the following:**Maintenance**

- Train crews to not drive mowers or any other vehicles on the pervious surfacing.
- Get damaged sidewalk areas repaired before they wash out or trip hazard occurs.
- Regularly weed the pervious sidewalk
- Clean educational signage regularly, reinstall disturbed signs to be a height accessible for all to view.



Fort Maitland Park (900 S. Orlando Ave.)

Per the 2001 master plan Ft Maitland Park is to be upgraded to fulfill a neighborhood park standards for the use of the surrounding residential properties however the parcel contains the City's only boat ramp. The park's main function is park vehicles and launch boats into Lake Maitland. The entrance to the site for both vehicle and pedestrian traffic is off of 17/92 at a curve in the highway that limits visibility to drivers heading north. Since the pedestrian and vehicular traffic enter the park in the same location sidewalk use at this entrance is risky whether entering the park or walking north on the east side of 17/92. The entrance landscaping has recently been upgraded and the plant material has added greatly to the look of the park.

The park has car and trailer parking for the boaters. It also houses the City of Maitland's Police Department Rescue boat; a restroom facility; some general site amenities; lighting; and mature shade trees along the perimeter of the driveway. The overall park green space is basically cut off from pedestrian access due to a hedge system that surrounds the entrance road. The few tables and benches that are located in the shade are hard to get to because of the hedges and are not level enough to accommodate sitting comfortably. The few that are easily accessed are located near the building/restroom facility and are in full sun. The building is old and currently only being used as event storage for the parks department. Park master planning and redevelopment are recommended for the site to use both for adjacent residents and also special use to supply boat access to the lake.

We recommend the following:

General Conditions

- A park master plan should be completed to allow for more neighborhood uses other than parking and launching boats.
- Amenities need to be accessible for use, they need leveled and located in areas of shade.
- The existing building needs redeveloped & given a function that serves as a park amenity.

Open Grass Area

- The limited park land needs to be utilized to its fullest extents so the hedge that lines the roadway needs to be removed or opened for pedestrian accessibility. This will allow for passive use of the

existing lawn areas. Other means of regulating automobiles from being parked on the grass would need to be investigated with the design of the parks' master plan.

- The tree canopied lawn area at the entrance to the park also has potential for development either as a passive park or to locate a structure dependent on the findings of the master plan process.

Signage

- Do a signage package as part of the master planning process to replace the mismatched style of the existing signage. This would aid in reducing visual clutter throughout the site.



WORKING

Hamlett Park (Hamlet Drive)

Hamlett Park is a small retention area that is used as green space. It is located in the center of a small residential housing development called 'Hamlet at Maitland'. It is approximately 1 acre and has been categorized previously as a 'mini park' due to its size. However the park provides the community with open green space with mature trees and landscape; a playground structure; a bike rack; benches; a paved pathway system with multiple access points; and the largest picnic pavilion found in any of the City's parks. Picnic tables were located in the pavilion. The green space supplies a nice amenity for the adjacent residents and provides passive recreation. The park was well maintained, ADA accessible and landscaped well. Since it is a neighborhood mini-park there is only on-street parking for this facility. Also there is no entrance signage for the park.

We recommend the following:

General Conditions

- Continue with current maintenance
- Replace any damage to the playground structure.
- Potentially install park entrance signage at all the access points to emphasize the park's presence.



Hill Recreation Center (801 Hillcrest Ave.)

Hill Recreation Center property is currently used mainly for the remaining tennis and racquetball courts that are located in the park. It previously housed the City parks department offices which were demolished due to their condition approximately a decade ago. The space has not been re-master planned or updated since that time. The property has been left as open space since the demolition. A shell parking lot, the courts and the original narrow sidewalks remain. The walkway to the racquetball courts is actually a concrete swale that was added at one time to alleviate stormwater runoff onto the courts as shown below. The site has a worn entry sign and some lighting over the parking lot. The only seating on the site is inside the fenced court area so there is nothing available for spectators or other park users. ADA accessibility is not met via parking, sidewalk system or seating.

This total space of this park is approximately 2.5 acres and is located in a quite heavily treed neighborhood. The property is not being utilized to its potential currently. Our recommendation is to complete a master plan to determine which neighborhood park amenities should be added to the site to give it both the special use as a tennis facility and fill the 'neighborhood park' gap that extends north to Maitland Blvd since this facility is not functioning as such.:

We recommend the following:

General

- Master plan the entire site utilizing citizen, staff and needs analysis criteria to determine best use of the park & open space.

- Add Neighborhood amenities to the facility.



WORKING

Hill Passive Park (201 Greenwood Rd., Parcel # 25-21-29-000-00-023)

Hill Passive Park is approximately 1.5 acres of treed canopy. This park is currently a 'mini park' located for neighborhood use and is located between Greenwood Gardens neighborhood and Maitland Blvd. A masonry wall separates the two which aids with the deflection of traffic noise into the neighborhood. Adjacent to the site is a pedestrian connection through an underpass that bisects Maitland Blvd and connects the north to the south sides of the roadway. It is in good condition and is very aesthetically pleasing. This site was included in the Greenwood Gardens Quality Neighborhood Program study that was completed and approved by City Council in 2002. At that time the approved QNP made a commitment to the neighborhood to clean out and upgrade the site as permitted. By deed restrictions the park is restricted from any type of development other than passive use. It can have a sidewalk or stabilized pathway throughout the park as well as upgraded picnic amenities such as tables, trashcans and grills. With the proximity of the underpass it could function well as a mini-trailhead located along the City's pedestrian pathways. Also commercial properties are located to the west of the site on Maitland Avenue. With an agreement with the properties land owner a connection could be made in this area that would allow for connectivity from the underpass to Maitland Boulevard with the traveler having to negotiate through the residential neighborhood. If upgraded in this manner it could also allow for a pedestrian connection for the business's staff to use it if so desired.

The park appears to be undeveloped because of the lack of maintenance and overgrown appearance, however located in the park are several mismatched amenities such as benches and damaged picnic tables. The pathways are deep with mulch and tree debris and it is hard to traverse making this park non-accessible. Picnic tables and benches are damaged and unlevelled rendering them unusable. Lighting of the park is limited to street lights located along Greenwood Road.

We recommend the following:

Trail System

- Needs a sidewalk/path system installed that is made of a material that would make the site ADA accessible and would connect to the pedestrian pathway system at the underpass.

Light Poles

- Light poles along the street need to be straightened.

General Conditions

- Upgrade seating and connectivity into the park.
- Establish an actual entrance into the park
- Clean out overgrown understory plants and debris and have trees inspected and limbed.
- As stated in the Greenwood Gardens Quality Neighborhood Program document, complete the upgrades to the park by adding understory trees and landscaping along the masonry wall to aid in visual and sound buffering.
- Add signage at park and along the trail.



Howell Branch Park/ Wilderness Park (Temple Terrace Rd)

Howell Branch Park is a 61 + acre property that is currently undeveloped. The property was originally owned by Orange County Florida and was operated as a park facility. The property was never fully developed and has a high ratio of wetland acres throughout the parcel. The property is now owned by the City of Maitland and is basically fenced off from use other than a very small mini-park located on the east side of the parcel.

We recommend the following:

General

- Determine any deed restrictions imposed on the property during the annexation process.
- Determine any federal restrictions imposed on the conservation land designation.
- Investigation and gather survey information as to the amount of wetland acres on the site and for the possibility of developing an environmental learning center.
- Look for grant funding for this development and partner with Orange County Public Schools for use/ funding opportunities and/or other agencies such as the Audubon Society (their National headquarters is located in Maitland).

WORKING DRAFT



Jim Houser Memorial Azalea Garden (700 Old Horatio Ave.)

Jim Houser Azalea Garden is located on the south side of Horatio Avenue and adjoins Covered Bridge Park at the Lake Nina Canal. Future plans are to incorporate a pedestrian bridge over the canal to connect it to so as Covered Bridge Park. This would allow the park user to travel from one park to the other without having to leave park property and use the street as a pedestrian connection. Currently the pedestrian exits Jim Houser park and has to cross the street to be on the sidewalk system for only the width of the bridge. The user then has to cross back over the road to enter into Covered Bridge Park. It places the pedestrian in the roadway two times in the span of 40+ feet. The canal bridge would alleviate that movement and be safer for all people utilizing the sidewalk linkage.

Jim Houser Park just had major upgrades completed. They included a pervious surfacing material for an ADA accessible sidewalk system; bollards to control vehicular traffic from trying to enter the park; pervious parking spaces, educational signage and park entrance signage; an outdoor 'classroom' with benches and picnic table; new ADA accessible picnic tables throughout the area, new landscape materials; and irrigation upgrades to the existing system . Also a tree inspection and pruning was also completed with this renovation. Prior to this upgrade the park tree canopy was overgrown and dangerous. The site was unkempt, colorful landscape was minimal and there was evidence of homeless people sleeping in the park. Currently it is attractive and inviting but will need an increased maintenance schedule to remain so as shown in the photos below so as not to return to the overrun condition it was in a year ago.

We recommend the following:

General

- Join Covered Bridge Park and Jim Houser park via a pedestrian bridge. Pipe the existing swale that will conflict with the bridge location and add educational signage along Lake Nina Canal.
- Look for potential grants to help achieve this such as environmental or lakes management grants.

Maintenance

- Increase maintenance of the park to alleviate entropy. Pervious surface can be damaged by falling branches so increase frequency of tree 'limbing' and clean up to slow any degradation.



WORKING

Kings Row Park (1895 Adams Dr.)

This corner lot is approximately 2 acres of park land that has been used for passive recreation and a place for the soccer league to practice. The park upgrades were recommended in the previous master plan but were delayed until 2015. With the input of the citizens park amenities were to include a walking path through the park; upgraded signage, both entrance and instructional; a drinking fountain, ADA accessible and dog friendly; a small playground structure composed of only a slide and swing set; attractive low fencing that would aid with soccer balls going in the road and keep drivers doing wheelies out; parking spaces that would alleviate as much damage to tree root systems as possible; low level lighted bollards to make the sidewalk system usable at night during the winter months; additional landscape and upgrades to the irrigation system. With all these improvements moving forward the City chose to add into this project a complete laser leveling of the playing fields and new sod. At the time of the master planning the neighborhood was adamant that the playground elements remain minimal. With the completion of the park the neighbors have been asking as to why a larger structure was not installed. Additional playground items may be able to be added in the future if funding becomes available as well as shade structures over bench areas that are located along the internal trail system. Also some of the older landscape beds could use some infill of additional plant materials.

With all of these improvements installed an increase of parks maintenance must occur. The water fountain will quickly build up leaf debris from the surrounding street trees up as seen below. The pervious sidewalk system will need any plant material that begins to penetrate through it removed. Riding mowers, vehicular traffic and power 'edgers' can damage it so they need to take great care that they are precise in the maintenance routine. With all the additional landscape beds weeding the planting beds must be increased.

We recommend the following:

General

- Connect concrete sidewalk into the park on the east side to alleviate mulch in pedestrian access area.

Maintenance

- Increase park maintenance schedule to keep new amenities looking good and functioning properly.



WORKING

Lake Destiny Soccer Complex (345 N. Lake Destiny Road)

Lake Destiny is currently a special use soccer park. It is approximately 6.5 acres and is located between Lake Destiny Drive to the north and Lake Lucien to the south. The lakefront has not been developed as of yet. The facility at this point is used mainly for league soccer games. There is an unpaved parking lot that is hemmed in by mature trees which limit the parking area's expansion. The area is narrow which makes backing out of a space difficult especially with the size of today's vehicles.

As an active soccer complex the quantity of vehicles during matches usually causes overflow parking along Lake Destiny Road. With the parking situation, the lack of shade, the misplacement of trees and with no use other than a competitive soccer facility the City has completed a master plan for the park to add other amenities. Construction was scheduled to begin in 2015 but has temporarily been put on hold. However that delay did not stop the upgrades to the play fields. This park, and several other fields utilized for city recreational activities were laser-leveled and sodded in mid-2015.

The new masterplan proposes to incorporate neighborhood park elements into the special use facility. It will have a wider parking lot layout removal of some of the existing trees. New ones will be planted to give shade to the visitors and bleacher area. A playground system is proposed in a protected fenced in area on the east side of the park as well as seating for parents to be comfortable while watching their children on the playground equipment. The fields will be surrounded by a looped sidewalk system for pedestrian users and picnic tables will be located along the pathways. This pathway may be connected in the future to a sidewalk system and bike trail connection that will link to several other city properties along Lake Lucien. This would supply an alternate off-road east-west pedestrian connection to the city's bike path system. A scenic overlook is also proposed for the lakefront in this upgrade.

We recommend the following:

General

- Moving forward with the park upgrades that have been planned or reevaluate the location of the City's soccer complex and reestablish it on a larger parcel with more parking and room for expansion.
- Determine possible boardwalk/sidewalk alignment to join with other parcels prior to construction.



Lake Lily Park (701 Lake Lily Dr.)

Lake Lily Park located in the central area of the city is used heavily to hold public and private events including weddings and seasonal activities. With this in mind it is being categorized as both a special use and neighborhood park. It is a passive park that is approximately 10+ acres and encompasses the entire lake. Its amenities include historic buildings and roadways; a restroom facility; playground equipment; overlooks and boardwalks; kiosks and signage; and lots of landscaping and lighting. The boardwalk acts as the sidewalk system along the west side of Orlando Avenue for the length of the park. With the influx of multi-family residences being constructed in this portion of town the park is being used more than ever. The city realizing the need to expand facilities already has a plan to remodel the restroom to double the size and accommodations. With this remodel, stormwater runoff issues that have caused sidewalk wash out in that section of the park will be dealt with. Also with the restroom renovation it is intended to expand the building to incorporate storage space and an office for the parks department and also house public works supplies necessary for the upkeep of the park.

The existing playground needs additional seating and amenities located in shaded areas for adults that are watching their children play. Currently shade is lacking in that area and will be incorporated into the restroom renovation since changes would have to be made to the play area to alleviate the previously mentioned stormwater issue. If there is additional funding for this project it would be timely to look at the possibility of increasing the building footprint to include a rental space for meetings and activities to generate more revenue into the park fund. There are two parking areas used by the park visitors but with the park being so heavily used there is never enough parking. With limited land available parking lot expansion is prohibited. The park is connected to the city's bike path system at the north end of the park which allows for remote parking if an offsite facility could be provided.. More visible wayfinding signage would help to realize the bike paths location. Due to the daily park usage and the existing amenities provided, such as the wooden boardwalk, frequent repair and maintenance is required. Landscape beds need to be dressed better and weeded more often to keep the award winning standards of the original park design.

We recommend the following:

General

- Provide more seating and shaded seating opportunities at the playground areas
- Provide signage describing connectivity to downtown locations via the bike path.
- Provide more drinking fountains and bottle filling stations for bike riders and walkers
- Provide dog waste stations with disposable bags.
- Increase budget and maintenance hours to accommodate additional maintenance



Lake Sybelia Point Park (1320 N. Lake Sybelia)

This lake front parcel is approximately 4.5 acres and is located in a residential area on the west side of Lake Sybelia. The park amenities include a fishing pier/observation deck; a small playground; a restroom building; unpaved parking lot; park signage; and landscaping. Seating has been provided around the playground for observers. The parks use is mainly for passive activity, there are no courts or special use fields in this location, only open green space. The unpaved parking and entrance road looks unkempt. The old tilted wooden posts designating the parking area are reminiscent of an old rural park facilities and do not fit the residential neighborhood that surrounds it.

We recommend the following:

Playground

- Improve ADA accessibility to the playground area and throughout the park, create an accessible connection to the fishing pier.
- Replace loose-fill wood playground surfacing to update aesthetics, functionality, and safety in the playground area.

Parking

- Replace wooden bollards that surround the unpaved parking area and add a low fence system with landscaping to improve the users first impression of the park
- Add landscaping at edge of the driveway and plant both understory trees and canopy to add shade to the playground and parking areas.



WORKING

Maitland Baseball Complex (361 N. Keller Rd.)

The complex is a 10 acre special use facility that provides active recreation for league play. The facility has a fairly very well maintained appearance due to the building materials used for the construction for the site. There was no evidence of litter or debris on any surface in the park. The paver systems used added to the clean look of the park. There is a restroom/concession/ scorekeeper area located in the building. The facility's design allows for shaded areas over the concession stand picnic tables. A chilled water fountain is located in this area which was in need of repair at the time of the inventory.

The playground has been located towards the front of the facility near the parking lot which helps to keep fly balls from infiltrating into the play area. It is surrounded by fencing and is located near the picnic pavilion that supplies seating for the observers. The playground surface is a mulch system and is not easily accessible by ADA standards however ADA accessible curbs have been constructed throughout the site and ADA picnic tables have been provided.

Numerous picnic tables, benches, bleachers and shade structures have been supplied for the players and spectators. Dugouts are located at every field and fly ball protective nets have been installed to protect the attendees.

We recommend the following:

Playground

- Replace loose-fill wood playground surfacing to update aesthetics, functionality, and safety of playground

Maintenance

- Repair or replace the damaged water fountain.



Maitland Community Park (1400 Mayo Avenue)

Community Park is approximately 24+ acres and is the only community park located within the city limits. The projected 3 mile service radius does not extend far enough to the west side of the city to supply services to all of the City's current or future population. As stated in the previous master plan another community park needs to be created further west of the city's downtown to accomplish that service goal. This community park does offer indoor meeting space, concession stand and restrooms. It has park pavilions rental which include grills for cooking and one pavilion has a water fountain. There is a heavily treed landscape; basketball courts; racquetball courts; tennis courts; a trail system with exercise facilities; playgrounds and tot lots; and a boardwalk system.

The overall park is functioning for its intended purpose; however, some of the playground equipment is dated and could be replaced. Numerous benches and picnic tables have been provided however some were located in areas that people would not use due to overgrown vegetation surrounding the amenity or because of the seat heights. Some of the seating was unusable because it was installed into the ground too deeply causing the seats to be lower than the standard seating height of 17-19" height. This causes accessibility issues.

We recommend the following:

General

- Upgrade grills, the pavilion water fountain and any benches or trash cans that have begun to rust

- Trail system through park is ADA accessible but only if there is a minimal height obstruction in the ground plane. Make sure to level the surface material to allow for ease of access onto the trail and also the trail itself.
- Add shade structure of some sort to the courts

Playground

- Replace loose-fill wood playground surfacing to update aesthetics, functionality, and safety of playground.
- Replace old equipment and locate more centrally or trim landscape to allow better visibility of the swing area.



Minnehaha Park (1011 East Horatio Ave.)

This 7 acre park is located to the north of Horatio Avenue and connects to the Covered Bridge Park to the south through the underpass that bisects the roadway above. It functions as a neighborhood park and supplies picnicking; a boardwalk with educational signage; pavilions with ADA accessible picnic tables; a playground and tot lot; a restroom facility; a fitness trail and lighted tennis courts. The park also has amenities for dogs such as water fountains and waste disposal stations.

Access to the park for vehicular traffic is from Horatio Ave but pedestrians can access it via the main entrance, through the neighborhood to the north, or through the underpass that connects to Covered Bridge Park to the south. Educational signs have been added to the boardwalk and near the underpass but more need to be designed and installed between these two points to connect the educational signage system. The boardwalk is wooden and in need of repairs due to weathering. There is also signage in this location that is faded and in need of replacement.

At the main entrance to the site the landscape is in need of trimming to allow the entrance sign to be seen fully. Also the sign needs the algae to be cleaned from it. When entering the site a parking lot is located to the right. It is a paved surface and ADA accessible spaces are provided. The park was built only a few years back however there are maintenance issues that need resolved before they do any further damage. The picnic pavilions have buildup of tree debris and need to be cleaned off as well as the signs throughout the park.

We recommend the following:

General

- Replace faded signage
- Add educational signage
- Repair or replace boardwalk damage
- Maintain at an increase to the level of service the new educational signs installed in the fall of 2015.
- Clean off tree debris from the pavilion roofs and signs.
- Move any trash can; educational or directional sign; or dog station that is located greater than one foot off the edge of an accessible surface within reach to allow for ease of access for all visitors to the park.



Quinn Strong Park/Maitland Senior Center (345 S. Maitland Ave.)

The current size of land used as a park at Quinn Strong is a little under 3 acres. The park is located in the City's downtown Cultural Corridor District and sits slightly south of the Andrew Smith art center now known as the Maitland Art and Historical Museum. Within this park property Maitland's Senior Center facility is located. The center offers classes, activities and meeting areas for the public.

This park was master planned as a garden space to house traveling sculpture exhibits, and was to provide a space for city events. However as the project progressed the design was changed to only include a gazebo that was designed to be large enough for only 3 musicians to help limit the size of the events. Since most of the conceptual design did not come to fruition there is very little landscape and shade throughout the main area of the park. Most of the landscape is over the parking along the east side of the property and along the buffer areas next to the residence. It is a very hot park with little sun protection.

The park has trellis systems at the entrances with landscaping, benches and picnic tables. The main portion of the park is still available to re-master plan and could provide cultural activities for district. Now that the Maitland Art Center is on the National Register it may be an opportune time to look back at the original intended use of the park and tailor it to today's needs.

We recommend the following:

General

- Re-master plan the site to incorporate cultural activities as well as senior activities and passive neighborhood park amenities.
- Replace mismatched amenity styles with ones designated for the cultural corridor standards.
- Once a plan is determined add landscape or shade structures.
- Look for grant monies that would be available for art projects, work with the A&H Museum to find funding.



WORKING

Sybelia Beach Park (290 Jackson St.)

This small park is located along the east side of Lake Sybelia at Jackson Street. The facility includes a masonry block restroom, open green space, some picnic table, benches and trash cans. It is basically unused land but does provide open green space and lakefront access to the public in the downtown area. The City's land inventory in this location is under dispute as to whether it is 'heritage park land' or merely labeled as 'city property'. The differentiation may seem minor but actually designates the process in which any upgrades or changes to the use of the property would need to be handled. The parcel thought to be parkland is bisected by Jackson Street. To the east of the roadway is a masonry restroom, parking lot and picnic pavilions. This eastern area usually gets a lot of visitors that drive into the parking lot to eat lunch in their air conditioning cars while enjoying the view of the lake and then leave at the end of their break. The lakefront portion to the west of the road has one bench installed in direct sun without any shade structures.

We recommend the following:

General

- Determine actual designation for the parcels
- Master plan the site to incorporate more usable facilities along the water front so as to take advantage of the lake access and views
- Make the site ADA accessible.
- Add shade to the site



Winfield Neighborhood Park (intersection of Fennell St & Burmese Drive)

This 'park' is actually a retention pond on the west side of town that was contemplated to provide a trail system, playground and site amenities for passive recreation. A master plan was created for the site but the development was to be coinciding with the development of the parcel to the south of the Winfield retention area. The southern parcel has yet to be developed so the master plan is still on hold. The development of this park would help alleviate some of the deficit in the City's west side park system once built. If it is not constructed other properties will need to be developed to supply citizens with the proposed level of service ratios currently shown in the City's Comprehensive Development Plan.

We recommend the following:

General

- Decide upon an alternate plan for fulfilling the CDP criteria for the neighborhood recreational needs either through a replacement parcel or partnering with other agencies private facilities to provide the recreational activities



Lake Lucien Park Property (130 Southall lane)

Lake Lucien is a 13 acre undeveloped property. It is covered with vegetation and a majority of the land is said to be wetland.

We recommend the following:

General

- Research any deed restrictions that may be limiting development of the property.
- Complete wetland studies and surveys to decide the potential usable area of the site while retaining the property's conservation land designation shown in the CDP.
- Master plan whatever useable park land that has been determined by the wetland studies.
- Potentially link this property into the Lake Destiny park pedestrian pathway system mentioned earlier.



O’Hair Park Property/ Thurston House (851 Lake Ave)

Located within this park property is the historic Thurston House which is currently leased to a privately owned ‘bed and breakfast ‘business. Though this lands is categorized as park land it can not be counted toward park land acreage that supplies neighborhood park services to the community.

In the previously approved Downtown Maitland Master Plan and the Cultural Corridor Master Plan, the city’s trail system would connect to the B&B and allow visitors to stay at the facility and walk to downtown Maitland for events held in the downtown corridor.

We recommend the following:

General

- Determine downtown connection and proceeds with the planning and construction.
- Survey the rest of the property and determine what other facilities could work in that location to enhance the bed and breakfast, neighborhood uses and cultural events in the downtown



Lake Jackson Park / Dr. Bradford Memorial Park (745 Kentucky Ave.)

This undeveloped parcel is 31.08 acres and has been used by the City's Public Works Department for many different uses over the last several decades. It has been used for storage of landscape materials. This parcel, per the Orange County Property Appraisers website, connects around the lake and encompasses the developed Bellamy park site. The entrance shown below is from Wymore road looking east into the property. The site is currently gated and locked so few photos were able to be taken. The site runs along the cemetery property and would need a major entrance drive to access the facility. This parcel would need to be completely master planned to determine a community park design for the west side of the city.

We recommend the following:

General

- Master plan the entire site to community park standards

WORKING DRAFT



GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

- **Focus on upgrading the existing parks.** A number of the parks have been re-master planned and are waiting for funding to proceed with the construction. A coordinated capital improvements plan for the execution of park upgrades should be a priority.

The park system does not meet the basic level of service needs established in 2001. A solid effort needs to be made to move forward with the City's existing park land properties and improve them so as to upgrade the overall system. Currently many are just stockpiled for future use and the properties are being proposed for other uses since no action has been taken to use them for recreation purposes. Parks that have been recently upgraded need to have continued funding to keep the high quality established with the redevelopment so it does not quickly deteriorate and fall below basic level of service criteria again.

- **Increase funding for maintenance activity in the parks.** With the recent park upgrades and the joint use agreement with Orange county Public Schools for use of the ballfields, maintenance staff and dollars are stretched to its limit. Commitment needs to be made to fund maintenance of park facilities through increased CIP dollars.
- **Master Plan and reconstruct the following parks:**
 - Hill Passive Park
 - Hill Recreation Center
 - Ft Maitland Park
 - Maitland Ballfield renovation project
 - Lake Sybelia Beach Park

Community Input meetings for specific parks are likely to reveal insight to what facilities are important to the citizens to be found in their neighborhood facility. This input would lend itself to establishing a park system that truly reflects that needs of the neighborhood and allow for any new trends that they may determine necessary for their recreational needs.

- **Construct parks that have already been master planned:**
 - Winfield park
 - Lake Destiny Park
 - Quinn Strong Park Phase II
- **Create a cohesive identity for the City's Parks.** Wayfinding, site furnishings, lighting standards, playground equipment, paving materials generally differ from park to park. While it is important to give parks a unique design corresponding to the needs of its immediate users, it is also important for the overall park system to be clearly identified as being a part of the City's brand and to simplify maintenance equipment and supplies.
- **Park Inspections should be initiated or increased to make sure that the parks and trail systems are brought up to and kept up to high standards.**
- **Investigate the city's conservation/ wetland properties s to see if any or all of it is actually developable into an amenity for the citizens. If not then determine what other properties can supplement the current park land system to supply the lower ratio of recreation lands per community members.**

Determine if the wetland areas that the city currently owns can be made into an environmental learning center as once discussed. Plan for uses that allows these areas to be used to calculate open green space for the CDP requirements but also add amenities that the City currently does not have available to its citizenry.

- **Invest in providing better play surfaces** for playgrounds throughout the City. Mulch surfacing is hard to transverse, ADA Accessible surfaces such as pour-in-place surfacing, or an equivalent long-lasting surface, would be preferred. The benefit to pour-in-place is that it is a smooth surface that provides better access for wheelchair, scooter, and special needs users. It also significantly upgrades the aesthetic of the play area adding color, potential themes and visual interest. Play structures should also be shaded to protect equipment from wear and children from sun exposure. **Evaluate parks for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act** and develop a plan to address any such deficiencies quickly.
- Look for opportunities to create connectivity from park to park, trail to trail, and greenspace to greenspace for pedestrians, cyclists, and other non-motorized users. With the east-west link being constructed, wayfinding signage is extremely important to give direction and announce amenities along the bike path systems.
- **Create a better wayfinding system** and provide unique identities for the City's Parks. Include facilities of other providers, such as County Schools/Parks within this wayfinding system especially as linkages continue to be built and tie into regional systems
- **The City is fortunate to have a significant amount of waterfront park land.** Determine the best use of city properties to take advantage of lakefront access, whether it is opening views to the waterways or providing access and creating 'Blueways' where possible.
- The City of Maitland is committed to **utilizing low impact design standards** to treat the City's stormwater runoff into its water bodies and to the City's stormwater system. **Water re-use** should also be considered as a sustainable practice and research into this type of system should be considered. Enhancing and introducing these practices provides environmental education and helps create a more sustainable community.
- **Analyze and coordinate the Stormwater Master Plan with the Parks Master Plan** to see what areas and/or improvements needs to be addressed to enhance the community and the quality of life of the residents.
- **Continue to analyze existing parks and future park improvements for compliance with principals of CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)** to reduce crime and enhance community safety through natural surveillance, natural access control, territorial enforcement, and maintenance.