

8. 6C-21.209 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE

Information Sources

USF Factbook, 2001-2002

Sasaki Associates, Inc., interview notes, April 2000 and Spring 2002

Purpose

The purpose of this element is to ensure provision of adequate and accessible recreation facilities and open space to meet the future needs of the University.

(1) Data Requirements:

(1)(A). An inventory of all existing privately-owned, stat owned, or local government-owned recreational facilities and open spaces within the context area.

There are a total of seven neighborhood and community parks within a two-mile radius of the area east of Fifth Street, between Fifth Avenue South and Eighth Avenue South. Following is an inventory of public recreation facilities within the St. Petersburg Campus context area, based on available information to date:

Table II-8-a: Host Community Recreation Facilities

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Type</u>
1. Poynter Park	East of 3 rd St. South across from Poynter Institute	3.1 acres	Passive waterfront park along Bayboro Harbor
2. Lassig Park	East of Beech Drive	12.5 acres	Passive waterfront park along Tampa Bay
3. Bartlett Park/St. Petersburg Tennis Center	West of Fourth Street between Eighteenth and Twenty-Second Avenue	28 acres	15 Tennis courts
4. Roser Park	South of Bayfront Medical Center along Roser Park Drive		Passive park along Booker Creek

5. Woodbrook Park	West of Bayfront Medical Center along Roser Park Drive	Passive park along Booker Creek
6. Campbell Park	South of Fifth Avenue South between Tenth and Sixteenth Streets	

Activity-Based Parks

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Bartlett Park/St. Petersburg Tennis Center	Tennis	28 acres
Campbell Park	Not available	Not available

Resource-Based Parks

<u>Name</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Acreage</u>
Poynter Park	Passive – Bayboro bayfront	3.1 acres
Lassig Park	Passive – Tampa bayfront	12.5 acres
Roser Park	Passive – Booker Creek	not available
Woodbrook Park	Passive – Booker Creek	not available

(1)(B) *An inventory of all University-owned or managed recreational sites, open spaces, incidental recreation facilities, parks, lakes, forests, reservations, freshwater or saltwater beaches.*

Soccer Field

Campus Activities Center

- Fitness Center (Weight Training/Aerobics Room)
- Locker/Shower Rooms
- Main Gym Area (Basketball/Volleyball/Badminton)

Outdoor Swimming Pool

Watercraft Recreation Area

- 4 sloop-rigged boats
- 3 lasers
- 2 canoes

(1)(C) A description of the level of service standard(s) established by the host community for each type of recreation facility described in the comprehensive plan of the jurisdiction.

There is currently no description of level of service standards established by the host community for recreation and open space based on information provided to the consultant to date.

(1)(D) A description of any University-owned recreation facilities or open spaces that have been incorporated in the Recreational and Open Space Element of the host community's Comprehensive Plan

There are no University recreation facilities incorporated into the Host Community Comprehensive plan.

Analysis Requirements:

(2)(A). An analysis of the projected needs for recreation and open space required to meet the needs of the projected University population (students, faculty and staff) based on University standards and calculations or established level of service standards.

See Support Facilities-Plan Element 6, Analysis Requirement B for projected needs for athletic, intramural and casual use athletic facilities. The methodology used to establish the facilities program for the master plan draws on listing of needs requirements identified by the University Intercollegiate Athletics, Campus Recreation and Physical Education representatives and a comparison of those requirements to data collected on peer institutions. Actual levels of services and needs requirements vary considerably from institution to institution and are influenced by factors such as the profile of the students being served and availability of land.

Factors identified by the University as having the greatest impact on increasing the level of recreation participation and associated demand for recreation facilities are:

- Demand for informal recreation facilities (e.g. lap swim, and fitness training done on an individual basis);

- Future Housing; and,
- Event generated demand.

The recreation and open space needs have not been quantified for this master plan update, however, with the University's goal to add a residential component to the campus, there is a need to provide new passive and informal recreation options for on-campus residents.

(2)(B). An assessment of the adequacy of existing recreational facilities and open spaces to meet the future needs of the University (on-campus and off-campus), including a description of the extent to which off-campus facilities may meet some or all of the university projected needs.

Existing on-campus outdoor recreation facilities are inadequate to meet current enrollment. Current outdoor recreation facilities are limited to the pool and watercraft recreation areas. There was an expressed need in the 1995 plan for a multi-purpose recreation field/court space in a designated area of campus, which has been provided at the on Fifth Avenue. A new boathouse, built since 1995, and the planned expansion to the Campus Activities Center will provide additional recreation space. Increased student enrollments and increased numbers of students living on-campus will place further demand on existing indoor and outdoor facilities beyond the capacity of the University to maintain the same level of participation.

The campus waterfront location is viewed by many as the campus' greatest asset. Opportunities for integrating the campus open space along the bay (peninsula, Poynter Park) and for connecting the campus back into the city should be explored.

Proposed open space improvements include a central lawn along the Second Street and Seventh Avenue corridors and streetscape improvements on Sixth Avenue.

As in the 1995 master plan, the existing on-campus outdoor recreation facilities are inadequate to meet current enrollment.

(2)(C). An assessment of opportunities for alternative future facility siting in order to conserve the supply and character of open space.

As in the 1995 plan, the key to the preservation and establishment of a coherent open space system comprised of quality spaces of diverse character is the judicious placement of future buildings and surface parking, and the size of the footprint of those buildings.

(2)(D). An analysis of planned recreation and open space facilities as adopted by host community in their comprehensive plan or other best available data.

In the 1995 Master Plan, information contained in the Neighborhood Plans for Bartlett Park, Old Southeast, and Roser Park were cited with the following descriptions relative to future recreation and open space improvements in the context area:

Bartlett Park

- Improve physical amenities and recreation facilities with landscaping, fitness trail, picnic tables and lighting.
- Improve physical access to park with crosswalks and intersection improvements

Lassig Park

- Create contemplative nodes in the park.
- Create a visual screen at the north end of the park to block the view to buidligns to the north.
- Enhance the south end of the park by creating a gateway effect.

Roser Park

- Create landscape entry signage.
- Construct terrace walls.
- Add landscaping.
- Construct sidewalks.
- Provide additional seating.

Woodbrook Park

- Stabilize wall.
- Construct footbridge.

- Add landscaping.

There is no new information available regarding the implementation of proposed new open space and recreation facilities within the host community.