



## Parks Level of Service Study - Public Meeting Two Comments Summary

Comments	Green Space Needed	Need More Pocket Parks	25% Building Maximum	Lack of Parking	Lack of Pedestrian/ Bicycle Facilities	Lighting	Variety of Parks	Access to Water	Land Acquisition	Crowding
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Want to keep current amount of green space in parks.</li> <li>• Strong support for pocket parks, especially waterfront pocket parks.</li> <li>• Shorecrest has hardly any parks. Working on purchasing park land by little river behind shopping center.</li> </ul>	1	1						1	1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has the City thought about specifics to amending the 25% building maximum in parks.</li> <li>• What percentages have been considered?</li> <li>• Has there been any thought to what may be included or excluded from this calculation?</li> </ul>			1							
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern over availability of parking. There isn't enough parking at Shenandoah Park, proper parking must be provided.</li> <li>• Commute time to parks must be considered. Despite living across the street from Shenandoah Park, it is difficult to access because the street is difficult to cross.</li> </ul>				1	1					



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Was the city’s decision to maintain concurrency – city, county or state level? What legislation was involved with this decision? What are the motivations for maintaining concurrency? What are the benefits to maintaining concurrency?</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Possible solution to access problems: pedestrian-friendly zones, crosswalks with proper signage (flashing lights). When streets are easier to cross, there is better access. Has this idea been discussed by the City and if so, would there be any restrictions if the streets happened to be a state/county roads?</li> </ul>					1					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 miles of coastline in the City but there are no beach areas with sand. Need areas where people can wade into the water.</li> <li>Lots of time spent on public transportation to reach areas with beaches.</li> </ul>							1			



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access in Shorecrest is an issue. There are parks that I can bike to with my small child but the route is unwelcoming to cyclists. Poor sidewalk facilities (inconsistent sidewalks), speeding vehicles (despite 30 MPH speed limit) makes it difficult to bike/walk to parks.</li> <li>• Lack of swimming pools.</li> </ul>					1					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is there consideration for LEED standards for new and renovated park buildings?</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safety in parks is an issue; proper lighting is needed, there are areas with “patchy” lighting.</li> <li>• Legion Park boat ramp on weekends is chaotic, there are many users at the same time (jet skis, boats), which raises safety concerns. Speeding jet skis and boats pose a threat to human and manatee safety. Perhaps charging for use of the boat ramp can solve this issue.</li> <li>• Is there an arborist in Parks and Recreation Department? Trees are in need of maintenance, limbs have fallen.</li> </ul>						1				1



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seattle is building a 9 acre “edible forest” – Miami should consider community gardens and edible gardens. Get nonprofits and community involved, it benefits everyone and would greatly help Miami.</li> </ul>							1			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Parks should be classified such as recreation (basketball courts, soccer fields, etc.) passive parks, native habitats, etc. so that each resident’s distance to a certain type of park can be quantified.</li> <li>Would like to see parks with more native habitat.</li> <li>Access to water is an issue; by increasing access to water the burden on inland parks would be alleviated. Non-motorized boat launches need to be increased to improve accessibility. It is difficult to launch a paddle board/kayak when you have to compete with other uses.</li> <li>If we change levels of service based on public input and the level of service is increased, then can more public funds be allocated to parks/meeting these new standards? Would like to see the methodology in determining accessibility and levels of service.</li> </ul>							1	1		1



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ideas from Master Plan were not followed through.</li> <li>Are Virginia Key and the spoil islands being counted in the 1.3 acres calculation? City has less park space than other comparable cities. Lost 8 to 10 acres in Bicentennial Park to buildings and pavement.</li> <li>The City has bought a small amount of land in the past few years and has lost a lot of land. Can the city purchase more parkland while property prices are low?</li> </ul> <p>Recommendations to encourage the City to obtain more green space and spend more money on parks.</p>	1		1						1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Elaborate on “no net loss”. Taking possession of public land for private?</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation to raise impact fees to benefit parks</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The city is cash strapped – concerned that parkland will be the city’s “piggy bank” – public and private partnerships will result the City using park space for commercial ventures (billboards, etc). What is being done to stop development in parks?</li> </ul>										



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bicentennial Park was an example of demolition by neglect – is there park space being created to make up for the green space lost to the buildings? African Square Park lost in Liberty City, has this park space been replaced? Importance of protecting park-like spaces. Native habitats; access to environment is a human right, even small amounts of habitat count. Concurrency option – importance of acquiring land while property values are low. Raising impact fees. Changes to 25% maximum a step in the right direction. Parks that are too small should be removed from calculation, including areas in State Parks. Calculating on what population statistics? Must account for residency increases such as the “snowbird” population. We must plan for maximum level of population. Is there a way to base LOS on potential level of occupancy instead of actual to account for this? Virginia Key not accessible by pedestrians. Need more parks in urban core. Need to find ways to fund parks.</li> </ul>	1		1		1		1			



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 year plan and 10 year plan, great concept but open/green spaces are not being created. Every time green space appears in downtown, it quickly disappears to development. Eventually there will be no green spaces left because of development. We may want to buy land in 10 years, but it will be difficult to find because all the parcels are being developed. Need to buy land while prices are low.</li> </ul>	1								1	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beach idea may not be happening because of protected sea grass habitat.</li> <li>• Pocket Parks are great concepts and provide benefits (psychological, social, etc.). In Brooklyn, pocket parks greatly enhanced quality of life.</li> <li>• Is there a level of service structure that addresses staffing at parks? Boat ramps and other parks have litter and crowd issues; creates dangerous conditions.</li> </ul>		1								1
<p>Fish and Wildlife Commission will ticket speeding boaters and jet ski users. One possible method of revenue could be boat ramp charges (parking) similar to Key Biscayne method.</p>										



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police Benevolent Association land is under used. No improvements have been made except for minimal tree removal and replacement.</li> <li>• Park improvements can be funded by impact fees. Incentive fees are not used properly. Commissioners do not listen to the professionals that they have working for them and they make concessions. Must pressure commissioners/mayor for more park funding via impact fees.</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is the park department doing to avoid the situation in Bicentennial Park where the museums were constructed because the park was neglected.</li> <li>• Park in downtown on Flagler is occupied by homeless and not maintained so the space is unwelcoming.</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the City and the City’s Planning Department working with the County? The County’s planning is coming along nicely. Need to create partnerships.</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Money collected from impact fees for parks should be separated into a fund specifically for parks and should not be distributed into the general fund. There was a building boom and fees from this boom were never generated.</li> </ul>										



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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impact fees are collected when building permit is applied for, but then projects are modified after the permit, the extra money from these modifications are never collected.</li> </ul>										
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community organizations partnering with public county/state parks. Miami Parks department not interested in partnerships. Look at barriers to partnerships such as worker's comp to volunteers.</li> </ul>										

**Total:**

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4	2	3	1	4	1	3	3	3	3