

6.0 Recreation and Open Space

Goal 1: Provide Recreation and Open Space Facilities In Close Proximity to the University Population to Support Healthy Lifestyles, and Adequately and Efficiently Serve the Instructional, Active and Passive Recreation Needs of the University Population.

Objective 1.1: To maintain existing recreation facilities that are safe, modern, functional and minimize deferred maintenance.

Policies	Status	Benchmarks	Recommendations
Policy 1.1.1: The Department of Recreational Sports and University Athletic Association, Inc. shall provide ongoing maintenance surveys, preventive maintenance programs and corrective actions as needed to ensure the safe operating condition of the facilities under their organization's purview. Such corrective actions shall include those necessary to provide life, safety and ADA code compliance.	Ongoing	These entities continue to be responsible for providing regular, ongoing preventive maintenance and code compliance.	Retain
Policy 1.1.2: The Department of Recreational Sports and University Athletic Association, Inc. shall provide proper maintenance of athletic fields including restoration, rotating or restricting use as needed.	Ongoing	These entities continue to be responsible for athletic field maintenance and management.	Retain
Policy 1.1.3: The Division of Student Affairs shall explore opportunities to increase coordination in recreation facility development, operation and maintenance of recreational facilities provided within campus housing sites. Until such time as these responsibilities may be combined, if at all, the Division of Housing and Residence Education shall continue to maintain and operate recreational facilities within campus housing sites.	In progress	The Department of Recreational Sports has been placed under the Division of Student Affairs along with the Department of Housing and Residence Education. Coordination of the two departments occurs within the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.	Modify – rewrite to reflect ongoing coordination under the Vice President for Student Affairs

Policies	Status	Benchmarks	Recommendations
Policy 1.1.4: The Department of Recreational Sports, O'Connell Center, College of Health and Human Performance and Physical Plant Division shall continue to collaborate in the operation, maintenance and scheduling of Florida Pool and the O'Connell Center pool.	Ongoing	These entities continue to communicate and cooperate for efficient utilization of these swimming pool resources.	Modify – include UAA in the mix of stakeholders

Objective 1.2: To efficiently utilize and expand existing recreation facilities to meet the needs of the university population.

Policies	Status	Benchmark Data	Recommendations
Policy 1.2.1: New recreation facilities shall be provided consistent with the Future Land Use Element, Capital Improvement Program Element and other policies of the master plan and depicted on Figures 6-1, 6-1.a and 6-2 of this Element.	Ongoing	Recreation facilities have been located consistent with the campus master plan FLU and Future Building Sites designations.	Retain
Policy 1.2.2: Student recreation facilities shall be provided to meet existing and future enrollment that are equal or better than national comparative data and address the needs of students, faculty and staff considering different cultures, diversities and social interests.	Ongoing	Although new student recreation facilities have been provided such as the SW Recreation Center expansion and Broward Courts Outdoor Complex, provision of recreation facilities continues to fall below peer benchmarking.	Retain
Policy 1.2.3: The Department of Recreational Sports shall continuously engage its Board of Directors, student and employee groups, and academic departments to determine needs, interests and the adequacy of existing facilities and programs.	Ongoing	The Department of Recreational Sports seeks input from various stakeholders.	Retain
Policy 1.2.4: The UAA shall continuously engage its Board of Directors, the NCAA and other stakeholders to determine needs and the adequacy of existing facilities and programs.	Ongoing	The University Athletic Association seeks input from various stakeholders.	Retain

Policies	Status	Benchmark Data	Recommendations
Policy 1.2.5: The Department of Recreational Sports shall pursue expansion of recreation facilities at Lake Wauburg that make efficient use of the land resource, yet are compatible with the environmental setting of the lake area and its natural resources.	Ongoing	The Department of Recreational Sports expanded an outdoor ropes course and has plans for additional facility enhancements consistent with this policy.	Retain
Policy 1.2.6: The Department of Recreational Sports shall coordinate with the appropriate federal, state and local governmental agencies as well as related academic departments to monitor the success of the existing eagles nest at Lake Wauburg South.	Ongoing	The tree hosting the bald eagle's nest was blown down in a storm. According to best available information, there is not currently a bald eagle's nest on this UF controlled property.	Modify – rewrite to generalize if/when a nest is present
Policy 1.2.7: The University shall seek to enhance areas designated in the Urban Park Future Land Use classification, particularly those identified on Figure 1-5 of the Urban Design Element, for the purpose of ensuring adequate areas for passive recreational pursuits.	Ongoing	The Urban Park FLU areas have been maintained and enhanced for passive recreational pursuits. Enhancements have been implemented in many areas including Wilmot Gardens and south of the EH&S Building. The 2015-2025 campus master plan update will recommend removal of Urban Park FLU in small areas near the football stadium and Architecture Building. Another area north of the Orthopaedic and Sports Medicine Institute is also recommended for change because that FLU area is small and originally intended primarily for protection of a heritage tree. The heritage tree was damaged in a storm and the university's tree protection and mitigation policies adequately protect these remaining resources such that a FLU designation is not deemed necessary.	Retain

Policies	Status	Benchmark Data	Recommendations
<p>Policy 1.2.8: The University shall continue to explore opportunities to maximize facility utilization through partnerships between the Department of Recreational Sports, Division of Housing and Residence Education, UAA, O’Connell Center and College of Health and Human Performance such that shared use of facilities is provided without compromising the programmatic needs of one entity over another.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>These entities continue to collaborate for efficient use of facilities.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy 1.2.9: The University shall encourage and educate its faculty, staff and students about healthy lifestyles including physical activity, and shall increase availability of recreational resources to faculty and staff.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>Resources and programs for healthy living are provided through a number of entities, including the prominent Healthy Gators coalition. Recreation facilities are made available to university employees including facilities managed by the Department of Recreational Sports, O’Connell Center, and UAA golf course.</p>	<p>Retain</p>
<p>Policy 1.2.10: The University reserves the right to monitor the use of University facilities to ensure that the University population is given preference in the use of its facilities at all times.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The University manages its facilities in accordance with policies set by the various managing units.</p>	<p>Retain</p>

Objective 1.3: To ensure accessibility of recreation resources, particularly by non-automobile transportation modes.

Policies	Status	Benchmark Data	Recommendations
Policy 1.3.1: New recreation facilities shall be provided consistent with the Future Land Use Element and as depicted on Figures 6-1, 6-1.a and 6-2 of this Element, which strives to locate active recreation facilities in proximity to student housing, adjacent to academic land uses for those recreation facilities that support academic programming, and near the campus perimeter to be accessible to students living off-campus both to the west/southwest and east/northeast of campus.	Ongoing	Recreation facilities have been located consistent with this policy. Existing campus recreation facilities are in proximity to student housing on the west side of campus and the north central area. In both instances the facilities are near the campus perimeter and therefore, accessible for many students who live off-campus. Indoor recreation space is not located near the large and growing student population living on-campus on the east side of main campus or those that live off-campus east of W 13th Street.	Retain
Policy 1.3.2: The University shall continue to work with RTS to ensure continued transit service to Lake Wauburg and Lake Wauburg South with schedules and routing that maximizes student accessibility.	Ongoing	Although canceled during a period of high fuel prices, the Student Transportation Access Fee currently funds Saturday service to Lake Wauburg facilities during the fall and spring semesters.	Retain
Policy 1.3.3: Recreation facility locations and site design shall seek to take advantage of access provided by bicycle and pedestrian facilities, both existing and proposed, and shall seek to enhance those facilities whenever feasible. These bicycle and pedestrian facilities are depicted in Figures 8-2, 8-3, 8-4 and 8-5 of the Transportation Element including both on campus and off-campus linkages.	Ongoing	The Southwest Recreation Center expansion project improved the crosswalk, bus stop and pedestrian area landscaping. Bicycle and pedestrian facilities serving the Southwest Recreation Center are programmed for enhancement in 2015-16.	Retain

Objective 1.4: To engage the City of Gainesville, Alachua County, School Board of Alachua County and other community partners for mutual benefit to address the recreational needs of the campus and community.

Policies	Status	Benchmark Data	Recommendations
Policy 1.4.1: The University shall consider cooperative agreements, when appropriate, on a case-by-case basis, with public, semi-private, private and non-profit entities to provide recreation and open space facilities, programs and/or maintenance.	Ongoing	The University provides such access in compliance with facility use and risk management policies. The State of Florida Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund is also a party to any such agreements as applicable for state owned lands.	Modify – include role of the BTITF in certain use agreements and cite appropriate statute
Policy 1.4.2: The University shall work with Alachua County, City of Gainesville and the School Board of Alachua County to identify off-campus sports fields and other outdoor active recreation non-instructional sites that may be appropriate for joint active and/or passive recreation programs and facilities. The University shall actively pursue interlocal agreements and memoranda of understanding as needed to provide for the joint use of identified sites, facilities and programs.	Ongoing	The University considers such arrangements on a case-by-case basis as appropriate and consistent with other risk management requirements, use policies and restrictions.	Modify – reword for more passive tone consistent with Policy 1.4.1
Policy 1.4.3: The University’s inventory of existing park and open space facilities located on the campus and in the University Context Area shall be maintained and updated on a periodic basis. This inventory shall be used to help coordinate and monitor the provision of recreation and open space facilities with these entities.	Ongoing	The inventory is included in all campus master plan minor amendment submittals and is updated with each campus master plan major amendment.	Retain
Policy 1.4.4: The University shall meet with the City of Gainesville, Alachua County and any pertinent committees or interest groups as needed to discuss and coordinate on issues related to the provision of recreation and open space facilities and services.	Ongoing	The University will meet and coordinate with these entities when requested.	Retain

Policies	Status	Benchmark Data	Recommendations
Policy 1.4.5: The University shall continue to work with the City of Gainesville and Alachua County to mitigate adverse effects of special events, including sporting events, on the surrounding community.	Ongoing	The University Athletic Association, University Police Department, and Office of Community Relations work with the City and County toward this purpose.	Retain