8.0 Recreation and Open Space Element

Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) faces a challenge in maintaining and providing adequate recreation and open space facilities including those for Intercollegiate Athletics over the course of the 2010-2020 planning period. Several existing facilities are in need of improvements to maintain adopted level-of-service standards presently recommended for the University. Much of this is primarily due to deterioration resulting from the age and heavy utilization that these facilities currently experience.

Several types of facilities and acreage have been classified for this element. The recreational facilities, both land and improvements, are organized into two (2) distinct classifications of use; active and passive. Active recreational uses consist of organized and informal group activities. With a few passive exceptions like picnic areas and nature trails or paths, active recreational facility improvements are for a specifically intended function. By contrast, passive recreational uses consist of less formal activities and do not rely on focused formal or organized group activities. Examples of passive activities include picnic areas, observation areas, nature trails and unimproved open spaces. For the purposes of this plan, the two have been combined to define one recreational acreage level-of-service standard.

There are several improvements to the active recreational facilities called for within the ten (10) year planning period of this Master Plan. Many of these improvements are specifically intended to improve upon existing level-of-service standards and are thus, desperately needed. These improvements include the following:

The athletic department of FAMU foresees the future facility needs for intercollegiate athletics to consist of the relocation of four facilities and numerous renovations and expansions to existing facilities.

**Short-Term Needs (2010-2015)**
1. Provide lighting, press box, storage area and public address system at baseball stadium.
2. Provide irrigation on intramural playing field.
3. Resurface track facilities.
4. Provide two (2) sand volleyball courts.
5. Provide six (6) additional tennis courts.
6. Provide thirteen (13) additional racquetball courts.
7. Provide an intramural softball field with bleachers, restrooms, concession stand and lighting.
8. Provide wear resistant solution to the band practice area.

**Mid-Term Needs (2015-2020)**
1. Increase parking for baseball stadium.
2. Increase seating at baseball stadium to one thousand (1,000).
Long-Term Needs (+2020)
1. Relocate and construct a new intercollegiate track stadium.
2. Expand field house and weight room at Bragg Stadium.
3. Construct shelter for two (2) athletic department buses.
4. Increase seating at Bragg Stadium to forty-five thousand (45,000).
5. Relocate track facilities and provide lights, concession stand, press box and expanded seating at new location.

In addition, several maintenance and improvement items are required to maintain the quality of the University's existing facilities. All recreation facilities improvements, including those above, are shown on the 2010-2020 Master Plan Update Map contained within the Introduction.

With the exception of a proposed recreation field adjacent to an existing recreation house at the Quincy Farms Campus, no additional recreation facilities are proposed at the branch campus locations. Existing Open Space for conservation has been identified in Figure 4.B and 4.C. No intercollegiate athletic facilities exist or are planned for the branch locations.
GOAL 1: Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) shall continue to provide, maintain and expand recreation and open space facilities at acceptable service standards to meet the anticipated demands created by existing and anticipated faculty and student enrollment growth.

Objective 1.1: FAMU shall ensure the availability of an adequate supply of on-campus recreation and open space facilities at adopted level-of-service standards for the University's faculty and student enrollment growth anticipated to occur through the year 2015.

Policy 1.1.1
FAMU shall adopt a minimum level-of-service standard for recreational acreage, both active and passive, equating to fourteen (14) acres per one thousand (1,000) students.

Policy 1.1.2
FAMU shall adopt the following minimum level of service standards in Table 8.1 for recreational space facility improvements through the planning period.

Table 8.1 Minimum Level of Service Standards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Facility</th>
<th>Minimum Level of Service</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basketball Court</td>
<td>One per 5,000 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volleyball Court</td>
<td>One per 15,000 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racquetball Court</td>
<td>One per 5,000 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tennis Court</td>
<td>One per 2,000 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Softball/Baseball Field</td>
<td>One per 8,000 Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multipurpose Field</td>
<td>One per 8,000 Students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: State University System of Florida – Board of Governors.

The level-of-service standard does not include proposed facility improvements. FAMU shall amend this plan, if needed, to raise adopted level-of-service standards as new facilities are constructed.

Policy 1.1.3
FAMU shall count those areas designated for conservation (as shown in the Future Land Use Map, Figure 4.1) towards the minimum level of service standards adopted for Recreational Acreage ensuring that on-campus open space and natural conservation area requirements are maximized.

Policy 1.1.4
FAMU shall base the criteria for setting the priority, timing and phasing of future required recreation and open space improvements on future identified deficiencies related to the adopted minimum level of service standards. At a minimum, these criteria shall call for an annual report to be completed by an established Recreation Advisory Committee that evaluates deficiencies and replacement needs.

Policy 1.1.5
FAMU shall utilize properties to assist in meeting recreational acreage requirements, where appropriate.
Policy 1.1.6
FAMU shall maintain intensities and densities for the development of the campus which maximize the retention of on-campus open space. These intensities and densities are provided in the 4.0 Future Land Use Element.

Policy 1.1.7
FAMU shall continue to respect on-campus resource areas of cultural and/or historical significance.

Objective 1.2: FAMU shall maintain policies that support and encourage the coordination and use of public and private resources to meet the projected demands of the University faculty, student enrollment and intercollegiate athletic program growth anticipated to occur through the planning period. Consideration of fiscal resources shall include state and federal grants, user fees, gifts, foundations, required developer donations for on-campus projects and other applicable funding sources.

Policy 1.2.1
The Recreation Advisory Committee shall advise on matters related to University recreation and open space needs. This advisory committee shall, at a minimum, consist of two representatives from the University Recreation/Athletic Department, one from Facilities Planning and Construction, one full-time FAMU student and two FAMU faculty representatives. This committee shall ensure coordination between the host community and FAMU on matters related to the joint provision of on-campus recreation and open space.

Policy 1.2.2
FAMU shall coordinate with the host community and state and federal agencies to identify available funding sources for future recreation and open space facilities. Such coordination mechanisms shall be specified by an Interlocal Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding or other similar mechanism between the Board of Education, Division of Colleges and Universities/FAMU and the City of Tallahassee.

Policy 1.2.3
FAMU shall not consider newly identified recreation and open space facility additions or improvements until all adopted level of service deficiencies have been corrected. With the recent reconfiguration of recreation facilities on campus the University will need a minimum of thirty-two (32) acres to maintain recreational acreage level of service standards projected through the ten (10)-year planning period.

Policy 1.2.4
FAMU shall acquire not less (land acquisition area) than thirty-two (32) acres of additional land to accommodate existing and projected level of service standard deficiencies for recreational acreage.