

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

DATA AND ANALYSIS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this Element is to plan for a comprehensive system of public and private recreation and open space sites which are available to the public.

This Element of the Plan has been developed based upon:

1. Inventory and analysis of existing public and private recreation sites, and open spaces available to the public;
2. Analysis of current need for recreation sites;
3. Analysis of projected future needs for recreation sites, open space and recreation facilities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

THE ENTIRE DATA AND ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED BY STRIKING OUT AND ADDING DUE TO TABLES AND LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS.

RECREATION INVENTORY

Town of Palm Beach residents enjoy the opportunity to participate in a wide variety of recreational pursuits provided by several local, State and national resources, and facilities located in the general vicinity.

Parks, Open Space and Water Access

Only two (2) of the four major recreation areas within the Town are fully under the jurisdiction of the Town itself. The Casino Complex is located in and owned by the City of Lake Worth. Kreusler Park is a Palm Beach County Park, although it is located within the Town's corporate limits.

Table VI-1 provides a summary of all recreation and park areas of the Town. Table VI-2 provides a summary of the cultural and school facilities within the Town that are counted at 50% for the Town's recreation Level of Service. Table VI-3 provides a summary of private clubs and recreation facilities within the Town. ~~Please refer to the Supporting Documents~~ The Map Series ~~for a map identifying~~ identifies the locations of these recreational facilities.

~~TABLE VI-1~~

~~Town Recreation, Park, and Open Space Facilities~~

~~Town of Palm Beach~~

PARK FACILITY	APPROX. ACREAGE
Major Recreation Areas	
Phipps Ocean Park	20.59
Lake Worth Casino and Beach Complex ¹	8.30
Kreusler Park ²	4.23
Seaview Park	4.57
Neighborhood / Mini / Other Parks	
Boyd Park	0.16

Bradley Park	3.70
Ibis Isle Road Park	1.09
Lake Drive Park	2.53
Midtown Beach	12.80
Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course	31.60
Palmo Way Park	2.56
Park Avenue Park	0.12
Peruvian Park	0.44
Phipps Plaza Park	0.50
Southern Causeway	9.60
Town Square	0.39
Wrightsmen Estate Park (Tangier/Miraflores Drive)	1.49
Total Town Park Acreages	104.67
Other Town Park Facilities	
Lake Trail	4.7 miles
Palm Beach Inlet Dock	1 dock
Southern Pedestrian Bicycle Path	3.5 miles
Town Docks	83 slips

¹ Owned and Operated by the City of Lake Worth

² Owned and Operated by Palm Beach County Park & Recreation

Note: Lake Worth Casino and Beach Complex and Kreusler Park have always be included as part of the Town's Recreation LOS

TABLE VI-2

Town Cultural and School Facilities and Private Parks

Town of Palm Beach

FACILITY	APPROX. ACREAGE
Cultural Facilities	
Flagler Museum	2.80
Kaplan Park (Public Access)	0.30
Palm Beach Preservation Foundation — Ambassador Earl T. Smith Memorial Park and Foundation	0.24
Palm Beach Preservation Foundation — Pan's Garden	0.43
Preservation Park (Public Access)	0.24
Royal Poinciana Playhouse	0.30
Society of the Four Arts	3.75
School Facilities	
Palm Beach Elementary School	1.60
Palm Beach Day Academy	1.50
Total Cultural and School Facilities Acreage	11.16
Acreage towards Town Park LOS (50%)	5.58

Note: Cultural Facilities have previously been utilized at 50% to meet the Town's Recreation LOS.

TABLE VI-3

Private Clubs and Facilities

Town of Palm Beach

FACILITY	APPROX. ACREAGE
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Mar-a-Lago	17.51
Bath and Tennis Club	11.69
Palm Beach Country Club	84.01
Breakers	140.00
Everglades Club	91.43

Bicycle Paths

Lake Trail: This 4.7 walk and bicycle path includes the original Lake Trail which parallels Lake Worth from approximately Worth Avenue to the Palm Beach Inlet area. The original Lake Trail is a beautiful setting, offering residents not only a transportation route, but a recreational experience as well.

County Road Pedestrian Path/Bicycle Lane: This 1.1 mile general path and bicycle lane extends from Kawama Lane to Bahama Lane and provides a more tranquil travel route from the heavily traveled North County Road. It is Town maintained.

Southern Pedestrian/Bicycle Path: This 3.5 mile path runs from the southern Town limits to Sloan's Curve on the west side of A1A. Although allowing access to Phipps Park, it borders the heavily traveled A1A, and thus lacks the beauty and tranquility of Lake Trail. It is maintained by the Town.

Lake Worth and Public Beach Access

Public access to Lake Worth is provided from the Town's municipal docks. Additionally, the numerous private docks located within the Town provide access for certain private property owners. The Town also has numerous public beach access points throughout the Town and within the Town's beachfront parks.

Fishing

Although favorite fishing locations have not been documented as part of this planning study, fishing is available from many locations along the Atlantic Ocean and on Lake Worth.

Natural Islands

This series of islands, totaling approximately 39 acres, stretches from Everglades Island south to Ibis Isle, and is strictly limited in use. Deed restrictions, designating the islands for public or bird sanctuary use, are placed on the islands owned by the State of Florida (Trustees of the Internal

Improvement Fund). Other islands are leased to the National Audubon Society for 99 years and serve as bird sanctuaries.

Cultural Facilities

Royal Poinciana Playhouse: Located on 0.30 acres, at Cocoanut Row and Royal Poinciana Way, the Playhouse in the past offered ballet, opera, Broadway plays, and cultural events from January until April, and during the off season, the theater conducted children's events, workshops, artist's recitals and concerts. The venue has been closed but is still structurally sound and may be re-utilized as a theatre in the future.

Henry Morrison Flagler Museum: Located on Whitehall Way, this restored 1901 home was built by oil and railroad tycoon, H.M. Flagler. The entire complex of "Whitehall", encompassing 2.80 acres, is included in the National Register of Historic Places, the Historical Buildings Survey of the Department of the Interior, and the "Florida Trail of History."

In addition to the period rooms, the mansion displays collections of porcelain, silver, glass, lace, dolls, costumes, and paintings acquired by the family. Local historical exhibits, accented by Florida East Coast Railroad background, including Mr. Flagler's private rail car, are also available for viewing. A library, of the Post Times issues from 1916-1956 is maintained within the home. Charitable events, concerts, lectures, special exhibitions, and school proms often take place at "Whitehall".

Society of the Four Arts: Occupying 3.75 acres, located in the Four Arts Plaza and founded in 1936, the Society has as its objective the encouragement of an appreciation of art, music, drama, and literature. The Society accomplishes its objectives through the maintenance of a sculpture garden and library, and sponsorship of programs, including: exhibitions, lectures, concerts, and films.

Programs sponsored by the Society of the Four Arts are available from December through mid-April. The library and gardens are open to the public year-round. The Town supports the operations of the Library through an annual contribution.

Palm Beach Preservation Foundation — Ambassador Earl T. Smith Memorial Park and Fountain: Occupying 0.24 acres, this small pedestrian-oriented park facility is open to the public year-round, 24 hours. The park features lush landscaping and a fountain with casual seating.

Palm Beach Preservation Foundation — Pan's Garden: Occupying 0.43 acres, this facility includes a demonstration of native plant species and small office and lecture facilities for public viewing, school lectures on native habitat, and private functions. The park is generally open to the public at limited, variable hours and may be closed for private functions, lectures or limited public ceremonies.

NOTE: For recreation inventory calculation purposes, cultural facilities have been credited at 3.76 acres, 50% of actual acreage, and are used by the Town to meet its recreation standard.

Civic Clubs/Associations

The key role which private clubs play in the Town of Palm Beach recreational scene is very apparent in their relations with the civic clubs/associations' activities.

Private Facilities

Private clubs and golf courses represent a very real and active sector of the recreation scene in the Town of Palm Beach. In combination, these clubs and courses provide 18 hole golf courses, tennis courts, and boat slips. In addition, several thousand linear feet of beach frontage is under private/club ownership. In total these uses provide 352.22 acres of recreational facilities in the Town. These facilities are not used by the Town in meeting its recreation standard.

Handicapped Facilities

Restroom facilities at all public recreation areas are accessible to the handicapped.

RECREATION STANDARDS

The Town of Palm Beach is uniquely characterized by a number of factors, including: its linear configuration, a predominately older population, a scarcity of available vacant land, and the presence of a community whose "plan" was well thought out and executed. The Town's natural resources, beach-oriented parks, municipal docks, public golf course, and Seaview Park complex are adequate to provide both the community and neighborhood recreation needs of Town residents. Consequently, it has been the Town's policy to provide a variety of community serving facilities and activities along its beachfront, and a limited number and scope of neighborhood parks and facilities.

The Town of Palm Beach has been able to provide sufficient recreation acreage to meet or exceed its recreation standard of six acres per one thousand population for its population through a long and consistent dedication to recreation planning, and the private sector's support through provision of cultural facilities.

EXISTING AND FUTURE RECREATION NEEDS

The development of a cohesive recreation plan for the Town must reflect those factors which affect the optimum size, type and distribution of recreation facilities. Such factors include the size, age and distribution of the existing and future population, and the location and condition of existing facilities, as well as the supporting role which the private sector plays in the recreation network.

The Town's planning standard is six acres of recreation per thousand population. The Town currently has 104.67 acres of park land and open space including the Kreusler Park (Palm Beach County) and Lake Worth Casino and Beach Complex (City of Lake Worth) both of which have always been counted towards the Town's recreation Level of Service (LOS). In addition, the Town has counted 50% of the acreage of the cultural and school facilities within the Town which represents an additional 5.58 acres resulting in a total of 110.25 acres of park land and open space.

Based on the corrected 2010 U.S. Census population figure for the Town of 8,161 residents, the Town is expected to have a minimum of 48.97 acres of recreation land. Therefore, the Town is exceeding the minimum required LOS for recreation. The Town will continue to meet the LOS for recreation through the year 2027.

Table VI-4

Level of Service for Recreation and Open Space Acreage 2010–2025

Town of Palm Beach

Year	Population	Park Acres	Demand	Surplus
2010¹	8,161	110.25	48.97	+61.28
2015²	8,227	110.25	49.36	+60.89
2020²	8,234	110.25	49.40	+60.85
2025²	8,425	110.25	50.55	+59.70

¹ 2010 U.S. Census; ² Palm Beach County, 2016

As stated in the preceding sections, the Town of Palm Beach is not a typical community. Town residents place great emphasis on private golf courses, clubs, and cultural enrichment. To a significant extent, these activities add to the Town's public recreational facilities by providing for more personalized, service-oriented, recreation. In 2016, the Town conducted an extensive community survey regarding the Town's park and recreation facilities and opportunities. The survey lead to a needs assessment and master plan for the Town's Seaview Park and Recreation Center. Other park and recreation improvements were also identified.

In summation, the Town of Palm Beach, at present and into the future, has an excellent cultural/recreational mixture of public parks and facilities, supported by private golf courses and clubs

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE IN AMERICA

Parks are a tangible reflection of the quality of life in a community. Parks and recreation services are often cited as one of the most important factors in surveys of livable communities. Parks serve a social cause, provide gathering places for families and social groups, as well as for individuals of all ages.¹

Communities that pride themselves on their quality of life are described as those that are environmental stewards. That stewardship extends to a community's built environment to capture the housing styles and architecture that define them, the surrounding natural landscapes and resources, social gathering spaces, and supportive commercial uses. What ties all these unique elements of a community together is a healthy, active system of parks and recreation programs and open space for public use and enjoyment.

RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLANNING IN THE TOWN OF PALM BEACH

The Town has developed a cohesive recreation and open space plan. To ensure the continuation, the Recreation and Open Space Element must reflect the existing and future population, the location and condition of existing facilities, as well as the supporting role which the private sector plays in the recreational network.

The two (2) components of recreation and open space both speak to quality of life, but they produce different benefits and meet distinct needs. The recreation component relates to recreation sites, facilities, and programming to meet the needs of the Town's permanent and seasonal population. The open space component is oriented to enhancing the Town's aesthetic and environmental quality. As the grounds management and maintenance of the Town's passive parks and open space falls under the supervision of the Public Works Department, the responsibility of maintaining superior recreation and open space is a function of both the Town's Recreation Department as well as Public Works Department.

The Town's Recreation and Open Space Element maintains a Level of Service Standard (LOS) of six (6) acres of recreational land per one thousand population. The Town currently has 92.47 acres of park land and open space. This acreage includes Kreusler Park, that is owned and operated by Palm Beach County but is located within the Town's jurisdiction. As shown in Table 7-1, the Town has counted 50% of the acreage of the cultural and school facilities within the Town which represents an additional 5.28 acres, resulting in a total of 97.75 acres of park land and open space. Based on the United States Census, the 2020 population estimate for the Town is 9,245 residents. Based upon the LOS standard, the Town is required to maintain a minimum of 50.47 acres of

An ongoing study by the Trust for Public Land shows that over the past decade, voter approval rates for bond measures to acquire parks and conserve open space exceeds 75%. Clearly, the majority of the public views parks as an essential priority for government spending.

National Recreation and Park Association

¹ National Recreation and Park Association "Parks-Recreation - Essential Public Services - January 2020

recreation and open space. Therefore, the Town is exceeding the minimum required LOS standard for recreation and open space. Furthermore, the Town is expected to continue to meet the LOS for recreation through the year 2044.

<u>TABLE 7-1 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ACREAGE</u>	
<u>MAJOR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES</u>	<u>APPROXIMATE ACREAGE</u>
<u>Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course</u>	<u>31.60</u>
<u>Phipps Ocean Park</u>	<u>20.59</u>
<u>Kreusler Park</u>	<u>4.23</u>
<u>Seaview Park</u>	<u>4.57</u>
<u>SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>60.99</u>
<u>MINI PARKS AND PASSIVE OPEN SPACE FACILITIES</u>	
<u>Boyd Park</u>	<u>0.14</u>
<u>Bradley Park</u>	<u>4.20</u>
<u>Ibis Isle Road Park</u>	<u>0.96</u>
<u>Lakeside Park</u>	<u>2.53</u>
<u>Midtown Beach</u>	<u>12.80</u>
<u>Palmo Way Park</u>	<u>2.10</u>
<u>Park Avenue Park</u>	<u>0.22</u>
<u>Peruvian Park</u>	<u>0.25</u>
<u>Phipps Plaza Park</u>	<u>0.56</u>
<u>Southern Causeway (Bingham Island)</u>	<u>5.70</u>
<u>Town Hall Square</u>	<u>0.49</u>
<u>Wells Mini Park</u>	<u>0.04</u>
<u>Wrightsmen Estate Park (Tangier/Miraflores Drive)</u>	<u>1.49</u>
<u>SUBTOTAL</u>	<u>31.48</u>
<u>Total Town Park Acreages</u>	<u>92.47</u>

<u>OTHER TOWN PARK FACILITIES</u>	
<u>Lake Trail</u>	<u>4.7 miles</u>
<u>Midtown Linear Park</u>	<u>2,715 feet</u>
<u>Annie's Dock (Palm Beach Inlet Dock)</u>	<u>1 dock</u>
<u>Southern Pedestrian Bicycle Path</u>	<u>3.5 miles</u>
<u>Town Marina</u>	<u>84 slips</u>
<u>CULTURAL FACILITIES</u>	
<u>Flagler Museum</u>	<u>2.80</u>
<u>Palm Beach Preservation Foundation – Ambassador Earl T. Smith Memorial Park and Foundation</u>	<u>0.24</u>
<u>Palm Beach Preservation Foundation – Pan's Garden</u>	<u>0.43</u>
<u>Preservation Park (Public Access)</u>	<u>0.24</u>
<u>Society of the Four Arts</u>	<u>3.75</u>
<u>SCHOOL FACILITIES</u>	
<u>Palm Beach Elementary School</u>	<u>1.60</u>
<u>Palm Beach Day Academy</u>	<u>1.50</u>
<u>Total Cultural and School Facilities Acreage</u>	<u>10.56</u>
<u>Acreage Towards Town Park LOS (50%)</u>	<u>5.28</u>
<u>CLUB FACILITIES</u>	
<u>Mar a Lago</u>	<u>17.51</u>
<u>Bath and Tennis Club</u>	<u>11.69</u>
<u>Palm Beach Country Club</u>	<u>84.01</u>
<u>The Breakers Palm Beach</u>	<u>140.00</u>
<u>Everglades Club</u>	<u>91.43</u>
<u>Sailfish Club of Florida</u>	<u>3.02</u>
<u>Total Private Clubs and Facilities</u>	<u>347.66</u>
<u>TOTAL RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE LOS ACREAGE</u>	<u>97.75</u>

OPEN SPACE

As stated, the maintenance of the Town's parks and open space is managed by both the Town of Palm Beach Public Works Department, Recreation Department. The division of labor is separated by passive parks and open space and by those that have recreational programming. As such, the Recreation Department oversees landscape maintenance of the fields, playgrounds, golf course, and tennis courts while the Public Works Department, through the Facilities Division, manages passive parks and public spaces.

Below organizational chart is provided below to indicate where this responsibility lies within the Public Works Department.

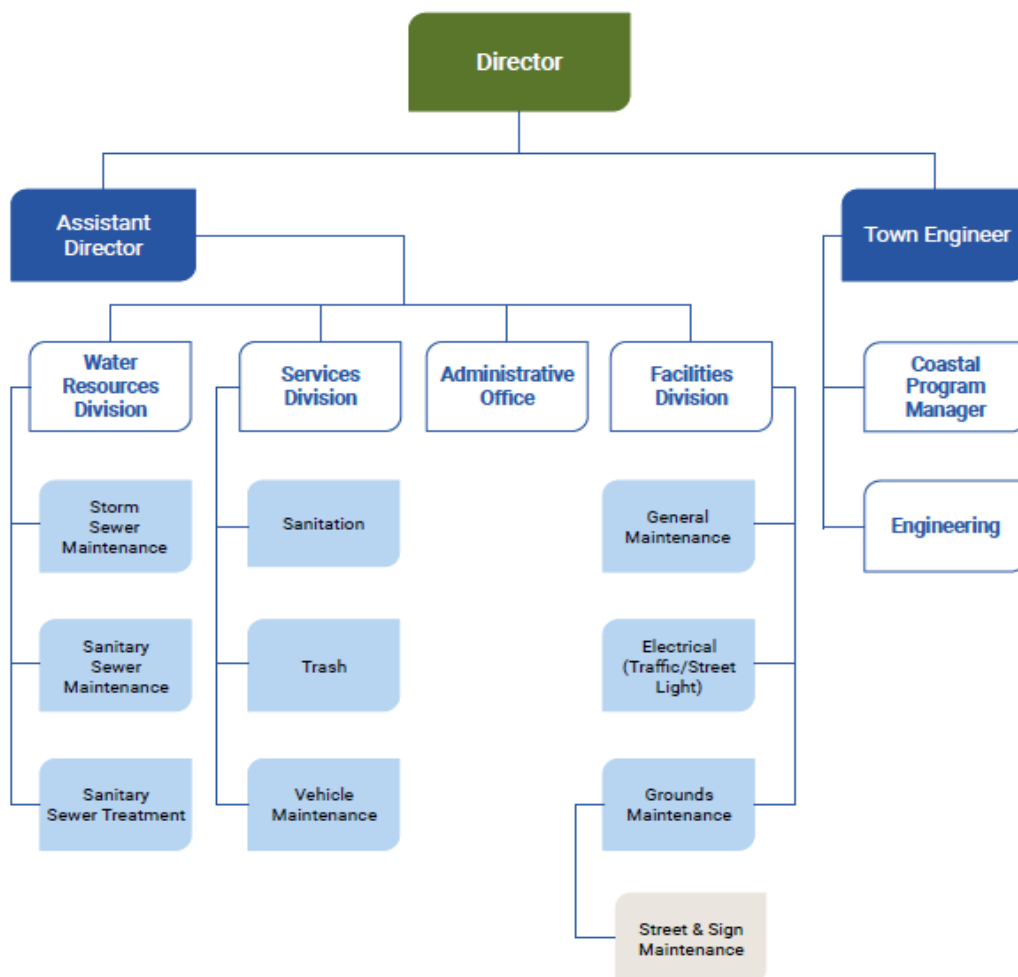


Table 7-2 Public Works Organizational Chart

The Facilities Division's main function is to ensure a clean, safe, and positive work environment for staff and visitors. The Facilities Division sets and follows a general maintenance schedule for grounds. In addition, the Facilities Division follows a preventative maintenance program that involves regular inspections and needed repairs.

Passive Parks and Open Space Area

Below is the complete list of passive parks and open space areas maintained by Public Works for the benefit of Town residents, employees, and guests.



Annie's Dock

Annie's Dock- 5,406 square feet (0.12 acres). Located north of East Inlet Drive and North Ocean Boulevard

Bingham Island-249,879 square feet (5.7 acres). Located on the Southern Boulevard bridge area.

Boyd Park- 6,106 square feet (0.14 acres). Located on the southwest corner of Bahama Lane and North Ocean Boulevard

Bradley Park – 182,534 square feet (4.2 acres). Located on the northwest corner of Royal Poinciana Way and Bradley Place

Crescent Park – 4,310 square feet (0.10 acres). Located on the Northwest corner of Crescent Drive and North County Road

Dean Park- 20,944 square feet (0.48 acres). Located on the northwest corner of Tangier Avenue and North County Road

Ibis Isle- 41,780 square feet (0.96 acres). Located on the southwest corner of Ibis Way and Ibis Isle Road East.

Lake Trail Linear Park- 5.5 miles long. Extending from South Lake Drive near Peruvian Avenue north to its terminus just north of the Sailfish Club.

Lakeside Park– 282,859 square feet (6.49 acres). Located on the west side of South Lake Drive In between Peruvian Avenue and Royal Palm Way

Midtown Beach Linear Park – 2,715 linear feet. Extending from just south of Gulfstream Road to Chilean Avenue along South Ocean Boulevard.



Lake Drive Linear Park

Palmo Park- 90,739 square feet (2.1 acres). Located on the north side of Palmo Way in between North Lake Way and North Ocean Way

Park Avenue Mini Park – 9,637 square feet (0.22 acres). Located on the south side of Park Avenue in between Bradley Place and North County Road

Peruvian Mini Park- 11,049 square feet (0.25 acres). Located on the southwest corner of Peruvian Avenue and South County Road.

Phipps Plaza Mini Park -24,275 square feet (.56 acres). Located on South County Road in between Royal Palm Way and Seaview Avenue

Town Hall Square – 21,271 square feet (0.49 acres) Located on South County Road in between Australian Avenue and Brazilian Avenue

Wells Mini Park- 1,876 square feet (.04 acres). Located on either side of Crescent Drive at the intersection with North County Road, across from the North Fire Station

Wrightsmen Estate Park– 33,521 square feet (0.77 acres) Located on the southwest corner of Tangier Avenue and North County Road



Town Hall Square

Cultural Facilities

Below is the list of cultural facilities that contribute to the overall LOS for recreation and open space for the Town of Palm Beach. Although these facilities are privately owned and operated, they are iconic spaces that represent the historic and beauty of the Town.

Henry Morrison Flagler Museum- Located on Whitehall Way, the Flagler Museum is the restored 1901 home, that was built by oil and railroad tycoon, H.M. Flagler. The entire complex of "Whitehall", encompassing 2.80 acres, is included in the National Register of Historic Places, the Historical Buildings Survey of the Department of the Interior, and the "Florida Trail of History."

In addition to the period rooms, the mansion displays collections of porcelain, silver, glass, lace, dolls, costumes, and paintings acquired by the family. Local historical exhibits, accented by Florida East Coast Railroad background, including Mr. Flagler's private rail car, are also available for viewing. A library, of the Post-Times issues from 1916-1956 is maintained within the home. Charitable events, concerts, lectures, special exhibitions, and school proms often take place at "Whitehall".

Society of the Four Arts- Occupying 3.75 acres, the Four Arts Plaza was founded in 1936, with the objective of encouraging the appreciation of art, music, drama, and literature. The Society accomplishes its objectives through the maintenance of a sculpture garden and library, and sponsorship of programs, including exhibitions, lectures, concerts, and films.

Programs sponsored by the Society of the Four Arts are available from December through mid-April. The library and gardens are open to the public year-round. The Town supports the operations of the library through an annual contribution.

Palm Beach Preservation Foundation’s Ambassador Earl T. Smith Memorial Park-- Occupying 0.24 acres, this small pedestrian-oriented park facility is open to the public year-round, 24-hours. The park features lush landscaping and a fountain with casual seating.

Palm Beach Preservation Foundation’s Pan’s Garden- Occupying 0.43 acres, this facility includes a demonstration of native plant species and small office and lecture facilities for public viewing, school lectures on native habitat, and private functions. The park is generally open to the public at limited, variable hours and may be closed for private functions, lectures or limited public ceremonies.

RECREATION

The mission of the Recreation Department is to provide outstanding recreation programs, facilities, and services to enrich and enhance the lives of Town residents and visitors. The organizational structure for the Recreation Department is shown in Table 7-3 with a breakout for the two (2) facilities that are Enterprise Funds (Tables 7-4 and 7-5).

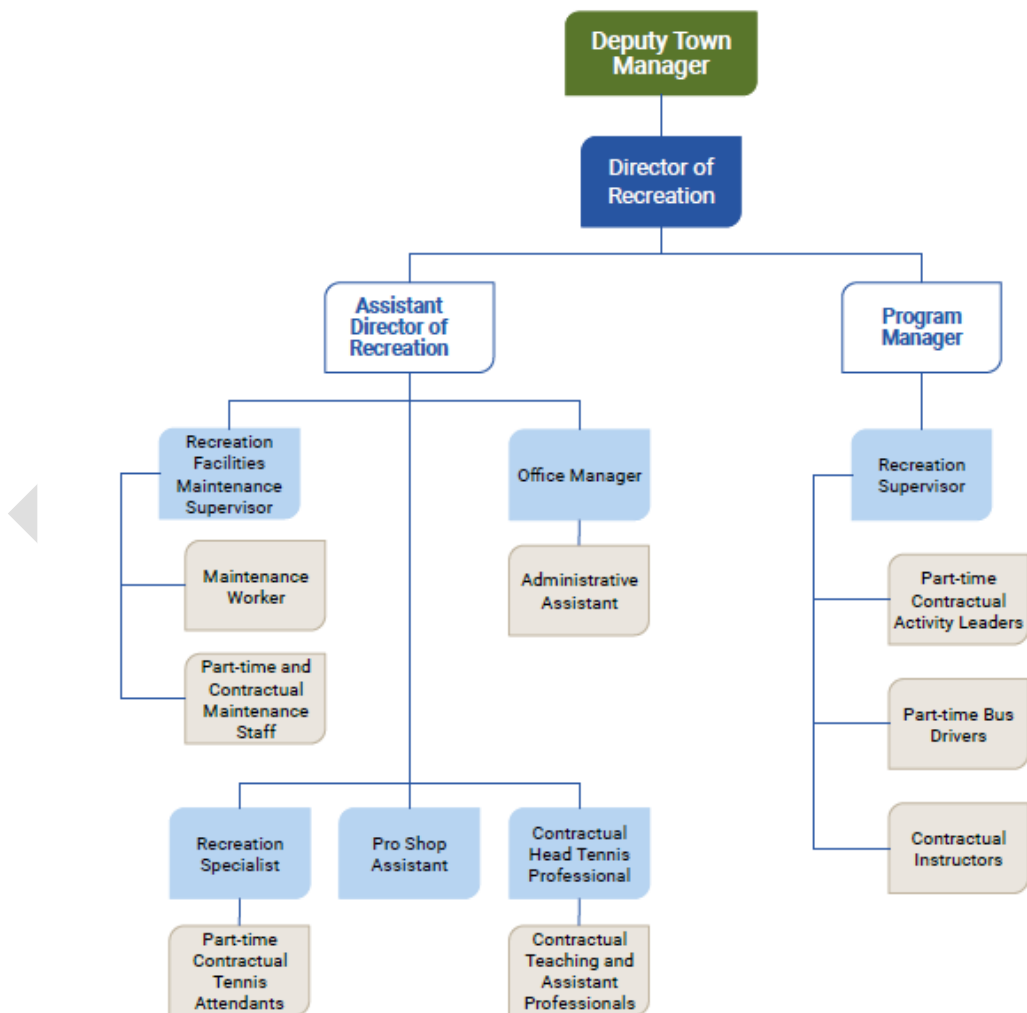


Table 7-3 Recreation Department Organizational Chart

Recreational programming managed by the Recreation Department are located throughout the Town at the following locations.



Table 7-4 Marina Enterprise Fund Organizational Chart

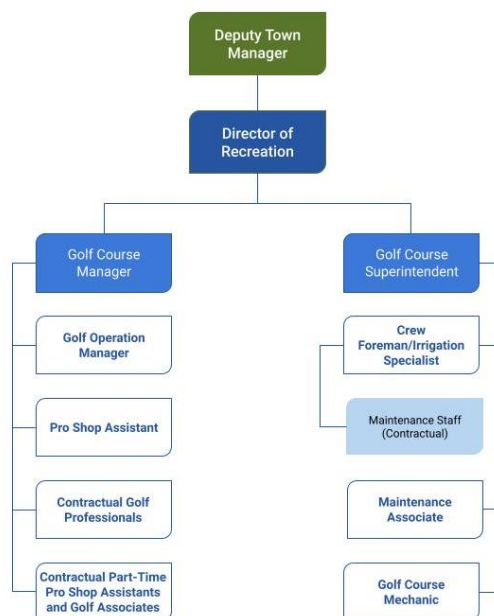


Table 7-5 Par 3 Enterprise Fund Organizational Chart

Palm Beach Par 3 Golf Course - Acquired in 1973 and renovated through the support of Raymond Floyd and the Par 3 Foundation, the Par 3 Golf Course, situated between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean, offers a spectacular view and a great challenge to all skill levels. The Par 3 Golf Course offers clinics, private lessons, tournaments, and walk-on play. A beautiful clubhouse, which opened in January 2014, offers a full-service pro shop and restaurant with ocean view dining.



Seaview Park and Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Centers - Seaview Park and Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Centers offer programs, drop-in play, lessons, clinics, mixers, tournaments, special events, and league play for children and adults throughout the year.

Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Center features six (6) clay tennis courts with shade shelters, a pro shop and a decorative gated entrance plaza with a player/spectator pavilion. Seaview Park Tennis Center features seven lit clay courts with shade shelters. The pro shop offers apparel, accessories, and racket stringing.



Phipps Ocean Park Tennis Center

Town of Palm Beach Marina –

Pursuant to 342.07, F.S., the Legislature recognizes that there is an important state interest in facilitating boating and other recreational access to the state’s navigable waters. The Legislature further recognizes that the waterways of the state are important for engaging in commerce and the transportation of goods and people upon such waterways and that such commerce and transportation is not feasible unless there is access to and from the navigable waters of the state through recreational and commercial working waterfronts.

For the purposes of this legislation, the term “recreational and commercial working waterfront” means a parcel or parcels of real property which provide access for water-dependent commercial activities, including hotels and motels as defined in Section 509.242(1), F.S., or provide access for the public to the navigable waters of the state. Recreational and commercial working waterfronts require direct access to or a location on, over, or adjacent to a navigable body of water.

The term includes water-dependent facilities that are open to the public and offer public access by vessels to the waters of the state or that support facilities for recreational, commercial, research, or governmental vessels. These facilities include public lodging establishments, docks, wharfs, lifts, wet and dry marinas, boat ramps, boat hauling and repair facilities, commercial fishing facilities, boat construction facilities, and other support structures over the water.

On the island of Palm Beach, the Town operates a public marina, providing berthing for power and sail yachts since the 1940s. In 2021, a \$38 million reconstruction project of the marina was completed remaking the old 'town docks' into a world-class yachting destination with 84 slips ranging in size from 60-294 feet.

The marina consists of the following features.

- ❖ State of the art engineering
- ❖ Bellingham concrete floating dock system
- ❖ Wider and deeper slips to facilitate super yachts
- ❖ Expanded shore power with up to 480 V, 200 amps power per slip
- ❖ High speed wireless internet
- ❖ High-capacity, in-slip pump-out
- ❖ 16-foot-wide main pier with extra wide finger piers
- ❖ Cart and porter concierge services
- ❖ Gated docks with access control system
- ❖ State-of-the-art lighting
- ❖ Security cameras throughout
- ❖ Sustainable operations that protect the environment
- ❖ Three (3) Mediterranean style amenity buildings with shower facilities and lounge



Town of Palm Beach Marina

The Town of Palm Beach is currently pursuing the Florida Clean Marina Program designation. The Clean Marina Program designation is administered through the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The goal of the designation program is a proactive approach to environmental stewardship. Participants receive assistance in implementing Best Management Practices through on-site and distance technical assistance, mentoring by other Clean Marinas and continuing education. To become designated as a Clean Marina, facilities must implement a set of environmental Best Management Practices (BMPs) designed to protect Florida's waterways. These BMPs address critical environmental issues such as sensitive habitats, waste management, storm water control, spill prevention and emergency preparedness. Designated facilities and those facilities seeking designation receive ongoing technical support from the Florida Clean Marina Program and the Clean Boating Partnership.

Mandel Recreation Center

In December 2019, the new and improved Morton & Barbara Mandel Recreation Center opened to serve the community of Palm Beach. The Mandel Recreation Center improvements were made



Mandel Recreation Center

possible through a two (2) year fundraising campaign spearheaded by Friends of Recreation Inc., a generous donation by the Morton and Barbara Mandel Family Foundation, and the Town of Palm Beach. The new facility marked the beginning of an exciting new era in health, wellness, recreation, education, and fitness facilities.

As listed in Tables 7-6 and 7-7, the Mandel Recreation Center serves as a center of community activity. A variety of youth and adult classes, programs and special events are held at the Mandel Recreation Center including wellness, art, language, exercise,

technology, preschool programs, after school program, camps, and holiday workshops.

TABLE 7-6 Recreational Facilities
Athletic Field
Classroom
Fieldhouse
Multi-Purpose Room
Kids Playground
Fitness Center (Resident Only)

TABLE 7-7 Programs/Activities
Basketball
Soccer
Pickleball
Adult Fitness Classes
Adult Leisure/Classes
Kids Sports
Kids Leisure/Classes
After School Programs
Seasonal Camps

Provided in the following tables are statistics for the last seven (7) years on recreational programming at the various facilities managed by the Town of Palm Beach Recreational Department staff. As noted, the years 2019 were impact due to construction and 2020 were affected due to COVID-19.

Data is collected annually as to the percentage of resident and non-resident recreational users. As evidenced in Tables 7-8 through 7-12, the majority of those involved in both youth activities and those for all ages are residents of the Town. It is foreseen, that the Town of Palm Beach will continue to provide this level of recreational programming comparable to the percentage breakdown through the next planning horizon.

Table 7-8 Youth Enrichment/Youth Athletics			
Fiscal Year	Resident	Non-Resident	% of Resident
2013	330	248	57%
2014	298	191	61%
2015	254	170	60%
2016	203	233	47%
2017	236	218	52%
2018	223	133	66%
2019*	37	22	63%
2020**	74	38	66%
2021	327	193	63%
2022	437	401	52%

* Construction on new Mandel Recreational Building

** Covid-19

Table 7-9 After School Program			
Fiscal Year	Resident	Non-Resident	% of Resident
2013	174	187	48%
2014	187	185	50%
2015	140	202	41%
2016	111	211	34%
2017	134	214	39%
2018	122	142	46%
2019*	-	-	-
2020**	34	40	46%
2021	108	99	52%
2022	99	133	43%

* Construction on new Mandel Recreational Building

** Covid-19

Table 7-10 Tennis (Seaview & Phipps)

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>	<u>% of Resident</u>
<u>2018</u>	<u>10,350</u>	<u>8,204</u>	<u>56%</u>
<u>2019</u>	<u>11,211</u>	<u>6,345</u>	<u>64%</u>
<u>2020*</u>	<u>12,306</u>	<u>5,943</u>	<u>67%</u>
<u>2021</u>	<u>15,172</u>	<u>5,950</u>	<u>72%</u>
<u>2022</u>	<u>15,896</u>	<u>6,128</u>	<u>72%</u>

**Table 7-11
Par 3 Golf Course**

Fiscal Year	Rounds Played
2018	38,089
2019	39,114
2020*	38,157
2021	52,462
2022	54,896

*2020 - Closed 41 days due to Covid-19

Table 7-12 Mandel Fitness Center

Fiscal Year	Check-Ins
2020	4,342
2021	5,945
2022	9,098

PATH FORWARD

The Town has developed a cohesive recreation and open space plan. To ensure the continuation, the Recreation and Open Space Element must reflect the existing and future population, the location and condition of existing facilities, as well as the supporting role which the private sector plays in the recreational network. What is recommended is the recognition of the exceptional recreational programming the Recreation Department manages. As such, a new Sub-Element has been established that pertains exclusively to programming with associated corresponding Goals, Objectives, and Policies.