

Chapter 5

Recreation and Open Space Element

Goals, Objectives and Policies

Unified Sumter County/Center
Hill/Coleman/Webster Comprehensive Plan

Chapter 5 – Recreation and Open Space Element Goals, Objectives and Policies

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Universal Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 5 Recreation and Open Space

Provide, manage, and maintain recreation and open space opportunities to create a satisfying and stimulating living environment for residents.

Objective 5.1 Coordination of Parks and Recreation

Provide a comprehensive system of public and private park and recreational opportunities for all of the residents of the county through coordinated efforts with the private and public sector

Policy 5.1.1 Coordination with Private Developments

Private developments shall be encouraged to provide recreational and open space amenities that complement and enhance the living and working environment.

Policy 5.1.2 Coordination with Public Agencies

The County and the Cities shall support and coordinate with other public agencies in providing and managing lands for parks and recreation:

- a. The County and the Cities shall support state and regional efforts in securing and managing lands for open space and recreational use in in the county;
- b. The County and the Cities shall coordinate the provision of parks and recreational amenities to provide an efficient means of maintaining a variety of desirable recreational facilities. The mechanism for coordination is through the implementation of Interlocal Service Boundary and Joint Planning Agreements, pursuant to Chapter 171, Part II, Florida Statutes, as described in Objective 7.2, Objective 7.1U, and Objective 7.2U and their related policies of the Intergovernmental Coordination Element, or other interlocal agreements mutually beneficial to the County and Cities. The primary focus of County parks and recreation services shall be on passive park and recreational opportunities. The primary focus of City parks and recreation services shall be on active park and recreational opportunities; and
- c. The County and the Cities shall coordinate with the Sumter County School District to identify opportunities for the co-location of parks with public school sites and facilities.

Policy 5.1.3 Funding

The County and the Cities shall continually investigate and pursue, as applicable, funding opportunities from local, state, federal, or private sources to maintain and enhance the recreation and open space system.

Objective 5.2 Recreation

Appropriate passive and recreational opportunities shall be provided to all residents of the county.

Policy 5.2.1 Parks and Recreation Level of Service

Park and recreation facilities shall be provided to meet current and projected demands based on the following adopted level of service standards:

- a. The Cities shall develop, promote, and maintain a continuous program to provide for the existing and projected recreation needs of the cities through activity-based parks. The Cities shall use the park and recreation level of service (LOS) standards, set forth below, as the official policy to ensure the appropriate provision of park and recreation facilities:

Table 5-1- Parks and Recreation LOS Minimum Standards

Facility	Center Hill	Webster	Coleman
Baseball/Softball Fields	1 per 5,000	1 per 5,000	1 per 5,000
Basketball Courts	1 per 5,000	1 per 5,000	1 per 5,000
Handball/Racquet Courts	1 per 20,000	1 per 20,000	1 per 20,000
Multi-Use Rooms	1 per 4,000	1 per 4,000	1 per 4,000
Neighborhood/Community Centers	1 per 25,000	1 per 25,000	1 per 25,000
Playgrounds (ages 14 and under)	1 per 500	1 per 500	1 per 500
Shuffleboard Courts(ages 60 and over)	1 per 1,000	N/A	NA
Football/Soccer Fields	1 per 5,000	1 per 5,000	1 per 500
Tennis Courts	1 per 2,000	N/A	NA
Volleyball Courts	1 per 10,000	N/A	NA

- b. Within the unincorporated areas of the County, the County is exempt from the level of service standards for parks and recreation.

Policy 5.2.2 Water Access

The County and the Cities shall continue to strive to provide public access to the Withlacoochee River, Lake Panasoffkee, Lake Okahumpka, and other large water bodies by means of boat ramps and other water access facilities.

Objective 5.3 Open Space

Scenic open space within the rural areas shall be preserved to protect the rural agricultural heritage of the county for all residents.

Policy 5.3.1 Open Space Protection

The County and Cities shall continue to protect and maintain open space within the rural areas through the implementation of the open space standards contained within the Future Land Use Element and the land development regulations.

Policy 5.3.2 Scenic Byway

The County and the Cities shall support the Scenic Sumter Heritage Byway and any additional state certification of a scenic byway that highlights the rural and historic beauty of the County.

Unincorporated Area Specific Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 5 Recreation and Open Space

Provide, manage, and maintain recreation and open space opportunities to create a satisfying and stimulating living environment for residents.

Objective 5.3 Open Space

Scenic open space within the rural areas shall be preserved to protect the rural agricultural heritage of the county for all county residents.

Policy 5.3.1U Open Space in Master Planned Developments

Sumter County shall provide for open space through the preservation of open space as a condition of development approval through the use of the Planned Unit Development and Conservation Subdivision process within the Future Land Use Element.

City of Center Hill (C) Area Specific Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 5 Recreation and Open Space (Restated)

Provide, manage, and maintain recreation and open space opportunities to create a satisfying and stimulating living environment for residents.

Objective 5.1C Recreation (Restated)

Appropriate passive and recreational opportunities shall be provided to all residents of the City.

Policy 5.1.1C Land Development Regulations for Parks and Recreation

The City shall maintain and periodically review and update land development regulations to assure that park and recreation and open space impacts of new development are mitigated to avoid adverse financial impact on the City.

Policy 5.1.2C Level of Service Standards

The City shall evaluate the level of service standards for each recreational facility to determine the desired parks and recreational programming for existing and future residents.

Policy 5.1.3C Regional Trail Network

Understanding that the future regional trail network will extend to the City of Webster, the City will explore opportunities to connect to the trail system and eventually to the State's SUN Trail Network.

City of Coleman (CL) Area Specific Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 5 Recreation and Open Space

Provide, manage, and maintain recreation and open space opportunities to create a satisfying and stimulating living environment for residents.

Objective 5.1CL Recreation

Appropriate passive and recreational opportunities shall be provided to all residents of the City.

Policy 5.1.1CL Land Development Regulations for Parks and Recreation

The City shall maintain and periodically review and update land development regulations to assure that park and recreation and open space impacts of new development are mitigated to avoid adverse financial impact on the City.

Policy 5.1.2CL Level of Service Standards

The City shall evaluate the level of service standards for each recreational facility to determine the desired parks and recreational programming for existing and future residents.

City of Webster (W) Area Specific Goals, Objectives and Policies

Goal 5 Recreation and Open Space

Provide, manage, and maintain recreation and open space opportunities to create a satisfying and stimulating living environment for residents.

Objective 5.1W Recreation

Appropriate passive and recreational opportunities shall be provided to all residents of the City.

Policy 5.1.1W Land Development Regulations for Parks and Recreation

The City shall maintain and periodically review and update land development regulations to assure that park and recreation and open space impacts of new development are mitigated to avoid adverse financial impact on the City.

Policy 5.1.2W Level of Service Standards

The City shall evaluate the level of service standards for each recreational facility to determine the desired parks and recreational programming for existing and future residents.

Policy 5.1.3W South Sumter Connector Trail

The City shall support the South Sumter Connector Trail along SR 471 as part of the SUN Trail Network.