

8.0 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

(1) DATA REQUIREMENTS

a) Inventory of all existing privately-owned, state-owned, or local government-owned recreational facilities and open spaces within the context area

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE (Including the Engineering Center)

Within the Modesto A. Maidique context area, there are 600 acres of park and recreation space providing a variety of athlete facilities, many of which can be found at Tamiami Park adjacent to Modesto A. Maidique. Most of these facilities are owned and operated by Miami-Dade County; however, there are a few privately owned recreational areas, such as the golf course at Fontainebleau Country Club.

In addition to the public and private park and recreation areas listed in Table 8.1, the inventory also includes 96.26 acres of recreation area at Modesto A. Maidique. The recreation facilities located in each FIU campus are owned by the Florida Board of Education, Division of Colleges and Universities and are completely maintained by the University. These facilities include a new football stadium, completed in 1998. The stadium serves the University, Tamiami Park, and Miami-Dade County Public high schools for football games. The stadium is owned by FIU, but is physically located between Tamiami Park and the Modesto A. Maidique Campus property line--dividing the stadium in half.

Table 8.1 Recreational Facilities within the FIU Service Areas – MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE

PARK FACILITIES	TYPES OF USES PROVIDED	TYPES OF RECREATION FACILITIES	FREQUENCY OF USE	TOTAL ACREAGE
Carlow Park	Activity	Recreation Center (1), Play Equipment (1), Basketball (2),	Not Available	2
Concord Park	Activity	Baseball (1), Basketball (2), Multi-purpose field (1), Play Equipment (1)	Not Available	10
Fountainbleau Park	Activity	Softball (1). Multi-purpose Field (2), Jogging path (1), Recreation Center (1)	Not Available	42
Fountainbleau Country Club	Activity	18 Hole Golf Course (2)	Not Available	152.28
International Gardens Park	Activity/Resource	Softball (1), Open Space, Multi-purpose field (2)	Not Available	Not Available
Southern Estates Park	Activity	Softball (1), Multi-purpose Field (2)	Not Available	16
Sweetwater Youth Center	Activity	Multi-purpose Field (1), Recreation Center (1)	Not Available	5
Tamiami Park	Activity	Recreation Center (1), Pool (1), Basketball (1), Baseball (2), Softball/Baseball (4), Tennis (6), Volleyball (6), Multi-purpose (12) Football Stadium (1)	Not Available	241.8

Source: FIU, 2005

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

The park and recreation areas found within the one mile context area of Biscayne Bay Campus total over 1,000 acres and contain a wide variety of facilities, including, a golf course, camp sites, horse stables and boat launches, multipurpose fields and basketball courts. In addition to the park and recreation areas listed in Table 8. 2, the inventory also includes 64.6 acres at Biscayne Bay Campus. The recreation facilities located at each FIU campus are owned by the State University System and are completely maintained by the University. The facilities as Miami-Dade County Parks and Recreation inventory them include the following:

Table 8.-2 Recreational Facilities within the FIU Service Areas – BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

PARK FACILITIES	TYPES OF USES PROVIDED	TYPES OF RECREATION FACILITIES	FREQUENCY OF USE	TOTAL ACREAGE
Aqua Bowl Park	Activity	Community center (1) Play equipment (1) Multi-purpose field (1)	Not Available	20
Arch Creek Park	Resource	Nature Center (1)	Not Available	9
East Greynols Park	Activity/Resource	Picnic (1), Basketball (1) Nature center (1) Boat launch (1)	Not Available	56
Haulover Beach Park	Resource	Picnic (2), Tennis (6) Beach (1), Boat launch (11)	Not Available	177
Highland Village Park	Activity	Picnic (1), Baseball (1) Multi-purpose field (2)	Not Available	5
Oleta River State Rec. Area	Resource	Swimming, Fishing, Picnic, Mountain biking	Not Available	1,048

Source: FIU, 2005

THE WOLFSONIAN MUSEUM

The Wolfsonian does not have any active recreation and open space facilities; however, it has access to the various open space and recreation facilities within the City of Miami Beach, including the beaches and marine facilities. See Table 8.3 for a list of recreation facilities that are in close proximity to the FIU site.

Table 8.3 Recreational Facilities within the FIU Service Areas – The Wolfsonian

PARK FACILITIES	TYPES OF USES PROVIDED	TYPES OF RECREATION FACILITIES	FREQUENCY OF USE	TOTAL ACREAGE
Fairway Park	Activity	Basketball courts, Open play space, Pavilions/shelters, Playground, Tennis Courts, Rentals	Not Available	Not Available
Flamingo Park	Activity/Resource	Bark park, Basketball courts, Open play space, Playground, Pools, Tennis courts	Not Available	Not Available
Lummus Park	Resource	Playground, Rentals	Not Available	Not Available
Maurice Gibb Memorial Park	Resource	Playground, Rentals	Not Available	Not Available
Marjory Stoneman Douglas Park	Resource	Playground, Rentals	Not Available	Not Available
Miami Beach Golf Course	Activity	Golf	Not Available	Not Available
Normandy Shores Park	Activity	Playground, Rentals, Tennis courts	Not Available	Not Available
Palm Island Park	Activity	Basketball courts, Open play space, Pavilions/shelters, Playground, Rentals, Tennis courts	Not Available	Not Available
Scott Rakow Youth Center & Ice Rink	Activity/Resource	Bark park, Basketball courts, Pools, Ice rink	Not Available	Not Available
South Point Park	Resource	Open play space, Pavilions/shelters	Not Available	Not Available

Source: FIU, 2005

b) Inventory Of All University-Owned Or Managed Recreation Sites, Open

**Spaces, Incidental Recreation Facilities, Parks, Lakes, Forests, Reservations,
Freshwater Or Saltwater Beaches**

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE

Table 8.4 University-owned Recreation Facilities and Open Spaces – MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE

Modesto A. Maidique:	Estimated Usage	Total Acreage
RECREATION FACILITIES		
Women's Softball/Tennis Center		
Tennis Courts (12)	2,586 annual use	2.8
Softball Fields (1)	N/A	1.0
Pharmed Arena		
Racquetball Courts (3 indoor, 0 outdoor)	N/A	0
Multipurpose Fields (2)***	N/A	1.8
Baseball Stadium (1)	N/A	4.6
Football Stadium*	N/A	9.4
Soccer Stadium (1)	N/A	3.4
Basketball Courts (6)	65 per day	0.3
Swimming Pools (1)**	1,793 annual use	0.1
Recreation Center (1)	N/A	3.4
Fitness Space (1)	196,537 annual use	3.4
Court gym (2)	N/A	--
Multipurpose fitness rooms (2)	N/A	--
Total Acres		26.8
OPEN SPACE AND LAKES		
Open Space	N/A	
Lakes	Not Available for Public Use	14 Lakes

*Football Stadium is shared facility with Tamiami Park,

**In addition to the Panther Hall pool, FIU has access to the Tamiami Park pool adjacent to Modesto A. Maidique.

***1 field is shared with the elementary school on the northwest corner of campus.

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Table 8.5 University-owned Recreation Facilities and Open Space– BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Biscayne Bay Campus:	Estimated Usage	Total Acreage
RECREATION FACILITIES		
Swimming Pool (1)	50,700 annual use	0.2
Tennis Courts (6)	3,500 annual use	1.4
Multipurpose Fields (3) (1)	2,000 annual use	5.4
Basketball Courts (1)	16,800 annual use	0.3
Fitness Center (1)	21,600 annual use	1.5
Running Track (1)	N/A	--
Total Acres		8.8
OPEN SPACE AND LAKES		
Open Spaces	N/A	
Lakes	Not Available for Public Use	4 Lakes

ENGINEERING CENTER (EC)

The Engineering Center does not have any recreation and open space facilities.

THE WOLFSONIAN MUSEUM

The Wolfsonian does not have any recreation and open space facilities.

c) Level Of Service Standard(S) Established By The Host Community For Each Type Of Recreation Facility Described In The Comprehensive Plan Of The Jurisdiction

The table below provides the minimum level of service standard for recreation and open space for each of the host communities where FIU has a site.

Table 8.6: Level of Service Standards of Host Communities

FIU Campus	Host Communities	Level of Service Standard
Modesto A. Maidique	Miami-Dade County	2.75 acres per 1000 permanent residents
	City of Sweetwater	1.45 acres per 1000 permanent residents
Biscayne Bay Campus	Miami-Dade County	2.75 acres per 1000 permanent residents
	City of North Miami	2.75 acres per 1000 permanent residents
Other University Sites		
Engineering Center	Miami-Dade County City of Sweetwater	2.75 acres per 1000 permanent residents 1.45 acres per 1000 permanent resident
The Wolfsonian	City of Miami Beach	6 acres per 6000 permanent residents and seasonal visitors, excluding public landscape open space and the Atlantic beachfront area.

Source: Comprehensive Plans for Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami Beach, the City of North Miami, and the City of Sweetwater.

d) University-Owned Recreational Facilities Or Open Spaces That Have Been Incorporated In The Recreation And Open Space Element Of The Host Community’s Comprehensive Plan

There are no University-owned recreational facilities or open spaces incorporated into the comprehensive plan of any of the following host communities:

University Site	Host Community
Modesto A. Maidique Campus	Miami-Dade County City of Sweetwater
Biscayne Bay Campus	Miami-Dade County City of North Miami
Engineering Center (EC)*	Miami-Dade County City of Sweetwater
The Wolfsonian *	City of Miami Beach

* The Engineering Center and The Wolfsonian do not have any recreation and open space facilities.

(2) ANALYSIS REQUIREMENTS

a) Projected Needs For Recreation And Open Space Facilities Required To Meet The Needs Of The Future University Population

Table 8.7 Recreation and Open Space Facilities Level of Service Standard

Year	Student Headcount	Acres	LOS
University Wide			
2004-05	35,002.0	174.7	5.0 acres/1000 students
2014-15	56,374.0	174.5	3.1 acres/1000 students
Modesto A. Maidique			
2004-05	27,307.0	96.6	3.5 acres/1000 students
2014-15	42,146.0	98.2	2.3 acres/1000 students
Biscayne Bay Campus			
2004-05	7,540.0	64.6	8.6 acres/1000 students
2014-15	8,728.0	68.2	7.8 acres/1000 students
Recommended LOS			2.75 acres/1000 students

Source: FIU Institutional Research and Metropolitan Center

The recommended level of service standard for FIU is 2.75 acres per 1000 students. This LOS is consistent with the standards of the host communities. As can be seen from the table below, the recommended LOS will enable FIU to meet the current needs of the university. It should be noted, however, that by 2015 Modesto A. Maidique will be at its maximum capacity.

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE

Future recreation at Modesto A. Maidique should remain limited to the western and southern edges of the campus adjacent to existing athletic facilities. Open space development should be formalized and unified throughout the academic core.

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Biscayne Bay Campus recreation needs include additional tennis courts, and general noncompetitive recreation facilities.

Recreation space at Biscayne Bay Campus is located on the western edge of the campus close to the water's edge. Fields in this area do not obstruct the views of Biscayne Bay; however, fenced facilities, such as tennis courts and above ground level structures such as the campus aquatic center, do obstruct the views that are unique to this campus. Future recreation development will serve the on campus residents and should be in close proximity to the housing area.

b) **Adequacy Of The Existing Recreational Facilities And Open Spaces To Meet The Projected Needs Of The University**

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE

As the demand for recreation facilities increases beyond that which is planned on-site, the University may need to look off campus for additional space. This would include developing an interlocal agreement with Miami-Dade County for joint use of their facilities.

The following is a list of the recreation needs at Modesto A. Maidique:

- **Recreation Fields:** New recreation fields are needed to support field sports and intramural /club sport activities. Currently the University has four fields, in addition to the tennis courts, baseball stadium and football stadium. As the University continues to grow, the available land on campus will be developed to support academic, research and support functions. The University should explore additional recreation opportunities at Tamiami Park.
- **Track:** The existing track was removed as part of the stadium expansion. The University is in the process of identifying a site for a new track.
- **General Renovations and Upgrades of Existing Facilities:** Existing facilities, such as the Panther Arena, need to be improved. Additional storage space and office space for staff is needed. There is also a need to renovate bathrooms.

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

There are two new Division I programs proposed for Biscayne Bay Campus, Women's Swimming and Women's Rowing. Facilities are adequate to initiate these programs; however, improvements in the aquatics center will be required to support the swimming program and an upgraded boat launch/practice area required for the rowing program.

There is also a need to replace the two recreation fields that were lost at Biscayne Bay Campus due to the construction of the new Marine Biology Building.

There are over 1,000 acres of parks and open space in the context area of Biscayne Bay Campus (See Table 8.2). These facilities adequately meet the open space and recreation needs of the host communities and FIU.

ENGINEERING CENTER (EC)

At this time, the Engineering Center does not have any recreation facilities; however, the site has sufficient open space for active and passive recreation areas.

THE WOLFSONIAN

The Wolfsonian does not have any open space suitable for active recreation activities; however, the City of Miami Beach has sufficient parks and open space to meet the needs of the University community.

d) **Opportunities For Alternative Future Facility Siting In Order To Conserve The Supply And Character Of Campus Open Space**

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS

Space reserved for recreational use has slowly been encumbered by new academic and support facilities. Because of this, FIU will need to look off campus to support some of its future recreation needs for Modesto A. Maidique.

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Recreation facilities provided by the Master Plan will support planned expansion of the campus. The southern portion of campus includes a substantial amount of land to accommodate any additional recreational needs.

THE WOLFSONIAN

The Wolfsonian does not have any open space.

c) **Planned Future Recreation And Open Space Facilities, As Adopted By The Host Community In Their Comprehensive Plan Or Best Available Data**

The amount of land that is available for large-scale development in Miami-Dade County is rapidly decreasing. Projections by the County indicate that Miami-Dade will be built out in the next twenty years. As a result, parks and open spaces that are underutilized may become vulnerable to the demand for land—particularly since the County has a surplus of parks. Privately owned facilities, such as golf courses, are also likely to be targeted for land use changes that would allow development. This is evident in the Fontainebleau Country Club, where there is an amendment to change the land use on the golf course to allow for multi-family residential use. Within the next ten years, the need to meet the parks and open space LOS will become more challenging as land becomes scarce. This is an issue for FIU and for the general community.

Below is a brief summary of some of the recreation and open space plans adopted by the host communities that may have an impact on the FIU campuses.

MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS

Miami-Dade County is proposing an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan that would change the land use designation of Fountainbleu Country Club (a 152.28-acre private golf course) from “Parks and Recreation” to “Medium Density Residential.” This would reduce the open space in the host community and increase

the density of the area.

In addition to the Comprehensive Plan Amendment, the County is proposing the following capital improvements at Tamiami Park:

- Hockey rinks
- Bleachers
- ADA pathways
- Pool upgrades
- General recreational and facility improvements

BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS

Miami-Dade County is planning to improve Greynolds Park through the following projects:¹

- Restoration of shelters and swimming hole
- Lake expansion
- Campground and ADA upgrades
- Meeting rooms and log roof shelters
- Automatic irrigation

ENGINEERING CENTER (EC)

During the next five years, the City of Sweetwater plans to construct an additional park in order to meet its Parks and Open Space LOS. At this time it is uncertain, where the park facility will be located, but it is likely to be in close proximity to the Engineering Campus.

THE WOLFSONIAN

At this time, the City of Miami Beach does not have any recreation and open space facilities plans that would have an impact on the Wolfsonian site.

¹ IBID.