

8.0 RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE ELEMENT

Developing new FIU recreational facilities and fields, as well as enhancing existing open space, remains an important aspect of campus design. As full-time student enrollment increases, there is an increased demand for both adequate housing and access to recreational amenities. These types of facilities also provide a critical benefit to commuting students. Whether for passive, informal, club sports, intercollegiate or intramural activities, all students benefit from opportunities to be physically active, socially engaged and remain connected to the University (see Element 8.1: Modesto A. Maidique Campus, Element 8.2: Engineering Center and Element 8.3: Biscayne Bay Campus for the location of recreational facilities and open space).

The 2020 Campus Master Plan Update identifies the need for additional on-campus recreation facilities as well as the improvement and preservation of significant open space to support the health and wellness of students. Due to the increasing pressure at Modesto A. Maidique to use its available land for academic facilities, active recreational activities are limited to the western edge of campus. These are, in turn, experiencing yet further constraints due to the pressure for additional support facilities. This has forced the University to limit its long-range growth in on-campus recreation and look for off-campus joint use facilities. Negotiations with Miami-Dade County for possible joint use of Tamiami Park and Miami-Dade Youth Fair and Exposition property should remain as a constant tool for additional recreational facilities. FIU should continue to work with the Miami-Dade County Parks Recreation and Open Spaces regarding recreation and open space needs for both the University and Miami-Dade County. Underutilized open space at the Engineering Center should be converted to recreational fields as a short term solution.

Biscayne Bay Campus has available land to accommodate its growing student population's desire and need for recreation and athletic facilities. The southern portion of the campus should remain as multi-purpose open space with additional fields and facilities located south of the Magnet School.

The 2020 Open Space Concept Plan (See Element 8.1 Modesto A. Maidique Campus, 8.2 Engineering Center and 8.3 Biscayne Bay Campus) identifies six categories of open space including:

- Multi-purpose open space
- Athletics
- Special purpose landscape
- Recreational open space
- Courtyard/plaza and
- Campus gateways

Recreational space refers to structured recreation and athletic spaces. Multi-purpose open space refers to areas that are not programmed and are intended for a variety of activities and users. Special Purpose Landscapes refer to open spaces that can be used for teaching or research. Campus Gateways aim to create a landmark entrance into campus

and denote primary entrance locations. The remaining categories of spaces include those which are integral to the surrounding built campus environment. (Refer to Figures 16.1 Modesto A. Maidique, 16.2 Engineering Center and 16.3 Biscayne Bay Campus for greater definition of the open space category.)

Open spaces on each campus have been created overtime that have become an integral part of the overall urban design and sense of place. Development that would encroach on these open spaces is discouraged so that the natural resources of each campus are protected. The FIU Architectural and Landscape Design Guidelines ensure that appropriate open spaces, plazas and gathering spaces are provided with all new construction.

GOAL 1: Protect, enhance and develop adequate recreation facilities and open space amenities necessary to serve projected student enrollments.

Objective 1.1 Meet Demand for Quality and Quantity of Recreation Facilities: Coordinate public and private resources to ensure the timely and efficient provision of recreation facilities to meet projected needs.

Policy 1.1.1 UNIVERSITY-WIDE
Assess the needs of the students for on-campus recreational fields and facilities. Recreational fields displaced by new construction will be replaced either on FIU property or in partnership with the community.

Policy 1.1.2 Ensure that adequate open and recreation space is provided beyond Miami-Dade County standards. Utilize guidelines and criteria set forth by either FIU peers or NIRSA Standards for large urban universities.

Policy 1.1.3 Phase and time development of open space improvements consistent with 14.0 Capital Improvement.

Policy 1.1.4 Renovate and improve roadways to incorporate Florida's DOT standards for bike lanes and lane dimensions. Connect to bicycle and pedestrian routes developed by host communities. Promote bicycle, pedestrian and mass transit connectivity between the university community and recreational facilities.

Policy 1.1.5 MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS
Discussions for the modification of the stadium and its use will include input from MDP and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Policy 1.1.6 Strengthen public venues in special purpose landscape and near water. Develop amphitheaters and pavilions.

- Policy 1.1.7 To address the needs of the projected student growth and lack of developable land on campus, investigate FIU expansion to Miami-Dade Youth Fair and Exposition property to house needed recreation facilities.
- Policy 1.1.8 **ENGINEERING CENTER**
Given the need for additional recreation facilities, land that is currently underutilized in the northeast corner of campus should be utilized for the creation of needed recreational fields and support facilities.
- Policy 1.1.9 **BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS**
Cluster new and relocated athletic and fields and facilities in the southern portion of the campus. Additional multi-purpose fields, tennis courts and basketball courts should be located south of the Magnet School. Develop joint use agreements with the proposed Magnet School for the softball field. Relocate the ropes course south of Academic Health Center Housing.
- Policy 1.1.10 Preserve multi-purpose, pedestrian, open space and bike paths along Biscayne Bay. Strengthen the character and quality of informal open space.
- Policy 1.1.11 Strengthen public venues along the bay. Develop an amphitheater adjacent to the Kovens Center and a dock next to relocated student housing.
- Objective 1.2 Develop Signature and Sustainable Open Space:
Protect and/or enhance present open space resources.**
- Policy 1.2.1 **UNIVERSITY-WIDE**
Select sites for infrastructure and academic and support facilities, which are designed to strengthen the viability and character of campus open space.
- Policy 1.2.2 Maintain densities and intensities for the development of the campus which maximize the retention of open space. These densities and intensities are established in 4.0 Land Use Element.
- Policy 1.2.3 Maintain the Campus Master Plan figure/ground relationships and urban design framework for the purpose of designating and creating high quality and diverse landscaped open space.
- Policy 1.2.4 Protect designated landscaped open spaces from development and create an interconnected framework of malls, quadrangles, courtyards, plazas and open space.

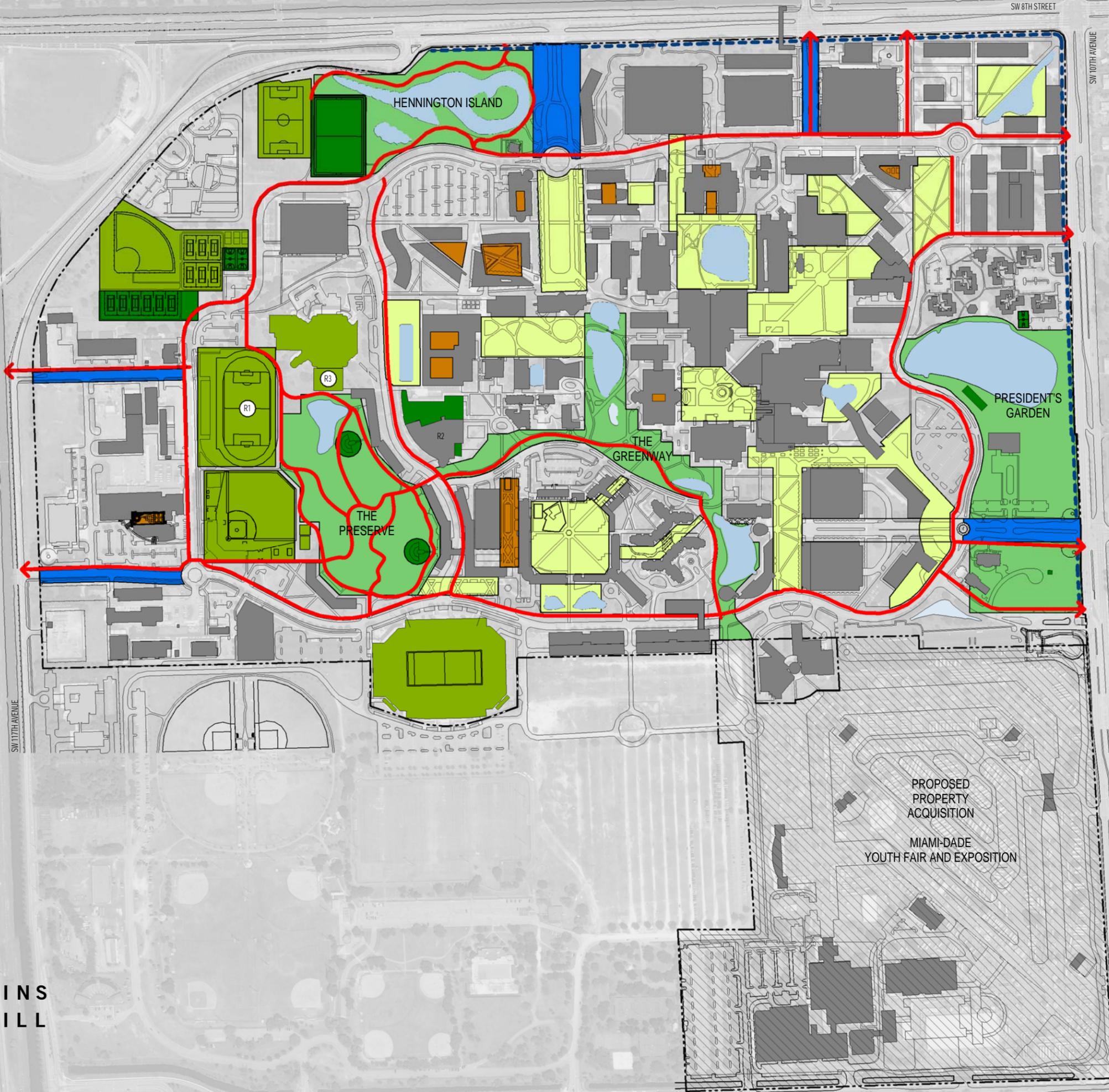
- Policy 1.2.5 Create, enhance and maintain new and existing primary entry points into campus with identifiable, signature campus gateways (see 16.0 Landscape Design Guidelines Element).
- Policy 1.2.6 **MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS**
Coordinate any development within the Preserve, as indicated by Table 14.1: Capital Improvement Plan, with the most recent development study of the Preserve. FIU will coordinate with Miami-Dade County DERM biologists as appropriate or required by law. Protected areas will be integrated within the existing wooded areas, with sensitively placed buildings, paths, seating areas, interpretative displays and amenities. Wooded areas will be retained for the benefit of existing species, to provide shelter, and for their natural characteristics.
- The Preserve will continue to be used for teaching and outdoor recreation purposes. Past design charrettes conducted by FIU, along with recent additions and alterations to those recommendations, provide a plan for utilizing the Preserve for these and other uses.
- Policy 1.2.7 Maintain and enhance streetscapes along SW 8th Street and SW 107th Street to brand the campus perimeter and to provide additional pedestrian and vehicular separation (see 16.0 Landscape Design Guidelines Element).
- Policy 1.2.8 Develop distinctive and branded entrances from SW 8th Street, SW 107th Avenue and SW 117th Avenue into campus. Provide a heightened level of detail according to their hierarchy. Follow recommendations in 16.0 Landscape Design Guidelines Element.
- Policy 1.2.9 Create a GreenWay that links the small ponds within the academic core and creates a parking and pedestrian connection to the Miami-Dade Youth Fair and Exposition.
- Policy 1.2.10 Enhance and preserve the President's Garden. Improve pedestrian access as roadways are developed in the southeast quadrant of campus. Coordinate a high quality landscape setting with the proposed chapel and park pavilion.
- Policy 1.2.11 Improve and expand on-campus recreational paths within special purpose and multi-purpose open space to create a pedestrian-friendly campus that promotes activity and wellness.
- Policy 1.2.11 Coordinate with Miami-Dade County Parks Recreation and Open Spaces for the joint utilization of open space to meet recreation and open space needs.

- Policy 1.2.12 **ENGINEERING CENTER**
Enhance existing open space along SW 107th Avenue with additional streetscaping and the creation of a campus gateway.
- Policy 1.2.13 Enhance open space bordering West Flagler Street with the creation of a campus gateway and streetscape.
- Policy 1.2.14 Create an enhanced transit stop with one articulated and one regular bus stop with covered seating and landscape along SW 107th Avenue to allow for enhanced connectivity to public transportation.
- Policy 1.2.15 Utilize existing open space to form an interior quadrangle around which to organize future academic and research facilities.
- Policy 1.2.16 Establish a north/south pedestrian spine to connect Flagler, existing buildings and potential development to the north.
- Policy 1.2.17 Preserve setbacks and open around the Wall of Wind to provide protection from research activities.
- Policy 1.2.18 **BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS**
Protect environmentally sensitive and bayfront open spaces from development encroachment. Strictly enforce placement of future buildings, parking, infrastructure and other man-made improvements consistent with the land use plan.

Coordinate closely with the City of North Miami and Miami-Dade County's Department of Environmental Protection (DERM) on any future campus development
- Policy 1.2.19 Renovate the original campus quad and develop new quads, courtyards and plazas throughout campus that enhance adjacent campus buildings.
- Policy 1.2.20 Enhance key symbolic campus open spaces including main entries into campus, to the north and south of Academic One and Two, Wolfe University Center and to the east of the Conference Center (see 16.0 Landscape Design Guidelines Element).
- Policy 1.2.21 Highlight the GreenSpine with sensitively constructed walkways and appropriate plant materials (see 16.0 Landscape Design Guidelines Element).

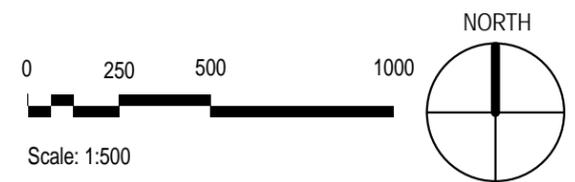
Policy 1.2.22

Create courtyards, outdoor rooms and gathering spaces in all new development adjacent to the BayWalk as transition points to public open space along the bay.



- KEY**
- R1. TRACK AND FIELD
 - R2. REC CENTER ADDITION
 - R3. TRAINING FACILITY ADDITION
- LEGEND**
- MULTI PURPOSE OPEN SPACE
 - ATHLETICS
 - SPECIAL PURPOSE OPEN SPACE
 - RECREATION
 - COURTYARD/PLAZA
 - CAMPUS GATEWAY
 - SURFACE WATER
 - PROPOSED / EXISTING BUILDING
 - RECREATION PATH
 - STREETSCAPE

**ELEMENT 8.1: RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
MODESTO A. MAIDIQUE CAMPUS**





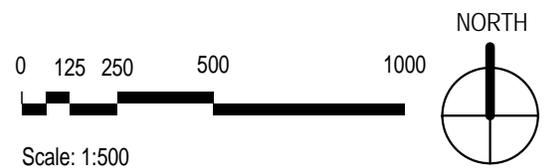
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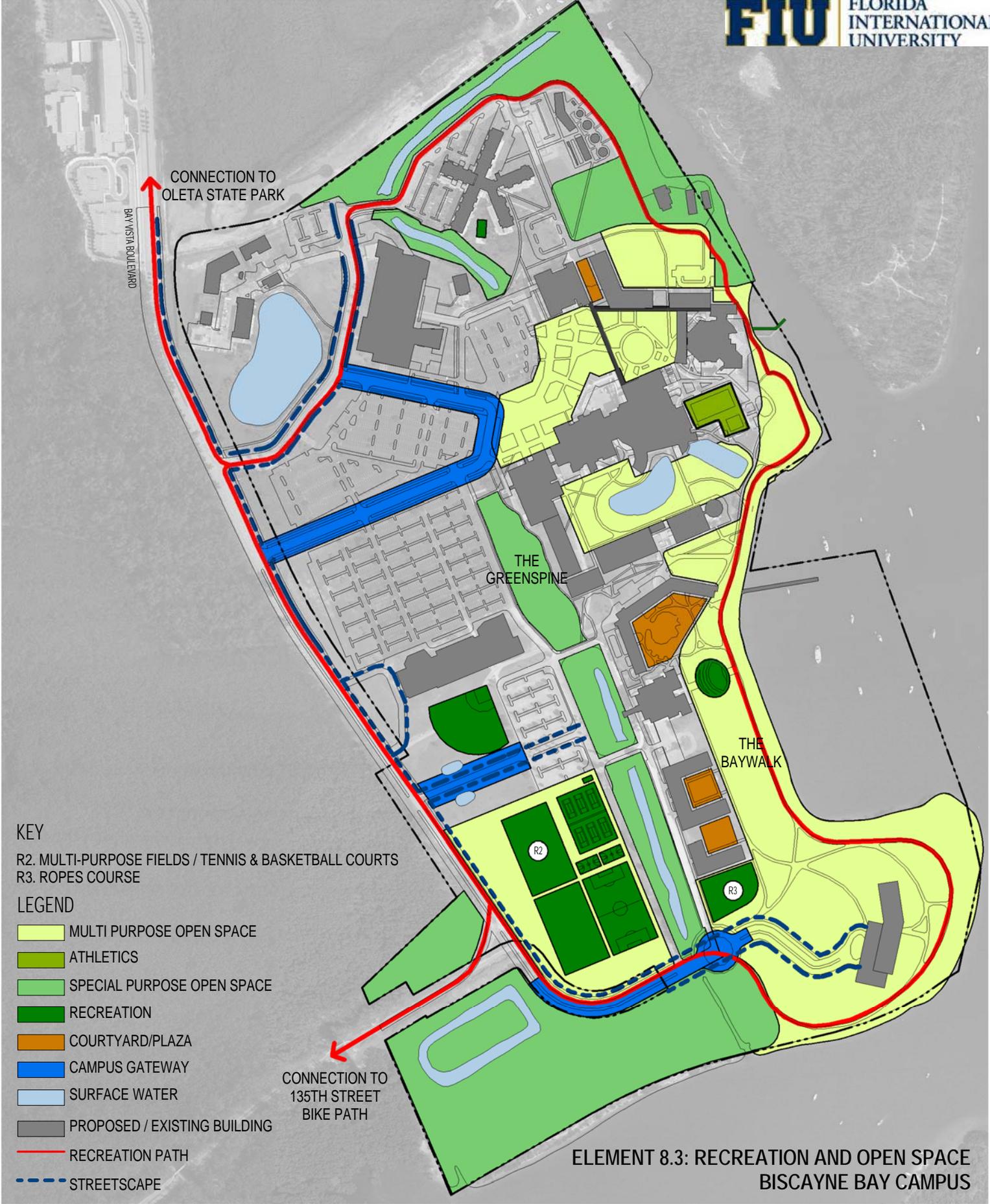
R1. RECREATION FIELDS

LEGEND

- MULTI PURPOSE OPEN SPACE
- ATHLETICS
- SPECIAL PURPOSE OPEN SPACE
- RECREATION
- COURTYARD/PLAZA
- CAMPUS GATEWAY
- SURFACE WATER
- PROPOSED / EXISTING BUILDING
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- STREETSCAPE

**ELEMENT 8.2: RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
ENGINEERING CENTER**





KEY
 R2. MULTI-PURPOSE FIELDS / TENNIS & BASKETBALL COURTS
 R3. ROPES COURSE

- LEGEND**
- MULTI PURPOSE OPEN SPACE
 - ATHLETICS
 - SPECIAL PURPOSE OPEN SPACE
 - RECREATION
 - COURTYARD/PLAZA
 - CAMPUS GATEWAY
 - SURFACE WATER
 - PROPOSED / EXISTING BUILDING
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**ELEMENT 8.3: RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE
 BISCAYNE BAY CAMPUS**