



CITY OF PORT ST. LUCIE
HEART OF THE TREASURE COAST

TOP WAYS WE ARE PUTTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN INTO ACTION

PARKS & RECREATION

OVERVIEW

The City of Port St. Lucie Parks & Recreation Department enhances quality of life by providing diverse parks, amenities and programs that inspire guests to learn, grow and serve daily. With exceptional leisure, cultural and recreational opportunities, its facilities are dynamic destinations that reflect the City's character. Committed to safety and inclusivity, the Department ensures all guests can play, celebrate and connect in welcoming spaces.

FY 2026/27

CULTURE, NATURE & RECREATION

Expanding recreational offerings and parks access through a multitude of projects and programs.

Implementing the 10-Year Parks & Recreation Master Plan.

- Implement the revised Parks & Recreation Master Plan
- Evaluate development of recreation centers/community centers in key nodes, including at Walton & One
- Complete the construction of the Conservation Trail south of Pioneer Park
- Extend our trail network via the completion of the Wilderness Trail
- Complete Phase I of Tradition and Torino Regional parks.
- Acquire land and/or City-owned land for additional parks and open spaces, in partnership with the High Performance Public Spaces team
- Continue enhancements of camping options at McCarty Ranch Preserve
- Increase access to parks within a 10-minute walk of residents through innovative partnerships and planning
- Begin Conceptual Master Plan of Sportsman's Park and School Site

Expanding programming and cultural offerings

- Evaluate new and existing programming via the completed Recreation Programming plan
- Launch new environmental education programs
- Launch new adult and sport programming
- Analyze existing programs via benchmarking and needs assessment
- Develop partnerships to deliver programs
- Implement the BMX Operations Plan

Improving current facilities and operational efficiency

- Increase security/fiber at Riverland Paseo and C-24 Canal Parks
- Construction of Phase 1 improvements for O.L. Peacock, Sr. Park
- New playground installations and renovations at River Place, Oak Hammock and McChesney Parks
- Develop creative placemaking strategies including activating green spaces such as Rosser Lakes
- Using new technologies such as OpenGov Asset Management and Copilot
- Evaluate findings from Fee Study for potential revenue generation

HIGH-PERFORMING GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

Continuing to grow as a high-performing Parks & Recreation Department.

- Retain Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA) Accreditation via the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). Upon successful reaccreditation award in September 2026, the Department will continue CAPRA efforts in preparation for the next 5-year reaccreditation cycle in 2031.
- Filed for CAPRA reaccreditation in 2026, with reviews and final reaccreditation determination to be completed by September 2026
- Increase networking with other CAPRA-accredited agencies
- Continue to evaluate and improve operations via benchmarking, staff retreats, strategic planning, research, technology/innovative solutions, CAPRA reaccreditation, studies and surveys
- Expand marketing in coordination with Communications
- Support further development of the Parks & Recreation team through training
- Better utilize volunteers, including developing and implementing volunteer training

A HIGH-PERFORMING PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Port St. Lucie Parks & Recreation Department provides programs, services, and facilities that serve a public purpose by promoting community health, well-being, and equitable access, while maintaining budgetary control and stewardship of public resources through alignment with current budgetary standards and industry best practices.

5.3 million total visits to PSL parks and indoor facilities in FY 2024/25

1,524 facility rentals

391,100 total visits to recreation centers

237 recreation programs offered annually

167,000 total visits to the Botanical Gardens

The Parks & Recreation Department met 99.4% of the CAPRA standards in 2021



PERFORMANCE MEASURES AND SCORECARD

PARKS & RECREATION

Workload Measures						
Goal	Key Performance Indicator	2022/23 Results	2023/24 Results	2024/25 Results	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
6	Total visitation to parks & facilities (via Placer.ai)	4.8 million	5 million	5.3 million	5.5 million	5.6 million
6	Recreation centers - indoor facilities & The Saints Golf Course (via Placer.ai)	521,000	551,100	583,000	600,000	615,000
6	Acres Maintained	1,583.37	1,583.37	1,594.18	1,594.18	1,857.80

Efficiency Measures						
Goal	Key Performance Indicator	2022/23 Results	2023/24 Results	2024/25 Results	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
6	Acres maintained per FTE	25.0	22.95	24.24	24.24	24.87

Effectiveness Measures						
Goal	Key Performance Indicator	2022/23 Results	2023/24 Results	2024/25 Results	2025/26 Target	2026/27 Target
6	*National Community Survey™ (NCS™): Quality of city parks	66% ↔	67% ↔	65% ↔	70% ↔ 71% ↔ (2026 Results)	72%
6	*NCS™: Recreation centers or facilities	56% ↔	63% ↔	57% ↔	65% ↔ 56% ↔ (2026 Results)	57%
6	Park reservations rating overall satisfaction "above average"	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%	99.9%

*NCS: Percent of respondents' rating serves as excellent or good from the annual National Community Survey™ for Port St. Lucie. The following symbols are provided to show the relationship to the national benchmark.

↑↑ Much higher ↑ Higher ↔ Similar ↓ Lower ↓↓ Much lower