

PARKS PLAN

Enhanced parks and open space throughout the City of Falfurrias is part of the community's 2020 Vision. Parks and open space in the City are intended as a multi-purpose land use that integrates recreational opportunities, habitat and native vegetation preservation, mobility through hike and bike trails, roadway beautification, and storm water management. The Master Plan incorporates parks and open spaces owned and managed by the City of Falfurrias as well as facilities under separate jurisdictions such as Brooks County ISD and other local government agencies.

OVERVIEW OF EXISTING AND PLANNED PARKS

The City currently has six neighborhood parks (**Error! Reference source not found.**):

- Mary & Ed Lasater Park (5 Acres)
- Antonio Lemus Park (21 Acres)
- Ovidio Arevalo Park (10 Acres)
- Veteran's Memorial Park (.25 Acres)
- Pleasure Park (3 Acres)
- Whistler Addition Park (.46 Acres)

With the City's six parks within the City limits, Falfurrias has sufficient areas for recreation and quality of life; with over 39 Acres of recreational space for the citizens spread across the City. The City will be reviewing the needs and uses of each park to determine proper allocations for park improvements.

PARK MAINTENANCE

Operations and Maintenance responsibility for the parks falls under the Public Works Department.

GOLF COURSE

Falfurrias Golfers Association [Under Construction]

- Ed Rachal Golf Course (69 Acres)

IMPLEMENTATION CONSIDERATIONS

The Comprehensive Plan provides a framework that unifies functional plans related to the development of the City. For example, the Major Thoroughfare Plan, the Master Plan for Parks and Open Space, and Safe Routes to Schools plans are incorporated into the Comprehensive Plan. Identified future park and thoroughfares were considered during development of the Future Land Use Map. The functional plans provide levels of detail beyond that of the Comprehensive Plan. Tools will be needed to facilitate implementation decisions in order to achieve the vision and objectives of the City of Falfurrias. The Future Land Use Map as part of the Comprehensive Plan lays a foundation for and addresses these tools in a general way, but does not provide detailed steps for implementation. Some of these include:

- Continued civic engagement
- Economic development
- Development code revisions
- Funding sources and mechanisms
- Capital Improvements Plan
- Annual work plans and budgets
- Plan updates and maintenance

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

The involvement of stakeholders, city leaders, and staff is the foundation upon which the Falfurrias Forward Vision 2032 Plan is built. The success of plan implementation will depend on the continued energy and involvement of the community. Key actions to foster continued support include:

- Public information in person, at meetings, via the website, and through community events such as Movie Night at the Park
- Public support for funding initiatives including matching grant programs, bond elections, enterprise zones, creation of enterprise funds and so on
- Volunteerism for specific activities and facilities such as “friends of the library,” arts groups, or festivals.

POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR PARKS:

The goals and objectives identified in the 2010 Master Plan are consistent with overarching goals included in this Comprehensive Plan. They are a result of detailed analysis of the existing parks, recreation facilities, and open space and encompass a manageable set of strategic actions for the next 10 years. The identified goals include:

- Objective 1.1: Over the planning period, review existing parks and determine the needs based on economic factors and citizen involvement
 - Policy 1.1.1: The City needs to provide improvements to its facilities for community activities for parks and recreation (**Error! Reference source not found.**).
 - Policy 1.1.2: The City needs to incorporate more park facilities for community activities into its plans for parks and recreation.
 - Policy 1.1.3: The City needs to incorporate more facilities for other community activities that do not require turf surfaces.
 - Policy 1.1.4: The City needs to provide open space areas for passive activities such as walking, jogging, and nature enjoyment.
 - Policy 1.1.5: The City needs to incorporate landscaping of its existing medians and future medians under planning.
 - Policy 1.1.6: The City needs to implement master planning to identify location and costs of amenities for parks; see sample park plan, (**Error! Reference source not found.**).