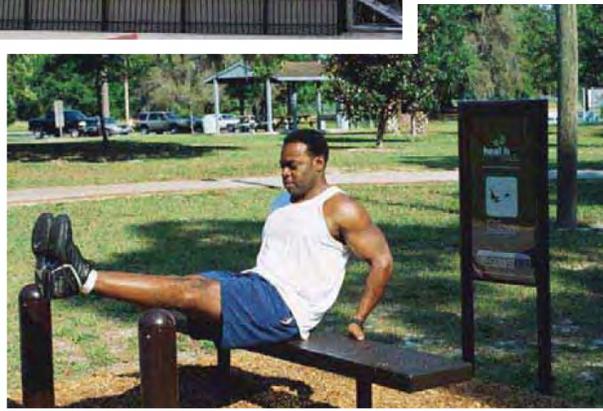
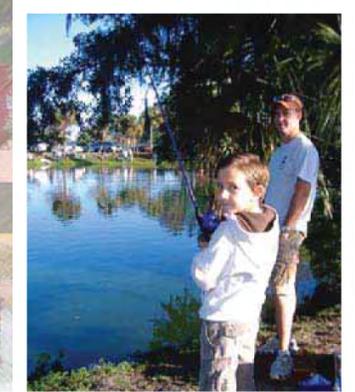


# **Appendix 7**

Adopted City of Ocala Recreation  
& Parks Master Plan



# City of Ocala Recreation & Parks Master Plan



# Recreation & Parks Master Plan Introduction: Section I

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**City Council:**

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 Council President, Reuben Kent Guinn  
 Councilwoman, Suzy Heinbockel  
 Councilwoman, Mary S. Rich  
 Councilman, John Priester  
 Councilman, Daniel Owen

District 4  
 District 1  
 District 2  
 District 3  
 District 5

**Ocala 2035 Vision Leadership Group**

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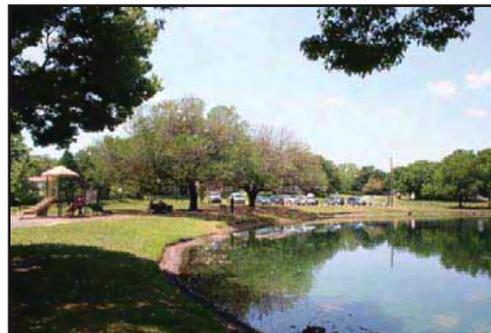
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 Planning Manager  
 Planning Advisor  
 Senior Designer  
 Senior Planner  
 Project Urban Planner



*OPD Playground*



*Ocala Sportsplex*



*Ritterhoff Park*



*Merchants Park*



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*Polly Palmer at Paddock Park*



*Polly Palmer at Paddock Park*



*OPD Playground*

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Overview and Summary:  
Section II

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## II. Project Overview

### A. Project Overview

VHB MillerSellen (VHBMS) was commissioned by the City of Ocala to develop a comprehensive Recreation and Parks Master Plan. The objective of this Master Plan is to identify current conditions and deficiencies, provide recommendations for remediation measures and develop a strategic budgetary implementation plan for future development activities for the City's Recreation and Parks Master Plan. In addition, this master plan will assist staff in identifying any desired amendments to the Recreational Element for the Comprehensive Plan.

Criteria for this analysis was based on recreational standards established by the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Recreation and Parks, Outdoor Recreation in Florida – 2008.

The Recreation and Parks Master Plan is being developed concurrently with the Ocala 2035 Vision Plan for the City and will incorporate the needed input to help guide the future development and programming facilities into the future.

The following list of objectives have been met to obtain the data necessary to complete the Recreation and Parks Master Plan.

#### 1. Background Research/Collection of Existing Data

A project kickoff meeting with City staff to review specific data needed to inventory the park project sites.

#### 2. Inventory and Evaluation of Existing Facilities

Review all collected data with City staff. Conduct field inventory and analysis of existing park facilities as well as other sites the Recreation and Parks Department has identified as potential park development sites. Review existing park conditions, park facilities and park recreational programs.

Create a series of map exhibits that identifies and classifies each park facility by size and program based on City classification standards.

Review and compare current and recommended levels of services as defined by the State of Florida and other recognized agencies. Make recommendations as to possible remediation measures to meet the recommended levels of service Citywide.

Identify potential expansion and development potential of existing park facilities and un-built parcels identified by City Recreation and Parks staff.

Develop a series of maps, plans and matrices that summarizes the findings and recommendations of the inventory, analysis and programming recommendations.

#### 3. Community Needs Assessment Survey

In an effort to solicit public input and guide final decision making relative to the recreational

needs and desires of the community, prepare a written Recreation and Parks Needs Assessment Survey to be distributed at each of the Citywide public meetings.

Based on the collected findings from the Survey, a concise synopsis will be provided for review and consideration to the Recreation and Parks Department.

#### 4. Parks Acquisition, Construction and Maintenance Evaluation

Review with City recreation and parks staff the existing facilities budget, construction standards, historical construction and maintenance costing .

Review with City recreation and parks staff the short term and long term park acquisition sites, methods of acquisition and proposed program developments for each facility.

In addition, provide a parks facilities cost program that identifies costing by individual elements. This will be provided in a concise program matrix for ease of review and cost comparison.

Provide a synopsis of findings with recommendations for strategic acquisition, physical development based on program deficiencies and recommendations for potential cost savings.

#### 5. Goals, Objectives and Policies Development

Develop a recommended implementation action plan for the City's recreation and parks development and management, which will include an overview of findings, strategic acquisition/development strategies and recommendations for program development to meet the recreational needs of the residents of Ocala.

In addition, identify possible modifications or additions to the current Comprehensive Plan policies to meet the proposed master plan objectives.

Develop a comprehensive and concise 10 year strategic budget expenditure program for land acquisition, parks facilities development and parks maintenance programs.

#### 6. General Staff Meetings and Plan Adoption Meeting

Coordinate and attend up to two meetings with the Recreation and Parks Department staff to review findings, discuss recommendations, and provide oversight and direction to VHBMS.

Presentation of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan for final adoption to the City Council.

### B. Ocala 2035 Vision Plan

The basis of the Recreation and Parks Master Plan was generated from input from the public and the Ocala 2035 Vision plan. In the Ocala 2035 Vision Plan a set of Vision Principles were developed to guide all existing parks and future development of parks. The Vision Principle reflects the consensus of community input and the Leadership Group. It is as follows:

*Ocala has an unmatched community recreation and park system serving all residents. Recreation areas and parks are linked by the City's network of pedestrian routes and bikeways, so that everyone resides within an easy walk or bike ride of an urban open space.*



In addition, the Recreation and Open Space Element of the comprehensive plan will be updated to reflect specific details to accomplish this goal.

## C. Executive Summary

VHBMS is pleased to present this executive summary for the City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Master Plan. The development of this plan has taken place over a period of several months with input from City Planning staff, City Recreation and Parks staff, Leadership Group from the Ocala 2035 Vision Plan and the general public. From the onset of this project, the focus has been to gain a clear understanding and appreciation for not just the parks within the Ocala parks system, but the neighborhoods and the people that use the parks. The VHB MillerSellen team invested several weeks both inventorying and analyzing the existing parks and neighborhoods, and along the way met a large number of people that were both gracious with their time and input as to how to help grow their parks system for the future. The following is an overview of our findings, the public input and directives that we received and our recommendations to help guide the City's Recreation and Park Program into the future.

1. VHBMS worked with City Recreation and Parks staff to collect the current GIS mapping data available. From this information, the VHBMS team field inventoried each park facility to verify the existing park facilities, the condition of the facilities and the apparent usage of the facility. A detailed inventory of each park is provided in Section III in the document.
2. The proposed Recreation and Parks Master Plan evaluated both the current conditions and Levels of Service as well as the projected parks and facilities programming needs through the year 2035 consistent with the 2035 Vision Plan.
3. A detailed public input survey was developed with the assistance of City Recreation and Parks staff. This survey was made available on-line through the City's website, at multiple public workshop meetings and individually passed out during our site inventory work. Both VHBMS and the City Recreation and Parks staff monitored the public responses over a period of three months and responded to those individuals that wished to gain additional information or provide information via telephone. Detailed survey results can be found in Section IV of this document for review. The results of this survey served as the basis for our future parks programming recommendations.
4. VHBMS presented the survey findings at a public open house meeting, and solicited an additional opinion poll during this meeting to gain further insight as to the desired parks facilities program elements that the public wished to see prioritized in the expansion of existing parks and the development of new park facilities.
5. Concurrent with the parks master planning process, the City of Ocala has also initiated the development of the Ocala 2035 Vision Plan. As part of this process a citizen based Leadership Group was appointed to assist in the visioning process. Leaders from VHB MillerSellen facilitated this process over a period of several months. A consolidated Vision Plan has



been adopted. A copy of the Composite Vision Master Plan graphic has been provided as part of this document for review, see Exhibit 13.

6. Based on both the public surveys and the decisions from the Visioning Leadership Group, the following items were prioritized:
  - Public recreation and parks spaces should be designed as organizing elements within the Ocala community.
  - It is desired that parks be located within walking distance of every neighborhood, and within walking distance of one another. The desired maximum walking distance between parks was not to exceed ½ mile.
  - The development of a public greenways and trails system to interconnect neighborhoods, parks and commercial areas is to be a priority.
7. The current adopted level of service (LOS) standard for Recreation and Parks land development in the City of Ocala is 4.6 acres/1000 residents and is based on Neighborhood and Community Parks. VHBMS evaluated multiple other cities and counties throughout Florida and the nation that were similar in population and demographics. Based on our findings, the City of Ocala has adopted what has been the typical minimum LOS standard within the State of Florida. Other cities evaluated ranged from 3.9 acres/1000 residents to 10 acres/1000 residents. Cities that have extensive trails and interconnected parks systems tend to be in the higher threshold. Based on our findings and presentation to the Visioning Leadership committee, the current 4.6 acres/1000 residents was found acceptable with the additional limitation that the development of any greenways and trails systems would be calculated above and beyond that threshold.
8. The current standard Level of Service (LOS) calculation is based on total population only and does not take into account demographic make-up by age, race or any other socio-economic factor. This method, used solely by itself, can often skew recreational program requirements within a certain demographic area. Additionally, this method is not location specific and therefore does not necessarily offer the best solution to make parks accessible. This methodology often forces more emphasis on the development of larger greenfield parks that require vehicular travel to access. The approach taken in the development of this master plan addresses both the standard method of LOS calculation as well as makes recommendations for park locations to provide for the highest level of resident accessibility within ½ mile walking radius.
9. There are 47 existing parks within the current Ocala parks system ranging in size from .1 acre to 180 acres. The distribution of the parks within the City is currently relatively balanced based on the density of population area, with the highest number of parks being located in the southeast district of the City.
10. The following is a breakdown of the various numbers of parks by park type within the Ocala parks system. The City defines four classifications of park types as follows:

## II. Executive Summary

Type	Size (ac)	Number
Community Parks	10 Min.	7
Neighborhood Parks	.1-10	15
Urban Open Space	Varies	15

11. Based on the current adopted Level of Service (4.6 ac / 1000 residents), there is currently a need for the following number of parks:

Type	Size (ac)	Number
Community Parks	10 Min.	1
Neighborhood Parks	.1-10	11.5

12. A detailed matrix that shows the current facilities program deficiencies is included within this report, see pages 137-148. (Note: Urban Open Spaces, public golf course and other facilities that are not open for general public use have not been included within the LOS calculation)

13. Based on the population & demographic projections provided by the City of Ocala, the projected 2035 population is anticipated to be 92,423. Based on the desired Level of Service, there is a projected need for the following number of parks by 2035:

Type	Size (ac)	Number
Community Parks	10 Min.	2
Neighborhood Parks	-1-10	21

14. VHBMS evaluated county park facilities within the City. Currently, Brick City Adventure Park is a joint-use County/City park facility located within the City Limits. It is heavily used and has room for additional program expansion. The City is strongly encouraged to work with the County to expand this facility as a priority over pursuing the development of new parks within the same proximity.

15. VHBMS evaluated county school sites for the possible development of joint-use facilities. The development of joint-use park facilities with the Marion County School Board should be considered to help alleviate the need for additional park facilities and to expand the recreational opportunities within the neighborhoods where many of the schools are located. This concept has been successfully implemented throughout the state and nation. Redesign of the school site security fence locations and accesses will be required in most locations to accommodate access and guarantee security to the school facilities. Based on preliminary assessment there may be up to 11 schools that could be considered for public recreational joint-use.

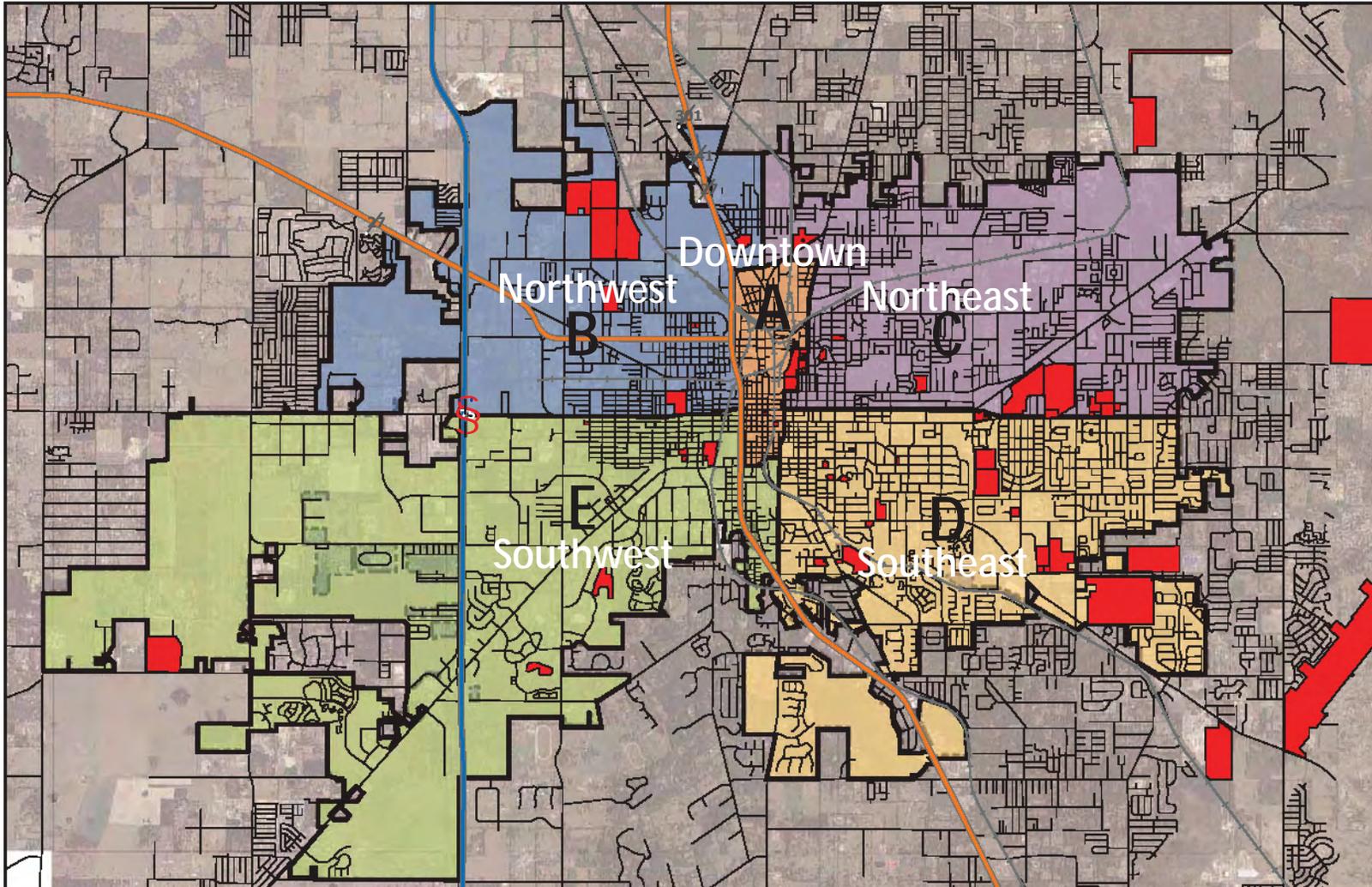
16. Based on the 2035 Vision Plan a conceptual mapping of desired greenways and trails was identified to provide greater connectivity throughout the City. The proposed trails could be walking trails, biking trails or both and were envisioned to be within the rights-of-way and/or could be assembled within private rights-of-way. Based on initial calculations, the Vision Plan located 45 miles of desired trails. Further analysis of this will be required to better understand the best locations, alignments and trail types most appropriate for development.

17. VHBMS conducted multiple public meetings and solicited input to help guide the future development and funding of parks expansion of existing facilities. Based on public input solicitation, respondents acknowledged that they would be willing to consider a public parks tax referendum for the development of new parks and the expansion of existing facilities. This is a true testament to the value that the residents of Ocala place on their parks system and the value that it brings to their community. In an effort to meet the growing budgetary demands for new parks and expansions, this option along with the diligent pursuit of public grants should be considered in more detail.

### Conclusion

The City of Ocala and its residents are strongly focused on their future and have embarked upon taking the necessary steps to guide further development and prioritize parks to be a primary organizing land use. Ocala's park system is very diverse in both types and locations, and is currently substantially meeting the needs of its residents, based on the desired Level of Service. As the population increases over time so will the need to expand the parks system and operating budgets. By assessing these needs now, the City can determine where parks are best located, secure available lands and determine the best strategies for meeting the increased budgetary demands. The residents of Ocala have spoken clearly, and have voiced their opinion to have parks be a primary focus for the development of the urban form of the City, both in its neighborhood and its urban areas. This directive has guided the development of this master plan. We are confident that the City of Ocala will achieve the goals it has established as part of the 2035 Vision Plan, and the Recreation and Parks Master Plan is one of the first steps.

Lastly, we would like to thank the City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Director and the diligent staff for all of their input and assistance in this research. Their knowledge of the individual parks, daily facilities operation and budgetary programming is tremendous. This team is well poised to manage the growth of this parks system well into the future.



The City of Ocala Parks Master Plan has been strategically broken into five sub-districts to provide a higher level of analysis, recommendation and budgetary programming.

The five park sub-districts were determined using available Traffic Analysis Zone (TAZ) data in order to accurately project population figures through the year 2035.

These sub-districts are not tied to political jurisdictional boundaries but have been defined for the sole purpose of this master plan.

## II. Master Plan Recommendations

### D. Master Plan Recommendations

The following list of recommendations is based on VHB MillerSellen's analysis of existing conditions, detailed assessment of needs, and recommendations from public input.

#### General Recommendations

The Goals, Objectives and Policy recommendations that have been developed as part of this Master Plan should be considered for inclusion in the upcoming Comprehensive Plan EAR amendments.

1. Consistent with the 2035 Vision Plan, it is recommended that an independent greenways and trails master plan be developed to assist in trails routing, identification of rights-of-ways, design development of various trails sections, and the development of budgetary projections for acquisition, construction and maintenance of future trails. Once developed, the Recreation and Parks Master Plan should be amended to include these objectives and provide future budgeting allocations accordingly.
2. Consistent with the master planning public survey and additional public comment, it is recommended that all parks be designed/developed as a primary organizing land use for all neighborhoods.
3. Parks should be designed to be iconic identifiers for the neighborhoods in which they are located. Identification and branding of parks should reinforce the neighborhood or area that the park is located within.
4. The downtown area should be studied for the possible expansion of existing parks, addition of a new park, or the development of pedestrian oriented streetscapes/corridors that encourage pedestrian usage, redevelopment and infill activities and residential development.
5. A wayfinding program should be developed to help the public easily find and access public parks.
6. It is suggested that the Comprehensive Plan be amended as needed to establish the desired Level of Service for the all parks within the City of Ocala. The following Levels of Service (LOS) should be incorporated:
  - Park Land Area - Minimum LOS Standard to be 4.6 acres per 1000 residents (excluding greenways and trails) and implemented on a regional (as opposed to city-wide) basis to ensure that a consistent level of service is provided to citizens throughout the community.
  - The City should adopt LOS standards for basic facility needs (i.e. number of athletic fields, playgrounds, etc.) in the Comprehensive Plan. LOS standards of the State of Florida as outlined in their "Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)" are recommended. Currently, the City's comprehensive plan does not address facility needs (only land acreage needs); however, staff informally plans and tracks around the SCORP recommendations.
  - Greenways and Trails shall be calculated but are in addition to the required Park Land Area requirements.
  - All parks are to be located (on average) within a ½ mile walkability radius of one another
  - The City might consider, in addition to the minimum LOS standard, a "desired LOS" that includes greenways and trails, school property and/or privately owned and operated parks (such as those developed within gated communities).
7. It is recommended that this Recreation and Parks Master Plan be evaluated for update every five years as is consistent with the current Department of Community Affairs. Amendments should include, at a minimum, Level of Service (LOS) analysis based on the current status at the time of the update, adjusted recommendations for facilities improvements and budgetary projection updates based on any parks or facilities expansions not included in the original master plan.
8. All future parks design and expansions should implement "green design" practices to minimize site impacts, reduce total operational and maintenance costs, reduce power consumption, reduce stormwater run-off and capture available water for on-site usage. It is strongly encouraged that site design standards be established to help guide both planning and engineering design practices to be more creative and sustainable in final design solutions.
9. Understanding that schools often serve as a "hub" of a neighborhood and/or community, it is highly recommended that City staff continue to work with Marion County Parks and Recreation and the Marion County Public School System to facilitate public access to school recreational facilities during off school hours (i.e. athletic facilities, playgrounds, etc.) to the end that acres of public land are made available to serve the communities recreational needs.
10. It is recommended that the City, the County and Marion County Public Schools develop appropriate cost sharing initiatives and standards regarding the provision of all recreational and athletic facilities that serve public and school related athletic needs and that facilities be shared to maximize the benefit to the public from tax funded facilities.
11. The City of Ocala Recreation and Parks Department should continue to coordinate with Marion County Parks and Recreation Department in the design, development and funding of additional parks within the incorporated limits of the City of Ocala. Since a large number of Ocala parks users are not City residents, the joint planning of facilities will reduce redundancy between City and County facilities programming and ensure that the needs of all County residents can be met on an equitable basis.
12. Pursuant to input and desired directives received as part of the public input process the City should consider the development of alternative recreational facilities such as splash parks and skate parks to provide recreational usage for a wide range and age of park user. The provision of traditional recreation facilities only begins to scratch the surface of the ever-changing recreational needs of a diverse community. While it is understood that the City can't be everything to everyone, the City should look for ways to balance the traditional with "out of the box" programs and facilities.
13. The City Recreation and Parks Department and the County Parks and Recreation Department should work with community stakeholders to finalize the previously drafted Skatepark Feasibility Study and to work toward implementation of same.
14. A complete evaluation of Ocala community/recreation centers was outside the scope of this master plan. It is highly recommended that the City make an evaluation of existing facilities from a standpoint of maintenance improvements and potential expansion(s) and community needs for new facilities. This evaluation should include comparison with similar cities throughout the state and country; the extent that the sum of this need is being met by the private sector; and survey of community needs so that the City can properly position itself to address this high quality-of-life issue in the future.
15. A public beneficiary program for parks development and maintenance should be developed to encourage private commercial businesses and other philanthropic organizations to "adopt a park".

This program would allow benefactors the ability to donate financially to improve the parks and trails environment throughout the City. Benefactors could also provide "time" in lieu of money to assist in parks maintenance projects. Advertisement of park benefactors should also be considered to encourage perpetual "adoption". Parks adoption should be localized to those parks that provide benefit to the beneficiary (i.e. Downtown Square adoption by immediate surrounding downtown businesses)

16. The continued pursuit of grants and exterior funding sources for parks expansion and development of new parks facilities should be a priority. The City Recreation and Parks Department should pursue public funding through FDOT, the St. Johns Water Management District, Florida Trails Association, Florida Department of Parks and Recreation, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection.
17. Understanding that grants and private contributions will only go so far, the City needs to seriously consider other viable funding alternatives for future parks expansion. These would include options such as parks impact fees; developer provided (but publicly accessible) park land and facilities; developer donated right-of-way to facilitate the greenways and trails program, etc. It is recommended that staff research each of these alternatives and provide decision makers with feasibility data regarding options for meeting Recreation and Parks LOS standards in the future.
18. Given newly adopted ADA Laws (many of which were previously only "guidelines"), the City Recreation and Parks Department should conduct a detailed ADA compliance study to verify deficiencies that exist and should develop a compliance mitigation strategy with budgetary programming to address any identified issues.
19. Standardization of facilities design (i.e. courts, fencing, site furnishings, lighting standards, etc.) should be considered to minimize facilities purchasing and increase negotiated buying power. However, the City should be careful not to standardize all design concepts to the point that a park's character is out of sync with the neighborhood in which it lies. To this end, the City should consider the development of iconic "identifier" elements located within parks that help provide that individual character and branding.
20. The City should develop a Community Arts in Parks Plan designed specifically to address cultural programming in parks and community centers. Whether this is public exhibition of art or performing arts programs, City parks typically serve as a natural venue for such programs. It is recommended that staff research what other Cities are doing in this regard and engage other stakeholders in the community in moving this initiative forward.
21. The City Recreation and Parks Department should coordinate with the City Public Works Department to evaluate stormwater facilities that could be effectively transitioned into neighborhood parks. This re-purposing of land already owned by the City could alleviate some of the acreage needs to meet current and future parks level of service.
22. In circumstances where a stormwater facility can be transitioned into a neighborhood park, appropriate park facilities should be provided and operation of that facility should be transitioned to the Recreation and Parks Department. The departments should cooperate in maintaining the facility (i.e. water quality where appropriate and stormwater structures) to ensure that the higher level of maintenance that is expected at a park is provided.
23. In keeping with the Ocala 2035 Vision plan, the City's park system needs to serve as a catalyst for a

healthy, walkable community. It is recommended that the City improve upon existing park walking trails and add new trails in neighborhood and community parks to facilitate better access to healthy recreational alternatives.

24. The City should develop Park Management Plans which expand on the broad concepts of the City Recreation and Parks Master Plan by putting greater emphasis on the specific natural, cultural and educational resources within each park. This in turn guides operating and maintenance decisions for those locations. The process of developing these Park Management Plans should include involvement from other departments and community stakeholders.
25. The City Recreation and Parks Department should coordinate more effectively with the Visitors/ Tourism Council to identify and develop appropriate facilities and to market Ocala as a quality event and sports venue. Most communities find this approach to provide substantial returns in the way of community economic impact.
26. The City of Ocala Code of Ordinances, Chapter 46- Recreation and Parks should be amended to ensure consistency between current practice and outdated codes.
27. In addition to a Capital Improvement Plan and operating cost projections that have been provided as part of the Master Plan scope of work, the Recreation and Parks Department should prepare a Capital Maintenance and Replacement Plan that ensures adequate planning and funding for keeping existing facilities to a minimum standard. The Recreation and Parks Department should base the timing of the replacement/maintenance based on industry standards.

**E. Park Specific Recommendations**

*Downtown District*

The Downtown District meets LOS standards today and is deficient by one acre in neighborhood parks by 2035. Recommendations for this area are mostly aesthetic in nature. Current with the Vision Plan, it is recommended that the park system in the Downtown area help to create an identity for the City of Ocala. Not only can the park system satisfy the surrounding residents but it can also serve as a destination to bring the community at large together. Immediate park improvement needs for this district are listed below:

1. Comprehensive events programming for the Downtown area.
2. Signage at Merchants and Tuscawilla Park.
3. General maintenance and landscape improvements throughout all parks.
4. Resizing of sidewalks at Downtown Square, City Hall Square and Tuscawilla Park.

*Future Recommendations*

1. Redesign of Tuscawilla Park as premier destination Downtown Park. Possible future location of an amphitheater.
2. Incorporation of pedestrian plazas and open space as the Downtown continues to densify.

**Northwest District**

The Northwest District today is deficient in two neighborhood parks and almost four neighborhood parks in 2035. Parks are currently concentrated on the east side of the Northwest District. Future expansion of parks should be focused in residential areas on the western area of this district. Lamb Park and Lillian Bryant Park have unused open areas that today could be used to meet some of the current facility needs. Immediate park improvement needs for this district are listed below:

1. Resurfacing/painting and striping of basketball courts at Lamb Park.
2. New playground equipment at Lamb Park and Lillian Bryant Park.
3. Sidewalk and trail expansion at Lamb, Second Chance and MLK Recreation Complex.
4. ADA accessible facilities for all parks.
5. Replace trash receptacles at all parks.

**Future Recommendations**

1. Potential redevelopment of MLK Recreation Complex to meet community's needs in regard to community events, a library branch, expanded community center, etc.

**Northeast District**

The Northeast District of the City today is deficient in one neighborhood park and one community park. This will increase to two neighborhood and community parks by the year 2035. Facility needs are one of the highest for this district of the City. Some of the current needs may be met at Toms Park and Wyomina Park. Immediate park improvement needs for this district are listed below:

1. Expand and pave parking areas at Toms Park.
2. Expand picnic facilities at Chazal Park, Wyomina Park, Northside Park and Hilldale Park.
3. Add park signs at Chazal Park, Northside Park and Hilldale Park.
4. Upgrade existing park benches and picnic facilities at Heritage Nature Conservancy.
5. Improve trail system at Heritage Nature Conservancy.
6. Add play equipment to Hilldale Park.
7. Add outdoor seating area for Fort King Tennis Center.
8. Replace trash receptacles at all parks.

**Future Recommendations**

1. The Fort King site has the unique ability to provide historical and cultural needs to the community. Coordinate with Marion County Parks and Recreation and community stakeholders to implement a long term plan for the development of this park and implementation of historical and cultural awareness programs.

**Southeast District**

Today the Southeast District has the highest number of neighborhood and community parks. This district is currently deficient in two neighborhood parks and will increase to almost six neighborhood parks by the year 2035. Some facility needs can be met today in existing parks or planned for in the development of future parks. Immediate park improvement needs for this district are listed below:

1. Play equipment improvements or additions to Idylweir Park, Ritterhoff Park, Fisher Park, Nature Park, Jervey Gantt Park, Big Sun Youth Soccer League and Anderson Park
2. Walking trails and trail expansion throughout Idylweir Park, Fisher Park, Nature Park, Jervey Gantt Park, Big Sun Youth Soccer League, Turnipseed Park and Todd C. Prosser Park.
3. Expand and pave parking area at Ritterhoff Park and Big Sun Youth Soccer League.
4. Expand or add picnic facilities and benches throughout Clyatt Park, Fisher Park, Jervey Gantt Park, Millennium Dog Park, Highlands East and West.
5. Replace picnic benches at Ritterhoff Park.
6. Provide park signage at Fisher Park, Nature Park, Big Sun Youth Soccer League, Highlands East and West.
7. Additional play and wash areas specific to Millennium Dog Park.
8. Replace trash receptacles at all parks.
9. Pave the north end parking lot at Jervey Gantt Park.

**Future Recommendations**

1. Architectural element at Idylweir Park to create an identifying element to the park.
2. Recycle Park may house a future 'Green' facility to provide education specific to energy, the environment and the planet.
3. Possible future location of Botanical and Educational Garden at Turnipseed Park.
4. Possible future location of community gardens at Highlands West Park and Powhattan Park.
5. Future Dog Park location at McPherson Park.

### *Southwest District*

The Southwest District of the City today is deficient in almost nine neighborhood parks and will be deficient by nine neighborhood parks by 2035. In addition, based on the current inventory it has a wide variety of facility needs. Immediate park improvement needs for this district are listed below:

1. Play equipment improvements to Scott Springs and Thompson Bowl.
2. Additional benches and picnic table at Poinciana Park, OPD Park, Polly Palmer Park, Thompson Bowl and Boys and Girls Club.
3. Picnic pavilion at Polly Palmer Park, MLK Memorial.
4. Decorative fencing at MLK Memorial.
5. Park signage at Poinciana Park and OPD Park.
6. Additional trail system and improvement to current trail throughout Scott Springs Park and Ocala Regional Sportsplex.
7. Addition of bike racks at Scott Springs Park, Ocala Regional Sportsplex and Polly Palmer Park.
8. Park signage kiosk at Ocala Regional Sportsplex.
9. Site lighting at MLK Memorial and Boys and Girls Club.
10. Pave Parking surfaces at Ocala Regional Sportsplex to facilitate daily parking needs. Overflow parking may be gravel or grass parking.
11. Resurface Basketball courts and upgrade facilities at Boys and Girls Club.
12. Stormwater maintenance and landscape improvement adjacent at ponds at Thompson Bowl.
13. Replace trash receptacles at all parks.

### *Future Recommendations*

1. Future Dog Park location at Ocala Regional Sportsplex and/or Thompson Bowl.
2. Development of second softball/baseball "clover" and included seating, lighting and facilities at Ocala Regional Sportsplex.
3. Community Garden location at Boys and Girls Club.
4. Graffiti wall installation as urban art project at Boys and Girls Club.
5. Potential to include large dry retention area into park design and trail system.
6. Open more areas of Scott Springs to include more active adult uses including marked biking or walking trail systems. To provide for better security through consistency in active use times.

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# Field Inventory Analysis: Section III

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### *Field Inventory Methodology Overview*

VHB MillerSellen met with City staff to review data needed to inventory the City's parks. In addition, City staff conducted a tour of significant park sites throughout the city and conveyed information regarding specific parks that would be important in the analysis of these park sites.

VHBMS spent several days inventorying the City of Ocala park system. Photos were taken to document the character of each park, park facilities, signage, parking conditions and specific features unique to each park. This information is summarized in the chart titled: **Existing Facilities Matrix, Exhibit 2**. Facilities are identified according to Active and Passive use. Amenities are noted where applicable and are quantified by the number of each Amenity. This information forms the basis for whether the City of Ocala meets the established LOS standards today as well as in 2035.

The City was divided into 5 planning regions: Downtown Region, Northwest Region, Northeast Region, Southwest Region and the Southeast Region. Parks are identified within each region by park type: Neighborhood Park, Community Park, Special Use Facility, Urban Open Space and County Park. As well, each park is identified by type, size and location. A brief description of the park is included noting characteristics and qualities that are specific to each park.

An itemized list of facilities with quantities are included as part of the field analysis.

Opportunities, constraints and recommendations are noted as part of the field inventory and take into account information from City staff and future facilities needs.

A photo inventory is included highlighting images that most closely represent the character and specific facilities unique to each park.

# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# How to Read this Inventory

**III. Field Inventory Analysis**

**Downtown Square**

**Downtown Square**

**Existing Facilities (Cont.)**

Receptacles  
 Trash Receptacles 4 total, 1 at each corner of square  
 Cigarette Receptacle 2  
 Telephone 2 telephone booths

Flagpole One flag pole  
 Other Sound system  
 Hot dog vendor  
 Metered parking adjacent to square  
 Retaining wall on north side of park due to grade change

**Opportunities**

- Additional shade trees on west and south side of square.
- Additional benches.
- Additional landscaping around horses and general landscape improvements.
- Informational kiosk with map of downtown.
- Pedestrian crosswalks defined with specialty paving and/or color.
- Historic nature of park location and tremendous value to downtown.

**Constraints**

- Insufficient pedestrian seating/shade zones of park.
- No pedestrian information kiosk describing public events.
- Landscape design and tree placement is random and does not relate to formality of space.

**Recommendations**

- Open pavement area seems to be excessive and creates unusable pedestrian zones except for infrequent events. Suggest scaling down space for pedestrian usage.

**Field Inventory Analysis III.**

**Property Ownership and Data**

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2823-056-000	CITY OF OCALA CCM135	1 DOWNTOWN SQUARE	1.15	GU	Downtown Square	URBAN

**Analysis Photos of Current Park Conditions**

District Color (eg. Downtown District)

Basic Park Information and Location

Written Description of Park Condition and Facilities

City Parcel Line

Park Boundary

Park Name

Park Development Opportunities and Constraints

Park Property Ownership Data and Parcel Information

Report Section Name

Chart of Existing Available Park Uses and Facilities

District Key Map Location

Page Number

Potential Park Opportunities and Constraints

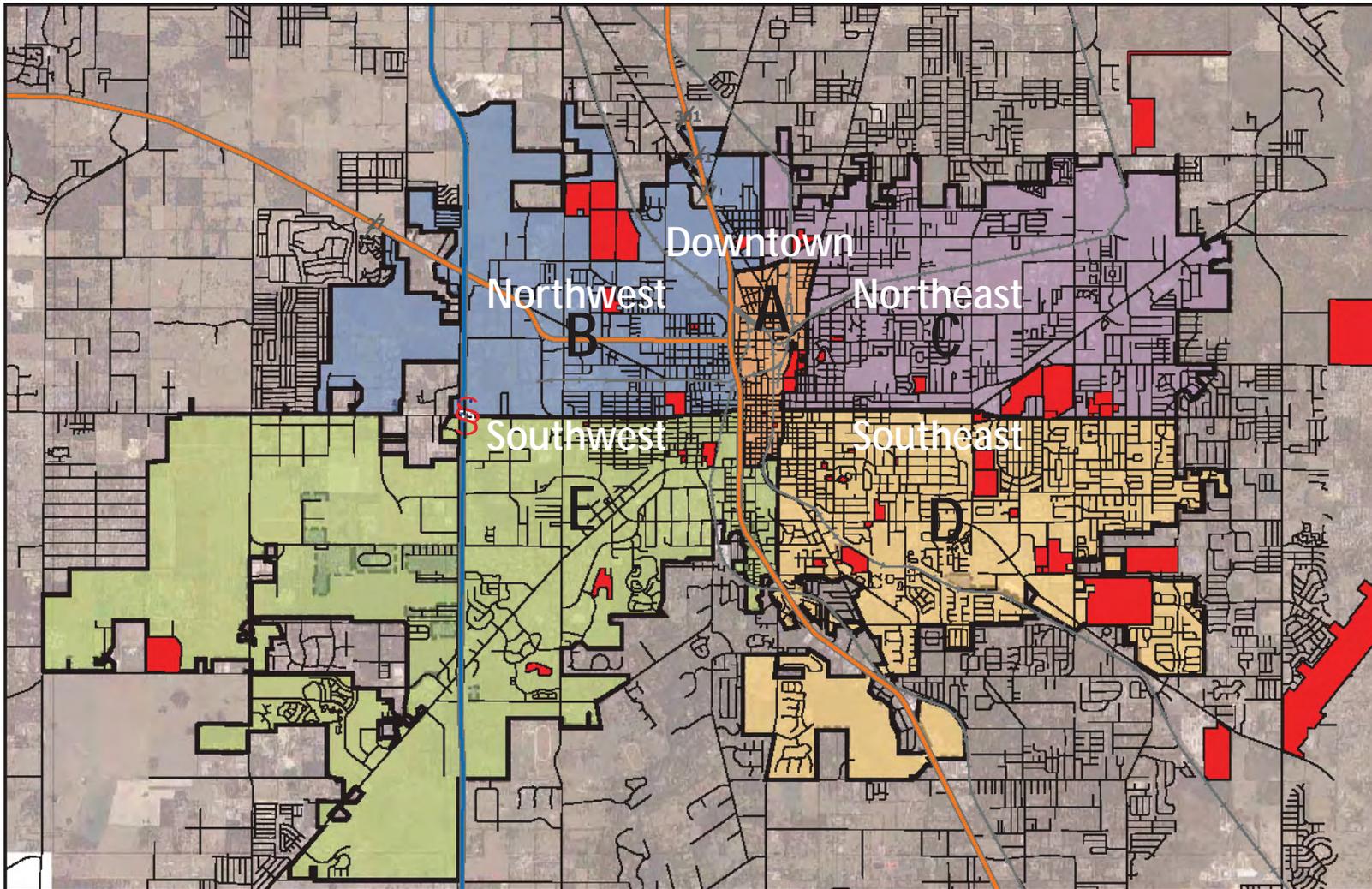
Analysis Photos of Current Park Conditions



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

CITY PARK CATEGORY STANDARDS									
Park Category	City of Ocala Acreage*	Number of Parks	Park Size	Function	Typical Included Facilities	Population Served	Acreage per Population	Service Radius	Access Method
Neighborhood Park	62.48 ac	15	.1-10 Acres	Contains play equipment for small children, passive and active recreation needs to neighborhoods	Play Structure Benches Bike Rack Open Space Playground Ball Fields Open Space Multipurpose Courts Picnic Tables Grills	500-5,000 residents	2.3/1000 (residents)	.25-.5 mile	Walk & Bike to Park
Community Park	295.15	6	10 Acres min.	Park serving several neighborhoods for passive and active needs, includes recreation centers	Playground Ball Fields Multipurpose Courts Swimming Pool Community Building Passive Rec Area Picnic Areas Grills Trails Bike Rack Parking Lots	20,000	2.3/1000	1.5 mile	Drive to Park
Urban Open Space	45.21 ac	15	.1-50 Acres	Landscaped or natural settings	Landscaping Benches Walkways		1/1000	.25-.5 mile	Walk, Bike or Drive to Park
Special Use Facility	414.85 ac	5	Varies Typically 50+ Acres	Specialized recreational facility	Ball Fields Multipurpose Courts Golf Course Picnic Area Trails Parking Lots				Drive to Park
	93.82	6	Varies	County operated parks w/in City Limits	Varies				Drive to Park
<b>County Park</b>	<b>911.51</b>	<b>47</b>							

Note: LOS standards based on Florida's State Wide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, Outdoor Recreation in Florida - 2008. Park sizes and Category information based on City of Ocala Comprehensive Plan  
 \* Based on available City of Ocala GIS Data



### Park Sub-districts

The Recreation and Parks Master Plan has been strategically broken down into five individual sub-districts to provide a higher level of analysis, recommendation and budgetary programming. The five sub-districts are as follows:

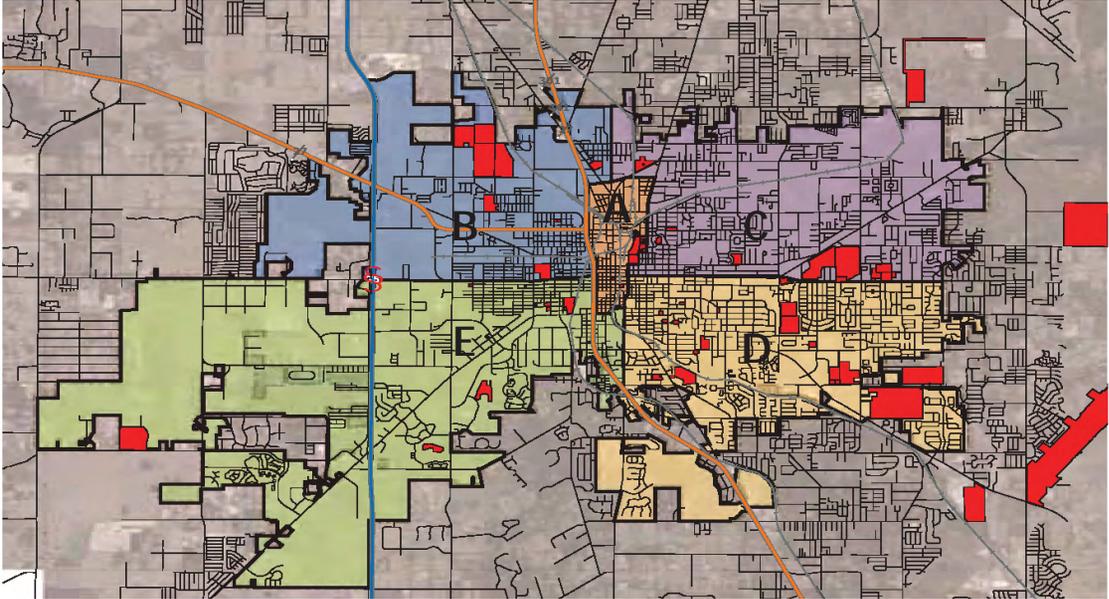
- A. Downtown District
- B. Northwest District
- C. Northeast District
- D. Southeast District
- E. Southwest District

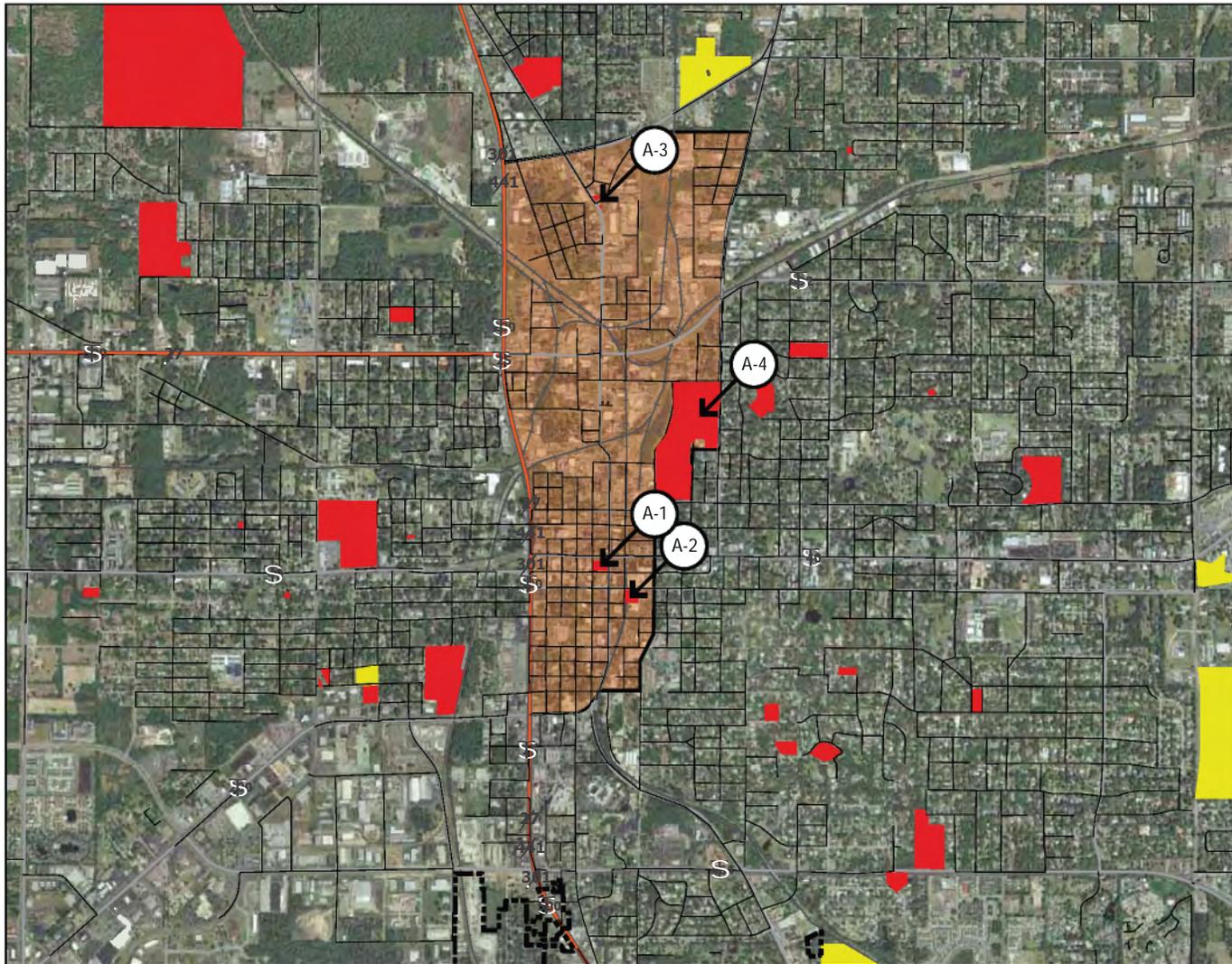
# III. Field Inventory Analysis

## Alphabetical Park Index

Park Name	Sub-District	Acreage	Page Number
Anderson Park	Southeast	2.43	99
Big Sun Youth Soccer League	Southeast	30.00	93
Boys & Girls Club	Southwest	4.38	125
Brick City Adventure Park	Southeast	35.35	87
Chazal Park	Northeast	4.16	51
City Hall Square	Downtown	1.09	27
Clyatt Park	Southeast	10.97	79
Downtown Square	Downtown	1.15	25
Fisher Park	Southeast	5.14	83
Fort King Memorial	Northeast	0.95	65
Fort King Site	Northeast	36.99	63
Fort King Tennis Center	Northeast	6.02	61
Heritage Nature Conservancy	Northeast	11.43	57
Highlands East	Southeast	0.76	101
Highlands West	Southeast	1.13	103
Hilldale Park	Northeast	0.27	67
Idylweir Park	Southeast	1.72	75
Jervey Gantt Park	Southeast	63.54	89
Lamb Park	Northwest	2.30	35
Lillian Bryant Park	Northwest	22.49	41
McPherson Complex	Southeast	36.64	107
Merchant's Square	Downtown	1.08	29
Millenium Dog Park	Southeast	2.23	91
MLK Memorial	Southwest	1.22	121
MLK Recreation Complex	Northwest	24.01	39
Nature Park	Southeast	7.37	85
Northside Park	Northeast	0.20	55
Ocala Golf Club	Northeast	147.81	59
Ocala Regional Sportsplex	Southwest	80.51	117
OPD Playground	Southwest	0.99	113
Pine Oaks Golf Course	Northwest	170.37	43
Pine Oaks Preserve Disc Golf Course	Northwest	60.66	45
Poinciana Park	Southwest	0.19	111
Polly Palmer at Paddock Park	Southwest	12.18	119
Powhattan Park	Southeast	0.49	105

Park Name	Sub-District	Acreage	Page Number
Ritterhoff Park	Southeast	2.35	81
Scott Springs	Southwest	21.68	115
Second Chance Tot Lot	Northwest	0.18	37
Southeastern Livestock Pavilion	Northeast	50.75	69
Thompson Bowl	Southwest	16.33	123
Todd C Prosser Park	Southeast	1.74	97
Toms Park	Northeast	10.32	49
Turnipseed Park	Southeast	0.92	95
Tuscawilla	Downtown	45.25	31
Veterans Memorial	Northeast	6.43	71
Walker Park	Southeast	1.39	77
Wyomina Park	Northeast	3.77	53





## Downtown District Parks

- A-1 Downtown Square
- A-2 City Hall Square
- A-3 Merchants Park
- A-4 Tuscawilla



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# Downtown Square

## Downtown Square

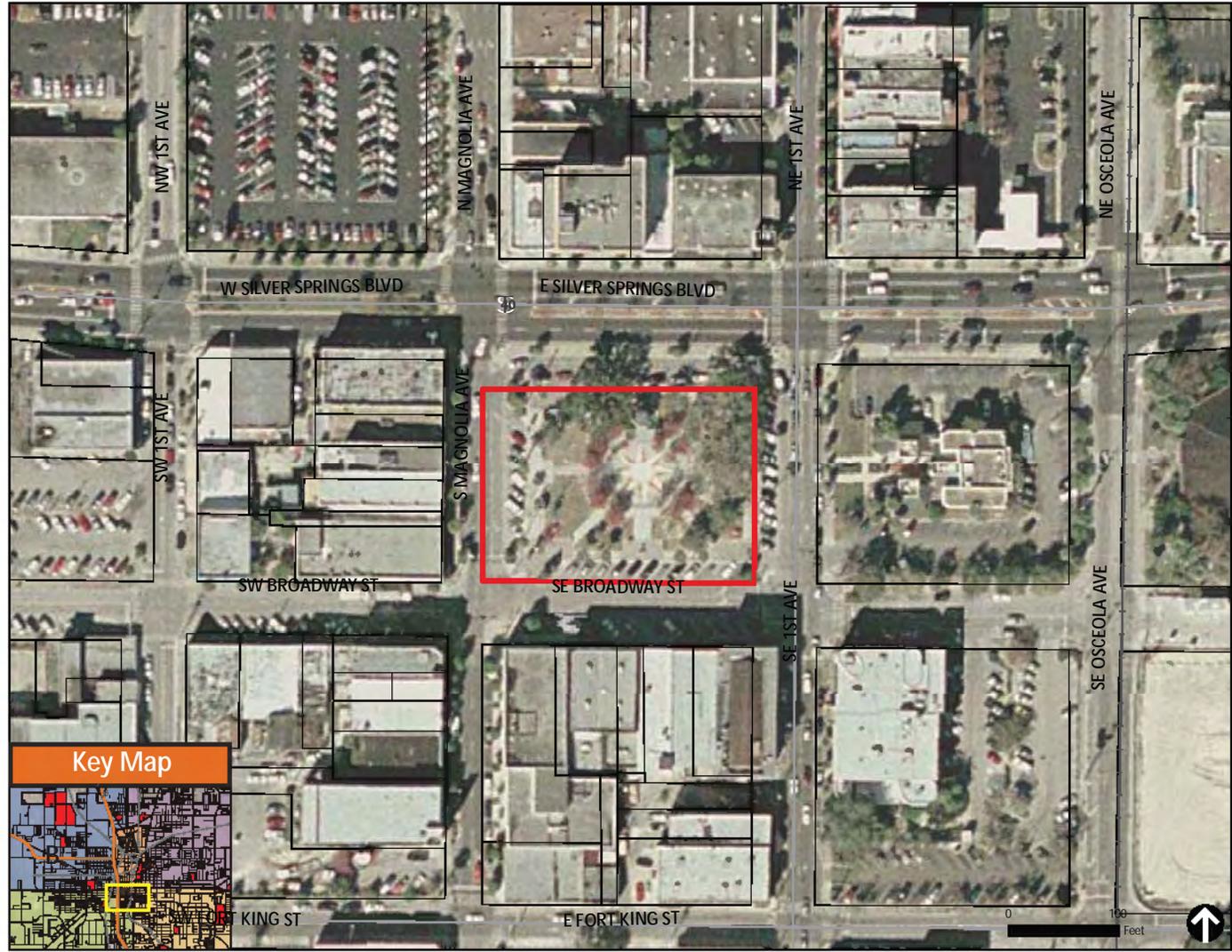
Address 1 Downtown Square  
 Acreage 1.15 ac  
 Key Map Location A-4  
 Designation Urban Open Space

## Description

Ocala's historic "Downtown Square" is the original site of the 1851 Marion County Courthouse. It is a pedestrian square located at the SW corner of Silver Springs Blvd. and SE 1st Ave. It is surrounded on all four sides with vehicular streets, on street parking and sidewalks. Located in the heart of historic downtown, the Downtown Square is easily accessed by pedestrians who work, live and shop in the area. Perimeter sidewalks lead to specialty paving at the center of the square with a gazebo as the focal point. Large shade trees line the northern and western side of the park, providing shade to the square. Four "Horse Fever" horses, the icon of Marion County, flank each corner of the square. Special events are common throughout the year making the Downtown Square a central focal point of activity for the City of Ocala.

## Existing Facilities

Natural Amenity	Large oaks on north and east property line
Parking	Angled parking on south, east and west side of square Parallel parking on north side of park
Buildings	1 open air pavilion / gazebo
Sculpture	4 horses, one at each corner of square, fenced
Signage	Sign for Downtown Square Veterans sign, north side of park
Sidewalks	At perimeter and diagonally to center of square, 7' wide
Specialty Paving	At center of square
Handicap Accessible	Yes
Benches/Seating	Seating wall on north side of park, four benches
Lighting	Pedestrian scale lighting with banners Bollard lighting



## Existing Facilities (Cont.)

<b>Receptacles</b>	
Trash Receptacles	4 total, 1 at each corner of square
Cigarette Receptacle	2
Telephone	2 telephone booths
<b>Flagpole</b>	
Other	One flag pole
	Sound system
	Hot dog vendor
	Metered parking adjacent to square
	Retaining wall on north side of park due to grade change

## Opportunities

- Additional shade trees on west and south side of square.
- Additional benches.
- Additional landscaping around horses and general landscape improvements.
- Informational kiosk with map of downtown.
- Pedestrian crosswalks defined with specialty paving and/or color.
- Historic nature of park location and tremendous value to downtown.

## Constraints

- Insufficient pedestrian seating in shade zones of park.
- No pedestrian information kiosk describing public events.
- Landscape design and tree placement is random and does not relate to formality of space.

## Recommendations

- Open pavement area seems too excessive and creates unusable pedestrian zone area except for infrequent events. Suggest scaling down space for pedestrian usage.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2823-056-000	CITY OF OCALA CCN#135	1 DOWNTOWN SQUARE	1.15	GU	Downtown Square	URBAN



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# City Hall Square

## City Hall Square

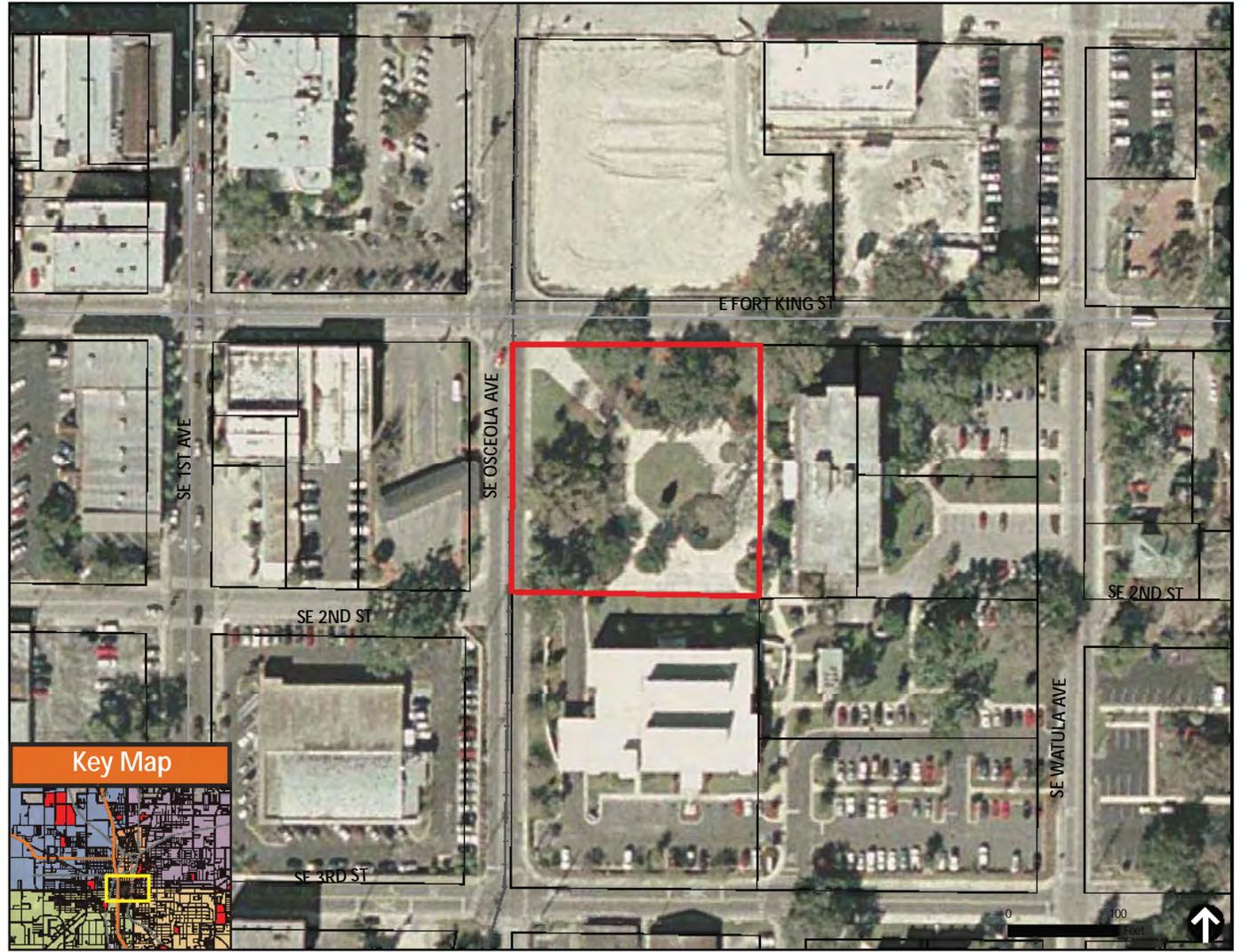
Address: 15 SE Osceola Ave  
 Acreage: 1.09 ac  
 Key Map Location: A-2  
 Designation: Urban Open Space

## Description

City Hall Square sits at the SE corner of SE Osceola Ave. and E. Fort King St. The 1 acre green is bounded by City Hall on the east side and the City Customer Service Office building on the south side. Large sidewalks form the perimeter of the square and lead pedestrians to a central lawn area in front of City Hall. Seating walls and several picnic tables are located at the edge of the square. Large specimen Live Oaks add historic character to space. On loan, an abstract sculpture, sits in the square, along with a small brick fountain.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity: Large oaks at perimeter of 'green'
- Parking: Parking on the east side of City Hall
- Sculpture: One sculptural element
- Specialty Fountain: One fountain
- Signage: Small sign on NW corner of site
- Sidewalks: Sidewalks at perimeter of square and diagonally to building
- Benches/Seating: Seating wall at perimeter of 'green'
- Picnic Tables: 2 picnic tables
- Lighting: Pedestrian scale lighting
- Trash Receptacles: No trash receptacles
- Flag Pole: One flag pole



## Opportunities

- Plaza space has the potential to be city iconic park for city.
- Opportunity to create a public usable park space that provides a strong sense of connection for governmental building to balance of downtown.

## Constraints

- Scale of open space is not pedestrian oriented.
- Design of plaza space does not relate to, or support architecture of pedestrian orientation.
- Public access orientation is primarily from east side of building. Stronger pedestrian focus should be placed on west plaza entrance.
- Plaza has no organization or obvious access to adjacent city customer service building.
- Scale of fountain is too small to have any visual or physical presence in this space.
- Sculptural element could potentially be relocated to a different location within park and create a better relationship to pedestrian circulation routes.

## Recommendations

- Provide shade trees to bring pedestrian scale down.
- Reorganize plaza around a focal point or potential sculptural element and provide better relationship to building.
- Suggest redesign of plaza landscape and improved fertilization/maintenance plan.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2823-071-000	CITY OF OCALA CCN#118.139	15 SE OSCEOLA AVE	5.90	GU	City Hall Square	URBAN



## Merchants Park

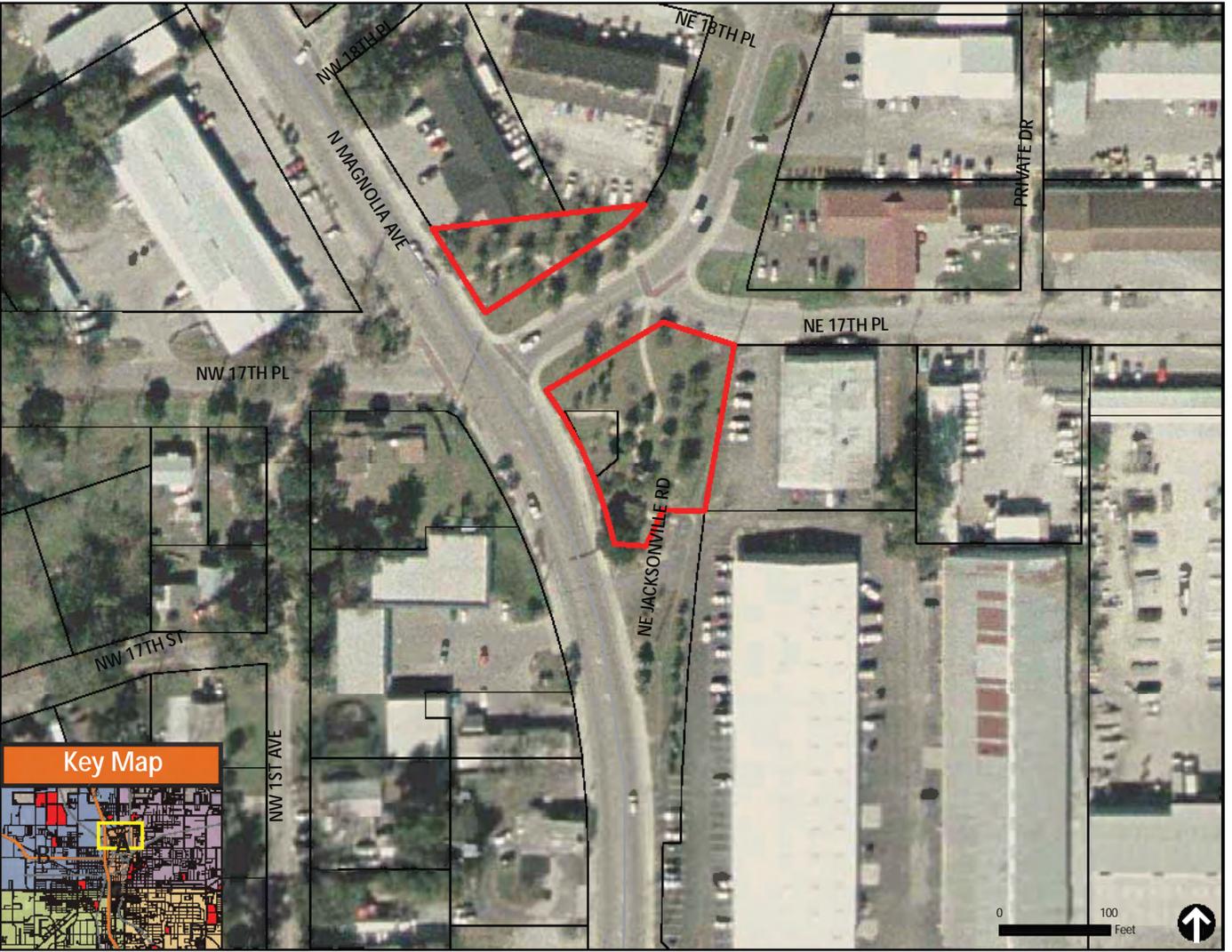
Address 1735 N Magnolia Ave  
 Acreage 1.08 ac  
 Key Map Location A-3  
 Designation Urban Open Space

## Description

Merchant's Park is comprised of two small parks flanking State Hwy 200 A just east of N. Magnolia Ave. and at the northern end of the CRA. The parks are bounded by small scale retail with residential just beyond. Curvilinear sidewalks lead to a central seating area, specialty paving and medium sized live oak trees as the central focal point. The site is used by adjacent retail employees during lunch hours.

## Existing Facilities

- Specimen Trees Large oak tree surrounded by seating
- Parking Adjacent to retail space
- Signage Name of park on clock tower
- Sidewalks Concrete sidewalks to center of park
- Benches 5 benches
- Lighting Pedestrian lighting
- Trash Receptacles 2 trash receptacles
- Bike Rack One bike rack
- Other One clock tower



### Opportunities

- Serves as a great iconic gateway to downtown Ocala.
- Nicely landscaped with pedestrian paths, benches, trash receptacles, clock tower and bicycle racks.
- Park well organized and great pedestrian scale.

### Constraints

- Higher level of maintenance needed to maintain plant materials and beds.
- Park does not have any identification or signage.

### Recommendations

- Suggest development of a regimented fertilization schedule.
- Suggest creating larger shrub bed areas around clock tower to create a better focal point.

### Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
25374-000-00	CITY OF OCALA	1735 N MAGNOLIA AVE	0.60	M1	Merchants Park	URBAN
25790-000-00	MARION COUNTY	RIGHT OF WAY	.04	M1	Merchants Park	URBAN



## Tusawilla Park

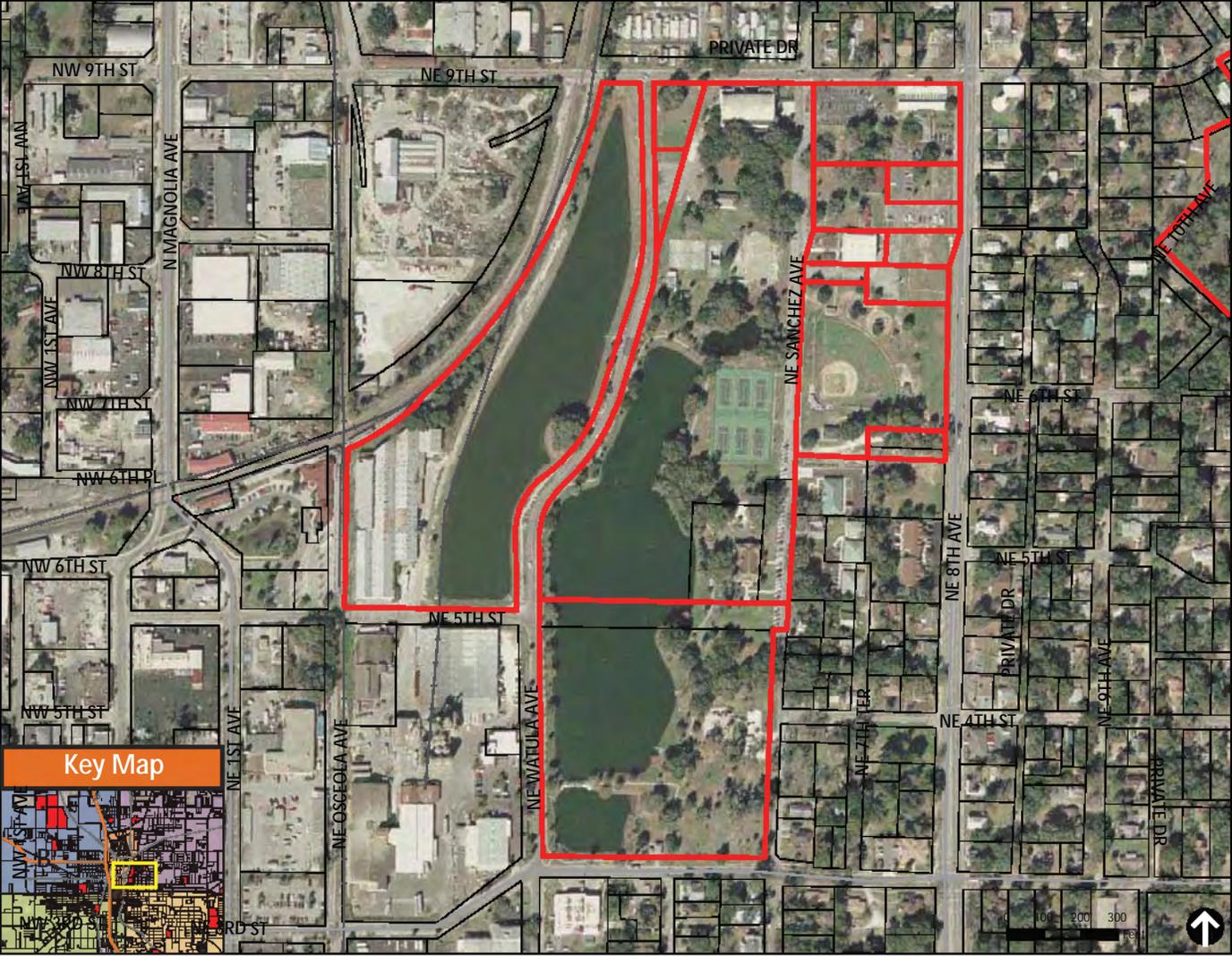
Address 300-899 NE Sanchez Ave  
 Acreage 45.24 ac  
 Key Map Location A-4  
 Designation Community Park

## Description

Tusawilla Park is a 45 acre medium size active park located just NE of historic downtown Ocala. Industrial and municipal buildings lie south and west of the park with residential neighborhoods north, south and eastward of the park. Facilities include two large fishing ponds, baseball field, basketball and tennis courts and playground. The new Tusawilla Playground was just installed. In addition, curvilinear walking trails run throughout the park. Picnic facilities, both covered and uncovered allow residents to leisurely enjoy the park. Shuffleboard courts provide recreation to senior citizens. Several community buildings lie within the park providing additional park related activities. The park is home to several programmed community wide events throughout the year.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity**
  - Large trees throughout site and 2 man made lakes
  - Lake with 3 large fountains and pedestrian bridge
- Parking**
  - On street paved parking around park, informal grass parking on west side of park
- Buildings**
  - Auditorium
  - 8th Avenue Senior Center
  - Discovery Center
  - American Legion Building
  - Administration Building
  - Baseball Concession/Restroom Building
- Sidewalks/Trails**
  - Concrete sidewalks at perimeter of park
  - Tusawilla Park Walking Trail, 3/5 mile
- Signage**
  - Memorial plaques/playground signs
- Fencing**
  - None
- Benches**
  - 2 benches, 5 benches at playground
- Picnic Tables**
  - Yes
- Picnic Pavilions**
  - 3
- Lighting**
  - Pedestrian and Field/Court lighting
- Trash Receptacles**
  - Yes
- Fields/Courts**
  - Basketball 2 courts
  - Baseball 1 field
  - Tennis 6 courts
  - Racquetball 2 courts
  - Shuffleboard 15 courts
  - Open Field Yes
  - Grills 3
  - Playground 1 large playground
- Other**
  - Fishing, Bike Racks



### Opportunities

- Park location is within close proximity to downtown, allowing for ease of access.
- Park amenities are ample and provide good cross-section of active and passive uses.
- Open space within park allows for expansion capabilities.

### Constraints

- Landscaping and sidewalk extensions need improvement in northwest corner of park.
- Security within park is needed due to visible vagrant activity. Pedestrian safety is a concern.
- Current parking and drive circulation routes are confusing and not readily apparent.
- Additional park signage needed throughout park.
- Parking not sufficient for large events.

### Recommendations

- Additional park signage needed throughout park to inform users of available park facilities.
- Expansion of active recreational programming to include a wider range of programs.
- Consider more efficient parking and circulation routing design.

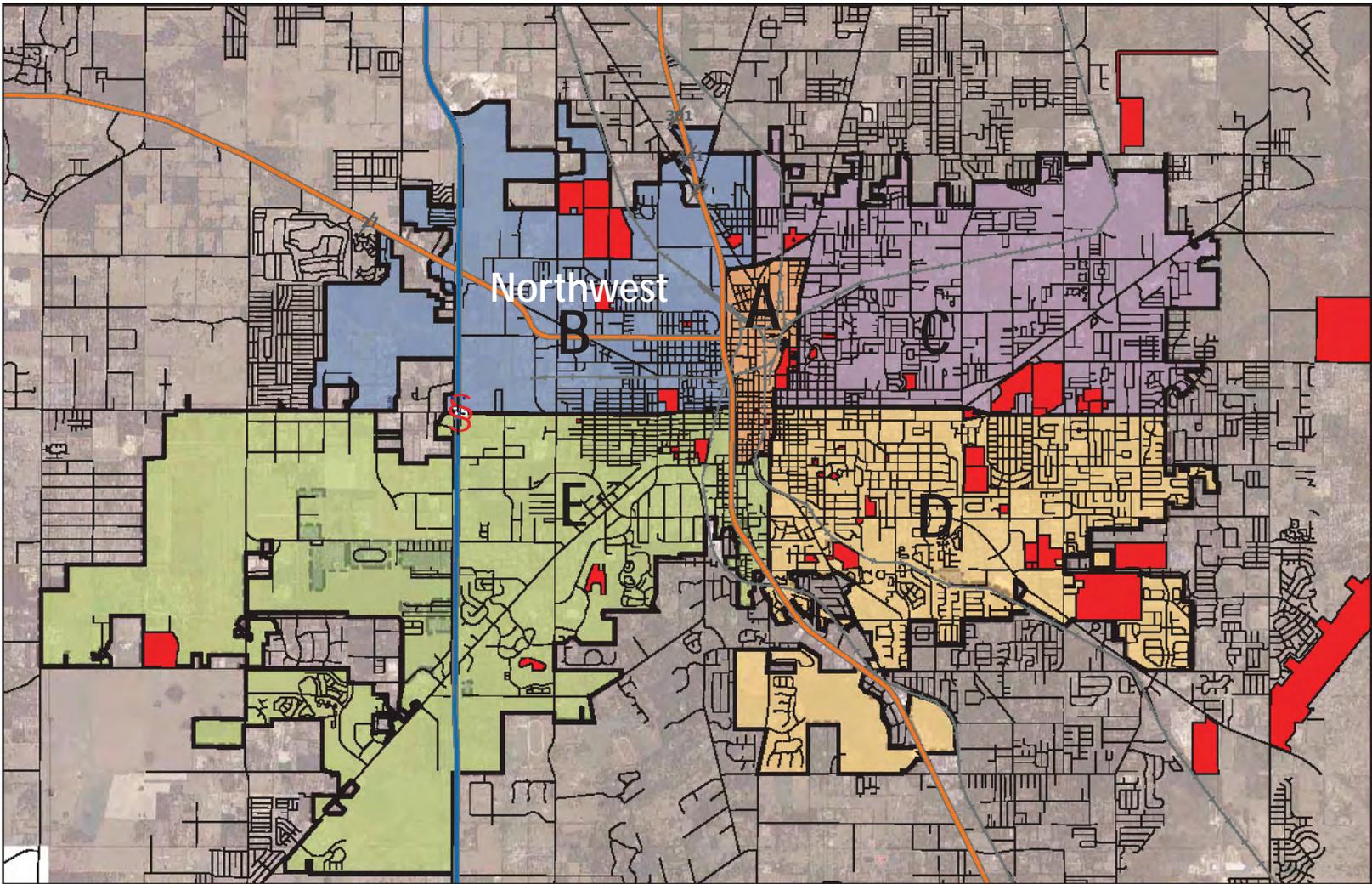
### Property Ownership and Data

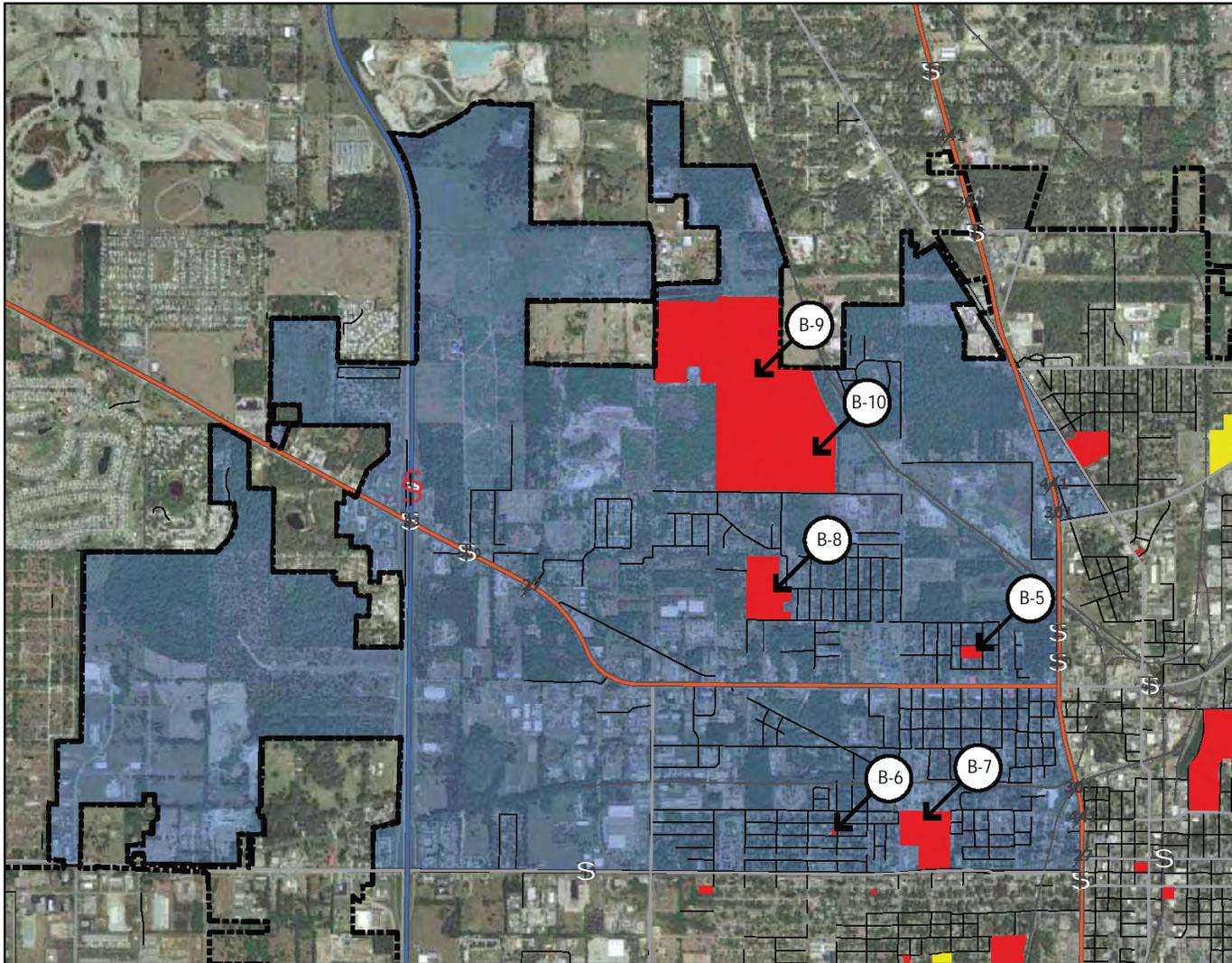
Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
28220-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#158	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	9.75	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26112-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#035	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.51	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
28392-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#061	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	3.69	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26105-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#157	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	14.83	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26108-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#157	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.28	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
2617-006-001	CITY OF OCALA CCN#33	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.48	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26109-001-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#33.142	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	1.16	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26107-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#187	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.47	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26113-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#036	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.41	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26111-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#034	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.44	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26109-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#121	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	1.99	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
26110-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#033	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.20	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
28237-007-00	CITY OF OCALA	405 SE OSCEOLA AVE	10.79	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY
28393-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#062	300-899 NE SANCHEZ AVE	0.24	GU	TUSCAWILLA PARK	COMMUNITY



Park Sub-districts

- A. Downtown District
- B. Northwest District
- C. Northeast District
- D. Southeast District
- E. Southwest District





## Northwest District Parks

- B-5 Lamb Park
- B-6 Second Chance Tot Lot
- B-7 Martin Luther King Rec Complex
- B-8 Lillian Bryant Park
- B-9 Pine Oaks Golf Course
- B-10 Pine Oaks Preserve Disc Golf Course



## Lamb Park

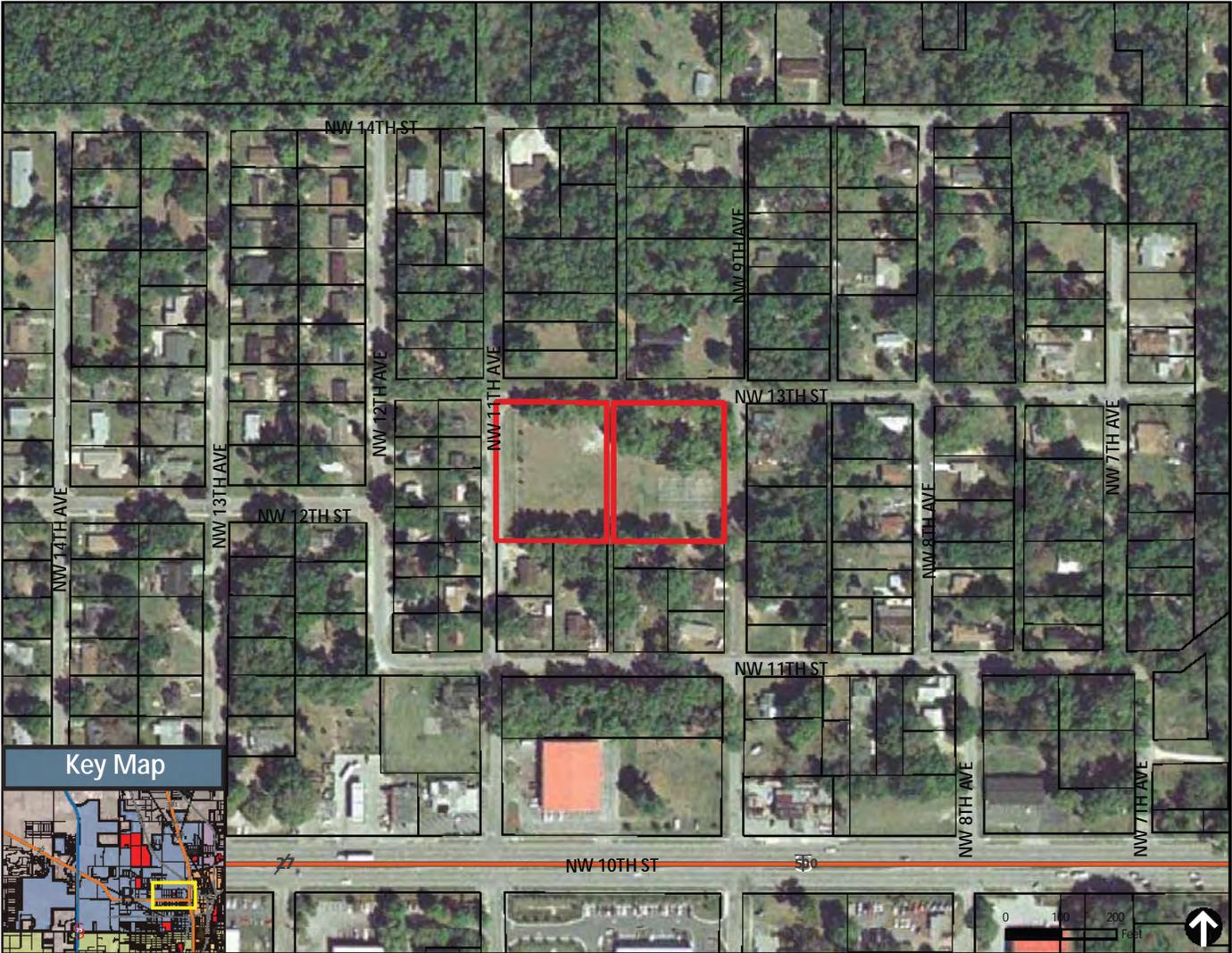
Address NW 13th and 9th Ave  
 Acreage 2.30 ac  
 Key Map Location B-5  
 Designation Neighborhood Park

## Description

Lamb Park is a small neighborhood park located in a residential neighborhood. Surrounded by streets on three sides allows for full access to the park. Residential homes about the south property line and are separated by a chain link fence. Lamb Park consists of an undeveloped softball/baseball field (backstop), two basketball courts and a small playground. Several benches for seating are dispersed throughout the park. Parking is provided along the park perimeter. Wooden bollards line the streets providing separation from vehicular and pedestrian traffic. A large open play area allows for free form play for all ages.

## Existing Facilities

<b>Description</b>	Small neighborhood park within residential neighborhood
<b>Natural Amenity</b>	Large oak tree at perimeter of park
<b>Parking</b>	Grass parking along perimeter of park
<b>Fencing</b>	Chain link fence along southern property line
<b>Benches</b>	3 benches
<b>Lighting</b>	2 pole lighting
<b>Trash Receptacles</b>	One trash receptacle
<b>Bike Rack</b>	One bike rack
<b>Play Fields/Courts</b>	
Basketball	2 courts
Softball Field	1 undeveloped field
Field	1 large open area
<b>Playground</b>	1 small tot lot



## Opportunities

- Great location for neighborhood park access.
- Larger canopy trees give historical appearance.
- Park has ample area for additional program and facility expansion.

## Constraints

- Basketball court surfacing is nearing the end of its lifetime and will require resurfacing.
- Playground equipment is not sufficient for older children and varying age groups.
- Location of trash receptacles is not readily accessible or in proper placements.
- Open trash receptacles present poor overall park appearance.

## Recommendations

- Resurface and restripe basketball court.
- Additional play equipment for older children usage (ages 5-10).
- Add handicap accessible access to playground bench and seating area.
- Consider developing walking paths and access to park amenities.
- Consider updated /closed trash receptacles and appropriate placement near other facilities.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
25722-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#023	NW 13TH ST & NW 9TH AVE	2.30	R1A	Lamb Park	NEIGHBORHOOD



## Second Chance Tot Lot

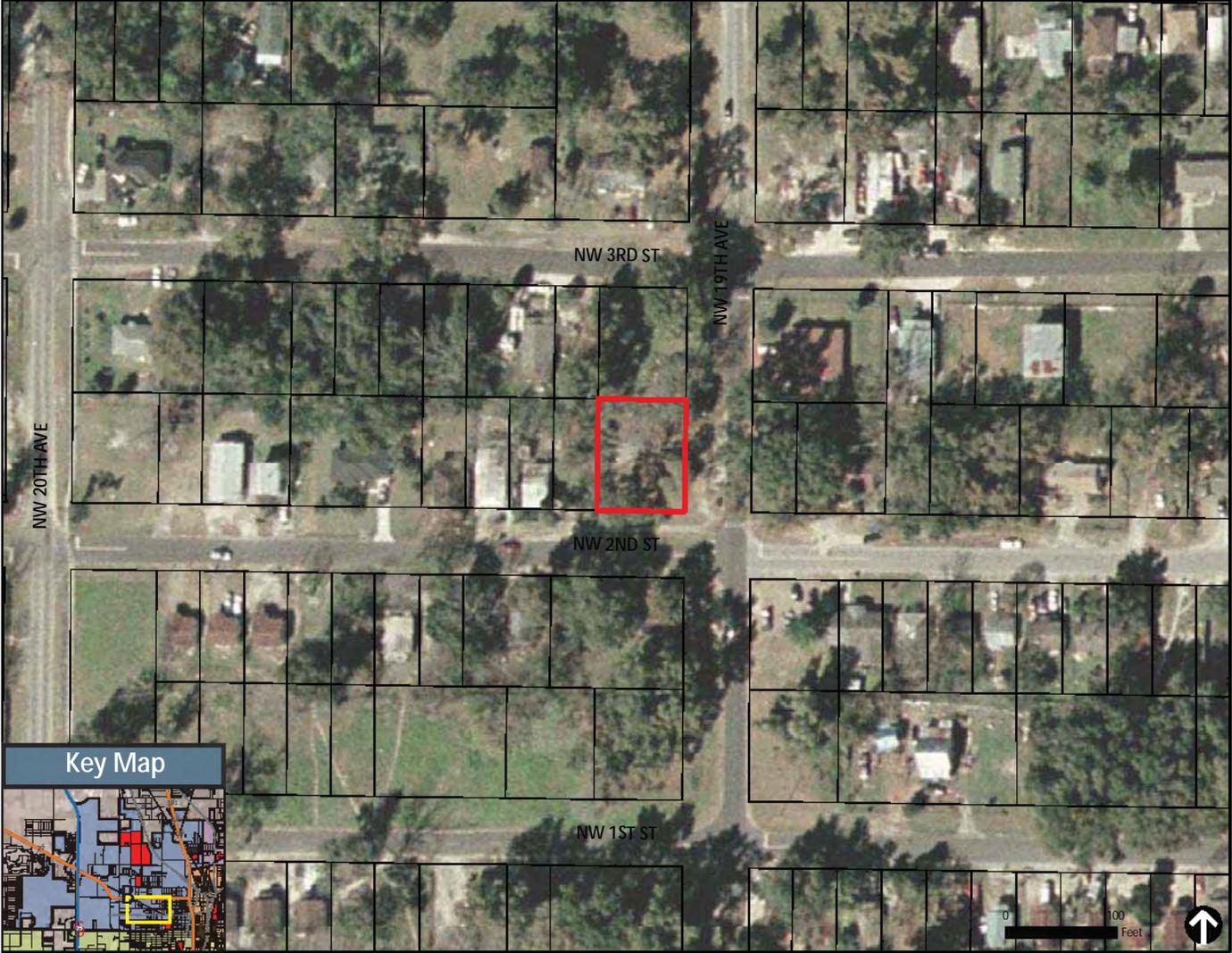
Address NW 19th and 2nd Ave  
 Acreage .3 ac  
 Key Map Location B-6  
 Designation Neighborhood Park

## Description

Second Chance Tot Lot is a small neighborhood park located in a residential neighborhood. A new tot lot, swing set and picnic table now occupy the park in addition to the existing 1/2 basketball court. Bollards separate the park from adjacent streets on the south and east side of the park. Large oak trees provide shade throughout the day.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity Large oak tree at perimeter of park
- Parking Parallel along Street
- Sidewalks Sidewalks along south & east property line
- Signage City of Ocala park sign
- Fencing Bollards with cable on 2 sides of park  
Chain link fence on north & west property line
- Picnic Tables 2 tables
- Grills One grill
- Trash Receptacles Yes
- Basketball 1/2 court
- Play Field Open play area
- Playground One small tot lot, 4 swings total, 2 toddler



### Opportunities

- Small Neighborhood park.
- Good opportunity for local resident access.

### Constraints

- Recreation park program is very limited due to park size.
- Picnic table area located in open sun, provide picnic areas in shade or under pavilion.
- Parking location is not defined by signage.
- Park lacks an internal landscape shrub or ground covers.
- Sod quality is poor and requires maintenance.

### Recommendations

- Suggest additional playground equipment to expand play opportunities.
- Handicap access should be provided to picnic area.
- Provide improved parking surface for perimeter parking to allow for ADA access.

### Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2260-127-002	CITY OF OCALA CCN#189	NW 10TH AVE & NW 1ST AVE	0.18	R2	2nd Chance Tot Lot	NEIGHBORHOOD



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# Martin Luther King Recreation Complex

## Martin Luther King Recreation Complex

Address 1510 NW 4th St  
 Acreage 24.01 ac  
 Key Map Location B-7  
 Designation Community Park

## Description

Martin Luther King Recreation Complex is a large active community park in a residential neighborhood. Activities include a Recreation Center, Senior Activity Center and Aquatic Fun Center. Basketball courts, baseball fields, football/soccer fields, racquetball, jogging paths and playgrounds are dispersed throughout the 33 acre park. Several special events for seniors and kids are programmed throughout the year. Access and parking are provided along all four sides of the park with parking lots on the north, west and south side and grass/dirt parking adjacent along the north. A recycling center is located off W. Silver Springs Blvd.

## Existing Facilities

<b>Parking</b>	Paved Parking all four sides near recreation centers, grass overflow on north side
<b>Buildings</b>	Hampton Aquatic Fun Center E.D. Croskey Recreation Center Barbara Washington Senior Activity Center Concession stand adjacent to ball field
<b>Restrooms</b>	2 buildings
<b>Sidewalks/Trails</b>	Concrete sidewalks at perimeter of park Asphalt walking trails throughout interior of park, 1.5 parcourse trail
<b>Signage</b>	Fit Core Exercise Stations/Adult & child Park signs, recreation center signs Aquatic Fun Center sign
<b>Fencing</b>	Yes
<b>Benches</b>	Yes
<b>Picnic Tables</b>	Yes
<b>Picnic Pavilions</b>	4 small, one large
<b>Lighting</b>	Ball field lighting; court lighting
<b>Trash Receptacles</b>	Yes
<b>Fields/Courts</b>	
Basketball	4 courts, lighted
Baseball	One high school size lighted Pickney Woodbury Field youth size with covered seating, lighted
Soccer/Football	One field
Racquetball	2 courts
<b>Playground</b>	Manufactured wood safety surface
<b>Pool</b>	One pool, lighted
<b>Other</b>	Recycling center is located off W. Silver Springs Blvd



## Opportunities

- Park location is easily accessible by neighborhood.
- Park offers wide range of active sport facilities.

## Constraints

- Lacks internal landscaping.
- Sod through park is very thin due to lack of irrigation and fertilization.
- Roadside appearance of park is weak due to lack of landscaping or entry landscaping along perimeter and park entrance.
- Park lacks shade either from canopy trees or installed shade structures.

## Recommendations

- Recommend installation of canopy trees throughout park to help define different park areas and increase pedestrian usage.
- Recommend sod and fertilization program be established to improve quality of sod throughout.
- Recommend moving unsightly recycling facility offsite to more appropriate location.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
28418-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#066	1510 NW 4TH ST	24.01	GU	Martin Luther King Recreation Complex	COMMUNITY



## Lillian Bryant Park

Address 2200 NW 17th Pl  
 Acreage 22.49 ac  
 Key Map Location B-8  
 Designation Community Park

## Description

Lillian F. Bryant Park is an active community park located in a residential neighborhood. The park consists of a Community Center with tennis courts, softball field, open play field, basketball courts, shuffleboard, playground and jogging trail. Large trees are dispersed throughout the 22 acre site. Unique to the site is a large open air pavilion with basketball courts. Access to the park is provided off of NW 17th PL. and NW 22nd Ave. as well as NW 16th St. Both are through residential streets.

## Existing Facilities

Natural Amenity	Large oak trees
Parking	Paved parking lots (1 by group Pavilion)
Buildings	Lillian Bryant Community Center
Restrooms	One building
Sidewalks/Trails	Lillian Bryant Walking Trail, 1 mile clay path
Signage	At entrances
Fencing	Chain link-north & east side, bollards-south & west side
Benches	Yes
Picnic Tables	Yes
Picnic Pavilions	One
Trash Receptacles	1 large, several small
Bike Racks	One
Fields/Courts	
Basketball	3 courts, one covered
Softball	One field
Tennis	2 tennis courts, fenced
Shuffleboard	4 courts
Open Field	One field
Volleyball	One court, net provided during programs only
Playground	Yes



## Opportunities

- Great Community Park for the Northwest Region of the City.
- Nice variety of facilities within the park.
- Community Center provides additional recreational activities to the neighborhood.
- Park has the ability to add a few additional program facilities.
- Open basketball pavilion provides opportunities for additional uses, i.e. events and ceremonies.
- Parking area provides opportunity for organized activities and meetings.

## Constraints

- Park lacks internal landscaping.
- Sod throughout park is thin due to lack of irrigation and fertilization.
- Open trash receptacles are not visually attractive.

## Recommendations

- Suggest changing play equipment to expand play opportunities.
- Recommend installation of trees throughout park to help provide shade to park users.
- Recommend additional landscaping adjacent to Community Center and play courts to create greater sense of identity to park.
- Replace trash receptacle throughout park.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
22120-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#210	2200 NW 17TH PL	22.49	R2	Lillian Bryant Park	COMMUNITY



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# Pine Oaks Golf Course

## Pine Oaks Golf Course

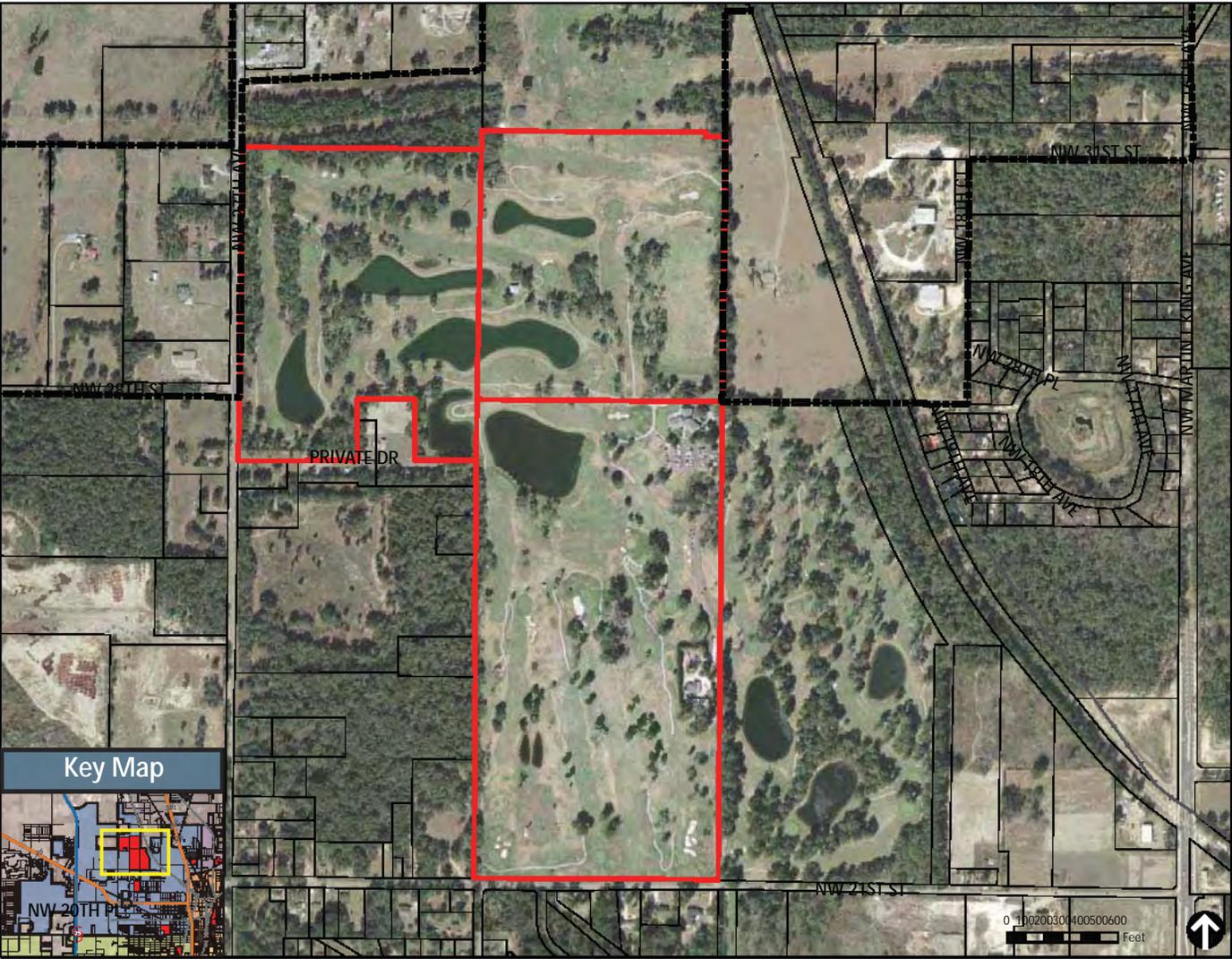
Address 2201 NW 21st St  
 Acreage 170.37 ac  
 Key Map Location B-9  
 Designation Special Use Facility

## Description

Pine Oaks Golf Course is a 18 hole, par 72 golf course designed by Ron Garl. Accessed off of NW 21st St., it is one of two golf courses owned by the City of Ocala (Pine Oaks is operated by contractor). This 170 acre site has a centrally located Clubhouse and Pro Shop. East of the golf course is the 60 acre Pine Oaks Disc Golf Course. Previously the "East 9" of the Pine Oaks Golf Course; converted to passive park.

## Existing Facilities

- Specimen Trees Large oak trees throughout golf course
- Parking Parking lot at clubhouse
- Buildings Clubhouse with pro shop, concession stand, and meeting room  
Maintenance facility
- Restrooms At clubhouse and on course
- Signage At entrance to golf course
- Fencing Surrounding entire course & around maintenance facility
- Picnic Tables Yes
- Trash Receptacles Yes



## Opportunities

- Banquet hall provides opportunities for community meetings and events.
- Golf Course in Northwest region of City provides recreation for all ages.

## Constraints

- Maintenance facility adjacent to entry drive is unsightly.

## Recommendations

- Additional landscape screening adjacent to maintenance facility.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
21418-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#001	2201 NW 21ST ST	78.67	GU	PINE OAKS GOLF COURSE	SPECIAL USE
21385-001-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#001	2201 NW 21ST ST	44.15	GU	PINE OAKS GOLF COURSE	SPECIAL USE
21387-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#001	2201 NW 21ST ST	47.55	GU	PINE OAKS GOLF COURSE	SPECIAL USE



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# Pine Oaks Preserve and Disc Golf Course

## Pine Oaks Preserve and Disc Golf Course

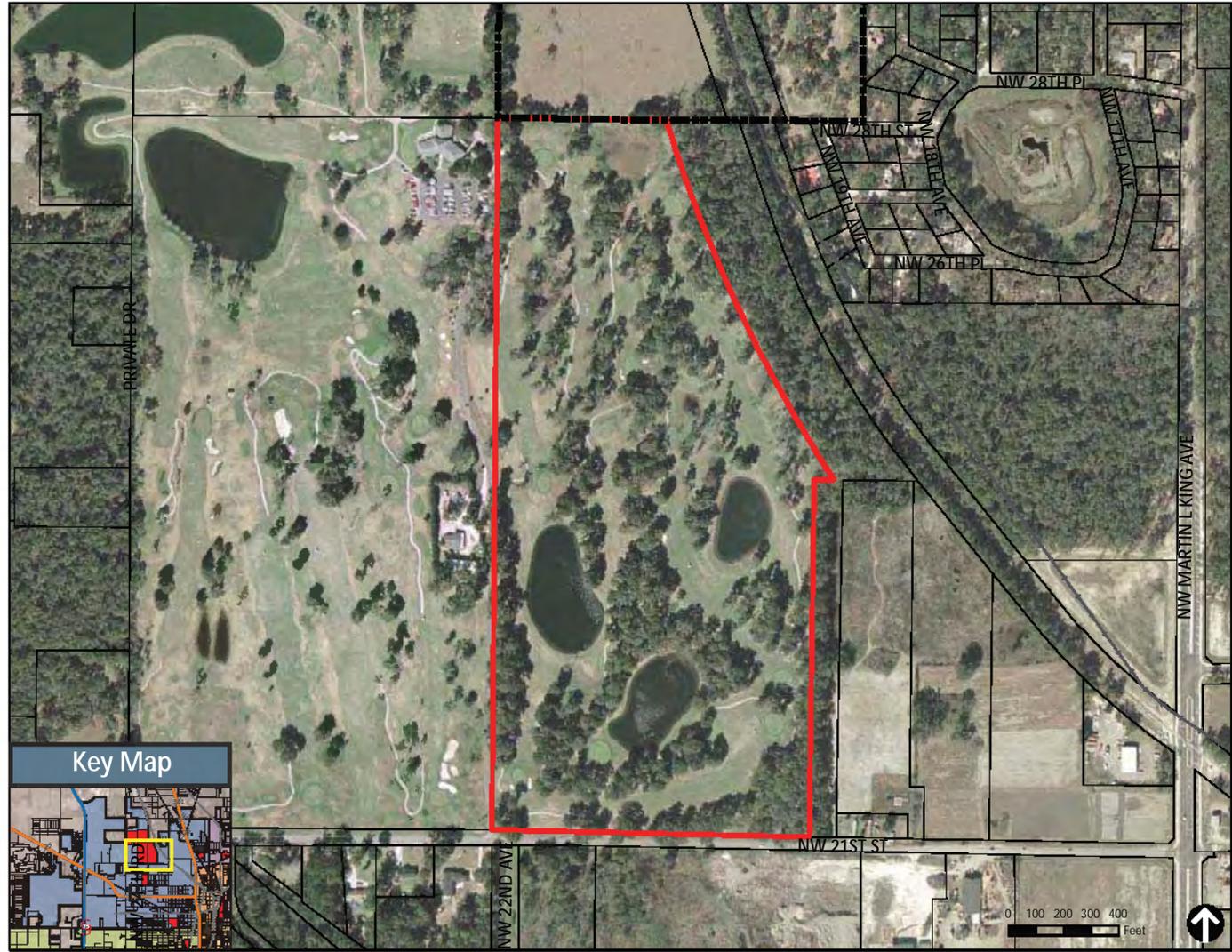
Address 2201 NW 21st ST  
 Acreage 60.66 ac  
 Key Map Location B-10  
 Designation Special Use Facility

## Description

Pine Oaks Disc Golf is a 60 acre course located off of NW 21<sup>st</sup> St. Access is along the entry road to Pine Oaks Golf Course. At the entrance sits a small gravel parking lot, picnic tables and several grills. Large shade trees, pines and ponds run throughout the course.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity Lake/pond
- Specimen Trees Large oak trees throughout golf course
- Parking Parking at golf course clubhouse and small gravel parking adjacent to course
- Restrooms At clubhouse and on course (1)
- Signage At entrance to golf course
- Picnic Tables Yes
- Grills Yes
- Benches Yes



## Opportunities

- Disc Golf provides opportunities for league and tournament play.
- Disc Golf provides a new recreational opportunity.

## Constraints

- Recreational Program is limited and does not maximize the available land area.

## Recommendations

- Possible addition of other play equipment and other adult recreation facilities in safe zone separated from Disc Golf.

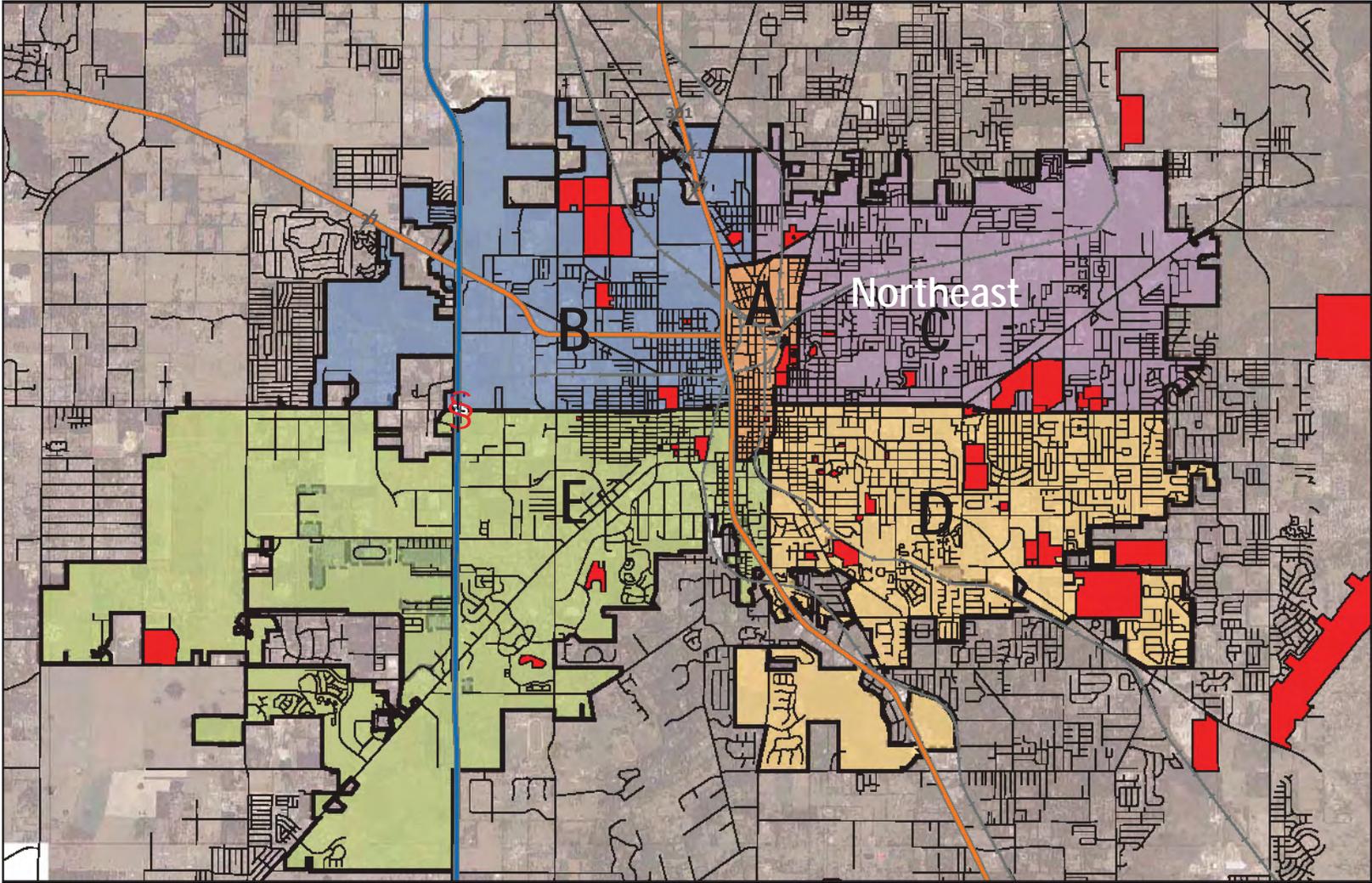
## Property Ownership and Data

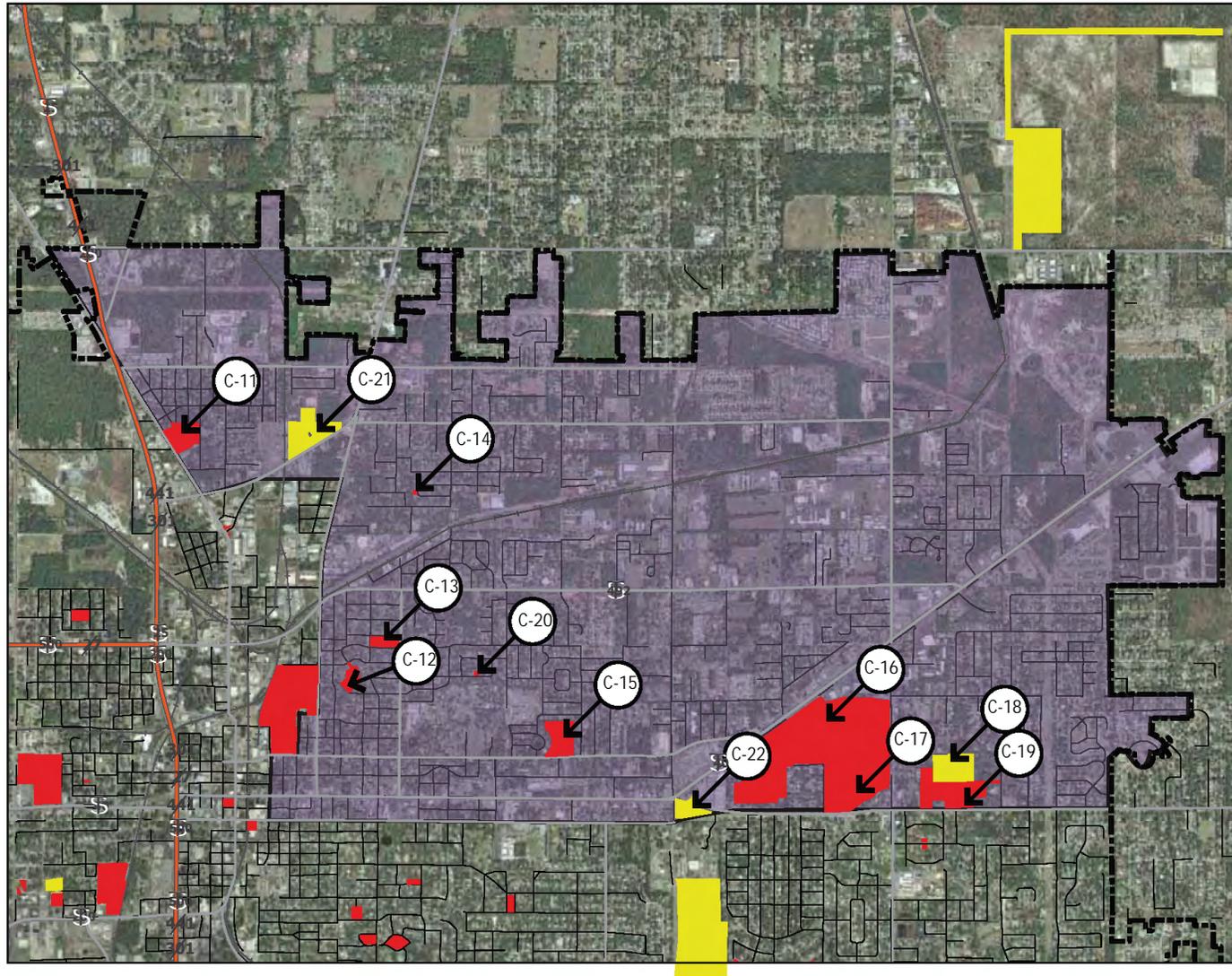
Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
21448-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#197	2201 NW 21ST ST	60.66	GU	PINE OAKS PRESERVE DISC GOLF COURSE	SPECIAL USE



Park Sub-districts

- A. Downtown District
- B. Northwest District
- C. Northeast District
- D. Southeast District
- E. Southwest District





Northeast District Parks

- C-11 Toms Park
- C-12 Chazal Park
- C-13 Wyomina Park
- C-14 Northside Park
- C-15 Heritage Nature Conservancy
- C-16 Ocala Golf Course
- C-17 Ft. King Tennis Center
- C-18 Fort King Site
- C-19 Fort King Memorial
- C-20 Hilldale Park
- C-21 Southeastern Livestock Pavilion
- C-22 Veteran's Memorial



## Toms Park

Address 2300 N Magnolia Ave  
 Acreage 10.70 ac  
 Key Map Location C-11  
 Designation Neighborhood Park

## Description

Toms Park is a 10 acre neighborhood park located between Magnolia Ave. and NW 3rd Ave. A small pond lies on the west side of the park just south of the park entrance. Toms Park is a passive heavily wooded site with a tot lot, benches for seating and a picnic pavilion. Fishing is allowed at the pond. Access to the park is through the parking areas located on both the east and west side of the park. The perimeter of the park is completely fenced. Residential neighborhoods lie north and east of the park with industrial uses west and south of the park.

## Existing Facilities

Natural Amenity	Large oak trees throughout site
Parking	Approx. 20 dirt spaces with additional parking on east side of park
Sidewalks/Trails	No
Signage	No signage on 441
Fencing	Perimeter fencing and three-rail wooden fence adjacent to parking lot
Benches	6 benches
Picnic Tables	14 picnic tables, 1 covered pavilion
Trash Receptacles	Yes
Grills	Yes
Playground	Yes
Other	Fishing



## Opportunities

- Large neighborhood park located in Northeast region of City with the ability to provide recreational opportunities to surrounding residents.
- Heavily treed site provides passive and active opportunities to park.

## Constraints

- Parking lots may not be large enough to accommodate size of park.
- Park provides opportunities for expansion of program facilities.
- Addition of facilities may impact some existing trees.
- Open trash receptacles are not visually attractive.

## Recommendations

- Expand and pave parking lots to allow for additional recreational opportunities.
- Add walking trail/sidewalk loop to provide exercise opportunities.
- Provide handicap accessible parking facilities and access to playground and picnic facilities.
- Provide additional court facilities on the northeast facility needs.
- Provide additional picnic pavilions and tables to support neighborhood usage of park.
- Provide improved landscaping adjacent to park sign to create stronger neighborhood identity to park.
- Provide directional signage to park off of 441.
- Replace trash receptacles throughout park.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
25292-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#018	2300 N MAGNOLIA AVE	10.32	GU	Toms Park	NEIGHBORHOOD



## Chazal Park

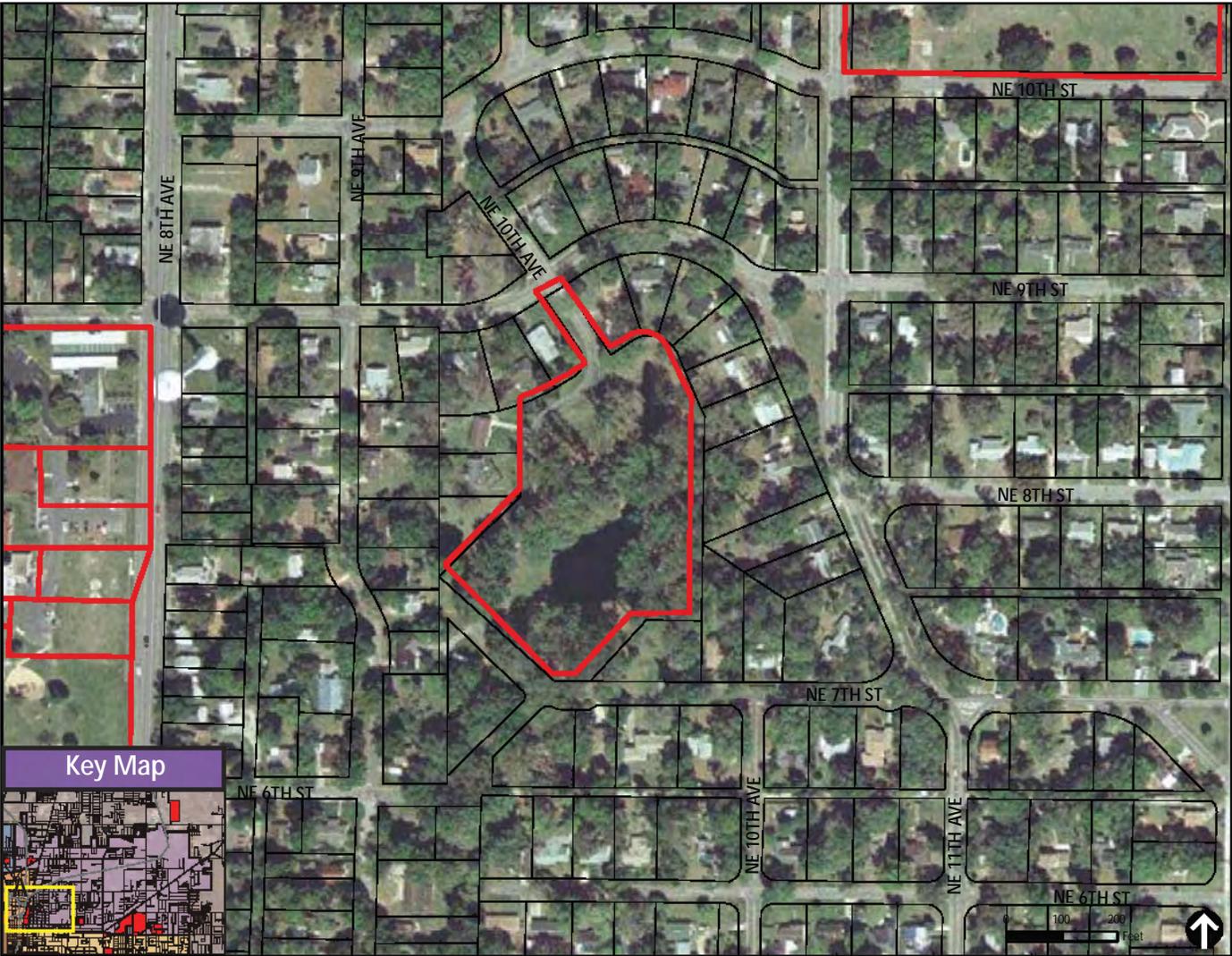
Address NE 7th St & NE 10th Ave  
Acreage 4.16 ac  
Key Map Location C-12  
Designation Neighborhood Park

## Description

Chazal Park is a heavily wooded park which gently slopes down to a fenced stormwater pond. Located within a residential neighborhood, residential lots both back up to the park as well as front on the park.

## Existing Facilities

Description	Open space area around depressional area
Natural Amenity	Large oak and pine trees Stormwater pond
Parking	On Street
Fencing	Around stormwater pond



## Opportunities

- Small neighborhood park in residential neighborhood.
- Good location for local neighborhood usage.

## Constraints

- Chain link fence adjacent to stormwater pond is unsightly.
- Park has no signage identification.
- Park does not provide any recreational facilities or play equipment typical of other parks.

## Recommendations

- Provide standard City of Ocala park sign to create identity for neighborhood.
- Prune and shape trees to create improved tree canopy and structure.
- Regrade stormwater pond to create park amenity.
- Provide passive recreational opportunities such as benches and picnic tables.
- Provide accessible play equipment.
- Suggest removing fencing around stormwater pond to allow access to pond.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2614-014-000	WRA & CHAZAL PARK	NE 7TH ST & NE 10TH AVE	4.16	GU	Chazal Park	NEIGHBORHOOD





### Opportunities

- Medium size park, located in Northeast region of City, has the ability to help provide recreational facilities to the surrounding neighborhood.
- Large shade trees at the perimeter of the site provides a great identity to the park and neighborhood.

### Constraints

- Open trash receptacles are not visually attractive.

### Recommendations

- Suggest changing play equipment to expand play opportunities.
- Provide additional court facilities on the northeast facility needs.
- Provide picnic pavilions and tables to support neighborhood usage of park.
- Provide additional shade trees and landscaping to create park identity.

### Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2614-010-000	CITY OF OCALA CCN#154	NE 10TH ST & NE 11TH AVE	3.77	GU	Wyomina Park	NEIGHBORHOOD



## Northside Park

Address 2000 NE 12th Ave  
Acreage .20 ac  
Key Map Location C-14  
Designation Neighborhood Park

## Description

Northside Park is a small open space tract located between two houses at the end of a cul-de-sac in a residential neighborhood. A dense canopy of trees lies along the western property line.

## Existing Facilities

Natural Amenity Large shade trees at perimeter of park  
Parking No designated parking



## Opportunities

- Park has the ability to create a neighborhood identity in the Northeast region of the City.

## Constraints

- The park currently does not have any signage identifying it as a public park facility.

## Recommendations

- Provide standard City of Ocala park sign to create identity for neighborhood.
- Provide passive recreational opportunities such as benches and picnic tables.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2616-000-000	SUN VIEW MANOR PARK	2000 NE 12TH AVE	0.20	R4	Northside Park	NEIGHBORHOOD



## Heritage Nature Conservancy

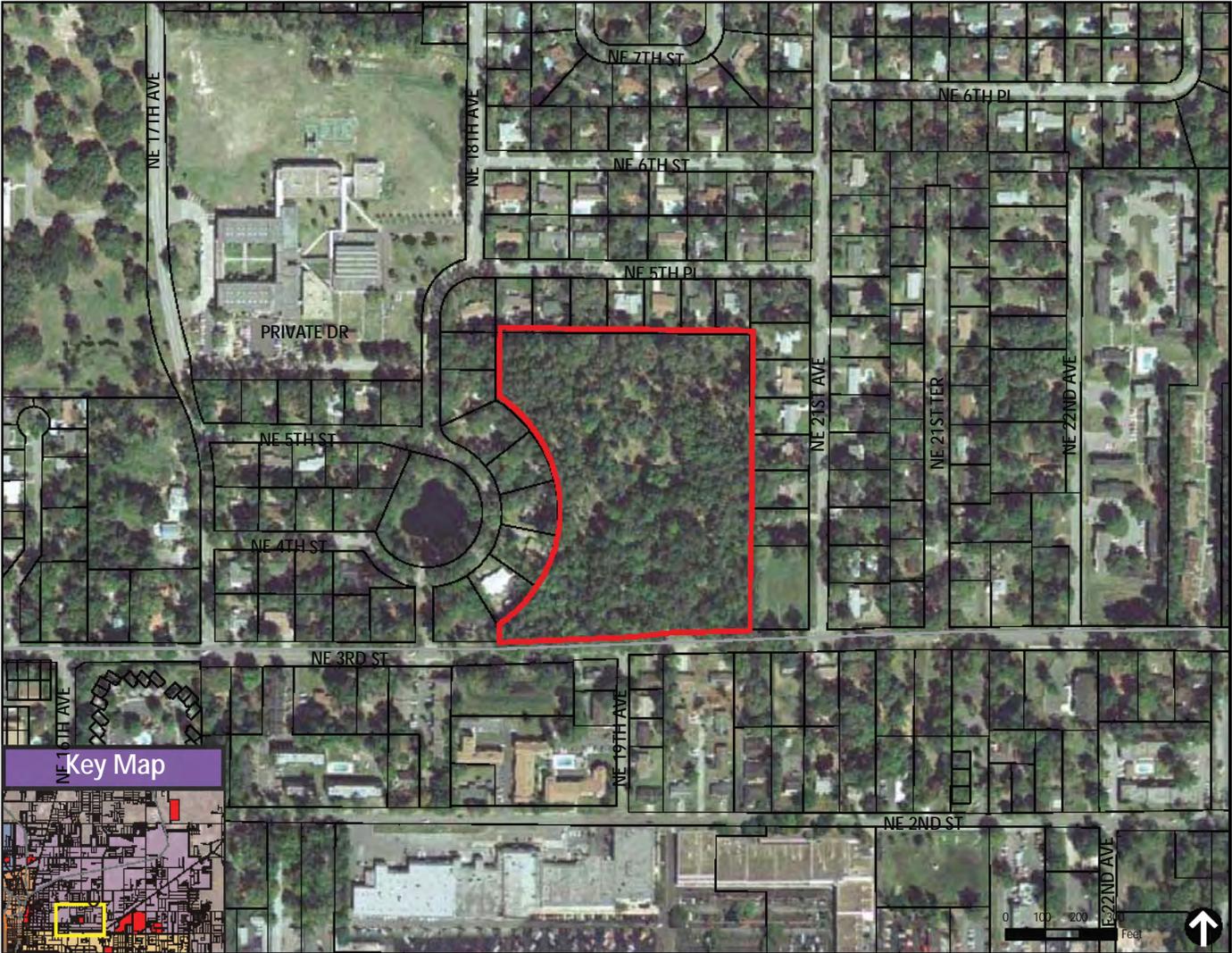
Address 2005 NE 3rd St  
 Acreage 11.43 ac  
 Key Map Location C-15  
 Designation Neighborhood Park

## Description

Heritage Nature Conservancy is an 11 acre neighborhood park located approximately 1 1/2 miles east of historic downtown Ocala. Tucked into a residential neighborhood, this heavily wooded site provides environmental education and play to those who visit the park. The park consists of picnic tables, picnic pavilions, an environmental play trail, and areas to observe wildlife in their natural habitat. Unique to the site is a bat house. There is also an informal seating area for education.

## Existing Facilities

Natural Amenity	Heavily wooded site
Parking	Parking at entrance to park - dirt/gravel
Restrooms	Yes
Trail	Environmental play trail, 2/5 mile
Signage	Park sign at entrance Play trail signage through out park
Fencing	Between parking area and park
Picnic Tables	Yes
Picnic Pavilions	2 pavilions
Benches	Yes, seating area for educational programs
Grills	Yes
Trash Receptacles	Yes
Playground	Yes
Other	Bat house Man made Pond
Comments	Needs maintenance Designated demonstration backyard wildlife habitat



## Opportunities

- A great park that provide both educational and passive recreational needs in the Northeast region of the City.
- The park is a heavily wooded site that provides shade to park users.

## Constraints

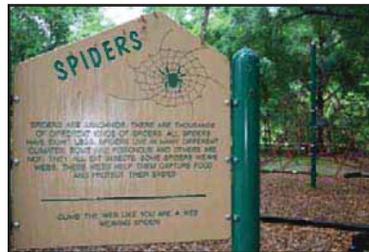
- Trail system throughout park requires new mulch with defined edging material.
- No paved parking access.
- Little visibility into the park from street.

## Recommendations

- Suggest upgrading benches and picnic tables.
- Upgrade trail system with mulch and edging material.
- Strong maintenance program suggested for park site.
- Provide paved parking access to meet park facility needs.
- Replace entrance fence with decorative fence to improve aesthetics.
- Remove vegetation to provide better visibility into park.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
28376-000-00	HERITAGE NATURE CONSERVATION	2005 NE 3RD ST	11.43	GU	Heritage Nature Conservancy	NEIGHBORHOOD



## Ocala Golf Club

Address 3130 NE Silver Springs Blvd  
 Acreage 147.81 ac  
 Key Map Location C-16  
 Designation Special Use Facility

## Description

Ocala Golf Club is a 120 acre golf course on the east side of town. Originally built in 1915, this 18 hole golf course is newly renovated (design by golf course architect Mike Beebe). In addition to the golf course, there is a small restaurant and banquet hall that is available for special events and conferences.

## Existing Facilities

- Specimen Trees Large oak and pine trees throughout golf course
- Parking Parking lot at clubhouse
- Building Clubhouse  
Maintenance facility
- Restrooms At clubhouse and on course
- Signage At entrance to golf course
- Lighting Yes



## Opportunities

- Golf Course provides strong sense of identity to City.
- Golf Course in Northeast region of City provides recreation for all ages.
- Newly renovated banquet hall provides opportunities for

## Constraints

- Landscaping at entry parking areas and clubhouse building foundation is very dated and lacks appeal.

## Recommendations

- Suggest improving landscaping around entry sign parking areas and clubhouse to create stronger sense of identity and improve pedestrian environment.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2782-000-000	CITY OF OCALA CCN#050	3130 NE SILVER SPRINGS BLVD	63.89	GU	OCALA GOLF CLUB	SPECIAL USE
28105-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#052	3301 SE FORT KING ST	83.92	GU	OCALA GOLF CLUB	SPECIAL USE



# III. Field Inventory Analysis

# Fort King Tennis Center

## Fort King Tennis Center

Address 3301 SE Ft King St  
 Acreage 6.02 ac  
 Key Map Location C-17  
 Designation Special Use Facility

## Description

Fort King Tennis Center consist of 12 clay and asphalt courts and Pro Shop. Located off of Ft. King Street, this facility is nestled in a residential neighborhood and backs up to the Ocala Golf Club.

## Existing Facilities

Parking Paved parking lot  
 Buildings Pro Shop  
 Sidewalks Along Ft. King St.  
 Signage Located on Ft. King St.  
 Fence Around tennis courts  
 Lighting Yes  
 Tennis 12 courts, clay and asphalt  
 Other Clay courts recently resurfaced



## Opportunities

- The Tennis Center satisfies a great need for tennis in this region of the City.
- The tennis facility provides both clay and asphalt courts.
- Facility is very popular for both public and schooling.

## Constraints

- Park is centralized to many residences but facilities program is limited to tennis only.
- Parking area improvements and expansion for overflow parking is needed.
- Landscape and pedestrian area around clubhouse needs improvement to encourage usage of outdoor spaces.

## Recommendations

- Create outdoor seating for viewing and court waiting.
- Improve landscape around clubhouse area.
- Expand facility program to include playground equipment.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
28105-000-00	CITY OF OCALA CCN#052	3301 SE FORT KING ST	6.02	GU	FT KING TENNIS CENTER	SPECIAL USE



## Fort King Site

Address 3925 SE Ft King St  
 Acreage 36.99 ac  
 Key Map Location C-18  
 Designation Urban Open Space

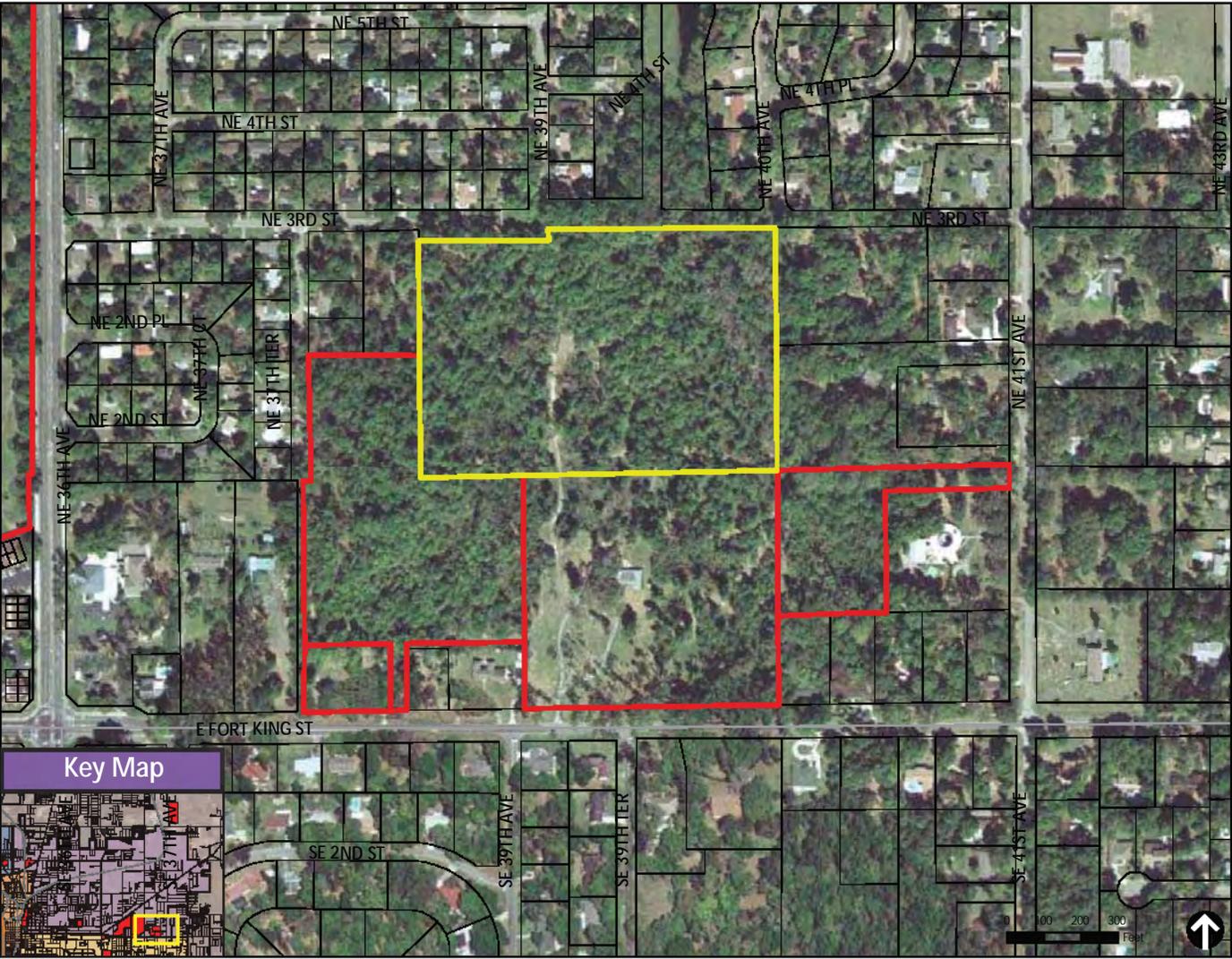
## Description

Fort King Park is a 37 acre site designated as 'Urban Open Space'. It is heavily forested, has a small stream running through the site and is surrounded by residential development on all four sides of the property. Built in 1827, Fort King was a United States military fort built to buffer the Seminole Indians and whites who were settling in the area. Today, there are no visible signs of the fort.

The site is a National Historic Landmark. The property is co-owned by the City and County. There is currently no public access to the site.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity Natural Creek
- Parking No parking
- Signage Historical marker
- Fencing Around perimeter
- Other Monument at South side of property.
- Buildings 1 Residential bldg (caretaker)



## Opportunities

- Park is under consideration as a national historic site. This creates a great image for City of Ocala as well as tourism opportunities.
- Park is a significant archeological site.

## Constraints

- Site is very sensitive to archeological impact by looters.
- City must remain vigilant in protection of archeological resources and therefore public access remains closed.

## Recommendations

- Preservation and protection of archeological site areas must be a priority. Strongly suggest development of archeological management plan be developed. Access to site should remain restricted.
- Access to site should remain restricted; however, City should consider limited access to monument area for passive recreation purposes and public education opportunities to garner public understanding and support of future endeavors at this location.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
27599-000-00	MARION COUNTY	3925 SE FORT KING ST	14.59	R1	FT KING	URBAN
27611-000-00	CITY OF OCALA	3925 SE FORT KING ST	10.51	R1	FT KING	URBAN
27596-001-00	CITY OF OCALA & MARION COUNTY	3925 SE FORT KING ST	8.76	R1	FT KING	URBAN
27631-000-00	CITY OF OCALA	3925 SE FORT KING ST	3.13	R1	FT KING	URBAN



### Fort King Memorial

Address 3800 NE Ft King St  
Acreage .95 ac  
Key Map Location C-19  
Designation Urban Open Space

### Description

Fort King Memorial is a one acre site located adjacent to the 37 acre Fort King site. This site is owned by the Daughters of the American Revolution. They purchased this site to commemorate and honor those who died during the Second Seminole War.

### Existing Facilities

This site is currently open to the public and includes a plaque to commemorate the original Fort.



## Opportunities

- Memorial site is open to the public.
- There are educational opportunities that can be provided to the public.

## Constraints

- Limited access and usage due to controlled access to balance of site.

## Recommendations

- Provide educational lectures about the historical nature of the site and its surroundings.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
27619-000-00	DAUGHTERS OF AMER REVOLUTION	3800 NE FT. KING ST	0.95	R1	FT KING MEMORIAL	URBAN

## Hilldale Park

Address NE 8th St  
Acreage .27 ac  
Key Map Location C-20  
Designation Urban Open Space

## Description

Hilldale Park is a small green in a residential neighborhood. Several large trees provide shade throughout the day. Because of its open nature the park allows for open and free form play.

## Existing Facilities

Natural Amenity Large trees at perimeter of lawn



## Opportunities

- Small neighborhood park in residential neighborhood.
- Good opportunity to provide picnic and small neighborhood park facilities.

## Constraints

- The park currently does not have its own identity.
- The park currently does not have signage identifying it as a named public park.

## Recommendations

- Provide standard City of Ocala park sign to create identity for neighborhood.
- Provide passive recreational opportunities such as small playground equipment, benches, picnic tables, and trash receptacles.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
2651-000-000	HILLDALE PARK	NE 8TH ST	0.27	R4	Hilldale Park	URBAN



## Southeastern Livestock Pavilion

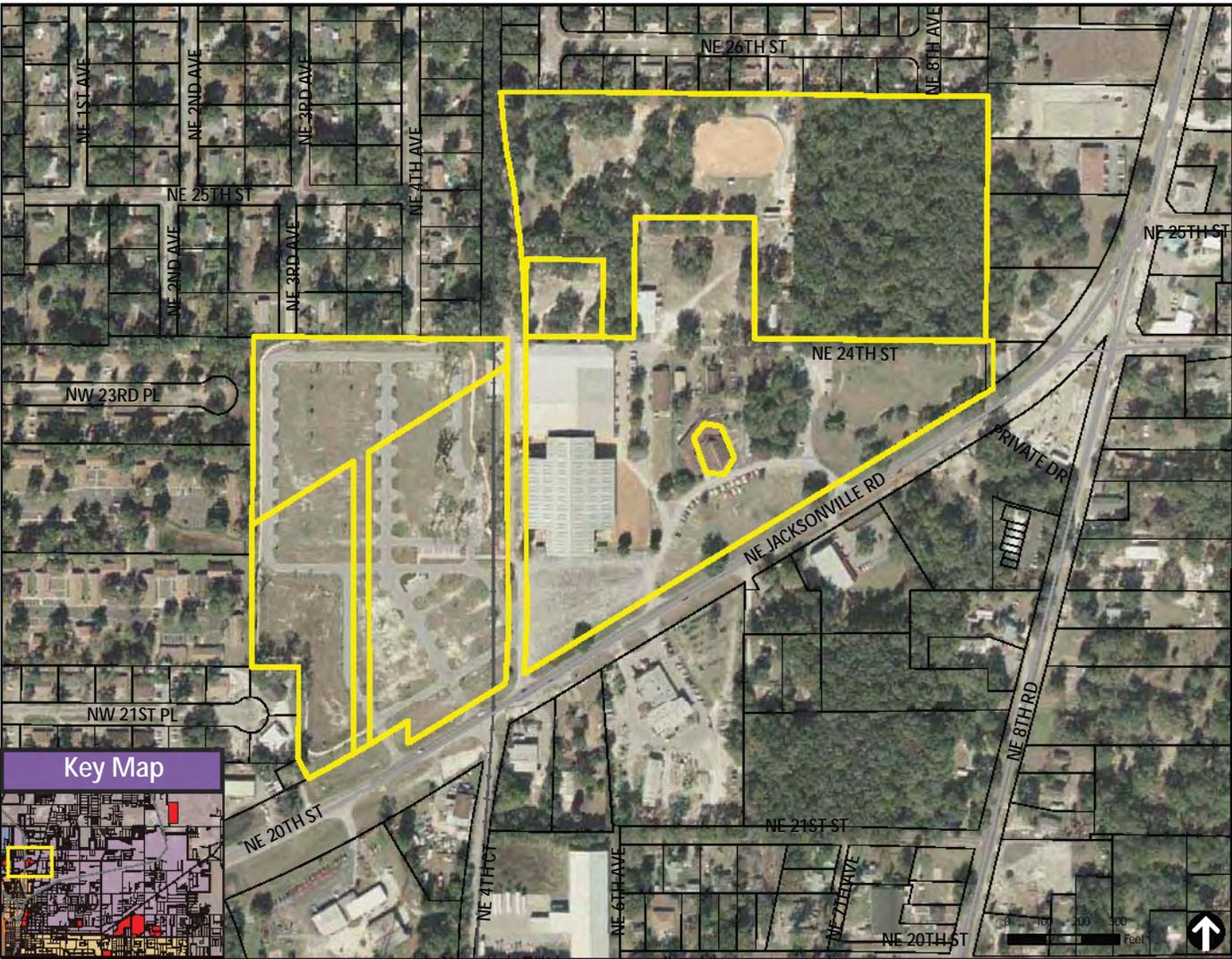
Address 2232 NE Jacksonville Rd  
 Acreage 50.75 ac  
 Key Map Location C-21  
 Designation County Park

## Description

The Southeastern Livestock Pavilion, an agricultural showplace, is owned by Marion County and the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Affairs. The management of this 50 acre site is by the Marion County Cooperative Extension Service. The site consists of +47,000 multi-purpose arena with seating for 4,200 people, an indoor sales auditorium with seating, 226 horse stalls, banquet room, office building, the Rowan Agricultural Complex and garden area. The facilities are used throughout the year for a wide range of uses ranging from horse shows, trade shows and a wide variety of meetings.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity** Large oak trees
- Parking** Paved and grass parking throughout site
- Buildings** Office building  
Large open air pavilion with stadium seating  
Rowan Agricultural Complex  
Marion Alachua Dog Training Association  
Horse stalls  
Storage building  
Auditorium
- Restrooms** Yes
- Sidewalks** Sidewalks throughout the park
- Signage** Signage at entrance to livestock pavilion
- Fence** Adjacent to parking lot
- Lighting** Pedestrian scale pole lighting
- Picnic Tables** Several picnic tables
- Trash Receptacles** Large dumpsters
- Other** Flag pole  
Speaker system



## Opportunities

- This County owned and operated agricultural showplace creates a great landmark identity within Ocala City limits.

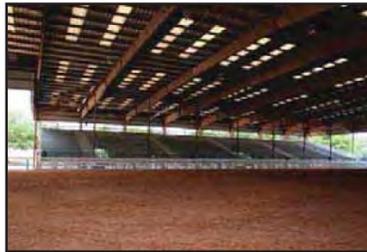
## Constraints

- This is a county owned park. The City of Ocala has no control over existing program, maintenance or future park expansion opportunities as it is owned by Marion County.

## Recommendations

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
25033-000-00	TIITF/FL DEPT OF AGRICULTURE	2232 NE JACKSONVILLE RD	17.23	GU	Livestock Pavillion Ag Center	COUNTY
25116-003-00	MARION COUNTY	LIVESTOCK PAVILION	6.88	GU	Livestock Pavillion Ag Center	COUNTY
25116-006-00	MARION COUNTY	LIVESTOCK PAVILION	3.44	GU	Livestock Pavillion Ag Center	COUNTY
25116-005-00	MARION COUNTY	LIVESTOCK PAVILION	5.20	GU	Livestock Pavillion Ag Center	COUNTY
24966-000-00	MARION COUNTY	LIVESTOCK PAVILION	17.00	GU	Livestock Pavillion Ag Center	COUNTY
24968-000-00	MARION COUNTY	LIVESTOCK PAVILION	1.00	GU	Livestock Pavillion Ag Center	COUNTY



## Veterans Memorial

Address 2510 E Silver Springs Blvd  
 Acreage 6.43 ac  
 Key Map Location C-22  
 Designation County Park

## Description

The Ocala-Marion County Veterans Memorial Park is a 6 acre site located at the fork/crossroads of E. Silver Springs Blvd. and E. Fort King Street. Built in 1997, this park commemorates war veterans who have served this county throughout the years. The park has a small office building, open air pavilion and large open lawn area for special events and a small picnic area. There are multiple seating areas for contemplation and observation.

## Existing Facilities

- Natural Amenity Large oak trees at perimeter of park
- Parking Paved parking adjacent to park
- Buildings Office building
- Sidewalks Large open air pavilion
- Signage Sidewalks throughout the park
- Seating Handicapped accessible
- Lighting Signage at various entrances to park
- Picnic Tables Map of park
- Trash Receptacles Low seating walls throughout park
- Open Space Pedestrian scale pole lighting
- Other Several picnic tables
- Yes
- Open central lawn area
- Flag poles throughout park
- Speaker system



## Opportunities

- This County Park creates a great gateway to the eastern side of the City.
- Opportunity to create a stronger gateway element identifying the park as a significant site.

## Constraints

- Lacks shade around seating areas.
- Limited daily usage and facilities program.
- This is a county owned park. The City of Ocala has no control over existing program, maintenance or future park expansion opportunities as it is owned by Marion County.

## Recommendations

- Install additional shade and flowering trees throughout to create more comfortable pedestrian usage of the park.
- Potential for expansion of facilities. Program to include other passive uses and possible development of children's playground to encourage multi-generational usage of park throughout the year.
- Development of a stronger visual element identifying the site from Silver Springs Boulevard.

## Property Ownership and Data

Parcel ID	Name	Address	Acres	Zoning	Park Name	Park Category
28164-001-00	MARION COUNTY	2510 E SILVER SPRINGS BLVD	6.43	GU	Veterans Memorial	COUNTY

