

# *Parks and Recreation Policies and Operational Procedures Workshop*

*Presented by  
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# Today's Agenda

- Background and Project Overview
- Review Youth Sports and Ballfield Operations
- Highlight Opportunities and Challenges
- Seek Feedback and Next Step Consensus

# Parks and Recreation Department Performance Snapshot

- 50+ Recreation and Sports Programs
  - 2,700 participants annually
  - 98% customer satisfaction rating
- 230+ Volunteer Coaches
  - Logging 13,000 hours annually
- 20+ Annual Special Events
  - 43,000+ in attendance

# Parks and Recreation Facilities and Investment

- 18 City Parks
  - 11 Baseball/softball fields (diamond-shaped)
  - 4 Football/soccer fields (rectangular-shaped)
- Ballfield conditions rated “very good”
- \$21M planned investment over next 5 years



# Athletic Programs and Ballfield Strategies

A Parks and Recreation Policies and Practices Review

December 2025

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STRATEGIES

# Key Issues Identified

- Uneven access and pricing policies
- Limited formal agreements with youth sports groups
- Unused field capacity during peak hours at certain parks

# Stakeholder Input

- Provide equitable pricing and access to select fields within the system for residents. Third-party youth sports non-profits providing sports programs that overlap with Creek Sports are treated differently, including rental fees and access/scheduling, which may limit their ability to serve youth in higher level competitive sports.
- There may not be enough youth sports programs provided for in the system, including opportunities for non-profit providers to offer higher quality coaching and competition than currently available in Creek Sports.
- Parks existing staffing levels may impact the quality of youth sports programs and the management and oversight of day-to-day field operations by Rangers.
- Stronger marketing efforts could help increase sports access opportunities and available field use.

# Stakeholder Input (cont.)

- An opportunity for increasing adult fitness and health opportunities may lie in the installation of additional outdoor fitness equipment.
- A menu of sports program related policies should be brought to the Commission for review and approval.
- Standards and standard operating procedures (SOPs) related to ballfields and coaching may not be current with customer/citizen and industry needs and practices.
- Fields should not be locked.
- Lights are on and turn off automatically at closing time.
- We should consider hours of operation for recreation centers.
- Evaluate Rec Trac or alternatives to provide for online registration.
- There are non-profits using indoor space with no written agreements.



# Field Utilization

- Peak Utilization Hours:
  - 5pm-10pm weekdays and all weekend operating hours
- Currently fields are rented 57% of total actual peak hours
- Peak hours unused at certain parks
- Opportunities at Hosford, Lakeside, and Lyons Creek Parks

# Current User Groups Utilizing Fields

- Creek Sports
  - Soccer
  - Flag Football
- Partner Youth Sports Organizations (YSO)
  - Baseball
  - Softball
- Standard Renters
  - Recurring
  - Infrequent/Occasional
- Open Play

# Current Operating Model

- Creek Sports is primary provider
- Two partner YSO receive free access
- Others treated as standard renters

# Option 1: Continue Creek Sports Model

- Maintain City-run programs (soccer and flag football)
- Provide free fields to YSO (baseball and softball)
- Incremental growth based on staffing
- Minimal policy or fee structure change
- Lower transition risk

## Option 2: Youth Sports Programming Partnerships

- Dissolve Creek Sports and partnership with YSO
- Formalize non-profit Youth Sports Programming Partnerships via RFP (soccer, flag football, baseball, softball)
- Standardize agreements, fees, accountability
- City retains oversight and policy control
- Higher transition risk

# Option 3: Hybrid Approach

- Creek Sports focuses on foundational recreation
  - Continue Creek Sports (soccer and flag football)
  - Partner YSO (baseball and softball)
    - Pay discounted field usage rates
    - Turn over to City and incorporate into Creek Sports
- Partners provide competitive/travel programs
  - Programs can only be offered when Creek Sports are not in season
- Phased implementation over 1-2 years

# Creek Sports (Indoor)

- Current Indoor Creek Sports
  - Boys Basketball
  - Girls Basketball
  - Volleyball
- Future of Indoor Creek Sports?
- Consider indoor Creek Sports in Youth Sports Programming Partnerships via RFP?

# Fees and Equity Considerations

- Most peer cities charge YSO fees
- Need for consistent resident priority
- Transparent and equitable pricing structure



# Coconut Creek Non-Profits Utilizing Indoor Space

- No formal agreements
- In-kind services
  - Meeting Rooms
  - Special Events
- Frequency

# Future Planning and Policy Support

- Standardize Youth Sports Agreements
- Develop Recreation Program Plan
  - Statistically valid Needs Assessment Survey
  - Public engagement
- Update Parks and Recreation Master Plan

# Public Input

- Comments from the public

# What We Are Asking Tonight

- Direction, Guidance, and Consensus regarding:
  - Outdoor Youth Sports
  - Indoor Youth Sports
  - Coconut Creek Non-Profits

**Thank You!**