



# St. Johns County



## Parks and Recreation Master Plan

**DRAFT Report**  
February 2019

# Acknowledgments

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# EX EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Purpose of the Plan

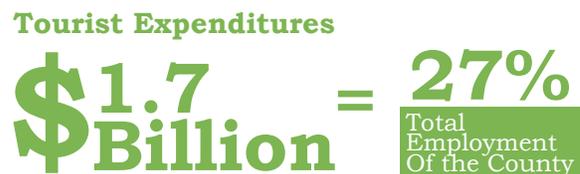
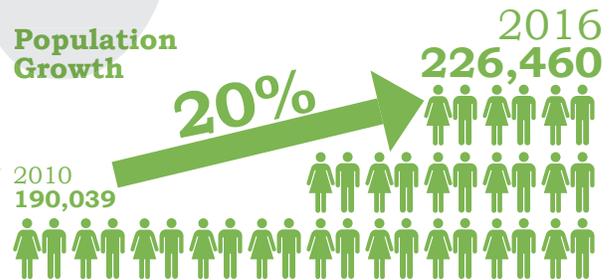
An article in The St. Augustine Record reported that “St. Johns County was among the nation’s fastest growing counties in the latest report from the U.S. Census Bureau”. Key statistics from the article included:

- St. Johns County was No. 36 on the list of fastest-growing counties from 2010-2016 based on housing construction, with a 10.7% increase in the number of housing units over that time period
- The County’s population grew from 190,039 to 226,460 over that same time period, an increase of almost 20%
- A March 2016 report ranked the County No. 15 in the country based on population growth

A second article in the same edition of the paper reported on the increase in tourism in St. Johns County: “there were 6.3 million visitors to the County last year, an increase of about a million from the previous year. Those tourists spent \$1.7 billion, supporting 27 percent of the total employment of the County”. “We have never seen a more positive outlook” for tourism in the state and County, said market research firm MMGY Global.

Both residents and visitors are drawn to the County because of its high quality of life, due in part to its great beaches, natural areas, parks, boat ramps, trails and other elements of its parks and recreation system. In order to continue to attract

## St. Johns County Growth Highlights



new residents, businesses, and visitors, the County must continue to provide the same, high quality of life and level-of-service that makes St. Johns County such a great place to live, work, and play. The purpose of this Recreation Master Plan is to create a long-range vision for the County's Parks and Recreation System; and a strategy to implement the vision over time as the County's population continues to grow.

### Planning Process

The Recreation Master Plan was developed over a three-year period from summer 2015 to spring 2017. The Plan was completed in two phases:

- Phase One included an Evaluation of the Existing System, and a Needs and Priorities Assessment, to identify the “gap” between existing and desired future conditions. Findings from Phase One are summarized in Sections 1 and 2 of this Report.
- Phase Two of the Plan included a Long-Range Vision and Implementation Strategy that responded to residents’ needs and priorities, summarized in Sections 3 and 4. .

### Planning Process

#### Phase 1



**Evaluation of Existing Parks System**

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**Parks System Needs and Priorities**



**Gap**

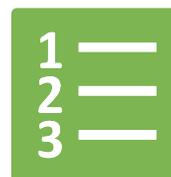
**Between Existing and Desired Future Parks System Conditions**

#### Phase 2



**Long-Range Parks System Vision**

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**Parks System Needs and Priorities**



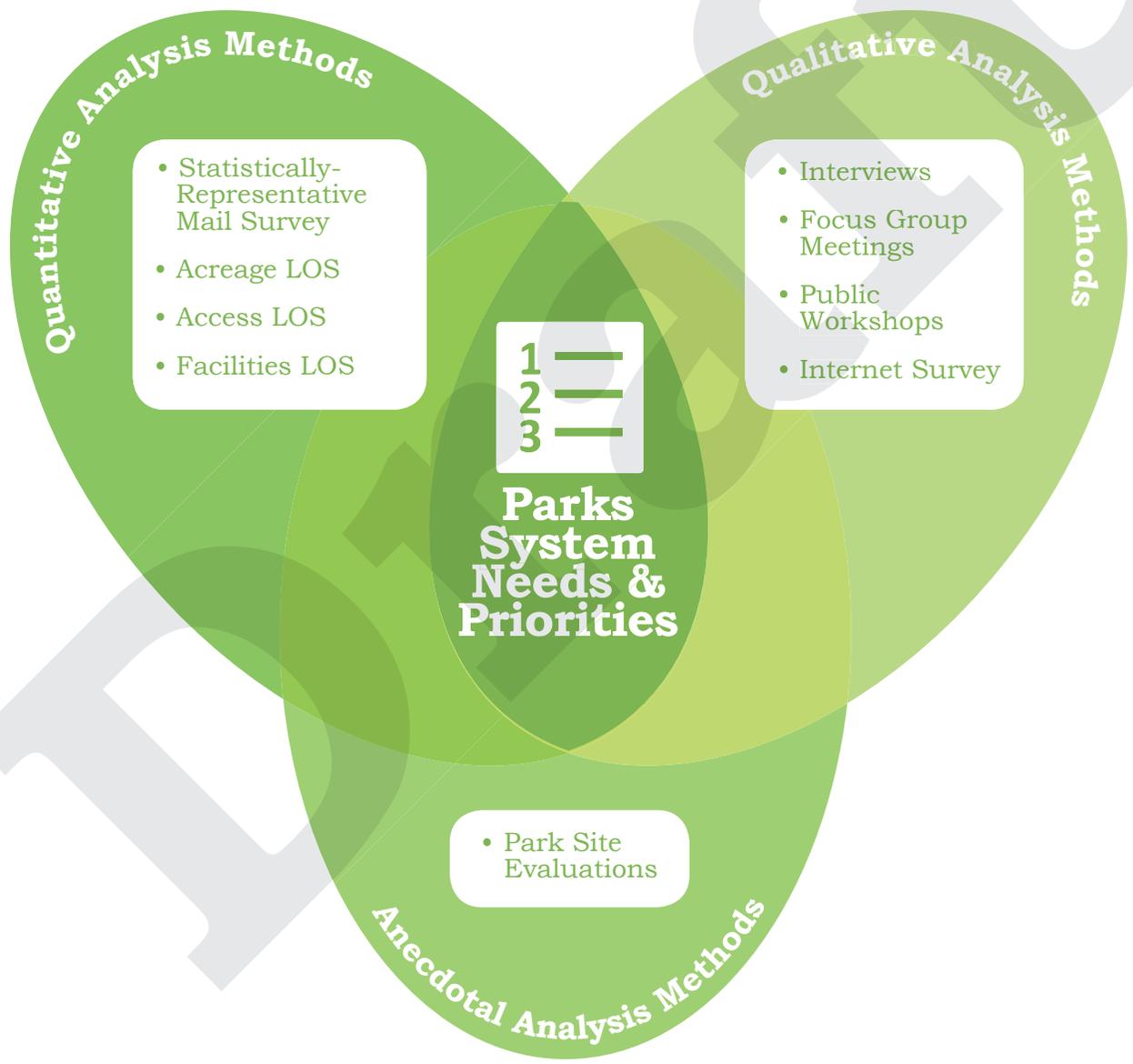
**Implementation Strategy**



## Summary of Findings

Barth Associates used a “mixed-methods, triangulated” approach to determining residents’ needs and priorities, including site evaluations, level-of-service (LOS) analysis, interviews, focus group meetings, public workshops, a statistically-representative mail survey, and an internet survey. The findings from the various needs assessment techniques were aggregated to determine resident’s top priority needs. More “weight” was given to the findings from the mail survey, the only statistically-representative technique.

### Mixed-Methods/Triangulated Approach to Determining Park System Needs & Priorities



Based on the needs assessment, top priorities appear to include:

- Additional walking and biking trails, nature trails
- Additional beach parks, beach access parks, and parking
- Acquisition of parks, open space, and natural areas, including small neighborhood parks
- Indoor exercise and fitness facilities, gymnasiums
- Upgrade, repair, and maintain existing parks and sports facilities, including ADA compliance
- Develop new sports facilities, particularly rectangular athletic fields (football, soccer, multi-purpose)
- Provide additional adult fitness and wellness programs; concerts/ live music; and nature/ environmental programs

Another top priority is to improve marketing and communications. The mail survey and on-line survey both found that the top reason preventing households from using parks, facilities, and programs is “I do not know what is being offered” (40%). It is possible that increased awareness may diminish some of the need for additional facilities.

### Long-Range Vision

There are no state or national standards that define the “most appropriate” parks and recreation vision for the County. Instead, each community must decide what facilities and programs to provide based on community values, ideology, preferences, and finances.

It is also helpful to review the latest parks and recreation trends, practices, and guiding principles. With these in mind, County staff and consultants met with key

### Top Priority Parks System Needs



**Additional Walking & Biking Trails**



**Additional Beach Parks & Beach Access**



**Acquisition of Park Land**



**Indoor Fitness Facilities/ Gymnasiums**



**Upgrade & Repair Existing Parks**



**Develop New Sports Facilities/ Athletic Fields**



**Additional Adult Fitness & Wellness Programs**



**Additional Concerts/ Live Music**



**Additional Nature/ Environmental Programs**



**Improved Marketing/ Communication**



stakeholders on August 4 and 5, 2017 to discuss and develop a long-range vision that responds to residents' top priorities. The vision outlined in Section 3 of this report, includes Guiding Principles; County Mission and Vision; and recommendations associated with:

- Marketing and Communications
- Indoor Exercise and Fitness Facilities, and Gymnasiums
- Upgrade, Repair, Maintain Existing Parks and Sports Facilities
- New Sports Facilities
- Additional Beach Parks, Beach Access Parks, and Parking
- Acquisition of Parks, Open Space, and Natural Areas, including Small Neighborhood Parks
- Additional Adult Fitness and Wellness Programs; Concerts/ Live Music; and Nature/ Environmental Programs.

## Implementation Strategy

The Long-Range Vision described in Section 3 outlines almost \$125M in proposed parks and recreation improvements. In addition, annual parks and recreation operating costs are estimated to increase (once improvements are completed) by approximately \$5-6 M per year (+/- 5% of capital improvements).

There has been little funding available for parks and recreation improvements, however. Competing needs include traffic congestion, school overcrowding and other growth-related issues. There is also a significant backlog of other capital projects, mostly infrastructure needs. Therefore, a multi-faceted approach is required to meet residents' priority needs.

The Implementation Strategy outlined in Section 4 outlines nine potential implementation initiatives including:

- Pursue more public/private partnerships to meet residents' needs, particularly if there is a profit-making opportunity for a private or non-profit entity.
- Hire a Parks and Recreation Communications Coordinator to increase efficiency and maximize the use of existing parks and recreation facilities.
- Update and/or prepare standard operating procedures (SOP) to improve efficiency and reduce costs.
- Update Land Development Regulations to ensure that new development is adequately meeting the local neighborhood parks and recreation needs of new residents.
- Dedicate Impact Fees to the large, multi-use, county-wide facilities needed by new residents.
- Hire or contract with a Grants Coordinator to make sure that the County is getting its fair share of the millions of grant dollars available each year for parks, recreation facilities, and open space.
- Continue to increase CIP funding for parks and recreation improvements above the average \$25,000 budgeted annually over the past 5 years.
- Increase user fees to recover more operating costs, particularly for highly-subsidized facilities and programs such as athletics and beach parking.
- Consider MSTUs, bonds, sales taxes, and/or other voter-approved funding initiatives for parks and recreation improvements.





# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan VISION All Facilities

- Map Legend**
- Rural Areas
  - Urban Areas
  - Commercial Areas
  - Agricultural Land
  - Public parks
  - Intertidal marshes
  - Conservation areas with trails
- Trails and Greenways**
- East Coast Greenway
  - Trails - existing, paved
  - Trails - existing, unpaved
  - Trails - proposed, paved
  - Trails - proposed, unpaved
- Potential New Facilities Locations**
- Community Centers
  - Rectangular Fields
  - Diamond Fields
- Beach Access**
- Abc Existing Access Improvements
  - Abc Potential New Access
- Trail Sources:**
- First Coast Metropolitan Planning Organization 2006 Regional Greenways & Trails Plan
  - North Florida Transportation Planning Organization 2013 Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan
  - St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan Trail Subsystem Visioning Workshop - Saturday, August 6, 2017



- ADMINISTRATIVE**
  - 1. Parks & Recreation Administration Office
- COMMUNITY PARKS**
  - 1 Aberdeen Park
  - 2 Willie Park & Hastings Center
  - 3 Anderson Circle
  - 4 Collier-Brooker-Puryear Park
  - 5 Cornerstone Park
  - 6 Durbin Crooking Park
  - 7 Vickers Park
  - 8 Galtmore Center
  - 9 Gibbs Park
  - 10 Government Yard
  - 11 Hastings Park
  - 12 Pomar Park
  - 13 Lakeside Park
  - 14 Mills Field
  - 15 Wocotter Park
  - 16 Palencia Park
  - 17 Palmo Community Park
  - 18 Parque de Menendez
  - 19 Plantation Park
  - 20 Plaza de la Constitucion
  - 21 Redoubt Wall Park
  - 22 Riverfront Park
  - 23 Ron Parker Park
  - 24 Santa Domingo Redoubt Park
  - 25 St. Augustine Carpet Golf Park
  - 26 St. Augustine Little League Park
  - 27 Swift Park
  - 28 Trout Creek Park
  - 29 Wall Point Park
- CONSERVATION PARKS**
  - 1 Aransas State Park
  - 2 Deep Creek Conservation Area
  - 3 Deep Creek State Forest
  - 4 Fever-Dykes State Park
  - 5 Grand Island Conservation Area
  - 6 Guana River - OTMERR
  - 7 Guana River Wildlife Management Area
  - 8 Juntation-Durton Preserve
  - 9 Matanzas SF and Wildlife Management Area
  - 10 Mosquito Creek Conservation Area
  - 11 Nocote Preserve
  - 12 Pellicor Creek Conservation Area
  - 13 River To Sea Preserve
  - 14 Stokes Landing Conservation Area
  - 15 Twelve Mile Swamp Conservation Area
  - 16 Twelve Mile Swamp Conservation Area
  - 17 Twelve Mile Swamp Wildlife Management Area
  - 18 Watson Island State Forest
- NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS**
  - 1 Armstrong Park
  - 2 Davenport Park
  - 3 DeLeon Shores Park
  - 4 Fairwood Park
  - 5 Lee Park
  - 6 Upchurch Park
  - 7 Williams Windswest Acres Park
  - 8 Sanchez Lake Park
  - 9 Nelson Terrace Park
  - 10 North Beach Park
  - 11 North Shores Park
  - 12 Ojetteridge Park
  - 13 Oliver Park
  - 14 Railroad Park
  - 15 Railway Park
  - 16 Shore Drive Moultrie Bluffs Park
  - 17 South Ponte Vedra Park
  - 18 St. Augustine South Tot Lot
  - 19 Sunset Park
  - 20 Twine Park
  - 21 Vermont Heights Park
- SCHOOL BOARD PARKS**
  - 1 Cunningham Creek School Fields
  - 2 Durbin Creek School Fields
  - 3 Fruit Cove School Fields
  - 4 Rogers School Fields
  - 5 Landrum School Fields
  - 6 Mill Creek School Fields
  - 7 Ocean Palms School Fields
  - 8 Ozcoola School Fields
  - 9 Plattin Bay School Fields
  - 10 RB Hunt School Fields
  - 11 Switzerland Point School Fields
- REGIONAL PARKS**
  - 1 Davis Park
  - 2 Trealy Park
  - 3 Wilcox Park
  - 4 W. Augustine Park & Calhoun Community Center
- SPECIAL PURPOSE PARKS**
  - 1 Acton Environmental Park
  - 2 Alpine Groves Park
  - 3 Beluhatatohchee Park
  - 4 Bird Island Park
  - 5 SMC Track
  - 6 Canopy Shores Park
  - 7 Castillo de San Marcos NM
  - 8 Equestrian Center
  - 9 Fort Matanzas NM
  - 10 Fort Mose SP
  - 11 Francis Field
  - 12 Melton Schmidt Park
  - 13 Ruffin Gym
  - 14 Lighthouse Park
  - 15 Nesse Beachfront Park
  - 16 Ponte Vedra Concert Hall
  - 17 Shore Drive Waterfront Park
  - 18 St. Inez Catholic Waterway Park
  - 19 St. Augustine Amphitheatre
  - 20 SJC Fairgrounds
  - 21 St. Johns Golf Club
  - 22 The Players Senior Ctrm Center
  - 23 Viano Beach Fountain and Pavilion
  - 24 Viano Nature Greenway
  - 25 Harris Comm Center
- WATER ACCESS**
  - 1 Boating Club Rd Boat Ramp
  - 2 Crescent Beach Park
  - 3 Deep Creek Boat Landing
  - 4 Deep Creek Boat Ramp
  - 5 Durbin Creek Canoe Launch
  - 6 Butler Park East
  - 7 Butler Park West
  - 8 Green Road Boat Ramp
  - 9 Cox Recreation Facility
  - 10 Matanzas Inlet Fishing Park
  - 11 Micker Beachfront Park
  - 12 Ocean Hammock Park
  - 13 Old Shands Bridge Pier
  - 14 Palm Valley Boat Ramp Park
  - 15 Palmetto Road Boat Ramp
  - 16 Palm Road Boat Ramp
  - 17 Pope Road Park
  - 18 Riverdale Park & Boat Ramp
  - 19 Shore Drive Boat Ramp
  - 20 Skyglass Waterway Park
  - 21 St. Augustine Municipal Marina
  - 22 SJC Ocean Pier & Courts Park
  - 23 Surfside Park
  - 24 Uiana Boat Ramp Park
  - 25 Viano Beach Fishing Pier and Pavilion
  - 26 Viano Boat Ramp Park

Barth Associates  
PUBLIC REALM PLANNING, DESIGN, AND FACILITATION

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Long Range Vision





1

# EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS



# SECTION 1: EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS

The Existing Conditions Analysis included a review of existing plans, demographics, parks and recreation facilities, level-of-service (LOS), ecology, and parks operations and maintenance.

## 1.1 Demographics and Trends

St. Johns County is a six hundred (600) square mile area located in Northeast Florida and is part of the Jacksonville metropolitan area. The County serves as home to a population of 209,647 (as of 2013) plus a large seasonal population, all of whom are served by three municipalities and the County government. The three incorporated cities include St. Augustine (the County seat), St Augustine Beach and Hastings. Unincorporated communities include Ponte Vedra, Switzerland, Crescent Beach, Toco, Bakersville, Picolatta, Orangedate, Fruit Cove, Summer Haven and Vilano Beach.

St. Johns County includes more than 42 miles of beaches along the Atlantic Coast, which, with its riverfront and dozens of historical landmarks, makes it ideally positioned to attract visitors and industry. The County's economic based is primarily tourist-related although they continue to work to promote a balance of local economic opportunities.

### Demographic Characteristics

Since 2000, St. Johns County has experienced almost 65% population growth, which is three-times greater than that of Florida and almost six-times that of the U.S.

A few of the “Accolades” that the County boasts include:

- St. Augustine is recognized as the nation’s “Oldest City” and whose history attracts an estimated 6.5 million visitors annually to the County.
- St. Johns County has ranked first among Florida’s 67 counties as the healthiest in the state for the fourth consecutive year (2011-2015).
- U.S. Census Bureau listed St. Johns County as #11 of the Top 20 Fastest Growing Counties based on 2014 population estimates.
- In August 2013, CNN Money Magazine ranked St. Johns County #5 of the Top 25 Counties for Where the Jobs Are.
- St. Johns County School District rates first in Florida among 67 districts in total FCAT points.



**Table 1.1: Population Trends**

	2000	2005	2008	2011	2012	% Change 2000-2012
St. Johns Co	123,135	159,235	181,540	195,823	202,188	64.2%
Florida	15,982,378	17,382,511	18,328,340	19,057,542	19,317,568	20.8%
U.S.	281,421,906	288,378,137	304,059,728	311,591,919	313,914,040	11.5%

Source: Data for 2000 through 2012 accessed on 7/9/2014 from the U.S. Census Bureau <http://factfinder2.census.gov> from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan

According to Town Charts and based on the 2014 American Community Survey, St. Johns County has a population density of 328 people per square mile. In the immediate area, Clay County has the next lower population density of 319 persons per square mile, but Clay County occupies only about 3% of the area that St. Johns County occupies. The highest population density belongs to neighboring Duval County, which is about twice the size of St. Johns and has a density of 1,145 people per square mile. As Duval County continues to spread, its growth is expected to extend into St. Johns County.

A closer look at the population trends by age group is shown in Table 1.2. Between 2000 and 2013, the biggest decline (26%) in an age category occurred in the 35 – 44-year-old age group, while the largest increase (32%) occurred in the 55 – 64 age group. In addition, the percent of St. Johns County residents aged birth to 4-years old was significantly higher than the percentage of the overall Florida population in 2013.

**Table 1.2: Percent of Population by Age Group**

	0-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
2000 St. Johns	5.4%	6.5%	7.1%	6.5%	4.7%	10.7%	16.7%	15.8%	10.8%	16.0%
2013 St. Johns	5.2%	6.2%	6.9%	6.6%	6.0%	10.4%	12.3%	15.3%	14.3%	16.9%
2013 Florida	0.1%	5.8%	5.9%	6.2%	6.6%	12.4%	12.2%	14.0%	13.0%	18.2%

Data accessed on 7/9/2014 via Florida CHARTS website: [www.floridacharts.com/FLQUERY/Population?PopulationRpt.aspx](http://www.floridacharts.com/FLQUERY/Population?PopulationRpt.aspx) from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan

### Race and Ethnicity

Race and ethnicity data are captured and reported by the U.S. Census Bureau. (The basic difference between race and ethnicity is that race is biological, a result of genetics such as skin color, bone structure, hair type while ethnicity includes an individual’s race plus learned behaviors and customs related to the part of the world an individual comes from.) A minimum of five race categories include:

- White
- Black or African-American
- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- An “Other” category



Racially, St. Johns County is predominately White, with 89% of the 2013 population reported as White. This is higher than Florida’s White population (77%) and the White population of the U.S. (78%). Approximately 6% of St. Johns County is Black/African American compared to Florida’s 16% and 13% for the U.S. overall. The Asian population for St. Johns County is 3%, identical to Florida’s and lower than the 5% for the U.S. All other races make up only 2% of St. Johns County’s population, similar to Florida’s 3% and the 4% for the U.S.

As an ethnicity, those who identify themselves as Hispanic/Latino are generally either White or Black/African American as a race. Although the Hispanic/Latino population in St. Johns County has more than doubled since 2000, the percentage of the total population who are Hispanic/Latino in St. Johns County is considerably lower than either that for Florida or the U.S. as shown in **Table 1.3** below.

**Table 1.3: Hispanic/Latino Ethnicity in the Population**

	2000	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
St. Johns Co	2.6%	5.1%	5.3%	5.5%	5.7%	5.8%
Florida	16.8%	22.2%	22.6%	22.8%	23.2%	23.6%
U.S.	12.5%	15.8%	16.4%	16.7%	16.9%	17.1%

Data accessed on 7/9/2014 via Florida CHARTS website:  
[www.floridacharts.com/FLQUERY/Population?PopulationRpt.aspx](http://www.floridacharts.com/FLQUERY/Population?PopulationRpt.aspx) from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan

### Socio-Economic Characteristics

St. Johns County’s economic profile is one of higher household income, higher high school and college graduation rates and higher homeownership rates than both the averages for Florida and for the U.S.

**Table 1.4: Socio-Economic Snapshot 2008-2012**

	St. Johns Co	Florida	U.S.
Total number of households	74,021	7,147,013	115,226,802
Per capital money income in past 12 months (2012 dollars)	\$36,639	\$26,451	\$28,051
Median household income	\$64,346	\$47,309	\$53,046
Homeownership rate	76.7%	68.1%	65.5%
Persons below poverty level	9.8%	15.6%	14.9%
High school graduate or higher for those age 25+	92.7%	85.8%	85.7%
Bachelor’s degree or higher for those age 25+	40.7%	26.2%	28.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau accessed via <http://quickfacts.census.gov/gfd/states/12/12109.html> on 6/24/2014 from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan

The U.S. Census Bureau’s 2013 QuickFacts estimates that there are more than 153,419 persons over the age of 16 in the labor force of St. Johns County. The County enjoys a lower unemployment rate than either Florida or the U.S. In 2013, the average annual



unemployment rate for the County was only 5.6% compared to 7.2% for Florida and 7.4% for the U.S. For those employed, the most common occupations include those within the “management, professional and related jobs” category as shown in **Table 1.5**.

**Table 1.5: Occupational Summary**

	St. Johns Co	Florida	U.S.
Management, professional and related occupations	42.3%	33.4%	35.9%
Sales and office occupations	27.2%	27.9%	24.9%
Service occupations	17.5%	20.2%	17.8%
Natural resources, construction and maintenance	6.5%	9.5%	9.3%
Production, transportation and material moving	6.5%	9.0%	12.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau accessed on 7/14/2014 via <http://factfinder2.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/searchresults.xhtml?> from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan

The U.S. Census Bureau collects data on housing characteristics to help communities determine where to build everything from schools to grocery stores to hospitals. **Table 1.6** below shows that while homeownership rates are higher for St. Johns County, the proportion of unoccupied units is lower than that of Florida but higher than that for the U.S.

**Table 1.6: Housing**

	St. Johns Co	Florida	U.S.
Number of housing units	94,016	9,047,612	132,802,859
Homeownership rates	76.7%	68.1%	65.5%
Housing occupancy – unoccupied homes	17.7%	20%	12.5%
Median value (owner-occupied housing units)	\$256,000	\$170,800	\$181,400
Housing units with a mortgage (owner-occupied)	72.5%	63.7%	67.1%
Renters spending >30% of household income on rent	52.7%	59.6%	52.1%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau accessed on 7/14/2014 via <http://quickfacts.census.gov/gfd/states/12/12109.html> from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan

Further study shows that the percentage of homes built in St. Johns County between the year 2000 and 2009 accounts for a significant portion of the local housing inventory (35%) when compared to Florida (19.9%) and the U.S. (14.2%). However, the new residential building permits, which help evaluate housing programs for market planning and investment analysis, show a sharp decline between 2005 and 2006 in St. Johns County and then an uptick starting in 2010. See **Table 1.7**.

**Table 1.7: Annual Total Counts for New Residential Building Permits**

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
St. Johns Co	3414	4181	4831	2561	2173	1291	1087	1158	1431	2163	2793

Source: U.S. Census Bureau accessed on 8/21/2014 via <http://censtats.census.gov/bldg/bldgprmt> from 2014 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan



## Growth Trends

In the June 6, 2015 issue of St. Augustine Times (“Residential growth not limited to the northern end of St. Johns County” by Stuart Korfhage), Korfhage points out that all parts of St. Johns County are experiencing growth spurts with high demands for new homes. No longer limited to the northern and central parts of the county, vacant lots in the southeastern sections of the County are “being cleared for new homes by some of the county’s largest builders.” Specifically noted is the area of “Wildwood Drive and State Road 207 toward the interstate” where there is a potential increase of around 700 homes in one small area. Other parts of the article point to an increase in existing home sales, which has spurred a decline in inventory and an increase in median sales prices for homes.

Some services are being addressed along with the development and growth.

*“There is also a plan to greatly expand Home Again St. Johns on S.R. 207 into a multi-service site that would include some residence assistance to the homeless population. There are several other developments farther up S.R. 207, including an assisted living and memory care facility near Lightsey Road. There’s also another D.R. Horton development called Deerfield Preserve with up to 281 houses. Model homes are already being built there.”*

As long as St. Augustine/St. Johns County keeps making lists of best places to live and the storms stay away, there is no indication growth will slow in the future anywhere between Nocatee and Dupont Center.”

## 1.2 Analysis of Existing System

The County owns and/or manages 84 parks, recreation sites, and open spaces totaling over 3,696 acres. These sites are currently classified by the County as:

- Parks
- School Sites
- Preserves
- Boat Ramps
- Canoe Launches
- Gyms
- Marinas
- Tot lots
- Greenways
- Community Centers
- Beach Walkovers/ Parking Lots
- Beach Parks
- Conservation Areas

Other parks and open spaces are owned and managed by Federal, State, and regional agencies as well, including Faver-Dykes State Park, Watson Island State Forest, Anastasia State Park, Fort Matanzas National Monument, Gourd Island Conservation Area, Turnbull Conservation Area, Deep Creek Conservation Area, Matanzas State Forest and Wildlife Management Area, Moses Creek Conservation Area, Deep Creek State Forest, Guana River Wildlife Management Area, Twelve Mile Swamp Conservation Area, and Nocatee Preserve. Many private residential communities also provide parks and recreation facilities to serve their residents.

The Barth Associates team conducted a windshield survey of the County’s public parks and recreation areas to evaluate existing conditions during a two-day period in February 2016. Parks were evaluated using the following five key criteria:

## **ACCESS: Proximity, Access, and Linkages**

- **Visibility from a distance.** Can one easily see into the park?
- **Ease of walking to the park.** Can someone walk directly into the park safely and easily?
- **Transit access.** Is there a public transit stop nearby?
- **Clarity of information/signage.** Is there signage that identifies the park, and/or signage that provides additional information for users?
- **ADA Compliance.** Does the site generally appear to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws for accessibility?
- **Lighting.** Is the park lighted appropriately for use at night? (if applicable)

## **COMFORT: Comfort and Image**

- **First impression/overall attractiveness.** Is the park attractive at first glance?
- **Feeling of safety.** Does the park feel safe at the time of the visit?
- **Cleanliness/overall quality of maintenance.** Is the park clean and free of litter?
- **Comfort of places to sit.** Are there comfortable places to sit?
- **Protection from bad weather.** Is there a shelter in case of bad weather?
- **Evidence of management/stewardship. (Interior and Exterior)** – Is there visual evidence of site management both in the exterior of the site and interior of a building if there is one present?
- **Ability to easily supervise and manage the park or facility. (Interior)** – Are staff able to visually see and supervise the entrance and major program areas of a recreation center?
- **Condition and effectiveness of any equipment or operation systems.** Is the equipment and/or operating system in good condition?

## **USE: Uses, Activities, and Sociability**

- **Mix of uses/things to do.** Is there a variety of things to do given the type of park?
- **Level of activity.** How active is the park with visitors?
- **Sense of pride/ownership.** Is there evidence of community pride in the park?
- **Programming flexibility.** How flexible is the park in accommodating multiple uses?
- **Ability of facility to effectively support current organized programming.** Is the site meeting the needs of organized programs?

## **SUSTAINABILITY: Environmental Sustainability**

- **Stormwater management.** Is green infrastructure present to help manage stormwater?
- **Multi-modal capacity.** Is the park accessible by many modes of transportation?
- **Facility energy efficiency.** Has the site been updated with energy efficient components?



## **BUILDINGS: Buildings and Architecture (If a building is present on the site)**

- **Image and aesthetics.** Is the building attractive?
- **Clarity of entry and connection to the park.** Is the building integrated into its surroundings?
- **Interior finishes, furniture, and equipment.** Are the furnishings and equipment inside the building of good condition and quality?
- **Building enclosure.** Is there any obvious need for repairs to the building shell?
- **Building systems.** Are all mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems in working order?

Each of the sites was scored on the above questions using a scale of 1 to 5:

- 1.0 – 2.9 = Not Meeting Expectations **(Red)** – “Opportunity for Improvement”
- 3.0 – 3.9 = Meets Expectations **(Orange)**
- 4.0 – 4.9 = Exceeds Expectations **(Light Green)**
- 5.0 + = Far Exceeds Expectations **(Dark Green)** - “Exemplary Performance”

Each whole number represents a performance tier. Scores were assigned based on an evaluation of the site and the buildings compared to other sites in the County. Although the process of scoring is inherently subjective, multiple evaluators were present to discuss each score and reach consensus. The purpose of the scoring was to establish an understanding of how the park system, rates in terms of quality and its ability to serve users. The following **Table 1.8** below provides a summary chart of the park system’s average scores.

Overall, the system was rated as “Meeting Expectations” with a score of 3.2 out of 5. The highest rated parks, with a rating of 4.0 or higher, include the Beach Pier, Solomon Calhoun Community Center, Nocatee Community Park, and Rivertown Park. The highest ranked criteria throughout the system included maintenance and management, facility energy efficiency, and building enclosures and systems.



**Table 1.8: Park Site Evaluation Summary**

	Ron Parker Park	Beach Pier	Windswept Park	Butler East	Butler West	Palmetto Boat Ramp	Crescent Beach Park	Southeast Intracoastal Waterway	Royal Road Park	Canopy Shores Park	Vaill Point Park	Treaty Park	Collier Blocker Park
<b>Proximity, Access &amp; Linkages (Max 5.0)</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>
Visibility from a distance	4	5	4	1	2	1	4	2	3	3	2	4	4
Ease in walking to the park property	5	5	5	2	2	1	4	2	4	2	4	1	4
Clarity of information/ signage	3	4	3	2	4	1	4	2	4	4	3	3	3
ADA Compliance	1	5	3	1	4	1	4	3	2	3	3	4	3
Lighting	5	3	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	4	3
<b>Comfort &amp; Image (Max 5.0)</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.3</b>
First Impression/overall attractiveness	3.5	3	3	3	5	2	4	4	2	4	3	4	3
Feeling of safety	4	5	4	4	5	2	4	4	3	4	3	4	3
Cleanliness/overall quality of maintenance (Exterior)	3	3	4	3	3	2	4	4	2	4	3	4	4
Cleanliness/overall quality of maintenance (Interior)	3	3	-	3	4	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Comfort of places to sit	3	4	3	3	3	1	3	3	2	3	3	4	3
Protection from bad weather	2	5	4	4	4	1	3	3	3	4	4	4	4
Evidence of management/stewardship (Exterior Site)	3	4	4	3	4	1	3	4	2	4	4	4	3
Evidence of management/stewardship (Interior)	4	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
<b>Uses, Activities &amp; Sociability (Max 5.0)</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.4</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>2.8</b>
Mix of uses/things to do	5	5	4	3	3	1	3	2	2	2	3	5	3
Level of Activity	5	5	3	3	3	1	5	2	2	3	3	5	2
Sense of pride/ownership	3	3	4	3	4	1	3	4	2	3	4	4	3
Programming Flexibility	4	5	3	4	4	1	4	3	3	2	4	5	3
Ability of Facility to Effectively Support Organized Programming	5	5	4	4	4	2	4	3	3	3	4	5	3
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>
Multi-modal Capacity	4	5	4	2	2	1	3	1	2	2	3	2	4
Facility Energy Efficiency	5	5	-	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Buildings/Architecture (Max 5.0)</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.8</b>		<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.4</b>				<b>3.2</b>				
Image and Aesthetics	2	4	-	2	3	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Clarity of Entry and Connections to Park	3	4	-	3	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Interior Finishes and Furniture and Equipment	3	3	-	3	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Building Enclosure	4	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
Building Systems	4	4	-	4	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-
<b>Average Score Without Building/Architecture (Max 5)</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>3.4</b>
<b>Average Score with/for Building/Architecture (Max 5)</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>4.3</b>		<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.3</b>				<b>2.7</b>				

■ Far Exceeding Expectations      ■ Meeting Expectations  
■ Exceeding Expectation:      ■ Not Meeting Expectations





Solomon Calhoun Community Center



Solomon Calhoun Community Center Pool



Nocatee Community Park



Rivertown Park



The lowest ranked parks, with a rating of 2.0 or lower, included Palmetto Boat Ramp, Pomar Park, Landrum Middle School Fields, and Palm Valley Boat Ramp Park. The lowest ranked criteria throughout the system included visibility to the park, ease of walking access, comfortable places to sit, and multi-modal access.

### Palmetto Boat Ramp



### Pomar Park



Landrum Middle School Fields



Palm Valley Boat Ramp



### 1.3 Level-of-Service Analysis

Public agencies use Level-of-Service (LOS) standards to plan and monitor the quality of services provided to their constituents. For example, transportation planners use roadway LOS to categorize traffic flow and assign "grades" to roadways (e.g., A, B, C, etc.) based on speed, density, and other performance measures. Similarly, utility departments and agencies use LOS standards to characterize the performance of various levels of potable water and wastewater systems. In contrast, parks and recreation system planning has historically been more art than science. Unlike other elements of the public realm, there are no nationally accepted standards for determining ideal levels of service for parks, indoor recreation centers, athletic fields, trails, and other recreation facilities.

The last set of national guidelines published by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) in 1996 encourages communities to develop their own LOS standards rather than rely on any national standards: "A standard for parks and recreation cannot be universal, nor can one city be compared with another even though they are similar in many respects" (Mertes and Hall 1996, 59). Each city or county must determine the appropriate LOS required to meet the specific needs of its residents.

Determining LOS standards for parks and recreation systems can be challenging for several reasons. One is the many different ways in which parks and recreation systems can be measured: typical metrics may address parkland acreage, numbers of recreation facilities, distance to parks and facilities, quality of parks and facilities,

operating costs, revenues, or other factors. In addition, LOS metrics often differ between various components of a parks system; for example, LOS may be measured differently for a neighborhood park than a tournament sports facility. And appropriate LOS standards may also differ based on the community context—whether the setting is urban, suburban, or rural.

Barth Associates and County staff evaluated the County's parks and recreation system using three LOS metrics: parkland acreage, facilities, and access.

#### Public vs. Private Facilities

The County's Comprehensive Plan states that "the County shall coordinate the provision of needed parks and recreation facilities through both public and private sources, which will at a minimum assure consistency with the [County's] LOS standards...". However, the Comprehensive Plan does not clarify the types of parks and/or recreation facilities to be provided by public vs. private entities (e.g. neighborhood parks, community parks, athletic fields, recreation centers, etc.); and the County does not currently maintain a comprehensive inventory of private park acreage and/or recreation facilities. Therefore the LOS analysis was conducted based on the inventory of public facilities, with the understanding that private facilities may satisfy some of the "gaps" or deficiencies identified by the LOS analysis. The role of public vs. private facilities will be addressed in the "Visioning" phase of the project.



**Acreage LOS**

**Table 1.9** shows the minimum acreage LOS established in the County’s Comprehensive Plan, totaling 28 acres/ 1,000 unincorporated County residents. This is considered a very high LOS by “industry standards”, but it includes State parks, natural areas, and other parkland not normally included in a County LOS. A recent publication of the American Planning Association suggests establishing a LOS of “Developable Parkland”:

**Table 1.9 St. Johns County Comprehensive Plan LOS Standards**

**The County shall provide for the park needs of the County population through the year 2025.**

**Policies F.1.3.1.**  
The County minimum level of service (LOS) standard for the provision of parks and open space as follows:

<b>Facility/Park</b>	<b>Level of Service Standard</b>	<b>Typical Facilities and Service Area*</b>
Neighborhood Park	2 acres/1,000 population	Playground equipment; open play fields; benches; walking paths; natural passive areas and landscaped areas; pool; generally no parking, lighting and restrooms; located interior of neighborhoods and generally intended to serve the walking population within ½ to 2 miles of the site; generally requires minimum 1-2 acres depending upon the facilities being provided
Community Park	3 acres/1,000 population	Open play fields; multi-purpose fields; playground equipment; walking paths; natural passive areas; pool; community building and restrooms; generally not lighted except in specific locations such as community building; limited parking facilities; generally located on collector roadways; may be located adjacent to schools; generally requires 3-15 acres depending upon facilities being provided
District Park	3 acres/1,000 population	Mixed use park with active and passive uses; walking paths; natural passive areas; open play fields; multi-purpose fields; playground equipment; pool; community building and restrooms; regulation soccer, football, baseball, fields, gymnasium; special event areas; generally lighted; parking facilities; staff office building; generally located on collector and arterial roadways; generally requires 25-100 acres depending upon facilities being provided
Regional Park	20 acres/1,000 population	State parks; large open space areas; walking paths; natural passive areas; historical structures, commemorative structures; nature trails; picnic areas; camping, hiking and nature study; bicycle riding and equestrian trials; swimming; fishing; specific areas may be lighted; parking; community building; staff office building; located on local and collector roadways



“Since the primary purpose of Acreage LOS is to measure and monitor a community’s supply of parkland, it is recommended that communities only count developable, publicly accessible parkland within their jurisdiction. Undevelopable lands such as conservation areas, wetlands, water bodies, golf courses, and beaches cannot help a community meet its needs for parks, playgrounds, athletic fields, open play space, recreation centers, and other basic parks and recreation facilities. Privately owned parkland is not open to the public and could be sold or redeveloped. Public parkland owned by another jurisdiction (such as county-owned parks within a municipality) is already counted by that jurisdiction for its own LOS, and should not be included in a community’s acreage calculation.”

**Table 1.10 Acreage LOS Analysis**

			2015		2020		2030		2040	
<b>Unincorporated County Population</b>			<b>192,892</b>		<b>229,051</b>		<b>295,255</b>		<b>345,653</b>	
Park Acreage Type	Park Acreage	Comprehensive Plan LOS Target (Acres/1,000 Pop.)	2015 LOS (Acres/1,000 Pop.)	Acreage (Need) \ Surplus	2020 LOS (Acres/1,000 Pop.)	Acreage (Need) \ Surplus	2030 LOS (Acres/1,000 Pop.)	Acreage (Need) \ Surplus	2040 LOS (Acres/1,000 Pop.)	Acreage (Need) \ Surplus
Total County Park Acreage	3,696.20	28.00	19.16	(1,704.78)	16.14	(2,717.22)	12.52	(4,570.94)	10.69	(5,982.09)
Neighborhood Park Acreage	30.93	2.00	0.16	(354.85)	0.14	(427.17)	0.10	(559.58)	0.09	(660.38)
Community Park Acreage	383.29	3.00	1.99	(195.39)	1.67	(303.86)	1.30	(502.47)	1.11	(653.67)
District Park Acreage	0.00	3.00	-	(578.68)	-	(687.15)	-	(885.76)	-	(1,036.96)
Regional Park, Other Park (Water Access, Special Purpose, School Board), and Conservation Park Acreage	3,281.98	20.00	17.01	(575.86)	14.33	(1,299.03)	11.12	(2,623.12)	9.50	(3,631.08)

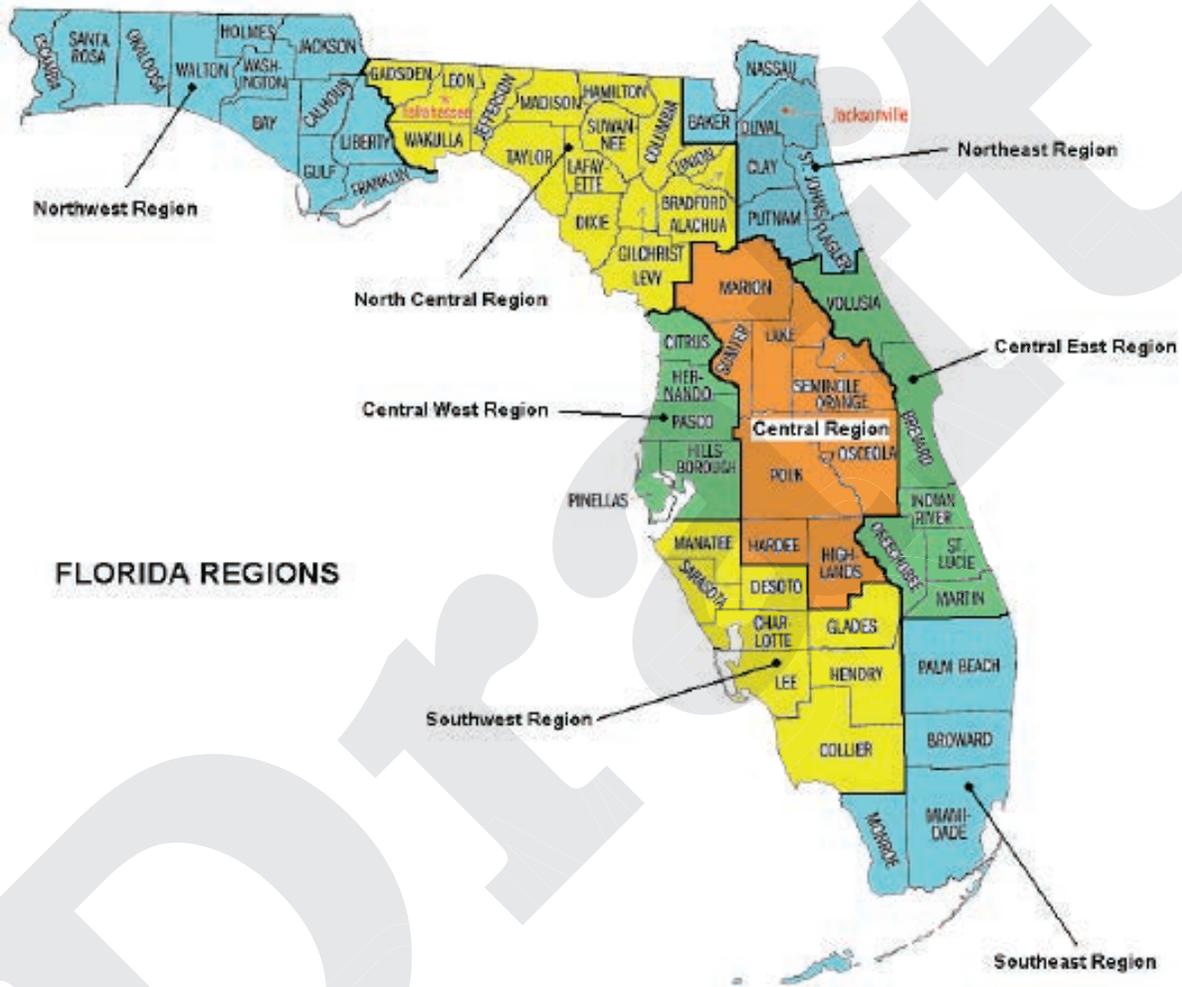
**Table 1.10** shows that the County’s current Acreage LOS is 19.16 acres/ 1000 population, not including lands owned by the State and other agencies. However the “Developable Parkland” Acreage LOS - including neighborhood, community, and district parks – is only 2.15 acres/ 1,000 population, not including privately-owned parkland. Based on the Comprehensive Plan standards, the County has a potential deficiency of over 1,100 acres of neighborhood, community, and district parks, increasing to over 2,300 acres based on the projected 2040 population.



## Facilities LOS

The Florida “State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan” (SCORP) includes the average Facilities LOS of communities within different regions of the State as a benchmarking resource for local communities. St. Johns County is in the Northeast Region, which also includes Duval, Clay, Putnam, Baker, Flagler, and Nassau Counties (see **Figure 1.1**, below).

**Figure 1.1 SCORP Benchmark Districts**



**Table 1.11** below indicates that the County may be currently deficient in several types of recreation facilities based on the SCORP benchmarks, including football fields, basketball courts, outdoor swimming pools, and picnic areas. If no new facilities are constructed, the County may also be deficient in baseball fields, soccer fields, and tennis courts by the year 2030 based on population projections. It is important to note that these benchmarks are based on inventories of public parks and recreation facilities, and do not take into account private recreation amenities such as those found in large, planned communities. Also, it is important to note that the SCORP data is limited, and does not include facility inventories for many trending sports and activities such as lacrosse, pickleball, skate parks, and dog parks. Finally, golf courses were not included in the LOS analysis, as the County is currently developing a master plan/ visioning process for the St. Johns County golf course.

**Table 1.11 Facilities LOS Analysis**

Facility Type:	Northeast Region Resident Participation	Northeast Region LOS x/ 1,000 residents	# Facilities	St. Johns County 2015 LOS x/ 1,000 residents	(Need) / Surplus to Meet Northeast Region LOS	(Need) / Surplus to Meet Northeast Region LOS by 2020	(Need) / Surplus to Meet Northeast Region LOS by 2030	(Need) / Surplus to Meet Northeast Region LOS by 2040
Baseball fields	13%	1.53	52	2.07	14	6	(7)	(17)
Football fields	13%	0.59	7	0.28	(8)	(11)	(16)	(20)
Soccer fields	7%	0.83	15	1.11	4	2	(2)	(5)
Basketball courts	16%	1.4	24	0.78	(19)	(27)	(42)	(53)
Tennis courts	15%	1.15	42	1.45	9	2	(9)	(18)
Outdoor swimming pools	26%	0.06	1	0.02	(2)	(3)	(4)	(4)
Picnicking	40%	2.10	38	0.49	(124)	(154)	(210)	(252)
Saltwater boat ramps	23%	0.09	14	0.32	10	9	8	7



## Access LOS

The County’s GIS staff evaluated County-wide access to a number of public recreation facilities, as listed in **Table 1.12** below:

**Table 1.12 Access LOS Analysis**

Facility Type:	Urban/ Suburban Access:	Rural/ Village Access:
Diamond Fields	3 Miles	5 Miles
Beach Access	5 Miles	10 Miles
Boat Ramps	5 Miles	10 Miles
Community Center	3 Miles	5 Miles
Dog Park	1 Mile	3 Miles
Fishing	5 Miles	10 Miles
Football Fields	3 Miles	5 Miles
Multi Purpose Field	1/2 Mile	1 Mile
Pickle Ball	1 Mile	3 Miles
Playscapes	1/2 Mile	1 Mile
Skate Park	3 Miles	5 Miles
Soccer	3 Miles	5 Miles
Swimming	5 Miles	10 Miles
Tennis	1/2 Mile	1 Mile
Trails	1 Mile	3 Miles

All the Access LOS Maps are included in **Appendix A**. The Access LOS maps indicate that the County may be deficient in almost every facility type listed above, based solely on access, except for boat ramps, diamond athletic fields, fishing opportunities, and kayak launches. Similar to the Facilities LOS, it is important to note that this analysis is based on inventories of public parks and recreation facilities, and does not take into account private recreation amenities such as those found in large, planned communities.



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# 2

# NEEDS AND PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT





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# SECTION 2: NEEDS AND PRIORITIES ASSESSMENT

## 2.1 Methodology

In addition to the assessment techniques discussed in Section 1, including Site Evaluations and LOS Analysis, Barth Associates also conducted interviews, focus group meetings, public workshops, a statistically-representative mail survey, and an internet survey to help determine residents' needs and priorities. Following is a summary of the findings from each technique.

## 2.2 Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Group Meetings

Barth Associates and County staff conducted 13 interviews and focus group meetings with key stakeholders, including:

- County Commissioners
- Parks and Recreation Staff
- Growth Management Staff
- School District
- West Central Athletic Associations
- North County Athletic Associations
- Developers and Consultants
- City of St. Augustine Beach
- Recreation Advisory Board/ Tourist Development Council

Interview and focus group meeting minutes are included in **Appendix B**. Key findings included:

- 1) Of the four Commissioners interviewed, top priorities included additional athletic fields and improved maintenance of existing facilities.

- 2) Other Commissioner priorities included additional boat ramps, additional beach access, additional parks, and better use of existing facilities
- 3) Top priorities mentioned in other interviews and focus groups included additional athletic fields; improved maintenance; boat ramps; a joint-use agreement with the School District; improvements to Pier Park; beach parking; skate park and other facilities for kids; public golf course(s); ADA compliant playgrounds; multi-purpose fields; bike trails; indoor fitness facilities; large, multi-purpose community parks; a sports complex; updated parks standards and requirements for private development; park design standards; maintenance buildings; and swimming pools

## 2.3 Public Workshops

The Parks and Recreation Department hosted four public workshops “to garner public opinion regarding parks, recreational programming, beach and waterway accesses, sports fields, and athletic facilities within the County”. The first two meetings were held on March 22 and 23, 2016 at the Players Senior Center and the Solomon Calhoun Center.

The agenda for both meetings included:

- Welcome, Introductions, Brief Overview of the Master Plan Purpose and Process
- Exercise #1: Recreation Facility and



### Program Priorities

- Exercise #2: Spending Priorities
- Exercise #3: Break-out Groups to discuss top priorities

Approximately 30 people participated in Workshop #1, and approximately 22 people participated in Workshop #2. Following are the findings from each of the exercises:

### **Exercise #1: Recreation Facility and Program Priorities**

Participants' top priority facilities included: Outdoor Sports Fields, Courts, and Indoor Facilities:

- 1) Multi-purpose fields
- 2) Pickleball courts
- 3) Tennis courts

- 4) Gymnasiums
- 5) Exercise and fitness facilities

### Outdoor Parks and Trails:

- 1) Greenway/ walking/ biking trails
- 2) Nature trails
- 3) Beach access
- 4) Outdoor pools
- 5) Fishing areas

### Programs and Activities:

- 1) Tennis lessons and leagues
- 2) Youth sports programs
- 3) Youth learn-to-swim programs
- 4) Senior adult programs
- 5) Rowing and sailing programs

### Solomon Calhoun Center Public Workshop



## Exercise #2: Spending Priorities

Participants were “given” \$100 as a hypothetical spending budget, as shown on the chart below:

**If an additional \$100 were available for Parks and Recreation facilities in St. Johns County, how would you allocate the funds among the categories listed below?**

**Use the Coins provided to you, each worth \$10, and distribute them within the provided buckets.**

A. Acquire new parkland and open space	B. Upgrade, repair/maintain existing parks, community centers and playgrounds	C. Maintain existing/develop new sports facilities	D. Maintain existing/develop new trails
\$?	\$?	\$?	\$?
E. Develop new indoor recreation facilities (exercise, walking track, gyms, etc.)	F. Beach and water access	G. Swimming Pools	H. Other
\$?	\$?	\$?	\$?

Participants’ top five spending priorities were 1) Sports facilities; 2) Other; 3) New parks and open space; 4) Trails; and 5) Upgrade existing parks. The second priority, “Other”, included a broad variety of recreational needs including:

- Velodrome/BMX park
- Pickleball courts
- Greenway trails
- Fishing sites
- Boat ramps
- Non-motorized boat ramps
- Children programs
- Springboard, platform, diving well
- Specialty fields/locations
- Big complex/locations (instead of a lot of small multipurpose locations) dedicated for gyms, athletic fields, baseball, swimming, etc.
- More connective conservation lands – corridors
- Match for State & Fed grants
- Grant writer
- Parkland accessible to public
- Land acquisition
- Restore shellfish waters and reopen to recreational harvesting
- Make facilities safe for all activities e.g. Treaty Park
- Softball vs paddle tennis court safety
- Safe bike paths and walking trails
- Access to parks via trails
- Rec centers with pools
- No parking meters on beach parking would limit local use
- No meters on off beach parking
- Get rid of 4x4 signs
- No ordinance restricting beach driving to 4x4s

- Grade ramps more often
- Year-round swimming pools/rec centers
- Indoor pool needed
- Developing performing arts center
- Better sound for Calhoun Center Gym
- Skateboard parks - both neighborhood and regional
- Turn sites with low usage into large locations dedicated to one sport and/or purpose
- County fairgrounds arena –St Johns County Horse Council
- Carrying capacity for natural areas, beach, waterways

**Table 2.1 Spending Priorities**

Spending Priorities	Workshop 1: Players Senior Center	Workshop 2: Solomon Calhoun Center	Total:
1. Maintain/existing/develop new sports facilities	\$41.00	\$13.00	<b>\$29.00</b>
2. Other	\$20.00	\$18.00	<b>\$19.00</b>
3. New parkland, open space	\$8.00	\$22.00	<b>\$14.00</b>
4. Maintain existing/new trails	\$9.00	\$12.00	<b>\$10.00</b>
5. Upgrade existing parks, community centers, playgrounds	\$7.00	\$12.00	<b>\$9.00</b>
6. Beach and water access	\$5.00	\$10.00	<b>\$7.00</b>
7. Swimming pools	\$6.00	\$8.00	<b>\$7.00</b>
8. Develop new indoor recreation facilities	\$4.00	\$5.00	<b>\$5.00</b>

**Exercise #3: Break-out Groups**

After completing Exercises 1 and 2, participants were invited to form “Break-out Groups” to discuss specific needs and ideas for their top priorities. Break-out Group topics included:

- Trails and Bikeways
- Community Centers
- Equestrian Center
- Paddle Sports
- Beach Access, Off-Beach Parking
- Conservation/ Nature
- Dog Parks
- Cycling
- Pickleball
- Skate Parks
- Tennis
- Swimming and Diving
- Golf
- Skate Park/ BMX/ Velodrome
- Gymnasiums
- Boat Ramps
- Athletic Fields

The second two meetings were held on July 17 and 18 2018 at the Players Senior Center and the City of St. Augustine Beach City Hall. The agenda for both the meetings included:

- Welcome, introductions, brief overview of master plan purpose and process.
- Exercise #1: General Comments
- Exercise #2: Travel Distances
- Exercise #3: Spending Priorities.



- Exercise #4: User Fees
  - Approximately 24 people
- Approximately 24 people participated in workshop #3, and approximately 16 people participated in Workshop #4. Following are the findings from each of the exercises.

### Exercise #1: General Comments

Participants listed the following comments on flip charts:

- Charge dynamic pricing for Beach access
- Charge differential fees for Recreation Leagues vs Competitive, esp. for – profit
- Demographics differ between East of Intracoastal, West of Intracoastal, and St Augustine, including interests, desired levels-of-service, travel distances
- Utilities easement in Ponte Vedra could be used as Equestrian Trail
- Need brochures for parks in the County
- Need a multi-functional Aquatic Center: swim lessons, fitness, competition, therapy, etc.
- Need sidewalks and trails
- Leverage transportation funds for bikes, trails
- Need additional beach access, restoration
- OK to charge tennis fees, e.g. membership
- Need for tennis courts in Nocatee, incl use of courts at Ponte Vedra High School; there is a dire need for courts, tennis is 2nd only to golf
- Crescent Beach driving is an issue
- Need parks at World Golf Village
- Need parks and recreation in Hastings area
- Nothing to do in World Golf Village for tennis
- Work in partnership with community neighborhoods
- Use Fisher Island for parks and recreation – boat ramps, trails
- Need more parking facilities in St. Augustine
- Need more parking at Crossroads trail head on State Rd 207

### The Players Senior Center Public Workshop



## Exercise #2: Travel Distances

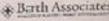
Participants generally agreed with proposed travel distances to recreation facilities. Suggested changes by some participants included:

- Change dog park access to 5 miles
- Change football field access in Urban/Suburban areas to 5 miles
- Change pickleball court access to 3 miles

**STATION #2 - TRAVEL DISTANCES TO PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

The PRELIMINARY vision maps from Station #1 are partially based on the distances below that suggest how far residents should be able to travel to reach typical parks and recreation facilities based on where residents live. Let us know if you believe these travel distances are appropriate for St. Johns County by placing a **Green Dot** if you **Agree**, or a **Red Dot** if you **Disagree**. If you Disagree, please recommend an appropriate distance.

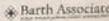
Facility Type	Urban   Suburban Travel Distance	Comments	Rural   Village Travel Distance	Comments
Diamond Fields	3 Miles		5 Mile	
Beach Access	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Boat Ramps	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Community Centers	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Dog Parks	1 Mile		3 Mile	
Fishing	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Football Fields	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Multi Purpose Fields	1/2 Mile		1 Mile	
Pickle Ball Courts	1 Mile		3 Mile	
Playscapes	1/2 Mile		1 Mile	
Skate Parks	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Soccer Fields	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Swimming Pools	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Tennis Courts	1/2 Mile		1 Mile	
Trails	1 Mile		3 Mile	

**STATION #2 - TRAVEL DISTANCES TO PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

The PRELIMINARY vision maps from Station #1 are partially based on the distances below that suggest how far residents should be able to travel to reach typical parks and recreation facilities based on where residents live. Let us know if you believe these travel distances are appropriate for St. Johns County by placing a **Green Dot** if you **Agree**, or a **Red Dot** if you **Disagree**. If you Disagree, please recommend an appropriate distance.

Facility Type	Urban   Suburban Travel Distance	Comments	Rural   Village Travel Distance	Comments
Diamond Fields	3 Miles		5 Mile	
Beach Access	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Boat Ramps	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Community Centers	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Dog Parks	1 Mile		3 Mile	
Fishing	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Football Fields	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Multi Purpose Fields	1/2 Mile		1 Mile	
Pickle Ball Courts	1 Mile		3 Mile	
Playscapes	1/2 Mile		1 Mile	
Skate Parks	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Soccer Fields	3 Miles		5 Miles	
Swimming Pools	5 Miles		10 Miles	
Tennis Courts	1/2 Mile		1 Mile	
Trails	1 Mile		3 Mile	



**Exercise #3: Spending Priorities-**

Participants’ top priorities were Additional Beach Parks, Beach Access and/or Beach Parking; Upgrade, Repair, Maintain Existing Parks and Sports Facilities; Additional Large Regional Parks with Sports Facilities; and Additional Paved, Multi-purpose Trails.

**Table 2.2 Spending Priorities**

Spending Priorities	Workshop 3: Players Senior Center	Workshop 4:	Total:
Additional Indoor Exercise and Fitness Facilities, Gymnasiums	5	11	16
Upgrade, Repair, Maintain Existing Parks and Sports Facilities	62	17	79
Additional Beach Parks, Beach Access and/or Beach Parking	19	62	81
Additional Small Neighborhood Parks and Playgrounds	8	11	19
Additional Natural Areas	12	10	22
Additional Large Regional Parks with Sports Facilities	45 (including 10 for tennis facility)	18	63
Additional Programs including Adult Fitness and Wellness, Youth and Nature/Environmental Programs	5	4	9
Additional Paved, Multi-purpose Trails	34	18	52
Additional Unpaved Hiking, Biking, Equestrian Trails	24	6	30
Additional Public Waterway Access including Boat Ramps, Kayak Access, and Piers	9	10	19
Other:			
-Aquatics Center			5
-Pools			4
-Buy Property			3



### Exercise #4: User Fees

Participants were most likely to support the following fees:

Beach Parking: \$2 per vehicle/ hr., \$10 per vehicle per day. Other suggestions included an annual \$20 pass for residents; free parking for residents; charge only non-residents; provide employee passes; and charge \$20/day for visitors.

Access to Boat Ramps, Non-motorized Boat Access: \$5 or \$10 per person per day. Other suggestions included no charge for County residents; an annual, discounted pass for County residents; and higher fees for non-residents.

Sports Facilities: \$25 or \$50 per participant per season. Other suggestions included higher fees for competitive participants (e.g. travel ball) than recreational participants.

**STATION #4 - USER FEES:**

The County needs to increase revenues to improve existing parks and provide new recreation facilities. Which of these fees are you most likely to support for each of the following? Please place a **Green Dot** next to the fees that you would be most likely to support.

Beach Parking (Per Vehicle, Per Hour)	Beach Parking (Per Vehicle, Per Day)	Access to Boat Ramps, Non-Motorized Boat Access (Per Person, Per Day)	Sports Facilities (Per Participant, Per Season)
\$2.00	\$10.00	\$5.00  None	\$25.00
\$5.00	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$50.00
\$10.00	\$20.00	\$15.00	\$75.00
None	None	None	None
Other:  No - provide annual/employee pass - charge annual	Other:  No - County pass - offer parking MMA PMS - annual for monthly users	Other:  No charge for residents - County Resident pass - County Resident discount - that live in that community	Other:  Local or regional water sale

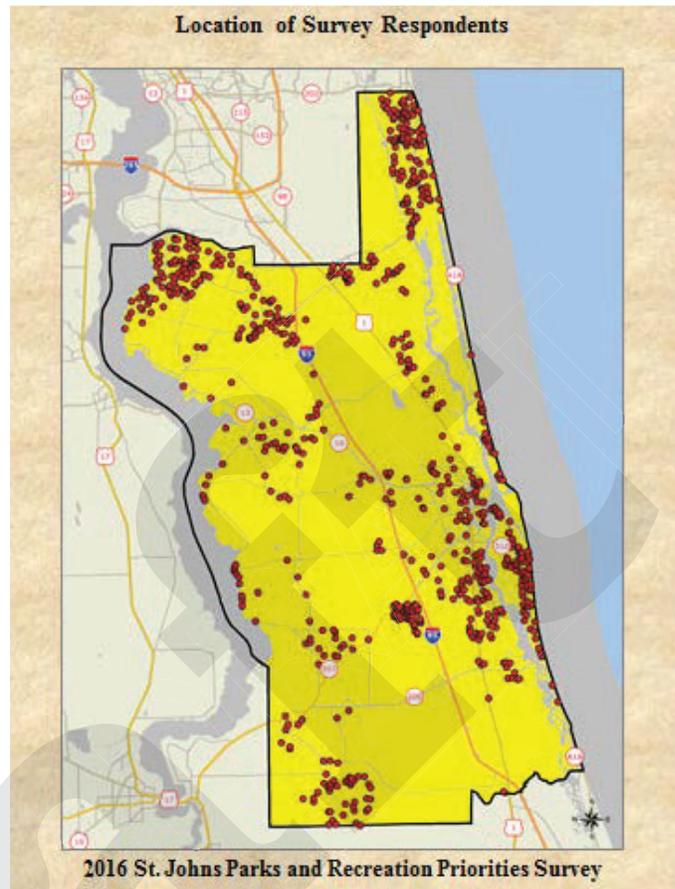


## 2.4 Statistically-Representative Survey

### Methodology

Barth Associates' sub-consultant ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to 8,000 households in St. Johns County. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it on-line at [www.sjcparksurvey.org](http://www.sjcparksurvey.org). To prevent people who were not residents of the St. Johns County from participating, everyone who completed the survey on-line was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered on-line with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed on-line did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the on-line survey was not counted. This allowed respondents to validate their participation in the survey while maintaining their confidentiality.

A goal was set to obtain a minimum of 600 completed surveys within St. Johns County boundaries. Of the households who were selected to receive a survey, a total of 839 respondents participated. The results for the sample of 839 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision rate of at least +/- 3.4%. The full survey report is available in **Appendix D**.

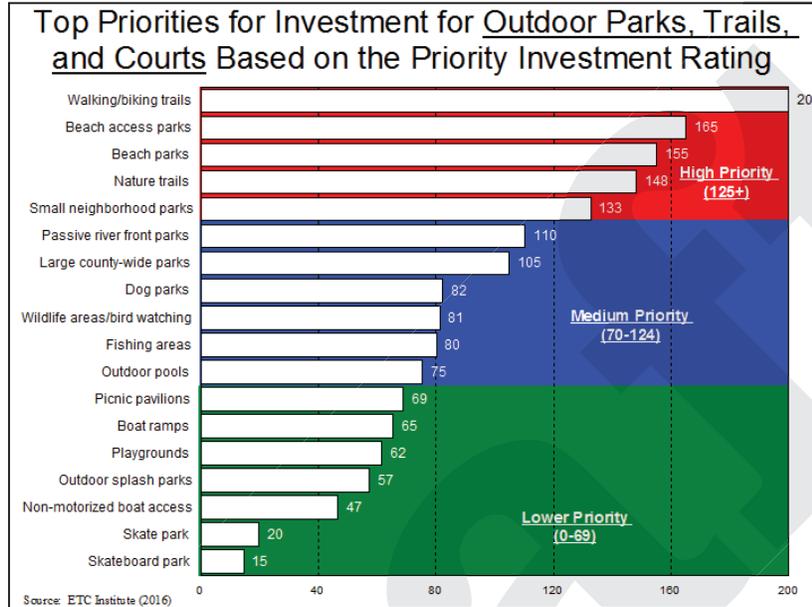


## Top Priority Needs

Key findings from the survey included:

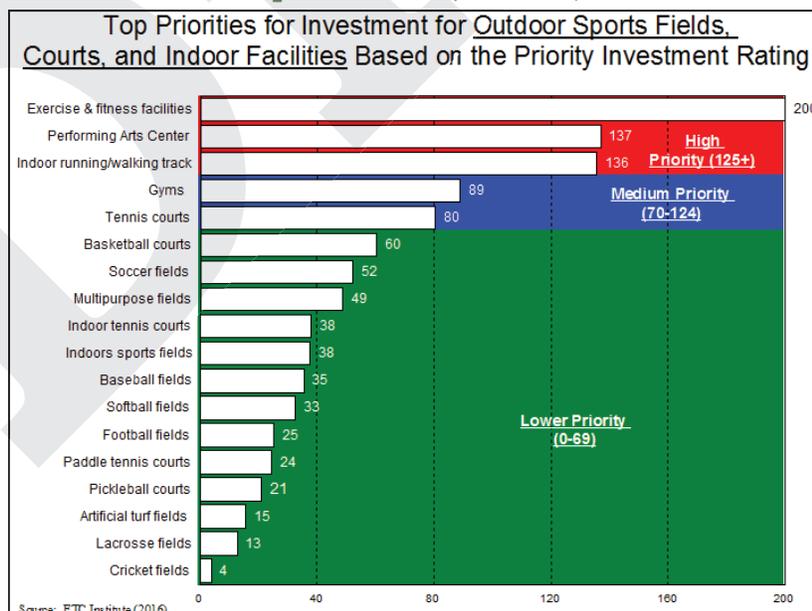
- Top priority needs for outdoor parks, trails, and courts include walking/biking trails, beach access parks, beach parks, nature trails, and small neighborhood parks as shown in **Table 2.2** below:

**Table 2.2 Top Priorities for Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts**



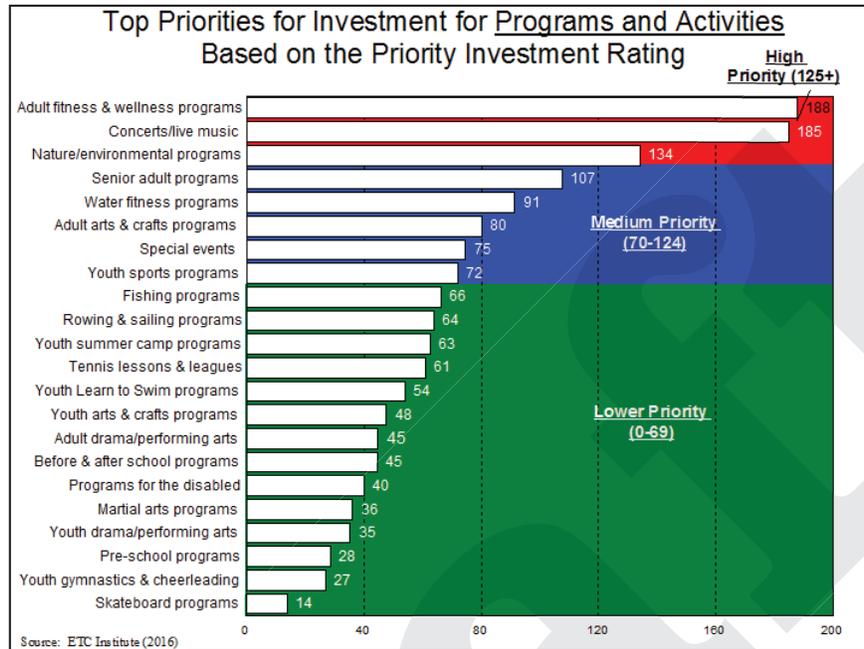
- Top priority needs for outdoor sports fields, courts, and indoor facilities include exercise and fitness facilities, and performing arts center as shown in **Table 2.3** below:

**Table 2.3 Priorities for Outdoor Sports Fields, Courts, and Indoor Facilities**



- Top priority needs for recreation programs and activities include adult fitness and wellness programs, concerts/ live music, and nature/ environmental programs as shown in Table 2.4 below:

**Table 2.4 Priorities for Programs and Activities**



## Other Findings

Other findings from the survey included:

### Satisfaction with Existing Parks and Programs:

Seventy-eight percent (78%) of households visited parks over the past 12 months. Of households who visited parks, 88% rated the parks they had visited as either “excellent” or “good”.

Of households who have visited facilities over the past 12 months, 83% indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the facilities visited. Only 4% of households indicated some level of dissatisfaction.

Based on the percentage of households who have participated in programs over the past year, 86% were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the programs in which they had participated.

Over half of the respondents (57%) indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the overall value their household receives from the St Johns Parks and Recreation Department. Other levels of satisfaction include neutral (31%), somewhat dissatisfied (9%), and very dissatisfied (3%).



### **Participation in Programs:**

Twenty percent (20%) of households participated in recreation or sports programs over the past 12 months. Of households who participated in programs, 90% participated in between 1-3 programs.

Fifty-four percent (54%) of households indicated they learn about programs and activity offerings from friends and neighbors. Other ways include newspaper articles (43%), newspaper advertisements (23%), social media (22%), and the parks and recreation website (22%).

The top three reasons preventing households from using parks, facilities, and programs are (1) I do not know what is being offered (40%) which is significantly above the national average; (2) we are too busy (28%); and (3) I do not know locations of facilities (21%).

### **Support for Potential Actions to Improve the Parks and Recreation System:**

Respondents were asked from a list of 16 potential actions which ones they supported St Johns Parks and Recreation Department taking to improve the parks and recreation system. Based on the sum of respondents who indicated they were either “very supportive” or “somewhat supportive” 83% indicated support for the parks and recreation department to purchase land for passive recreational uses. Other most supported items include: upgrade and renovate beach access parks (82%), restore and maintain natural areas (82%), and to purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas (81%).

When taking into consideration only households who were “very supportive”, the most supported action was purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas.

### **Support for Actions to Fund with Tax Dollars:**

Based on the sum of respondents top four choices, 41% indicated they were the most willing to fund with their tax dollars the County to purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas. Other most supported actions include: upgrade and renovate existing beach access parks (35%), purchase land for passive recreational uses (28%) and purchase historic sites for preservation (27%).

### **Additions to the Neighborhood Parks:**

Respondents were asked from a list of 20 potential additions the ones they would most like to have to the parks nearest their residence. Over half of the respondents (57%) indicated they would like to see restrooms. Other additions include shade structures (40%), trails (40%), and natural areas (36%).

### **Allocation of \$100 Toward Parks and Recreation Facilities:**

Respondents would allocate the greatest portion of the money to both beach and water access (\$21) and the upgrade repair/maintain existing parks community centers and playgrounds (\$20). Other allocations include: acquire new parkland and open space (\$19), maintain existing and develop new trails (\$15), maintain existing and develop new sports fields (\$9), develop new indoor recreation facilities (\$9), and swimming pools (\$7).



### **Additional Taxes to Fund Improvements to the Parks and Recreation System:**

Thirty-six percent (36%) of households indicated a willingness to pay an additional \$1-\$5 per month in additional taxes to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system. Other amounts include: \$6-\$10 (26%), \$0 (23%), \$11-\$15 (6%), \$16-\$20 (5%), and \$21 or more (4%).

### **Support for ½ Cent Sales Tax to Maintain the Quality of Life:**

Sixty percent (60%) of respondents indicated they would support a ½ cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvement to the parks and recreation system.

## **2.5 On-line Survey**

The County created a simpler version of the Mail Survey for completion on-line. Approximately 687 people completed the survey. While the on-line survey is not considered to be statistically representative, it provides another perspective of residents' needs and priorities.

The survey results are included in **Appendix E**. Key findings include:

- Over 94% of respondents have visited parks or facilities operated by the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department over the past 12 months.
- Over 87% of the respondents rated the physical condition of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department parks, trails and recreation facilities they visited as “good” or “excellent”.
- Over 81% of the respondents were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities they visited.
- Over 39% of respondents have participated in recreation or sports programs offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities during the past 12 months.
- The top 5 ways that respondents learn about programs and activities offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities is from friends and neighbors (52%), newspaper articles (49%), park and recreation website (38%), social media (38%), and e-mail blasts (25%).
- The top 6 reasons that deter respondents from using parks, recreation facilities or programs of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department more often include “I do not know what is being offered” (34%); “we are too busy” (20%); “program or facility not offered” (19%); “other” (18%); “lack of accessibility” (17%); and “too far from residence” (17%).
- Over 50% of the respondents indicated that they “need more” of the following parks and recreation facilities: beach access parks, beach parks, walking/ biking trails, nature trails, and passive riverfront parks. 49.4% indicated they “need more” neighborhood parks.
- Over 50% of the respondents indicated that they “need more” of the following sports fields, courts, and indoor facilities: exercise and fitness facilities.
- Over 50% of the respondents indicated that they “need more” of the following programs and activities: adult fitness and wellness programs, and nature/ environmental programs.



- 67.7% are somewhat or very satisfied with the overall value your household receives from the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department.
- When asked which “items” respondents would you be most willing to fund with their County tax dollars, over 50% of the respondents selected “purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas” as their 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th choices”.
- When asked which “additions” they would like to see made to County Parks, respondents’ top priorities were restrooms (53%), shade structures (46.4%), and trails (42.2%).
- When asked how they would allocate \$100 for parks and recreation facilities in St. Johns County, respondents top four priorities included: 1) Acquire new parkland and open space; 2) Beach and water access; 3) Upgrade, repair, and maintain existing parks, community centers, and playgrounds; and 4) Maintain existing and develop new sports facilities.
- 52.5 % of respondents would support \$6 - \$10 or more per month in increased fees or taxes to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system; over 91% would support \$1 - \$5 per month or more.
- 75.7% of respondents would support a ½-cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvements to the parks and recreation system.

## 2.6 Impact Fee Ordinance Review

Barth Associates compared the St. Johns County’s current park impact fees (**Table 2.5**) to other counties’ impact fees (**Table 2.6**). It appears that the range of fees charged by other coastal and/or urbanizing counties is significant.

Park impact fees are generally based on the value of the existing parks system, including both parkland and capital improvements. The value of the system, divided by the County’s population, yields a level-of-service metric of \$/ per capita or household.

Since the County has made significant investments in the system since the impact fee ordinance was last updated in 1999, it is recommended that the park impact fee is evaluated to reflect the true parks and recreation level-of-service provided by the County.



**Table 2.5 St. Johns County Park Impact Fee Schedule (1999)**

Fee Schedule					
Land Use Type (UNIT)	Residential Units Per Structure	Total Cost	Available Revenue	Net Cost	Fee
One Unit		\$607.20	\$91.08	\$516.12	\$467.00
2,3 Or 4 Units Each Unit		\$487.19	\$73.08	\$414.11	\$375.00
5 Or More Units Each Unit		\$487.19	\$73.08	\$414.11	\$375.00
Mobile Home Each Unit		\$617.00	\$92.55	\$524.45	\$474.00
Hotel/Motel Room Per Room		\$418.35	\$418.35	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Residential Each Unit		\$607.20	\$91.08	\$516.12	\$467.00

**Table 2.6 Park Impact Fees Charge by Other Counties (AECOM, 2015)**

Comparative Impact Fees (2015) - Single Family Detached							
	Pasco	Hernando	Hillsborough	Manatee	Sarasota	Orange	Osceola
Parks Land	\$174.48	\$411.00	\$421.60	\$1,426.82	\$2,348.00	\$971.71	\$923.73
Parks Facilities	\$717.34						
Assumptions			3 bedroom	3 bedroom	2-3k sf		

## 2.7 Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations Review

Barth Associates reviewed the following documents for to identify implications for the Parks and Recreation System:

- 2025 Comprehensive Plan
- Land Development Regulations
- Comprehensive Plan Special Projects
- Development Review Manual
- Land Acquisition and Management Program (LAMP)
- County Environmental Programs
- FY 2016 Financial Plan

**Appendix C** includes notes from the review. Key findings include:

- The County needs to more specifically define the terms “parks”, “civic space”, “recreation”, “open space”, “greenway”, “common”, “greens”, “playgrounds”, and “community gardens” in the Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plan.
- The County needs to more specifically define what should be “counted” in Acreage Level-of-Service (LOS) requirements.
- Acreage LOS should not include other agency’s lands if not under County control.
- The County should supplement its Acreage LOS requirements with a Facilities LOS metric, and an Access LOS metric, to ensure that an equitable, County-wide level of service is provided throughout the County.



## 2.8 Needs and Priorities Assessment Summary

The findings from the various needs assessment techniques were aggregated to determine resident's top priority needs. More "weight" was given to the findings from the mail survey, the only statistically-representative technique. Top priorities include:

- Additional walking and biking trails, nature trails
- Additional beach parks, beach access parks, and parking
- Acquisition of parks, open space, and natural areas, including small neighborhood parks
- Indoor exercise and fitness facilities, gymnasiums
- Upgrade, repair and maintain existing parks and sports facilities, including ADA compliance
- Develop new sports facilities, particularly rectangular athletic fields (football, soccer, multi-purpose)
- Provide additional adult fitness and wellness programs; concerts/ live music; and nature/ environmental programs

Another top priority is to improve marketing and communications. As noted previously, the top reason preventing households from using parks, facilities, and programs is "I do not know what is being offered" (40%). It is possible that increased awareness may diminish some of the need for additional facilities.

**Tables 2.7 - 2.9** compare the top priorities identified from each of the needs assessment techniques. Priority (highlighted) needs are those identified in the mail survey and then validated further through other technique(s).

It is important not to interpret the needs assessment findings as County mandates. The next sections, the Long-Range Parks and Recreation Vision and the Implementation Strategy, discuss the "appropriate response" to the needs assessment based on County goals and policies; the County's desired role in providing parks and recreation facilities and services; County Commission priorities; existing and projected funding sources; existing and potential partners (public and private); and other factors.



**Priorities:**

**Table 2.7 Needs Assessment Summary for Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts**

<b>Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts</b>	<b>Statistically-Valid Mail Survey</b>	<b>On-line Survey</b>	<b>Level-of-Service Analysis</b>	<b>Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Groups</b>	<b>Public Workshops</b>	<b>Site Evaluations</b>
<b>Priorities:</b>						
Walking/biking trails	●	●	●	●	●	
Beach access parks, parking	●	●	●	●	●	
Acquisition of parks, open space, and natural areas	●	●	●	●	●	
Upgrade/ maintain/ repair existing parks, including ADA compliance	●	●		●	●	●
Beach parks	●	●	●			
Nature trails	●	●			●	
Small neighborhood parks	●	●	●			
Passive riverfront parks		●				
Boat ramps/ water access				●		
Fishing areas					●	

● Need identified by needs assessment technique

■ Priority need identified in the Statistically-Valid Mail Survey



**Table 2.8 Needs Assessment Summary for Outdoor Sports Fields, Courts, and Indoor Facilities**

<b>Outdoor Sports Fields, Courts, and Indoor Facilities</b>	<b>Statistically-Valid Mail Survey</b>	<b>On-line Survey</b>	<b>Level-of-Service Analysis</b>	<b>Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Groups</b>	<b>Public Workshops</b>	<b>Site Evaluations</b>
<b>Priorities:</b>						
Exercise and fitness facilities, gymnasiums	●	●	●	●	●	
Maintain existing/develop new sports facilities; rectangular athletic fields (football, soccer, multi-purpose)		●	●	●	●	
Performing arts center	●					
Basketball courts			●			
Outdoor swimming pools			●	●	●	
Picnic areas			●			
Tennis courts			●			
Skate park				●		
Public golf course				●		
Pickleball courts			●		●	

- Need identified by needs assessment technique
- Priority need identified in the Statistically-Valid Mail Survey



**Table 2.9 Needs Assessment Summary for Programs and Activities**

<b>Programs and Activities</b>	<b>Statistically-Valid Mail Survey</b>	<b>On-line Survey</b>	<b>Level-of-Service Analysis</b>	<b>Stakeholder Interviews and Focus Groups</b>	<b>Public Workshops</b>	<b>Site Evaluations</b>
<b>Priorities:</b>						
Adult fitness and wellness programs	●	●				
Concerts/ live music	●					
Nature/ environmental programs	●	●				
Tennis lessons and leagues					●	
Youth sports programs					●	
Youth learn-to-swim programs					●	
Senior adult programs					●	
Rowing and sailing programs					●	

● Need identified by needs assessment technique

■ Priority need identified in the Statistically-Valid Mail Survey



Draft

3

LONG-RANGE  
VISION



# SECTION 3: LONG-RANGE VISION

## 3.1 Guiding Principles

There are no state or national standards that define the “most appropriate” vision for the public realm or response to residents’ needs and priorities; each community must decide what facilities and programs to provide based on community values, ideology, preferences, and finances. In the absence of standards, best practices and guiding principles can form the foundation for the County’s parks and recreation system. Following are several examples from national experts:

### ***The Excellent City Parks System***

First, Peter Harnik of the Trust for Public Land stated that there are seven measures of an excellent park system:

- A clear expression of purpose
- Ongoing planning and community involvement
- Sufficient assets in land, staffing, and equipment to meet the system’s goals
- Equitable access
- User satisfaction
- Safety from physical hazards and crime
- Benefits for the city beyond the boundaries of the parks ([http://cloud.tpl.org/pubs/ccpe\\_excellentcityparks\\_2006.pdf](http://cloud.tpl.org/pubs/ccpe_excellentcityparks_2006.pdf) )

### ***The Integrated Public Realm***

Second, a parks system should be planned within the context of the larger public realm, rather than as stand-alone sites. Parks, greenways, civic spaces, natural areas, and historic and cultural areas should be connected by complete streets, trails, and sidewalks. Utility corridors and drainage swales should be designed to accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians as part of an interconnected network. Stormwater treatment ponds should also be designed as public parks.

Yale University’s Alexander Garvin notes that “the public realm is our common property. It is the fundamental element in any community – the framework around which everything grows” (Garvin, 2013, p. 14). Figure 3.1 is a schematic diagram illustrating a typical community public realm system.

Texas A&M researcher John Crompton lists 19 community wide benefits that could potentially be delivered by the public realm, which all relate closely to community livability, sustainability and resiliency:

### ***Economic Prosperity***

- Attracting tourists
- Attracting businesses
- Attracting retirees
- Enhancing real estate values
- Reducing taxes
- Stimulation of equipment sales



### Environmental Sustainability

- Protecting drinking water
- Controlling flooding
- Cleaning air
- Reducing traffic congestion
- Reducing energy costs
- Preserving biological diversity

### Alleviating Social Problems

- Reducing environmental stress
- Community regeneration
- Cultural and historic preservation
- Facilitating healthy lifestyles
- Alleviating deviant youth behavior
- Raising levels of education attainment
- Alleviating unemployment distress



Figure 3.1 The Public Realm



## **High Performance Public Spaces**

These community-wide benefits can be realized in part by planning and designing every public space within the parks and recreation system as a “High Performance Public Space” (HPPS). Dr. David Barth’s research at the University of Florida identified 25 criteria for an HPPS:

### **Economic Criteria**

- The space creates and facilitates revenue-generating opportunities for the public and/or the private sectors
- The space creates meaningful and desirable employment
- The space indirectly creates or sustains good, living wage jobs
- The space sustains or increases property values
- The space catalyzes infill development and/or the re-use of obsolete or under-used buildings or spaces
- The space attracts new residents
- The space attracts new businesses
- The space generates increased business and tax revenues
- The space optimizes operations and maintenance costs (compared to other similar spaces)

### **Environmental Criteria**

- The space uses energy, water, and material resources efficiently
- The space improves water quality of both surface and ground water
- The space serves as a net carbon sink
- The space enhances, preserves, promotes, or contributes to biological diversity
- Hardscape materials are selected based on longevity of service, social/cultural/historical sustainability, regional availability, low carbon footprint, and/or other related criteria

- The space provides opportunities to enhance environmental awareness and knowledge
- The space serves as an interconnected node within larger scale ecological corridors and natural habitat

### **Social Criteria**

- The space improves the neighborhood
- The space improves social and physical mobility through multi-modal connectivity – auto, transit, bike, pedestrian
- The space encourages the health and fitness of residents and visitors
- The space provides relief from urban congestion and stressors such as social confrontation, noise pollution, and air pollution
- The space provides places for formal and informal social gathering, art, performances, and community or civic events
- The space provides opportunities for individual, group, passive, and active recreation
- The space facilitates shared experiences among different groups of people
- The space attracts diverse populations
- The space promotes creative and constructive social interaction (Barth, 2015)

Similarly, parks should be designed and programmed to provide visitors with at least 10 things to do, consistent with the Project for Public Spaces (PPS) “Power of 10+”: “The idea behind this concept is that places thrive when users have a range of reasons (10+) to be there. These might include a place to sit, playgrounds to enjoy, art to touch, music to hear, food to eat, history to experience, and people to meet. Ideally, some of these activities will be unique to



that particular place, reflecting the culture and history of the surrounding community. Local residents who use this space most regularly will be the best source of ideas for which uses will work best. Further, when communities contain at least 10 of these destinations or districts, their public perception begins to shift amongst both locals and tourists, and urban centers can become better equipped for generating resilience and innovation.” (<https://www.pps.org/article/the-power-of-10>)

## POWER OF 10+

HOW CITIES TRANSFORM THROUGH PLACEMAKING



The Power of Ten+ (Source: The Project for Public Spaces)

### **Equity - The Ten-Minute Walk**

The Trust for Public Land, in partnership with the National Recreation and Park Association and the Urban Land Institute, created the 10-minute walk initiative to ensure “there’s a great park within a 10-minute walk of every person, in every neighborhood, in every city across America.” Local Parks are “those that serve mainly local needs and can be replicated in small and easily accessible units in every part of the Region” (Hise & Deverell). Typical

facilities include a multi-purpose lawn/play field, walking path, playground, play courts, picnic shelters, restrooms, splashpad, and limited parking.

Communities are accomplishing this goal by developing new local and community parks to “fill the gaps” between existing parks, and by updating land development regulations to require developers of new residential communities to also meet the 10-minute walk goal.



NRPA/ULI 10-Minute Walk Initiative

### **Healthy Communities**

There is broad consensus – and compelling research and scientific evidence – that a well-planned and maintained public realm contributes to healthier communities. Various organizations have established specific principles and policies for designing communities to generate health benefits. For example, the American Planning Association’s Healthy Communities Policy Guide states that the design of a community “has a direct effect on the health of its residents. Land development patterns, zoning ordinances, and land

use classifications impact walkability, access to key services like healthy food, and access to transportation options. An understanding of how the built environment affects public health is a vital component in the creation of vibrant, active spaces, and places that have a strong positive impact on an individual’s health. It is also critical for planners to use this understanding, and the guide generally, as the standard for creation of good public guide generally policy.”<sup>6</sup>

<sup>6</sup> American Planning Association. (2017). Healthy Communities Policy Guide. Retrieved from <https://www.planning.org/policy/guides/adopted/healthycommunities/>



Specific healthy community policy outcome related to parks, recreation, and the public realm include:

- Compact urban areas and complete neighborhoods that meet the daily needs of all people within comfortable walking or bicycling distance of their homes.
- Redevelopment of suburban areas to make them more walkable and bikeable through plans, regulations, and incentives that encourage more compact development forms.
- Communities designed so that physical activity is a part of everyday activities and is the easy choice.
- Prioritization of funding for infrastructure that helps communities build more compact, walkable neighborhoods, and provides robust transit and active transportation options.
- Engagement of local residents in planning for more walkable and bikeable urban environments, including place-based health strategies that facilitate the design of healthy communities and healthy housing for people of all ages and abilities.
- Development of trail systems and other publicly accessible community amenities in urban, suburban, and rural areas that enable residents to participate in robust exercise.
- Adoption of placemaking strategies and policies that advance equitable, healthy designs for public spaces in order to create safe and comfortable places with a sense of community for people of all ages and abilities, regardless of their mode of transportation choice.
- Development of effective and efficient public transportation networks at the local and regional scale that are supported by location-efficient

development practices, such as Transit Oriented Development, affordable housing, and functional public space.

- Policies that provide options to all people, especially those at higher risk for poor health outcomes, for access to: affordable housing; **safe and convenient** transportation; **safe and healthy** places for work, life, and play; a **healthy environment**, especially clean air and water; **health care**; **social interaction**; and **opportunities for inclusion and culture**.
- **Incentives to attract other organizations to provide community recreation facilities in areas not served by public recreation centers in order to improve opportunities for physical activity in underserved communities.**



### 3.2 Visioning Workshop

With these and other guiding principles in mind, County staff, consultants, and stakeholders met on August 4 and 5, 2017 to discuss and develop a long-range vision for St. Johns County that responds to the needs outlined in the previous section.

Workshop sessions included:

- **Session 1:** Mission/ Vision
- **Session 2:** Improve marketing and communications, scheduling
- **Session 3:** Indoor exercise and fitness facilities, gymnasiums
- **Session 4:** Upgrade, repair, and maintain existing parks and sports facilities, including ADA compliance
- **Session 5:** Develop new sports facilities, particularly rectangular athletic fields (football, soccer, multi-purpose)
- **Session 6:** Additional beach parks, beach access parks, and parking
- **Session 7:** Acquisition of parks, open space, and natural areas, including small neighborhood parks
- **Session 8:** Provide additional adult fitness and wellness programs; concerts/ live music; and nature/ environmental programs
- **Session 9:** Additional walking and biking trails, nature trails, equestrians, off-road biking

Following is a summary of the vision(s) developed for each of the parks and recreation “subsystems” outlined above.

### 3.3 County Mission and Vision

The current mission statement and motto for the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department are too generic to clearly define the County’s role and responsibilities for meeting residents’ needs; and may establish unrealistic expectations for the Department based on current funding:

Mission Statement:

*“To provide quality recreation experiences for area residents and guests by remembering our history, playing in the present, and looking to the future with a vision of excellence.”*

*“Exceeding the expectations of all by offering safe, clean and responsive parks, programs, and beaches. We are St. Johns County.”*

Motto:

*“Where everybody plays”*

Therefore, workshop participants were asked to develop a mission statement for the Department that represents “why the Department exists”; is memorable and portable; helps define priorities; is consistent with current funding; and helps staff to make both day-to-day and long-term decisions. Alternative mission statements included:

- St. Johns Parks and Recreation Department facilitates multi-generational activities; provides protection and access to natural areas; and manages public recreation facilities
- St. Johns Parks and Recreation Department provides activities, natural



resources, recreation, and facilities to everyone

- St. Johns Parks and Recreation Department connects people with quality of life experiences
- St. Johns Parks and Recreation Department takes care of the fun places people love

County staff refined the statement as follows:

The mission of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department is *“to protect and provide access to the County’s natural resources; to provide recreation opportunities for residents and visitors; and to contribute to the County’s economic, social, and environmental sustainability and resiliency.”*

This implies that the County will focus on facility development and maintenance; access to natural areas; and collaboration with other recreation providers, such as the School Board, YMCA, and community developers. The County will not focus on recreational programs, but will partner with other agencies and organizations to meet those needs.

### 3.4 Marketing and Communications, Scheduling

As mentioned in the previous Section, 40% of the respondents to the County’s mail survey indicated that the top reason preventing households from using parks, facilities, and programs is “I do not know what is being offered”. In response, the County’s vision is to expand its marketing and communications program to better inform County residents. In theory, greater awareness and use of existing recreation facilities and programs should decrease the demand for new facilities and programs.

The #1 recommendation for improving the Department’s marketing and communications program is to create a full time, dedicated communications position, to be filled by a marketing/communications professional (not a parks and recreation professional). Responsibilities would include:

- Develop and implement the Department’s marketing and communications plan;
- Update and maintain the Department’s web site with the latest news and information;
- Promote parks, recreation facilities, and upcoming programs through social media;
- Coordinate with the County’s Communications Division, and other County departments;
- Coordinate with civic and professional organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Tourist Development Council, and Board of Realtors;
- Conduct regular outreach efforts to homeowners’ associations and other community groups.



General recommendations for improving communications include:

1. Customize communications by geography, so residents know what is specifically in their area
2. Keep the Department's web site up-to-date and as user-friendly as possible; improve "searchability"
3. Strengthen relationship with the County's Communications Division, and improve internal communications with other departments
4. Use social media continuously and repeatedly, not just periodically, to saturate the market. Make social media postings more fun and interesting
5. Conduct additional research re: communications to further define issues including access to media, access to facilities, and/or allocation of facilities
6. Prepare a communications plan and schedule each quarter, do not wait for the last minute to plan and send communications
7. Promote under-used parks, recreation, and sports facilities
8. Reach newcomers and existing residents through real estate brokers and title companies. For example, work with Realtors to provide "welcome packages" to new residents, making them more aware of recreation opportunities in their area. Also, ask Victor Ramos and/or other columnists to cover parks and recreation activities and opportunities in The Record.
9. Use existing e-mail directories and networks to reach out to residents, e.g. Scenic A1A (5,000 addresses); Civic Association (1,500 addresses) and COA (3,000 addresses).



### 3.5 Indoor Exercise and Fitness Facilities, Gymnasiums

Residents ranked indoor fitness and wellness facilities and programs as one of their top priorities in the statistically-representative mail survey; indoor facilities are consistently a top priority for communities across the United States. Residents are seeking comfortable, affordable spaces for exercise, recreation, and socialization.

Currently the County owns and manages several indoor recreation/ community centers including:

**Table 3.1** Indoor Recreation/ Community Centers

Center	Location	Size (square feet)
Al Wilke Community Center	Hastings	802 sf
Collier-Blocker-Puryear Park Community Center	West St. Augustine	5,930 sf
Ketterlinus Gym Community Center	St. Augustine	16,776 sf
Soloman Calhoun Center	St. Augustine	25,000 sf
PLAYERS Community Senior Center	Ponte Vedra	10,600 sf
Trout Creek Community Center	Orangedale	11,875 sf
W.E. Harris Community Center	Hastings	54,213 sf
<b>TOTAL SF</b>		<b>125,196 sf</b>

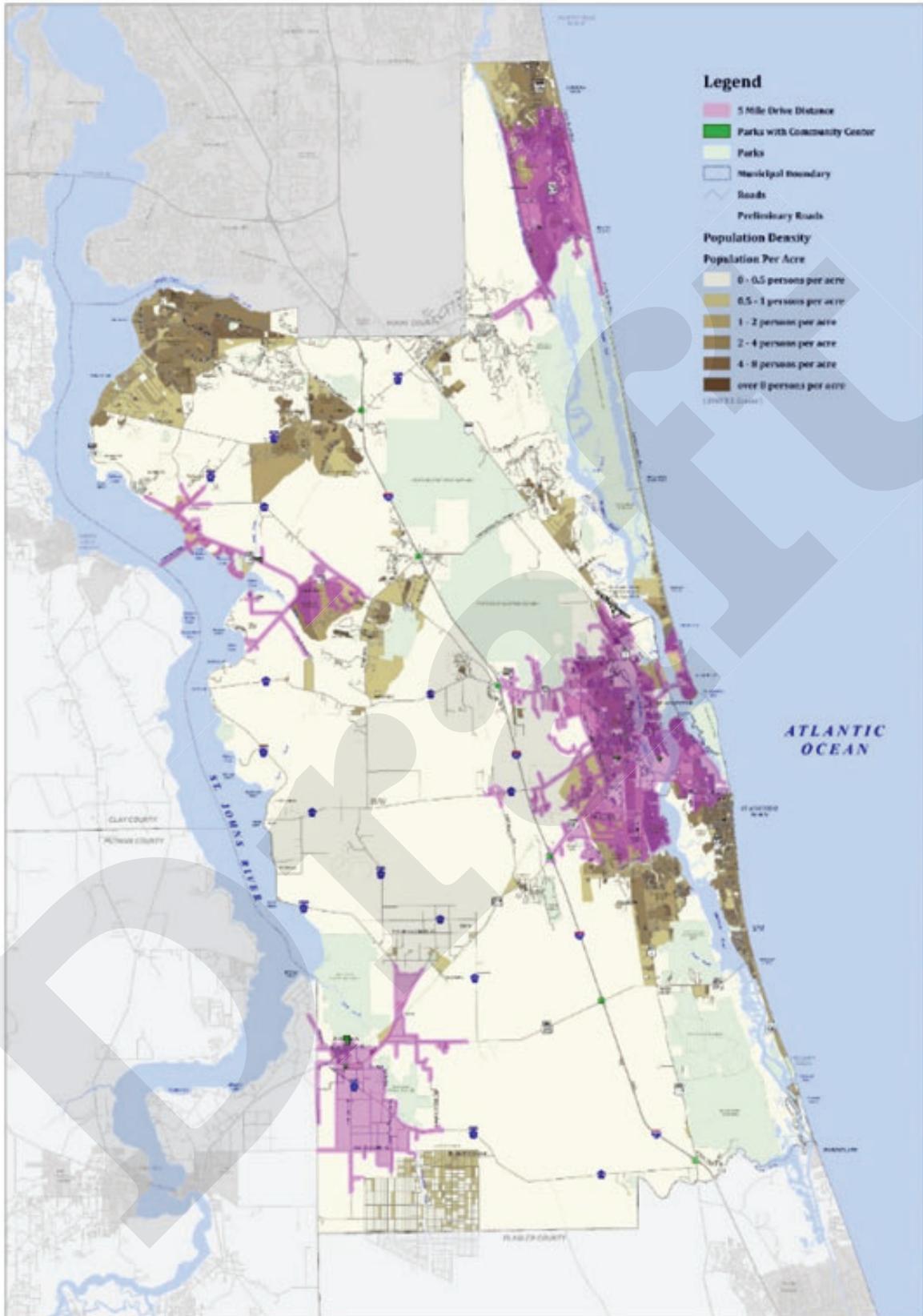
Other centers are provided by the City of St. Augustine, the YMCA, the Boys & Girls Club, and some private communities.

While there are no standards for the provision of public indoor recreation/ community centers, three level-of-service (LOS) metrics are often used to determine whether sufficient space is being provided. First, an industry rule-of-thumb is to provide 1 – 1.5 sf of public indoor recreation space per resident. Based on the estimated unincorporated population of 230,000 residents, there may be a need to at least double the amount of indoor recreation space provided by the County, consistent with resident’s priorities.

A second metric is “Access LOS”: how far should residents have to drive to access indoor recreation space. Figure 3.2 below shows the residents who live within 5 miles, or a 10-15-minute drive, of an existing center (in purple). The map indicates that many residents have to drive long distances to access a recreation center, supporting the need for additional centers to fill the gaps.

A third useful metric is to compare existing centers to a desired “model” in order to ensure equitable delivery of services throughout the County. For example, the model YMCA recreation center is approximately 40,000 sf with a pool and gymnasium. In contrast, all but two of the County’s recreation centers are significantly smaller than 25,000 sf (see Table 3.1 above), and most do not provide the facilities and amenities associated with modern centers.

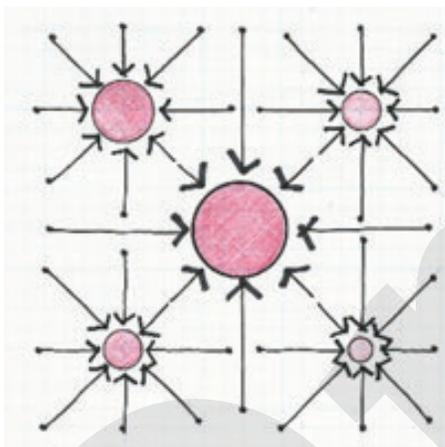




**Figure 3.2** Existing Indoor Recreation/ Community Center Service Areas

The County’s vision is to partner with other agencies to deliver indoor recreation centers through a “Hub & Spoke” model as shown in Figure 3.3 below. It is anticipated that each quadrant of the County will eventually be served by a +/- 40,000 sf hub center with a pool and gymnasium in the major population centers, supplemented by smaller satellite centers (such as the PLAYERS Community Senior Center and the Trout Creek Community Center) in lesser populated areas. The smaller centers will also be updated and expanded (where possible) to meet residents’ recreation and fitness needs.

**Figure 3.3** Hub & Spoke Service Delivery Model for Indoor Recreation Centers (Barth Associates, 2016)



Consistent with the YMCA approach, parameters for the development of new and/or expanded centers should include:

1. **Test Market** – Prior to initiating planning or design for a new/expanded center, the County, YMCA, or other agency will test the market for residents’ need for services, and willingness to pay for a membership.
2. **Partnerships** - A new or expanded center will require the participation of several partners such as private community developers, the YMCA, health care providers (e.g. Flagler

Hospital and rehabilitation centers), insurance companies, St. Augustine Youth Services, St. Johns County School Board, and/or others. For example, currently the YMCA manages the Calhoun pool. The County will not pursue the development of a new or expanded center without adequate partnerships.

3. **Population Demand** – New centers will be located in areas of growing demand. For example, according to the YMCA the Northwest part of the County (World Golf Village and Julington Creek area) is currently the area most likely to support a new center.
4. **Affordability** – No resident will be turned away from a recreation center because of inability to pay. Scholarships and/or other subsidies will be made available to qualified, low-income residents.
5. **Contract Programming** – The County should expand fitness and exercise programs at existing centers by partnering with other agencies such as the YMCA, and/or contracting with qualified private instructors, rather than hiring additional County staff.

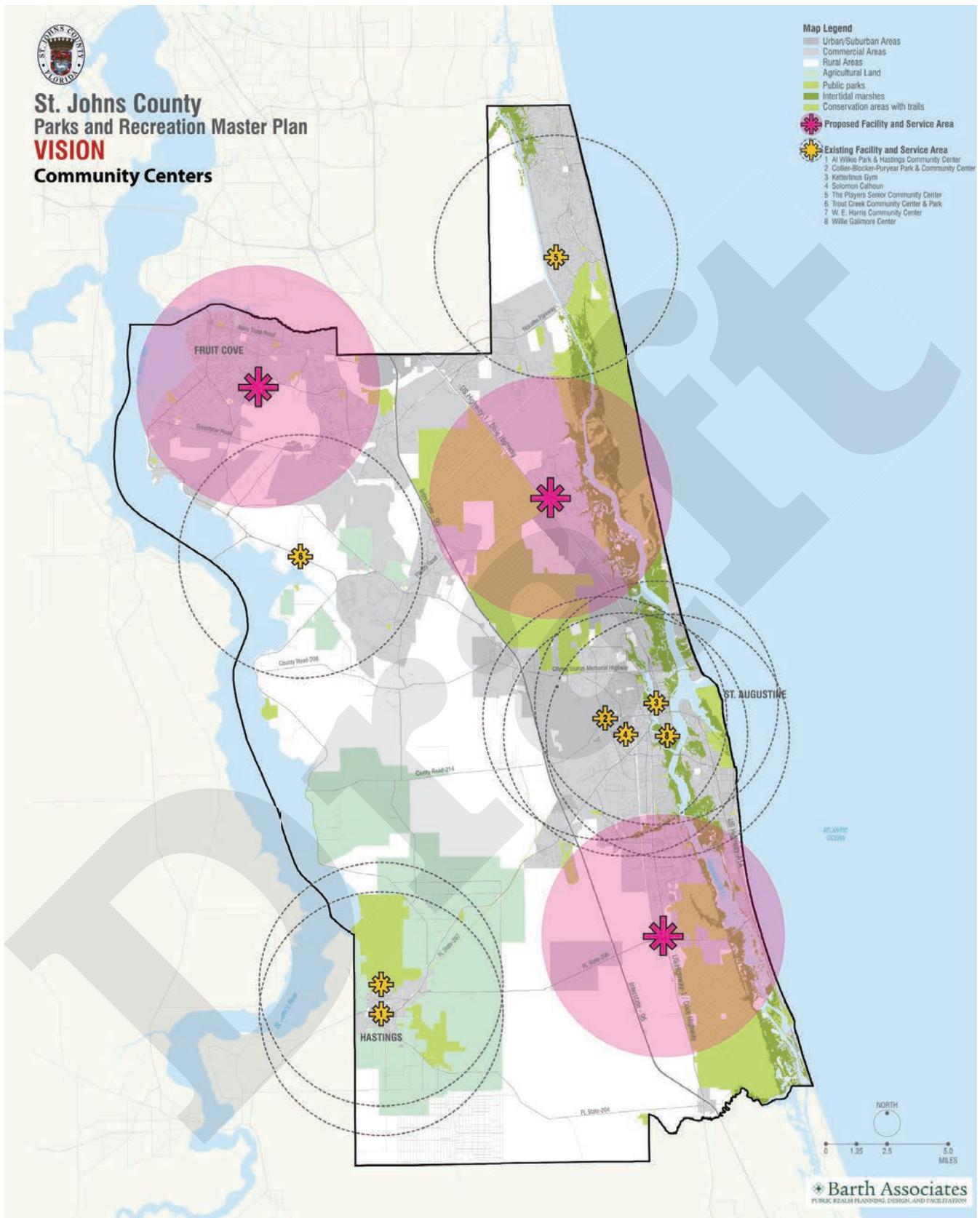
In order to implement this vision, the County should formally organize a coalition of the recreation providers mentioned above to 1) define roles and responsibilities, 2) discuss potential partnerships, and 3) plan future projects. Meanwhile, the County should continue to maintain and upgrade existing centers to meet resident’s needs for indoor fitness and exercise.

Figure 3.4 shows the potential location of three future community/recreation centers, assuming they meet the parameters listed above.





**St. Johns County  
Parks and Recreation Master Plan  
VISION  
Community Centers**



**Figure 3.4** Potential Locations of Future Community/ Recreation Centers



### 3.6 Upgrade, Repair, Maintain Existing Parks and Sports Facilities

The County is finding it difficult to maintain and repair existing facilities. Almost \$3.2 million of needed repairs have been identified, not including the \$6.7M needed to replace the St. Augustine Beach Pier. Meanwhile, County impact fees are not sufficient to provide new parks and recreation facilities concurrent with new residential development. Competing needs include traffic congestion, school overcrowding and other growth-related issues. A February 2017 article in the St. Augustine Record states:

“In the short-term, there’s the remaining budget shortfall for fire services (\$2 million) and pavement management (\$8 million), funding the community’s requests for county-wide programs, consideration of off-beach parking, and addressing the needs of a growing county population. There is also a 10-year backlog of capital projects, mostly infrastructure needs, in excess of \$292 million”.

In light of these existing and projected shortfalls, the County’s vision for the upgrade, repair, and maintenance of existing parks and sports facilities is to reduce County services to match available revenues, consistent with the new Department mission statement. This may be unpopular among certain County residents, but the lack of funding may eventually lead to unsafe conditions. Therefore, County staff has prioritized deferred maintenance projects as follows:

- **Priority 1:** The project is necessary for continued use of the facility/building as designed. Condition has a safety-related component. Deferral has an unacceptable high probability of failure and cost consequence.
- **Priority 2:** The project is a major building system or building envelope issue with high probability of failure in the next 18-months. Significant cost consequence and lost productivity due to system failure. Condition has potential safety related component.
- **Priority 3:** The project is a building envelope or major building system that is at the end of its designed service life. Consequence and probability of system failure moderate. Significantly degraded interior finishes.
- **Priority 4:** The project is interior/ exterior finishes within high profile areas. Public perception of condition unacceptable. Moderately degraded interior finishes.
- **Priority 5:** The project is interior/ exterior finishes within low profile areas. Non-existent or very limited public perception component. Regular maintenance items that have limited or no consequence of deferral.

Priority 1 and Priority 2 projects alone total over \$1.9 million; however, the FY 2017/18 budget included only \$594,606 for facility repairs. Recommendations for balancing the available budget with deferred maintenance needs include:

1. Establish Maintenance Levels of Service (LOS) – Establish differential levels of service for maintenance of existing facilities based on priorities for aesthetics, functionality, and safety. For

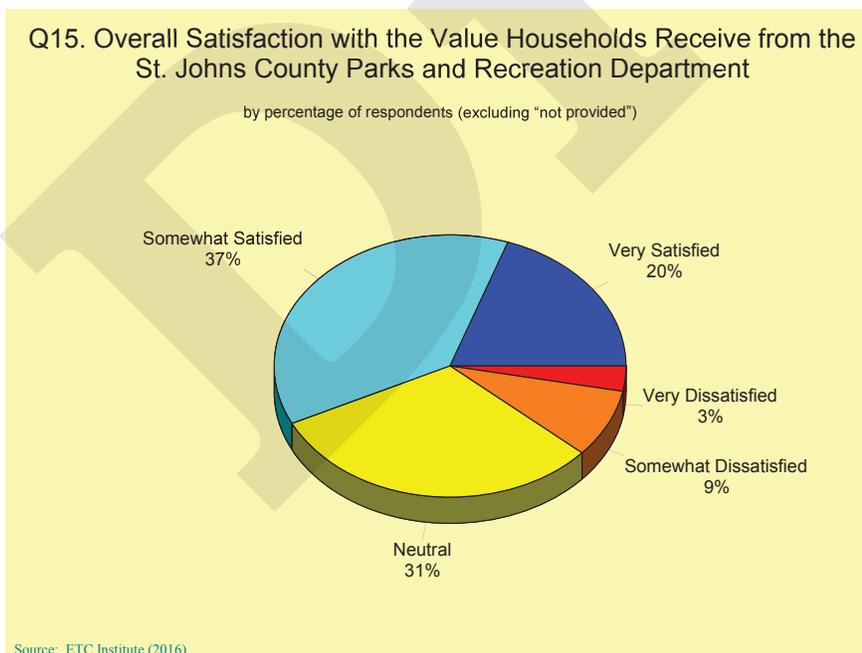


example, mowing may be reduced in some areas that are not used for recreational play, even though the aesthetics may be reduced.

2. Remove Facilities – Remove redundant, obsolete, and/or dangerous facilities that are no longer functional, and replace with facilities that meet resident’s needs such as multi-purpose open space, natural areas, and trails.
3. Close or Re-purpose Parks – Close parks and recreation facilities that are unsafe for use, and/or seldom used by the public.
4. Increase Fees and/or Delegate Maintenance for Competition Sports Facilities – It is estimated that approximately 65% of the County’s +/- \$7 million parks maintenance budget is currently spent on competitive athletic facilities; however, the chart below shows that residents desire to spend only 9% of the budget on new/ existing sports facilities; and 35% for the repair and maintenance of existing parks, community centers, playgrounds, and new/ existing trails. To balance the budget, the County

should charge Athletic Associations for the full costs of maintaining competition-level facilities; or turn maintenance responsibilities over to the associations.

5. Establish Non-Profit Groups to Raise Funds – Establish a non-profit Parks Foundation, “Friends” Groups, and/or conservancies for individual parks (such as the Central Park Conservancy) to raise funds for park improvements, operations, and maintenance. Examples of existing “Friends Groups” in St. Johns County include the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, Ron Parker Park, Alpine Grove, Sawgrass Central Park, Guana Wildlife Management Area, and the Public Library.
6. Establish Municipal Services Taxing Districts – Establish a Municipal Service Taxing Unit (MSTU) to create special taxing district(s) for residents who wish to make improvements to their neighborhood and/or community area, above and beyond the LOS provide by the County.



**Figure 3.5** Resident’s Parks and Recreation Budget Priorities



### 3.7 New Sports Facilities

Traditionally, local communities such as St. Johns County have focused on providing ball fields for youth/ adult recreational league practice and games. Coaching and training were provided by parents and other volunteers, with a focus on sportsmanship, fundamental skills, safety, and life lessons. The most talented and competitive kids graduated to middle school and high school athletics programs.

With the advent of highly competitive, regional travel teams over the past two decades, participation in recreational leagues has declined. According to a national study by the Sports Fitness Industry Association, “participation among kids ages 6-to-17 has declined more than 9 percent in the last five years.” Meanwhile “with the best coaching, training and competition, the number of families shifting from community rec leagues to traveling teams has soared — bringing the cost and time commitment up with it.” (<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2015/11/16/as-competition-rises-team-sports-decline-but-traveling-teams-soar/>).

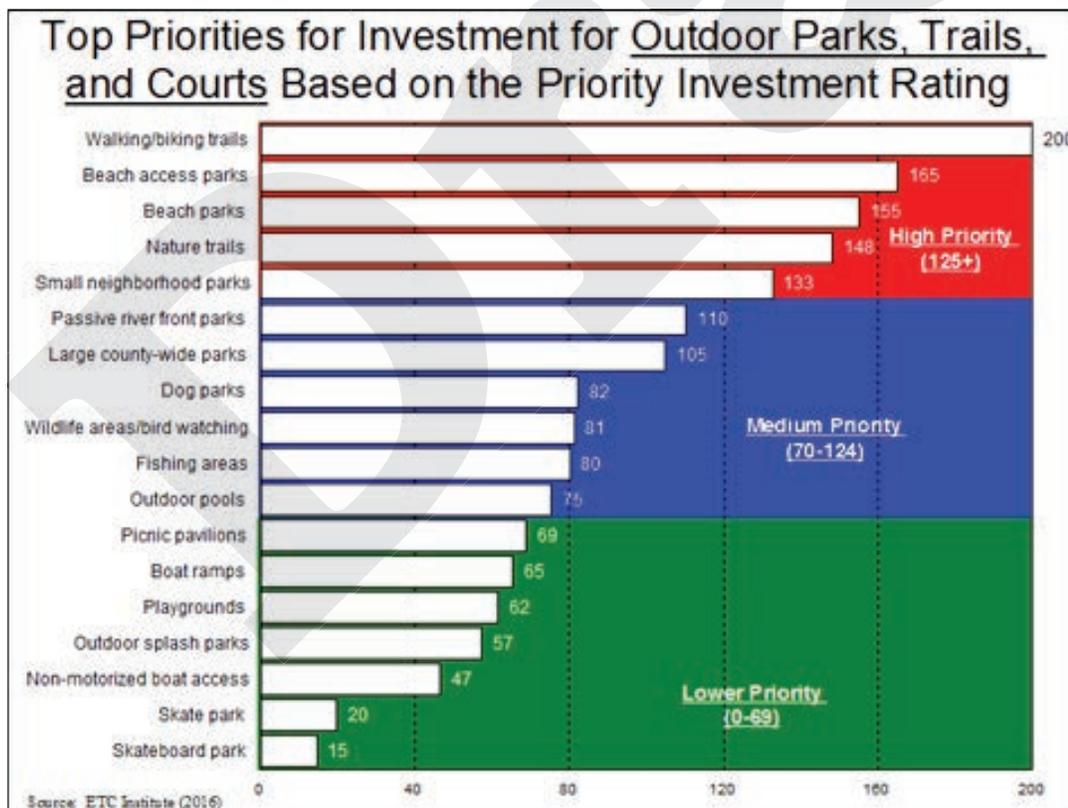
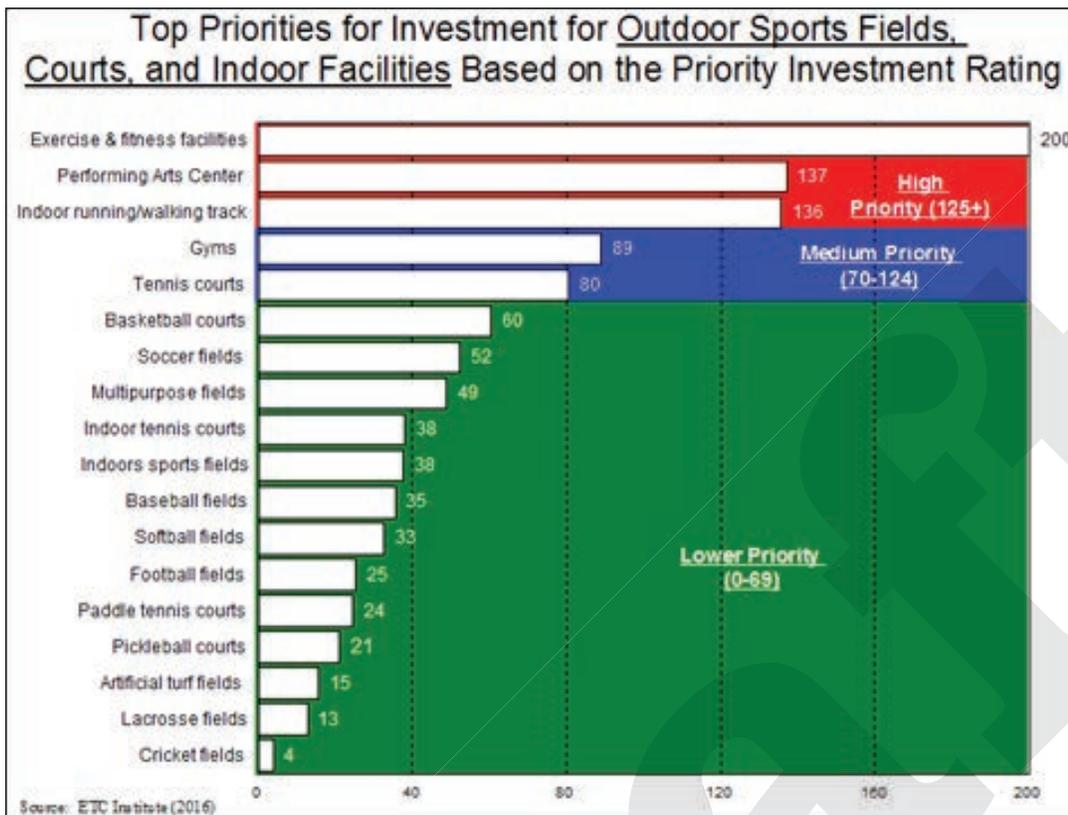
This shift from recreation to competition athletics has created the following dilemma for public agencies:

- Travel teams often have much higher expectations for field quality, as they travel and compete regionally. They also require multi-field venues for weekend tournaments. Typical needs include high quality natural or artificial turf fields; night lighting; concession/ scorekeeper buildings; air-conditioned meeting space; and ample parking for multiple teams and spectators.
- Participants in travel teams may not be residents of the city or county providing the sports fields; for example, it is estimated that approximately only 50% of the estimated 21,000 participants in St. Johns County travel teams live within the County.
- Travel programs charge players more than recreational leagues, and many hire professional managers and coaches. Some families cannot afford to enroll their children in travel programs without financial assistance
- Travel teams do not typically own or maintain athletics fields or complexes. Instead, they rely on local governments to build and maintain these facilities. However, user/ association fees only cover a fraction of the costs of construction, operations, and maintenance. Tax revenues collected from hotels and restaurants during tournaments or special events are not allocated directly to parks and recreation departments to offset the costs of the sports facilities, and are rarely significant enough to provide any meaningful return-on-investment.

The County has focused resources on the development of sports fields and facilities over the past ten years, resulting in an excellent sub-system of athletics facilities. The recent statistically-representative survey reflects that effort, indicating that new sports facilities are now a much lower priority to County residents than other parks and recreation facilities including exercise and fitness facilities, performing arts center, indoor running/ walking track, gyms, tennis courts, basketball courts, trails, beach access and parking, acquisition of land for new parks, and upgrading existing facilities.



**Figure 3.6** Residents' Priority Investments



Therefore, considering St. Johns County’s limited resources, the Sports Facilities vision is to maximize the use of existing fields before construction of additional fields. Stakeholders have indicated that the number of existing fields is adequate to meet current demand if better use is made of existing fields. Strategies to improve usage include:

- Establish a new Level of Service Metric – A new level-of-service metric should be established for recreational sports. One technique is to simply adopt the County’s current LOS for soccer,
- Prioritization – Give first priority to the needs of recreational and school athletics programs; second priority would be given to travel programs, if capacity is available. Should the County wish to exceed the recreational LOS to accommodate the needs of travel programs, a new user/ association fee policy should be established to recover a higher percentage of capital, operations, and maintenance costs.
- Collaboration with School Board – Many schools have athletics fields that are not being used due to poor maintenance.

**Table 3.2** Existing and Recommended Athletics LOS

	<b>Current Inventory</b>	<b>Existing LOS (based on 2017 population estimate of 244,000)</b>	<b>2013 SCORP LOS (based on 2013 participation rates in NE Florida)</b>	<b>Suggested LOS (to be monitored according to actual demand, and reviewed and updated every 5 years)</b>
Baseball Fields	33	1 field/ 7400 population	1 field/ 5800 population	1 field/ 5800 population
Softball Fields	16	1 field/ 15,200 population	N/A	1 field/ 15,200 population
Multi-Purpose Rectangular Fields (Soccer, Lacrosse, Football)	46	1 field/ 5300 population	1 soccer field/ 20,000 population. 1 football field/ 5800 population	1 field/ 4500 population

football, lacrosse, softball, and baseball; recreation staff and stakeholders have indicated that most residents’ recreational needs are being met, with the exception of middle school students. Another technique is to calculate LOS based on the participation rates established in the 2013 State of Florida Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Table 3.2 compares the existing LOS to the SCORP-based LOS, and suggests a new LOS for consideration.

The County and the school board should discuss how to renovate and maintain these existing fields, rather than build new fields.

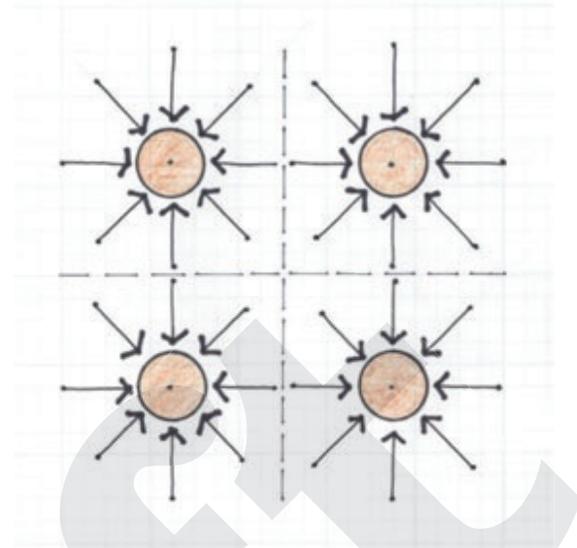
- Scheduling – Currently many of the County’s fields are controlled by athletics associations. The County should take back control of the fields; establish new scheduling protocols (based on the priorities outlined above); and re-negotiate association agreements and fees.



- Turf Maintenance – Establish policies requiring annual rest periods for fields; and invest in artificial turf fields as needed to increase capacity.
- Multi-use Fields – Wherever possible, build and/or maintain sports facilities as multi-use fields capable of accommodating multiple sports.
- Monitoring – Once the County has established the new policies and protocols outlined above, the County should collect data annually to determine levels of use, capacity, vacancy, and needed changes to level-of-service.

Eventually new facilities will be needed to accommodate growth and demand. The Sports Facilities vision is for fields to be located throughout the County, based on the Equity Model Figure 3.7, to ensure that every resident has equal access to fields. Sports Facilities will be located within community parks, and will be designed to be safe, functional, and aesthetically pleasing. User amenities would include covered seating, drinking fountains, concessions, playgrounds, and other amenities to enhance the user’s experience. Figure 3.8 and 3.9 illustrate the proposed locations of athletic fields, specifically Rectangle Fields for soccer, football, and lacrosse, and Diamond Fields for baseball and softball.

Figure 3.10 illustrates how multi-purpose sports fields can be constructed as part of a larger community park that meets a variety of residents’ needs, including basketball courts, tennis courts, pickleball courts, picnic pavilions, a recreational

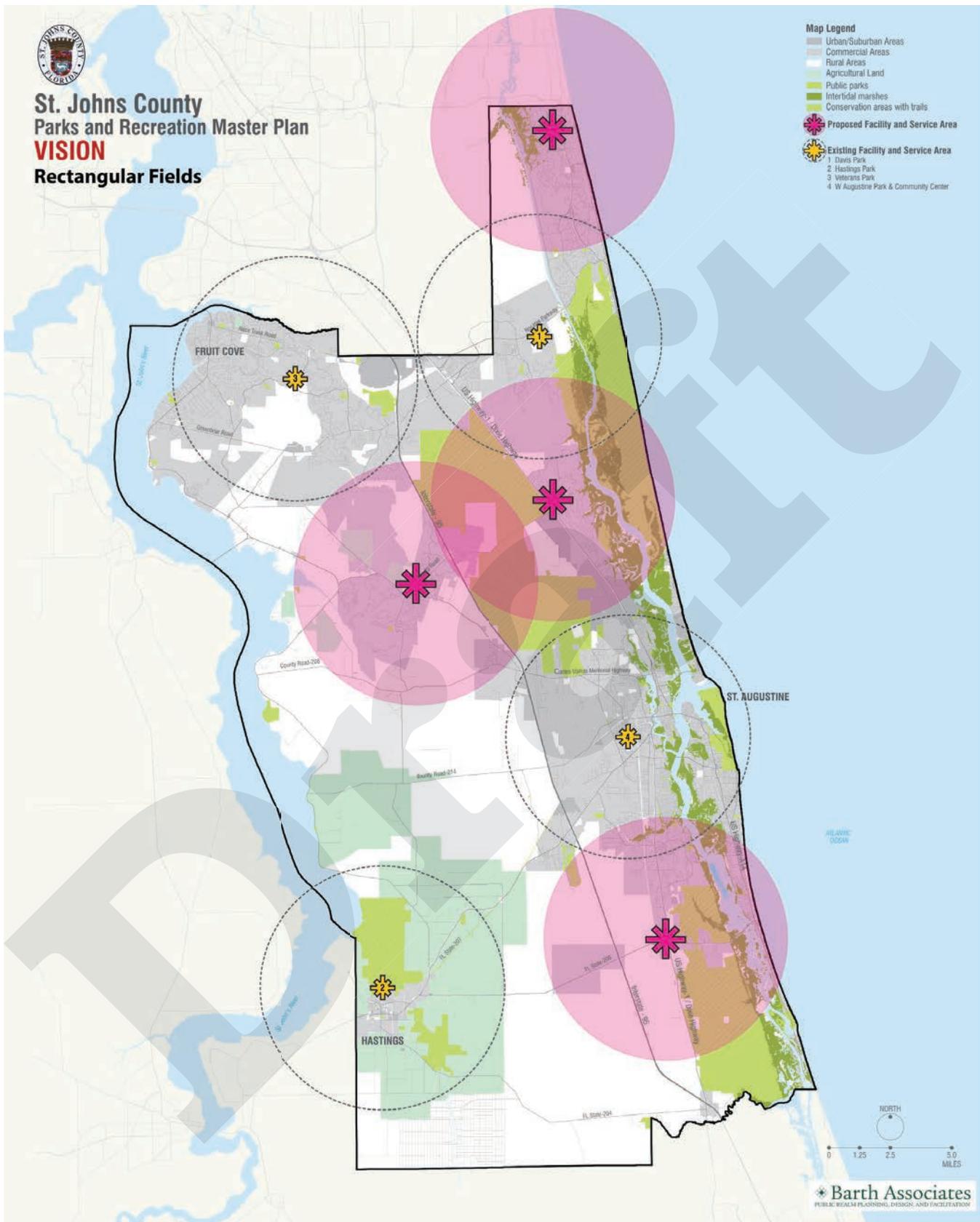


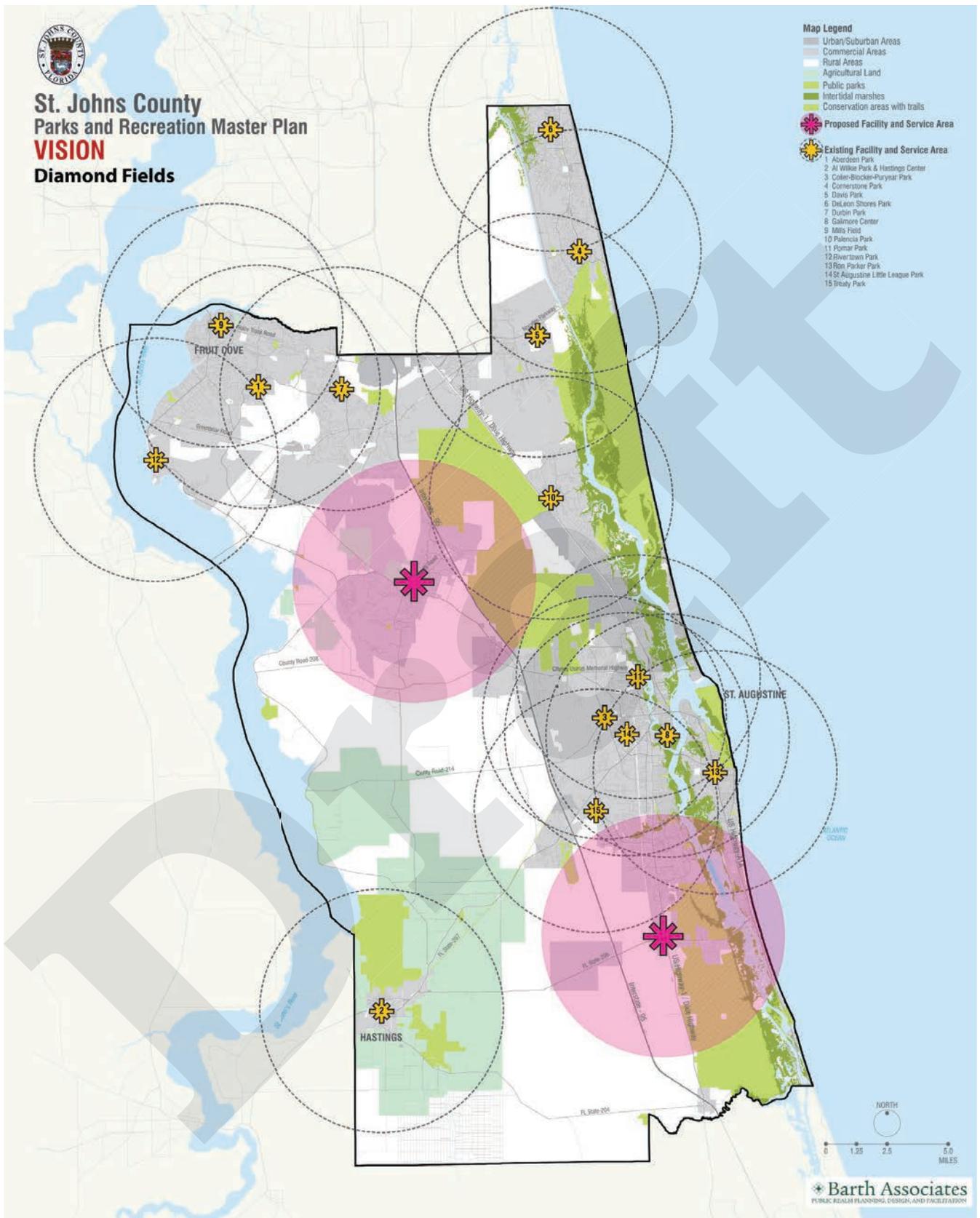
**Figure 3.7** Equity Model for Sports Facilities (Barth Associates, 2016)

and community center, multi-purpose trails, nature trails, a covered outdoor exercise area, a covered playground, and a conservation area dog park.

The vision does not propose any dedicated sports complexes proposed specifically for tournament play, unless the County’s Tourist Development Council wishes to develop such facilities to attract tournaments and sports tourism to the County.









**LEGEND:**

- |                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 BASKETBALL COURTS                 | 9 MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD              |
| 2 ON-STREET PARKING                 | 10 RECREATIONAL   COMMUNITY CENTER |
| 3 TENNIS COURTS                     | 11 NATURE TRAILS                   |
| 4 PICKLEBALL COURTS                 | 12 RESTROOMS                       |
| 5 SMALL PICNIC PAVILLION WITH GRILL | 13 PARKING LOT                     |
| 6 PERIMETER PARK ROAD               | 14 COVERED OUTDOOR EXERCISE AREA   |
| 7 CONSERVATION AREA                 | 15 COVERED PLAYGROUND              |
| 8 PEDESTRIAN PROMENADE              | 16 MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL             |

**Figure 3.10** Prototypical New Community Park with Sports Facilities



### 3.8 Additional Beach Parks, Beach Access Parks, and Parking

Residents indicated in the recent survey that additional beach parks and access are their top spending priority for parks and recreation facilities, allocating over 20% of the parks and recreation budget for “beach & water access” (Figure 3.6 Resident’s Parks and Recreation Budget Priorities, above). Additionally, the County’s Visitors and Convention Bureau survey found that dissatisfaction with beach parking and traffic are the two of the biggest reasons that visitors do not return to St. Johns County.

The County’s vision for beach access and parking includes enhancement of existing beach parking areas to provide additional amenities and improve the beach experience; development of new, off-beach parking areas to help meet demand and generate additional revenues; construction of additional dune walk-overs (boardwalks) to serve local residents and decrease parking demand; and expansion of trolley access to help decrease parking demands on peak days.

**First**, existing beach access parks can be improved to better serve both residents and visitors. Enhancements could include, but not be limited to, additional parking where possible; restrooms, drinking fountains, and showers; food truck and/or concession areas; picnic pavilions; and other amenities. These “hub” sites, spaced between 1 to 5 miles apart, include:

- North Beach Park
- Mickler’s
- South Ponte Vedra
- Vilano Oceanfront
- The Pier

- Butler Beach
- Crescent Beach

**Second**, the vision includes the construction of dune walk-overs at the end of public street rights-of-ways, spaced approximately 1/2 mile apart. This would provide nearby residents with beach access within approximately ¼ - ½ mile of their homes, decreasing the demand for parking. Improved access would also increase property taxes from the increased values of homes within walking distance of the beach.

**Third**, the County has completed several beach parking studies that recommend the development of more off-beach parking lots. For example, the 2016 Parking Implementation Study evaluated three implementation options – all parking services provided in-house, contracting-out of all parking services, and a hybrid approach mixing elements of in-house and contracted-out service delivery – in each of five revenue projection scenarios. Findings included:

- The contracting-out approach, where an outside firm would administer both on-beach parking and a new off-beach parking program, maximizes net revenue generation for the County.
- Contracting-out parking services under the baseline scenario would generate an estimated \$1,614,068 in net revenue (revenue less direct costs) to the County in the first year of implementation and \$7,916,349 over the forecast period.

However, these recommendations have not yet been adopted by the Board of County Commissioners.

**Finally**, the vision includes the expansion of the County’s shuttle service as needed to meet parking demand during peak periods. For example, the County offered



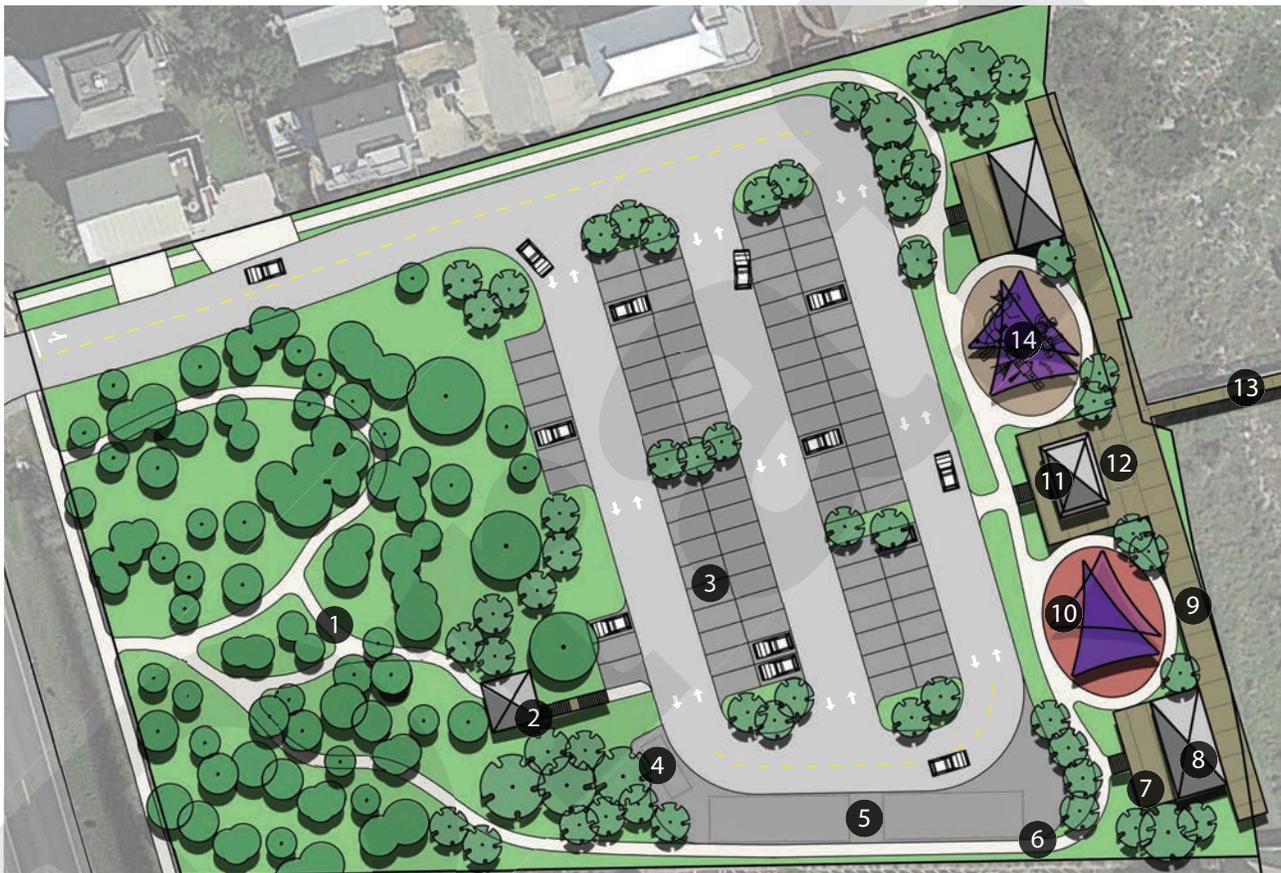


**Figure 3.11** Existing and Proposed Beach Access and “Hubs” (Enhanced Access)



free shuttle service to Mickler's Beachfront Park and the St. Johns County Ocean and Fishing Pier from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. during Labor Day Weekend. The County has also developed a “Reach the Beach” mobile application that provides residents and visitors with real-time information regarding beach parking availability, geolocation, and information regarding facilities, amenities and lifeguard information.

Figure 3.11 illustrates the locations of existing and proposed beach access, as well as the proposed enhanced “hub” access sites and Figure 3.12 illustrates a prototypical beach access park and how it can be designed to meet a variety of resident needs such as nature trails, equestrian facilities, a covered playground, restrooms, showers, picnic pavilions, and an outdoor covered exercise area.



**LEGEND:**

- |                         |                                 |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ① NATURE TRAIL          | ⑧ LARGE PAVILION WITH GRILL     |
| ② LOOKOUT TOUR          | ⑨ BOARDWALK PROMENADE           |
| ③ VEHICLE PARKING       | ⑩ COVERED OUTDOOR EXERCISE AREA |
| ④ HORSE WASH RACK       | ⑪ RESTROOMS                     |
| ⑤ HORSE TRAILER PARKING | ⑫ SHOWERS                       |
| ⑥ MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL   | ⑬ BEACH BOARDWALK ACCESS        |
| ⑦ PAVILION DECK         | ⑭ COVERED OUTDOOR PLAYGROUND    |

**Figure 3.12** Prototypical New Beach Access Park



### 3.9 Acquisition of Parks, Open Space, and Natural Areas, including Small Neighborhood Parks

As mentioned above, residents' top priorities have shifted from the development of sports facilities to the upgrade and expansion of existing parks, community centers, playgrounds, beach and water access, and trails. Figure 3.14 and 3.15 show the locations of the County's existing community and regional parks.

#### **The County's vision for new parks and open spaces includes the following recommendations, based on the Department's proposed role and mission:**

- The County should continue to focus on providing large, multi-use, regional parks to meet the needs of future residents; a desired LOS may include a multi-purpose regional park (e.g. Treaty Park) within 10 miles of every resident, or a regional park per each Commission District. Logical locations for future new parks are the 2 – 4 potential new sites for diamond or rectangular fields, as shown on Figures 3.8 and 3.9 above.
- In addition to focusing on large, multi-use parks, the County should continue to serve the local needs of existing, disadvantaged neighborhoods by providing new, small parks in underserved areas. Figure 3.13 Prototypical Neighborhood Park illustrates the desired components of a typical local park.
- The County should also retrofit existing parks to meet the needs of non-sports participants through the addition of walking trails, multi-purpose lawns,

playgrounds, picnic pavilions, sports courts (e.g. pickleball, basketball, tennis), and other amenities, as shown in Figure 3.10 Prototypical New Community Park with Sports Facilities

- Land Development Regulations should be updated to require new private development to provide 8-10-acre neighborhood parks - within a 10-minute walk of every home - to meet the local needs of future residents. The prototypical neighborhood park mentioned previously (Figure 3.13) should be incorporated in to the regulations as a guide for developers.
- New private development should also continue to help offset the costs (through impact fees) of the larger parks required to meet the needs of new residents for sports facilities, indoor recreation centers, regional trails, and other facilities not available within the development's local parks.

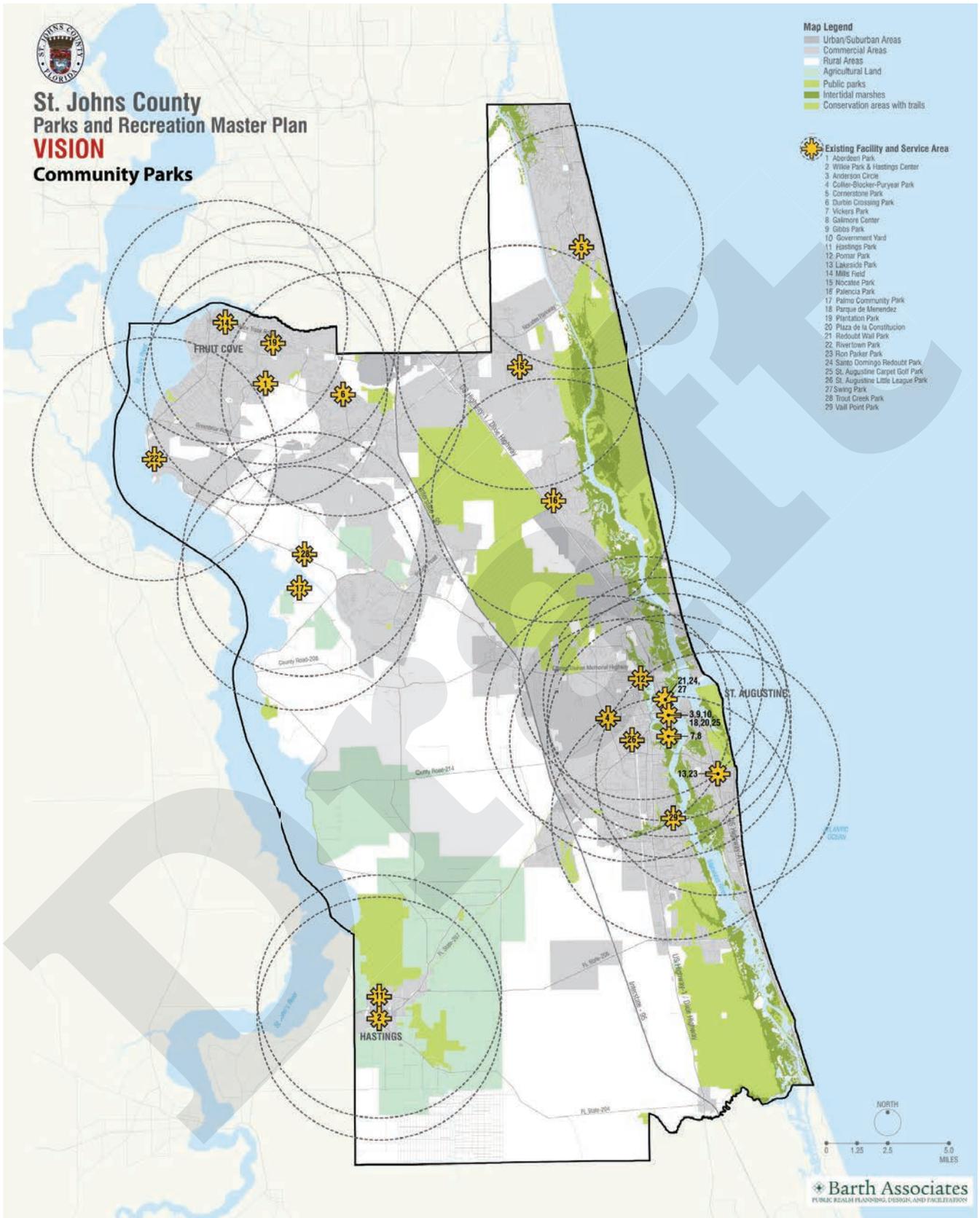
In addition to acquiring land and developing more regional parks, the County's vision also includes the acquisition of additional conservation lands to protect the County's natural resources. The North Florida Land Trust has developed a proposed acquisition list and map based on the following criteria:

One idea for generating funds for land acquisition is to create a voluntary surcharge program at local hotels, encouraging visitors to help pay for the protection and maintenance of the natural areas they visit during their stay. According to the North Florida Land Trust, such programs have been successful at other conservation sites such as St. Simons Island and Grand Teton National Park (Jackson Hole).





**Figure 3.13 New Prototypical Neighborhood Park**





### 3.10 Additional Adult Fitness and Wellness Programs; Concerts/ Live Music; and Nature/ Environmental Programs

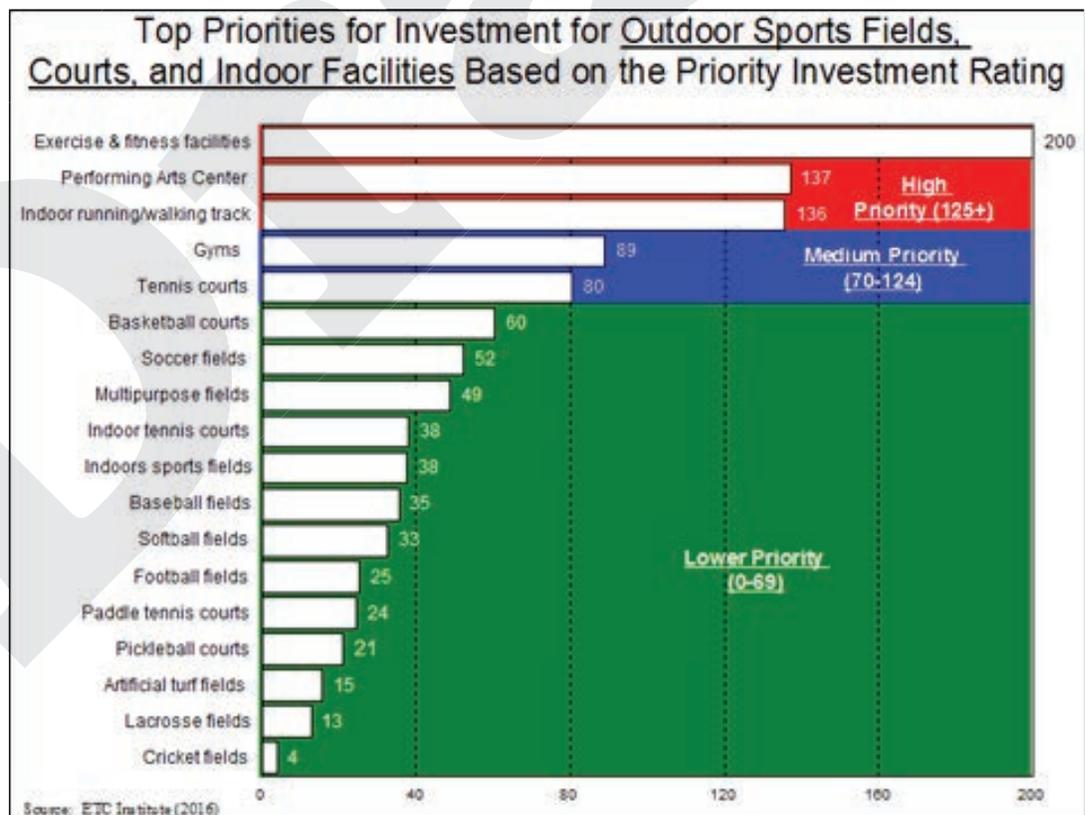
The recent telephone/ mail survey indicated that top priorities for recreation programs include adult fitness and wellness, concerts and live music, and nature/environmental programs. The County recently “tested” this finding by offering an adult fitness program at Canopy Shores Park; while participation was capped at 16 people, 30 people signed up, and the County hosted a 2nd class.

In 2017, the Parks Department County offered 76 nature/environmental programs, of which 33% were at capacity. Another 46 programs were offered in with conjunction with partner organizations with over 4,200 attendees. Approximately 40 outreach

educational programs were offered with 3,772 attendees. And outreach programs increased 500% from 2016 to 2017.

Currently the County offers limited recreational programs, including adult athletics, after-school enrichment programming, summer camps, nature camps, and some special events. Approximately 3,800 residents participated in County programs last year. Of the +/- 120 programs provided by the County last year, it is estimated that only approximately 4 % were at capacity.

**The County’s vision is to expand program offerings to meet residents’ needs by** 1) improving communications to make residents more aware of existing programs (as discussed above); 2) surveying residents annually to determine current programming needs and priorities; and 3) partnering with



Source: ETC Institute (2016) **Figure 3.16** Residents’ Priorities for Investment in Programs and Activities



other agencies and/or private contractors to leverage existing resources. For example, existing and potential partners to meet residents' top priority program needs include:

**Adult Fitness and Wellness:**

- University of St. Augustine
- Occupational Therapists
- Physicians
- Flagler College
- Baptist South
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield
- Humana
- Private Instructors

**Concerts and Live Music:**

- Amphitheater
- Beach Civic Association
- Ponte Vedra Concert Hall
- Local musicians
- Local schools

**Nature/Environmental Programs:**

- North Florida Land Trust
- Sierra Club
- Florida State Parks
- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
- St. Johns Water Management District
- Local outfitters and instructors

It is important to note that current County policies limit the County's ability to promote programs being offered by partner agencies. These policies should be reviewed and updated as necessary to allow the County to leverage its partnerships in order to meet residents' needs.

### 3.11 Additional Walking, Biking, Nature, Equestrian Trails

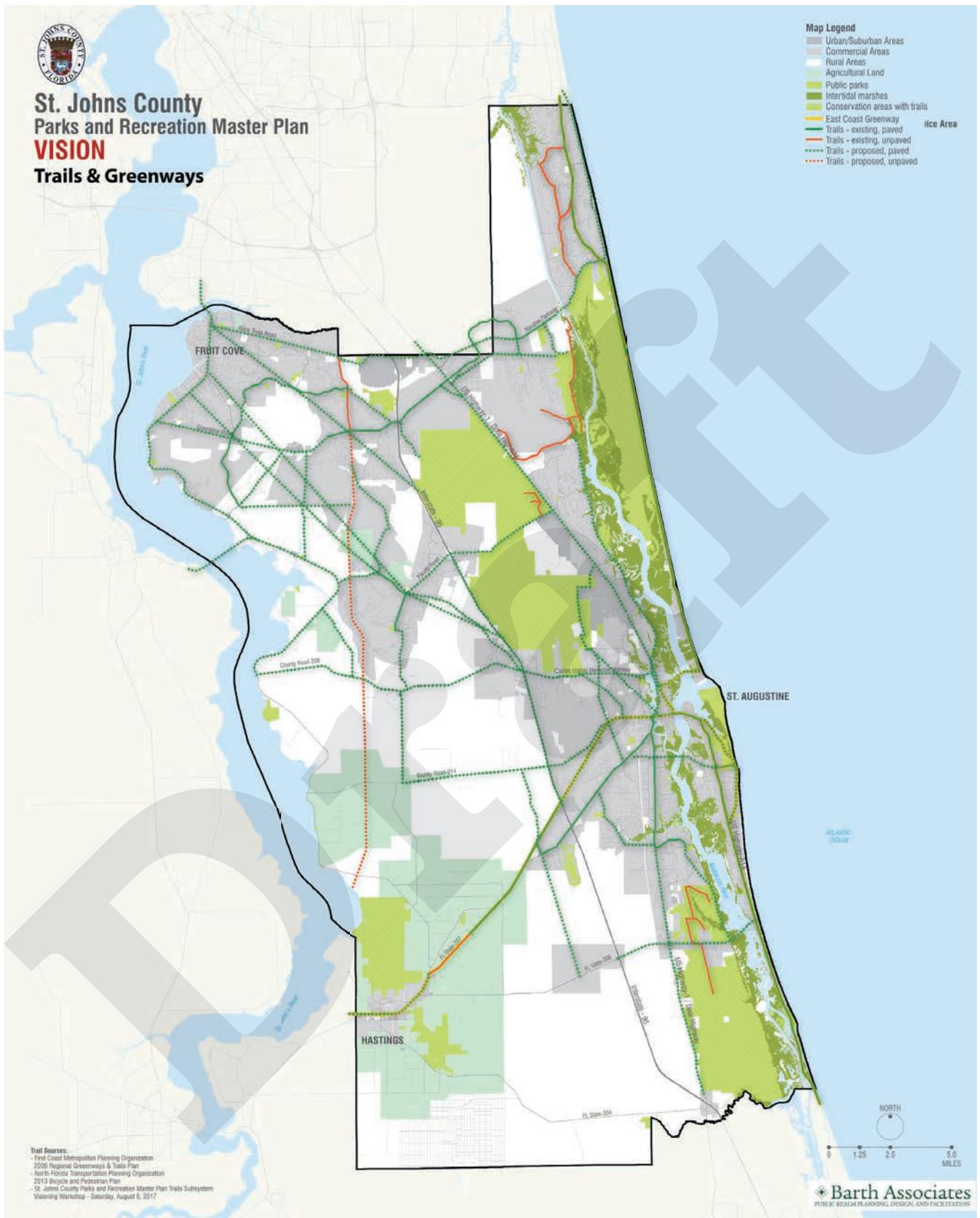
As mentioned above, the needs assessment identified hiking, biking, and equestrian trails as a top priority for County residents. Several groups have initiated visioning processes for the County's trails system over the past several years, including the North Florida Bike Association, the East Coast Greenway, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the River to Sea Loop, the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and others.

Based on these previous initiatives, as well as input received from trails groups during the parks and recreation visioning workshop, the County's vision for its trails system includes an interconnected network of:

- Off-road, paved, multi-purpose trails (walking, running, biking, skating)
- Off-road, unpaved trails (hiking, nature, equestrian, biking)
- On-road sidewalks and bike lanes (walking, biking, skating)

Figure 3.17 illustrates the collective vision for an interconnected Trails and Greenways system.





**Figure 3.17** Proposed Trails and Greenways System



### 3.12 Vision Summary

**Figure 3.18 illustrates a comprehensive, long-range vision for the County’s parks and recreation system that:**

1. Follows best practices and guiding principles in parks and recreation system planning
2. Addresses current deficiencies from deferred maintenance
3. Responds appropriately to residents’ current top priority needs
4. Anticipates the needs of future residents
5. Acknowledges fiscal constraints, the need for strategic solutions, and the role of private developers and other partners in helping to meet residents’ needs

**The next section of the Master Plan, the Implementation Strategy, discusses estimate costs and alternatives for implementing the long-range vision.**

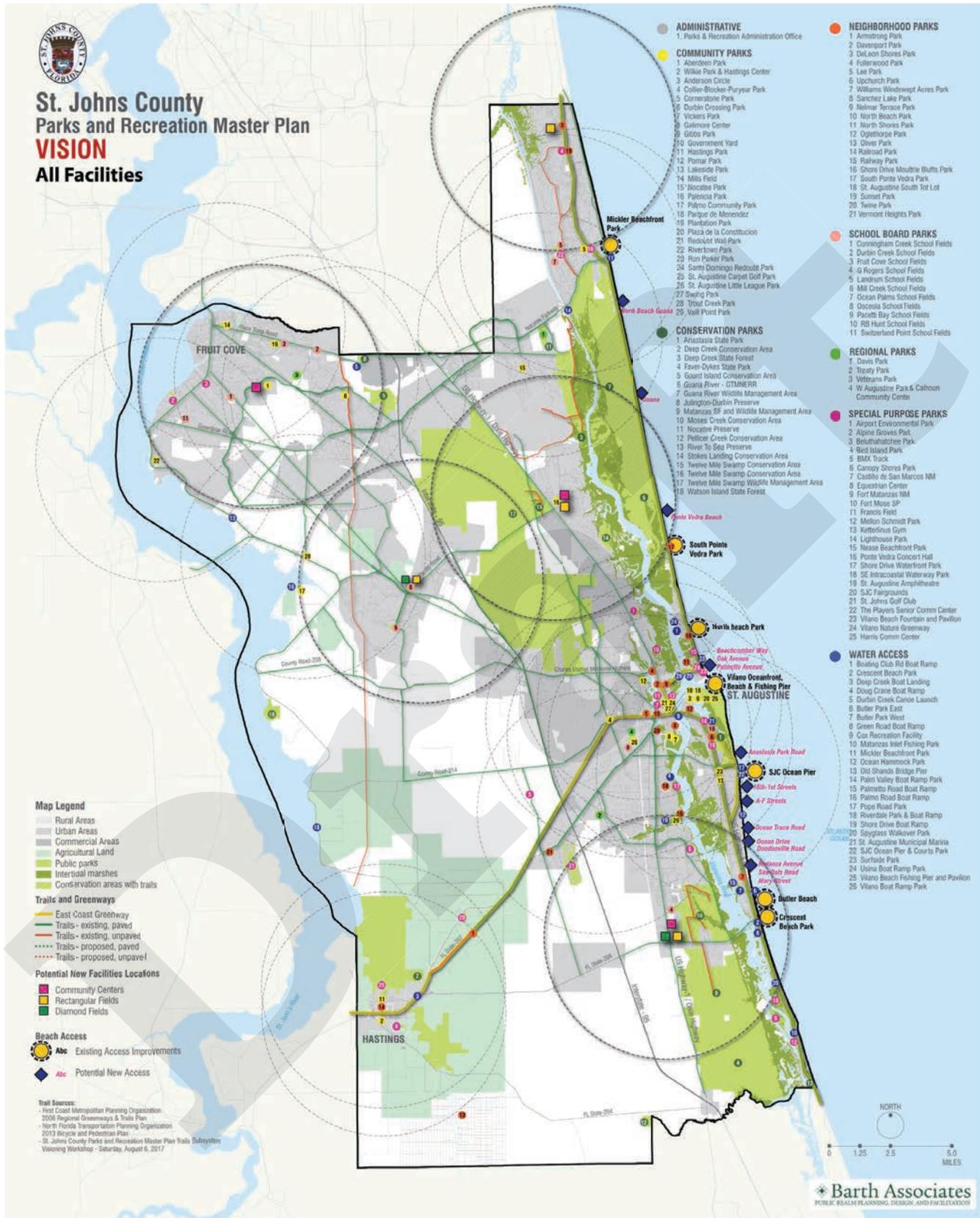


Figure 3.18 Long Range Vision



4

# IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY



ION



# SECTION 4: IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

**The Parks and Recreation Needs Assessment (Section 2) indicated that the top priority parks and recreation needs in St. Johns County can be summarized as:**

1. Make Better Use of Existing Parks  
+
2. Acquire More Parkland  
+
3. Develop New Fitness and Sports Facilities

**More specifically, top priorities include:**

- Upgrade, repair, and maintain existing parks and sports facilities, including ADA compliance
- Provide additional walking and biking trails, nature trails
- Provide additional beach parks, beach access parks, and parking
- Acquire land for parks, open space, and natural areas, including small neighborhood parks
- Provide indoor exercise and fitness facilities, gymnasiums
- Develop new sports facilities, particularly rectangular athletic fields (football, soccer, lacrosse, multi-purpose)
- Provide additional adult fitness and wellness programs; concerts/ live music; and nature/ environmental programs
- Improve marketing and communications

**In response to those needs, the Long-Range Vision described in Section 3 outlines an estimated +/- \$123M of parks and recreation improvements, as outlined on Table 4.1:**

Proposed Improvements	Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
<b>1. Repairs</b>	Make the park repairs outlined in Section 3.6			\$10 M
<b>2. Community Center Feasibility Study</b>	Conduct a feasibility study to evaluate opportunities to update and/or expand the County's existing community centers.	7 Centers	\$25K each	\$175,000
<b>3. Additional/ Enhanced Indoor Recreation Space</b>	Based on the findings from the feasibility study, add or update approximately 40,000 of new/ enhanced indoor recreation space to existing community centers to meet residents' needs.	40,000 square feet (sf)	Average \$300/sf (conditions vary)	\$12 M
<b>4. Additional Park Land</b>	Acquire 6-8 new sites for large, multiple-purpose community/ regional parks to increase LOS in accordance with Comprehensive Plan, based on projected 2030 population; and to provide land for future athletic fields funds become available	500 AC	\$40K/ AC	\$20M
<b>5. Enhanced Beach Hubs</b>	Enhance the County's 7 existing "Beach Hub: sites with additional parking (where possible) and amenities to better serve both residents and visitors.	7 hubs (North Beach Park, Mickler's South Pointe Vedra, Vilano Oceanfront, the Pier, Butler Beach, Crescent Beach)	Average \$1M each (conditions vary)	\$7M
<b>6. Dune Walk-overs Feasibility Study</b>	Evaluate the feasibility of constructing the 12 additional dune walk-overs identified in the Section 3.8			\$100,000
<b>7. Dune Walk-overs</b>	Based on the finding from the feasibility study, construct new dune walk-overs to improve public access to the beach	12 walk-overs	Average \$500K each (conditions vary)	\$6M
<b>8. Neighborhood Parks</b>	Acquire sites, design and construct 5 new neighborhood parks to serve the local needs of existing, underserved and/or disadvantaged neighborhoods	5 small parks, 6-8 acres each	Average \$2M each	\$10M

**Table 4.1 Long-Range Vision Order of Magnitude Opinion of Probable Costs**



Proposed Improvements	Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Subtotal
<b>9. Update Existing Parks</b>	Update the County's 33 existing community and regional parks to meet the resident's needs through the addition of walking trails, multi-purpose lawns, playgrounds, picnic pavillions, sports courts (e.g. pickleball, basketball, tennis), and other amenities	33 existing parks	\$1M each (conditions vary)	\$33M
<b>10. Greenways, Trails, and Bikeways</b>	Continue working with the County's Public Works Department, Florida Bike Association, the East Coast Greenway, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT), the River to Sea Loop, the North Florida Transportation Planning Organization (TPO), and others to create a safe, interconnected network of bicycle/ pedestrian trails (off-road and on-road), sidewalks, and bike lanes for both recreation and transportation.			Funded by others
<b>SUB-TOTAL ESTIMATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>				<b>\$98.275M</b>
<b>CONTINGENCY</b>	Actual costs will need to be determined through site identification, actual land acquisition, detailed design and engineering studies, cost estimating, and bidding		25%	\$25M
<b>TOTAL ESTIMATED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS</b>				<b>\$123.275M</b>

**Table 4.1 Long-Range Vision Order of Magnitude Opinion of Probable Costs (Continued)**

In addition to capital improvements, annual parks and recreation operating costs are estimated to increase (once improvements are completed) by approximately \$5-6 M per year (+/- 5% of capital improvements). There is little funding available for parks and recreation improvements, however. Competing needs include traffic congestion, school overcrowding and other growth-related issues. At the time this plan was written, an article in the St. Augustine

Record stated that “in the short-term, there’s the remaining budget shortfall for fire services (\$2 million) and pavement management (\$8 million), funding the community’s requests for countywide programs, consideration of off-beach parking, and addressing the needs of a growing county population. There is also a 10-year backlog of capital projects, mostly infrastructure needs, in excess of \$292 million”. Therefore, a multi-faceted



approach is required to meet residents' priority needs, including the following initiatives.

**1. Hire a Parks and Recreation Communications Coordinator to Increase Efficiency and Reduce Demand**

– The needs assessment indicated that the top reason preventing households from using parks, facilities, and programs is “I do not know what is being offered” (40%). If County residents were made more aware of existing beaches, parks, and recreation facilities, it is reasonable to assume that “needs” or demands could be reduced. It is also reasonable to assume that demand for athletic facilities such as football, soccer, and lacrosse fields could be reduced by 1) greater awareness of under-utilized fields, and 2) improved scheduling. A full time, dedicated communications position (to be filled by a marketing/ communications professional, not a parks and recreation professional) could increase efficiency and reduce demand for new facilities.

**2. Update and/or Prepare Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)**

– The Department can provide services more cost-effectively and efficiently by updating its standard operating procedures including cash handling and internal controls, opening and closing procedures, maintenance standards, facility scheduling and reservation processes, program planning and evaluation, customer service, safety and risk management, staffing and organizational structure and administration. SOPs should be developed for each of the internal areas of operation including the

Golf Course; Ocean Pier Operations; Beach Parking Operations; Facility Rentals and Reservations; Community Recreation and Nature Programs; Park Maintenance; and Parks and Recreation Administration.

**3. Update Land Development Regulations**

– Based on the +/- 3600 single family building permits issued in 2017, it is reasonable to assume that another +/- 18,000 homes will be constructed in the County within the next 5 years. However, current land development regulations do not require local parks to be constructed as infrastructure (such as required roads, utilities, sewer and water); and they allow developers to opt out of the requirements by paying fees in lieu of parks. Similarly, the LDRs do not specify the types of parks and recreation facilities that must be provided by developers in order to meet residents' needs, resulting in a greater burden for the County.

The LDRs should be updated to eliminate vague terms such as “parks”, “civic space”, “recreation”, “open space”, “greenway”, “common”, “greens”, “playgrounds”, and “community gardens”. Instead, developers should be required to provide a 6 – 8-acre neighborhood park within a 10-minute walk (1/2 mile) of every new home, designed and constructed in accordance with the prototype illustrated in the previous section. Fees-in-lieu-of-parks should only be permitted for infill developments too small to provide the required prototypical park.

**4. Dedicate Impact Fees to Large, Multi-Use, County-wide Facilities**

– The County recently increased its park impact fees, which should generate approximately



\$27,000,000 for new park construction over the next 5 years. These fees should be used solely to help offset the costs for the larger community-wide facilities required by new residents that cannot be accommodated inside new subdivisions, such as athletic fields, indoor recreation centers, and trails.

**5. Hire a Grants Coordinator** - The County should hire a grants coordinator or consultant to secure the County’s fair share of grant funds. For example, the City of Jacksonville’s Grants Division secured over \$12,000,000 in 2017 for parks and recreation improvements. While funding for the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) and the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) have been significantly reduced in recent years, other potential grants may include:

- Urban Forest Health Initiative  
\$24,000
- Energy Efficiency Grant Program  
\$1.24 M
- Recreation Development Assistance Prgrm.  
\$200,000
- DOT Highway Beautification  
\$300,000
- Transportation Enhancement Program  
\$500,000
- Urban & Community Forestry Grants  
\$10 – 25,000
- Water Project Grant Program  
\$50,000 – 3.6M
- Clean Energy Grants  
\$500,000
- Historic Preservation  
\$350,000
- Boating Improvement Fund  
\$200,000
- Economic Development Administration  
Varies

- Lowe’s Neighborhood Grants  
\$200,000
- Land and Water Conservation Fund  
Varies
- Recreational Trails Program  
\$200,000
- Broadband Technology Opp. Program  
Varies
- NFL Grant – Practice Fields  
\$50 – 200,000
- USTA Public Facilities Grant  
\$4 – 50,000
- MLB Tomorrow Fund  
\$50,000
- Community Development Block Grants  
Varies
- Boating Infrastructure Grant Program  
\$15,000 – 1.5M

**6. Continue to Increase CIP Funding** – The County has only funded approximately \$128,000 in parks and recreation capital improvements from the general fund over the past 5 years, averaging approximately \$25,000/ year. This level of funding is not sufficient to keep up with needed repairs to existing parks; or meet the demands of new residents for additional parks and recreation capacity.

**7. Increase User Fees** – At a recent workshop, residents indicated their willingness to increase athletics fees and pay for off-beach parking. The County has generated approximately \$2.7 M in parks and recreation user fees over the past 5 years, averaging approximately \$550,000/ year from sources such as athletic field and picnic pavilion rentals. A 25% increase in user fees could generate an additional \$140,000 per year.



## 8. Consider MSTUs, Bonds, Sales Tax or Other Funding Initiatives

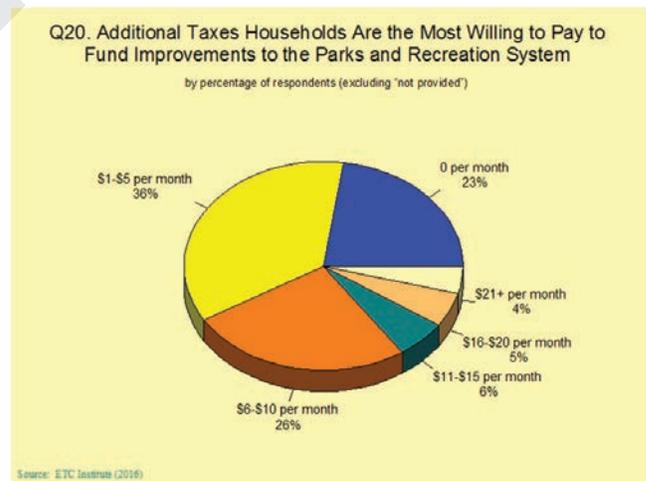
- The techniques listed above may not generate the revenues needed to repair or improve existing facilities, and/or meet the demand for new facilities. However, residents have indicated a willingness to pay more taxes for parks and recreation facilities. The County-wide, statistically-representative mail survey conducted for this Master Plan indicated that sixty percent (60%) of County residents would support a ½ cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County, including improvements to the parks and recreation system. Figure 4.1 shows that 77% of residents are willing to pay at least an additional \$1-\$5 per month in additional taxes to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system; and 41% are willing to pay at least \$6-10 per month. For example, it is estimated that a \$100 annual increase per household (+/- \$8 per month) would generate approximately \$11 million per year for parks and recreation capital improvements, generating \$55 million over the next five years. Combined with the other funding techniques outlined above, such an initiative could fund the entire +/- \$123M Long-Range Vision (outlined in Section 3 of this plan) over a ten-year period.

The County may wish to work with the Trust for Public Land to analyze the feasibility and likelihood of success of a ballot measure. TPL has been involved in over 100 state and local ballot measures over the past 5 years, resulting in over \$33 billion for parks and open space. Recent local measures included Alachua, Lee, and Brevard counties.

## 9. Pursue Public/Private Partnerships (P3s)

Some needs can be met through public/private partnerships, particularly if there is a profit-making opportunity for a private or non-profit entity. Examples include provide food, beverage, and rental concessions at public parks; special events; and private fitness instructors at public parks. Of the top priority needs identified by residents, the most likely opportunities for P3s include beach parking; indoor fitness centers; competition/ tournament-level sports facilities; fitness and wellness programs; and concerts and live music.

When pursuing P3s, it is important to safeguard the public's right to access and use of the publicly-owned facility. Most P3 agreements limit the amount of time a site or facility can be used exclusively by the private entity; the amount that can be charged; and how residents' rights to access and use will be maintained.



**Figure 4.1 Additional Tax Households Are Willing to Pay for Parks and Recreation System Improvements**



## **OTHER IMPLEMENTATION INITIATIVES:**

In addition to funding capital improvements, the Implementation Strategy also includes the following recommendations for programs, policies, and other initiatives.

### **Programs:**

#### **1. Fitness and Exercise Programs -**

Expand fitness and exercise programs at existing centers by partnering with other agencies such as the YMCA, and/or contracting with qualified private instructors.

- #### **2. Other Programs -** expand program offerings to meet residents' needs by 1) improving communications to make residents more aware of existing programs; 2) surveying residents annually to determine current programming needs and priorities; and 3) partnering with other agencies and/or private contractors to leverage existing resources.

### **Other Policies and Initiatives:**

1. Mission - Officially adopt the County Parks and Recreation Department mission
2. Communications - Improve communications, as outlined in Section 3.4.
3. Recreation Coalition - Organize a coalition of recreation providers in St. Johns County to 1) define roles and responsibilities, 2) discuss potential partnerships, and 3) plan future projects.
4. Reduced Services - Reduce County parks and recreation services to match available revenues, consistent with the new Department mission statement.
5. Prioritization – Prioritize deferred

maintenance projects based on the criteria established in Section 3.6.

6. Maintenance LOS - Establish new maintenance levels-of-service based on priorities for aesthetics, functionality, and safety.
7. Facility Removal or Closure - Remove redundant, obsolete, and/or dangerous facilities that are no longer functional, and replace with facilities that meet resident's needs such as multi-purpose open space, natural areas, and trails. Close parks and recreation facilities that are unsafe for use, and/or seldom used by the public.
8. Field Maintenance Costs and Responsibilities – Evaluate the full costs of maintaining competition-level athletic facilities, and develop a policy to either subsidize a percentage of the costs; charge Athletic Associations the full costs; or assign maintenance responsibilities to the Associations.
9. Friends Group(s) – Establish a non-profit Parks Foundation, “Friends” Groups, and/or conservancies for individual parks to raise funds for park improvements, operations, and maintenance.
10. Athletics Field LOS - Adopt a new level-of-service for athletics fields, as discussed in Section 3.7.
11. Athletic Field Use Policy - Establish a policy giving first priority for athletic field use to recreational and school leagues.
12. School Board Collaboration - Meet with the School Board to discuss how to renovate and maintain existing school fields for public use, rather than building new fields.
13. Field Scheduling - Assume control of scheduling athletic fields; establish new scheduling protocols; and re-negotiate



association agreements and fees.

14. Turf Maintenance – Establish policies requiring annual rest periods for fields; and invest in artificial turf fields as needed to increase capacity.
15. Land Development Regulations (LDRs)
  - Update the County’s LDRs to require new private development to provide 8-10-acre neighborhood parks - within a 10-minute walk of every home - to meet the local needs of future residents, in accordance with the prototypical neighborhood park illustrated in Section 3.9.
16. Conservation Lands – Fund the County’s Land Acquisition and Management Program (LAMP) to protect and preserve the County’s environmentally sensitive lands.
17. Software Upgrades – Continue to upgrade software to improve efficiency of scheduling, maintenance, and operations as defined in the updated SOPs.
18. School Board Joint-Use Agreements – Continue working with the School Board to refine and improve existing joint-use agreements to maximize public tax dollars.



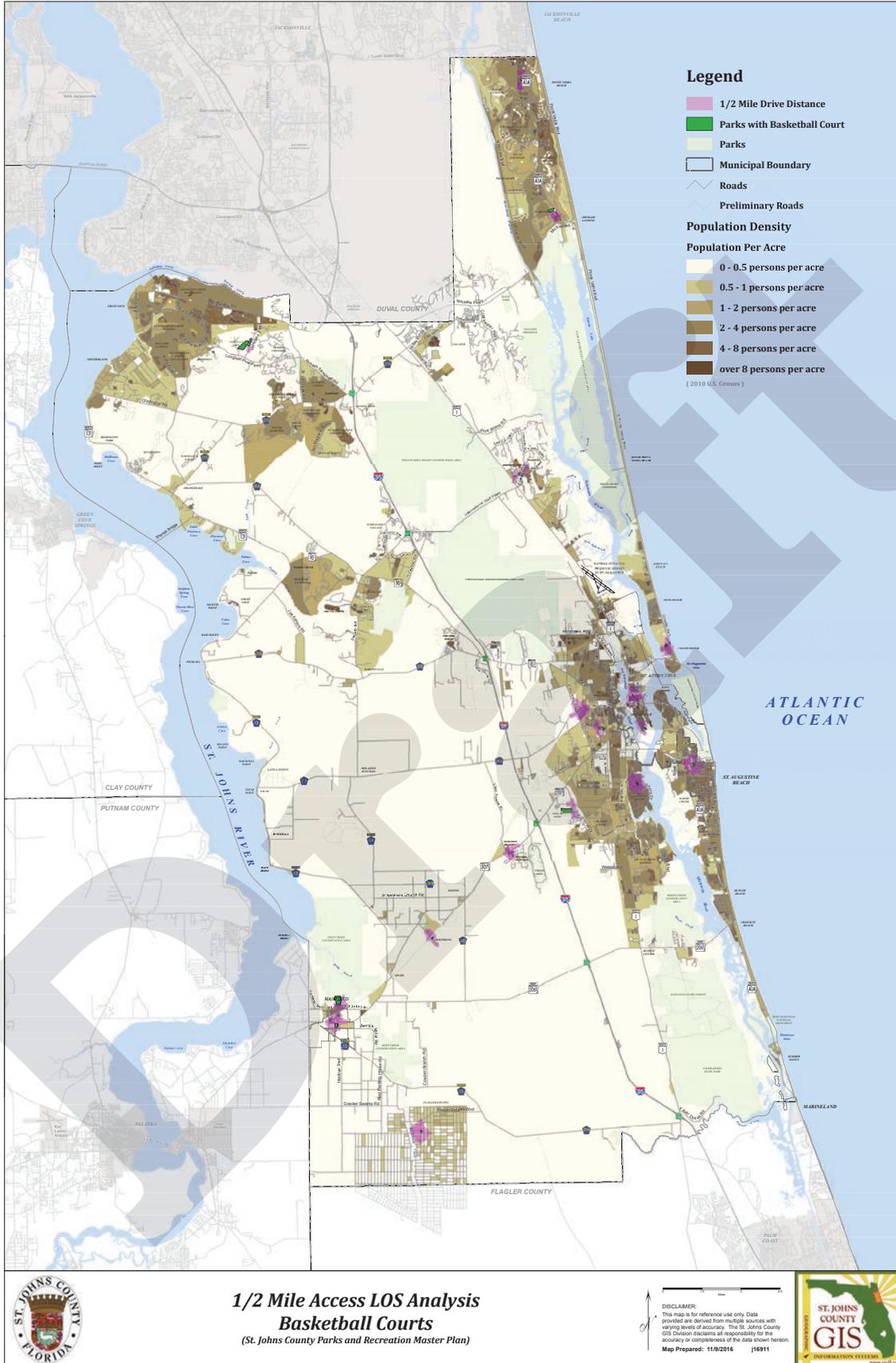
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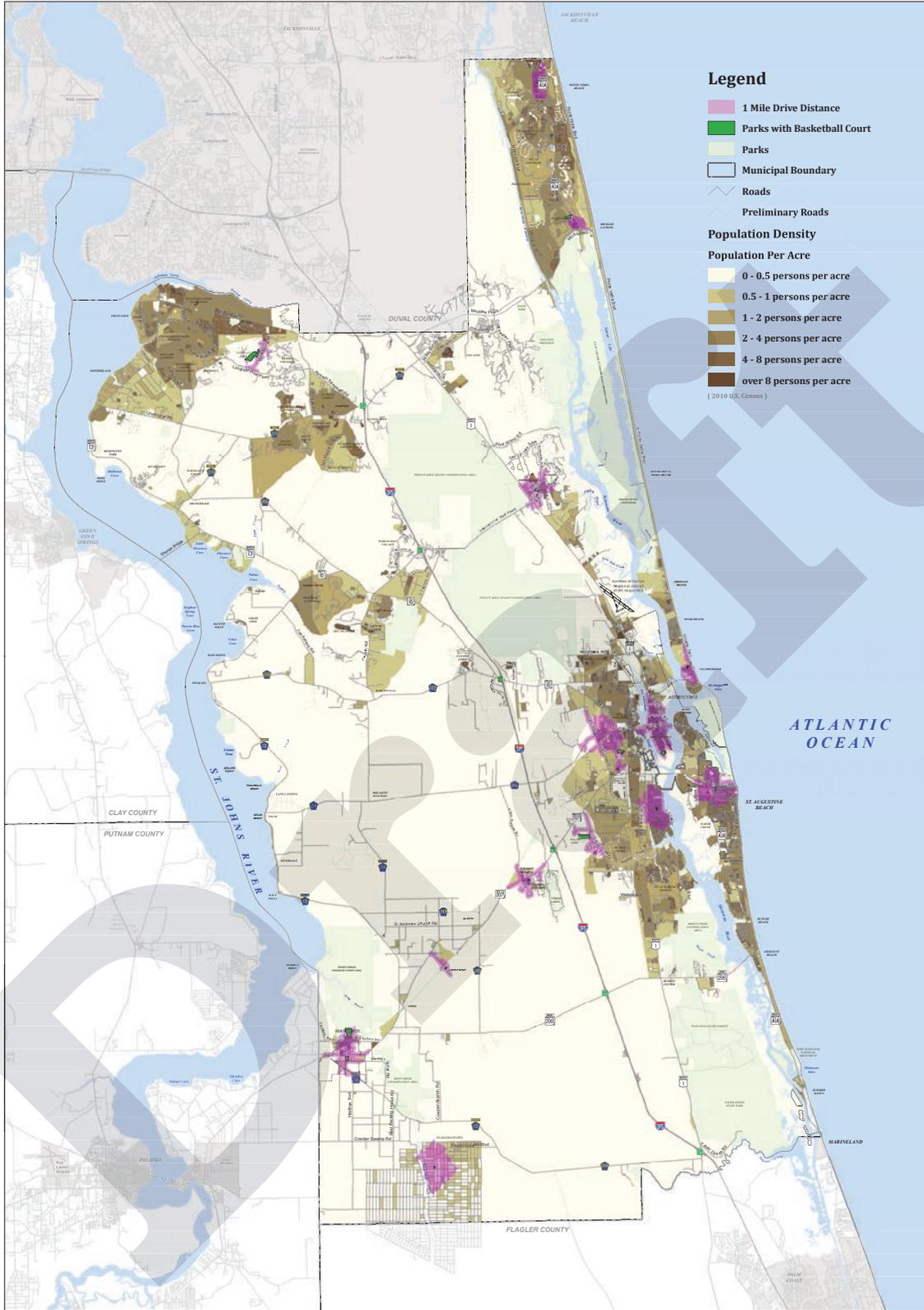
# APPENDICES





# A. Access Level-of-Service Maps





**Legend**

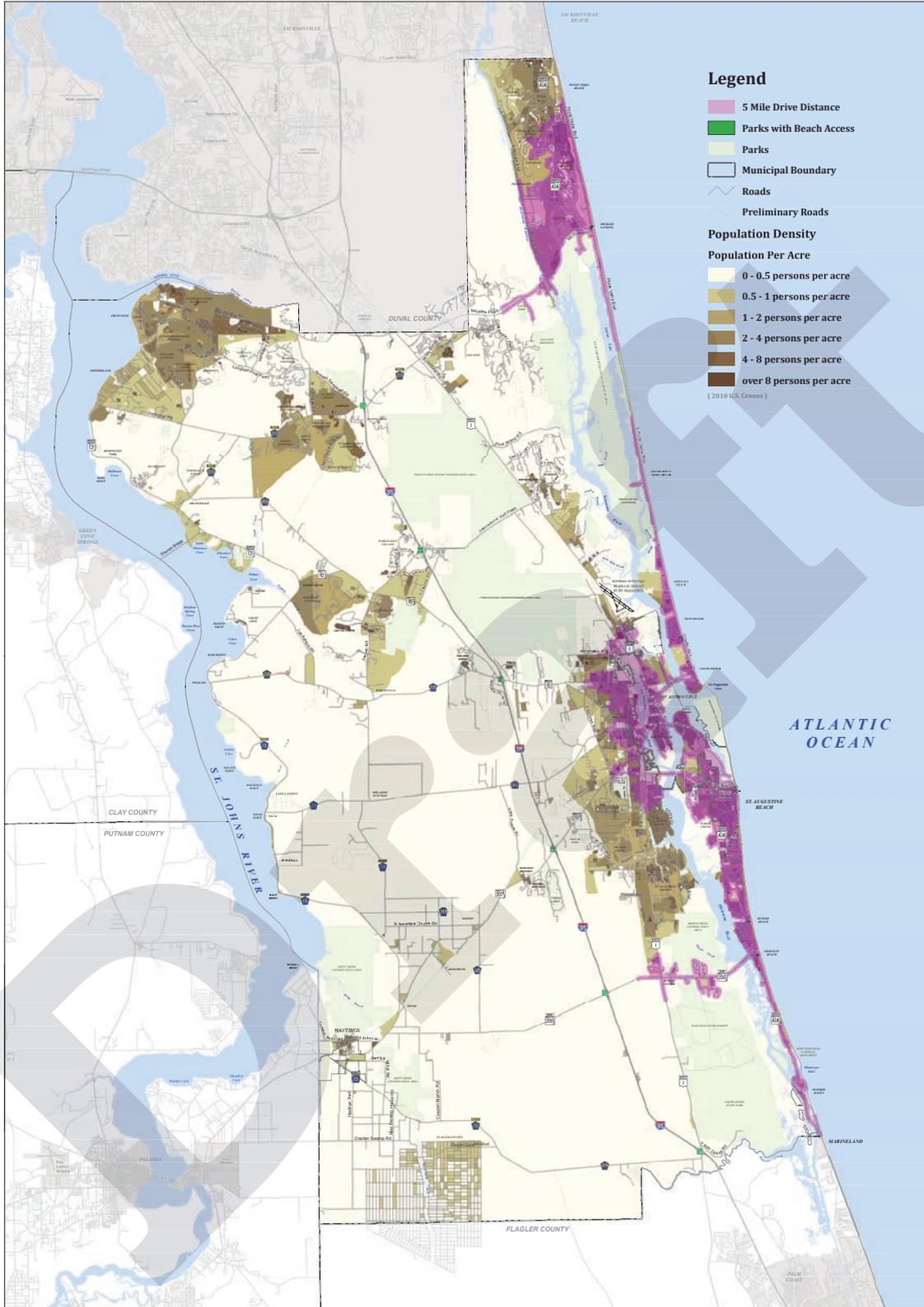
- 1 Mile Drive Distance
  - Parks with Basketball Court
  - Parks
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Roads
  - Preliminary Roads
- Population Density**  
Population Per Acre
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Basketball Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

DISCLAIMER:  
This map is for reference use only. Data provided are derived from multiple sources with varying levels of accuracy. The St. Johns County GIS Division disclaims all responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of the data shown hereon.  
Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

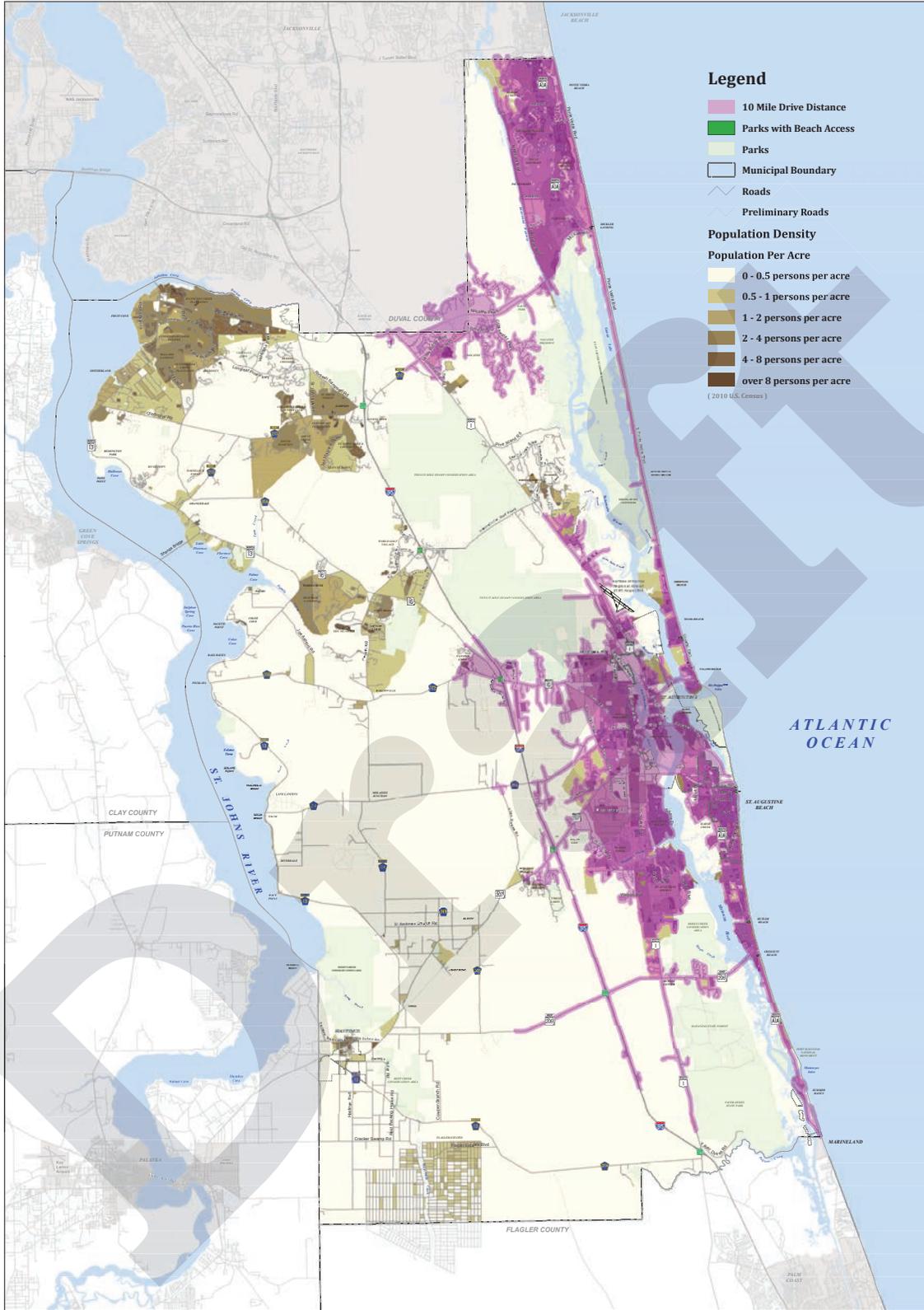




**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Beach Access**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911

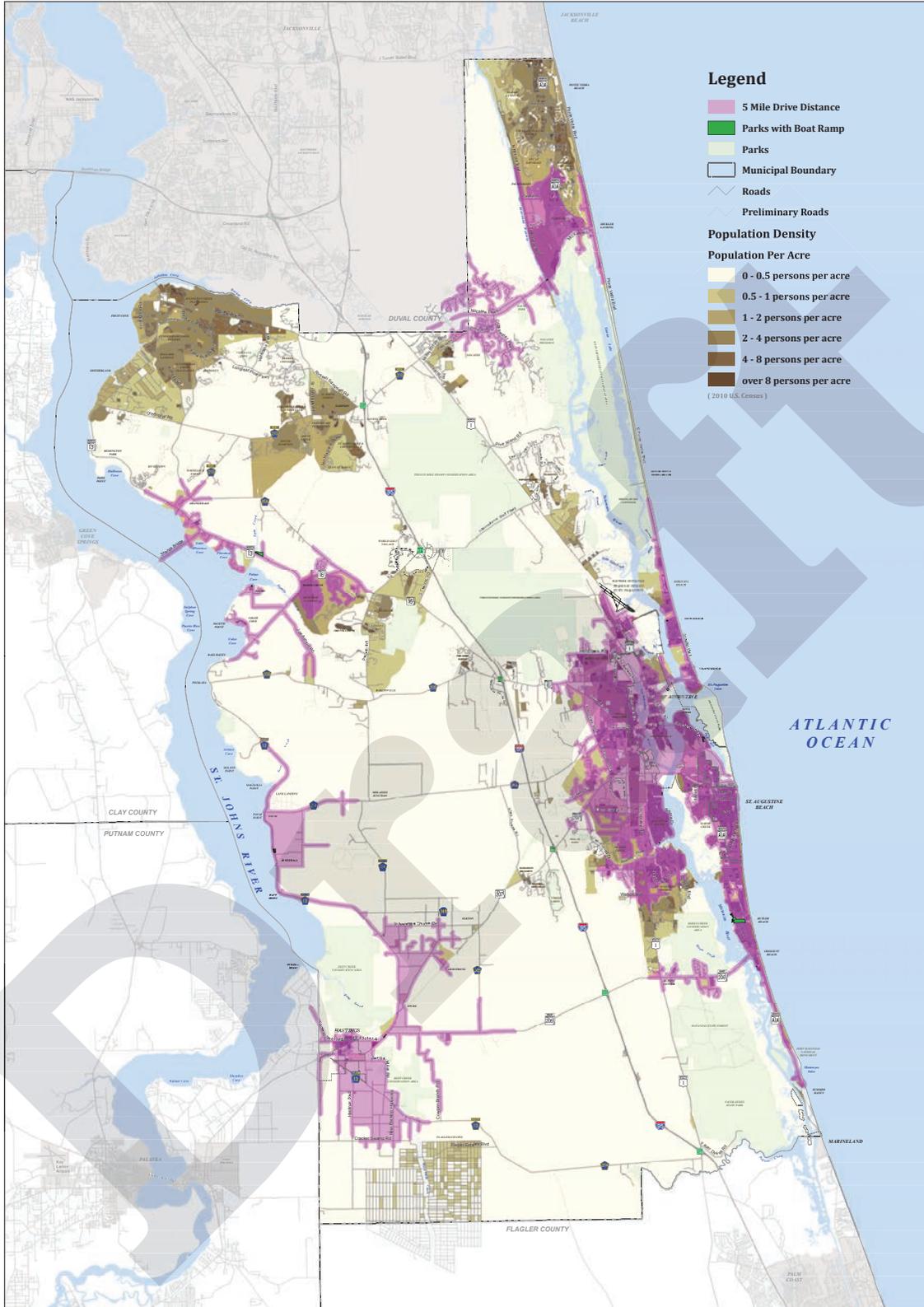




**10 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Beach Access**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911





**Legend**

- 5 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Boat Ramp
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

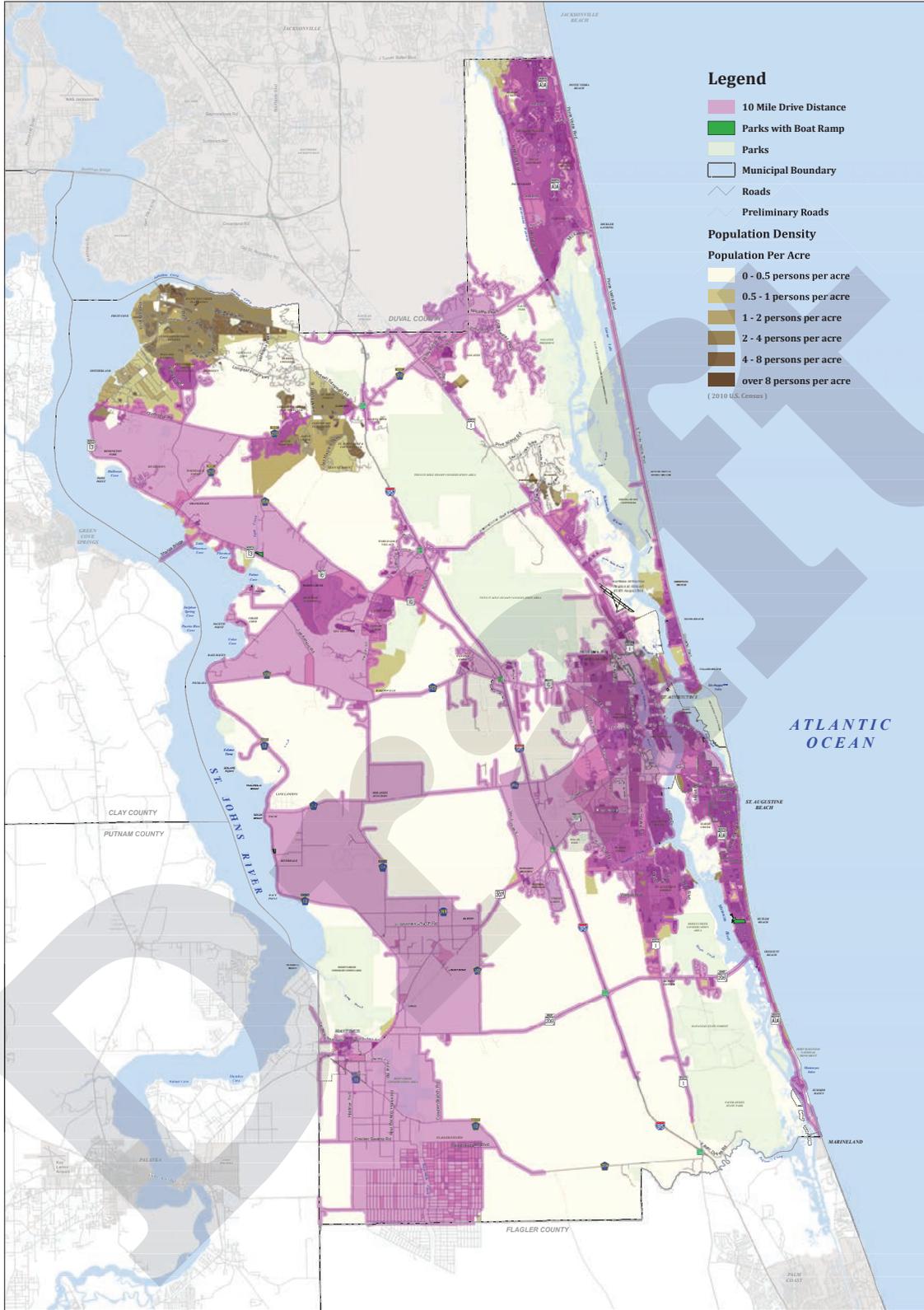
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Boat Ramps**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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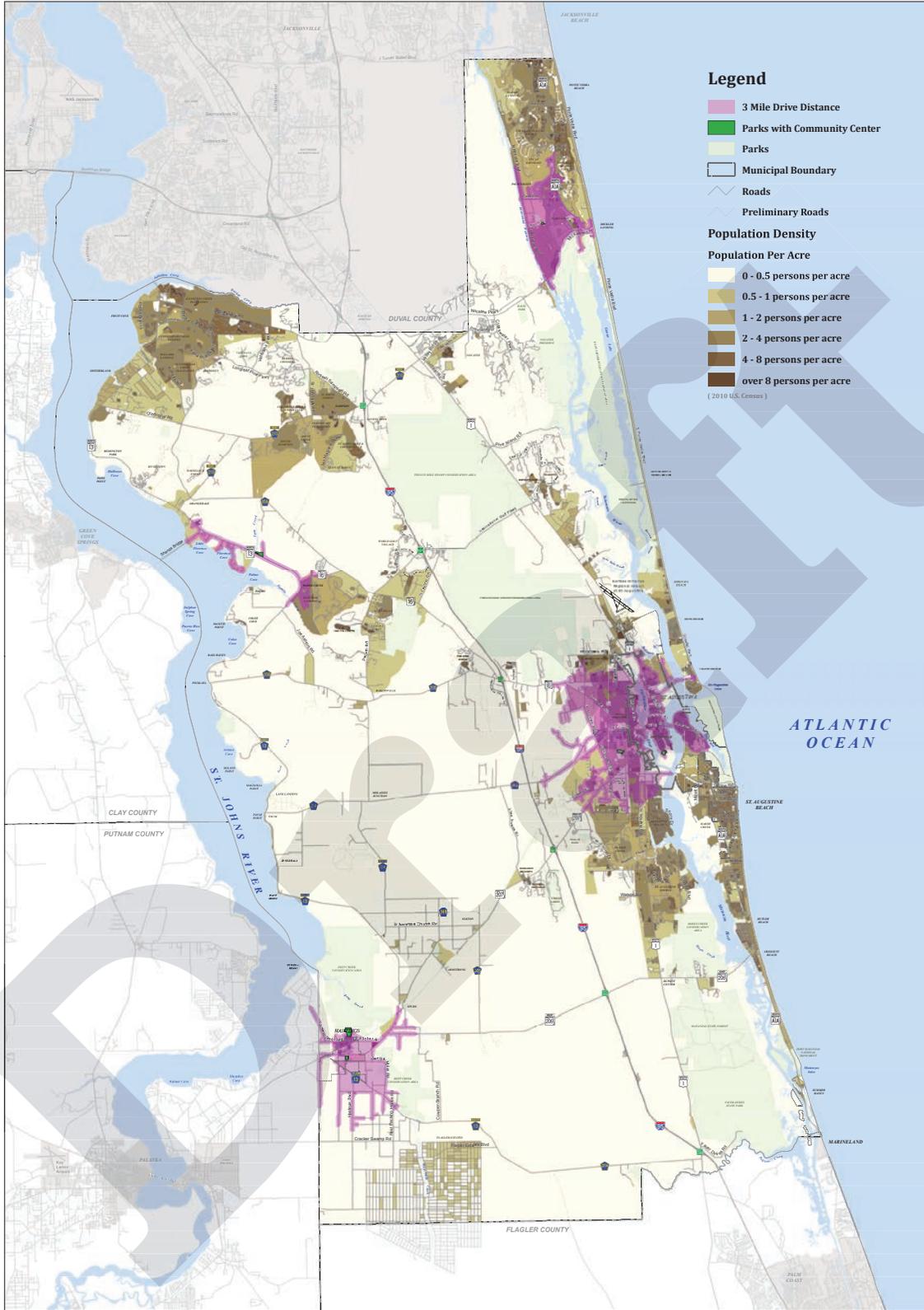




**10 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Boat Ramps**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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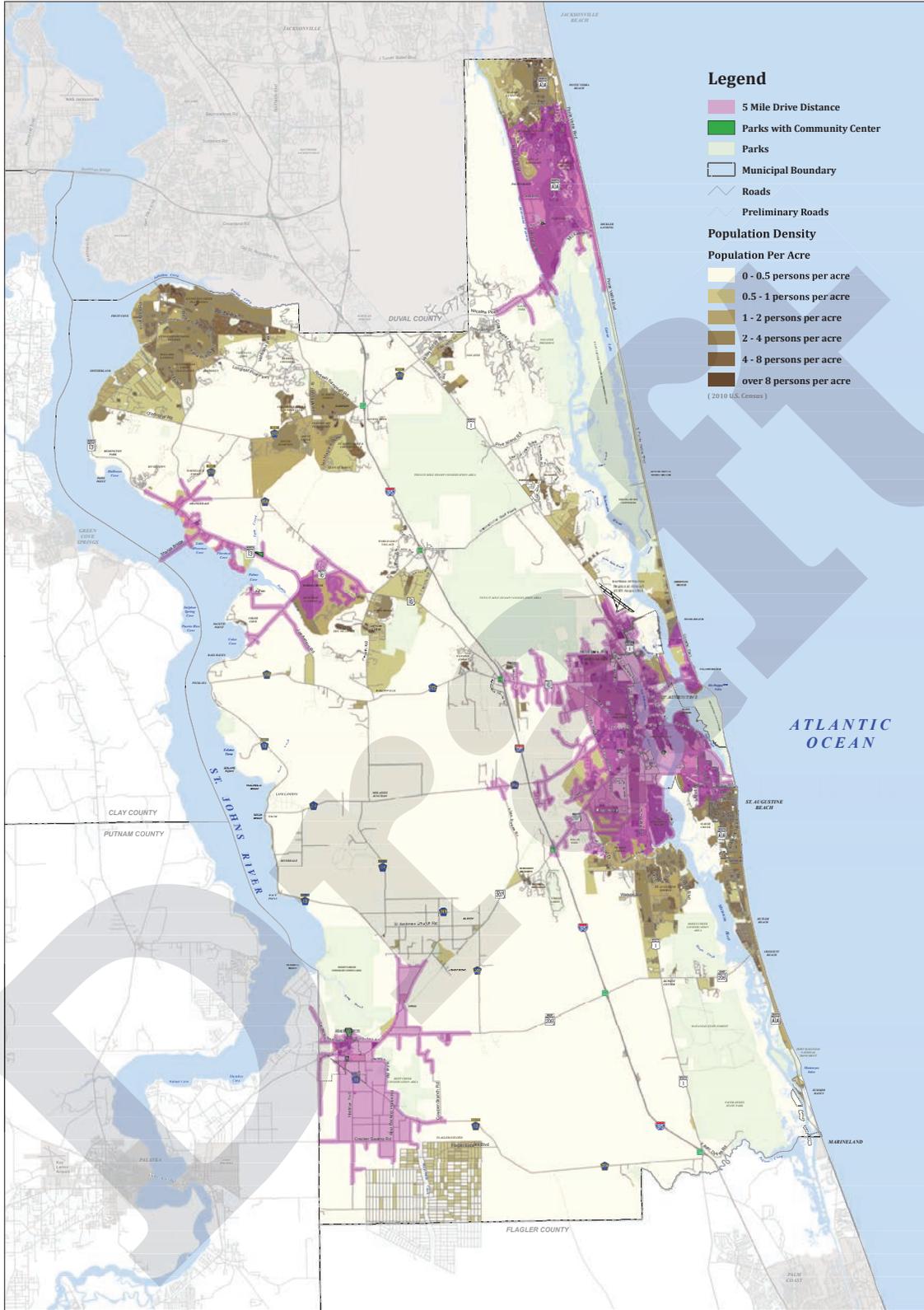




**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Community Centers**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911

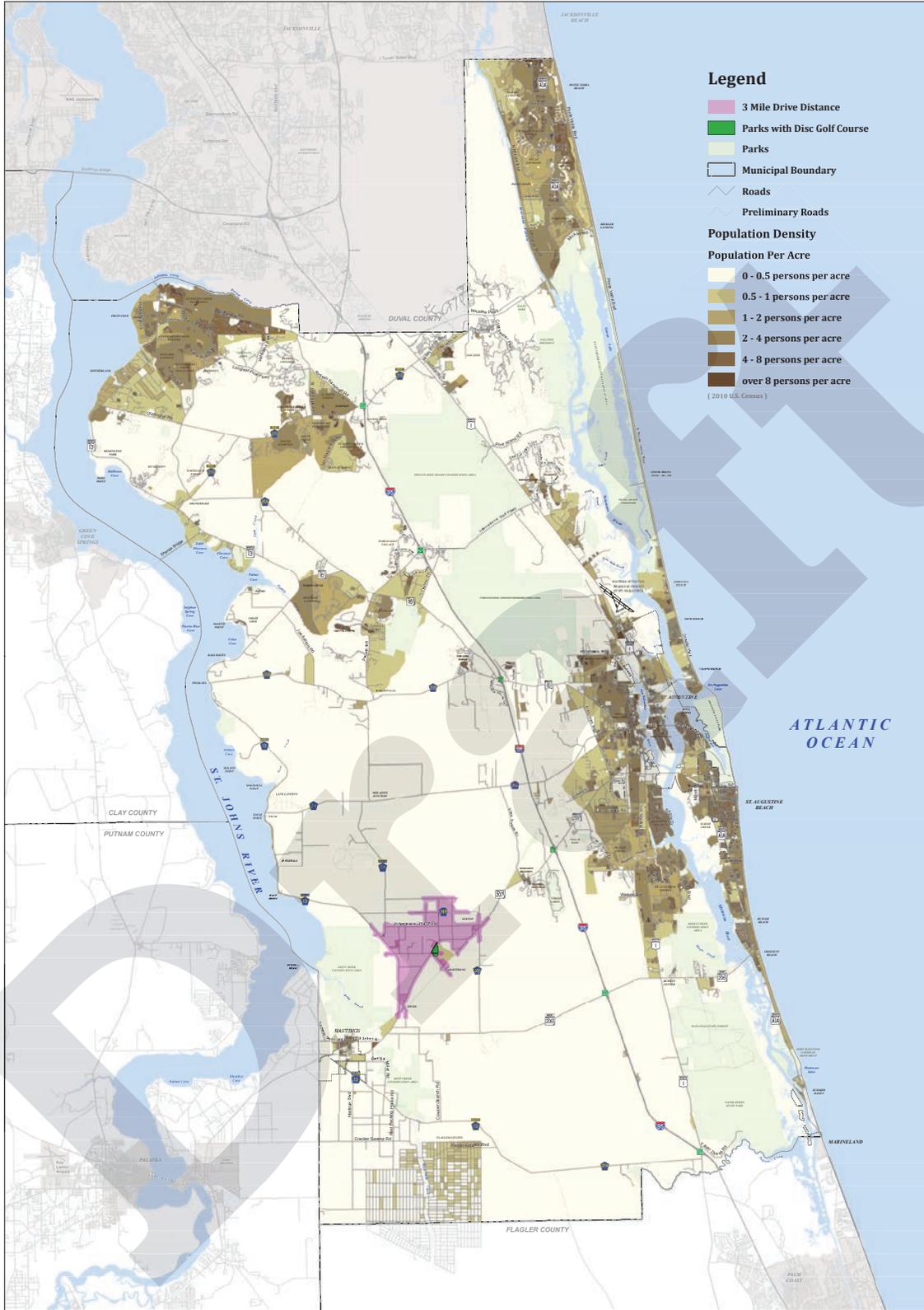




**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Community Centers**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

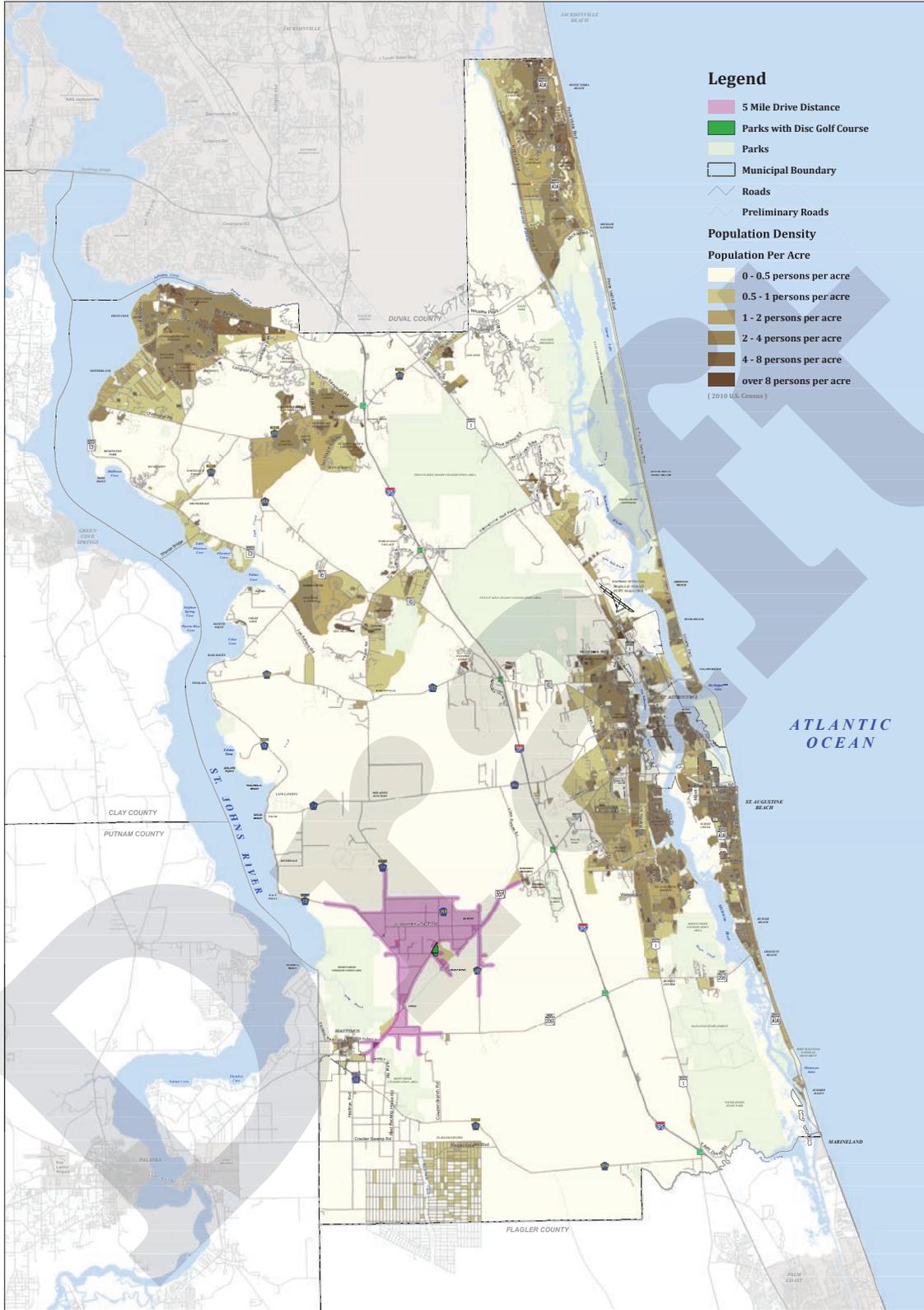




**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Disc Golf Courses**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/17/2016 j16911

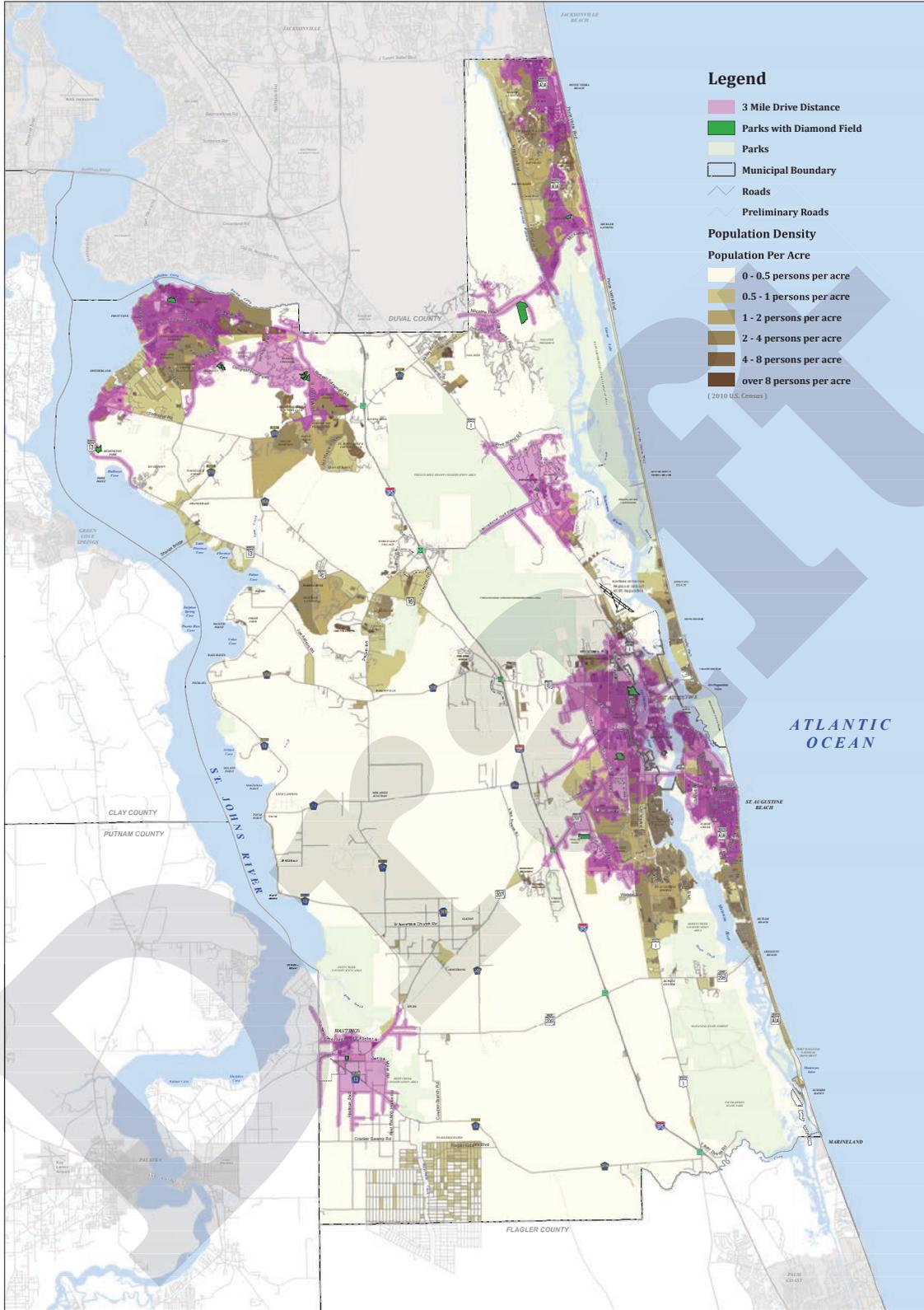




**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Disc Golf Courses**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/17/2016 j16911





**Legend**

- 3 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Diamond Field
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

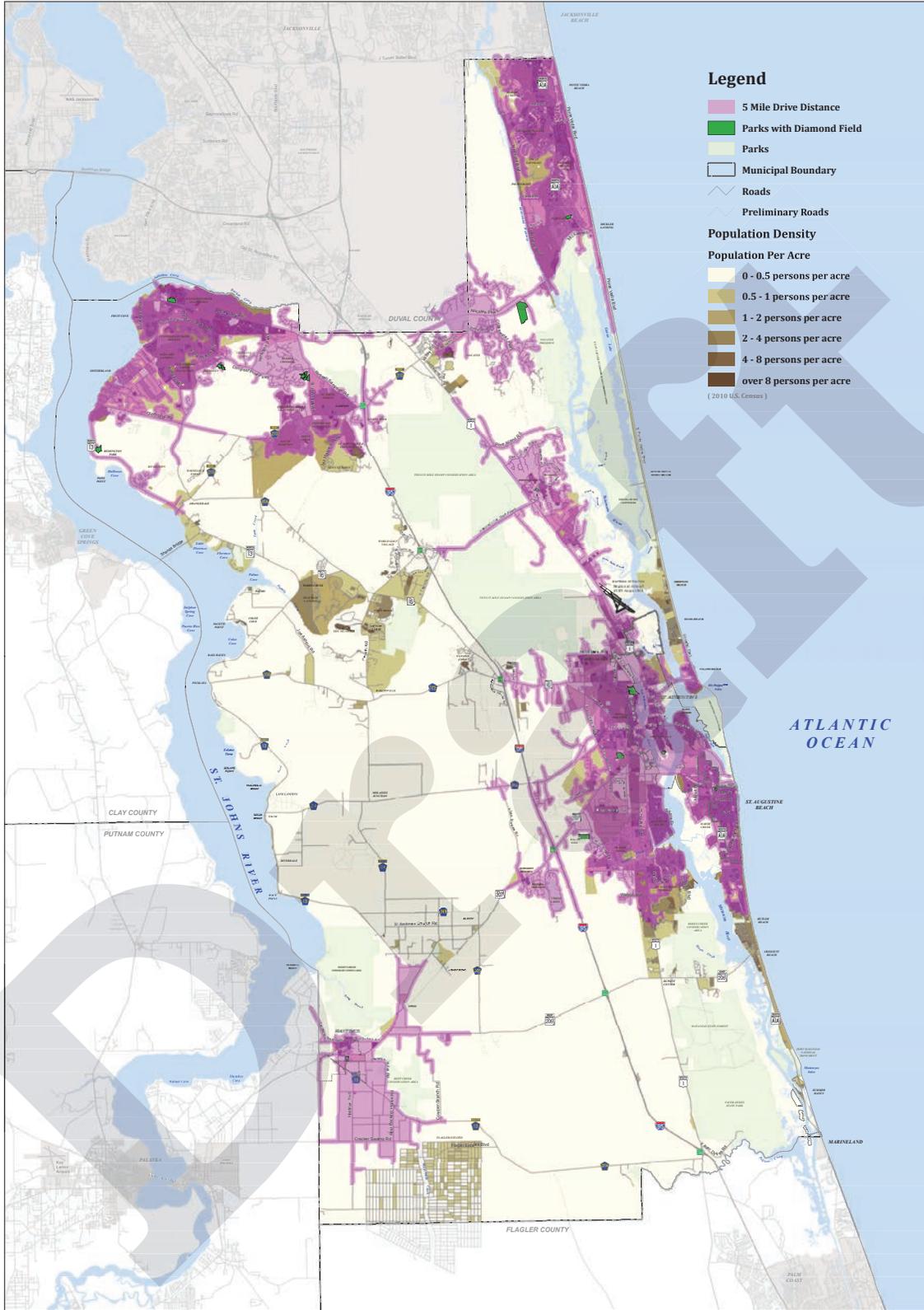
- Population Per Acre**
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  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Diamond Fields**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

DISCLAIMER:  
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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

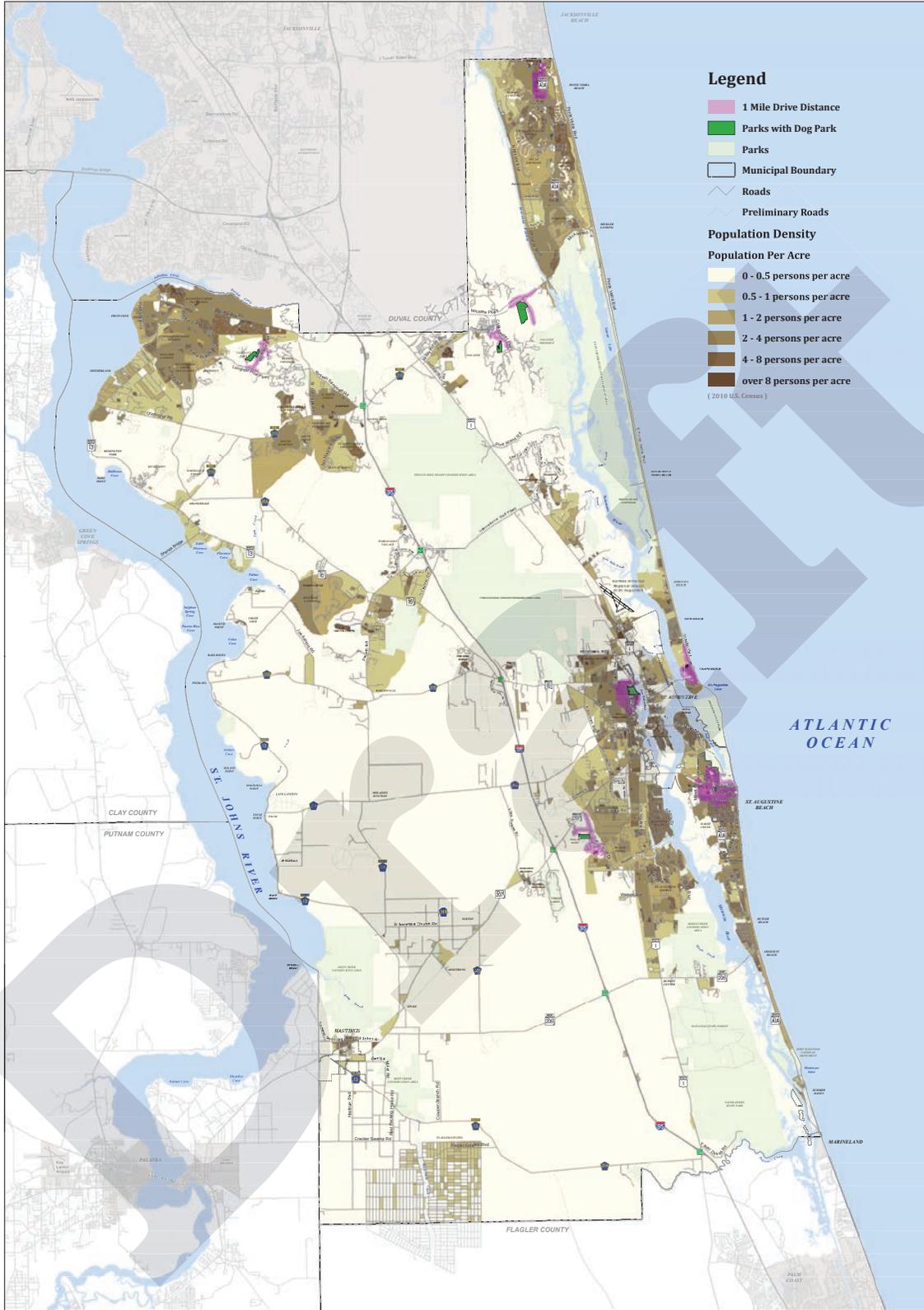




**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Diamond Fields**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911

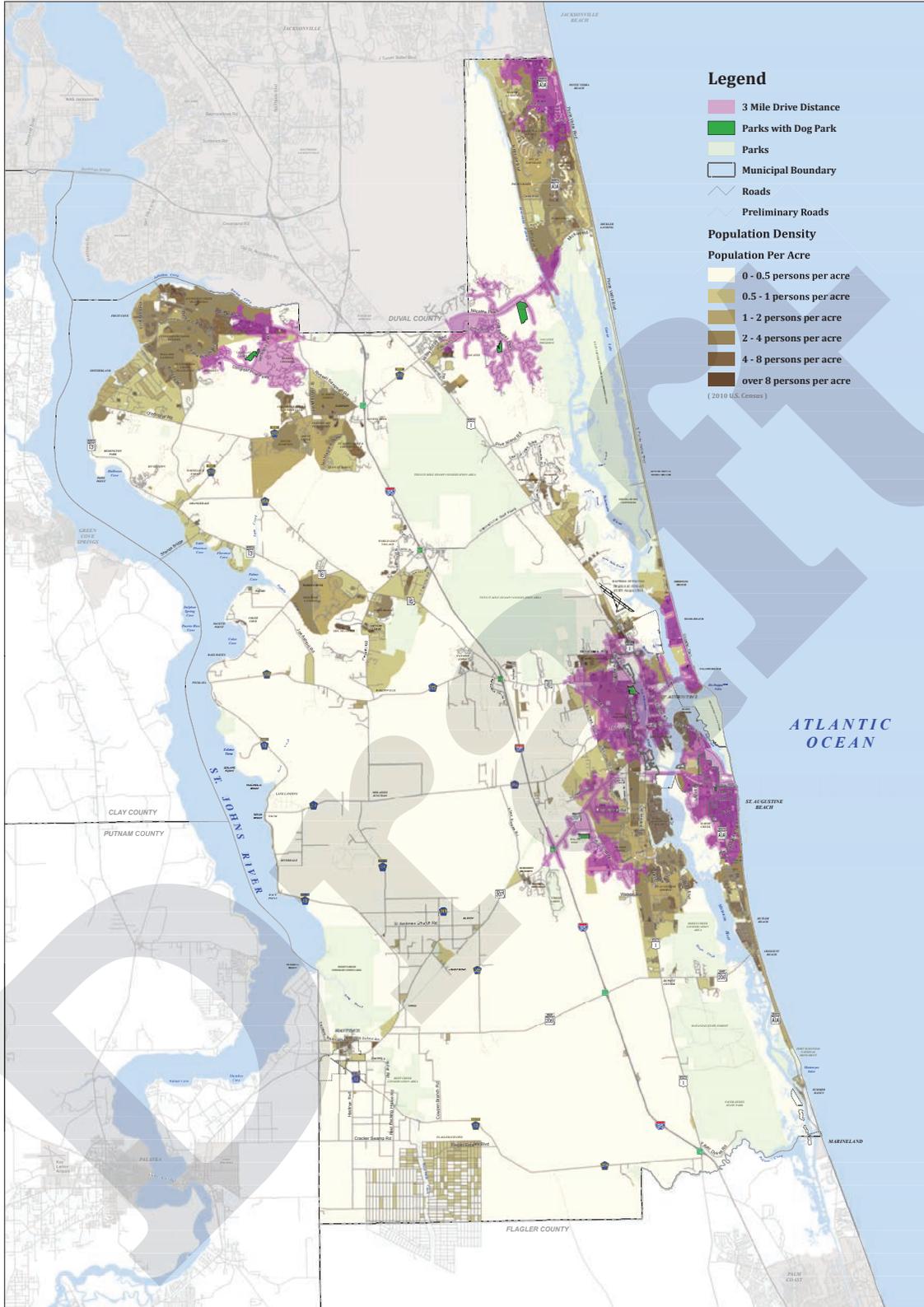




**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Dog Parks**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

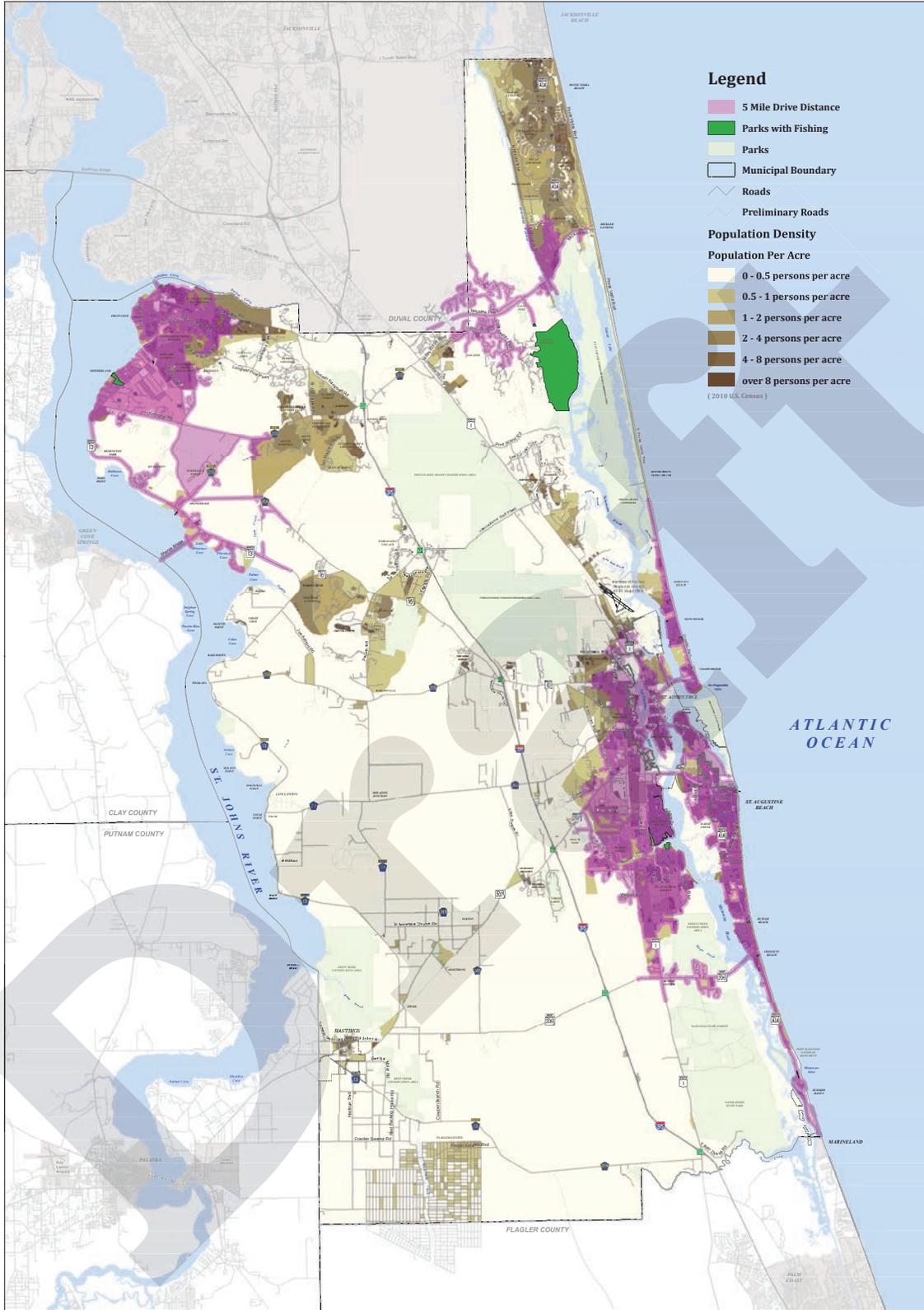




**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Dog Parks**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

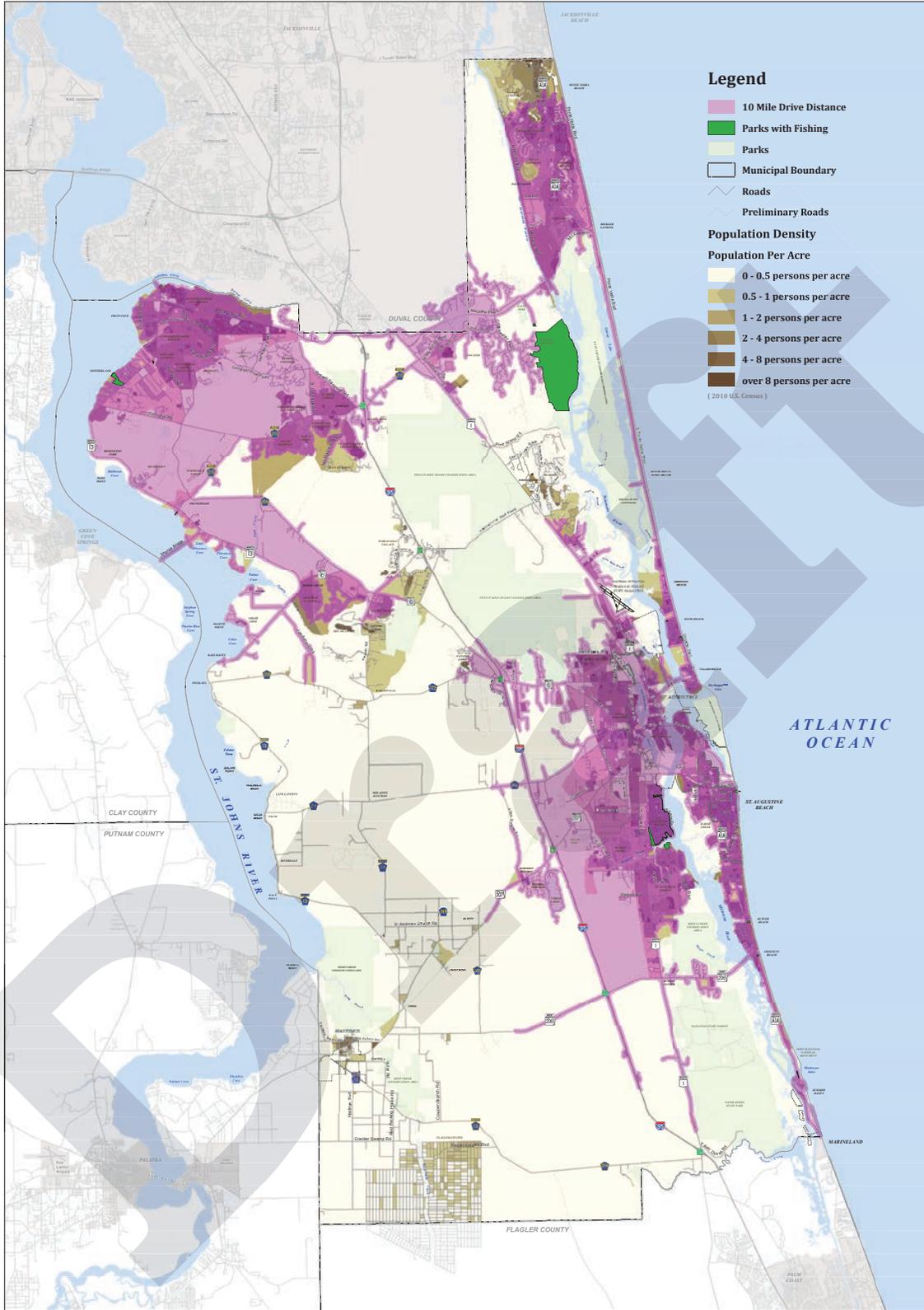




**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Fishing**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911

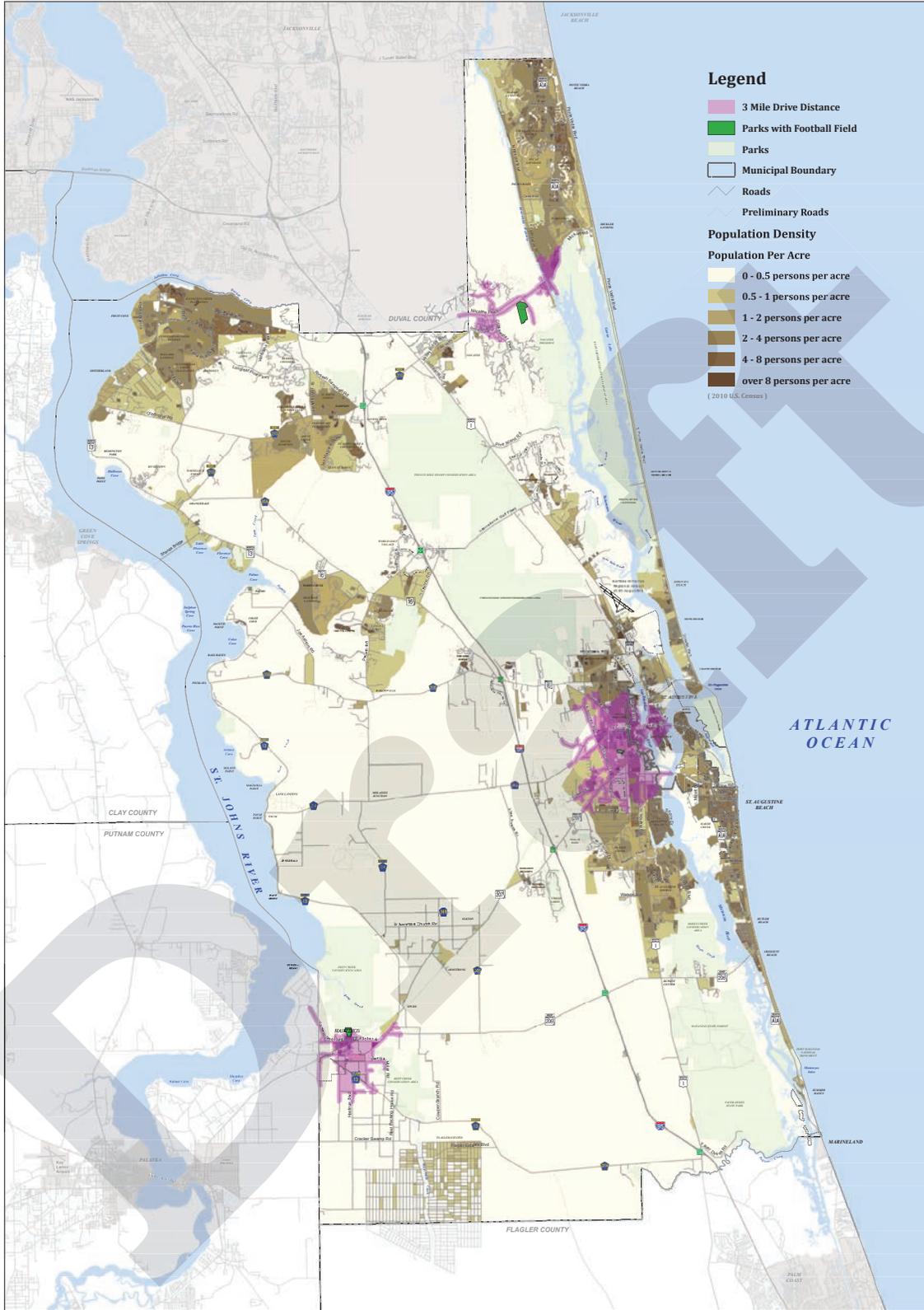




**10 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Fishing**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911

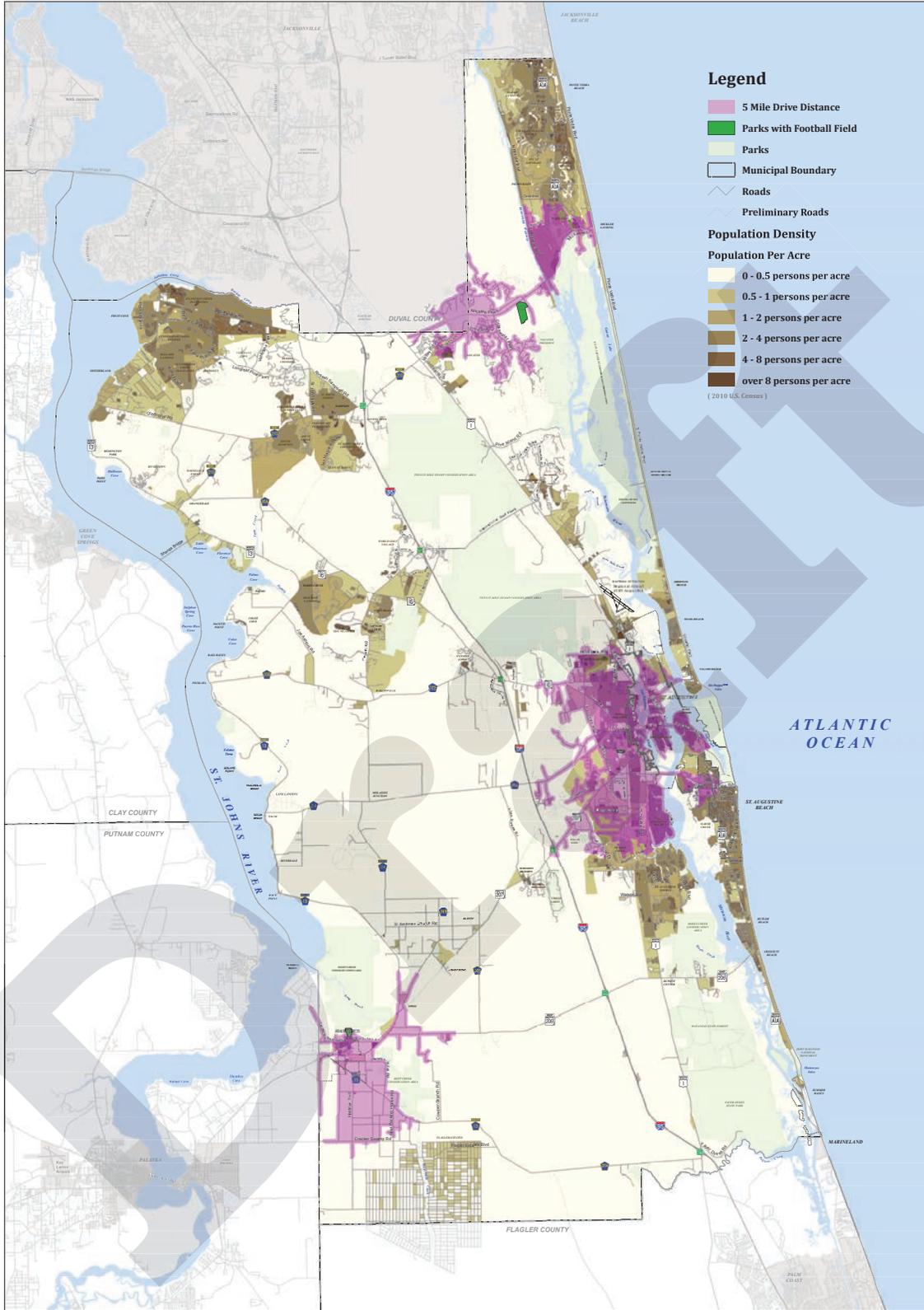




**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Football Fields**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

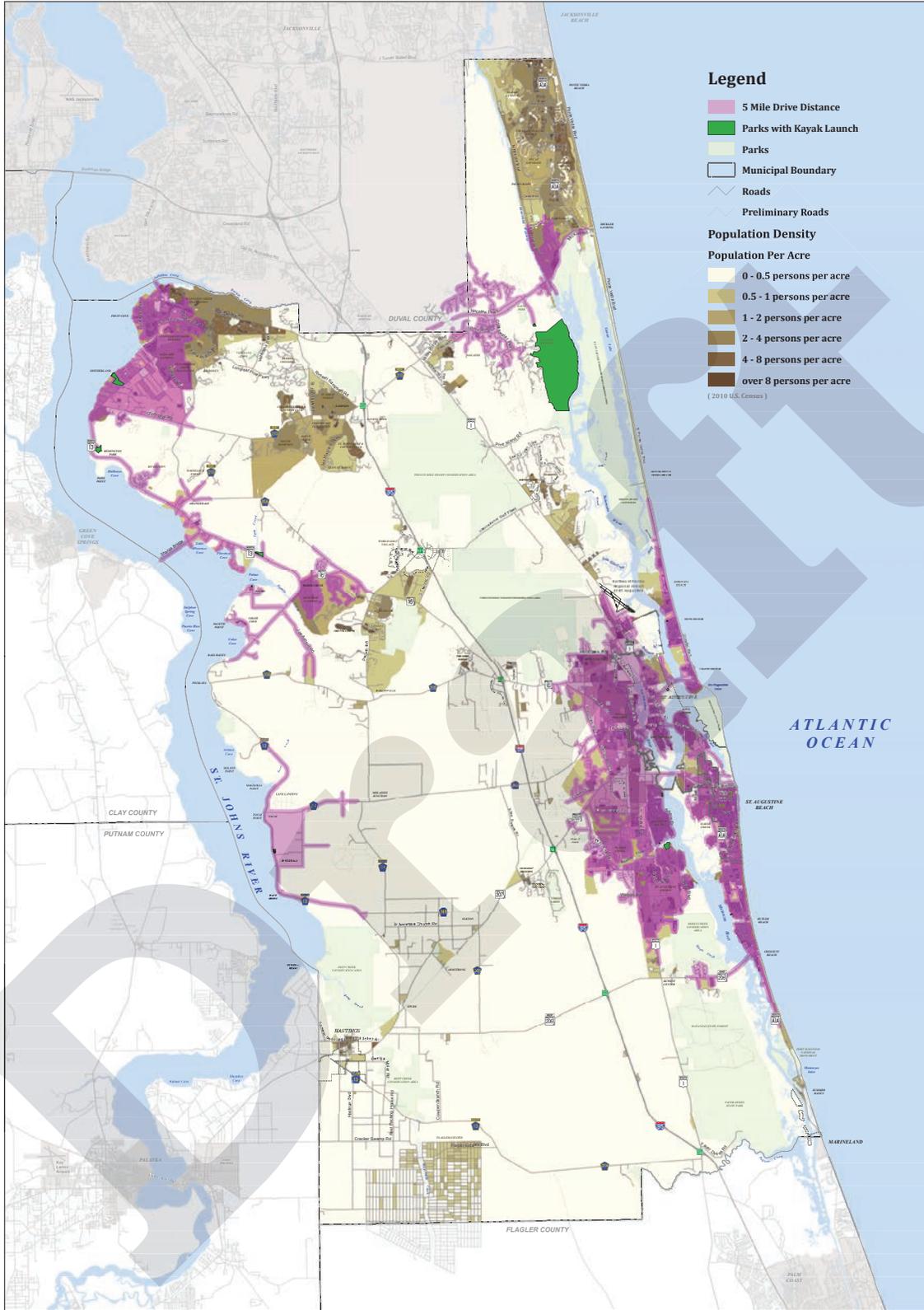




**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Football Fields**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

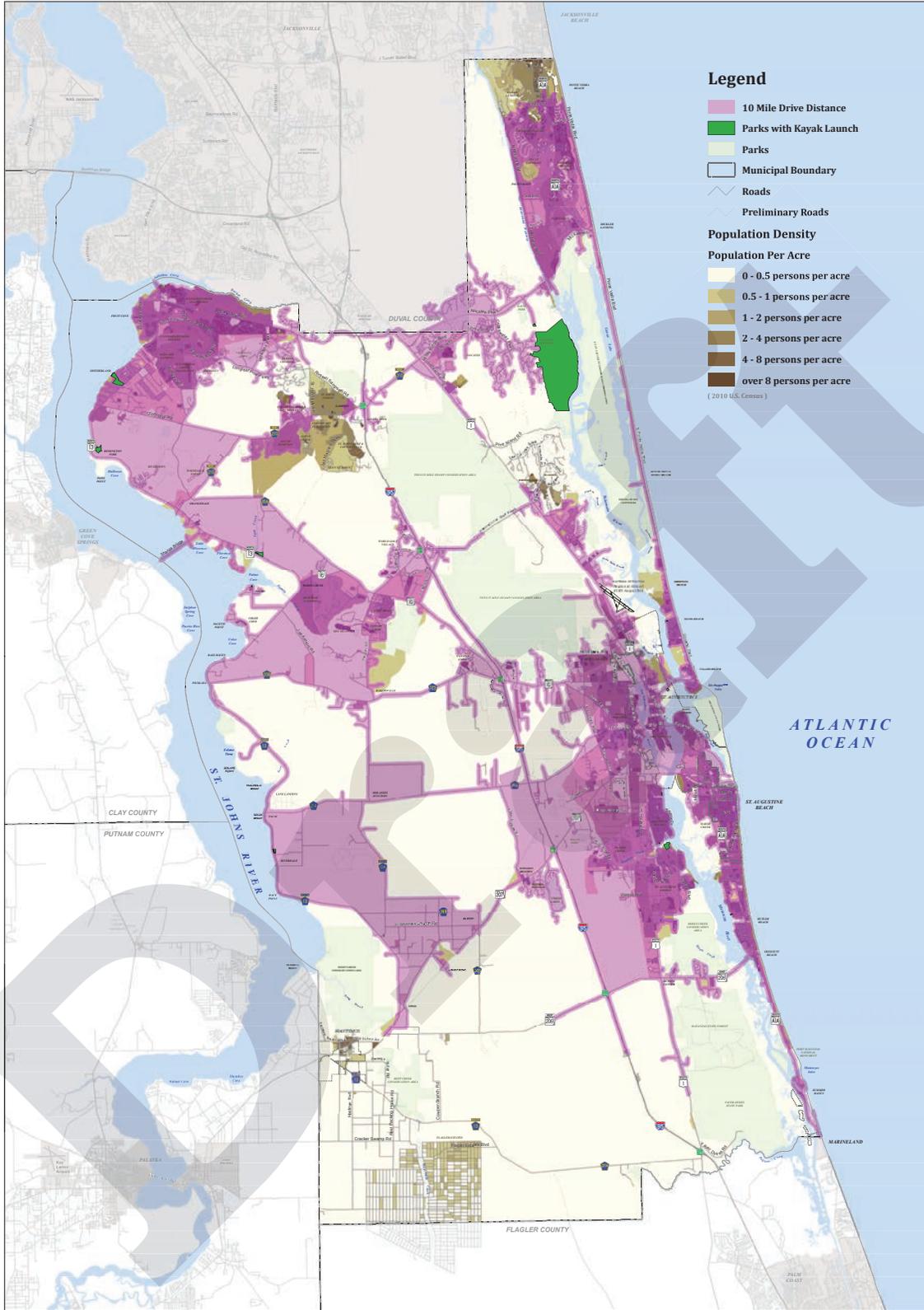
- 5 Mile Drive Distance
  - Parks with Kayak Launch
  - Parks
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Roads
  - Preliminary Roads
- Population Density**
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Kayak Launches**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/17/2016 j16911

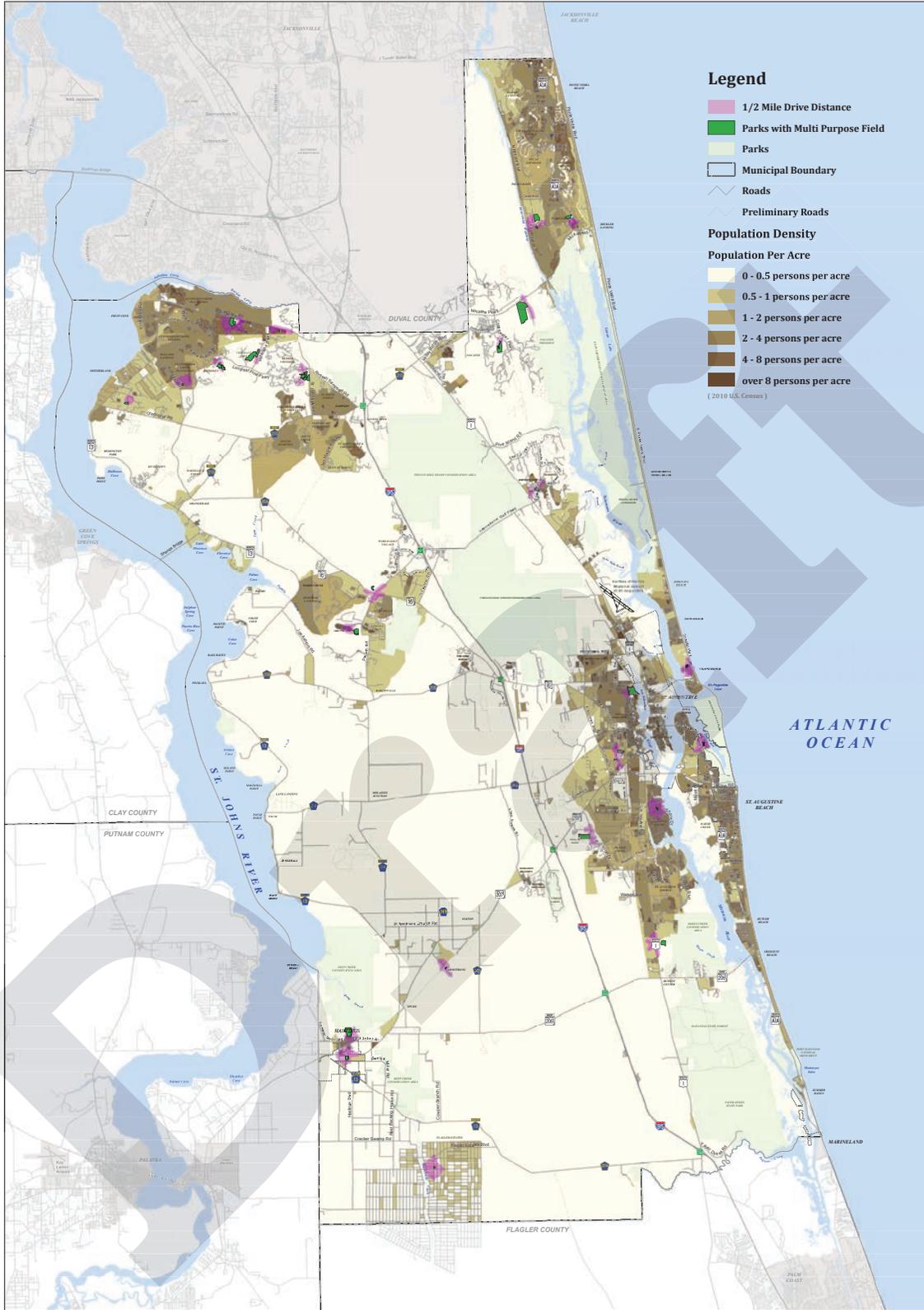




**10 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Kayak Launches**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

**DISCLAIMER:**  
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Map Prepared: 11/17/2016 j16911

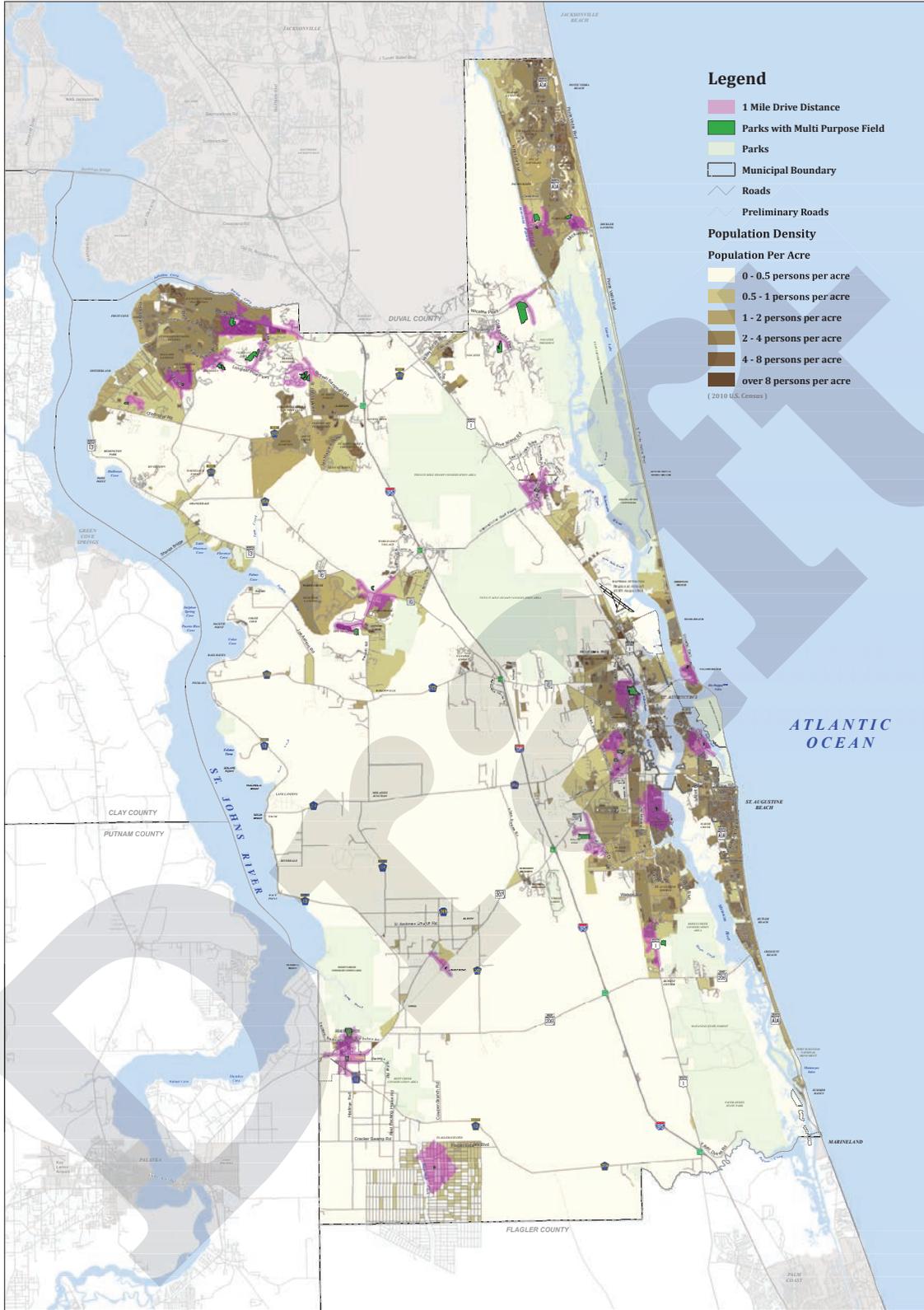




**1/2 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Multi Purpose Fields**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

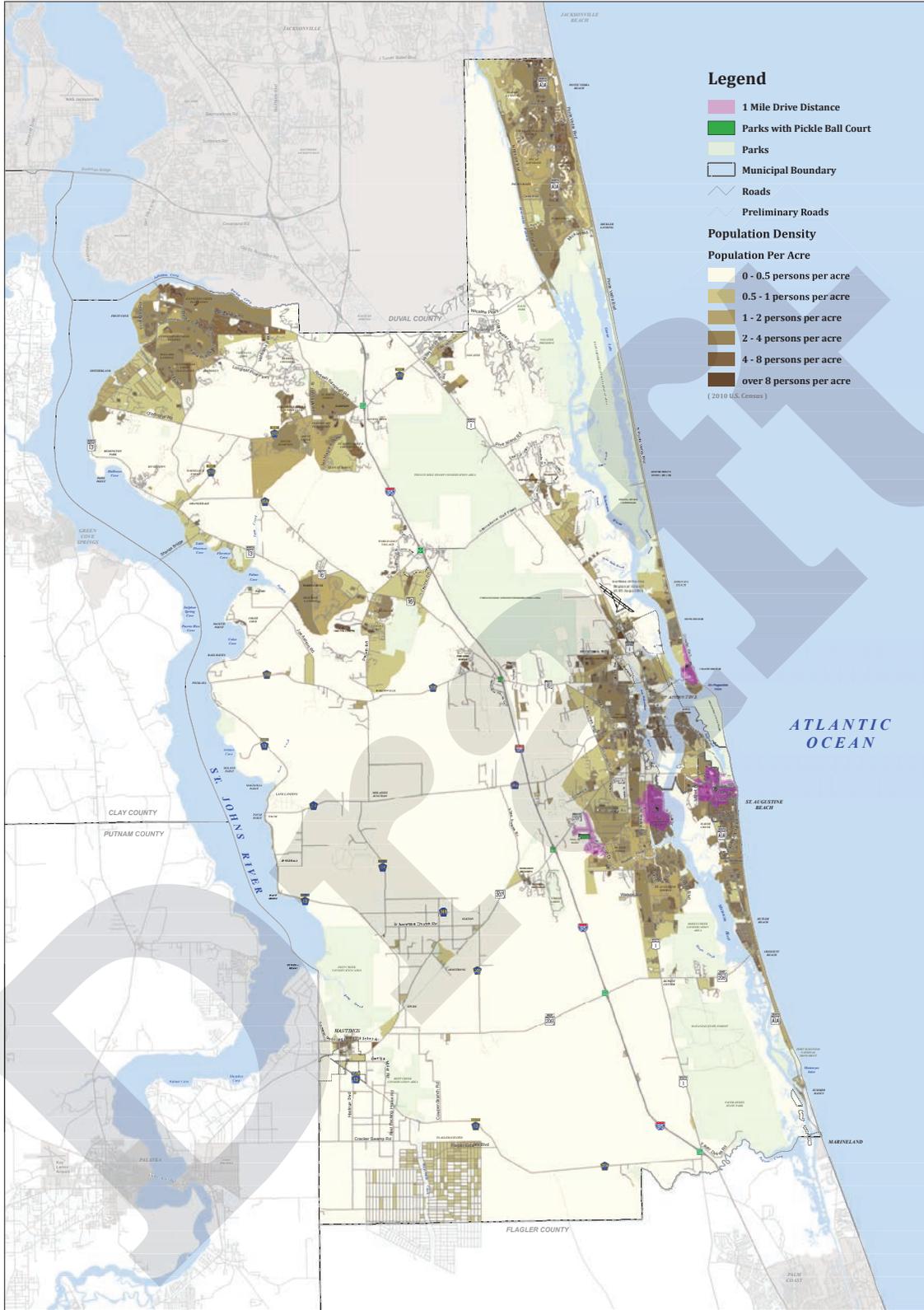
- 1 Mile Drive Distance
  - Parks with Multi Purpose Field
  - Parks
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Roads
  - Preliminary Roads
- Population Density**
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Multi Purpose Fields**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

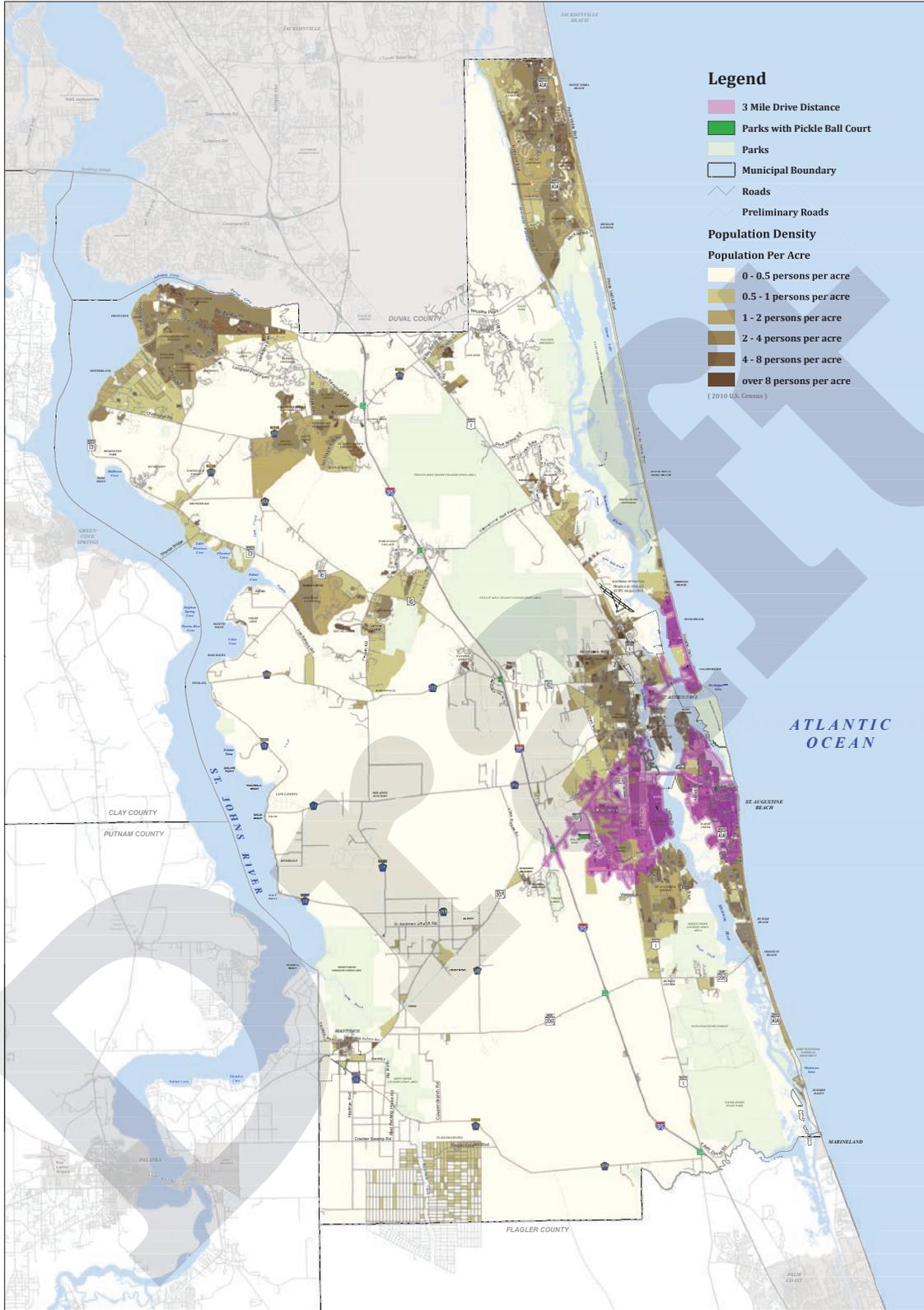
- 1 Mile Drive Distance
  - Parks with Pickle Ball Court
  - Parks
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Roads
  - Preliminary Roads
- Population Density**
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Pickle Ball Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 3 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Pickle Ball Court
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

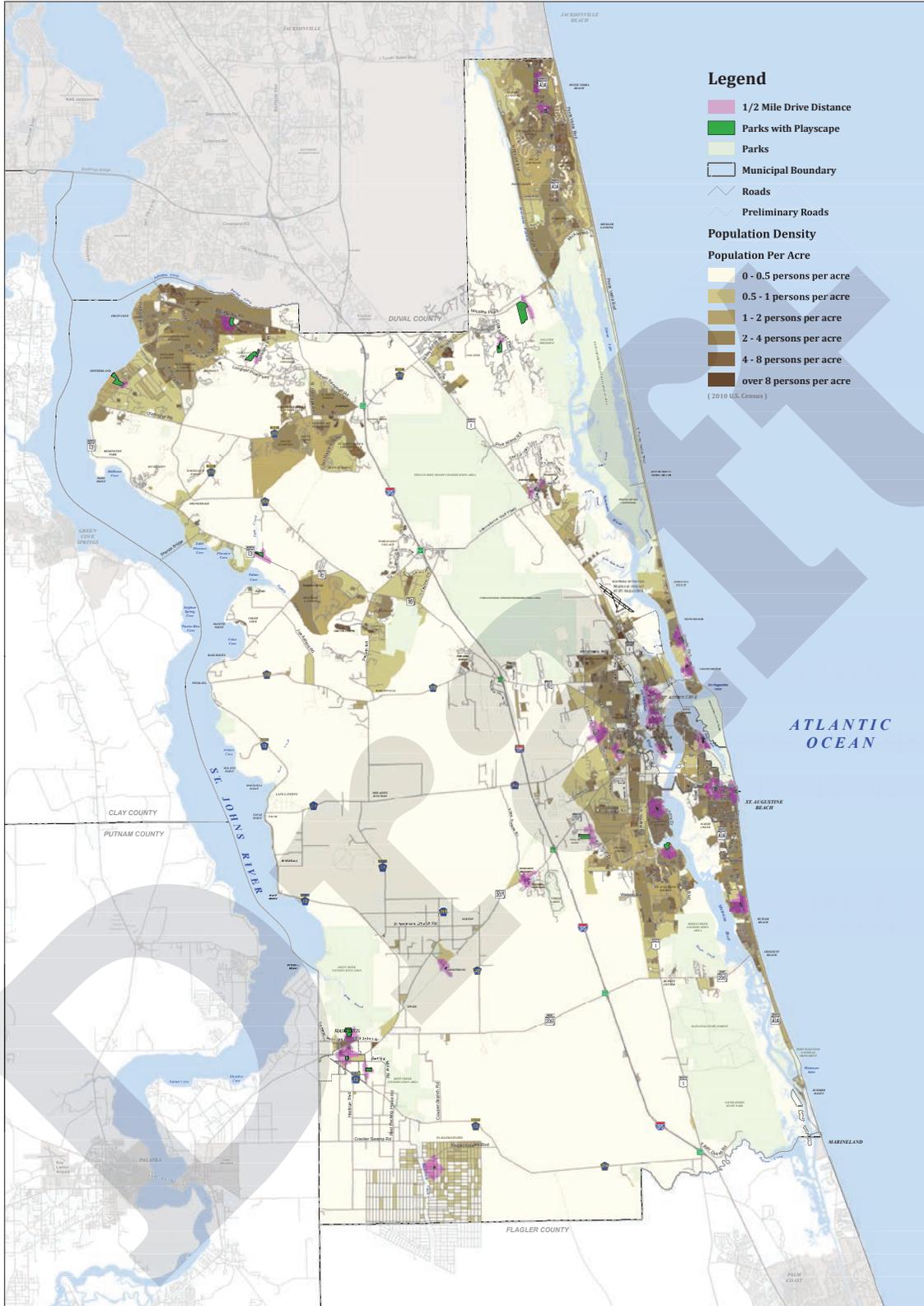
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Pickle Ball Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

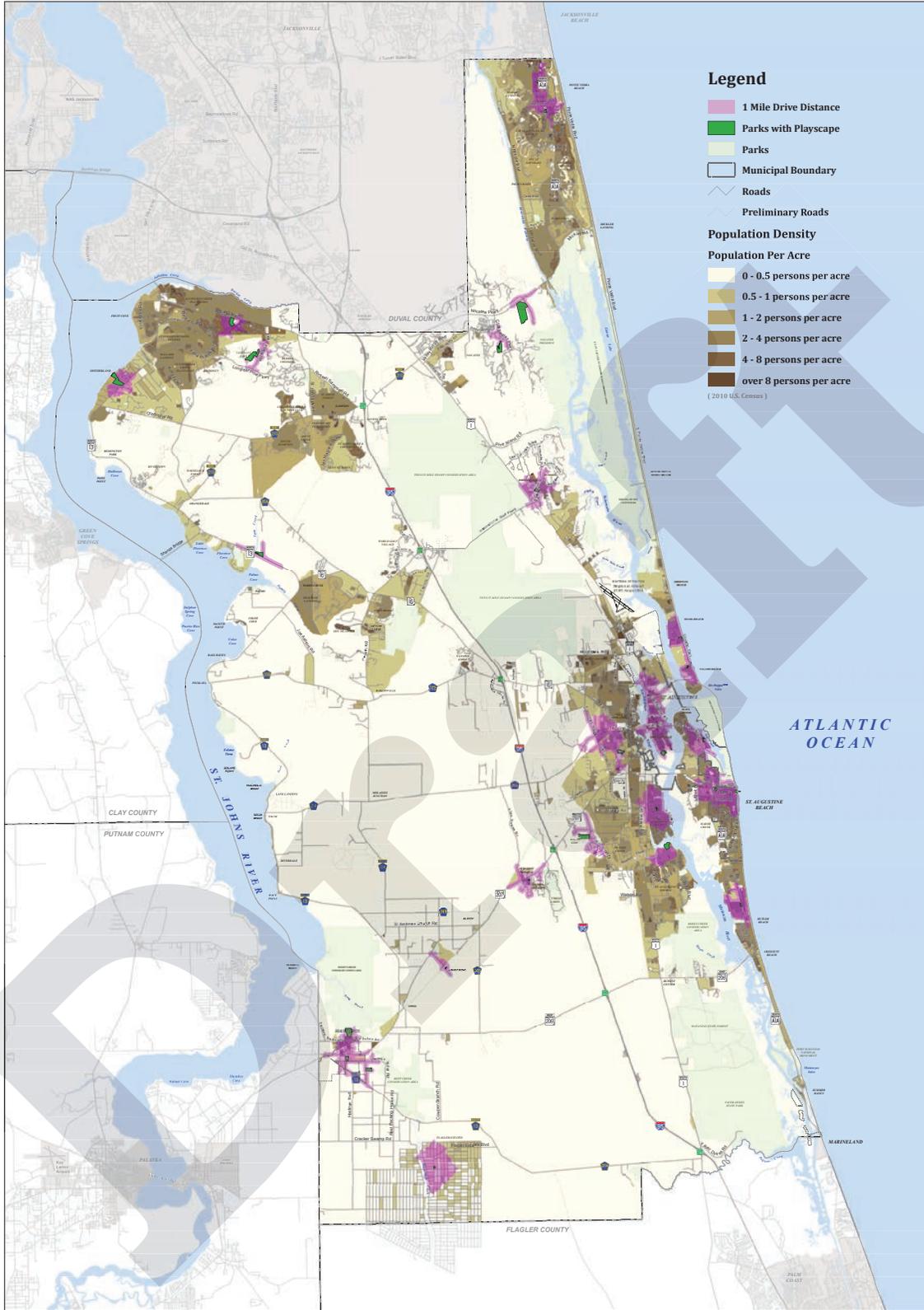




**1/2 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Playscapes**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

**DISCLAIMER:**  
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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

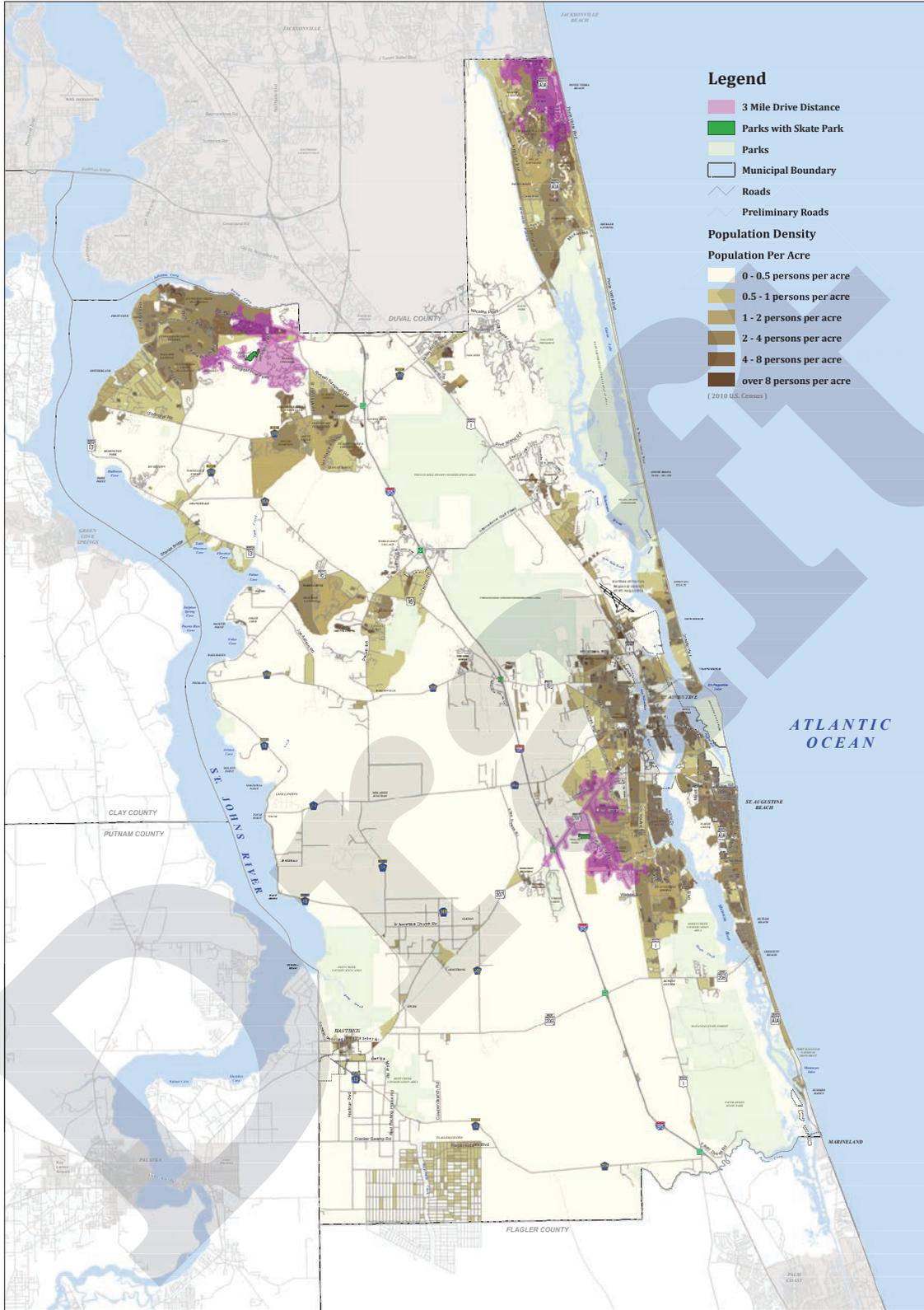




**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Playscapes**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

**DISCLAIMER:**  
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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911

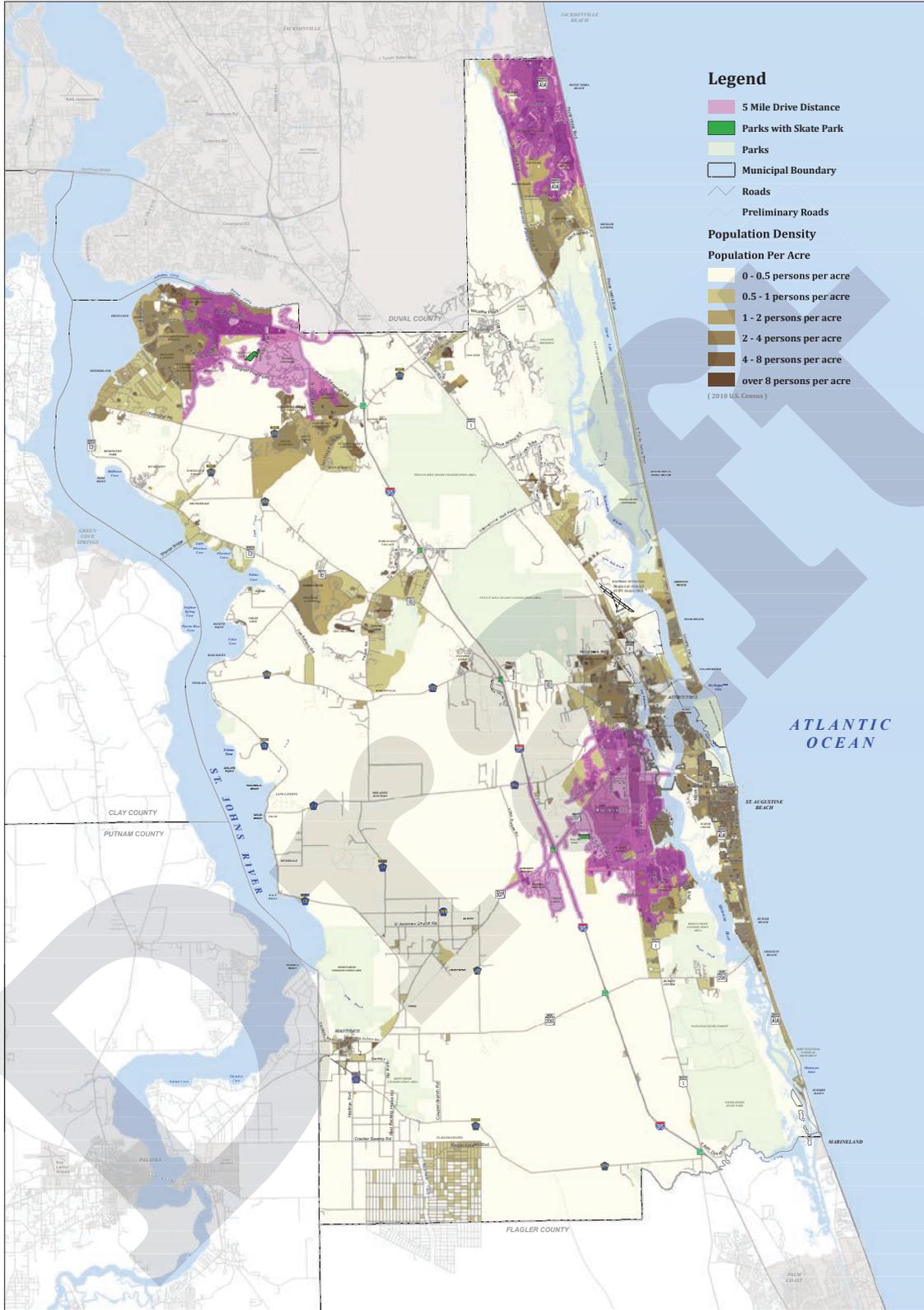




**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Skate Parks**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 5 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Skate Park
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

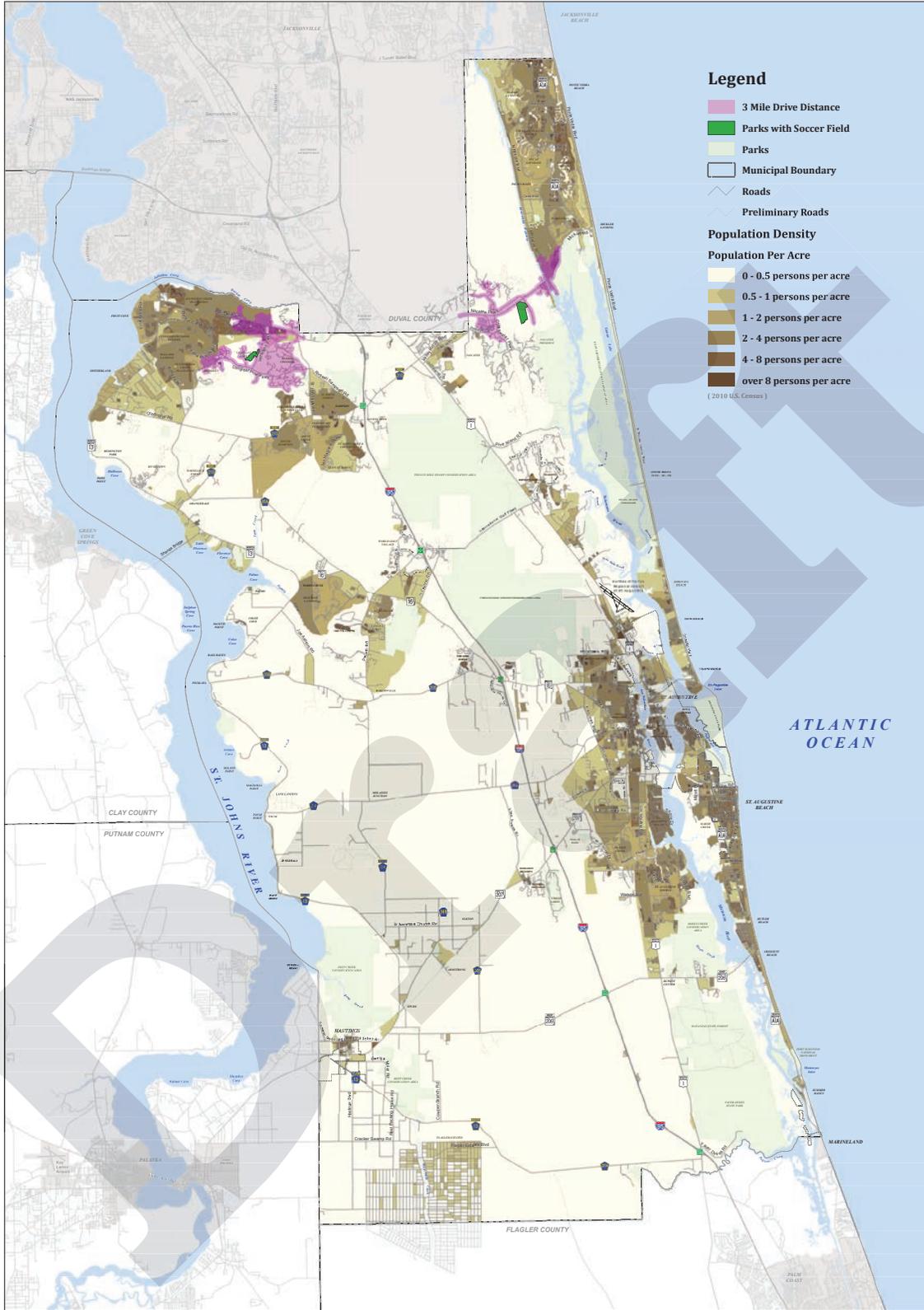
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Skate Parks**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 3 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Soccer Field
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

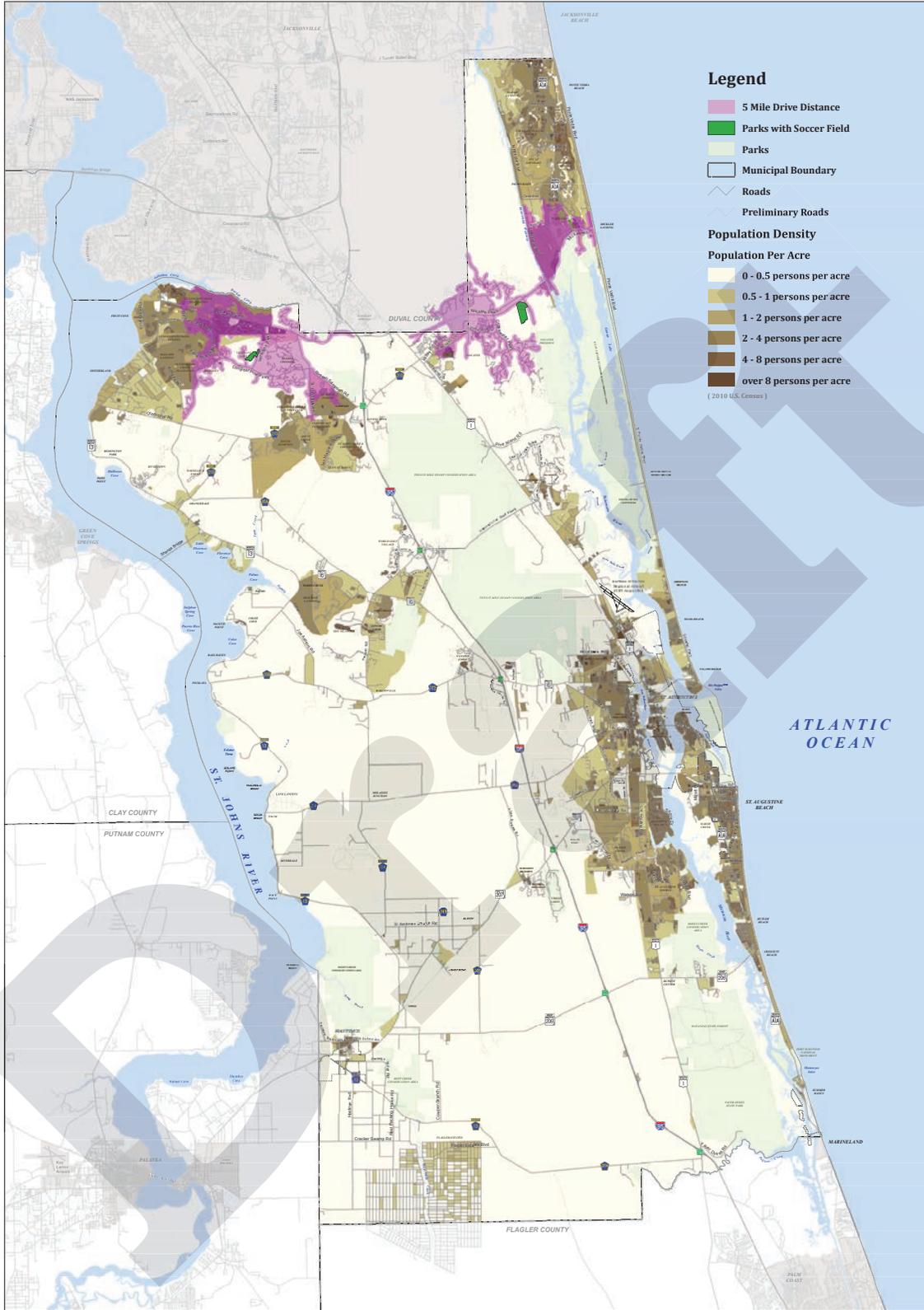
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Soccer Fields**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 5 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Soccer Field
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)

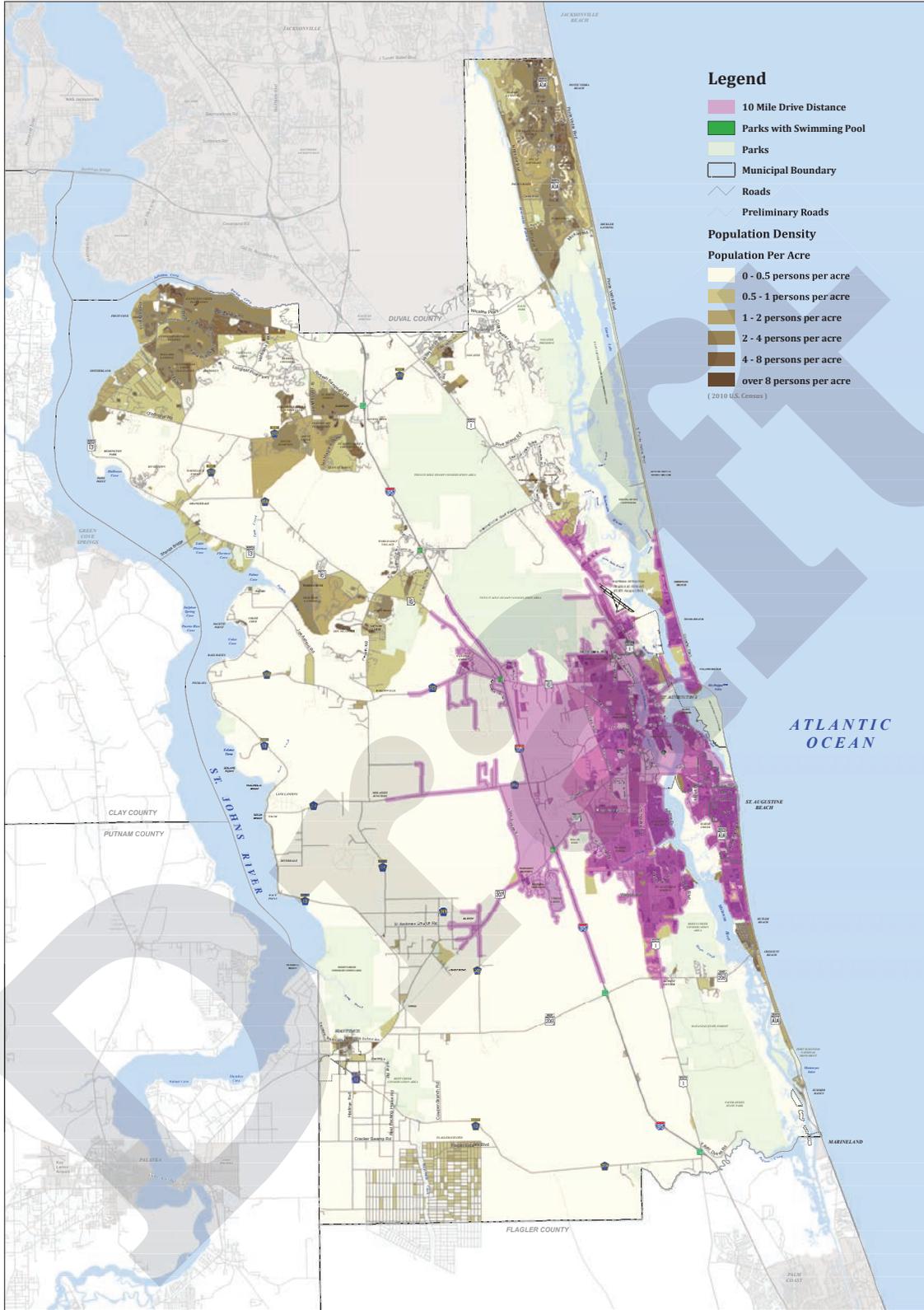


**5 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Soccer Fields**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911



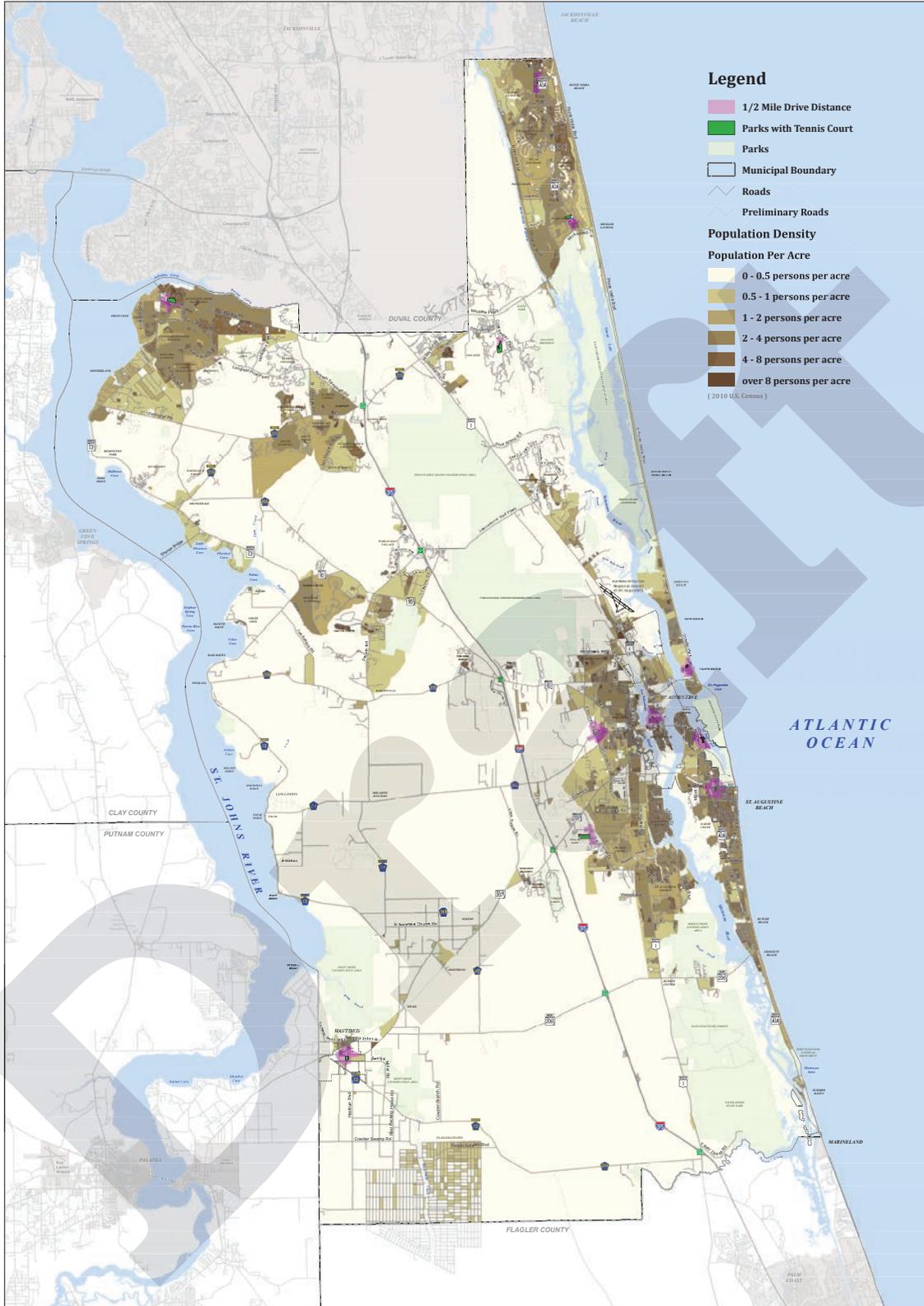




**10 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Swimming Pools**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 1/2 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Tennis Court
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

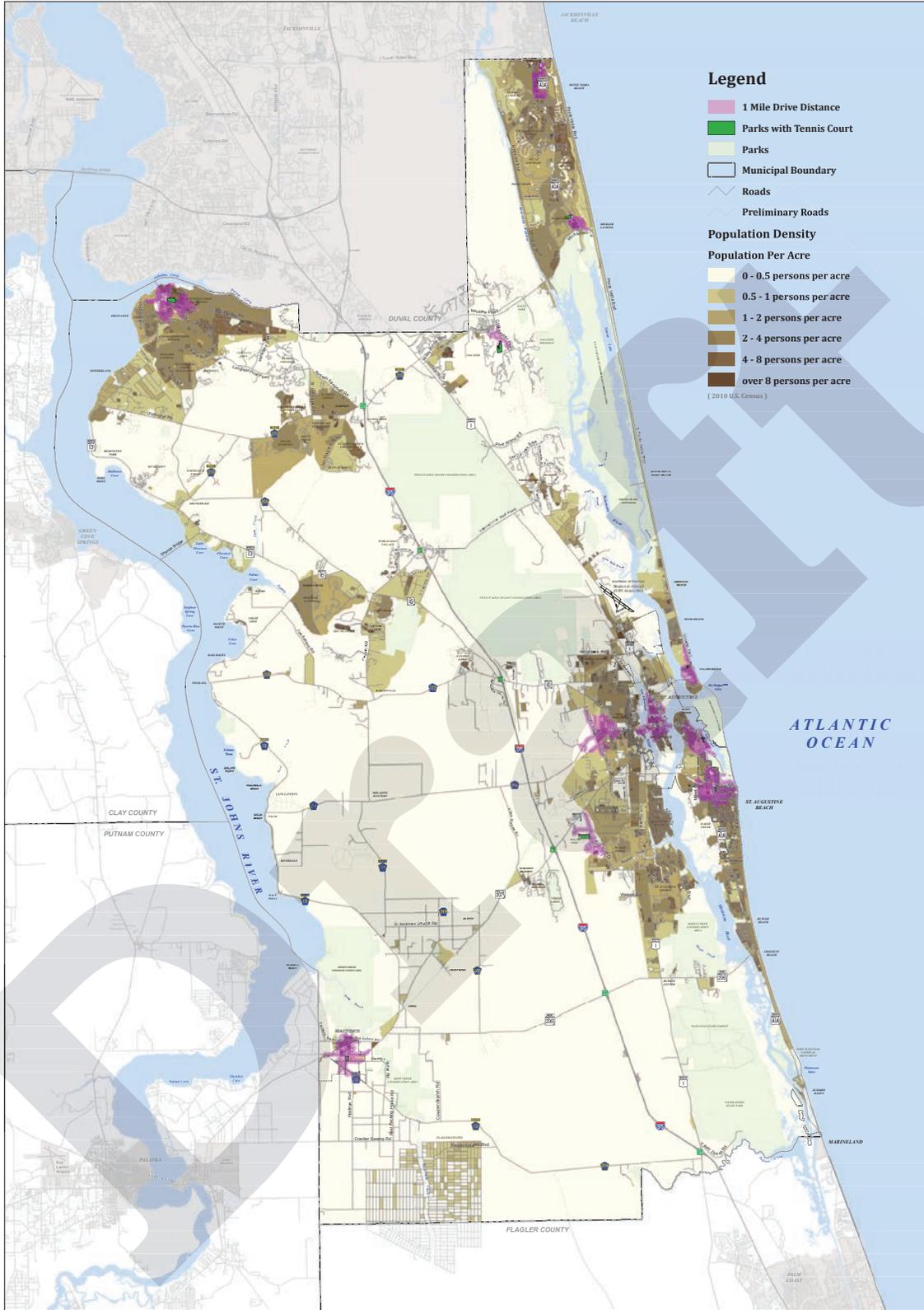
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1/2 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Tennis Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 1 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Tennis Court
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

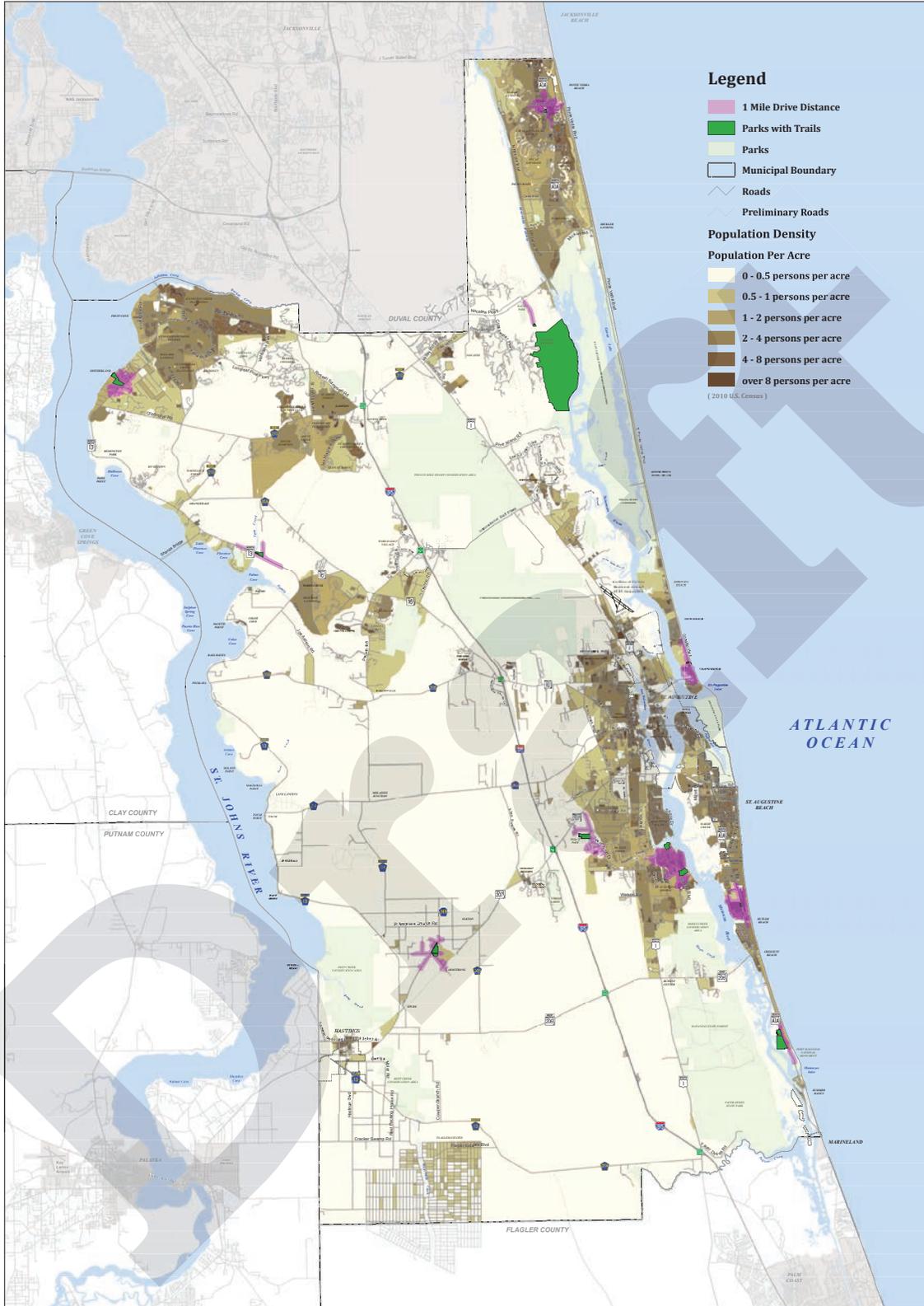
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Tennis Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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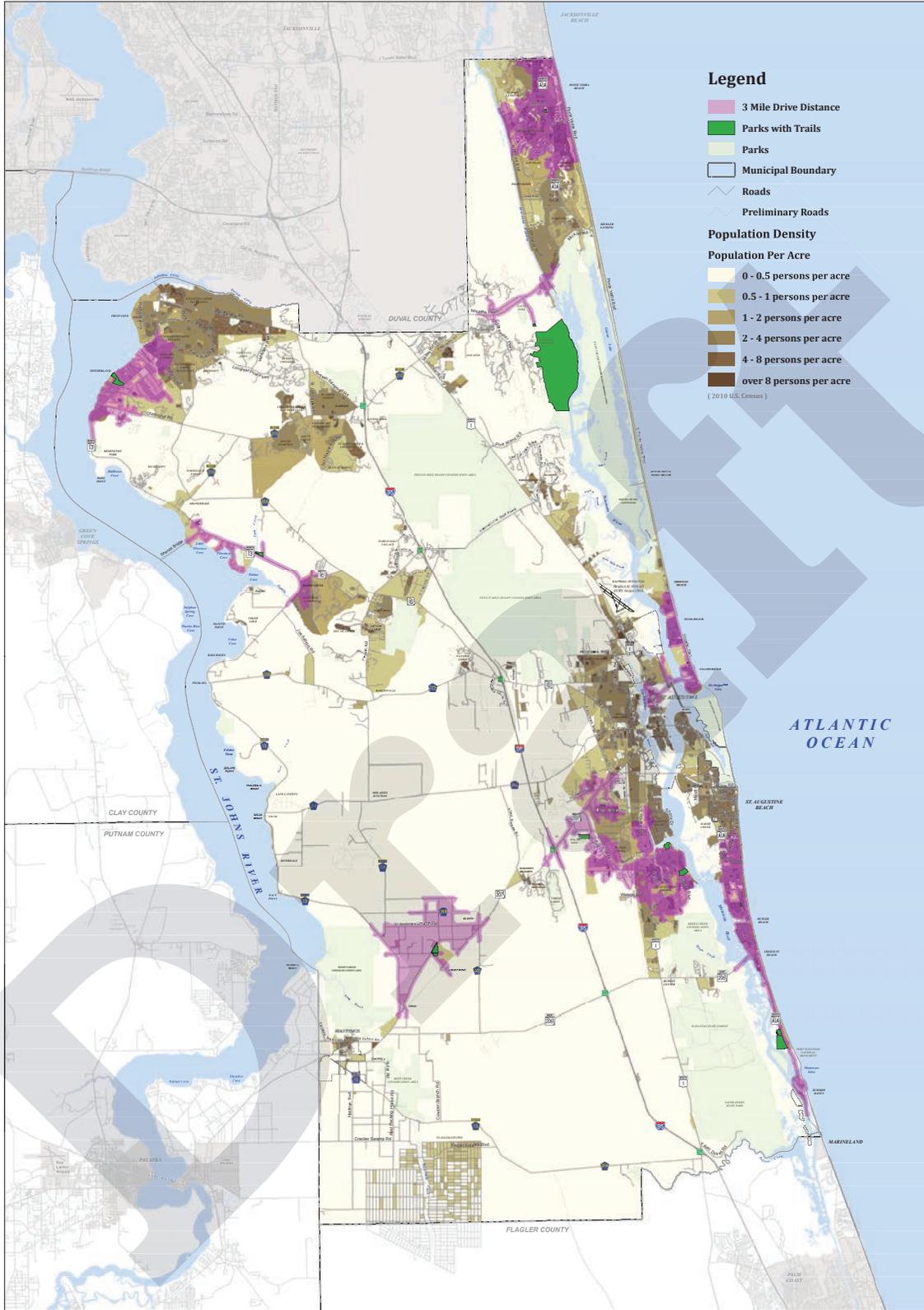




**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis Trails**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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 Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911

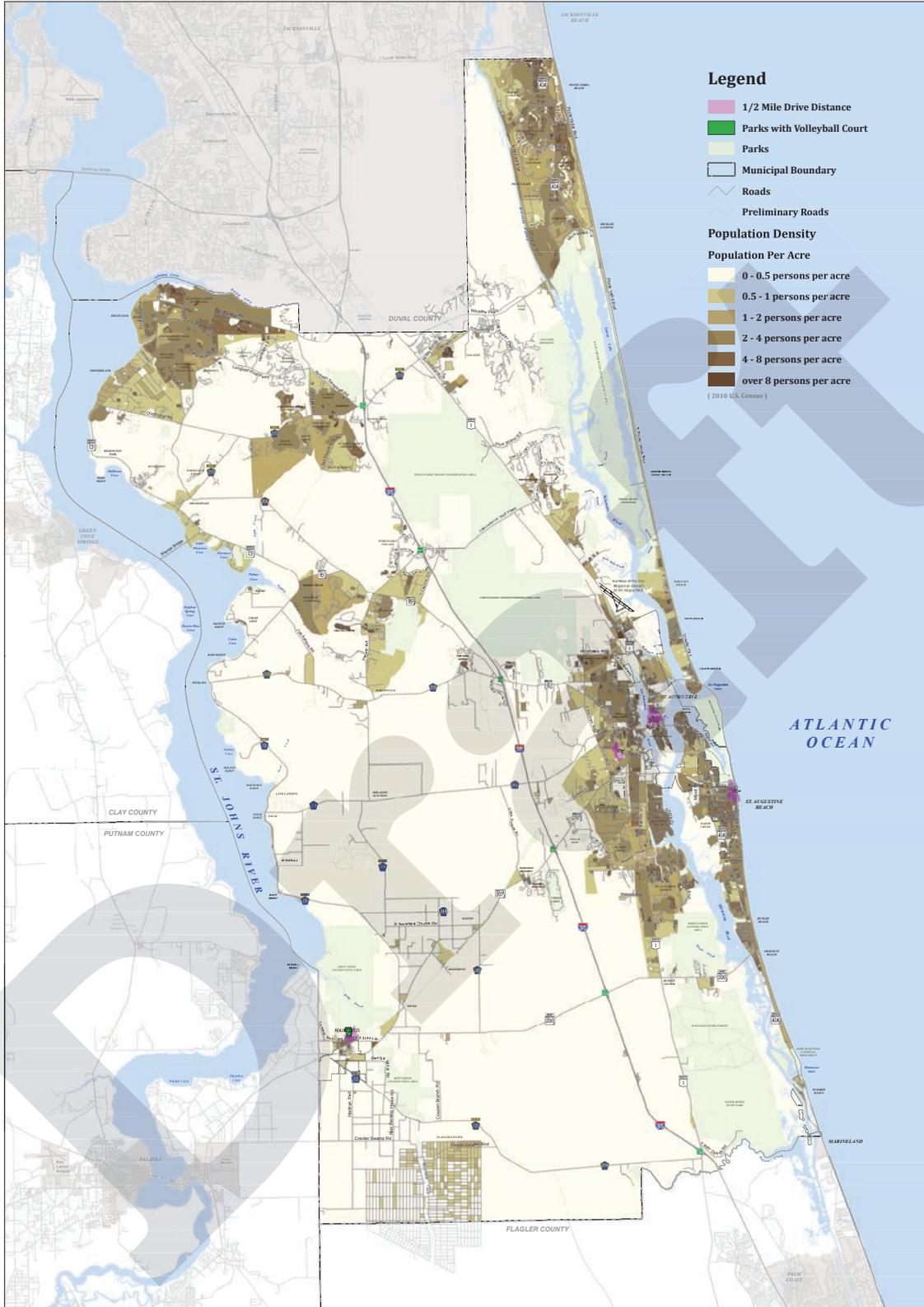




**3 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Trails**  
(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 116911





**Legend**

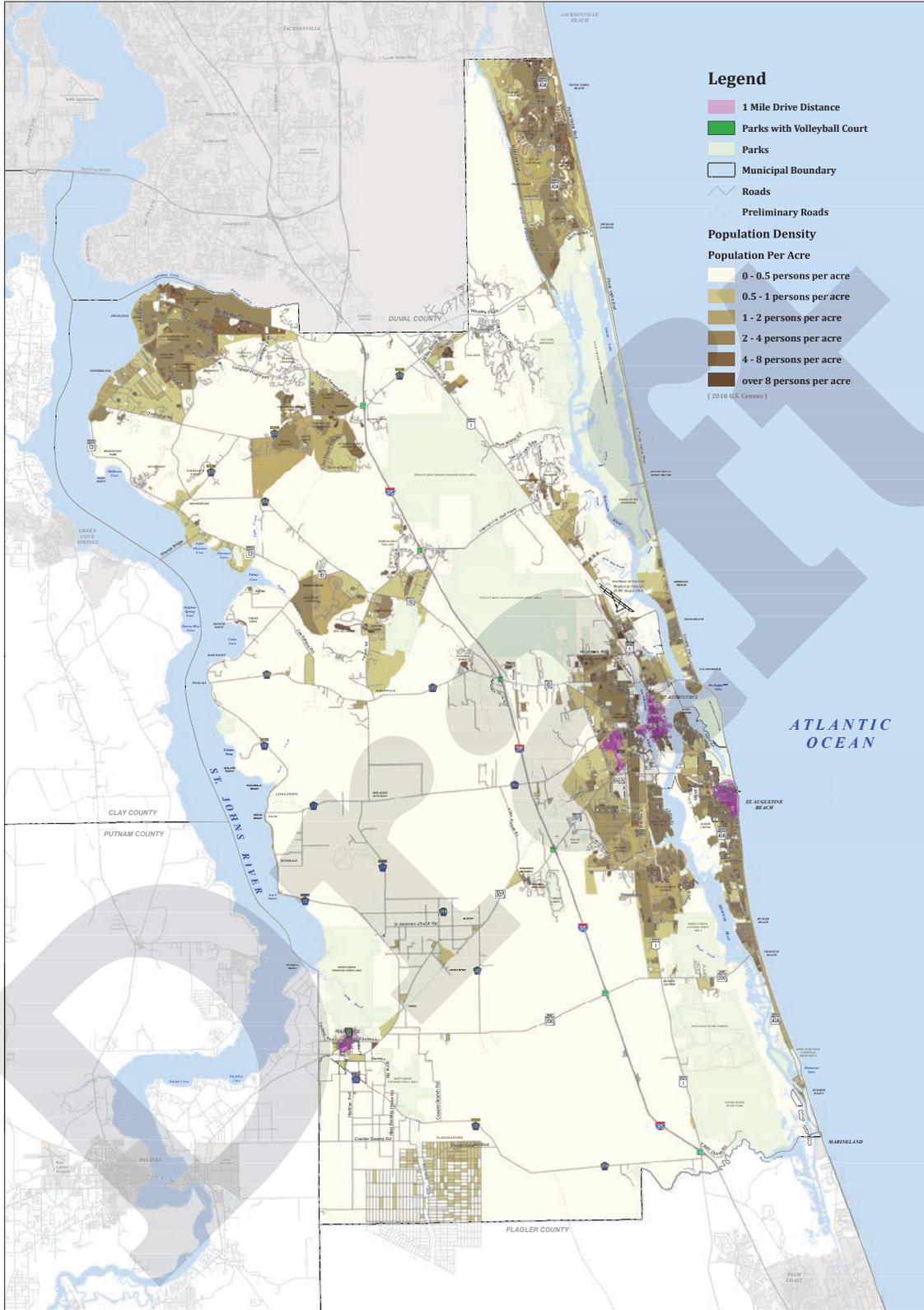
- 1/2 Mile Drive Distance
  - Parks with Volleyball Court
  - Parks
  - Municipal Boundary
  - Roads
  - Preliminary Roads
- Population Density**
- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1/2 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Volleyball Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911





**Legend**

- 1 Mile Drive Distance
- Parks with Volleyball Court
- Parks
- Municipal Boundary
- Roads
- Preliminary Roads

**Population Density**

- Population Per Acre**
- 0 - 0.5 persons per acre
  - 0.5 - 1 persons per acre
  - 1 - 2 persons per acre
  - 2 - 4 persons per acre
  - 4 - 8 persons per acre
  - over 8 persons per acre
- (2010 U.S. Census)



**1 Mile Access LOS Analysis  
Volleyball Courts**  
*(St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan)*

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Map Prepared: 11/9/2016 J16911



## B. Interview and Focus Group Meetings



### St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Master Plan Stakeholder Interviews

December 3, 2015

March 23, 2016

#### 1. Staff

- Need to review Land Development Regulations, School Agreement, Impact Fee Ordinance to create a multi-pronged response to needs and priorities
- Corey will provide Carlos with GIS maps and data
- Use Countywide population, parks inventory (including municipalities)
- Wil to provide "Regional Development" map
- County has deferred maintenance needs (see list, \$2 – 3 million)
- Wil to send Northwest Parks O & M study
- Wil: County focus should be on recreational play

#### 2. County Commissioner

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
  - Everything will be based on finance
  - Need more parks, more fields
  - Hear needs from Palencia, World Golf Village
  - Have a problem because of deferred maintenance
  - St. Johns has 2<sup>nd</sup> lowest tax rate in Florida
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  - Health, safety and welfare incl. emergency services
  - Deferred maintenance
  - More athletic fields (lacrosse, soccer, football, everything, multi-purpose)
4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?



- Wil: Volusia County, Pinellas County
5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?
- Not a big fan of borrowing, would support sales tax; nothing else will generate the needed revenues
  - Change question 20 on survey to say “would you support a ½ cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including parks and recreation system?”

Pay As You Go:

- General Fund/ CIP
- Sales Tax
- Park Impact Fees
- Grants
- User Fees
- Special Assessments
- Others (pls specify)

Borrowing:

- General Obligation Bonds
- Revenue Bonds
- Others (pls specify)

**3. County Commissioner**

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
- Need to do park concurrency by impact fee zone or other zones (have 5 zones by culture and demographic)
  - Add a question re: willingness to charge user fees (other than beach/ boating access)
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
- More parks
  - More fields (softball, football, lacrosse, etc.)
  - More programs



- More boat ramps
  - Water access including beaches, canoe/kayak
  - Maintenance
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
- Fields
  - Boat ramps
  - Beach access
4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
- Different benchmarks for different areas of the County – St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach
5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?
- Would not support ad valorem (property tax), special assessments, or borrowing
  - Need a concurrency review system for parks
  - Would support P3s: developers, foundations, etc.

Pay as You Go:

- General Fund/ CIP
- Sales Tax
- Park Impact Fees
- Grants
- User Fees
- Special Assessments
- Others (pls specify)

Borrowing:

- General Obligation Bonds
- Revenue Bonds
- Others (pls specify)



#### 4. County Commissioner

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
  - Ballfields
    - Villages/ Middle Creek Little League (County owns 8-acre parcel near middle school, would satisfy need for multi-purpose fields)
    - Desire for more practice fields
  - Horse Council has desires, usually take care of it themselves
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  - T-ball field in Mill Creek
  - Football/ practice areas in Mill Creek/ World Golf
  - Underutilization of existing facilities, e.g. Hastings
  - Take care of what we have
  - Quality over quantity
  - Priority should be given to where something will be used, where a lot of people live
4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?
  - Would support sales tax if rolled back ad valorem; would not support borrowing
  - Can you make better use of what you have, e.g. Candlestick Park?
  - Process (DB):
    - Take care of deferred maintenance
    - Increase maintenance budget
    - Improve quality of existing facilities
    - Delay building new facilities until capacity is diminished

Pay as You Go:



- General Fund/ CIP
- Sales Tax
- Park Impact Fees
- Grants
- User Fees
- Special Assessments
- Others (pls specify)

Borrowing:

- General Obligation Bonds
- Revenue Bonds
- Others (pls specify)

**5. School District**

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
  - Safety and security, makes it difficult for the School District to work with the County on Parks.
  - Will always need to be a separation of schools and parks. Perimeter fence at every school. When personnel leaves, they lock down the perimeter fence. More so on Elementary and Middle Schools, High Schools may be longer hours.
  - Joint Use Agreement with key schools that use the schools
  - New schools are using the buildings as the fence which allows more of a joint use.
  - Community perceives there is a need for:
    - Access to running tracks and walking trails which are only in High Schools, more on evening hours.
    - Access to Gymnasium for Outdoor Basketball and Indoor Basketball.
    - Multi-purpose field plays for soccer, lacrosse.
    - Don't have a lot of ball fields that are typically jointly planned with the County.
  - Need 20 new schools in the next 10 years.



- Schools sites are getting smaller.
    - Mill Creek – School with multi-purpose field that is in use constantly. Developers are wanting to give up less land for schools as they know they can do provide less land for schools.
    - State laws of growth management have been weakened and less uplands for development.
    - Many of the sites end up with more relocated buildings, which take up space for multi-purpose fields.
  - County’s joint use agreement language needs to strengthen.
  - Large tracts of land are gone. What is left is less desirable lands for development which are smaller.
  - School District has many Bahia sod multi-purpose fields that could be improved to 419 certified Bermuda turf and a PPP developed for the County, School District, and some other entity to pay for the increased maintenance
    - County does not have a model to do this and an antiquated fee schedule.
    - Murray Middle School is an example that a third party maintains the fields, County and School District does not maintain it. Murray Middle School Sports maintains the field.
  - Need to find happy medium of where the Parks Department invests dollars in fields and the School District doesn’t take the fields for portables due to student expansion.
  - Have a good working in relationship with the School District and hope to continue working together on the 20 new schools. County now sits at the table with Developers and School District on new schools.
  - Need graphic prototypes and a requirement to be in the design process.
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
  5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?

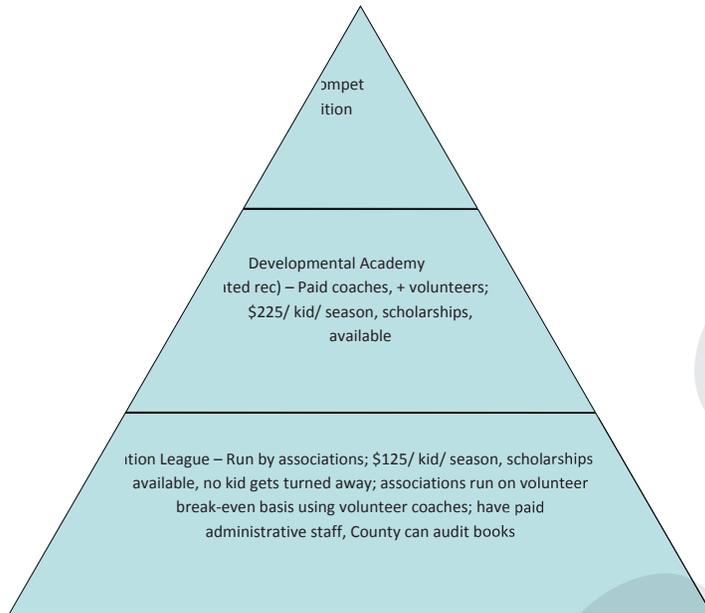


6. **West/ Central Athletic Association – Meredith Conroy, Jeremiah Mulligan – Ancient City Soccer**

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
  - Ancient Soccer is maxed out in current location. Have 660 players of ages 6-19. Have about 4 full size fields that are divided into multiple fields for different age groups.
  - Ancient City Soccer has rec and development soccer; non-profit, break-even; provides rec soccer for County, County does not provide leagues
  - County is in Rec, Developmental “business”
  - 39 Acre site off State Road 16 would hold 7 multi—purpose fields with parking, lighting, and stormwater. \$6M.
  - Need capital to build facility.
  - Need more dynamic relationships to help build facilities and speak with business owners and outlet mall owners to see if they can pitch in for the development of the facilities since it will bring tourists.
  - Recreation Leagues \$250 per kid for two season; \$125 per season.
  - Leagues run on mostly volunteer staff, break-even with limited paid staff.
  - Paying about \$1,500 per kid to play soccer.
  - Need more fields to meet soccer (+/- 10) more over the next ten years?
  - Pools – County-owned pool, YMCA provides programs, day-to-day maintenance. Need better, more public swimming facility where you can teach swimming, people can access swimming.
  - Open greenspace, multi-purpose open space to kick the ball around.



## Potential Field Classification Hierarchy



- Rec and developmental: local, LOS driven, based on population
  - Competitive: regional, market driven, based on ability to form a PE that generates needed revenues for additional capacity, O & M; possibly an Enterprise Fund?
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
  5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?
  7. **City of St. Augustine Beach**
  1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
    - City has some parks, including beachfront parks
    - City owns and operates splash park at pier



- County has some parks in the City
  - Two topics” pier, special events; Ron Parker Park
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
    - Pier Park: Pier, bocce ball, volleyball, dog park, farmers market, pavilion, concerts, City patrols and polices pier – Need Master Plan; include in next phase of work
    - Parking is an issue; include shuttle? 35’ height limit in St. Augustine Beach
    - New Embassy Suites being designed, constructed
    - Non-motorized 1-mile strip from pier to state park
    - Need to meet with St. Augustine Beach Civic Association
    - Don’t want growth, but added 500 hotel rooms in last 18 months
    - Park is over-used, need more parking; farmers market has overwhelmed capacity; had 30,000 people at Beach Blast-off event
    - Ron Parker Park – refresh antiquated facilities, skate park (?); neighborhood is developing master plans, Dave agreed to review and comment; move proposed skate park to corner?
  3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
  5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?
  8. **Rec Advisory Board/ TDC Board**
    1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
    2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)



- Hot button in County is growth, politics of growth. How can we do a better job of tying developers to better support capital and operations and maintenance needs of parks and recreation?
- Can't go to the beach on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday unless he walks. Major parking and over use problem because of the facilities that are there.
- Ron Parker Park is over used by Tennis and Pickle Ball Courts.
- Not enough facilities for kids.
- Need a skate park in the City, but there is one 1 mile away that no one wants to go to due to location near highway.
- Competition for land
- Balance between tourism and resident use.
- Parking is an issue for everything including Beaches, Downtown Historic District and Ponte Vedra which are the three key areas. Data is suggesting that people are coming, getting frustrated with congestion, and not doing everything they wanted to do. There is a fear that they may not return due to incomplete experience and frustration.
- Barely able to maintain the parks they have now.
- Have unmet needs in certain parks in the County. Need to see where the growth in the County is going to be.
- Funding is an issue. No communication between decision makers/elected officials and users/residents associated with funding.
- Value of parks as a critical and essential use is an issue. Need to expouse the importance of parks in relation to police and fire.
- Category 3 Money – Bed tax. Broken down into 4 divisions/categories. Category 3 - Recreation leisure covers parks and recreation, beach, leisure, and sports marketing, etc. which helps with maintenance. TDC wants to allocate more to attract more events to the County.
- Not all the parks overcrowded, just certain parks are overcrowded. Need to get the message out that there are other parks in the County. Better utilizing existing facilities (i.e. fair grounds).
- Coordination of events. Not having events planned on certain times of year, especially during the TPC at Sawgrass.
- Marketing the park system to make others aware of other park options.
- Need to consider Senior Citizens as part of the park system.
- More public golf.
- Indoor walking track
- Parks
- Unmet needs due to growth



- Deferred maintenance, need for developers to assume responsibility
  - Need to differentiate between critical need and “nice to have”
  - Category 3 (bed tax) monies are for recreation, leisure including parks, beaches, special projects, sports marketing
  - Facilities are at capacity
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
  5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?

**9. County Commissioner**

1. Needs

- Consistent theme for four years, believe they should not be in the golf course business because the County hasn't been able to make money and compete with the private business. 80% are not in favor of golf business, 20% are in favor of being in golf business
- 80% would like to see the focus around children and organized sports. Team sports overall but now is hearing about a need for lacrosse, soccer, and then tea ball. Need a place for the kids to play.
- Hearing a need for recreation and tournament, and believes that the County will have to focus more on Recreation due to the new law that will create more competition. So, it will be important to offer students more options.
- Have heard about Butler and Palmetto Boat Ramp complaints, management and maintains needs.
- Open green play space.

2. Priorities

- Access to what the parks already have and that

3. Benchmarks

- Palm Beach County. Hub and scope model for parks. Big Central Parks and partnered with schools to do all after school activities.



#### 4. Funding Implementation

Supportive of User Fees, Public Private Partnerships, No Bonding. Take little bites of the apple and get it done.

### 10. Parks and Rec Staff – Maintenance, Programs Staff

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?
2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)
  - ADA compliant playgrounds; have received complaints
  - Severely behind in meeting ADA compliance including playground surface, sidewalks
  - Estimated \$750,000+
  - Need more boat ramps with parking; at capacity, compete with commercial crabbers
  - Dredging and maintaining existing ramps; more parking (everywhere)
  - 13 ramps within the County, 1 owned by the City of St. Augustine. Last improvement in 2008, add 2 lanes to Butler – no additional parking
  - Potential sites: Ponte Vedre under bridge, Vilano
  - Multi-purpose fields, County-wide especially in World Golf Village area
  - Maintenance Storage Buildings in larger parks
  - Bike trails
  - Need another department vehicle (car or van) for department business
  - Pickle ball courts, NW and NE (retrofit existing paddle ball and tennis courts); getting daily requests from visitors
  - Consistently “band-aiding” park improvements
  - Outdoor fitness facilities
  - More indoor fitness equipment, weight rooms, field houses, etc. (affordable). County has health and wellness initiative.
  - Walking tracks around fields
  - Consistent site standards, furnishings; County could develop standards through internal process



- Security cameras in parking lots to be monitored by police/ sheriff for “smash and grabs”
- Department involved in the planning and design of developer-built parks; should be involved in the pre-app
- Need standards to give to developer
- Need to change comp plan language to require involvement of parks and recreation
- Public golf courses; is Palm Valley available?
- Big multi-sport complex
- Large multi-purpose community parks; Treaty park is the only regional park not focused on single sport. Need more playgrounds/ pavilions for parties, special events
- Access to other agency facilities for early/ late hours
- Invest in management staffing

3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?

4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?

5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?

## 11. North County Athletic Associations

1. Review of Scope/ Schedule: Do you have any questions about the project scope/ methodology? Are there any additional meetings, workshops, presentations or other outreach efforts that we should consider?

2. Needs: Based on what you know, see and hear about your community, what do you believe are the top priority parks and recreation needs? (see attached list for reference)

- More field space for practices; could use 2 more multi-purpose fields for lacrosse, football, 1 baseball, 1 softball field, for next 10 years (Northeast County)
- Could use more lighted fields; Cornerstone Park in Ponte Vedra has restrictions re: ballfield lights
- Drainage is an issue at Davis Park, need to rebuild fields (+/- \$250,000/ field)
- Travel ball provides better exposure to college scouts than high school



- What's the obligation of public agencies to accommodate travel ball needs?
  - One coach collects \$100/ mo. for each player, 10 months, 84 participants, = \$84,000. County charges \$10/ participant = \$840.
  - Model: Priority given to recreation, developmental leagues @ \$10/ participant/ season. Additional capacity available to competition/ travel @ field rental fee
  - Travel teams “poach” best players, esp. pitchers and softballs
3. Priorities: Of the needs listed above, what are your top 3 priorities?
  4. Benchmark Communities: As we analyze your system, who should we compare you to? Are there any communities that you wish to emulate?
  5. Funding/ Implementation: Assuming that the Master Plan will identify hundreds of millions of dollars in desired/ needed improvements, what funding source(s) would you support?

## 12. **Growth Management Staff**

1. New development to provide adequate funds, facilities to meet needs mitigate impacts of new residents.
  2. New facilities/parks to be planned/ designed in accordance with county needs, LOS standards, designs standards.
  3. Developer/HOA/ participation in on-going maintenance.
  4. Identify opportunities/needs to:
    - a. Update codes policies
    - b. Participate in development review/negotiations, planning design
    - c. Refine development review process for parks and recreation
- Pre-Application Process – Look at natural resources, wetland areas, open space as part of the open space, listed species (Development Review Manual has the process).
  - Process would begin with Comprehensive Plan which states LOS from an active acreage standpoint. Also, defines typical facilities found in active parks. Also, have a Passive LOS with is 24 acres per 1,000. Need to additional standards such as Access, Facilities LOS.
  - There is no requirement at the PUD level to have a park.
  - Need to get past regional standard for impact fees, need prototypes.



- NW Sector Plan with specific requirements that are more stringent. Need more requirements on County Roads to have Bicycle Access to bike from one park to another park. Need to develop standards for roads. Existing standards include shoulder that are used for bike lands. Should explore updating road standards.
- County does not have a Bikeways Master Plan. But have new developments provide bicycle connectivity through bike lanes and multi-use lanes.
- Propose new standards for transportation for street sections.
- Since there are no DRI's in the County, need to update the Comprehensive Plan to provide parks so they can show how to mitigate growth. Only leverage left is through Comprehensive.
- Last update to Impact Fee was not much at all. Need data to provide to Impact Fee Consultant.
- Specific areas in the County are growing at different rates. Current LOS standards allow most areas to pass without giving much.
- Park Impact fees are going to be used to repay the debt bond for the next 15 years, so those fees won't be use for parks and recreation. Need another strategy to provide parks and recreation.
- GIS map that shows population growth for the last 15 years (from 2000 to 2015). How to get projected population growth.
- Is there a way to create different impact fee boundaries, have some pay for debt service and others pay for recreation?

Need to look at:

- Acreage LOS
- Access LOS
- Facilities LOS
- Comprehensive Plan
- PUD/DRI Requirements
- Impact Fees
- Extraordinary Funding
- Impact Fee Districts



- Prototypes/design standards
- Comprehensive Plan does provide an opportunity for developer to pay money in lieu of developing a park.
- Development Review Committee Meeting – Review PUD/Planned Rule Development Pre-App; are optional to streamlined. Now, the County sees what is being proposed at the Application Process.
- Parks and Recreation should be part of Development Review Committee.
- County system called WATS allows the Department to review plans.
- Needs standards for parks so the Parks County can review.
- Implementation Trigger for Parkland, don't have standards as to what type of facilities should be included and sometimes just get a greenspace with a bench that floods.
- Need more specifics, training inspectors, consistent standards.

### 13. **Developers and Consultants**

- Vilano, CRA have received funding for infrastructure.
- Pier is getting re-maintained. Would like to use day dock for water taxi that would take people back from City dock to Vilano Day Dock.
- Public meeting facility on top of old restaurant foundation or around the pier on the ocean side.
- Pocket Park on 4th Street. Was designed as a stage in the original town center vision. The space is there and the currently land owners to the east would like to work with the County to build a playground.
- Splash Park hasn't been re-opened. Wil noted that the project is on the CIP but no funding has been identified. As soon as funding is identified, the project would be addressed.
- Implementing Wayfinding + Sign system for 72-mile corridor. There will be some redundancy in signage but that will be addressed later as the signs are implemented. Already spoke to the parks system across the corridor.
- Trail connectivity in the area is important. Want to keep East Coast Greenway on Vilano Beach.
- Nokatee does resident surveys annually. Do surveys to 3,500 homes and get a high return rate. Can provide surveys. Significant section deals with amenities and parks and recreation. They are building parks and recreation within Nokatee.
  - o Need more kid friendly amenities
  - o Pickleball
  - o No golf
  - o Wider paths and sidewalks to jog on around parks



- o Asphalt paths around the parks.... Rave reviews.
- Review of Mission for Parks and Recreation is so it doesn't stay with athletic fields and bikeways. Wants to see it address needs and priorities, not wants.
- Would like to see Aquatics Programs and Pool within a 5 to 10-mile area to help with Elderly exercises, heated pool.
- Nokatee has had a lot of demand for pools. CDD has had request from Schools (Mike White with Parc Group to send data about how many swim team applicants they had versus how many are present now).
- Need to standards for sidewalks that are not curvilinear.
- Would be supportive of ½ cent 1 cent sales tax.
- Need to get beyond sounds bites that developers need to pay for 100% of the need. Developers feel that the need has been there for 10 years and the County is behind, not the role developers.
- Code needs to be modernized to allow staff to determine if they should pay money towards a fund that pays for local/community parks and recreation facilities versus building facilities within the site. Need to establish a distance for where the funding should be spent.
- Would like staff to be flexible on terms of what elements can be approved and feel empowered to allow smart development that may not be on the code. Standards can be a drawback, would like staff to be more flexible. (Example – two sidewalks next to a road versus one large side walk on one side of the road that may reduce wetland impacts and allow more social use).
- County should not be in business of Community or Neighborhood Needs. County should be focused on River, Intercostal, Beaches, and Regional Needs. Need money for regional facilities.
- Code is driving Neighborhood/Community Parks.
- Uses and facilities change within a park as the Community grows.



## C. Comprehensive Plan and LDR Review Notes

### Review of St. Johns County Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations Parks and Recreation Requirements

May 2016

The following sections from the Comprehensive Plan and Land Development Regulations may have implications for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

#### I. 2025 Comprehensive Plan

[http://www.sjcnl.us/  
LongRangePlanning/CompPlan.  
aspx](http://www.sjcnl.us/LongRangePlanning/CompPlan.aspx)

A.1.3.11 - The Board of County Commissioners shall utilize the following criteria as applicable in the consideration of all rezoning requests:

6. With respect to the foregoing, the following factors may be considered as mitigation in order to negate a possible incompatibility:
  - a. permitted uses, structures and activities allowed within the Future Land Use designation;
  - b. building location, dimension, height and floor area ratio;
  - c. location and extent of parking, access drives, loading areas, and service areas;
  - d. hours of operation, noise levels, and lighting;

e. roads, setbacks, buffers, fences, walls, landscaping, parks and open spaces, wetlands, conservation areas, drainage ponds, lakes, and other similar characteristics.

A.1.9.3 - To encourage a mixture of land uses, development parcels within Mixed Use Districts equal to or greater than forty (40) upland acres in size shall be required to have at least 10% Open Space and at least two uses chosen from Commercial, Office, Industrial or Residential; Commercial, Office, Industrial and/or Residential uses may range from 10% to 90% of the upland portions of the project. Wetland areas may be used to meet 10% Open Space requirements. When 2025 residential uses are provided, the project shall include parks, recreation and open space. Residential uses may not be appropriate in all mixed use projects.

#### **COMPREHENSIVE PLAN, Land Use Page, 24-0**

**Conservation** shall mean lands, wetlands and tidal marsh along with adjacent upland islands and other areas as designated on the Future Land Use Map. Due to their sensitive environmental



qualities, only very low intensity uses shall be permitted subject to all regulatory permitting requirements. Permitted uses shall include:

Outdoor passive or resource-oriented uses, including preservation areas, nature centers, pedestrian trails, passive parks, picnic or scenic areas, environmental interpretative centers, wildlife preserves, primitive campgrounds, and similar low impact uses, provided such uses shall be subject to all applicable federal, state, regional, and local permitting requirements, and such uses shall be subject to a maximum floor area ratio of 0.10, and a maximum impervious surface ratio of 0.10, and such uses shall maintain the following minimum percentages of the proposed development site as undisturbed open space:

- (a) for proposed development sites less than ten (10) acres, minimum open space of 80% of the site;
- (b) for proposed development sites containing ten (10) acres or more, but less than fifty (50) acres, minimum open space of 85% of the site; and
- (c) for proposed development sites containing fifty (50) acres or more, minimum open space of 90% of the site.

A.1.11.3 - In addition to all other applicable Plan policies and requirements, the intensity and bulk of the types development listed below shall, without limitation, be additionally controlled by the establishment of a maximum impervious surface area.

**Parks, Recreation and Open Space**

	Min ISR	FAR
-Active	0.50	20%
-Passive	0.20	10%

4. Project types are varied, and range from large passive recreation open space to smaller urban type and water-oriented active recreational facilities. See also separate Impervious Service Ratio (ISR) and Floor Area Ratio (FAR) standards for recreation uses in Conservation areas.

A.1.14.2 - The County shall collaborate with the School District on the siting of County facilities such as parks, libraries, and community centers near existing or planned public schools, to the extent feasible.

**A.1.19.8 COMMUNITY FORM.**

New Towns shall develop within compact and well defined villages. Villages shall be surrounded by greenways, golf courses,



natural and manmade features that provide for edges and shall be designed with identifiable character. Elementary and middle schools, community and neighborhood parks shall be sized and located to define neighborhoods or a cluster of neighborhoods.

Traditional Neighborhoods - Parks - All dwelling units shall be within 1/4 mile of a park or greenway. No dwelling units may be more than 1/2 mile from a park. Each neighborhood shall have a central area with a neighborhood commons.

**A.1.19.13 VILLAGE CENTERS.** All villages shall have community parks, civic spaces, and/or commons, including at least one community building that shall be constructed by the developer during the first two years of residential development within a village.

**A.2.1.1 Northwest Sector General Administrative** - (a) The Northwest Sector shall be developed with neighborhoods and communities that are served by commercial support uses, schools, parks and open spaces and civic spaces.

(f) New development within the Northwest Sector may be required to identify and reserve land or provide appropriate mitigation for the following public facilities and services, if it is determined that the proposed new development has an impact on the public facilities and services. (3) Regional parks, community parks, and neighborhood parks.

### **A.2.1.3 Northwest Sector Development Edges and Recreational Trail System**

(b) Development edges and recreational trails shall be identified with the proposed development. Performance standards may be considered to allow flexibility and enhancement to assure rural character and providing for view corridors to parks, scenic areas, wetlands and permanently protected agricultural or silviculture areas.

### **A.2.1.4 Northwest Sector Scenic Edges**

(b) Where feasible, a coordinated pedestrian and bicycle system consisting of sidewalks, bike paths or trails and parks shall link Neighborhoods to each other as follows:

- (1) Schools.
- (2) Commercial services.
- (3) Bike paths and sidewalks shall



allow for safe non-automobile travel and be integrated into a system of trails to serve both recreation and pedestrian/bicycle travel needs of area residents.

(4) Sidewalks shall be required on at least one side of all new roads.

(5) Bike lanes shall be required on both sides of all arterial and major collector roadways unless an alternative path is provided.

(6) Trails and bikeways should connect to elementary schools. The County shall work with School District to locate elementary and middle schools in close proximity to neighborhoods to encourage walkability.

#### **A.2.1.9 Northwest Sector General Development Pattern**

(I) When determined appropriate, development shall provide the location and proposed density/intensity of development of each neighborhood, as well as the demand, location and size of schools, civic sites and parks in accordance with the requirements of these policies.

#### **A.2.1.10 Northwest Sector Neighborhood Design**

(2) Each neighborhood shall have a centrally located civic space or public gathering place in the form of a square, green or common area to serve as a focal point of the

neighborhood. These civic spaces shall be identifiable through the use of greens, parks, landscape features, and public art.

#### **A.2.1.11 Community Support Uses**

b) Non-residential development design shall provide for a mix of land uses including, retail, office, personal and household service establishments, institutional uses, medical uses, public/civic facilities, cultural and social facilities, parks, playgrounds, community gardens, and other similar uses. When mixed, the projects shall include at least 10% Open Space and at least two uses chosen from Commercial, Office or Industrial; the mix of uses should fall within 10% to 90% of the remaining land within the project. The Impervious Surface Ratio (ISR) and Floor Area Ratio (FAR) shall be as provided in Policy A.1.11.3.

#### **Objective H.1.5**

**The County shall maintain a Concurrency Management System ("CMS") as part of the County's land development regulations which shall ensure**

F.1.3.8. Developments of Regional Impact (DRIs), Planned Developments (PUDs), PRDs) and other developments shall provide neighborhood-sized parks and



**The County shall provide for the park needs of the County population through the year 2025.**

**Policies F.1.3.1.**

The County minimum **level of service (LOS)** standard for the provision of parks and open space as follows:

<b>Facility/Park</b>	<b>Level of Service Standard</b>	<b>Typical Facilities and Service Area*</b>
Neighborhood Park	2 acres/1000 population	Playground equipment; open play fields; benches; walking paths; natural passive areas and landscaped areas; pool; <u>generally</u> no parking, lighting and restrooms; located interior of neighborhoods and generally intended to serve the walking population within ½ to 2 miles of the site; generally requires minimum 1-2 acres depending upon the facilities being provided
Community Park	3 acres/1000 population	Open play fields; multi-purpose fields; playground equipment; walking paths; natural passive areas; pool; community building and restrooms; <u>generally not</u> lighted except in specific locations such as community building; limited parking facilities; generally located on collector roadways; may be located adjacent to schools; generally requires 3-15 acres depending upon facilities being provided
District Park	3 acres/1000 population	Mixed use park with active and passive uses; walking paths; natural passive areas; open play fields; multi-purpose fields; playground equipment; pool; community building and restrooms; regulation soccer, football, baseball, fields, gymnasium; special event areas; generally lighted; parking facilities; staff office building; generally located on collector and arterial roadways; generally requires 25-100 acres depending upon facilities being provided
Regional Park	20 acres/1000 population	State parks; large open space areas; walking paths; natural passive areas; historical structures, commemorative structures; nature trails; picnic areas; camping, hiking and nature study; bicycle riding and equestrian trials; swimming; fishing; specific areas may be lighted; parking; community building; staff office building; located on local and collector roadways

playing fields within the development for their residents that meet the County LOS standard.

F.1.3.9.DRIs, and PUDs which have met the required neighborhood park LOS requirements within their development, may dedicate other parks and open space requirements generated by the development



through dedication to the County, private ownership, fee-in-lieu of payment for off-site acquisitions consistent with the master plan according to the adopted level of service standard. The choice of development of facilities, dedication or impact fee payment shall be negotiated.

### **Objective H.1.5**

The County shall maintain a Concurrency Management System ("CMS") as part of the County's land development regulations which shall ensure that the impacts resulting from the County's issuance of development orders or development permits shall not result in a reduction in a level of service for affected public facilities below the applicable level of service standards established in Policy H.1.2.1 of this Plan.

### **Policies**

H.1.5.1 The County shall maintain a CMS as part of its land development regulations. The CMS shall incorporate provisions which shall require that the level of service standards ("LOS") for only the following public facilities shall be required to be met prior to the issuance of a development order or development permit:

- transportation
- sanitary sewer

- solid waste
- drainage
- potable water
- parks and recreation; and
- mass transit, if applicable; and
- educational facilities

### **(b ) CATEGORY II CRITERIA:**

For parks and open space, at a minimum, a proposed project shall meet the following standards to satisfy the concurrency requirement:

(1) At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are in place or under actual construction; or

(2) A development order or permit is issued subject to the condition that, at the time of the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent, the acreage for the necessary facilities and services to serve the proposed project is dedicated or acquired by the County, or funds in the amount of the developer's fair share are committed; and

(i) A development order or permit is issued subject to the conditions that the necessary facilities and services needed to serve the



proposed project are scheduled to be in place or under actual construction not more than one year after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent as provided in the Five Year Schedule of Capital Improvements; or

(ii) At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are the subject of a binding executed agreement which requires the necessary facilities and services to serve the proposed project to be in place or under actual construction not more than one year after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent; or

(iii) At the time the development order or permit is issued, the necessary facilities and services are guaranteed in an enforceable development agreement, as presently provided in Section 163.3220, F.S. or as provided in future updates, or an agreement or development order issued under the present provisions of Chapter 380, F.S. or as provided in future updates, to be in place or under actual construction not more than one year after issuance of a certificate of occupancy or its functional equivalent.

H.1.5. 5 For parks or recreation facilities, the CMS shall require, at a minimum, that one of the Category II Criteria shall be met prior to the issuance of the development order or development permit.

## **II. Land Development Code**

<http://www.sjcfl.us/LongRangePlanning/LandDevCode.aspx> - Land Development Code

### **SECTION 5.0 IMPACT FEE CREDIT AGREEMENTS**

C. Parks: Park land dedication and/or park capital improvements in accordance with Ordinance 87-58 and the Manual.

### **SECTION 37.0 Impact Fees Section 37.01 Introduction**

An impact fee is a one time charge applied to new construction. The purpose of the fee is to fund capital projects such as roads, parks, schools, jails, fire stations, and other infrastructure that are needed because of the new development. The funds collected cannot be used for operation, maintenance, or repair of capital facilities.



**Part 5.10.00 OPTIONAL DENSITY BONUS**

**Sec. 5.10.01 Generally**

The Optional Density Bonuses, pursuant to this Part, are designed to allow and encourage creative land Development. Generally, the Optional Density Bonuses allow incentives for the Developer to provide the following benefits for the County: (i) to dedicate land for parks and open space, beach and water access, and land for other public purposes; (ii) to preserve and provide open space areas throughout the County by preserving uplands and Wetlands in a natural state, especially in areas where the

depth of land affords a view or vista of bodies of water, marshlands and similar natural aesthetic viewing areas; (iii) to provide additional buffers, above the required buffering, between incompatible Uses; (iv) to mitigate an existing nonconforming Use or incompatible Use; and (v) to preserve open spaces along SR A1A and SR

13. In addition, the use of these Optional Density Bonuses assist the County in the control of urban sprawl, leapfrog Development, and strip Development and furthers the goals, objectives and policies of the Comprehensive Plan. Optional Density Bonuses may be utilized

<b>OPTIONAL DENSITY BONUS</b>	
<b>Optional Density Based <u>On</u> Acres or Action Taken</b>	<b>Density Bonus Factor</b>
Dedication of Land for Public Benefit	2
Preservation of Open Space West of SR 13/CR 13 (William Bartram Scenic Highway)	1
Preservation of Open Space East of SR A1A	1
Preservation of Uplands Adjacent to Contiguous Wetlands	2
Dedication of Uplands Adjacent to State Owned Navigable Waters for the Benefit of the Public with Access and Parking being Provided	4
Mitigation of an Existing Non-conforming or Incompatible Land Use	2
Dedication of Public Beach Access	2
Dedication of Beach Parking	4
Traditional Neighborhood Development	2
Provision of Affordable Housing	Refer to Part 5.07.00



in all residential designations, as provided in this Part.

### **Sec. 5.10.02 Applicability**

This Part may apply to all Development within the residential designations, as depicted on the Future Land Use Map of the Comprehensive Plan.

### **Sec. 5.10.03 Standards**

Optional Density Bonuses are illustrated in the table on the following page.

### **Comprehensive Plan Special Projects**

<http://www.sjcfcl.us/LongRangePlanning/SpecialProjects/index.aspx> -

Some of the Comprehensive Plan's Special Projects

- Scenic and Historic AIA Final Corridor Management Plan – Prepared by Glatting Jackson addresses architectural and design requirements for public parks and areas; does not include private land development requirements.
- William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway, Parks and Resources Plan - The following section outlines the recommended enhancements and improvements for the following parks and resources along the scenic highway: William Bartram

Gardens (at Bartram Trails Library); Beluthahatchee; Alpine Groves and the Switzerland Community Center; Shands Pier, and; Trout Creek. In addition to the parks and resources above, preliminary ideas and concepts have been generated for the following future parks and resources: Jack Wright Island; New Shands Bridge Park; Beltway Flyover, and; Performing Arts Pavilion

o Section 13: Action Plan and Conceptual Master Plan – does not include any developer requirements; includes physical and program improvements for series of parks and facilities along the highway.

- Water Dependent Uses and Marine Study, 2002 – Prepared by ATM was undertaken to help St. Johns County officials plan for the anticipated growth of the County, and the future needs for water dependent use facilities such as boat ramps, marinas, private docks and commercial facilities. The report summarizes state and local requirements for marine uses including a review of the County Comprehensive Plan and makes recommendations for changes to the regulations.

I did not see any requirements for private land development in the Comp Plan Special Projects. They



addressed public ROW and parks.

### **Development Review Manual**

<http://www.sjcfl.us/DevelopmentReview/DRManual.aspx> - Development Review Manual

- I did not see anything new in these regs. They outlined impact fee process and requirements consistent with the Comp Plan and Land Development Code as outlined above in those sections.

### **Land Acquisition and Management Program (LAMP)**

<http://www.co.st-johns.fl.us/LAMP/index.aspx> - Land Acquisition and Management Program (LAMP), click on the tab for Major Projects and you will find the list of FCT grant awards, the St Johns County's Florida Forever Blueways and Greenway, Blueways and Trails Master Plan.

- (LAMP) identifies lands to be acquired in the unincorporated areas of the County and the participating municipalities
- At this time, the LAMP program is on hold due to lack of funding from the Department of Environmental Protection. The County's hope is that when the funds are again available, the LAMP program will once again thrive

### **County Environmental Programs**

<http://www.sjcfl.us/Environmental/index.aspx> □  
County Environmental Programs  
The Environmental Division oversees a multi-faceted program to protect and conserve the natural and cultural resources of St. Johns County.

We focus on five distinct but interrelated areas:

- **Land Development Code**

**Compliance Section** evaluates proposed new development and construction in St. Johns County for environmental and cultural protections and compliance with the County's Land Development Code.

- **Habitat Conservation Section**

ensures protection of the County's endangered animal and plant species and protection of critical habitats.

- **Historic Resource Section**

identifies historic resources in St. Johns County and aids in their preservation for the public's benefit. Historic Resources include archaeological sites, houses and buildings, cemeteries and graves, historic roadways, and a range of objects and documents. The section also serves regulatory



functions associated with Land Development Code policies, and maintains collections of documents and artifacts accessible for research and education.

• **Land Resource Management Section** manages the County’s permitting and mitigation projects as well as acquires and manages County land for recreation and conservation. This Section also implements the County’s Stormwater Management program and the Land Acquisition and Management Program.

• **Facility Compliance Section** ensures that all County facilities with gasoline or diesel storage tanks comply with state and federal regulations.

### **FY 2016 Financial Plan**

FY 2016 CIP expenditures by County service area include:

- \$43.8 million for total County Transportation improvement projects (including \$3.8 million for Stormwater Management projects under Physical Environment);
- \$40.0 million for total County Utility Services improvement projects;
- \$12.2 million for Public Safety improvement projects; and
- \$3.9 million for Parks & Recreation improvement projects.



**D. Mail Survey Report**

# 2016 St Johns County, Florida Community Interest and Opinion Survey

## Draft Final Report

*...helping organizations make better decisions since 1982*

**Submitted by:**

ETC Institute  
725 W. Frontier Lane,  
Olathe, Kansas 66061

April 2016



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# St. Johns County, FL

## Community Interest and Opinion Survey

### Executive Summary Report

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## Purpose

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department is in the process of updating its master plan to guide the future of parks, nature preserves, and recreation services in our community over the next 5 to 20 years. Public input is important to the plan's development. The master plan process seeks to gain citizen input and feedback in order to better understand resident priorities for parks, beach areas, trails, preserves, sports and recreation facilities, and programs and services within our community. As part of this effort, we conducted a citywide needs assessment survey that will provide key data and information we need to form an effective and viable plan that will look to address current and future needs, assist us in more efficient and effective delivery of programs/services and provide guidelines on how to manage our facilities and assets in the future.

## Methodology

ETC Institute mailed a survey packet to 8,000 households in St Johns County. Each survey packet contained a cover letter, a copy of the survey, and a postage-paid return envelope. Residents who received the survey were given the option of returning the survey by mail or completing it on-line at [www.sjcparksurvey.org](http://www.sjcparksurvey.org). To prevent people who were not residents of the St Johns County from participating, everyone who completed the survey on-line was required to enter their home address prior to submitting the survey. ETC Institute then matched the addresses that were entered on-line with the addresses that were originally selected for the random sample. If the address from a survey completed on-line did not match one of the addresses selected for the sample, the on-line survey was not counted. This allowed respondents to validate their participation in the survey while maintaining their confidentiality.

A goal was set to obtain a minimum of 600 completed surveys within St. Johns County boundaries. Of the households who were selected to receive a survey, a total of 839 respondents participated. The results for the sample of 839 households have a 95% level of confidence with a precision rate of at least +/- 3.4%.

This main body of this report contains the following:

- Charts showing the overall results of the survey (Section 1)
- Importance-Unmet Needs Matrices (Section 2)
- National benchmark comparisons (Section 3)
- Tabular data showing the overall results for all questions on the survey (Section 4)
- A copy of the survey instrument (Section 5)

## **Cross-Tabular Analysis By Various Demographics**

To gain additional information regarding key short and long range strategic decision-making for the St Johns County Parks and Recreation Department, survey results were further broken down by key demographic factors. These factors which are all included in the report include breakdowns by:

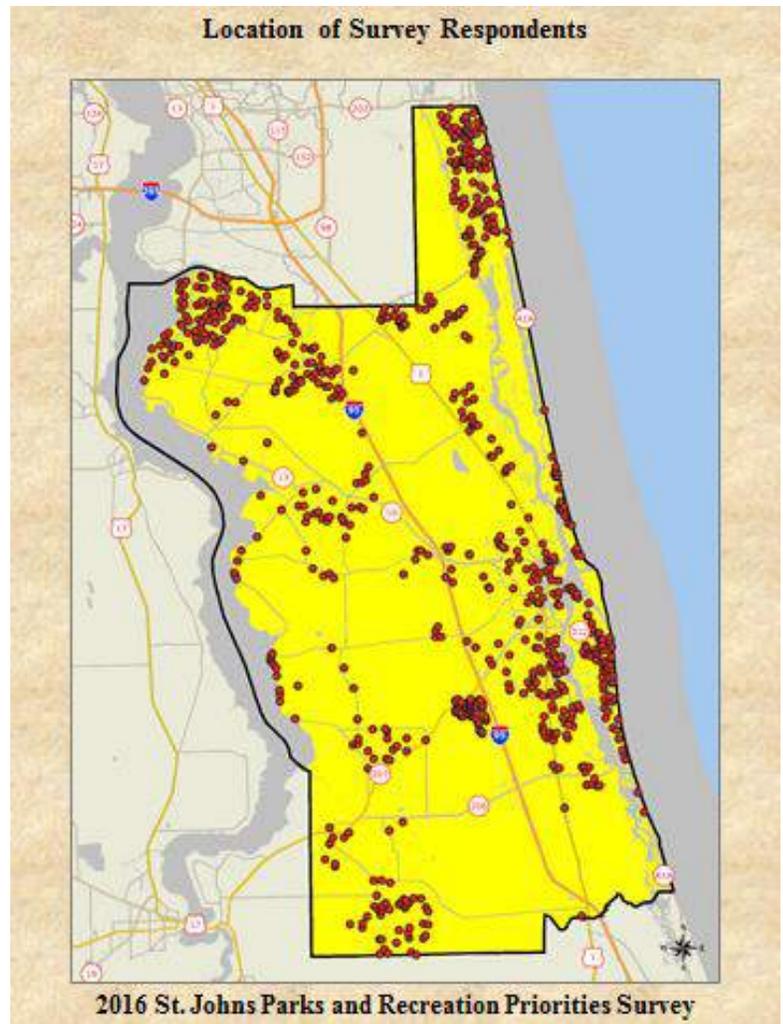
- Results by age and gender
- Results by geographic location
- Results by household types (with and without children)
- Results by length of residence
- Results by race and ethnicity

The cross-tabulations are provided in Appendix A of this report.

## **GIS Mapping by Questions of Need, Unmet Need, and Support**

**Location of Respondents.** Maps were created showing the physical distribution of respondents from St Johns County. GIS maps not only provide our clients with a visual representation of the areas of the City that are surveyed, but they also show areas where residents have the greatest and least amount of need for various facilities, programs, and services. The dots on the map to the right show the location of respondents based upon geocoded latitude and longitude coordinates of their home address. Maps were then created by using the mean percent rating and shaded to reflect the percent of need, how well needs are being met, and well as areas various levels of support for the improvement of the parks and recreation system.

GIS Maps are provided in Appendix B of this report.



# Survey Findings

## Park and Facility Usage and Ratings

**Visitation and Ratings of Parks and Facilities:** Seventy-eight percent (78%) of households visited parks over the past 12 months. Of households who visited parks, 88% rated the parks they had visited as either “excellent” or “good”.

**Satisfaction with Recreation Facilities:** Of households who have visited facilities over the past 12 months, 83% indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the facilities visited. Only 4% of households indicated some level of dissatisfaction.

## Program Participation and Ratings

**Program Participation and Ratings:** Twenty percent (20%) of households participated in recreation or sports programs over the past 12 months. Of households who participated in programs, 90% participated in between 1-3 programs.

**Satisfaction with Programs:** Based on the percentage of households who have participated in programs over the past year, 86% were either “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the programs they had participated in.

## Ways Households Learn About Programs and Activities

Respondents were asked from a list of 13 choices which ones they used to learn about program or activities offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Facilities. Fifty-four percent (54%) of households indicated they learn about programs and activity offerings from friends and neighbors. Other ways include: newspaper articles (43%), newspaper advertisements (23%), social media (22%), and the parks and recreation website (22%).

A chart depicting ways St Johns exceeds national norms is depicted on the following page.

### Ways Households Learn About Programs and Activities

	<u>National</u>	<u>St Johns</u>
Word of mouth/friends/coworker	42%	54%
Social Media	7%	22%

## Organizations Used for Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Activities

Half of respondents (50%) indicated that they have used state parks for recreation activities over the past 12 months. Other organizations used include: St Johns County Parks and Recreation Department (45%) and homeowners associations (33%).

Organizations used by specific age groups are broken in the charts and graphs section 2 of this report.

## Reasons that Prevent Households from Using Parks, Facilities, and Programs

Respondents' were asked to indicate from a list of 20 potential reasons which ones prevented them from using parks and recreation facilities at all or more often. The average respondent indicated 2.1 reasons.

The top three reasons preventing households from using parks, facilities, and programs are (1) I do not know what is being offered (40%) which is significantly above the national average, (2) we are too busy (28%), and (3) I do not know locations of facilities (21%).

Reasons preventing usage by household types are presented below.

	Households with Children Under 10	Households with Children 10-19	Households with Adults 20-54 and No Children	Households with Adults 55+ and No Children
First	I do not know what is being offered (47%)	I do not know what is being offered (43%)	I do not know what is being offered (41%)	I do not know what is being offered (34%)
Second	Too far from residence (33%)	We are too busy (35%)	We are too busy (32%)	We are too busy (23%)
Third	I don't know location of facilities (29%)	I don't know location of facilities (20%)	I don't know location of facilities (23%)	I don't know location of facilities (19%)

## Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts

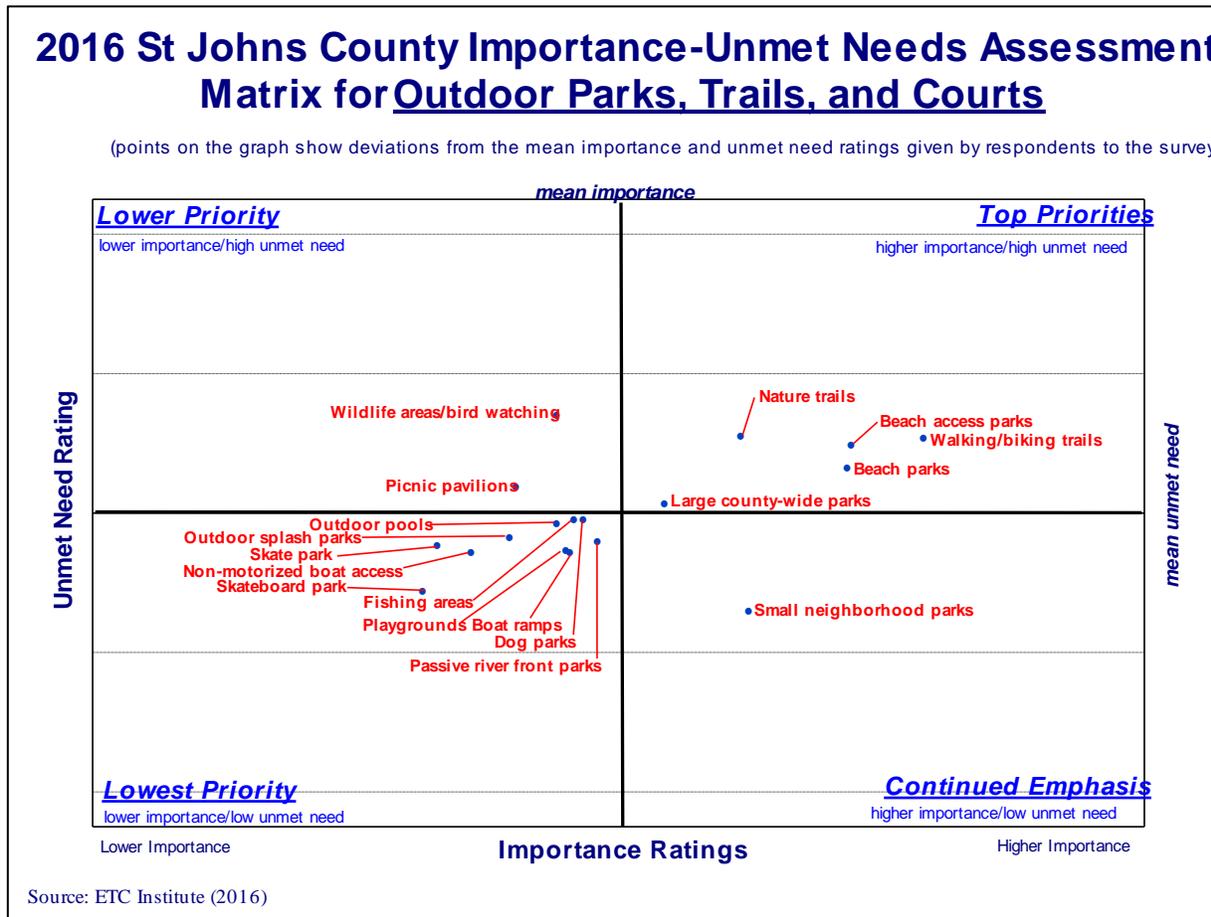
Respondents were asked to indicate from a list of 18 potential outdoor parks, trails, and courts, which ones their household had a need for. If the respondents indicated a need, they were then asked how well their need was being met for that particular item. They were then requested to indicate how often they had visited the park, trail, or facility over the past 12 months. A brief summary of findings is indicated below.

**Need for Parks, Trails and Courts:** Sixty-three percent (63%) or 47,764 households indicated a need for walking and biking trails. Other most needed parks, trails, and courts include: beach parks (63% r 47, 237 households), beach access parks (62% or 46,333 households), nature trails (53% or 40,230 households), and small neighborhood parks (52% or 39,251 households).

**Importance:** Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, 40% indicated walking and biking trails were the most important to their household. Other most important parks, trails, and courts include: beach access parks (34%), beach parks (34%), small neighborhood parks (26%), and nature trials (26%).

ETC Institute developed an Importance Unmet Needs Matrix in order to establish priorities for outdoor parks, trails, and courts. Findings are depicted on following page.

Findings indicate the top 4 priorities are (1) walking and biking trails, (2) beach access parks, (3) beach parks, and (4) nature trails.



## Outdoor Sports Fields and Courts As Well As Indoor Facilities

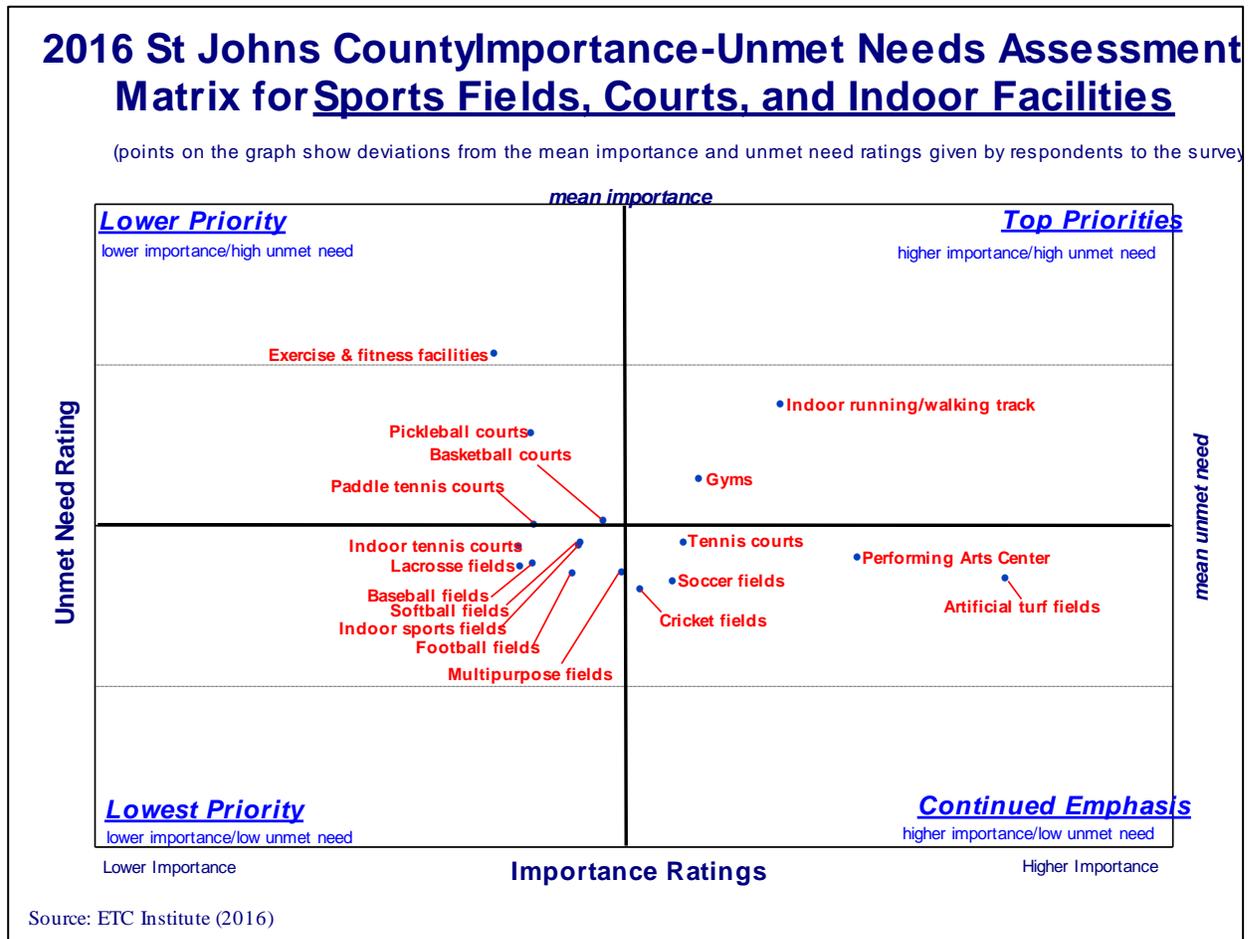
Respondents were asked to indicate from a list of 12 potential outdoor sports fields and courts, and 6 potential indoor facilities which ones their household had a need for. If the respondents indicated a need, they were then asked how well their need was being met for that particular item. They were then requested to indicate how often they had visited the sports fields and courts and facilities over the past 12 months. A brief summary of findings is indicated below.

**Need for Sports Fields and Courts As Well As Indoor Facilities:** Forty-three percent (43%) or 32,395 households indicated a need for exercise and fitness facilities. Other needs include: performing arts center (43% or 22,827 households), indoor running and walking track (27% or 19,965 households), and gyms (21%).

**Importance:** Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, 34% indicated exercise and fitness facilities were the most important to their household. Other most important sports fields and courts as well as indoor facilities include: performing arts center (24%), indoor running and walking track (19%), gyms (14%), tennis courts (13%), and soccer fields (12%).

ETC Institute developed an Importance Unmet Needs Matrix in order to establish priorities for sports fields and courts as well as indoor facilities. Findings are depicted below.

Findings indicate the top 4 priorities are (1) indoor running/walking track, (2) performing arts center, (3) artificial turf fields, and (4) gyms.



## Programs and Activities

Respondents were asked to indicate from a list of 22 potential programs and activities which ones their household had a need for. If the respondents indicated a need, they were then asked how well their need was being met for that particular item. They were then requested to indicate whether or not they had participated in the program or activity over the past 12 months as well as the programs and activities they participated in the most often. A brief summary of findings is indicated below.

**Need for Programs and Activities:** Fifty-four percent (54%) or 40,683 households indicated a need for concerts/live music. Other needs include: adult fitness and wellness programs (44% or 33,149 households), nature and environmental programs (36% or 26,745 households), and senior adult programs (27% or 20,417 households).

**Participation in Programs or Activities:** Sixty-nine percent (69%) of households indicated participation in concerts and live music. Other levels of participation include: special events (65%), youth sports programs (60%), skateboard programs (44%), nature and environmental programs (43%), and before and after school programs (43%).

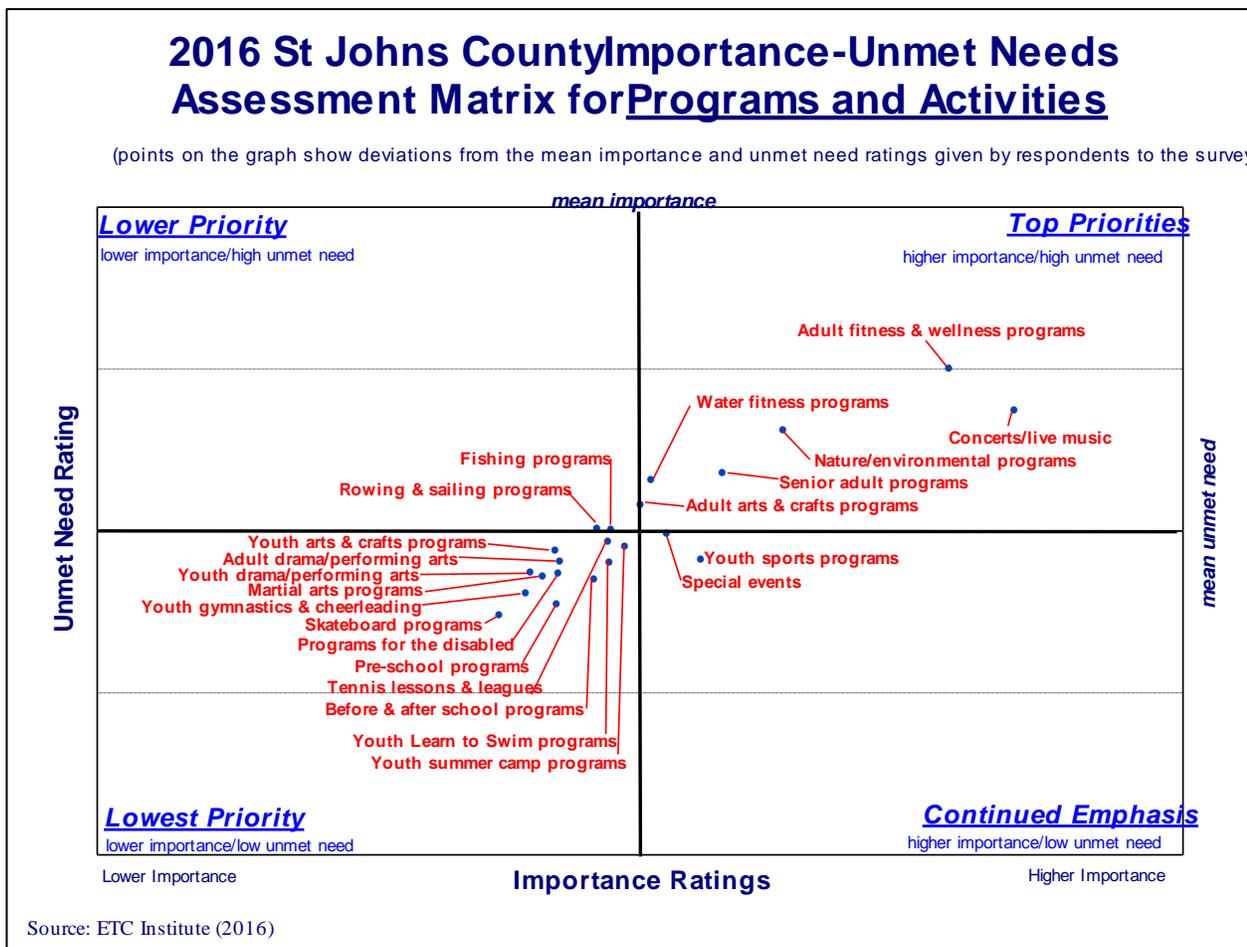
**Importance:** Based on the sum of respondents' top four choices, 34% indicated concerts and live music was the most important to their household. Other most important programs and activities include: adult fitness and wellness programs (30%) and nature and environmental education programs (19%).

**Programs and Activities Households Participate in the Most at St Johns Parks and Recreation Department Facilities:** Based on the sum of respondents top four choices, 23% of households indicated they participate in concerts and live music the most often. Other participation rates include: nature and environmental education programs (11%), youth sports programs (11%), adults fitness and wellness programs (10%), and special events (9%).

ETC Institute developed an Importance Unmet Needs Matrix in order to establish priorities for programs and activities. Findings a summary of top priorities are below.

Findings indicate the top 4 priorities are (1) concerts and live music, (2) adult fitness and wellness programs, (3) nature and environmental education, and (4) senior adult programs.

The chart depicting overall finding is below.



## **Overall Satisfaction with St Johns Parks and Recreation Department**

Over half of respondents (57%) indicated they were either “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the overall value their household receives from the St Johns Parks and Recreation Department. Other levels of satisfaction include: neutral (31%), somewhat dissatisfied (9%), and very dissatisfied (3%).

## **Support for Potential Actions to Improve the Parks and Recreation System**

Respondents were asked from a list of 16 potential actions which ones they supported St Johns Parks and Recreation Department taking to improve the parks and recreation system.

Based on the sum of respondents who indicated they were either “very supportive” or “somewhat supportive” 83% indicated support for the parks and recreation department to purchase land for passive recreational uses. Other most supported items include: upgrade and renovate beach access parks (82%), restore and maintain natural areas (82%), and to purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas (81%).

When taking into consideration only households who were “very supportive”, the most supported action was purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas.

### **Support for Actions to Fund with Tax Dollars**

Based on the sum of respondents top four choices, 41% indicated they were the most willing to fund with their tax dollars the County to purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas. Other most supported actions include: upgrade and renovate existing beach access parks (35%), purchase land for passive recreational uses (28%) and purchase historic sites for preservation (27%).

## **Additions to the Neighborhood Parks**

Respondents were asked from a list of 20 potential additions the ones they would most like to have to the parks nearest their residence.

Over half of respondents (57%) indicated they would like to see restrooms. Other additions include: shade structures (40%), trails (40%), and natural areas (36%).

## **Allocation of \$100 Toward Parks and Recreation Facilities**

Respondents would allocate the greatest portion of the money to both beach and water access (\$21) and the upgrade repair/maintain existing parks community centers and playgrounds (\$20). Other allocations include: acquire new parkland and open space (\$19), maintain existing and develop new trails (\$15), maintain existing and develop new sports fields (\$9), develop new indoor recreation facilities (\$9), and swimming pools (\$7).



## **Additional Taxes to Fund Improvements to the Parks and Recreation System**

Thirty-six percent (36%) of households indicated willingness to pay an additional \$1-\$5 per month in additional taxes to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system. Other amounts include: \$6-\$10 (26%), \$0 (23%), \$11-\$15 (6%), \$16-\$20 (5%), and \$21 or more (4%).

## **Support for ½ Cent Sales Tax to Maintain the Quality of Life**

Sixty percent (60%) of respondents indicated they would support a ½ cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvement to the parks and recreation system.

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Appendix A: Cross-Tabular Analysis	
Appendix B: GIS Maps	

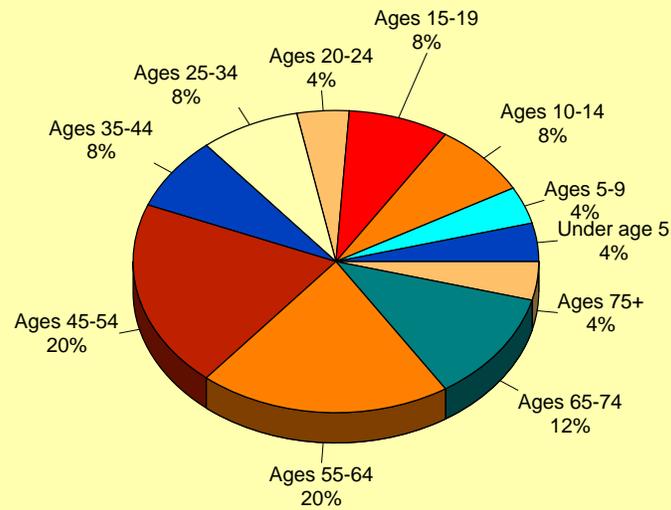
# Section 1

## *Charts and Graphs*

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### Q1. Demographics: Ages of People in Household

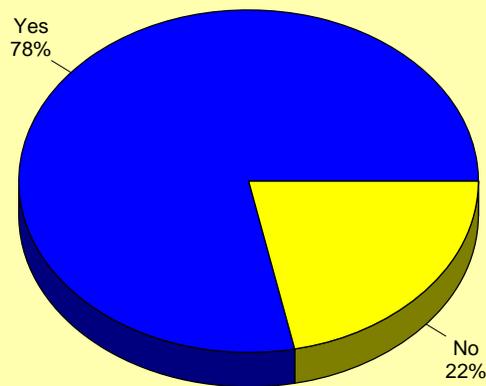
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q2. Household Visitation of Parks and Facilities Over the Past 12 Months

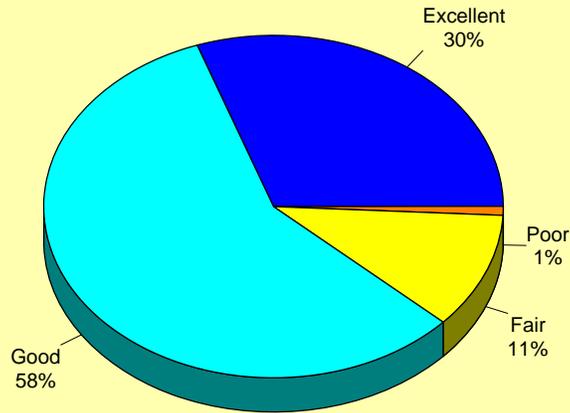
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q2a. Ratings of the Overall Physical Condition of all Parks, Trails, and Facilities Households Have Visited

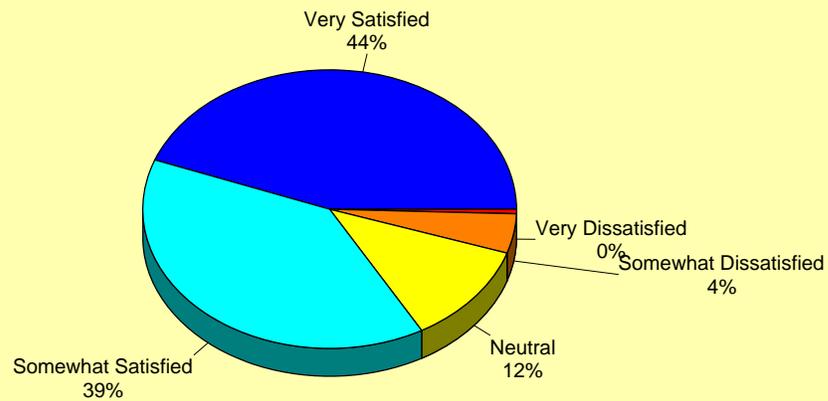
by percentage of respondents who have visited parks and facilities over the past year (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q2b. Overall Satisfaction with the St. Johns Parks and Recreation Facilities Households Have Visited Over the Past 12 Months

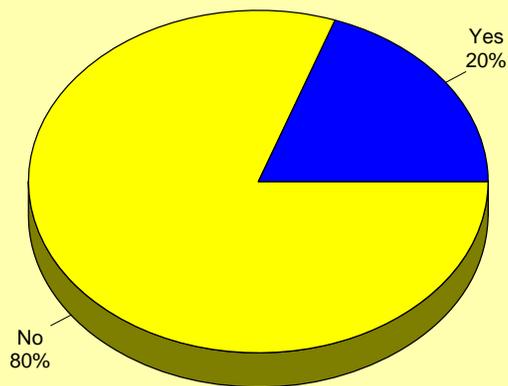
by percentage of respondents who have visited facilities over the past year (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q3. Household Participation in Recreation or Sports Programs Offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Facilities

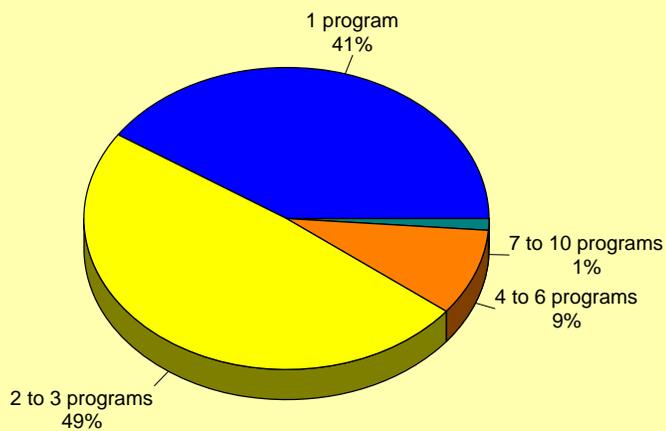
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q3a. Amount of Programs Households Have Participated in Over the Past Year

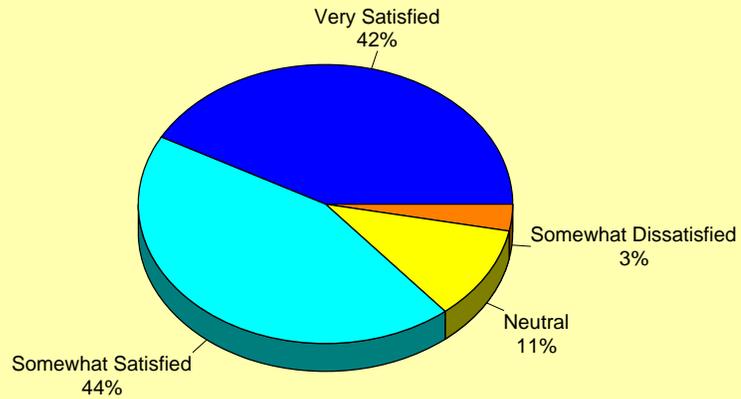
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q3b. Overall Satisfaction with St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Programs Households Have Participated in Over the Past Year

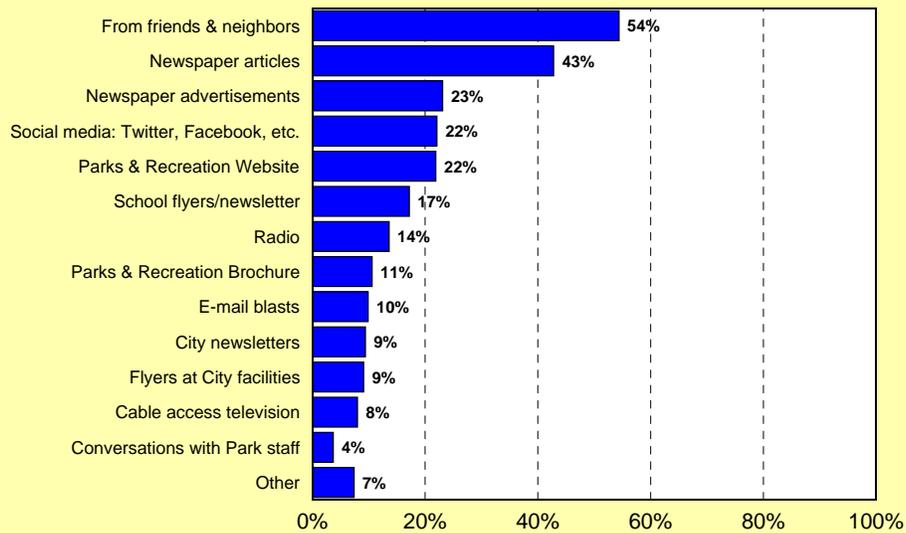
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q4. Ways Households Learn About Programs and Activities Offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Facilities

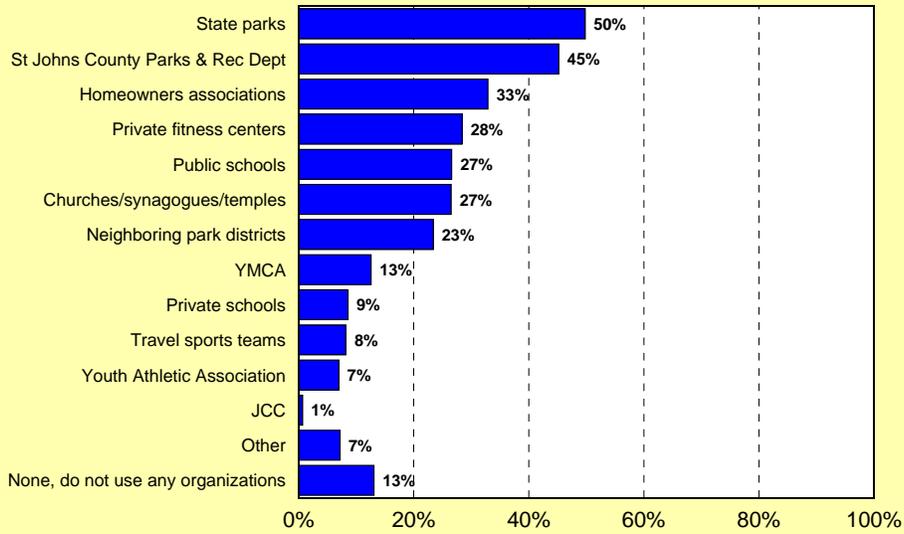
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q5. Organizations Used for Indoor and Outdoor Recreation Activities Over the Past 12 Months

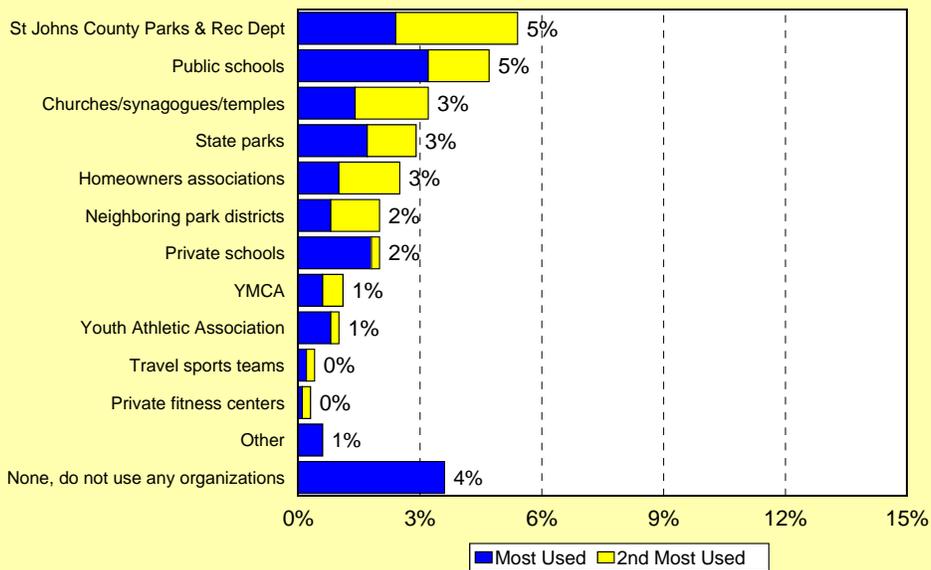
by percentage of respondents



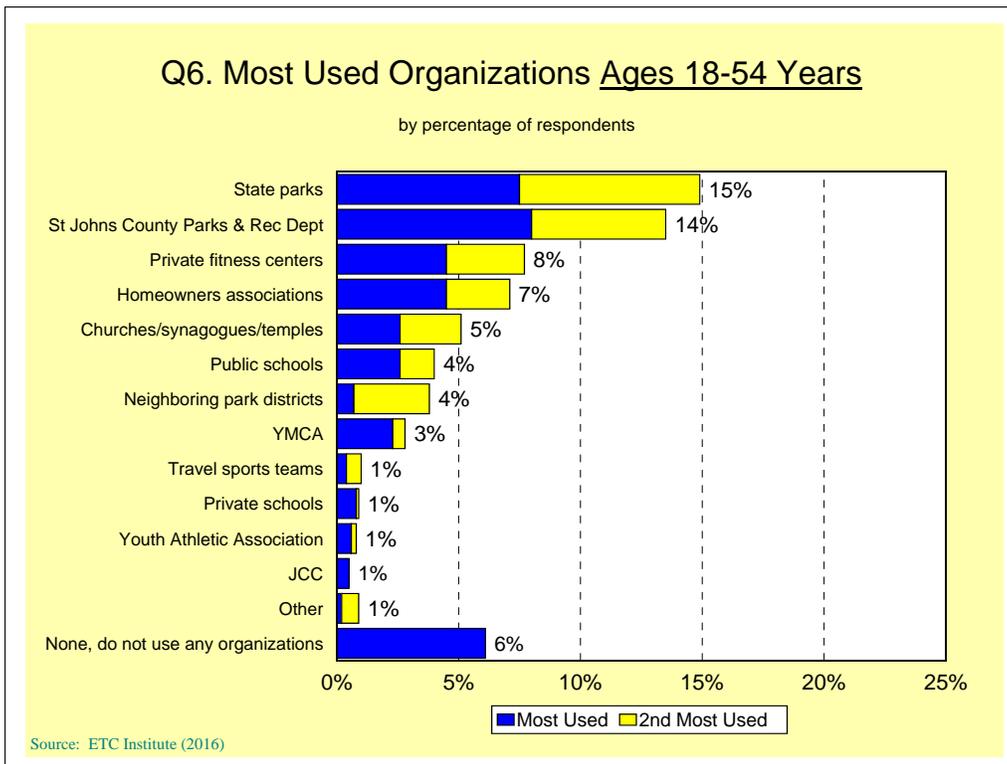
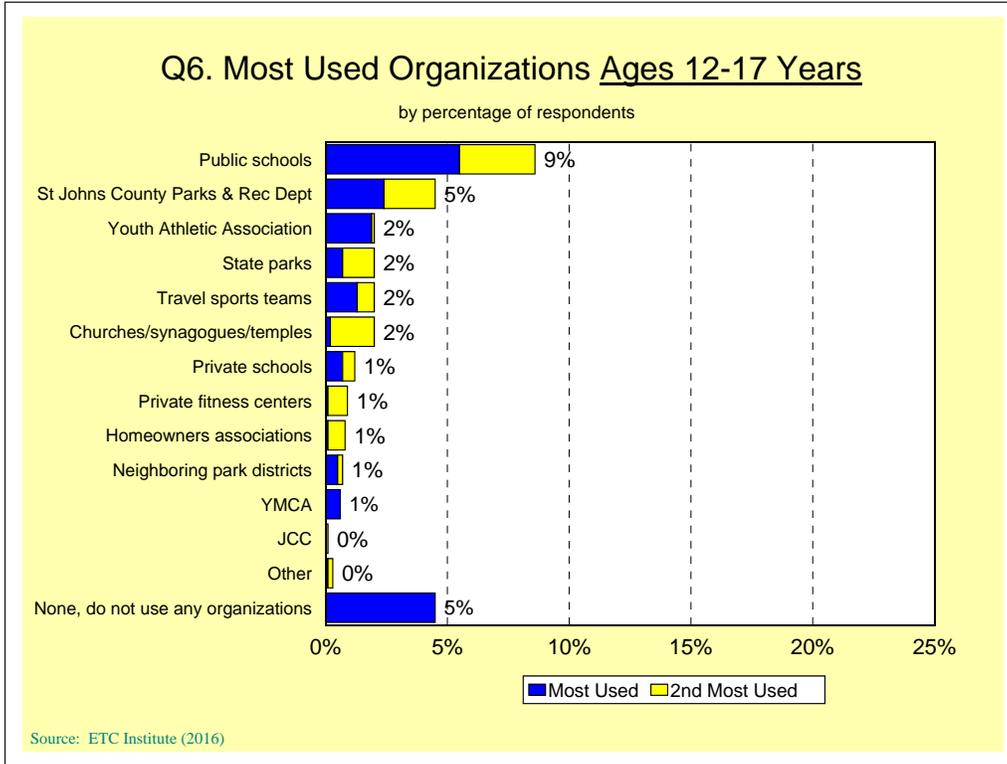
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q6. Most Used Organizations Ages 0-11 Years

by percentage of respondents

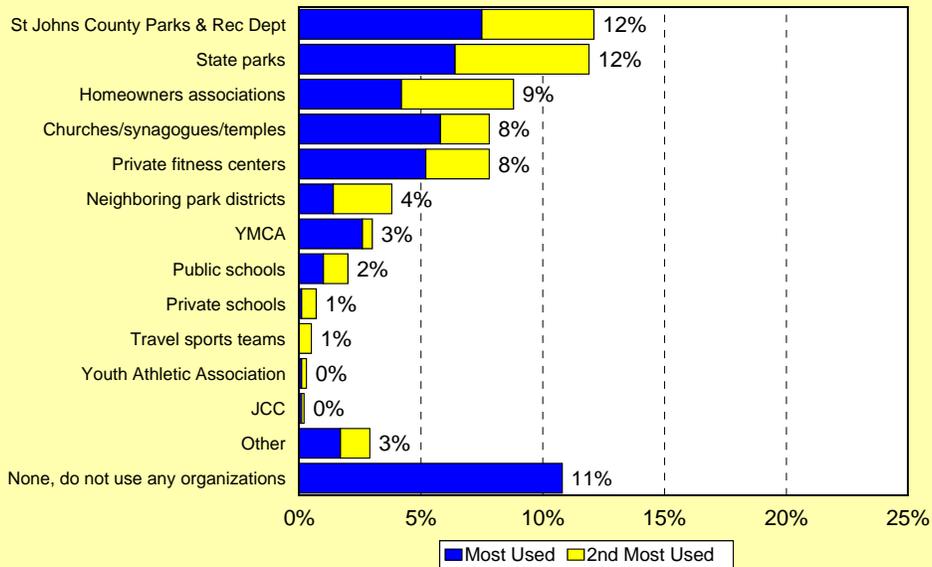


Source: ETC Institute (2016)



### Q6. Most Used Organizations Ages 55 Years and Older

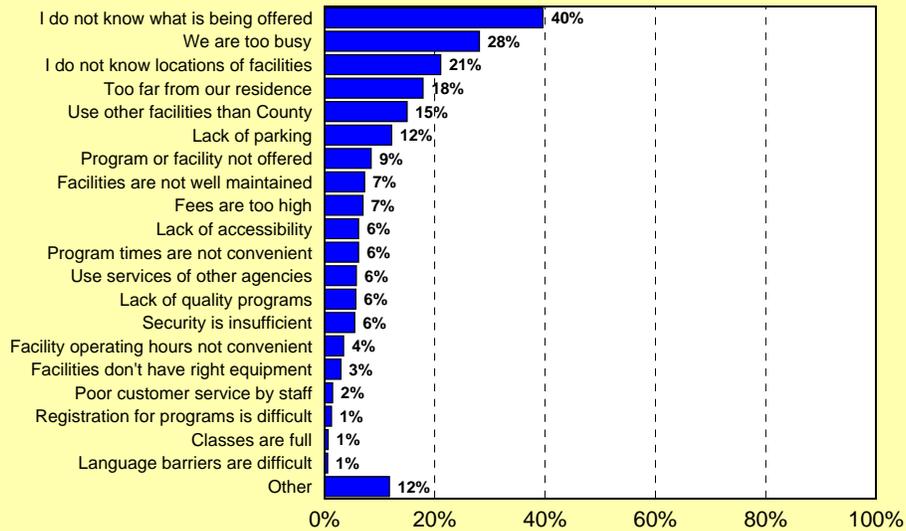
by percentage of respondents



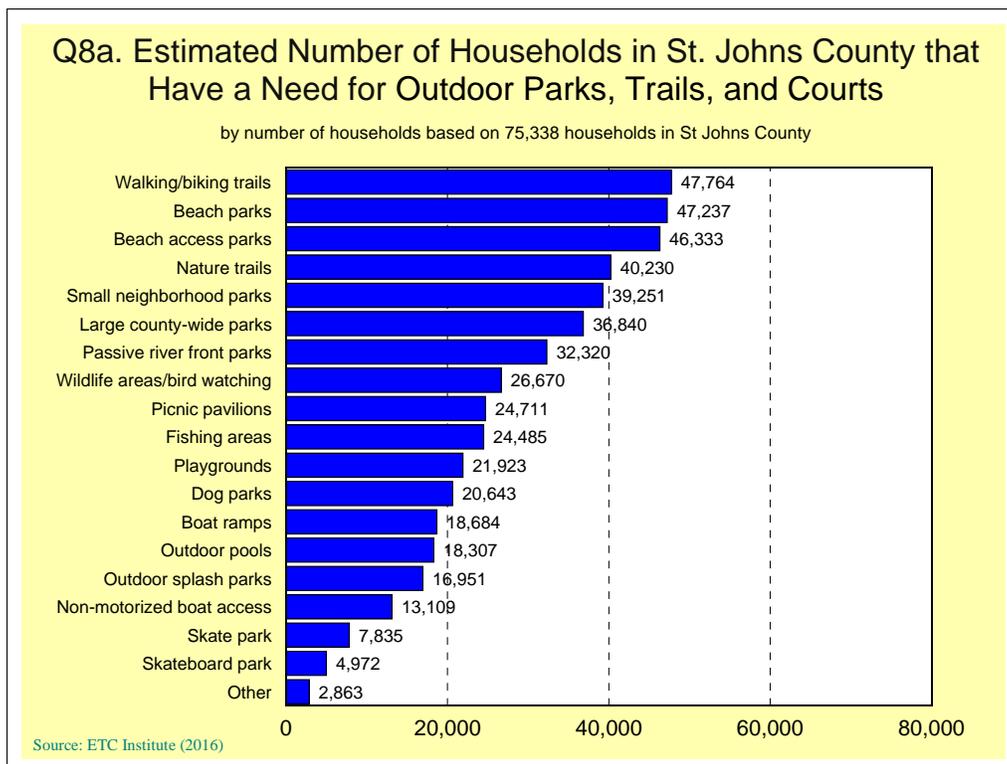
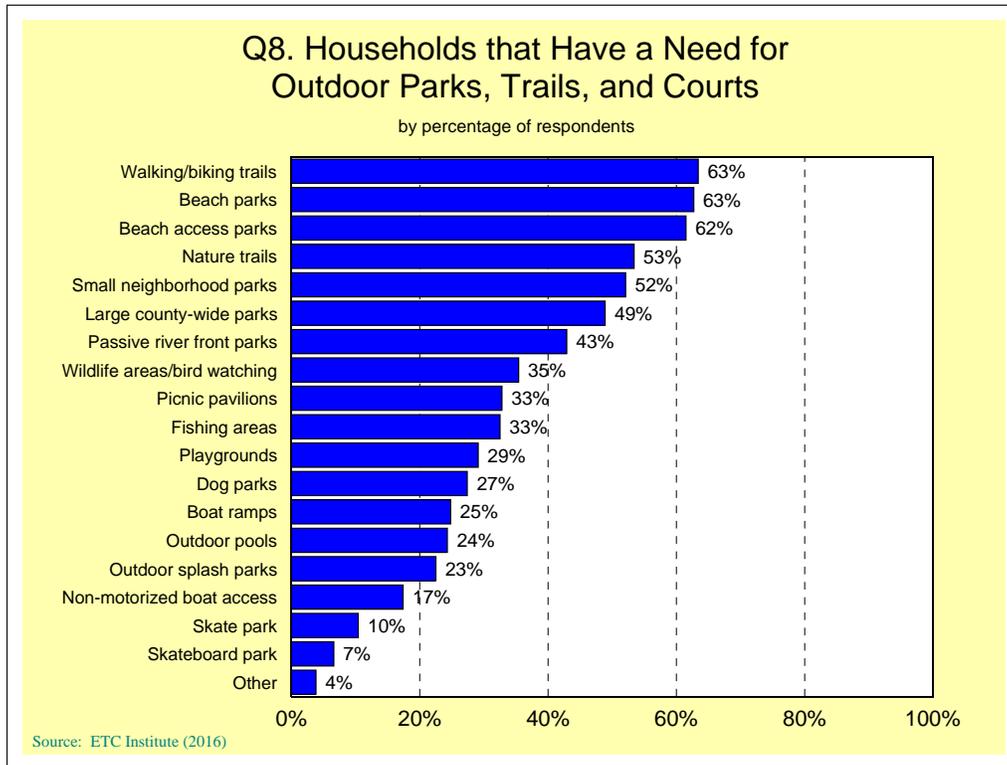
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q7. Reasons that Prevent Households from Using Parks, Recreation Facilities or Programs of St. Johns P&R Dept. More Often

by percentage of respondents

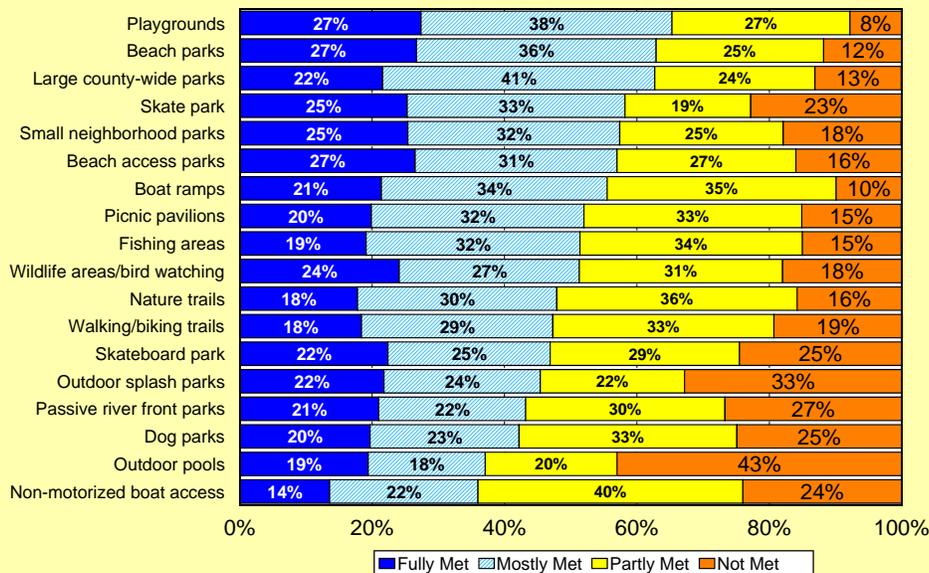


Source: ETC Institute (2016)



### Q8b. How Well Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts Are Meeting Household Needs

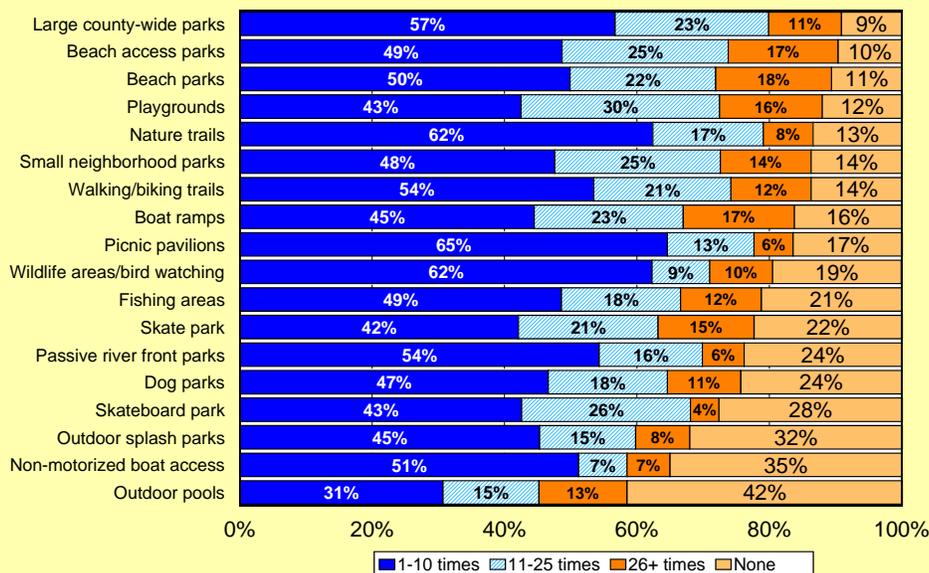
by percentage of households that have a need for facilities



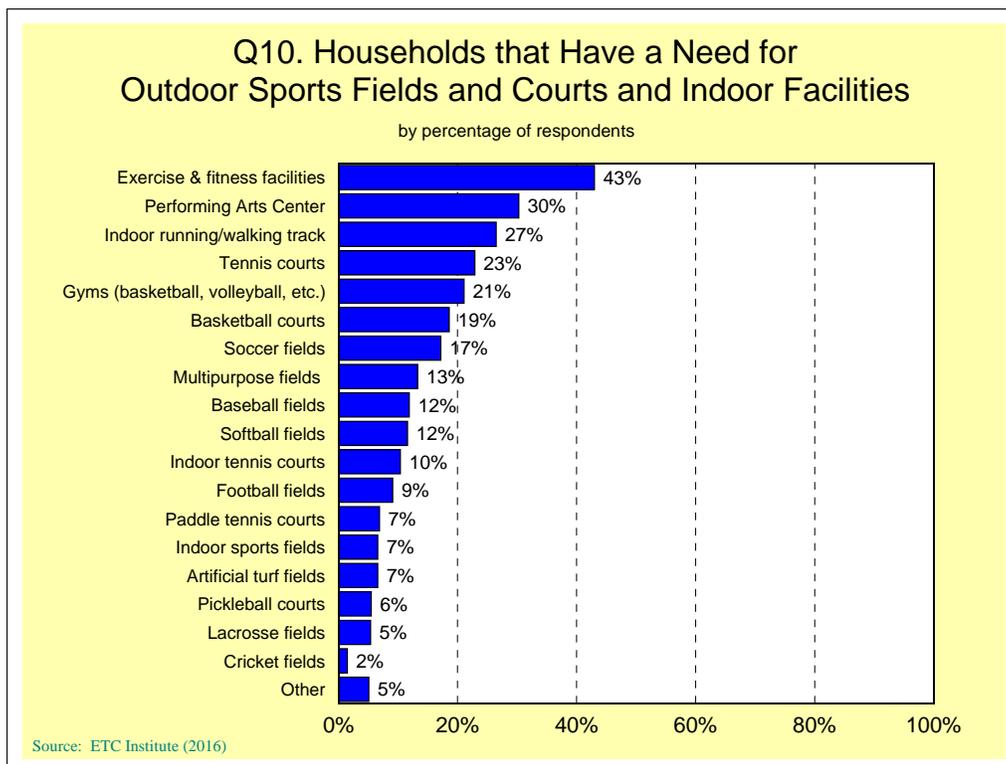
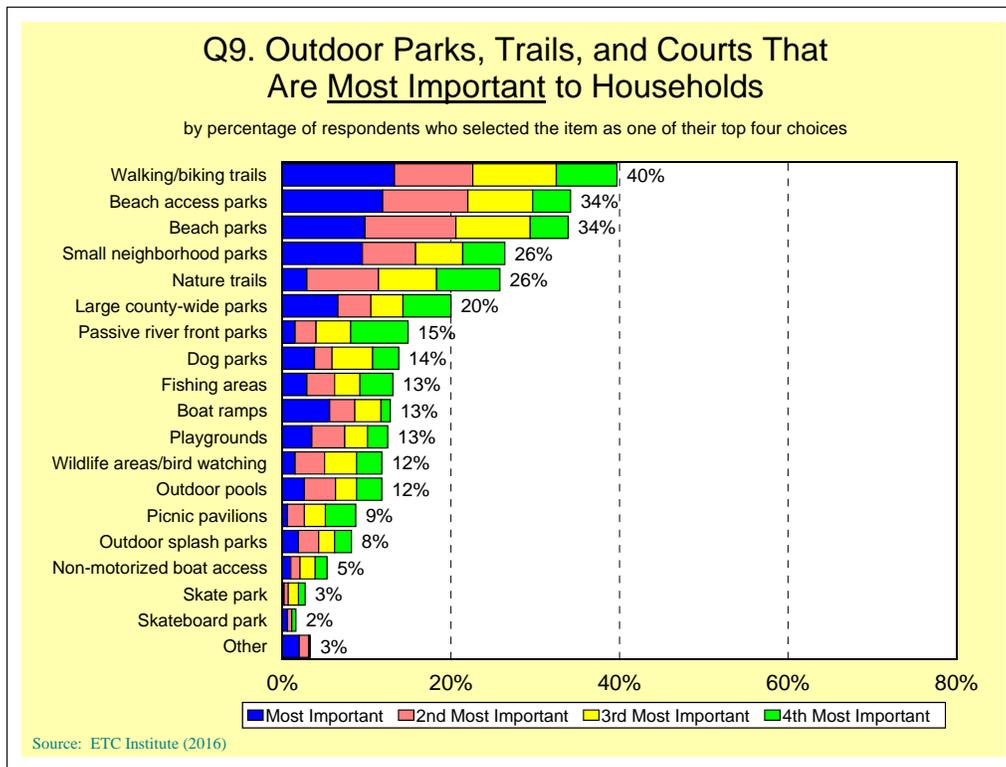
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

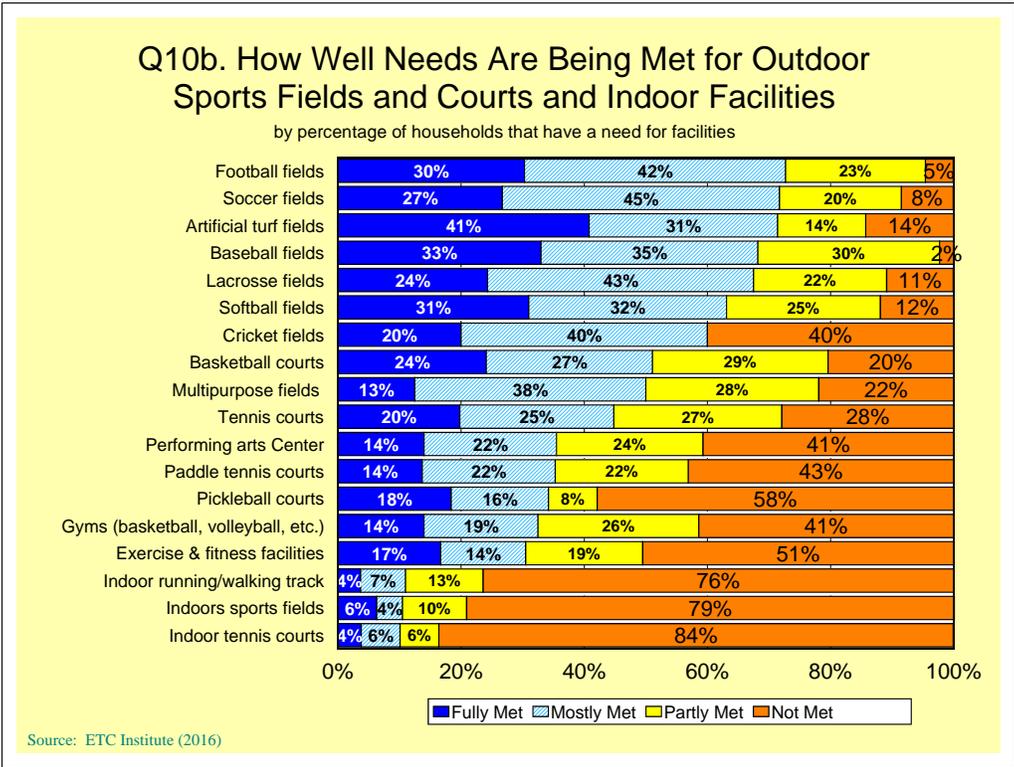
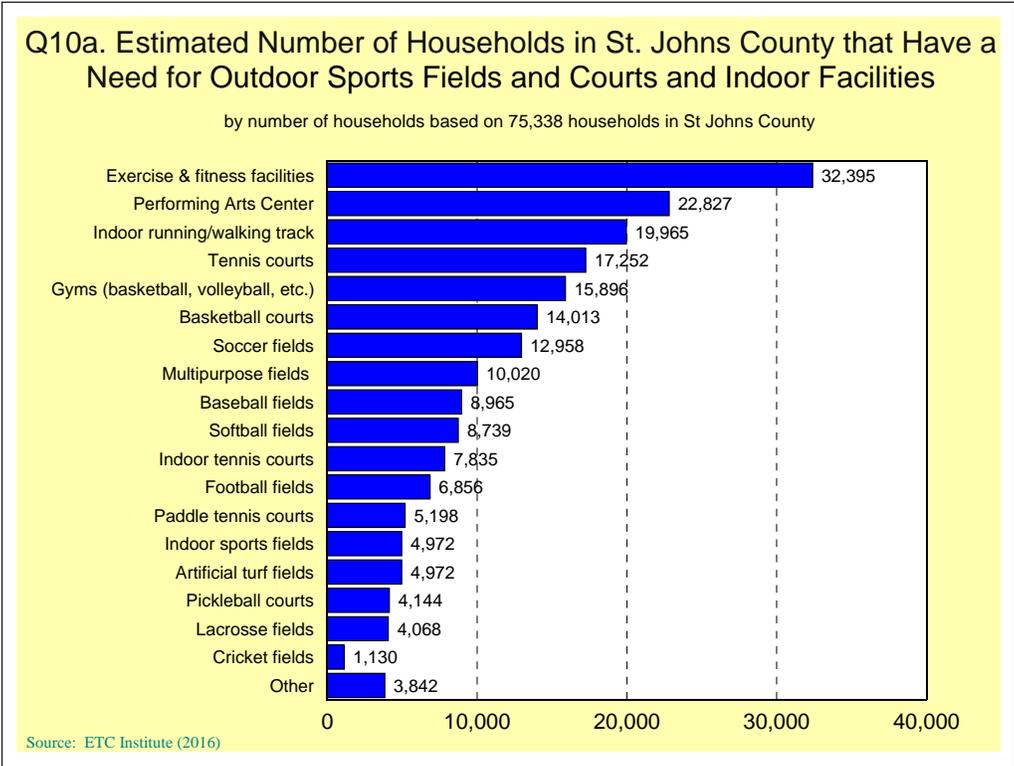
### Q8c. How Many Times Households Visited Outdoor Parks, Trails, or Courts Over the Past 12 Months

by percentage of households that have a need for facilities



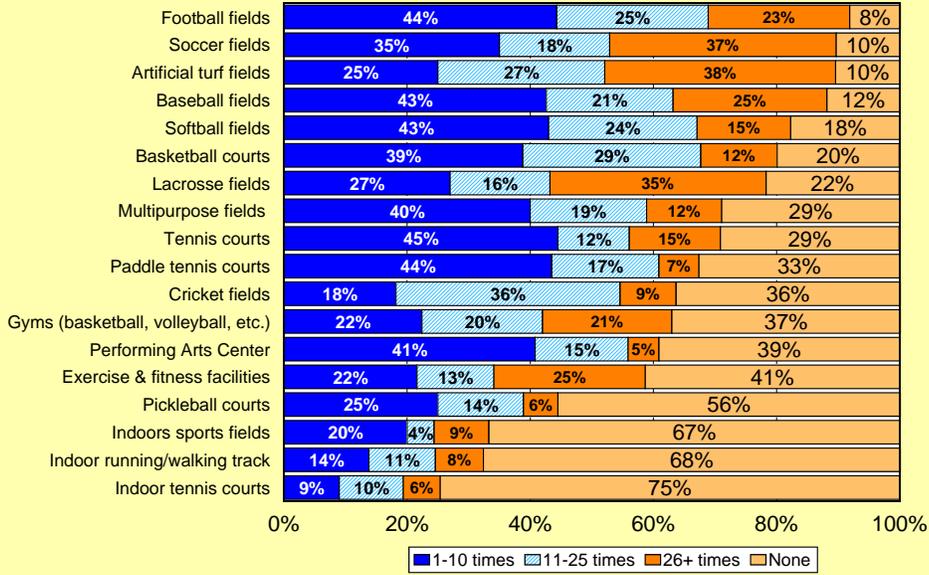
Source: ETC Institute (2016)





### Q10c. Amount of Times Households Have Used This Type of Facility During the Past 12 Months

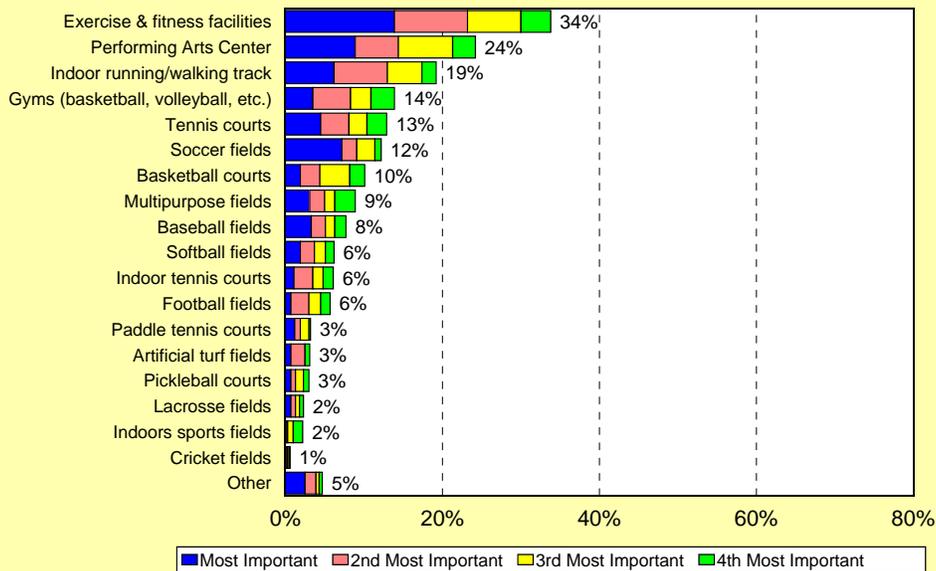
by percentage of households that have a need for facilities



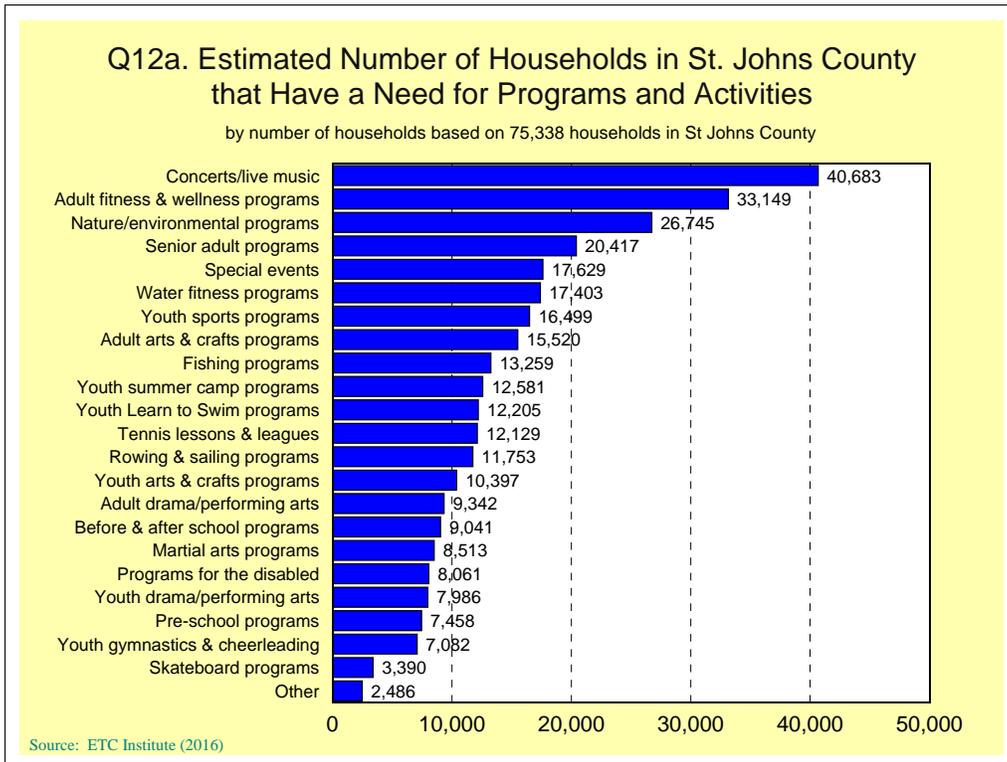
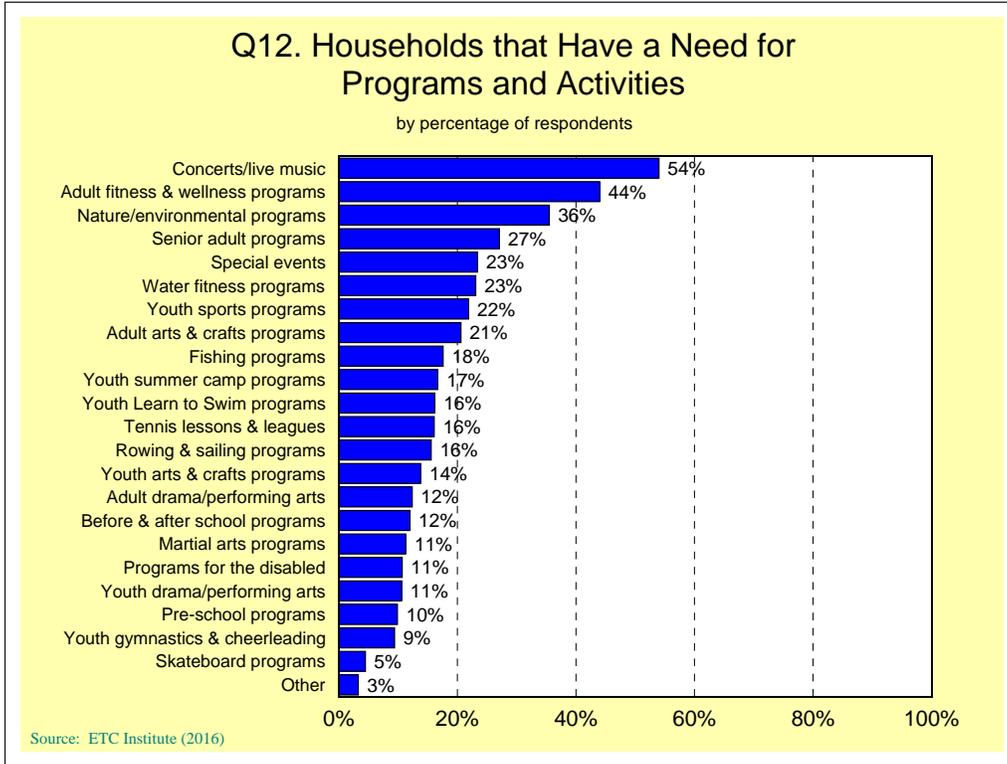
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q11. Outdoor Sports Fields and Courts and Indoor Facilities That Are Most Important to Households

by percentage of respondents who selected the item as one of their top four choices

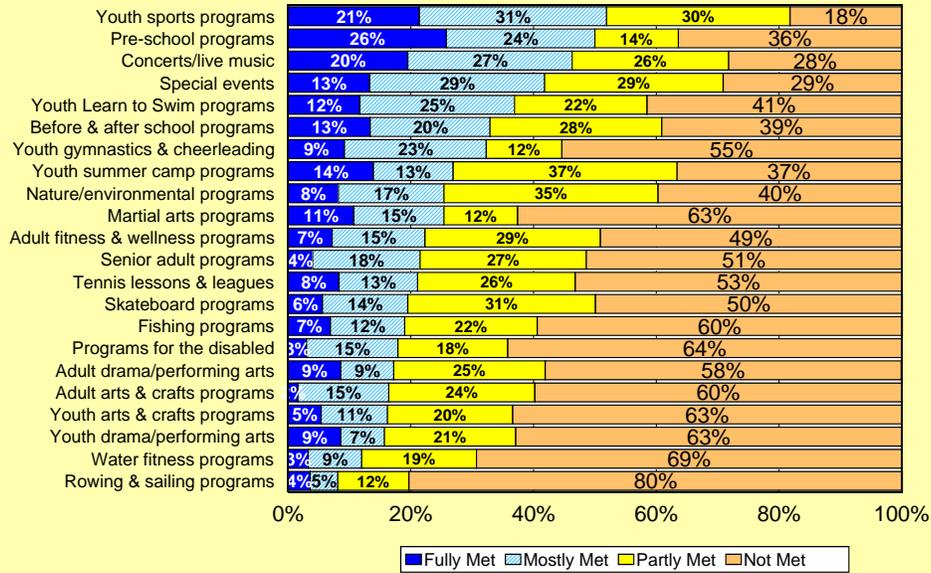


Source: ETC Institute (2016)



### Q12b. How Well Needs Are Being Met for Programs and Activities

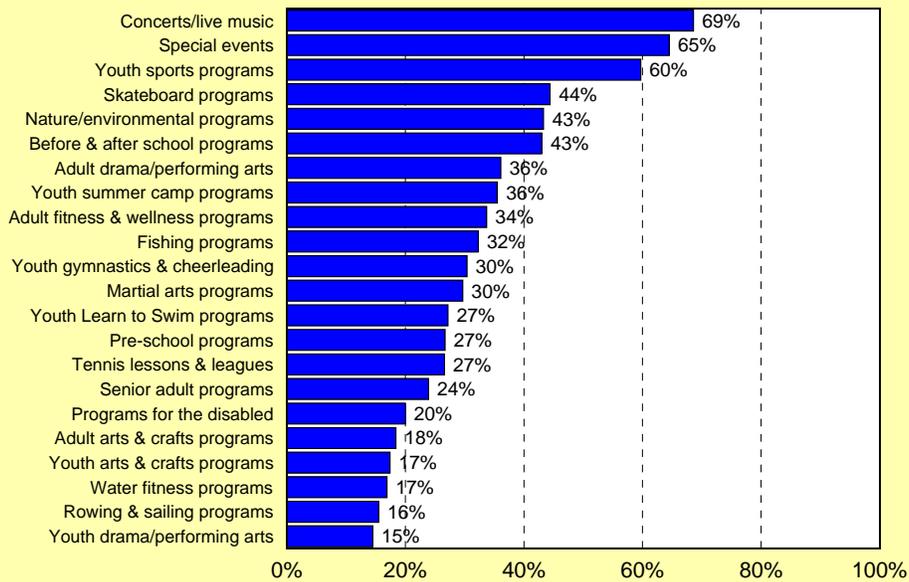
by percentage of households that have a need for programs and activities



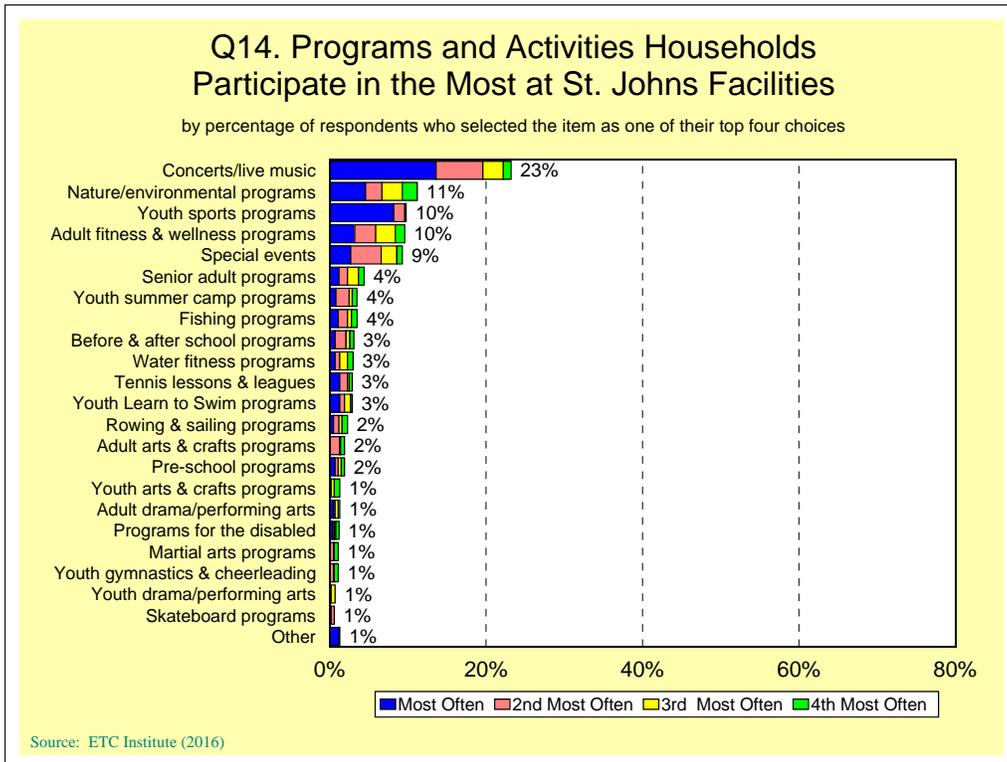
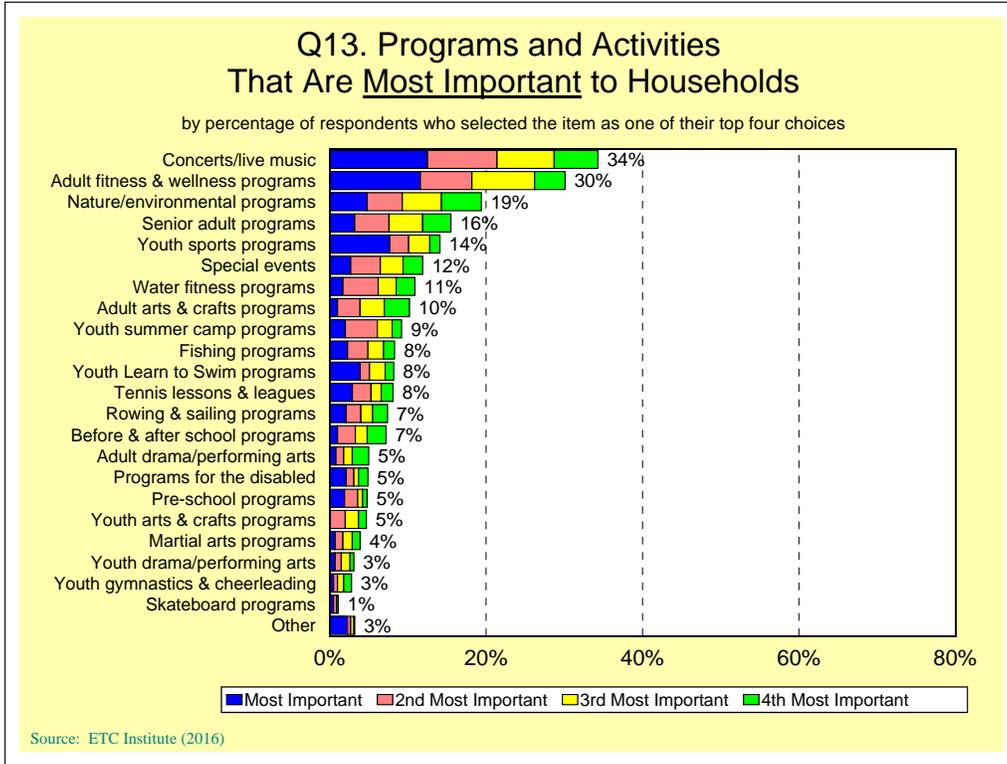
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q12c. Household Participation in Programs or Activities During the Past 12 Months

by percentage of respondents

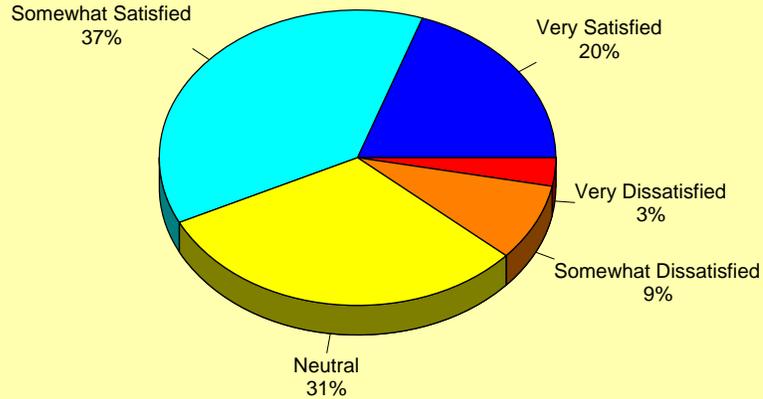


Source: ETC Institute (2016)



### Q15. Overall Satisfaction with the Value Households Receive from the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department

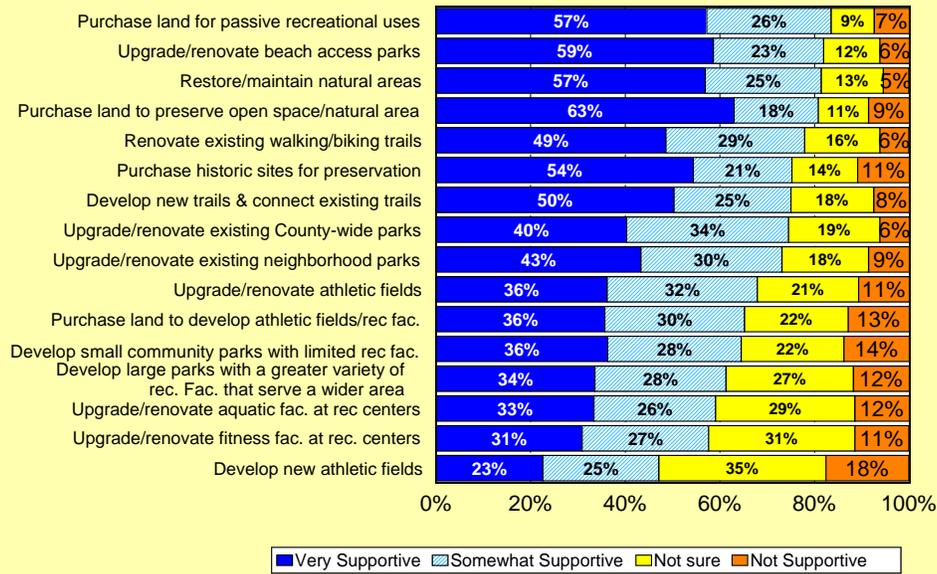
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



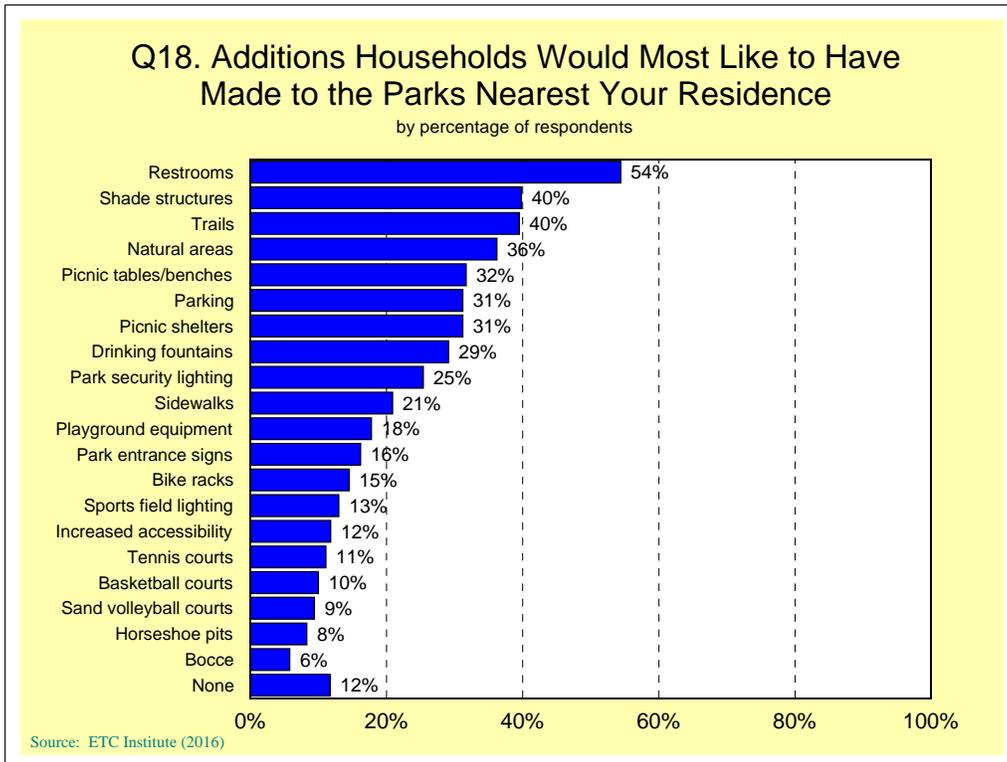
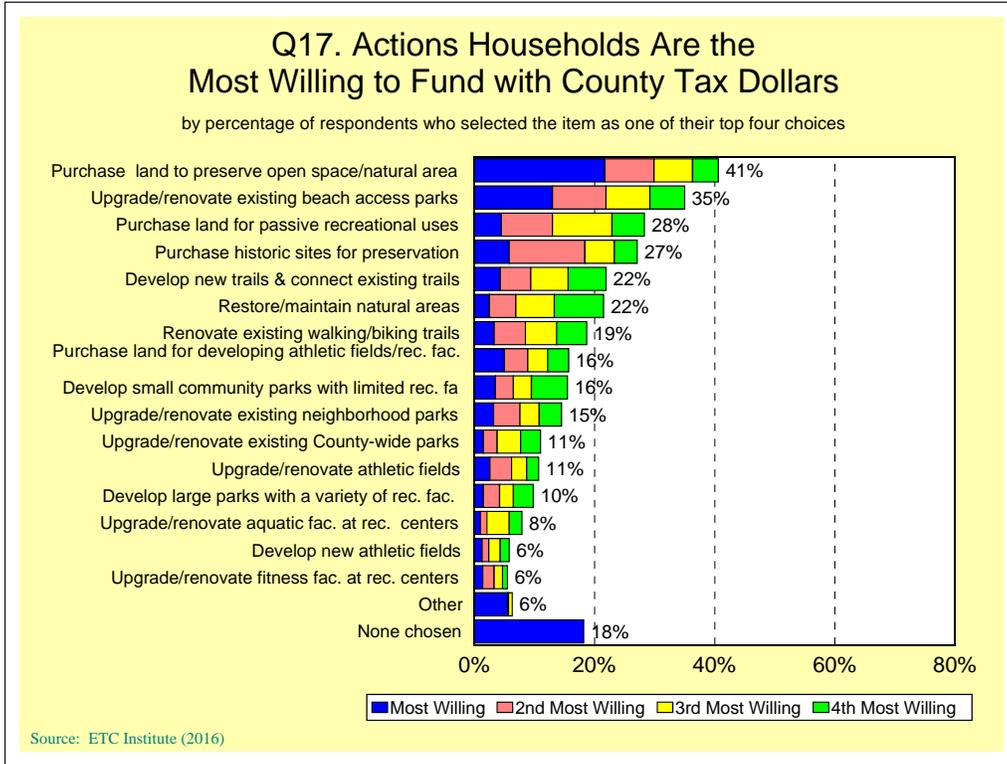
Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q16. Support for Potential Actions St. Johns County Can Take to Improve the Parks and Recreation System

by percentage of respondents

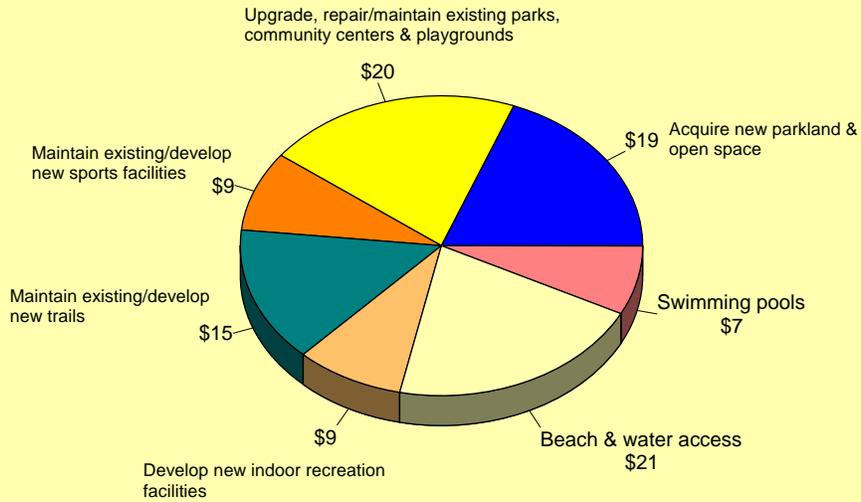


Source: ETC Institute (2016)



### Q19. How Respondents Would Allocate \$100 Toward Parks and Recreation Facilities in St. Johns County

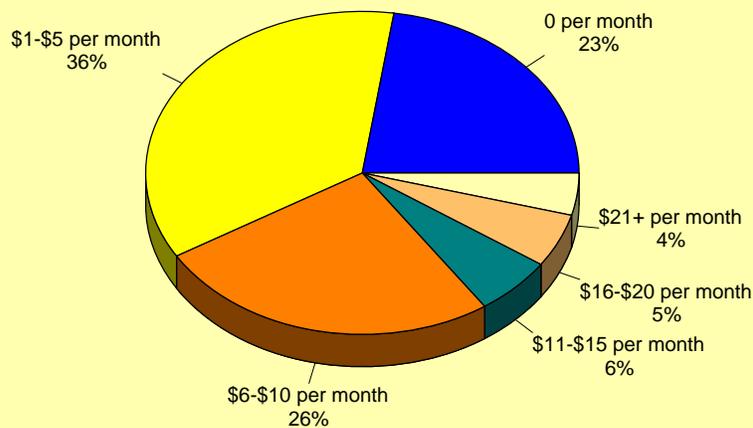
by percentage of respondents



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q20. Additional Taxes Households Are the Most Willing to Pay to Fund Improvements to the Parks and Recreation System

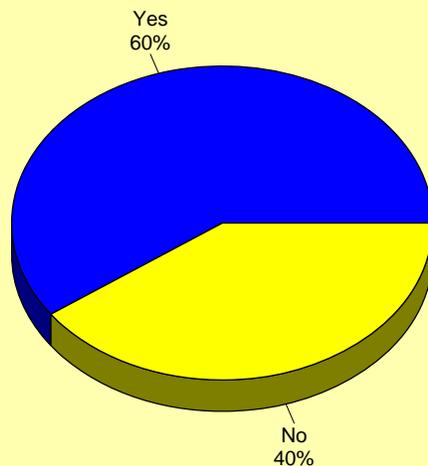
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q21. Support for a ½ Cent Sales Tax to Maintain the Quality of Life in the County Including Improvements to the Parks and Recreation System

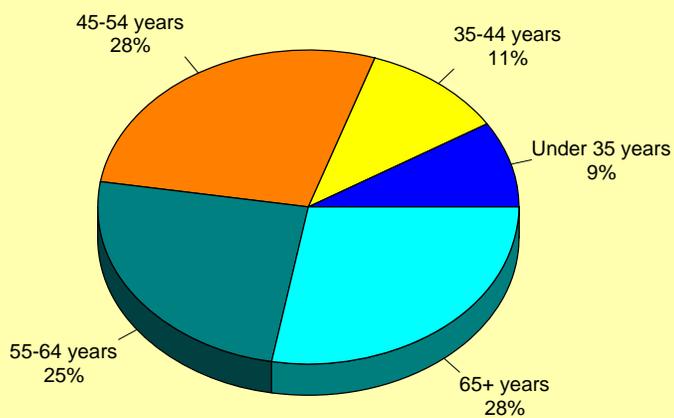
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q22. Demographics: Age of Respondent

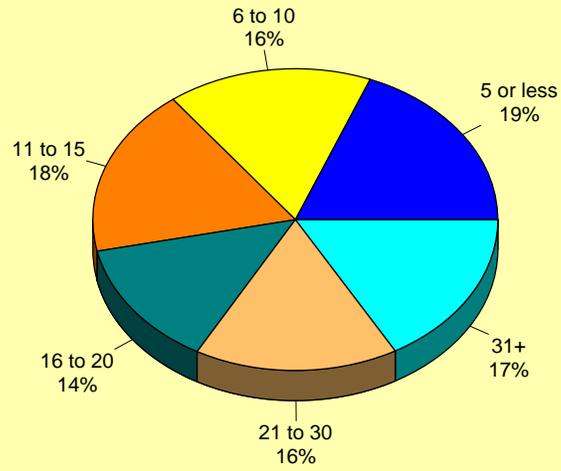
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q23. Demographics: Length of Residence

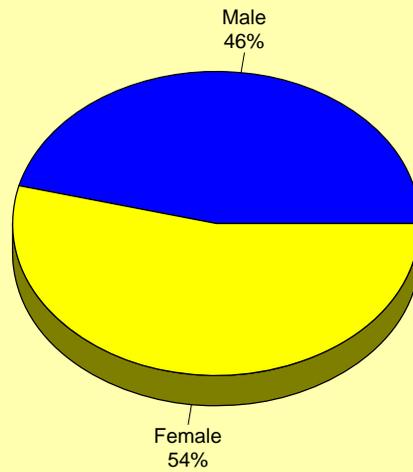
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q24. Demographics: Gender

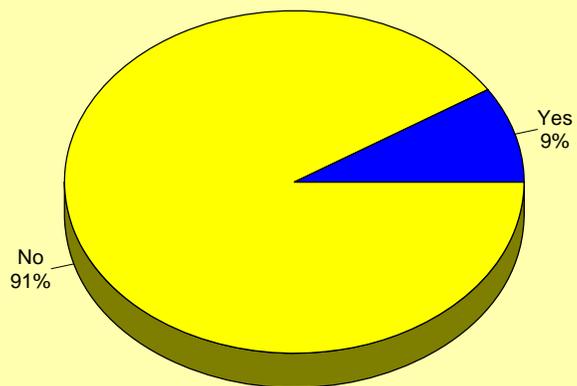
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q25. Demographics: Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Ancestry

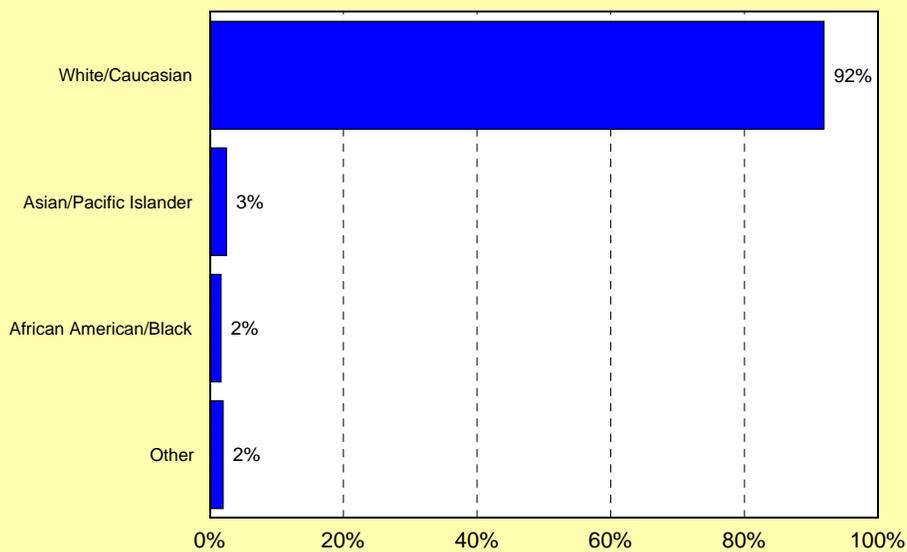
by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

### Q26. Demographics: Race

by percentage of respondents (excluding "not provided")



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

## **Section 2**

# ***Importance-Unmet Needs Matrices***

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# St Johns County

## Importance-Unmet Needs Matrix

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The Importance-Unmet Needs Matrix is a tool for assessing the priority that should be placed on parks and recreation facilities and recreation programs in St Johns County. Importance-Unmet Needs Assessment were completed for St Johns County. Each of the facilities and programs that were assessed on the survey were placed in one of the following four quadrants:

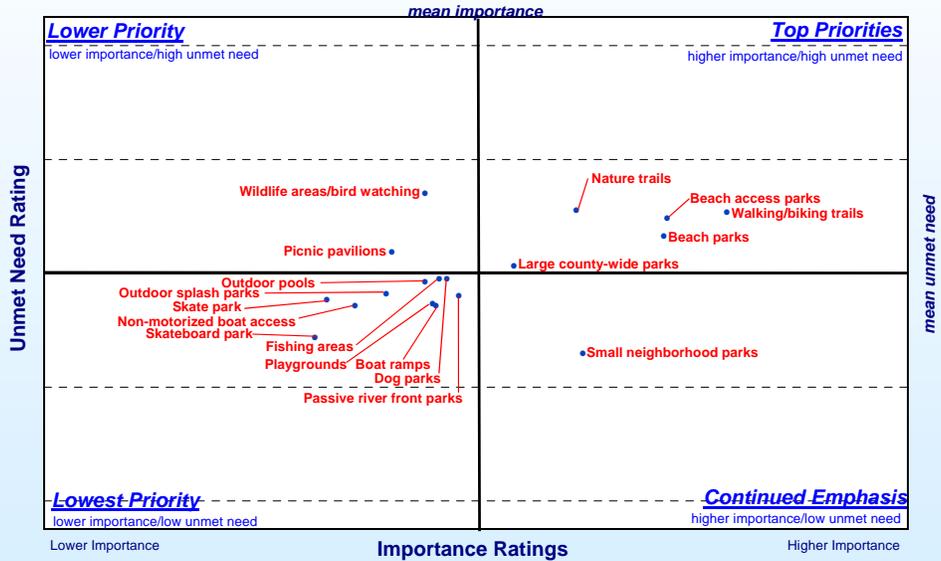
- **Top Priorities** (higher importance and high unmet need). Items in this quadrant should be given the highest priority for improvement. Respondents placed a high level of importance on these items, and the unmet need rating is high. Improvements to items in this quadrant will have positive benefits for the highest number of residents.
- **Continued Emphasis** (higher importance and low unmet need). Items in this quadrant should be given secondary priority for improvement. Respondents placed a high level of importance on these items, but the unmet need rating is relatively low.
- **Special Interest/Lower Priority** (lower importance and high unmet need). This quadrant shows where improvements may be needed to serve the needs of specialized populations. Respondents placed a lower level of importance on these items, but the unmet need rating is relatively high.
- **Lowest Priority** (lower importance and low unmet need). Items in this quadrant should receive the lowest priority for improvement. Respondents placed a lower level of importance on these items, and the unmet need rating is relatively low.

Importance-Unmet Needs Matrices were additionally developed for each of the 4 zones within the county, Northeast, Northwest, Southeast, and Southwest.

The following pages contain the Importance-Unmet Needs Matrices for all parks and recreation facilities and recreation programs that were assessed on the survey.

## 2016 St Johns County Importance-Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts

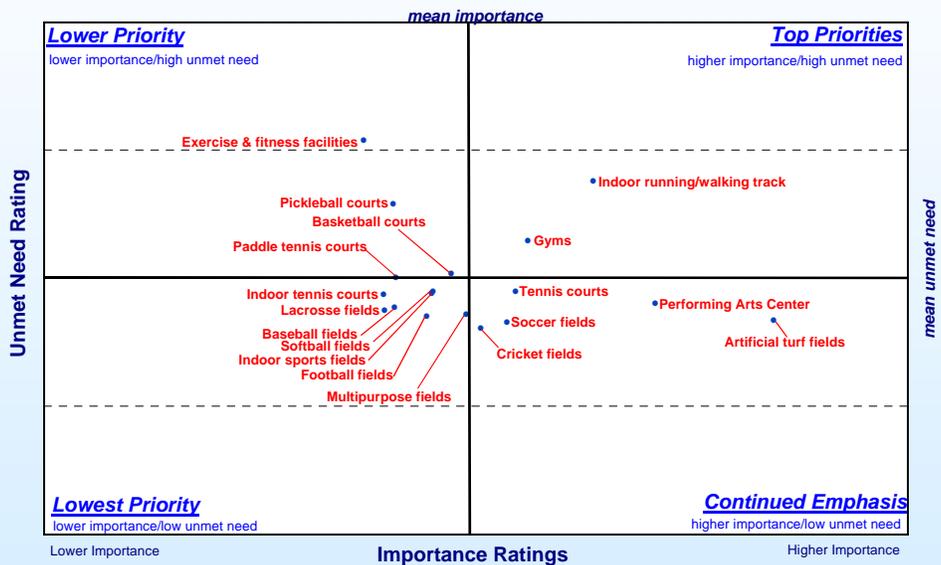
(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey)



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

## 2016 St Johns County Importance-Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Sports Fields, Courts, and Indoor Facilities

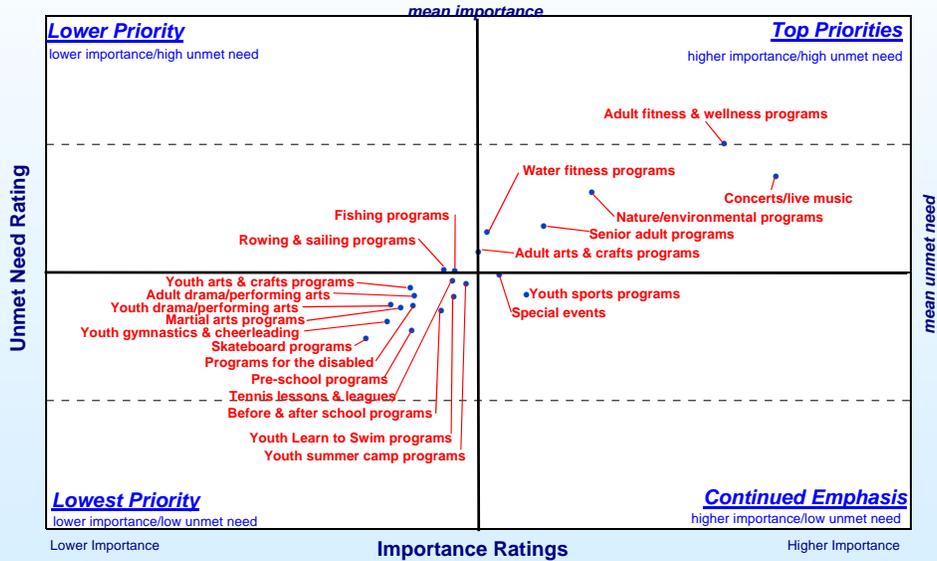
(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey)



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

## 2016 St Johns County Importance-Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Programs and Activities

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey)

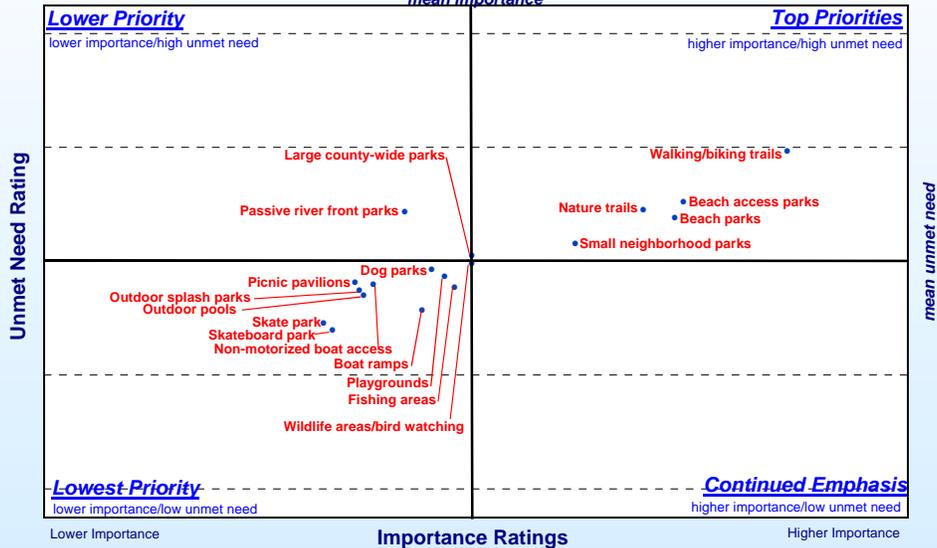


Source: ETC Institute (2016)

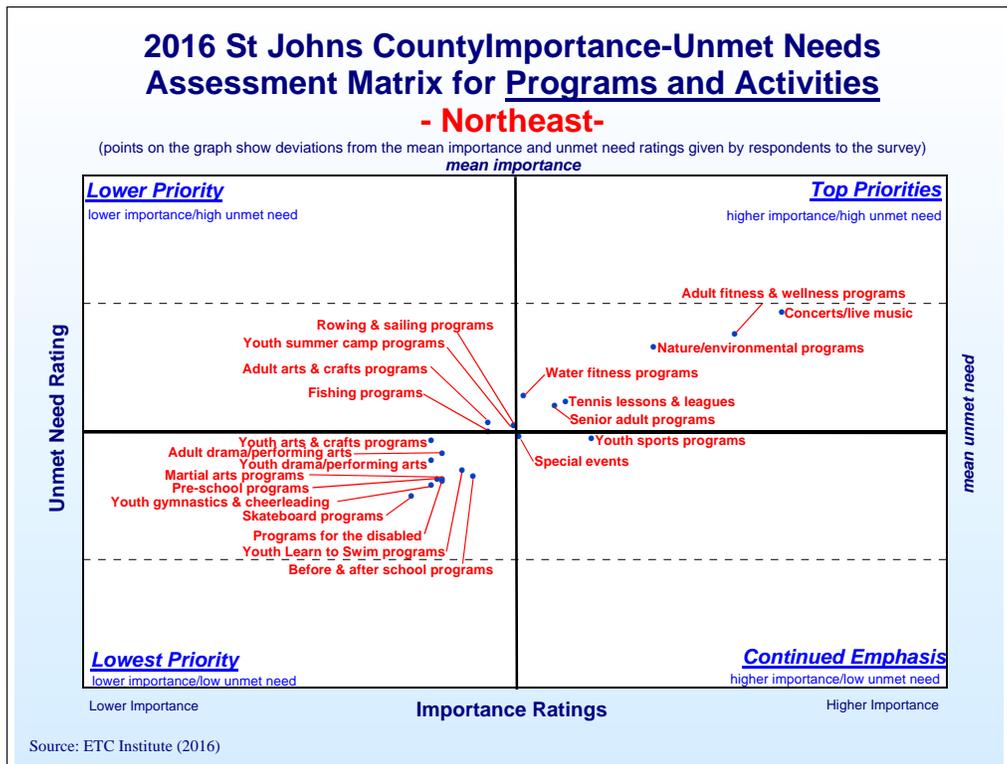
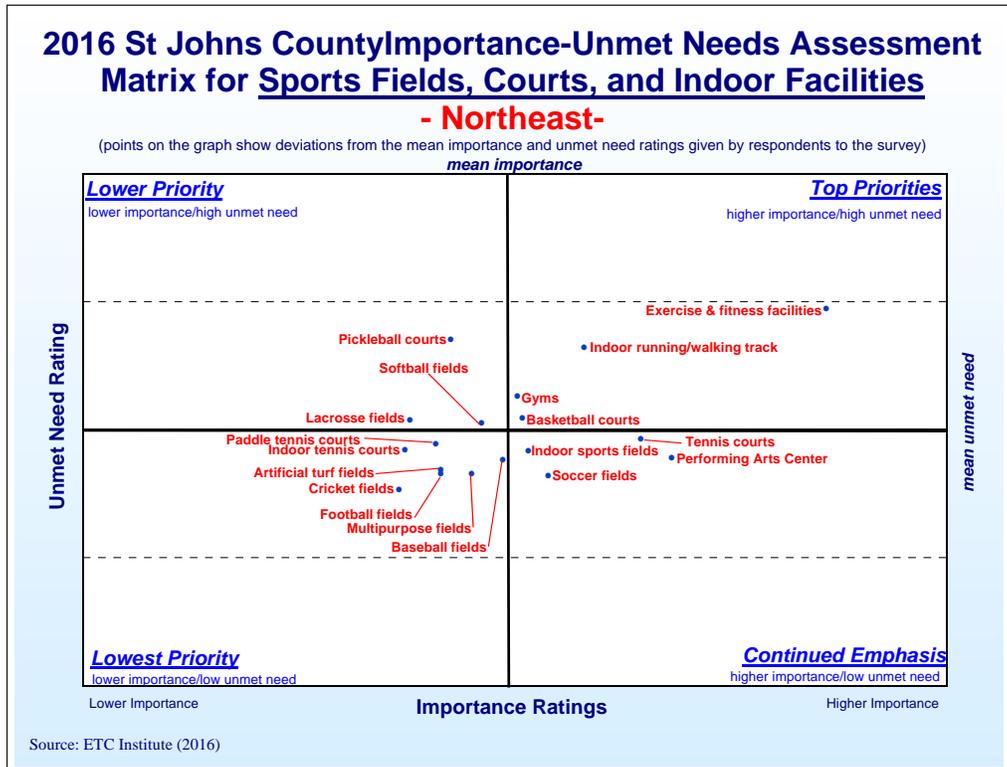
## 2016 St Johns County Importance-Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Outdoor Parks, Trails, and Courts

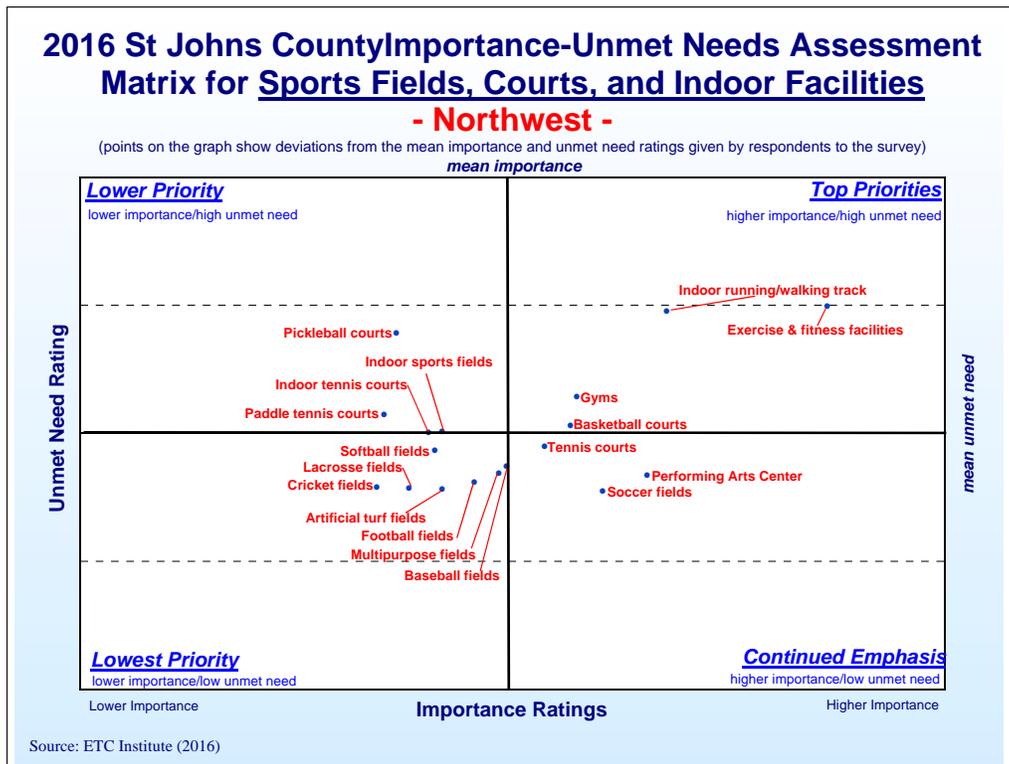
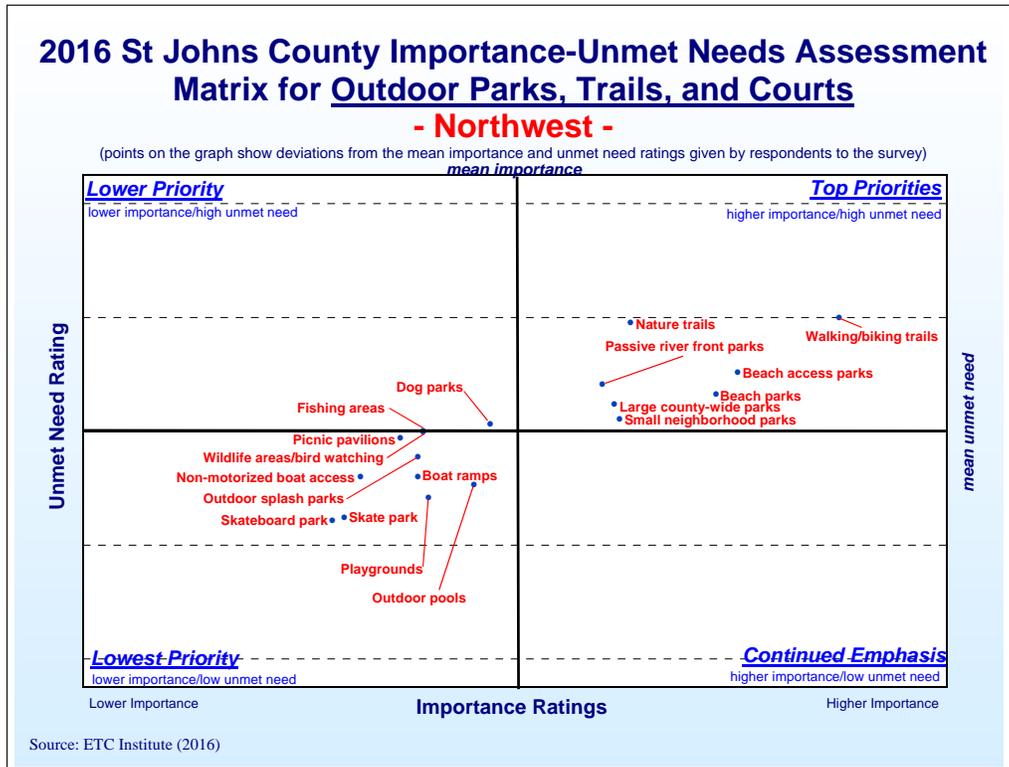
**- Northeast -**

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey)

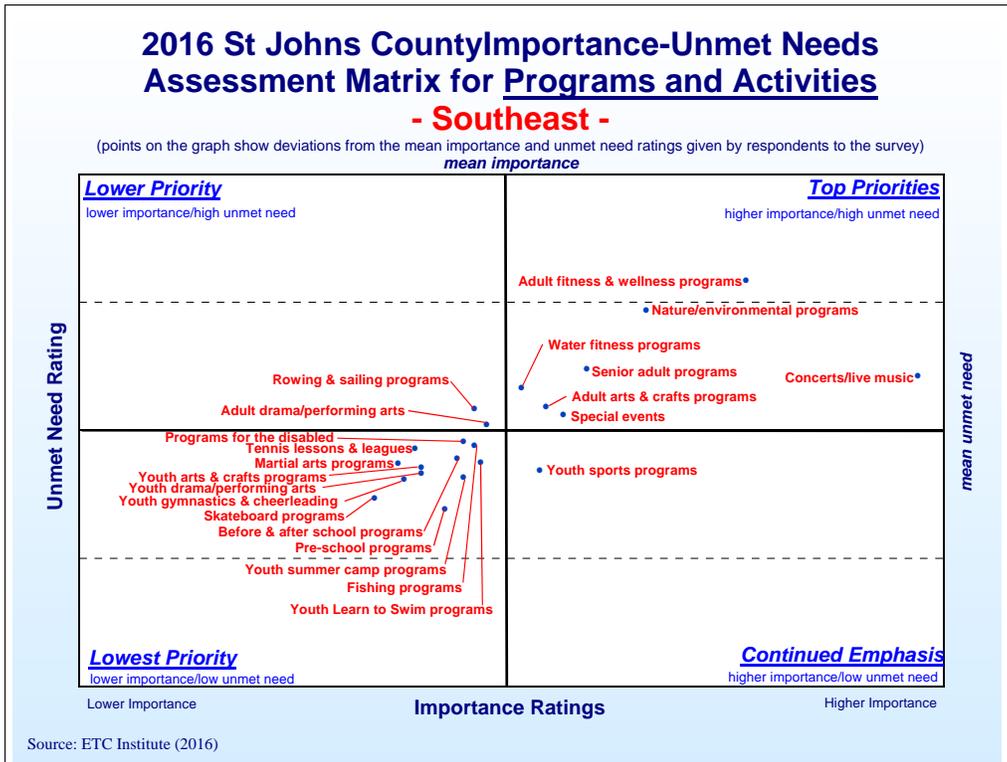
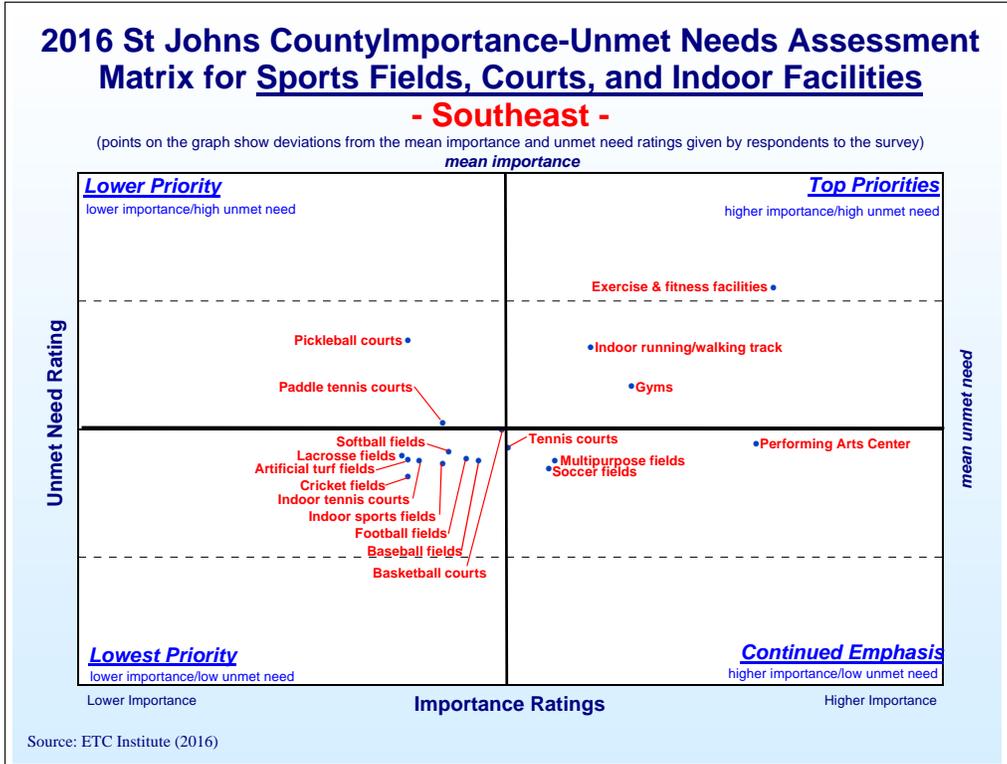


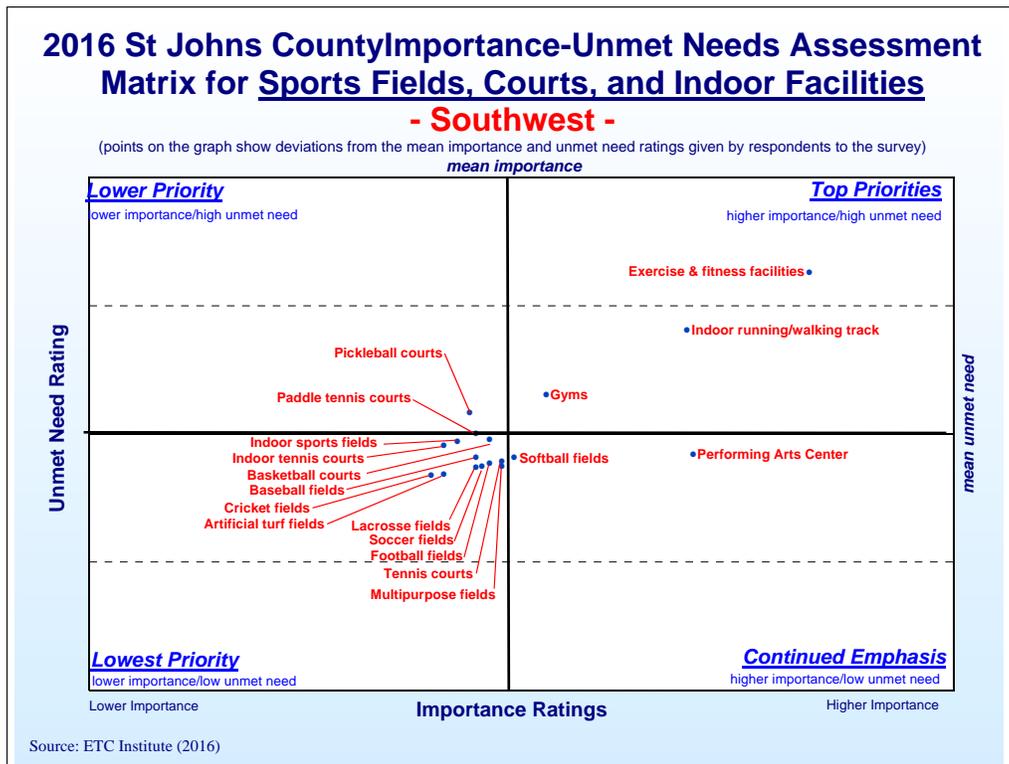
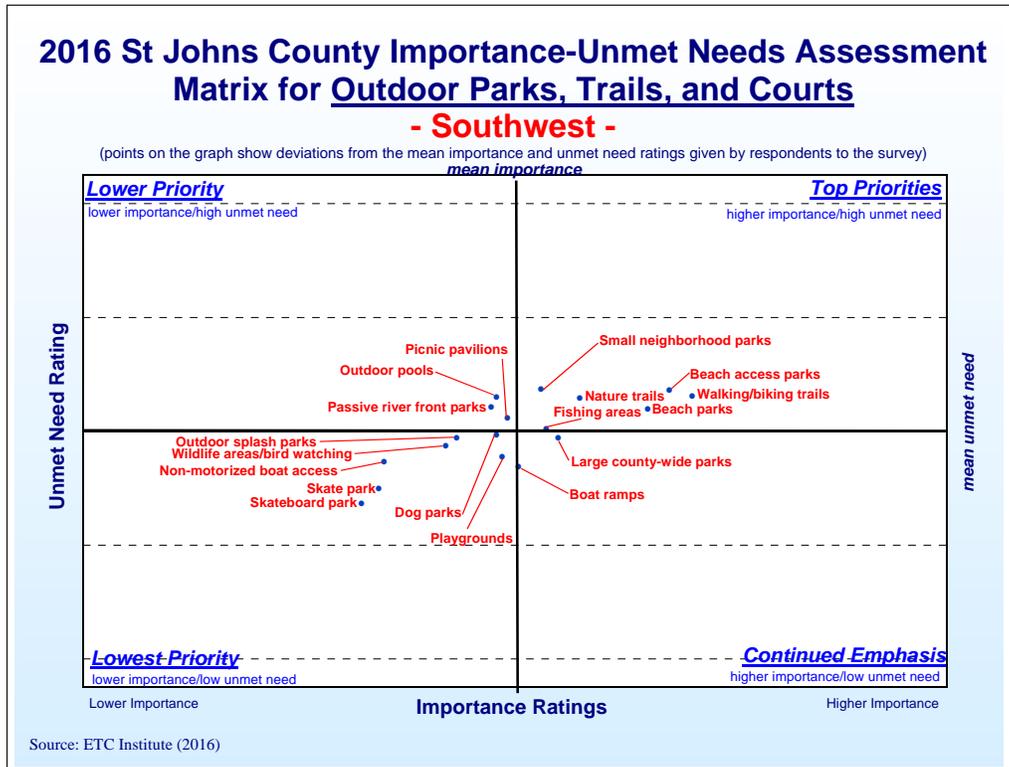
Source: ETC Institute (2016)







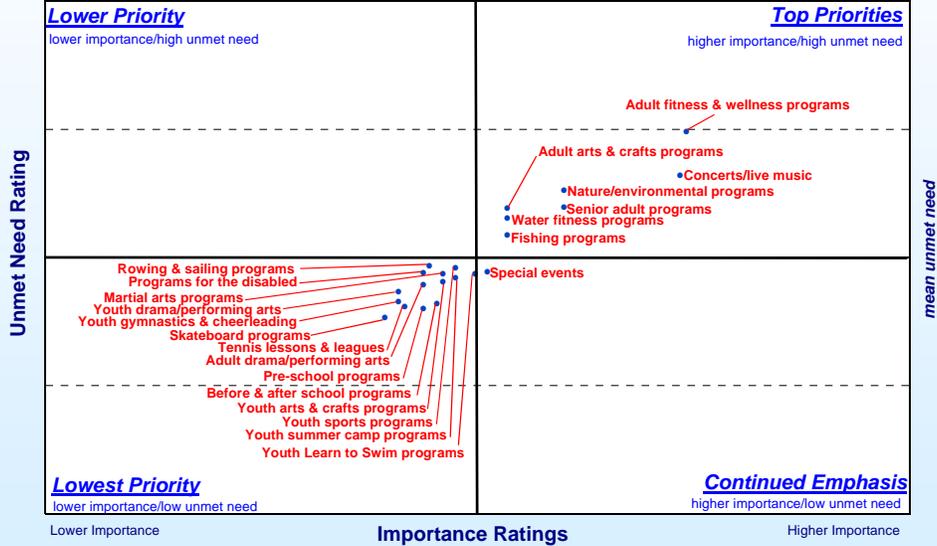




## 2016 St Johns County Importance-Unmet Needs Assessment Matrix for Programs and Activities

### - Southwest -

(points on the graph show deviations from the mean importance and unmet need ratings given by respondents to the survey)  
*mean importance*



Source: ETC Institute (2016)

# **Section 3**

## ***Benchmarks***

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## National Benchmarking

*Since 1998, ETC Institute has conducted household surveys for needs assessments, feasibility studies, customer satisfaction, fees and charges comparisons, and other parks and recreation issues in more than 400 communities in over 49 states across the country.*

The results of these surveys has provided an unparalleled data base of information to compare responses from household residents in client communities to “National Averages” and therefore provide a unique tool to “assist organizations in better decision making.”

Communities within the data base include a full-range of municipal and county governments from 20,000 in population through over 1 million in population. They include communities in warm weather climates and cold weather climates, mature communities and some of the fastest growing cities and counties in the country.

*“National Averages” have been developed for numerous strategically important parks and recreation planning and management issues* including: customer satisfaction and usage of parks and programs; methods for receiving marketing information; reasons that prevent members of households from using parks and recreation facilities more often; priority recreation programs, parks, facilities and trails to improve or develop; priority programming spaces to have in planned community centers and aquatic facilities; potential attendance for planned indoor community centers and outdoor aquatic centers; etc.

*Results from household responses for St Johns County were compared to National Benchmarks to gain further strategic information.* A summary of all tabular comparisons are shown on the following page.

**Note: The benchmarking data contained in this report is protected intellectual property. Any reproduction of the benchmarking information in this report by persons or organizations not directly affiliated with St Johns County is not authorized without written consent from ETC Institute.**

<b>Benchmarking for St Johns County Community Surveys</b>			
		<b>National Average</b>	<b>St Johns County 2016</b>
<b>Has your household visited any parks or facilities during the past year?</b>			
	Yes	79%	78%
	No	21%	22%
<b>How would you rate the quality of all the parks/facilities you've visited?</b>			
	Excellent	31%	30%
	Good	54%	58%
	Fair	12%	11%
	Poor	2%	1%
<b>Has your household participated in City/County/Park District recreation programs during the past year?</b>			
	Yes	34%	20%
	No	66%	80%
<b>Ways respondents learn about recreation programs and activities</b>			
	Conversations with City/County/Park District staff	6%	4%
	Departmental Brochure (Seasonal program guide)	54%	11%
	E-mail bulletins/notification (Email)	8%	10%
	Flyers/Materials at City/County/Park District facilities	18%	10%
	Newsletters/Flyers/Brochures	31%	9%
	Newspaper	39%	43%
	Radio	11%	14%
	School flyers (Program fliers at school)	16%	17%
	TV/Cable Access	10%	8%
	Visited or called a parks/recreation office	16%	4%
	Website	21%	22%
	Word of Mouth/Friends/Coworkers	42%	54%
	Newspaper Advertisements	20%	23%
	Social media - Facebook/Twitter	7%	22%
<b>Organizations used for parks and recreation programs and facilities</b>			
	Churches	30%	26%
	City/County Parks & Recreation Department	48%	45%
	Homeowners Associations/Similar	12%	33%
	Other Cities/Park Districts	24%	23%
	Private Clubs	22%	28%
	Private schools	9%	9%
	Private sports clubs	13%	8%
	School District	28%	26%
	YMCA	16%	13%
	Youth Sports Leagues	16%	7%

<b>Benchmarking for St Johns County Community Surveys</b>		
	<b>National Average</b>	<b>St Johns County 2016</b>
<b>Recreation programs that respondent households have a need for</b>		
Adult arts, dance, performing arts	21%	20%
Adult fitness and wellness programs	48%	44%
Before and after school programs	15%	12%
Gymnastics/tumbling programs	16%	9%
Martial arts programs	15%	11%
Nature programs/environmental education	32%	36%
Preschool programs	15%	10%
Programs for people with disabilities	12%	11%
Seniors/Adult programs for 50 years and older	24%	28%
Special events	40%	23%
Tennis lessons and leagues	17%	16%
Water fitness programs	30%	23%
Youth art, dance, performing arts	18%	14%
Youth Learn to Swim programs	25%	16%
Youth sports programs	27%	22%
Youth summer camp programs	20%	17%
<b>Recreation programs that are the most important to respondent households</b>		
Adult arts, dance, performing arts	9%	5%
Adult fitness and wellness programs	30%	30%
Before and after school programs	7%	7%
Gymnastics/tumbling programs	5%	3%
Martial arts programs	4%	4%
Nature programs/environmental education	13%	19%
Preschool programs	7%	5%
Programs for people with special needs/disabled	4%	5%
Seniors/Adult programs for 50 years and older	14%	16%
Special events	20%	12%
Tennis lessons and leagues	7%	8%
Water fitness programs	14%	11%
Youth art, dance, performing arts	6%	3%
Youth Learn to Swim programs	14%	8%
Youth sports programs	15%	14%
Youth summer camp programs	9%	9%

<b>Benchmarking for St Johns County Community Surveys</b>		
	<b>National Average</b>	<b>St Johns County 2016</b>
<b>Parks and recreation facilities that respondent households have a need for</b>		
Adult Softball Fields	15%	12%
Boat Facilities/Paddle Boats	28%	25%
Bodies of Water/Lake with Public Access	50%	62%
Cricket fields	5%	2%
Fishing areas (Fishing piers)	34%	33%
Football Fields	14%	9%
Indoor Fitness and Exercise Facilities	47%	43%
Indoor Gyms/Multi-Purpose Rec Center	27%	21%
Indoor running/walking track	41%	27%
Indoor sports complex (Indoor sports fields)	19%	7%
Indoor Tennis	18%	23%
Large Multi Use Community Parks	55%	49%
Natural areas/wildlife habitats (Greenspace and natural areas)	50%	35%
Nature Center/Nature Trails	53%	53%
Off-leash dog parks	27%	27%
Outdoor Swimming Pools/Aquatic Center	44%	24%
Performing Arts Center	37%	30%
Picnic Areas and Shelters	53%	33%
Playground Equipment for Children	43%	29%
Skateboarding Park/Area	13%	7%
Small neighborhood parks	60%	52%
Soccer, Lacrosse Fields (Outdoor field space)	22%	17%
Splash park/pad	25%	23%
Tennis Courts (outdoor)	26%	23%
Walking and Biking Trails	69%	63%
Youth Baseball Fields	23%	12%
<b>Most Important Parks and Recreation Facilities to Respondent Households</b>		
Adult Softball Fields	4%	6%
Boat Facilities/Paddle Boats	8%	13%
Fishing areas	11%	13%
Football fields	3%	6%
Gymnastics	4%	14%
Indoor Fitness and Exercise Facilities	20%	34%
Indoor sports complex (Indoor sports fields)	4%	2%
Indoor Tennis	6%	6%
Indoor running/walking track	15%	19%
Large Community Parks	19%	20%
Multi-Purpose Sports Complexes	12%	9%
Natural areas/wildlife habitats (Greenspace and natural areas)	17%	12%
Nature Center/Nature Trails (Nature trails/nature parks)	19%	26%
Off-Leash Dog Park	12%	14%
Outdoor Basketball Courts	5%	10%
Outdoor Swimming Pools/Aquatic Facilities	18%	12%
Performing Arts Center	12%	24%
Picnic Areas and Shelters	17%	9%
Playground Equipment for Children	19%	13%
Skateboarding Area	3%	2%
Small Neighborhood Parks	28%	26%
Soccer, Lacrosse Fields (Outdoor field space)	8%	12%
Splash park/pad	7%	8%
Tennis Courts (outdoor)	7%	13%
Walking and Biking Trails	42%	40%
Youth Baseball Fields	9%	8%

<b>Benchmarking for St Johns County Community Surveys</b>		
	<b>National Average</b>	<b>St Johns County 2016</b>
<b>Reasons that Prevent Respondent Households From Using Programs or Facilities More Often</b>		
Facilities do not have right equipment	7%	3%
Facilities are not well maintained	6%	7%
Facility operating hours are not convenient	7%	4%
Fees are too expensive	13%	7%
I do not know location of facilities	12%	21%
I do not know what is being offered	22%	40%
Lack of accessibility (Not accessible for people w disabilities)	3%	6%
Lack of parking	5%	12%
Lack of quality programs	8%	6%
Parks are not well maintained	4%	7%
Poor customer service by staff	3%	2%
Program times are not convenient	16%	6%
Programs I am interested in are not offered	14%	7%
Registration for programs is difficult	3%	1%
Security is insufficient	7%	6%
Too far from residence	12%	18%
Use facilities in other Cities/Park Districts	9%	15%
Use facilities/programs of other organizations	15%	15%
Use services of other agencies	8%	6%
Waiting list/programs were full	5%	1%
We are too busy	34%	28%
<b>Level of Satisfaction with the Overall Value Households Receive from the Parks and Recreation Department</b>		
Very Satisfied	27%	17%
Somewhat Satisfied	34%	32%
Neutral	20%	27%
Somewhat Dissatisfied	6%	7%
Very Dissatisfied	3%	3%
Don't Know	11%	16%

# **Section 4**

## ***Tabular Analysis***

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**Tabular Data****Q1. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are:**

	<u>Mean</u>	<u>Sum</u>
number	2.7	2270
Under age 5	0.1	94
Ages 5-9	0.1	95
Ages 10-14	0.2	154
Ages 15-19	0.2	180
Ages 20-24	0.1	122
Ages 25-34	0.2	165
Ages 35-44	0.2	205
Ages 45-54	0.5	429
Ages 55-64	0.5	419
Ages 65-74	0.3	289
Ages 75+	0.1	118

**Q2. Have you or members of your household visited any of the parks or facilities operated by the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department over the past 12 months?**

Q2. Have you visited any parks or facilities operated by  
St. Johns County Parks & Recreation Department over  
past 12 months

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	655	78.1 %
No	184	21.9 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q2-2. (If YES to Question 2) Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of ALL the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department parks, trails and recreation facilities you have visited?**

Q2-2. How would you rate physical condition of all parks, trails & recreation facilities you have visited	Number	Percent
Excellent	198	30.2 %
Good	379	57.9 %
Fair	72	11.0 %
Poor	5	0.8 %
Not provided	1	0.2 %
Total	655	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q2-2. (If YES to Question 2) Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of ALL the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department parks, trails and recreation facilities you have visited? (without "not provided")**

Q2-2. How would you rate physical condition of all parks, trails & recreation facilities you have visited	Number	Percent
Excellent	198	30.3 %
Good	379	58.0 %
Fair	72	11.0 %
Poor	5	0.8 %
Total	654	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q2-3. (If YES to Question 2) Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities you or members of your household have visited over the past 12 months?**

Q2-3. How satisfied are you with St. Johns County  
Parks & Recreation facilities you have visited over past

12 months	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	288	44.0 %
Somewhat Satisfied	252	38.5 %
Neutral	77	11.8 %
Somewhat Dissatisfied	29	4.4 %
Very Dissatisfied	3	0.5 %
Don't Know	6	0.9 %
Total	655	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q2-3. (If YES to Question 2) Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities you or members of your household have visited over the past 12 months? (without "don't know")**

Q2-3. How satisfied are you with St. Johns County  
Parks & Recreation facilities you have visited over past

12 months	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	288	44.4 %
Somewhat Satisfied	252	38.8 %
Neutral	77	11.9 %
Somewhat Dissatisfied	29	4.5 %
Very Dissatisfied	3	0.5 %
Total	649	100.0 %

**Q3. Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation or sports programs offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities during the past 12 months?**

Q3. Have you participated in any recreation or sports  
programs offered at St. Johns County Parks and  
Recreation facilities during past 12 months

	Number	Percent
Yes	165	19.7 %
No	674	80.3 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q3-2. (If YES to Question 3) Approximately how many different recreation and/or sports programs offered at the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months?**

Q3-2. How many different recreation and/or sports programs have you participated in over past 12 months	Number	Percent
1 program	66	40.0 %
2 to 3 programs	79	47.9 %
4 to 6 programs	15	9.1 %
7 to 10 programs	2	1.2 %
Not provided	3	1.8 %
Total	165	100.0 %

### **EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED**

### **Q3-2. (If YES to Question 3) Approximately how many different recreation and/or sports programs offered at the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months? (without "not provided")**

Q3-2. How many different recreation and/or sports programs have you participated in over past 12 months	Number	Percent
1 program	66	40.7 %
2 to 3 programs	79	48.8 %
4 to 6 programs	15	9.3 %
7 to 10 programs	2	1.2 %
Total	162	100.0 %

### **Q3-3. (If YES to Question 3) Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation programs you or members of your household have participated in over the past 12 months?**

Q3-3. How satisfied are you with St. Johns County Parks & Recreation programs you have participated in over past 12 months	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	69	41.8 %
Somewhat Satisfied	72	43.6 %
Neutral	18	10.9 %
Somewhat Dissatisfied	5	3.0 %
Don't Know	1	0.6 %
Total	165	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **EXCLUDING DON'T KNOW**

#### **Q3-3. (If YES to Question 3) Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation programs you or members of your household have participated in over the past 12 months? (without "don't know")**

Q3-3. How satisfied are you with St. Johns County Parks & Recreation programs you have participated in over past 12 months

	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	69	42.1 %
Somewhat Satisfied	72	43.9 %
Neutral	18	11.0 %
Somewhat Dissatisfied	5	3.0 %
Total	164	100.0 %

#### **Q4. Please check ALL the ways you learn about programs and activities offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities.**

Q4. All the ways you learn about programs & activities offered at St. Johns County Parks & Recreation facilities

	Number	Percent
Parks & Recreation Brochure	89	10.6 %
Parks & Recreation Website	184	21.9 %
Newspaper articles	359	42.8 %
Radio	114	13.6 %
Cable access television	67	8.0 %
Flyers at City facilities	76	9.1 %
Social media: Twitter, Facebook, etc.	185	22.1 %
School flyers/newsletter	144	17.2 %
E-mail blasts	83	9.9 %
Conversations with Park staff	31	3.7 %
Newspaper advertisements	194	23.1 %
City newsletters	79	9.4 %
From friends & neighbors	456	54.4 %
Other	62	7.4 %
Total	2123	

**Tabular Data****Q4. Other**

<u>Q4. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
library	2	5.0 %
family	2	5.0 %
signs	2	5.0 %
employees	2	5.0 %
Mint Magazine	2	5.0 %
Community newsletter	2	5.0 %
Friends & family	1	2.5 %
Family-Adult Rec Teams	1	2.5 %
State and County maps	1	2.5 %
commissioner emails	1	2.5 %
driving about	1	2.5 %
county web page	1	2.5 %
Word of mouth from people	1	2.5 %
Fairground sign when walking	1	2.5 %
Notification from the horse council	1	2.5 %
Cross Creek	1	2.5 %
nearby Davis Park	1	2.5 %
events posted in parks	1	2.5 %
driving around and outings	1	2.5 %
team coaches	1	2.5 %
Google	1	2.5 %
SJC Horse Council	1	2.5 %
Very little seen in my area	1	2.5 %
driving around	1	2.5 %
HOA	1	2.5 %
Penny saver	1	2.5 %
Haven't really heard about them	1	2.5 %
Long time resident	1	2.5 %
county employees	1	2.5 %
billboards	1	2.5 %
general	1	2.5 %
unware of programs/activities offered	1	2.5 %
grandchildren & their parents	1	2.5 %
mail from freinds	1	2.5 %
Total	40	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

**Q5. From the following list, please check ALL the organizations your household has used for indoor and outdoor recreation activities during the past 12 months.**

Q5. Organizations your household has used for indoor & outdoor recreation activities during past 12 months	Number	Percent
Private schools	72	8.6 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	222	26.5 %
Youth Athletic Association	59	7.0 %
YMCA	106	12.6 %
Public schools	223	26.6 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	379	45.2 %
JCC	6	0.7 %
State parks	418	49.8 %
Neighboring park districts	196	23.4 %
Homeowners associations	276	32.9 %
Private fitness centers	238	28.4 %
Travel sports teams	69	8.2 %
Other	60	7.2 %
<u>None, do not use any organizations</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>13.1 %</u>
Total	2434	

**Tabular Data****Q5. Other**

<u>Q5. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
beach	4	7.4 %
national parks	4	7.4 %
golf course	3	5.6 %
5K running events	2	3.7 %
privately owned campgrounds	2	3.7 %
GTMRA	2	3.7 %
club tennis	1	1.9 %
Ancient City Soccer	1	1.9 %
Scout camps	1	1.9 %
St Augustine Amphitheater	1	1.9 %
VFW	1	1.9 %
Field of Dreams	1	1.9 %
Scouting	1	1.9 %
County library system	1	1.9 %
Country Club	1	1.9 %
private beach club	1	1.9 %
Environment Organization	1	1.9 %
The Dance Co St Augustine Beach	1	1.9 %
walking on County sidewalks	1	1.9 %
SSC Horse Council	1	1.9 %
semi-private golf course	1	1.9 %
Word of mouth	1	1.9 %
Sierra Club	1	1.9 %
N Guana Outpost	1	1.9 %
family outings	1	1.9 %
Garden Club	1	1.9 %
Clay County Fair Grounds	1	1.9 %
St Johns County Horse Council	1	1.9 %
walk dog	1	1.9 %
Scouts	1	1.9 %
Antique car shows	1	1.9 %
tennis	1	1.9 %
TPC	1	1.9 %
Boat club & Country club	1	1.9 %
town itself	1	1.9 %
private clubs	1	1.9 %
Calhoun Ct	1	1.9 %
riding parks	1	1.9 %
golf, hiking, walking	1	1.9 %
Guanna Est Park	1	1.9 %
Boat ramps	1	1.9 %
bagpipers	1	1.9 %
private country club	1	1.9 %
Total	54	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q6. For the age group of 0-11 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

<u>Q6. Top choice (0-11 years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	15	1.8 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	12	1.4 %
Youth Athletic Association	7	0.8 %
YMCA	5	0.6 %
Public schools	27	3.2 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	20	2.4 %
State parks	14	1.7 %
Neighboring park districts	7	0.8 %
Homeowners associations	8	1.0 %
Private fitness centers	1	0.1 %
Travel sports teams	2	0.2 %
Other	5	0.6 %
None, do not use any organizations	30	3.6 %
None of age group	165	19.7 %
None chosen	521	62.1 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q6. For the age group of 0-11 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

<u>Q6. 2nd choice (0-11 years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	2	0.2 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	15	1.8 %
Youth Athletic Association	2	0.2 %
YMCA	4	0.5 %
Public schools	13	1.5 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	25	3.0 %
State parks	10	1.2 %
Neighboring park districts	10	1.2 %
Homeowners associations	13	1.5 %
Private fitness centers	2	0.2 %
Travel sports teams	2	0.2 %
None, do not use any organizations	7	0.8 %
None chosen	734	87.5 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

**Q6. For the age group of 0-11 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services. (top 2)**

<u>Q6. Top choice (0-11 years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	17	2.0 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	27	3.2 %
Youth Athletic Association	9	1.1 %
YMCA	9	1.1 %
Public schools	40	4.8 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	45	5.4 %
State parks	24	2.9 %
Neighboring park districts	17	2.0 %
Homeowners associations	21	2.5 %
Private fitness centers	3	0.4 %
Travel sports teams	4	0.5 %
Other	5	0.6 %
None, do not use any organizations	37	4.4 %
None of age group	165	19.7 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>521</u>	<u>62.1 %</u>
Total	944	

## Tabular Data

### **Q6. For the age group of 12-17 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

<u>Q6. Top choice (12-17 years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	6	0.7 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	2	0.2 %
Youth Athletic Association	16	1.9 %
YMCA	5	0.6 %
Public schools	46	5.5 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	20	2.4 %
State parks	6	0.7 %
Neighboring park districts	4	0.5 %
Homeowners associations	1	0.1 %
Private fitness centers	1	0.1 %
Travel sports teams	11	1.3 %
Other	1	0.1 %
None, do not use any organizations	38	4.5 %
None of age group	149	17.8 %
None chosen	533	63.5 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q6. For the age group of 12-17 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

<u>Q6. 2nd choice (12-17 years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	4	0.5 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	15	1.8 %
Youth Athletic Association	1	0.1 %
Public schools	26	3.1 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	18	2.1 %
JCC	1	0.1 %
State parks	11	1.3 %
Neighboring park districts	2	0.2 %
Homeowners associations	6	0.7 %
Private fitness centers	7	0.8 %
Travel sports teams	6	0.7 %
Other	2	0.2 %
None, do not use any organizations	12	1.4 %
None chosen	728	86.8 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

**Q6. For the age group of 12-17 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services. (top 2)**

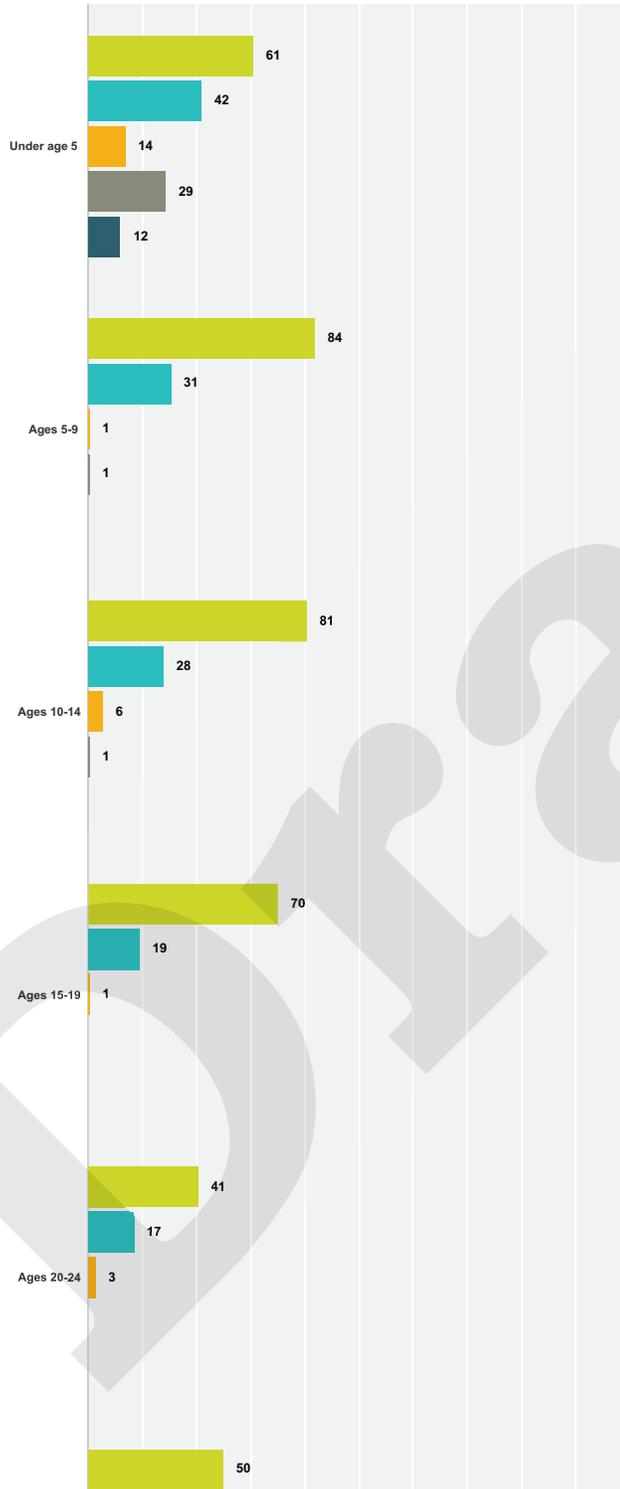
Q6. Top choice (12-17 years)	Number	Percent
Private schools	10	1.2 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	17	2.0 %
Youth Athletic Association	17	2.0 %
YMCA	5	0.6 %
Public schools	72	8.6 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	38	4.5 %
JCC	1	0.1 %
State parks	17	2.0 %
Neighboring park districts	6	0.7 %
Homeowners associations	7	0.8 %
Private fitness centers	8	1.0 %
Travel sports teams	17	2.0 %
Other	3	0.4 %
None, do not use any organizations	50	6.0 %
None of age group	149	17.8 %
None chosen	533	63.5 %
Total	950	

## E. On-line Survey

### St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

#### Q1 Counting yourself, how many people in your household are:

Answered: 681 Skipped: 6



## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

**Q6. For the age group of 18-54 years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services. (top 2)**

Q6. Top choice (18-54 years)	Number	Percent
Private schools	8	1.0 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	43	5.1 %
Youth Athletic Association	7	0.8 %
YMCA	23	2.7 %
Public schools	34	4.1 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	113	13.5 %
JCC	4	0.5 %
State parks	125	14.9 %
Neighboring park districts	32	3.8 %
Homeowners associations	60	7.2 %
Private fitness centers	65	7.7 %
Travel sports teams	8	1.0 %
Other	8	1.0 %
None, do not use any organizations	61	7.3 %
None of age group	94	11.2 %
None chosen	398	47.4 %
Total	1083	

## Tabular Data

### **Q6. For the age group of 55+ years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

<u>Q6. Top choice (55+ years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	1	0.1 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	49	5.8 %
Youth Athletic Association	1	0.1 %
YMCA	22	2.6 %
Public schools	8	1.0 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	63	7.5 %
JCC	1	0.1 %
State parks	54	6.4 %
Neighboring park districts	12	1.4 %
Homeowners associations	35	4.2 %
Private fitness centers	44	5.2 %
Other	14	1.7 %
None, do not use any organizations	91	10.8 %
None of age group	82	9.8 %
None chosen	362	43.1 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q6. For the age group of 55+ years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

<u>Q6. 2nd choice (55+ years)</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Private schools	5	0.6 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	17	2.0 %
Youth Athletic Association	2	0.2 %
YMCA	3	0.4 %
Public schools	8	1.0 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	39	4.6 %
JCC	1	0.1 %
State parks	46	5.5 %
Neighboring park districts	20	2.4 %
Homeowners associations	39	4.6 %
Private fitness centers	22	2.6 %
Travel sports teams	4	0.5 %
Other	10	1.2 %
None, do not use any organizations	10	1.2 %
None chosen	613	73.1 %
Total	839	100.0 %

Missing Cases = 0

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

**Q6. For the age group of 55+ years, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question 5 you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services. (top 2)**

Q6. Top choice (55+ years)	Number	Percent
Private schools	6	0.7 %
Churches/synagogues/temples	66	7.9 %
Youth Athletic Association	3	0.4 %
YMCA	25	3.0 %
Public schools	16	1.9 %
St Johns County Parks & Rec Dept	102	12.2 %
JCC	2	0.2 %
State parks	100	11.9 %
Neighboring park districts	32	3.8 %
Homeowners associations	74	8.8 %
Private fitness centers	66	7.9 %
Travel sports teams	4	0.5 %
Other	24	2.9 %
None, do not use any organizations	101	12.0 %
None of age group	82	9.8 %
None chosen	362	43.1 %
Total	1065	

## Tabular Data

### **Q7. Please CHECK ALL the reasons that deter you or other members of your household from using parks, recreation facilities or programs of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department more often.**

Q7. Reasons that deter you from using parks, recreation facilities or programs of St Johns County Parks &

<u>Recreation Department more often</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Lack of accessibility	52	6.2 %
Facilities are not well maintained	61	7.3 %
Program or facility not offered	71	8.5 %
We are too busy	236	28.1 %
Security is insufficient	46	5.5 %
Lack of quality programs	48	5.7 %
Too far from our residence	150	17.9 %
Classes are full	6	0.7 %
Fees are too high	59	7.0 %
Program times are not convenient	52	6.2 %
Use other facilities than County	126	15.0 %
Lack of parking	102	12.2 %
Poor customer service by staff	13	1.5 %
I do not know locations of facilities	177	21.1 %
Facilities don't have right equipment	25	3.0 %
Language barriers are difficult	5	0.6 %
I do not know what is being offered	332	39.6 %
Facility operating hours not convenient	29	3.5 %
Registration for programs is difficult	11	1.3 %
Use services of other agencies	49	5.8 %
<u>Other</u>	99	11.8 %
Total	1749	

## Tabular Data

### Q7. Other

<u>Q7. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
age	10	10.4 %
not interested	6	6.3 %
too old	4	4.2 %
no bike trails	2	2.1 %
too many homeless	2	2.1 %
lack of locations in North St Johns County	2	2.1 %
playground equipment gets hot	2	2.1 %
don't know how to learn or be informed about the programs	2	2.1 %
ramps are too crowded	2	2.1 %
pools need more lifeguards/open year round	2	2.1 %
beach access	2	2.1 %
parking with health problems	2	2.1 %
health	2	2.1 %
new to area	2	2.1 %
not enough active recreation parks	1	1.0 %
child too young to participate in County sports	1	1.0 %
disabled	1	1.0 %
no bathroom facilities	1	1.0 %
handicapped	1	1.0 %
lack of interest	1	1.0 %
we avoid crowds	1	1.0 %
live in Ponte Vedra	1	1.0 %
more dog accessible where I exercise	1	1.0 %
physical disabilities	1	1.0 %
bathrooms at Flagler Est	1	1.0 %
old age	1	1.0 %
FWC and park rules not enforced	1	1.0 %
facility often full	1	1.0 %
fields are over-booked	1	1.0 %
age & health	1	1.0 %
passive hiking options	1	1.0 %
pool repair	1	1.0 %
no need	1	1.0 %
we are handicapped and require a walker, cane or wheelchair	1	1.0 %
Tillman Ridge Landfill should be turned over to Parks & Rec Dept	1	1.0 %
fire ants at Davis Park	1	1.0 %
pools are being hogged by schools	1	1.0 %
we live on a farm, no other recreation needed	1	1.0 %
mosquitos	1	1.0 %
available activities in our community	1	1.0 %
no desire/don't need	1	1.0 %
private facilities	1	1.0 %
sometimes parking is limited at beach areas	1	1.0 %
fields too crowded	1	1.0 %
close to Duval County	1	1.0 %
too crowded	1	1.0 %
no bus service	1	1.0 %
don't get around very well	1	1.0 %
too lazy	1	1.0 %
no information	1	1.0 %
drive miles to take a walk & sightseeing	1	1.0 %
beach too crowded, not enough parking	1	1.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q7. Other**

<u>Q7. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
weather	1	1.0 %
pool closed	1	1.0 %
have child in wheelchair	1	1.0 %
too many people	1	1.0 %
community park is horrible	1	1.0 %
lack bike/hike trails	1	1.0 %
do my own thing	1	1.0 %
Guana Park & local community center is very convenient for me	1	1.0 %
physical restrictions	1	1.0 %
don't know programs	1	1.0 %
tennis courts	1	1.0 %
Volusia & Flagler County Parks are well maintained with more services & events	1	1.0 %
not interested in any programs	1	1.0 %
no handicapped equipment	1	1.0 %
Pomar Park Football Fields not well maintained	1	1.0 %
need more media advertisement	1	1.0 %
Total	96	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q8. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of OUTDOOR PARK, TRAILS AND COURTS listed below.**

(N=839)

	Yes	No
Q8-1. Small neighborhood parks	52.1%	47.9%
Q8-2. Large county-wide parks	48.9%	51.1%
Q8-3. Passive river front parks	42.9%	57.1%
Q8-4. Dog parks	27.4%	72.6%
Q8-5. Beach parks	62.7%	37.3%
Q8-6. Wildlife areas/bird watching	35.4%	64.6%
Q8-7. Skate park	10.4%	89.6%
Q8-8. Beach access parks	61.5%	38.5%
Q8-9. Outdoor pools	24.3%	75.7%
Q8-10. Outdoor splash parks	22.5%	77.5%
Q8-11. Playgrounds	29.1%	70.9%
Q8-12. Walking/biking trails	63.4%	36.6%
Q8-13. Nature trails	53.4%	46.6%
Q8-14. Fishing areas	32.5%	67.5%
Q8-15. Picnic pavilions	32.8%	67.2%
Q8-16. Boat ramps	24.8%	75.2%
Q8-17. Skateboard park	6.6%	93.4%
Q8-18. Non-motorized boat access	17.4%	82.6%
Q8-19. Other	3.8%	96.2%

**Tabular Data****Q8. If "YES," please answer the question to the right of the park or facility regarding "How Well are Your Needs Being Met."**

(N=752)

	Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met
Q8-1. Small neighborhood parks	25.4%	32.0%	24.7%	17.8%
Q8-2. Large county-wide parks	21.6%	41.1%	24.2%	13.0%
Q8-3. Passive river front parks	21.0%	22.2%	30.1%	26.7%
Q8-4. Dog parks	19.7%	22.5%	32.9%	24.9%
Q8-5. Beach parks	26.7%	36.2%	25.3%	11.8%
Q8-6. Wildlife areas/bird watching	24.1%	27.2%	30.7%	18.0%
Q8-7. Skate park	25.3%	32.9%	19.0%	22.8%
Q8-8. Beach access parks	26.5%	30.5%	27.0%	16.0%
Q8-9. Outdoor pools	19.4%	17.7%	19.9%	43.0%
Q8-10. Outdoor splash parks	21.8%	23.6%	21.8%	32.8%
Q8-11. Playgrounds	27.4%	37.9%	26.9%	7.8%
Q8-12. Walking/biking trails	18.4%	28.9%	33.4%	19.4%
Q8-13. Nature trails	17.8%	30.1%	36.3%	15.8%
Q8-14. Fishing areas	19.1%	32.3%	33.6%	14.9%
Q8-15. Picnic pavilions	19.9%	32.1%	32.9%	15.0%
Q8-16. Boat ramps	21.4%	34.1%	34.6%	9.9%
Q8-17. Skateboard park	22.4%	24.5%	28.6%	24.5%
Q8-18. Non-motorized boat access	13.6%	22.4%	40.0%	24.0%
Q8-19. Other	11.5%	7.7%	34.6%	46.2%

## Tabular Data

### **Q8. If "YES," please answer the question to the right of the park or facility regarding "How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park or Facility During the Past 12 Months."**

(N=752)

	None	1-10 times	11-25 times	26+ times
Q8-1. Small neighborhood parks	13.7%	47.6%	25.0%	13.7%
Q8-2. Large county-wide parks	9.1%	56.7%	23.2%	11.0%
Q8-3. Passive river front parks	23.8%	54.3%	15.6%	6.3%
Q8-4. Dog parks	24.3%	46.6%	18.0%	11.1%
Q8-5. Beach parks	10.6%	49.9%	22.0%	17.5%
Q8-6. Wildlife areas/bird watching	19.4%	62.3%	8.7%	9.5%
Q8-7. Skate park	22.4%	42.1%	21.1%	14.5%
Q8-8. Beach access parks	9.6%	48.7%	25.1%	16.6%
Q8-9. Outdoor pools	41.6%	30.7%	14.5%	13.3%
Q8-10. Outdoor splash parks	32.1%	45.3%	14.5%	8.2%
Q8-11. Playgrounds	12.1%	42.5%	30.0%	15.5%
Q8-12. Walking/biking trails	13.7%	53.5%	20.7%	12.1%
Q8-13. Nature trails	13.4%	62.4%	16.7%	7.5%
Q8-14. Fishing areas	21.2%	48.6%	18.0%	12.2%
Q8-15. Picnic pavilions	16.5%	64.6%	13.1%	5.9%
Q8-16. Boat ramps	16.2%	44.5%	22.5%	16.8%
Q8-17. Skateboard park	27.7%	42.6%	25.5%	4.3%
Q8-18. Non-motorized boat access	35.0%	51.2%	7.3%	6.5%
Q8-19. Other	22.7%	27.3%	13.6%	36.4%

**Tabular Data****Q8-19. Other**

<u>Q8-19. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
tennis courts	5	17.2 %
indoor pool	3	10.3 %
horseback riding trails	2	6.9 %
tennis courts, running trails	2	6.9 %
running track	2	6.9 %
golf course	1	3.4 %
pickleball	1	3.4 %
bike roads	1	3.4 %
horse shoes	1	3.4 %
horse trails	1	3.4 %
baseball field	1	3.4 %
paddle and tennis courts	1	3.4 %
bike path	1	3.4 %
County golf course	1	3.4 %
equestrian areas, trails	1	3.4 %
mountain bike trails	1	3.4 %
volleyball	1	3.4 %
bocce ball	1	3.4 %
bike paths in Flagler County	1	3.4 %
crosswalks	1	3.4 %
Total	29	100.0 %

**Q9. Which FOUR of the outdoor parks, trails, and courts from the list in Question 8 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q9. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Small neighborhood parks	80	9.5 %
Large county-wide parks	55	6.6 %
Passive river front parks	13	1.5 %
Dog parks	32	3.8 %
Beach parks	82	9.8 %
Wildlife areas/bird watching	13	1.5 %
Skate park	2	0.2 %
Beach access parks	100	11.9 %
Outdoor pools	22	2.6 %
Outdoor splash parks	16	1.9 %
Playgrounds	29	3.5 %
Walking/biking trails	112	13.3 %
Nature trails	24	2.9 %
Fishing areas	24	2.9 %
Picnic pavilions	5	0.6 %
Boat ramps	47	5.6 %
Skateboard park	5	0.6 %
Non-motorized boat access	8	1.0 %
Other	17	2.0 %
None chosen	153	18.2 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q9. Which FOUR of the outdoor parks, trails, and courts from the list in Question 8 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q9. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Small neighborhood parks	53	6.3 %
Large county-wide parks	33	3.9 %
Passive river front parks	21	2.5 %
Dog parks	18	2.1 %
Beach parks	91	10.8 %
Wildlife areas/bird watching	29	3.5 %
Skate park	4	0.5 %
Beach access parks	85	10.1 %
Outdoor pools	31	3.7 %
Outdoor splash parks	20	2.4 %
Playgrounds	33	3.9 %
Walking/biking trails	78	9.3 %
Nature trails	71	8.5 %
Fishing areas	28	3.3 %
Picnic pavilions	17	2.0 %
Boat ramps	25	3.0 %
Skateboard park	4	0.5 %
Non-motorized boat access	9	1.1 %
Other	9	1.1 %
None chosen	180	21.5 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q9. Which FOUR of the outdoor parks, trails, and courts from the list in Question 8 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q9. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Small neighborhood parks	47	5.6 %
Large county-wide parks	32	3.8 %
Passive river front parks	34	4.1 %
Dog parks	40	4.8 %
Beach parks	74	8.8 %
Wildlife areas/bird watching	32	3.8 %
Skate park	10	1.2 %
Beach access parks	65	7.7 %
Outdoor pools	21	2.5 %
Outdoor splash parks	16	1.9 %
Playgrounds	23	2.7 %
Walking/biking trails	83	9.9 %
Nature trails	58	6.9 %
Fishing areas	25	3.0 %
Picnic pavilions	21	2.5 %
Boat ramps	26	3.1 %
Non-motorized boat access	15	1.8 %
Other	1	0.1 %
None chosen	216	25.7 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q9. Which FOUR of the outdoor parks, trails, and courts from the list in Question 8 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

Q9. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Small neighborhood parks	42	5.0 %
Large county-wide parks	48	5.7 %
Passive river front parks	57	6.8 %
Dog parks	26	3.1 %
Beach parks	38	4.5 %
Wildlife areas/bird watching	25	3.0 %
Skate park	7	0.8 %
Beach access parks	38	4.5 %
Outdoor pools	25	3.0 %
Outdoor splash parks	17	2.0 %
Playgrounds	20	2.4 %
Walking/biking trails	60	7.2 %
Nature trails	63	7.5 %
Fishing areas	33	3.9 %
Picnic pavilions	30	3.6 %
Boat ramps	9	1.1 %
Skateboard park	4	0.5 %
Non-motorized boat access	12	1.4 %
Other	1	0.1 %
None chosen	284	33.8 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES**

### **Q9. Which FOUR of the outdoor parks, trails, and courts from the list in Question 8 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household? (top 4)**

Q9. Top choice	Number	Percent
Small neighborhood parks	222	26.5 %
Large county-wide parks	168	20.0 %
Passive river front parks	125	14.9 %
Dog parks	116	13.8 %
Beach parks	285	34.0 %
Wildlife areas/bird watching	99	11.8 %
Skate park	23	2.7 %
Beach access parks	288	34.3 %
Outdoor pools	99	11.8 %
Outdoor splash parks	69	8.2 %
Playgrounds	105	12.5 %
Walking/biking trails	333	39.7 %
Nature trails	216	25.7 %
Fishing areas	110	13.1 %
Picnic pavilions	73	8.7 %
Boat ramps	107	12.8 %
Skateboard park	13	1.5 %
Non-motorized boat access	44	5.2 %
Other	28	3.3 %
None chosen	153	18.2 %
Total	2676	

**Tabular Data****Q10. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of OUTDOOR SPORTS FIELDS AND COURTS AS WELL AS INDOOR FACILITIES listed below.**

(N=839)

	Yes	No
Q10-1. Baseball fields	11.9%	88.1%
Q10-2. Soccer fields	17.2%	82.8%
Q10-3. Softball fields	11.6%	88.4%
Q10-4. Football fields	9.1%	90.9%
Q10-5. Lacrosse fields	5.4%	94.6%
Q10-6. Cricket fields	1.5%	98.5%
Q10-7. Artificial turf fields	6.6%	93.4%
Q10-8. Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	13.3%	86.7%
Q10-9. Basketball courts	18.6%	81.4%
Q10-10. Tennis courts	22.9%	77.1%
Q10-11. Paddle tennis courts	6.9%	93.1%
Q10-12. Pickleball courts	5.5%	94.5%
Q10-13. Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	21.1%	78.9%
Q10-14. Indoor running/walking track	26.5%	73.5%
Q10-15. Exercise & fitness facilities	43.0%	57.0%
Q10-16. Indoor tennis courts	10.4%	89.6%
Q10-17. Indoor sports fields	6.6%	93.4%
Q10-18. Performing Arts Center	30.3%	69.7%
Q10-19. Other	5.1%	94.9%

**Tabular Data****Q10. If "YES," please answer the question to the right of the facility regarding "How Well are Your Needs Being Met."**

(N=570)

	Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met
Q10-1. Baseball fields	33.0%	35.2%	29.5%	2.3%
Q10-2. Soccer fields	26.7%	45.0%	19.8%	8.4%
Q10-3. Softball fields	31.0%	32.1%	25.0%	11.9%
Q10-4. Football fields	30.3%	42.4%	22.7%	4.5%
Q10-5. Lacrosse fields	24.3%	43.2%	21.6%	10.8%
Q10-6. Cricket fields	20.0%	40.0%	0.0%	40.0%
Q10-7. Artificial turf fields	40.8%	30.6%	14.3%	14.3%
Q10-8. Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	12.5%	37.5%	28.1%	21.9%
Q10-9. Basketball courts	24.1%	27.0%	28.5%	20.4%
Q10-10. Tennis courts	19.8%	25.0%	27.3%	27.9%
Q10-11. Paddle tennis courts	13.7%	21.6%	21.6%	43.1%
Q10-12. Pickleball courts	18.4%	15.8%	7.9%	57.9%
Q10-13. Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	14.0%	18.5%	26.1%	41.4%
Q10-14. Indoor running/walking track	3.7%	7.3%	12.6%	76.4%
Q10-15. Exercise & fitness facilities	16.7%	13.8%	19.0%	50.5%
Q10-16. Indoor tennis courts	3.8%	6.3%	6.3%	83.5%
Q10-17. Indoors sports fields	6.3%	4.2%	10.4%	79.2%
Q10-18. Performing arts Center	14.0%	21.5%	23.8%	40.7%
Q10-19. Other	16.7%	6.7%	30.0%	46.7%

**Tabular Data****Q10. If "YES," please answer the question to the right of the facility regarding "How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Sports Fields or Indoor Facility During the Past 12 Months."**

(N=570)

	None	1-10 times	11-25 times	26+ times
Q10-1. Baseball fields	11.8%	42.6%	20.6%	25.0%
Q10-2. Soccer fields	10.3%	35.0%	17.9%	36.8%
Q10-3. Softball fields	17.7%	43.0%	24.1%	15.2%
Q10-4. Football fields	8.2%	44.3%	24.6%	23.0%
Q10-5. Lacrosse fields	21.6%	27.0%	16.2%	35.1%
Q10-6. Cricket fields	36.4%	18.2%	36.4%	9.1%
Q10-7. Artificial turf fields	10.4%	25.0%	27.1%	37.5%
Q10-8. Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	28.9%	40.0%	18.9%	12.2%
Q10-9. Basketball courts	19.8%	38.8%	28.9%	12.4%
Q10-10. Tennis courts	29.0%	44.5%	11.6%	14.8%
Q10-11. Paddle tennis courts	32.6%	43.5%	17.4%	6.5%
Q10-12. Pickleball courts	55.6%	25.0%	13.9%	5.6%
Q10-13. Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	37.1%	22.4%	19.6%	21.0%
Q10-14. Indoor running/walking track	67.7%	13.8%	10.8%	7.8%
Q10-15. Exercise & fitness facilities	41.3%	21.6%	12.5%	24.6%
Q10-16. Indoor tennis courts	74.6%	9.0%	10.4%	6.0%
Q10-17. Indoors sports fields	66.7%	20.0%	4.4%	8.9%
Q10-18. Performing Arts Center	39.1%	40.8%	15.1%	5.0%
Q10-19. Other	40.7%	11.1%	11.1%	37.0%

**Tabular Data****Q10-19. Other**

<u>Q10-19. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
pools	7	17.5 %
racquetball	5	12.5 %
disc golf	2	5.0 %
indoor pool	2	5.0 %
karate	2	5.0 %
golf course	2	5.0 %
golf facility	2	5.0 %
indoor pickleball	1	2.5 %
ice rink/indoor roller skate	1	2.5 %
golf course cafe	1	2.5 %
outdoor/indoor pools	1	2.5 %
bike lanes	1	2.5 %
boat rentals	1	2.5 %
raquetball	1	2.5 %
horse shoes	1	2.5 %
pickelball	1	2.5 %
rooms for dance/cheer/ballet	1	2.5 %
equestrian trails	1	2.5 %
indoor playground	1	2.5 %
ondoor lap pool	1	2.5 %
dog park	1	2.5 %
sidewalks	1	2.5 %
equestrian facilities	1	2.5 %
volleyball	1	2.5 %
climbing wall	1	2.5 %
Total	40	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q11. Which FOUR of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question 10 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q11. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Baseball fields	28	3.3 %
Soccer fields	60	7.2 %
Softball fields	16	1.9 %
Football fields	6	0.7 %
Lacrosse fields	6	0.7 %
Cricket fields	1	0.1 %
Artificial turf fields	6	0.7 %
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	26	3.1 %
Basketball courts	16	1.9 %
Tennis courts	38	4.5 %
Paddle tennis courts	10	1.2 %
Pickleball courts	6	0.7 %
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	29	3.5 %
Indoor running/walking track	52	6.2 %
Exercise & fitness facilities	117	13.9 %
Indoor tennis courts	9	1.1 %
Indoors sports fields	1	0.1 %
Performing Arts Center	75	8.9 %
Other	21	2.5 %
None chosen	316	37.7 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q11. Which FOUR of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question 10 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q11. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Baseball fields	15	1.8 %
Soccer fields	16	1.9 %
Softball fields	15	1.8 %
Football fields	19	2.3 %
Lacrosse fields	5	0.6 %
Cricket fields	2	0.2 %
Artificial turf fields	15	1.8 %
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	16	1.9 %
Basketball courts	21	2.5 %
Tennis courts	30	3.6 %
Paddle tennis courts	6	0.7 %
Pickleball courts	5	0.6 %
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	40	4.8 %
Indoor running/walking track	57	6.8 %
Exercise & fitness facilities	78	9.3 %
Indoor tennis courts	20	2.4 %
Indoors sports fields	2	0.2 %
Performing Arts Center	46	5.5 %
Other	12	1.4 %
None chosen	419	49.9 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q11. Which FOUR of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question 10 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q11. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Baseball fields	10	1.2 %
Soccer fields	19	2.3 %
Softball fields	12	1.4 %
Football fields	13	1.5 %
Lacrosse fields	4	0.5 %
Cricket fields	2	0.2 %
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	11	1.3 %
Basketball courts	32	3.8 %
Tennis courts	19	2.3 %
Paddle tennis courts	9	1.1 %
Pickleball courts	8	1.0 %
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	22	2.6 %
Indoor running/walking track	37	4.4 %
Exercise & fitness facilities	57	6.8 %
Indoor tennis courts	11	1.3 %
Indoors sports fields	6	0.7 %
Performing Arts Center	58	6.9 %
Other	3	0.4 %
None chosen	506	60.3 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q11. Which FOUR of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question 10 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q11. 4th choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Baseball fields	12	1.4 %
Soccer fields	7	0.8 %
Softball fields	9	1.1 %
Football fields	10	1.2 %
Lacrosse fields	4	0.5 %
Cricket fields	1	0.1 %
Artificial turf fields	5	0.6 %
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	22	2.6 %
Basketball courts	16	1.9 %
Tennis courts	21	2.5 %
Paddle tennis courts	2	0.2 %
Pickleball courts	6	0.7 %
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	25	3.0 %
Indoor running/walking track	15	1.8 %
Exercise & fitness facilities	32	3.8 %
Indoor tennis courts	11	1.3 %
Indoors sports fields	10	1.2 %
Performing Arts Center	24	2.9 %
Other	3	0.4 %
None chosen	604	72.0 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

#### **Q11. Which FOUR of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question 10 are MOST IMPORANT to you or any member of your household? (top 4)**

Q11. Top choice	Number	Percent
Baseball fields	65	7.7 %
Soccer fields	102	12.2 %
Softball fields	52	6.2 %
Football fields	48	5.7 %
Lacrosse fields	19	2.3 %
Cricket fields	6	0.7 %
Artificial turf fields	26	3.1 %
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	75	8.9 %
Basketball courts	85	10.1 %
Tennis courts	108	12.9 %
Paddle tennis courts	27	3.2 %
Pickleball courts	25	3.0 %
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	116	13.8 %
Indoor running/walking track	161	19.2 %
Exercise & fitness facilities	284	33.8 %
Indoor tennis courts	51	6.1 %
Indoors sports fields	19	2.3 %
Performing Arts Center	203	24.2 %
Other	39	4.6 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>316</u>	<u>37.7 %</u>
Total	1827	

**Tabular Data****Q12. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of PROGRAM or ACTIVITY listed below.**

(N=839)

	Yes	No
Q12-1. Youth Learn to Swim programs	16.2%	83.8%
Q12-2. Pre-school programs	9.9%	90.1%
Q12-3. Before & after school programs	12.0%	88.0%
Q12-4. Youth summer camp programs	16.7%	83.3%
Q12-5. Youth sports programs	21.9%	78.1%
Q12-6. Adult fitness & wellness programs	44.0%	56.0%
Q12-7. Martial arts programs	11.3%	88.7%
Q12-8. Rowing & sailing programs	15.6%	84.4%
Q12-9. Water fitness programs	23.1%	76.9%
Q12-10. Tennis lessons & leagues	16.1%	83.9%
Q12-11. Youth arts & crafts programs	13.8%	86.2%
Q12-12. Youth drama/performing arts	10.6%	89.4%
Q12-13. Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	9.4%	90.6%
Q12-14. Senior adult programs	27.1%	72.9%
Q12-15. Adult arts & crafts programs	20.6%	79.4%
Q12-16. Adult drama/performing arts	12.4%	87.6%
Q12-17. Programs for the disabled	10.7%	89.3%
Q12-18. Special events	23.4%	76.6%
Q12-19. Fishing programs	17.6%	82.4%
Q12-20. Concerts/live music	54.0%	46.0%
Q12-21. Nature/environmental programs	35.5%	64.5%
Q12-22. Skateboard programs	4.5%	95.5%
Q12-23. Other	3.3%	96.7%

**Tabular Data****Q12. If YES, please answer the question to the right regarding "How Well are Your Needs Being Met."**

(N=652)

	Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met
Q12-1. Youth Learn to Swim programs	11.7%	25.2%	21.6%	41.4%
Q12-2. Pre-school programs	25.8%	24.2%	13.6%	36.4%
Q12-3. Before & after school programs	13.4%	19.5%	28.0%	39.0%
Q12-4. Youth summer camp programs	13.9%	13.0%	36.5%	36.5%
Q12-5. Youth sports programs	21.4%	30.5%	29.9%	18.2%
Q12-6. Adult fitness & wellness programs	7.2%	15.1%	28.6%	49.0%
Q12-7. Martial arts programs	10.7%	14.7%	12.0%	62.7%
Q12-8. Rowing & sailing programs	3.6%	4.5%	11.6%	80.4%
Q12-9. Water fitness programs	3.3%	8.7%	18.7%	69.3%
Q12-10. Tennis lessons & leagues	8.3%	12.8%	25.7%	53.2%
Q12-11. Youth arts & crafts programs	5.4%	10.8%	20.4%	63.4%
Q12-12. Youth drama/performing arts	8.6%	7.1%	21.4%	62.9%
Q12-13. Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	9.2%	23.1%	12.3%	55.4%
Q12-14. Senior adult programs	4.0%	17.5%	27.1%	51.4%
Q12-15. Adult arts & crafts programs	1.6%	14.8%	23.8%	59.8%
Q12-16. Adult drama/performing arts	8.6%	8.6%	24.7%	58.0%
Q12-17. Programs for the disabled	3.0%	14.9%	17.9%	64.2%
Q12-18. Special events	13.3%	28.5%	29.1%	29.1%
Q12-19. Fishing programs	6.9%	12.1%	21.6%	59.5%
Q12-20. Concerts/live music	19.5%	26.8%	25.5%	28.2%
Q12-21. Nature/environmental programs	8.2%	17.2%	34.9%	39.7%
Q12-22. Skateboard programs	5.6%	13.9%	30.6%	50.0%
Q12-23. Other	13.0%	8.7%	26.1%	52.2%

**Tabular Data****Q12. If YES, please answer the question to the right regarding "Have You Used this Program or Activity During the Past 12 Months."**

(N=652)

	Yes	No
Q12-1. Youth Learn to Swim programs	27.2%	72.8%
Q12-2. Pre-school programs	26.7%	73.3%
Q12-3. Before & after school programs	43.0%	57.0%
Q12-4. Youth summer camp programs	35.5%	64.5%
Q12-5. Youth sports programs	59.7%	40.3%
Q12-6. Adult fitness & wellness programs	33.7%	66.3%
Q12-7. Martial arts programs	29.7%	70.3%
Q12-8. Rowing & sailing programs	15.5%	84.5%
Q12-9. Water fitness programs	16.9%	83.1%
Q12-10. Tennis lessons & leagues	26.6%	73.4%
Q12-11. Youth arts & crafts programs	17.4%	82.6%
Q12-12. Youth drama/performing arts	14.5%	85.5%
Q12-13. Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	30.4%	69.6%
Q12-14. Senior adult programs	23.9%	76.1%
Q12-15. Adult arts & crafts programs	18.4%	81.6%
Q12-16. Adult drama/performing arts	36.1%	63.9%
Q12-17. Programs for the disabled	20.0%	80.0%
Q12-18. Special events	64.5%	35.5%
Q12-19. Fishing programs	32.3%	67.7%
Q12-20. Concerts/live music	68.6%	31.4%
Q12-21. Nature/environmental programs	43.3%	56.7%
Q12-22. Skateboard programs	44.4%	55.6%
Q12-23. Other	68.4%	31.6%

**Tabular Data****Q12-23. Other**

<u>Q12-23. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
golf	5	17.9 %
year round pools	2	7.1 %
biking trails	2	7.1 %
mountain bike trails	2	7.1 %
opportunities for environmental volunteering	1	3.6 %
roller skate/ice skate/hockey programs	1	3.6 %
archery	1	3.6 %
indoor pool	1	3.6 %
Field of Dreams	1	3.6 %
beach volleyball	1	3.6 %
senior softball	1	3.6 %
shooting sports	1	3.6 %
equestrian trails	1	3.6 %
camping education programs	1	3.6 %
sidewalks	1	3.6 %
dog training	1	3.6 %
equestrian programs	1	3.6 %
fym for babies	1	3.6 %
USDA sponsored food assistance	1	3.6 %
equestrian	1	3.6 %
horse shoes	1	3.6 %
Total	28	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q13. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 are MOST IMPORTANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q13. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Youth Learn to Swim programs	33	3.9 %
Pre-school programs	16	1.9 %
Before & after school programs	8	1.0 %
Youth summer camp programs	17	2.0 %
Youth sports programs	65	7.7 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	97	11.6 %
Martial arts programs	6	0.7 %
Rowing & sailing programs	18	2.1 %
Water fitness programs	14	1.7 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	24	2.9 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	1	0.1 %
Youth drama/performing arts	6	0.7 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	4	0.5 %
Senior adult programs	27	3.2 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	8	1.0 %
Adult drama/performing arts	7	0.8 %
Programs for the disabled	18	2.1 %
Special events	23	2.7 %
Fishing programs	19	2.3 %
Concerts/live music	105	12.5 %
Nature/environmental programs	40	4.8 %
Skateboard programs	4	0.5 %
Other	19	2.3 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>260</u>	<u>31.0 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q13. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 are MOST IMPORTANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q13. 2nd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Youth Learn to Swim programs	10	1.2 %
Pre-school programs	14	1.7 %
Before & after school programs	19	2.3 %
Youth summer camp programs	34	4.1 %
Youth sports programs	20	2.4 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	55	6.6 %
Martial arts programs	8	1.0 %
Rowing & sailing programs	16	1.9 %
Water fitness programs	38	4.5 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	20	2.4 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	16	1.9 %
Youth drama/performing arts	7	0.8 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	4	0.5 %
Senior adult programs	37	4.4 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	24	2.9 %
Adult drama/performing arts	8	1.0 %
Programs for the disabled	8	1.0 %
Special events	32	3.8 %
Fishing programs	22	2.6 %
Concerts/live music	75	8.9 %
Nature/environmental programs	38	4.5 %
Skateboard programs	3	0.4 %
Other	3	0.4 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>328</u>	<u>39.1 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q13. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 are MOST IMPORTANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q13. 3rd choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Youth Learn to Swim programs	17	2.0 %
Pre-school programs	5	0.6 %
Before & after school programs	13	1.5 %
Youth summer camp programs	16	1.9 %
Youth sports programs	23	2.7 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	67	8.0 %
Martial arts programs	10	1.2 %
Rowing & sailing programs	13	1.5 %
Water fitness programs	19	2.3 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	11	1.3 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	14	1.7 %
Youth drama/performing arts	9	1.1 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	7	0.8 %
Senior adult programs	36	4.3 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	26	3.1 %
Adult drama/performing arts	9	1.1 %
Programs for the disabled	5	0.6 %
Special events	24	2.9 %
Fishing programs	17	2.0 %
Concerts/live music	61	7.3 %
Nature/environmental programs	42	5.0 %
Other	3	0.4 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>46.7 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q13. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 are MOST IMPORTANT to you or any member of your household?**

<u>Q13. 4th choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Youth Learn to Swim programs	9	1.1 %
Pre-school programs	5	0.6 %
Before & after school programs	20	2.4 %
Youth summer camp programs	10	1.2 %
Youth sports programs	11	1.3 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	33	3.9 %
Martial arts programs	8	1.0 %
Rowing & sailing programs	16	1.9 %
Water fitness programs	20	2.4 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	13	1.5 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	8	1.0 %
Youth drama/performing arts	4	0.5 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	8	1.0 %
Senior adult programs	30	3.6 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	27	3.2 %
Adult drama/performing arts	18	2.1 %
Programs for the disabled	10	1.2 %
Special events	21	2.5 %
Fishing programs	12	1.4 %
Concerts/live music	47	5.6 %
Nature/environmental programs	43	5.1 %
Skateboard programs	2	0.2 %
Other	1	0.1 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>55.2 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

#### **Q13. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 are MOST IMPORTANT to you or any member of your household? (top 4)**

Q13. Top choice	Number	Percent
Youth Learn to Swim programs	69	8.2 %
Pre-school programs	40	4.8 %
Before & after school programs	60	7.2 %
Youth summer camp programs	77	9.2 %
Youth sports programs	119	14.2 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	252	30.0 %
Martial arts programs	32	3.8 %
Rowing & sailing programs	63	7.5 %
Water fitness programs	91	10.8 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	68	8.1 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	39	4.6 %
Youth drama/performing arts	26	3.1 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	23	2.7 %
Senior adult programs	130	15.5 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	85	10.1 %
Adult drama/performing arts	42	5.0 %
Programs for the disabled	41	4.9 %
Special events	100	11.9 %
Fishing programs	70	8.3 %
Concerts/live music	288	34.3 %
Nature/environmental programs	163	19.4 %
Skateboard programs	9	1.1 %
Other	26	3.1 %
None chosen	260	31.0 %
Total	2173	

## Tabular Data

### **Q14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 do you or any members of your household participate in the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities?**

Q14. Top choice	Number	Percent
Youth Learn to Swim programs	11	1.3 %
Pre-school programs	6	0.7 %
Before & after school programs	6	0.7 %
Youth summer camp programs	7	0.8 %
Youth sports programs	69	8.2 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	27	3.2 %
Martial arts programs	1	0.1 %
Rowing & sailing programs	4	0.5 %
Water fitness programs	6	0.7 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	11	1.3 %
Senior adult programs	10	1.2 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	1	0.1 %
Adult drama/performing arts	4	0.5 %
Programs for the disabled	3	0.4 %
Special events	23	2.7 %
Fishing programs	9	1.1 %
Concerts/live music	114	13.6 %
Nature/environmental programs	39	4.6 %
Skateboard programs	2	0.2 %
Other	10	1.2 %
None chosen	476	56.7 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 do you or any members of your household participate in the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities?**

Q14. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Youth Learn to Swim programs	5	0.6 %
Pre-school programs	3	0.4 %
Before & after school programs	12	1.4 %
Youth summer camp programs	14	1.7 %
Youth sports programs	12	1.4 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	23	2.7 %
Martial arts programs	3	0.4 %
Rowing & sailing programs	6	0.7 %
Water fitness programs	5	0.6 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	8	1.0 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	2	0.2 %
Youth drama/performing arts	2	0.2 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	4	0.5 %
Senior adult programs	9	1.1 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	10	1.2 %
Adult drama/performing arts	2	0.2 %
Programs for the disabled	2	0.2 %
Special events	33	3.9 %
Fishing programs	10	1.2 %
Concerts/live music	50	6.0 %
Nature/environmental programs	18	2.1 %
Skateboard programs	3	0.4 %
Other	2	0.2 %
None chosen	601	71.6 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 do you or any members of your household participate in the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities?**

Q14. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Youth Learn to Swim programs	7	0.8 %
Pre-school programs	3	0.4 %
Before & after school programs	4	0.5 %
Youth summer camp programs	3	0.4 %
Youth sports programs	1	0.1 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	21	2.5 %
Martial arts programs	1	0.1 %
Rowing & sailing programs	3	0.4 %
Water fitness programs	8	1.0 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	2	0.2 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	3	0.4 %
Youth drama/performing arts	4	0.5 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	1	0.1 %
Senior adult programs	12	1.4 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	1	0.1 %
Adult drama/performing arts	3	0.4 %
Programs for the disabled	2	0.2 %
Special events	17	2.0 %
Fishing programs	4	0.5 %
Concerts/live music	22	2.6 %
Nature/environmental programs	22	2.6 %
None chosen	695	82.8 %
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 do you or any members of your household participate in the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities?**

Q14. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Youth Learn to Swim programs	2	0.2 %
Pre-school programs	3	0.4 %
Before & after school programs	4	0.5 %
Youth summer camp programs	5	0.6 %
Youth sports programs	1	0.1 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	10	1.2 %
Martial arts programs	4	0.5 %
Rowing & sailing programs	6	0.7 %
Water fitness programs	6	0.7 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	3	0.4 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	6	0.7 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	4	0.5 %
Senior adult programs	6	0.7 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	4	0.5 %
Adult drama/performing arts	2	0.2 %
Programs for the disabled	3	0.4 %
Special events	6	0.7 %
Fishing programs	6	0.7 %
Concerts/live music	8	1.0 %
Nature/environmental programs	16	1.9 %
Other	1	0.1 %
None chosen	733	87.4 %
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

**Q14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question 12 do you or any members of your household participate in the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities? (top 4)**

Q14. Top choice	Number	Percent
Youth Learn to Swim programs	25	3.0 %
Pre-school programs	15	1.8 %
Before & after school programs	26	3.1 %
Youth summer camp programs	29	3.5 %
Youth sports programs	83	9.9 %
Adult fitness & wellness programs	81	9.7 %
Martial arts programs	9	1.1 %
Rowing & sailing programs	19	2.3 %
Water fitness programs	25	3.0 %
Tennis lessons & leagues	24	2.9 %
Youth arts & crafts programs	11	1.3 %
Youth drama/performing arts	6	0.7 %
Youth gymnastics & cheerleading	9	1.1 %
Senior adult programs	37	4.4 %
Adult arts & crafts programs	16	1.9 %
Adult drama/performing arts	11	1.3 %
Programs for the disabled	10	1.2 %
Special events	79	9.4 %
Fishing programs	29	3.5 %
Concerts/live music	194	23.1 %
Nature/environmental programs	95	11.3 %
Skateboard programs	5	0.6 %
Other	13	1.5 %
None chosen	476	56.7 %
Total	1327	

**Tabular Data****Q15. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department.**

Q15. Your level of satisfaction with overall value received from St Johns County Parks & Recreation

Department	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	140	16.7 %
Somewhat Satisfied	264	31.5 %
Neutral	222	26.5 %
Somewhat Dissatisfied	60	7.2 %
Very Dissatisfied	21	2.5 %
Don't Know	132	15.7 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING DON'T KNOW****Q15. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department. (without "don't know")**

Q15. Your level of satisfaction with overall value received from St Johns County Parks & Recreation

Department	Number	Percent
Very Satisfied	140	19.8 %
Somewhat Satisfied	264	37.3 %
Neutral	222	31.4 %
Somewhat Dissatisfied	60	8.5 %
Very Dissatisfied	21	3.0 %
Total	707	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q16. The following are actions that the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department could take to improve the Parks and Recreation system. Please indicate how supportive you would be of each action.**

(N=839)

	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Sure	Not Supportive
Q16-1. Purchase land to preserve open space & natural areas	63.0%	17.8%	10.6%	8.6%
Q16-2. Purchase historic sites for preservation	54.4%	20.8%	13.9%	10.9%
Q16-3. Purchase land for passive recreational uses	57.2%	26.3%	9.1%	7.4%
Q16-4. Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	35.7%	29.5%	21.9%	12.9%
Q16-5. Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	58.6%	23.3%	11.9%	6.2%
Q16-6. Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	43.3%	29.8%	18.3%	8.6%
Q16-7. Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	36.2%	31.7%	21.4%	10.7%
Q16-8. Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	40.3%	34.2%	19.3%	6.2%
Q16-9. Renovate existing walking/biking trails	48.6%	29.3%	15.9%	6.1%
Q16-10. Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	30.9%	26.7%	30.9%	11.4%
Q16-11. Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	33.4%	25.7%	29.4%	11.5%
Q16-12. Restore/maintain natural areas	56.9%	24.5%	13.1%	5.4%
Q16-13. Develop new trails & connect existing trails	50.3%	24.7%	17.5%	7.5%
Q16-14. Develop new athletic fields	22.6%	24.5%	35.3%	17.5%
Q16-15. Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	36.3%	28.2%	21.7%	13.8%
Q16-16. Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	33.6%	27.7%	26.9%	11.8%
Q16-17. Other	78.6%	4.1%	8.2%	9.2%

## Tabular Data

### Q16-17. Other

<u>Q16-17. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
bike trails south of cr 208 and cr 13	2	2.6 %
need more recr parks playgrounds in North St Augustine area	2	2.6 %
add boat ramps in Palm Valley	2	2.6 %
add new/complete existing walking/biking trails in PVB	2	2.6 %
more boat access	2	2.6 %
more public swimming pools	2	2.6 %
tennis programs, lights	2	2.6 %
sidewalks	2	2.6 %
year round pools	2	2.6 %
mountain bike trails	2	2.6 %
outdoor theater for music and craft events	2	2.6 %
lower property tax	1	1.3 %
beach access	1	1.3 %
upgrade/renovate existing golf course	1	1.3 %
add more pickleball courts	1	1.3 %
Redo County golf course	1	1.3 %
indoor pool	1	1.3 %
better dog beach	1	1.3 %
resurface tennis/pickleball facilities	1	1.3 %
tennis courts	1	1.3 %
beach access for handicapped	1	1.3 %
Build fitness/water center	1	1.3 %
beach parking	1	1.3 %
Senior Community Centers	1	1.3 %
Indoor walk & track	1	1.3 %
kids park modeling the one in Lakeland Fl	1	1.3 %
purchase open land for future use	1	1.3 %
add more bike trails	1	1.3 %
develop walking and running lanes	1	1.3 %
improve football fields at Pomar Park	1	1.3 %
shooting sports	1	1.3 %
more parking at existing athletic facilities	1	1.3 %
Any expenditure which require an increase in taxes	1	1.3 %
indoor lap pool	1	1.3 %
equestrian trails	1	1.3 %
trails with a park-picnic space	1	1.3 %
better parking & fix pot holes	1	1.3 %
bike paths	1	1.3 %
renovate Davis Park soccer fields	1	1.3 %
toddler activities	1	1.3 %
access to ICW from Comachee Boat Ramp	1	1.3 %
refurbish current/do not build any new	1	1.3 %
use of creeks rowing fishing	1	1.3 %
large river access parks north & west	1	1.3 %
keep homeless out of Vilano	1	1.3 %
Performing Arts Center	1	1.3 %
archery field	1	1.3 %
indoor/outdoor volleyball	1	1.3 %
expand Guana parking lots and have Nocatee residents pay for it	1	1.3 %
year round outdoor/indoor pools	1	1.3 %
upgrade the fairgrounds	1	1.3 %

**Tabular Data****Q16-17. Other**

<u>Q16-17. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
pool	1	1.3 %
trail riding areas	1	1.3 %
save the land	1	1.3 %
limit commercial development	1	1.3 %
purchase land and build parking garage	1	1.3 %
I thought our taxes paid for this	1	1.3 %
maintain/improve boat ramps	1	1.3 %
more equestrian trails	1	1.3 %
put nicer parks in southwest part	1	1.3 %
disability-friendly parks	1	1.3 %
amphitheater	1	1.3 %
intercoastal boat ramp (Example: Volusia County ramps under bridge)	1	1.3 %
more beach parking	1	1.3 %
Solana Road bike trail/crosswalk	1	1.3 %
Total	76	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### **Q17. Which FOUR of these items listed in Question 16 would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars?**

Q17. Top choice	Number	Percent
Purchase land to preserve open space & natural areas	182	21.7 %
Purchase historic sites for preservation	49	5.8 %
Purchase land for passive recreational uses	38	4.5 %
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	42	5.0 %
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	109	13.0 %
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	27	3.2 %
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	22	2.6 %
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	13	1.5 %
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	28	3.3 %
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	12	1.4 %
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	8	1.0 %
Restore/maintain natural areas	21	2.5 %
Develop new trails & connect existing trails	36	4.3 %
Develop new athletic fields	11	1.3 %
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	29	3.5 %
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	13	1.5 %
Other	46	5.5 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>18.2 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

### **Q17. Which FOUR of these items listed in Question 16 would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars?**

Q17. 2nd choice	Number	Percent
Purchase land to preserve open space & natural areas	69	8.2 %
Purchase historic sites for preservation	106	12.6 %
Purchase land for passive recreational uses	71	8.5 %
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	33	3.9 %
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	75	8.9 %
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	37	4.4 %
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	30	3.6 %
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	19	2.3 %
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	44	5.2 %
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	16	1.9 %
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	9	1.1 %
Restore/maintain natural areas	37	4.4 %
Develop new trails & connect existing trails	43	5.1 %
Develop new athletic fields	9	1.1 %
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	25	3.0 %
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	23	2.7 %
Other	2	0.2 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>22.8 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q17. Which FOUR of these items listed in Question 16 would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars?**

Q17. 3rd choice	Number	Percent
Purchase land to preserve open space & natural areas	54	6.4 %
Purchase historic sites for preservation	41	4.9 %
Purchase land for passive recreational uses	83	9.9 %
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	28	3.3 %
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	61	7.3 %
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	27	3.2 %
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	21	2.5 %
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	33	3.9 %
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	44	5.2 %
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	12	1.4 %
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	31	3.7 %
Restore/maintain natural areas	54	6.4 %
Develop new trails & connect existing trails	52	6.2 %
Develop new athletic fields	16	1.9 %
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	25	3.0 %
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	19	2.3 %
Other	5	0.6 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>233</u>	<u>27.8 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

**Q17. Which FOUR of these items listed in Question 16 would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars?**

Q17. 4th choice	Number	Percent
Purchase land to preserve open space & natural areas	36	4.3 %
Purchase historic sites for preservation	32	3.8 %
Purchase land for passive recreational uses	45	5.4 %
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	29	3.5 %
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	49	5.8 %
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	31	3.7 %
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	17	2.0 %
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	28	3.3 %
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	42	5.0 %
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	7	0.8 %
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	18	2.1 %
Restore/maintain natural areas	69	8.2 %
Develop new trails & connect existing trails	53	6.3 %
Develop new athletic fields	13	1.5 %
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	50	6.0 %
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	28	3.3 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>292</u>	<u>34.8 %</u>
Total	839	100.0 %

## Tabular Data

### SUM OF THE TOP CHOICES

#### Q17. Which FOUR of these items listed in Question 16 would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars? (top 4)

<u>Q17. Top choice</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Purchase land to preserve open space & natural areas	341	40.6 %
Purchase historic sites for preservation	228	27.2 %
Purchase land for passive recreational uses	237	28.2 %
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	132	15.7 %
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	294	35.0 %
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	122	14.5 %
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	90	10.7 %
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	93	11.1 %
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	158	18.8 %
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	47	5.6 %
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	66	7.9 %
Restore/maintain natural areas	181	21.6 %
Develop new trails & connect existing trails	184	21.9 %
Develop new athletic fields	49	5.8 %
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	129	15.4 %
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	83	9.9 %
Other	53	6.3 %
<u>None chosen</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>18.2 %</u>
Total	2640	

## Tabular Data

**Q18. Listed below are potential additions that could be made to St. Johns County Parks. Please check ALL the additions you would most like to have made to the parks nearest to your residence.**

Q18. All potential additions you would most like to have made to parks nearest to your residence	Number	Percent
Park entrance signs	136	16.2 %
Parking	262	31.2 %
Sidewalks	175	20.9 %
Drinking fountains	244	29.1 %
Restrooms	456	54.4 %
Trails	331	39.5 %
Horseshoe pits	70	8.3 %
Basketball courts	84	10.0 %
Playground equipment	149	17.8 %
Bike racks	122	14.5 %
Picnic shelters	262	31.2 %
Picnic tables/benches	266	31.7 %
Sports field lighting	109	13.0 %
Sand volleyball courts	79	9.4 %
Tennis courts	93	11.1 %
Natural areas	304	36.2 %
Shade structures	334	39.8 %
Park security lighting	213	25.4 %
Bocce	49	5.8 %
Increased accessibility	99	11.8 %
None	98	11.7 %
Total	3935	

**Tabular Data****Q19. If an additional \$100 were available for Parks and Recreation facilities in St. Johns County, how would you allocate the funds among the categories listed below?**

	<u>Mean</u>
Acquire new parkland & open space	17.79
Upgrade, repair/maintain existing parks, community centers & playgrounds	18.93
Maintain existing/develop new sports facilities	7.99
Maintain existing/develop new trails	13.44
Develop new indoor recreation facilities (exercise, walking track, gyms, etc.)	8.17
Beach & water access	19.24
Swimming pools	6.81

**Q20. In order to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system, it may require some additional fees or tax support. How much in additional fees or taxes would you be willing to pay to fund the types of parks, trails, water front facilities, sports fields, indoor facilities and program services that are most important to you and members of your household?**

Q20. How much in additional fees or taxes would you be willing to pay to fund types of parks, trails, water front facilities, sports fields, indoor facilities & program services

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0 per month	182	21.7 %
\$1-\$5 per month	286	34.1 %
\$6-\$10 per month	208	24.8 %
\$11-\$15 per month	48	5.7 %
\$16-\$20 per month	45	5.4 %
\$21+ per month	33	3.9 %
Not provided	37	4.4 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q20. In order to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system, it may require some additional fees or tax support. How much in additional fees or taxes would you be willing to pay to fund the types of parks, trails, water front facilities, sports fields, indoor facilities and program services that are most important to you and members of your household? (without "not provided")**

Q20. How much in additional fees or taxes would you be willing to pay to fund types of parks, trails, water front facilities, sports fields, indoor facilities & program services

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
0 per month	182	22.7 %
\$1-\$5 per month	286	35.7 %
\$6-\$10 per month	208	25.9 %
\$11-\$15 per month	48	6.0 %
\$16-\$20 per month	45	5.6 %
\$21+ per month	33	4.1 %
Total	802	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q21. Would you support a ½-cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvements to the parks and recreation system?**

Q21. Would you support a 1/2-cent sales tax to maintain quality of life in the County	Number	Percent
Yes	484	57.7 %
No	326	38.9 %
Not provided	29	3.5 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q21. Would you support a ½-cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvements to the parks and recreation system? (without "not provided")**

Q21. Would you support a 1/2-cent sales tax to maintain quality of life in the County	Number	Percent
Yes	484	59.8 %
No	326	40.2 %
Total	810	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q22. What is your age?**

<u>Q22. Your age</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Under 35 years	74	8.8 %
35-44 years	94	11.2 %
45-54 years	231	27.5 %
55-64 years	208	24.8 %
65+ years	232	27.7 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**Q23. How many years have you lived in St. Johns County?**

<u>Q23. How many years have you lived in St. Johns County</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
5 or less	158	19.1 %
6 to 10	134	16.2 %
11 to 15	149	18.0 %
16 to 20	114	13.8 %
21 to 30	133	16.1 %
31+	140	16.9 %
Total	828	100.0 %

**Q24. Your Gender:**

<u>Q24. Your gender</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Male	386	46.0 %
Female	451	53.8 %
Not provided	2	0.2 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q24. Your Gender: (without "not provided")**

<u>Q24. Your gender</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Male	386	46.1 %
Female	451	53.9 %
Total	837	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Q25. Are you or other members of your household of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish ancestry?**

<u>Q25. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish ancestry</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	74	8.8 %
No	751	89.5 %
Not provided	14	1.7 %
Total	839	100.0 %

**EXCLUDING NOT PROVIDED****Q25. Are you or other members of your household of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish ancestry? (without "not provided")**

<u>Q25. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish ancestry</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Yes	74	9.0 %
No	751	91.0 %
Total	825	100.0 %

**Q26. Which of the following best describes your race?**

<u>Q26. Your race</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
African American/Black	14	1.7 %
Asian/Pacific Islander	21	2.5 %
White/Caucasian	771	91.9 %
Other	17	2.0 %
Total	823	

**Q26. Other**

<u>Q26. Other</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
mixed race	2	15.4 %
Latino	2	15.4 %
Native Indian	1	7.7 %
Cajun	1	7.7 %
South Asian	1	7.7 %
Mexican	1	7.7 %
Multi-ethnic/mixed race	1	7.7 %
Scottish & Greek	1	7.7 %
European	1	7.7 %
Native American	1	7.7 %
Manocan	1	7.7 %
Total	13	100.0 %

**Tabular Data****Geographic areas:**

<u>Geographic areas</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Northeast	240	28.8 %
Northwest	192	23.0 %
Southeast	209	25.1 %
Southwest	193	23.1 %
Total	834	100.0 %

# **Section 5**

## ***Survey Instrument***

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## St. Johns County Board of County Commissioners

Office of the County Administrator  
Michael D. Wanchick, County Administrator

Dear St. Johns County Resident:

***Your response to the enclosed Recreation and Parks survey is extremely important...***

The St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department is developing a Master Plan that will guide the future of parks, nature preserves and recreation services in our community over the next 5 to 20 years. Public input is important to the plan's development. In addition to public workshops, focus groups and citizen interviews, St. Johns County is also conducting a Community Interest and Opinion Survey to better understand our residents' priorities for parks, beach areas, trails, preserves, sports and recreation facilities, programs and services within our community. Yours is one of a limited number of households selected at random to complete this survey, so we hope you are willing to participate.

***We appreciate your time...***

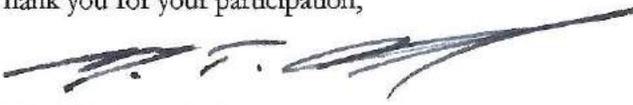
This survey will take approximately 10 to 15 minutes to complete, but each question is important. The time you invest in completing this survey will provide participants an opportunity to share their perspectives which will enrich the future of our community and positively affect the lives of its residents and visitors alike.

***Please complete and return your survey within the next two weeks...***

Leisure Vision/ETC Institute, an independent consulting company, is working as our partner to administer this survey. They will compile all data received, and present the results to St. Johns County. **Any response submitted will remain anonymous.** Please return your completed survey, in the enclosed postage paid envelope addressed to ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061. If you would prefer to take the survey online, the web address is: [[www.sjcparksurvey.org](http://www.sjcparksurvey.org)].

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the following representatives with the St. Johns County Parks & Recreation Department: Wil Smith at [wsmith@sjcfl.us](mailto:wsmith@sjcfl.us) or Billy Zeits at [bzeits@sjcfl.us](mailto:bzeits@sjcfl.us). The Community Interest and Opinion Survey is a tool that will benefit all residents and tourists. Please take this opportunity to let your voice be heard!

Thank you for your participation,



Michael D. Wanchick  
County Administrator

The St. Johns Parks and Recreation Department would like your input to help determine parks and recreation priorities for our community. This survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete. When you are finished, please return your survey in the enclosed postage-paid, return-reply envelope. We greatly appreciate your time.

---

**1. Counting yourself, how many people in your household are?**

Under age 5 \_\_\_\_ Ages 15-19 \_\_\_\_ Ages 35-44 \_\_\_\_ Ages 65-74 \_\_\_\_  
Ages 5-9 \_\_\_\_ Ages 20-24 \_\_\_\_ Ages 45-54 \_\_\_\_ Ages 75+ \_\_\_\_  
Ages 10-14 \_\_\_\_ Ages 25-34 \_\_\_\_ Ages 55-64 \_\_\_\_

**2. Have you or members of your household visited any of the parks or facilities operated by the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department over the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_ (1) Yes [Please answer Question #2a & 2b.] \_\_\_\_ (2) No [Please go to Question #3.]

**2a. Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of ALL the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department parks, trails and recreation facilities you have visited?**

\_\_\_\_ (1) Excellent \_\_\_\_ (3) Fair  
\_\_\_\_ (2) Good \_\_\_\_ (4) Poor

**2b. Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns Parks and Recreation facilities you or members of your household have visited over the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_ (5) Very Satisfied \_\_\_\_ (2) Somewhat Dissatisfied  
\_\_\_\_ (4) Somewhat Satisfied \_\_\_\_ (1) Very Dissatisfied  
\_\_\_\_ (3) Neutral \_\_\_\_ (9) Don't Know

**3. Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation or sports programs offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities during the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_ (1) Yes [Please answer Questions #3a & 3b.] \_\_\_\_ (2) No [Please go to Question #4.]

**3a. Approximately how many different recreation and/or sports programs offered at the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_ (1) 1 program \_\_\_\_ (3) 4 to 6 programs \_\_\_\_ (5) 11 or more programs  
\_\_\_\_ (2) 2 to 3 programs \_\_\_\_ (4) 7 to 10 programs

**3b. Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation programs you or members of your household have participated in over the past 12 months?**

\_\_\_\_ (5) Very Satisfied \_\_\_\_ (2) Somewhat Dissatisfied  
\_\_\_\_ (4) Somewhat Satisfied \_\_\_\_ (1) Very Dissatisfied  
\_\_\_\_ (3) Neutral \_\_\_\_ (9) Don't Know

**4. Please check ALL the ways you learn about programs and activities offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Parks and Recreation Brochure          | <input type="checkbox"/> (08) School flyers/newsletter      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Parks and Recreation Website           | <input type="checkbox"/> (09) E-mail blasts                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) Newspaper articles                     | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Conversations with Park staff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) Radio                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Newspaper advertisements      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Cable access television                | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) City newsletters              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Flyers at City facilities              | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) From friends and neighbors    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) Other: _____                  |

**5. From the following list, please check ALL the organizations your household has used for indoor and outdoor recreation activities during the past 12 months.**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Private schools                       | <input type="checkbox"/> (08) State Parks                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Churches/ Synagogues/Temples          | <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Neighboring park districts         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) Youth Athletic Association            | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Homeowners associations            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) YMCA                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Private fitness centers            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Public schools                        | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Travel sports teams                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) St. Johns County Parks and Rec. Dept. | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Other: _____                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) JCC                                   | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) None. Do not use any organization. |

**6. For each of the age groups shown below, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in Question #5 do you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services. [Use the number by each organization in Question #5. If you have no one in your household ages 0 to 11 or 12 to 17, write the word 'NONE' in the appropriate spaces provided below.]**

	<u>Use Most</u>	<u>Use 2<sup>nd</sup> Most</u>
Ages 0 – 11 years	_____	_____
Ages 12 – 17 years	_____	_____
Ages 18 – 54 years	_____	_____
Ages 55 years and older	_____	_____

**7. Please CHECK ALL the reasons that deter you or other members of your household from using parks, recreation facilities or programs of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department more often.**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Lack of accessibility              | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Lack of parking                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Facilities are not well maintained | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Poor customer service by staff            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) Program or facility not offered    | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) I do not know locations of facilities     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) We are too busy                    | <input type="checkbox"/> (15) Facilities don't have the right equipment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Security is insufficient           | <input type="checkbox"/> (16) Language barriers are difficult           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Lack of quality programs           | <input type="checkbox"/> (17) I do not know what is being offered       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Too far from our residence         | <input type="checkbox"/> (18) Facility operating hours not convenient   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Classes are full                   | <input type="checkbox"/> (19) Registration for programs is difficult    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Fees are too high                  | <input type="checkbox"/> (20) Use services of other agencies            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Program times are not convenient   | <input type="checkbox"/> (21) Other: _____                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Use other facilities than City     |   |

8. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of **OUTDOOR PARK, TRAILS AND COURTS** listed below by circling YES or NO to the right of each type of park or facility.

If YES, please answer the questions to the right of the park or facility regarding “How Well are Your Needs Being Met?” and “How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park or Facility During the Past 12 Months?” If NO, please go to the next type of park or facility.

Type of <u>Outdoor Park, Trails and Courts</u>		Do You Have a Need for this Type of Park, Trail, or Court?		If Yes, How Well are Your Needs Being Met? (Circle ONE Response)				If Yes, How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Park, Trail, or Court During the Past 12 Months?			
				Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	None	1-10 times	11-25 times	26 or more times
01.	Small neighborhood parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
02.	Large county-wide parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
03.	Passive riverfront parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
04.	Dog parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
05.	Beach parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
06.	Wildlife areas/bird watching	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
07.	Skate park	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
08.	Beach access parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
09.	Outdoor pools	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
10.	Outdoor splash parks	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
11.	Playgrounds	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
12.	Walking/biking trails	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
13.	Nature trails	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
14.	Fishing areas	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
15.	Picnic pavilions	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
16.	Boat ramps	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
17.	Skateboard park	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
18.	Non-motorized boat access	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
19.	Other:	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3

9. Which **FOUR** of the outdoor parks, trails, and courts from the list in Question #8 are **MOST IMPORANT** to you or any member of your household? [Using the numbers in Question #8 above please write in the numbers below for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 4<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ NONE

10. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of **OUTDOOR SPORTS FIELDS AND COURTS AS WELL AS INDOOR FACILITIES** listed below by circling YES or NO to the right of each type of facility.

If YES, please answer the questions to the right of the facility regarding “How Well are Your Needs Being Met?” and “How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Sports Fields or Indoor Facility During the Past 12 Months?” If NO, please go to the next type of facility.

Type of <u>Outdoor Sports Fields and Courts As Well As Indoor Facilities</u>		Do You Have a Need for this Type of Field, Court, or Facility?		If Yes, How Well are Your Needs Being Met?				If Yes, How Many Times Did You Use this Type of Field, Court or Facility During the Past 12 Months?			
				Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	None	1-10 times	11-25 times	26 or more times
<b>Outdoor Sports Fields and Courts</b>											
01.	Baseball fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
02.	Soccer fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
03.	Softball fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
04.	Football fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
05.	Lacrosse fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
06.	Cricket fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
07.	Artificial turf fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
08.	Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
09.	Basketball courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
10.	Tennis courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
11.	Paddle tennis courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
12.	Pickleball courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
<b>Indoor Facilities</b>											
13.	Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
14.	Indoor running/walking track	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
15.	Exercise & fitness facilities	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
16.	Indoor tennis courts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
17.	Indoors sports fields	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
18.	Performing arts center	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3
19.	Other:	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	0	1	2	3

11. Which **FOUR** of the outdoor or indoor facilities from the list in Question #10 are **MOST IMPORANT** to you or any member of your household? [Using numbers in Question #10 above please write in the numbers below for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 4<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ NONE

12. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD has a need for each type of PROGRAM or ACTIVITY listed below by circling YES or NO to the right of each type of program or activity.

If YES, please answer the questions to the right regarding “How Well are Your Needs Being Met?” and “Have You Used this Program or Activity During the Past 12 Months”. If NO, please go to the next type of program or activity.

Type of Program or Activity		Do You Have a Need for this Program or Activity?		If Yes, How Well are Your Needs Being Met?				If Yes, Have You Used this Program or Activity During the Past 12 Months?	
				Fully Met	Mostly Met	Partly Met	Not Met	Yes	No
01.	Youth Learn to Swim programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
02.	Pre-school programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
03.	Before and after school programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
04.	Youth summer camp programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
05.	Youth sports programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
06.	Adult fitness and wellness programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
07.	Martial arts programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
08.	Rowing and Sailing Programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
09.	Water fitness programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
10.	Tennis lessons and leagues	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
11.	Youth arts and crafts programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
12.	Youth drama/performing arts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
13.	Youth gymnastics and cheerleading	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
14.	Senior adult programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
15.	Adult arts and crafts programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
16.	Adult drama/performing arts	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
17.	Programs for the Disabled	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
18.	Special events	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
19.	Fishing programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
20.	Concerts/Live Music	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
21.	Nature/Environmental programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
22.	Skateboard Programs	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No
23.	Other:	Yes	No	4	3	2	1	Yes	No

13. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question #12 are MOST IMPORTANT to you or any member of your household? [Using the numbers in Question #12 above please write in the numbers below for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 4<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ NONE

14. Which FOUR of the programs from the list in Question #12 do you or any members of your household participate the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities? [Using the numbers in Question #12 above please write in the numbers below for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices, or circle 'NONE'.]

1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 2<sup>nd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 3<sup>rd</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ 4<sup>th</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ NONE

**15. Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department.**

- |                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| _____ (5) Very Satisfied     | _____ (2) Somewhat Dissatisfied |
| _____ (4) Somewhat Satisfied | _____ (1) Very Dissatisfied     |
| _____ (3) Neutral            | _____ (9) Don't Know            |

**16. The following are actions that the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department could take to improve the Parks and Recreation system. Please indicate whether you would be very supportive, somewhat supportive, not sure, or not supportive of each action by circling the number next to the action.**

<u>How supportive are you of having the County:</u>		Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Sure	Not Supportive
(01)	Purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas. ....	4	3	2	1
(02)	Purchase historic sites for preservation.....	4	3	2	1
(03)	Purchase land for passive recreational uses (such as trails, picnic areas, and shelters) .....	4	3	2	1
(04)	Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities .....	4	3	2	1
(05)	Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks .....	4	3	2	1
(06)	Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks .....	4	3	2	1
(07)	Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting .....	4	3	2	1
(08)	Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks.....	4	3	2	1
(09)	Renovate existing walking/biking trails .....	4	3	2	1
(10)	Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers.....	4	3	2	1
(11)	Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers....	4	3	2	1
(12)	Restore/maintain natural areas .....	4	3	2	1
(13)	Develop new trails and connect existing trails .....	4	3	2	1
(14)	Develop new athletic fields .....	4	3	2	1
(15)	Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby .....	4	3	2	1
(16)	Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area. ....	4	3	2	1
(17)	Other: _____ .....	4	3	2	1

**17. Which FOUR of these items would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars? [Write in the letters below using the numbers from the list in Question #16 for your 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> choices, or circle 'NONE'.]**

1<sup>st</sup>. \_\_\_\_\_      2<sup>nd</sup>. \_\_\_\_\_      3<sup>rd</sup>. \_\_\_\_\_      4<sup>th</sup>. \_\_\_\_\_      NONE

18. Listed below are potential additions that could be made to St. Johns County parks. Please check ALL the additions you would most like to have made to the parks nearest to your residence.

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (01) Park entrance signs | <input type="checkbox"/> (08) Basketball courts      | <input type="checkbox"/> (15) Tennis courts           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (02) Parking             | <input type="checkbox"/> (09) Playground equipment   | <input type="checkbox"/> (16) Natural areas           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (03) Sidewalks           | <input type="checkbox"/> (10) Bike racks             | <input type="checkbox"/> (17) Shade structures        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (04) Drinking fountains  | <input type="checkbox"/> (11) Picnic shelters        | <input type="checkbox"/> (18) Park security lighting  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (05) Restrooms           | <input type="checkbox"/> (12) Picnic tables/benches  | <input type="checkbox"/> (19) Bocce                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (06) Trails              | <input type="checkbox"/> (13) Sports field lighting  | <input type="checkbox"/> (20) Increased accessibility |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (07) Horseshoe pits      | <input type="checkbox"/> (14) Sand volleyball courts | <input type="checkbox"/> (21) None                    |

19. If an additional \$100 were available for Parks and Recreation facilities in St. Johns County, how would you allocate the funds among the categories listed below? [Please be sure that your allocation adds up to \$100.]

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Acquire new parkland and open space  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Upgrade, repair/maintain existing parks, community centers and playgrounds  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Maintain existing/develop new sports facilities  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Maintain existing/develop new trails  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Develop new indoor recreation facilities (exercise, walking track, gyms, etc.)  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Beach and water access  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Swimming Pools  
**\$ 100 TOTAL**

20. In order to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system, it may require some additional fees or tax support. How much in additional fees or taxes would you be willing to pay to fund the types of parks, trails, water front facilities, sports fields, indoor facilities and program services that are most important to you and members of your household? [Please check ONE.]

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (1) \$0 per month      | <input type="checkbox"/> (4) \$11-\$15 per month    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (2) \$1-\$5 per month  | <input type="checkbox"/> (5) \$16-\$20 per month    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (3) \$6-\$10 per month | <input type="checkbox"/> (6) \$21 or more per month |

21. Would you support a ½ cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvements to the parks and recreation system?"

- (1) Yes  (2) No

**DEMOGRAPHICS**

22. What is your age? \_\_\_\_\_

23. How many years have you lived in St. Johns County? \_\_\_\_\_ years

24. Your Gender:  (1) Male  (2) Female

25. Are you or other members of your household of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish ancestry?  
 (1) Yes  (2) No

26. Which of the following best describes your race? (Check all that apply.)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (1) African American/Black | <input type="checkbox"/> (3) White/Caucasian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (2) Asian/Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> (4) Other: _____    |

**This concludes the survey. Thank you for your time!**

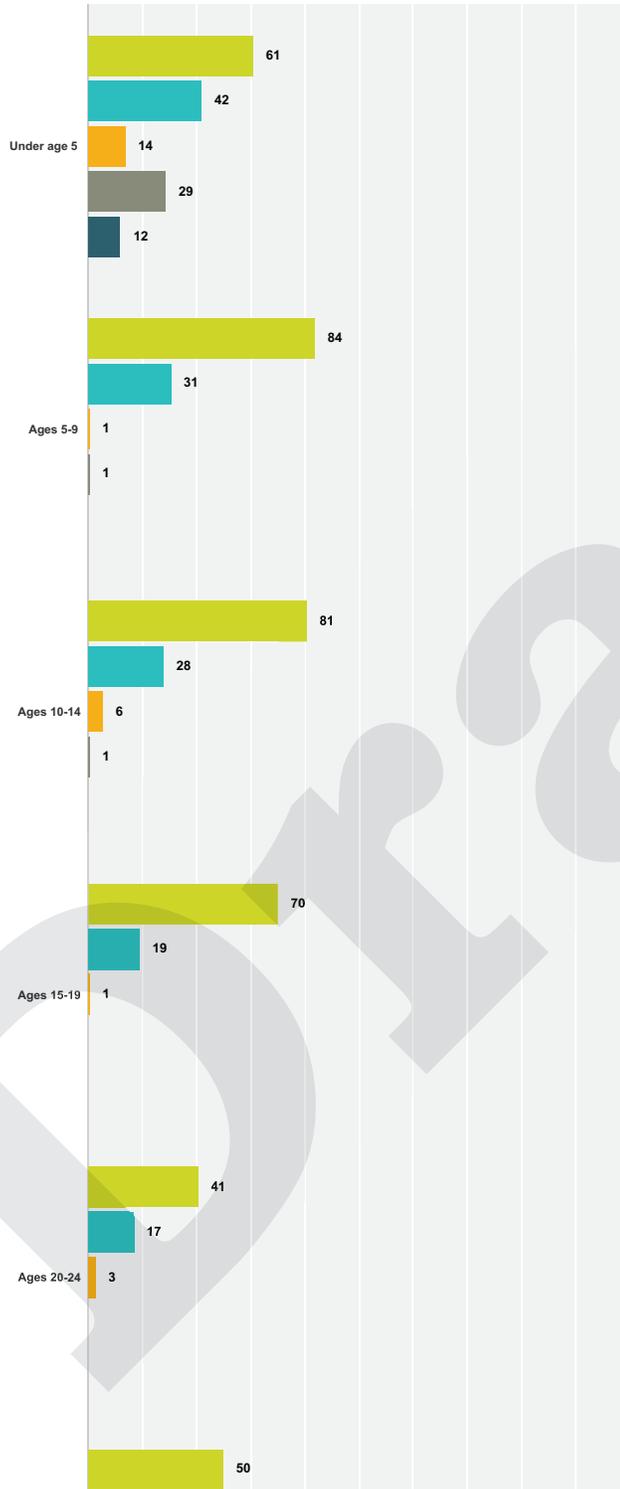
Please return your completed survey in the enclosed postage-paid envelope addressed to:  
 ETC Institute, 725 W. Frontier Circle, Olathe, KS 66061

## E. On-line Survey

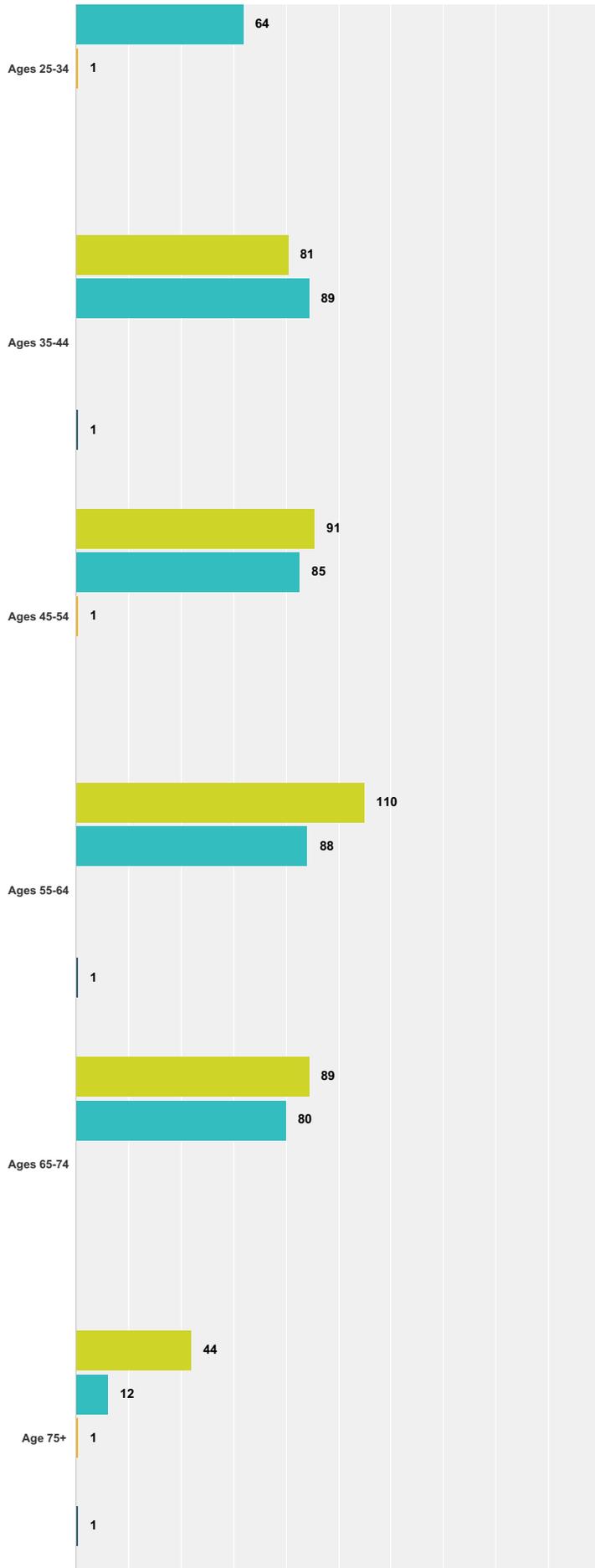
### St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

#### Q1 Counting yourself, how many people in your household are:

Answered: 681 Skipped: 6



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

0    20    40    60    80    100    120    140    160    180    200

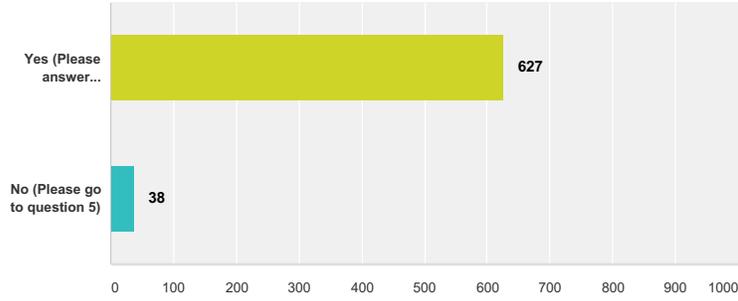
1   
  2   
  3   
  4   
  5+

	1	2	3	4	5+	Total
Under age 5	<b>38.61%</b> 61	<b>26.58%</b> 42	<b>8.86%</b> 14	<b>18.35%</b> 29	<b>7.59%</b> 12	158
Ages 5-9	<b>71.79%</b> 84	<b>26.50%</b> 31	<b>0.85%</b> 1	<b>0.85%</b> 1	<b>0.00%</b> 0	117
Ages 10-14	<b>69.83%</b> 81	<b>24.14%</b> 28	<b>5.17%</b> 6	<b>0.86%</b> 1	<b>0.00%</b> 0	116
Ages 15-19	<b>77.78%</b> 70	<b>21.11%</b> 19	<b>1.11%</b> 1	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	90
Ages 20-24	<b>67.21%</b> 41	<b>27.87%</b> 17	<b>4.92%</b> 3	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	61
Ages 25-34	<b>43.48%</b> 50	<b>55.65%</b> 64	<b>0.87%</b> 1	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	115
Ages 35-44	<b>47.37%</b> 81	<b>52.05%</b> 89	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.58%</b> 1	171
Ages 45-54	<b>51.41%</b> 91	<b>48.02%</b> 85	<b>0.56%</b> 1	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	177
Ages 55-64	<b>55.28%</b> 110	<b>44.22%</b> 88	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.50%</b> 1	199
Ages 65-74	<b>52.66%</b> 89	<b>47.34%</b> 80	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>0.00%</b> 0	169
Age 75+	<b>75.86%</b> 44	<b>20.69%</b> 12	<b>1.72%</b> 1	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>1.72%</b> 1	58

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q2 Have you or members of your household visited any of the parks or facilities operated by the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department over the past 12 months?

Answered: 665 Skipped: 22

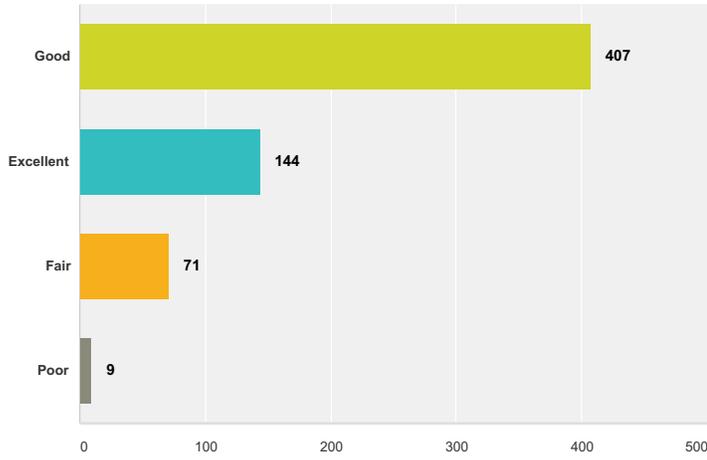


Answer Choices	Responses
Yes (Please answer questions 3 and 4)	94.29% 627
No (Please go to question 5)	5.71% 38
<b>Total</b>	<b>665</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q3 Overall, how would you rate the physical condition of ALL the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department parks, trails and recreation facilities you have visited?

Answered: 631 Skipped: 56

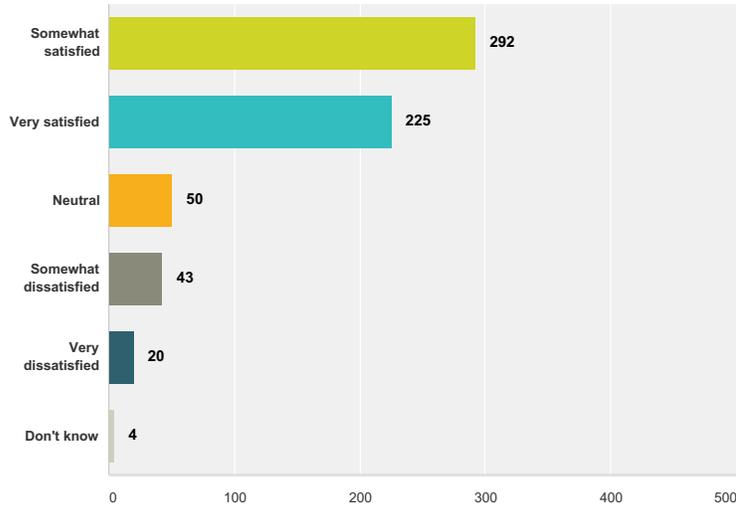


Answer Choices	Responses	
Good	64.50%	407
Excellent	22.82%	144
Fair	11.25%	71
Poor	1.43%	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>631</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q4 Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities you or members of your household have visited over the past 12 months?

Answered: 634 Skipped: 53

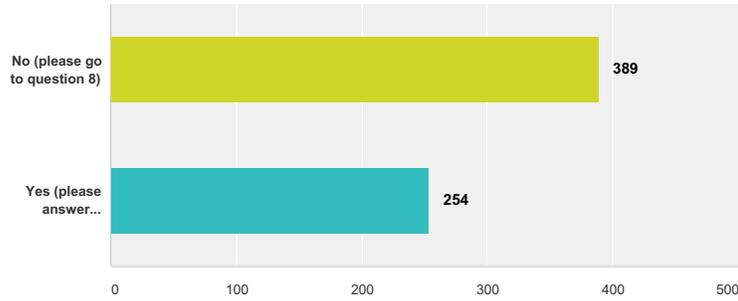


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Somewhat satisfied	46.06%	292
Very satisfied	35.49%	225
Neutral	7.89%	50
Somewhat dissatisfied	6.78%	43
Very dissatisfied	3.15%	20
Don't know	0.63%	4
<b>Total</b>		<b>634</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q5 Have you or other members of your household participated in any recreation or sports programs offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities during the past 12 months?

Answered: 643 Skipped: 44

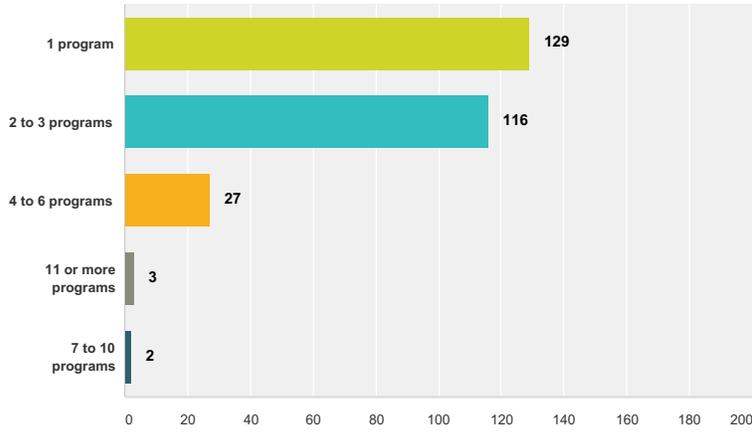


Answer Choices	Responses
No (please go to question 8)	60.50% 389
Yes (please answer questions 6 and 7)	39.50% 254
<b>Total</b>	<b>643</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q6 Approximately how many different recreation and/or sports programs offered at the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities have you or members of your household participated in over the past 12 months?

Answered: 277 Skipped: 410

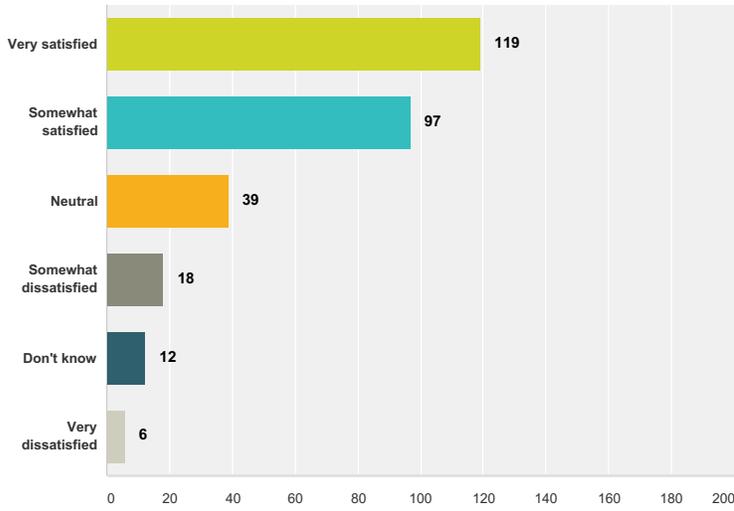


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
1 program	46.57%	129
2 to 3 programs	41.88%	116
4 to 6 programs	9.75%	27
11 or more programs	1.08%	3
7 to 10 programs	0.72%	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>277</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q7 Overall, how satisfied are you with the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation programs you or members of your household have participated in over the past 12 months?

Answered: 291 Skipped: 396

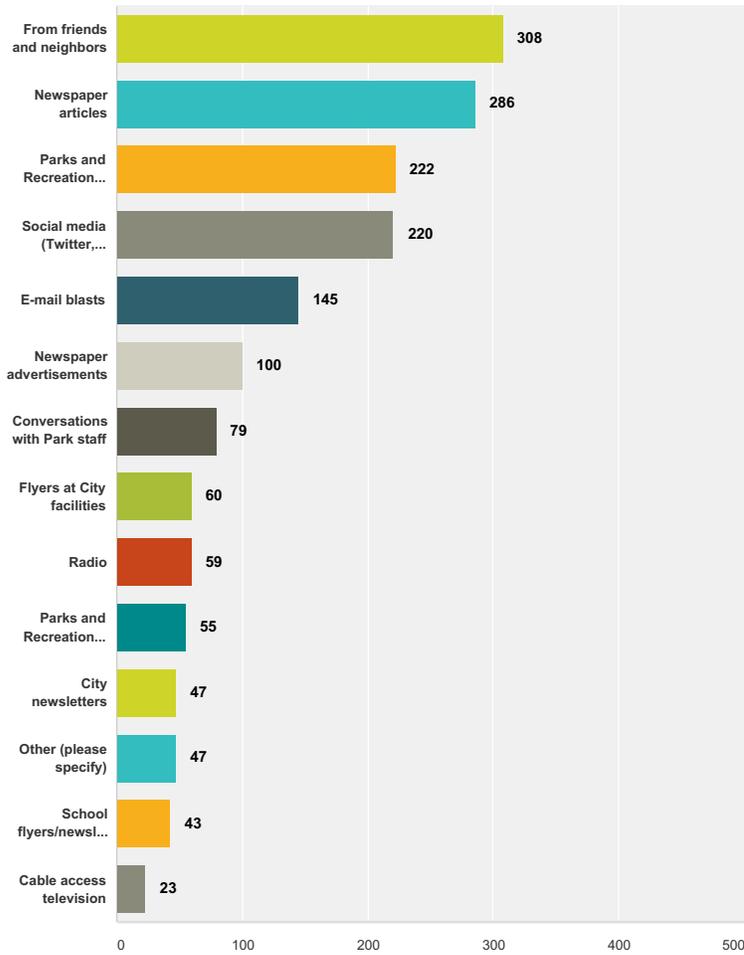


Answer Choices	Responses	
Very satisfied	40.89%	119
Somewhat satisfied	33.33%	97
Neutral	13.40%	39
Somewhat dissatisfied	6.19%	18
Don't know	4.12%	12
Very dissatisfied	2.06%	6
<b>Total</b>		<b>291</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q8 Please check ALL the ways you learn about programs and activities offered at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation facilities.

Answered: 579 Skipped: 108

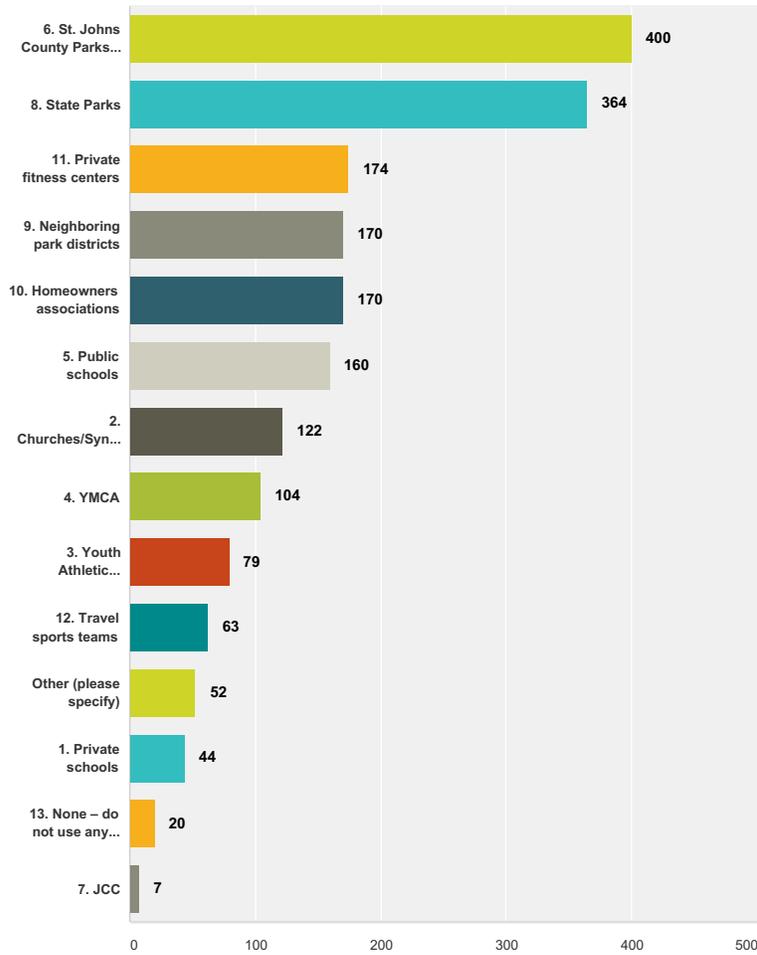


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
From friends and neighbors	53.20%	308
Newspaper articles	49.40%	286
Parks and Recreation Website	38.34%	222
Social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.)	38.00%	220
E-mail blasts	25.04%	145
Newspaper advertisements	17.27%	100
Conversations with Park staff	13.64%	79
Flyers at City facilities	10.36%	60
Radio	10.19%	59
Parks and Recreation Brochure	9.50%	55
City newsletters	8.12%	47
Other (please specify)	8.12%	47
School flyers/newsletter	7.43%	43
Cable access television	3.97%	23
<b>Total Respondents: 579</b>		

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q9 From the following list, please check ALL the organizations your household has used for indoor and outdoor recreation activities during the past 12 months.**

Answered: 584 Skipped: 103

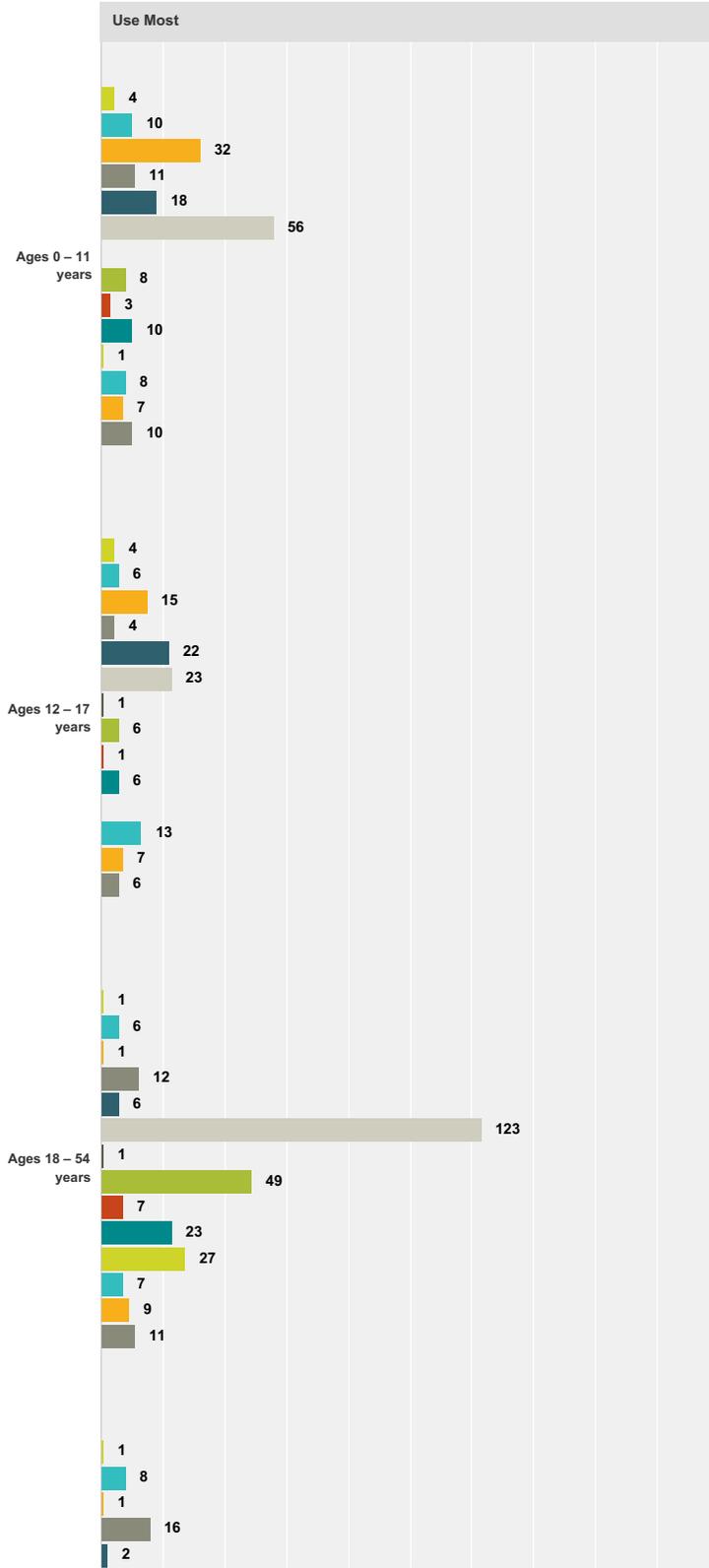


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
6. St. Johns County Parks and Rec. Dept.	68.49%	400
8. State Parks	62.33%	364
11. Private fitness centers	29.79%	174
9. Neighboring park districts	29.11%	170
10. Homeowners associations	29.11%	170
5. Public schools	27.40%	160
2. Churches/Synagogues/Temples	20.89%	122
4. YMCA	17.81%	104
3. Youth Athletic Association	13.53%	79
12. Travel sports teams	10.79%	63
Other (please specify)	8.90%	52
1. Private schools	7.53%	44
13. None – do not use any organizations	3.42%	20
7. JCC	1.20%	7
<b>Total Respondents: 584</b>		

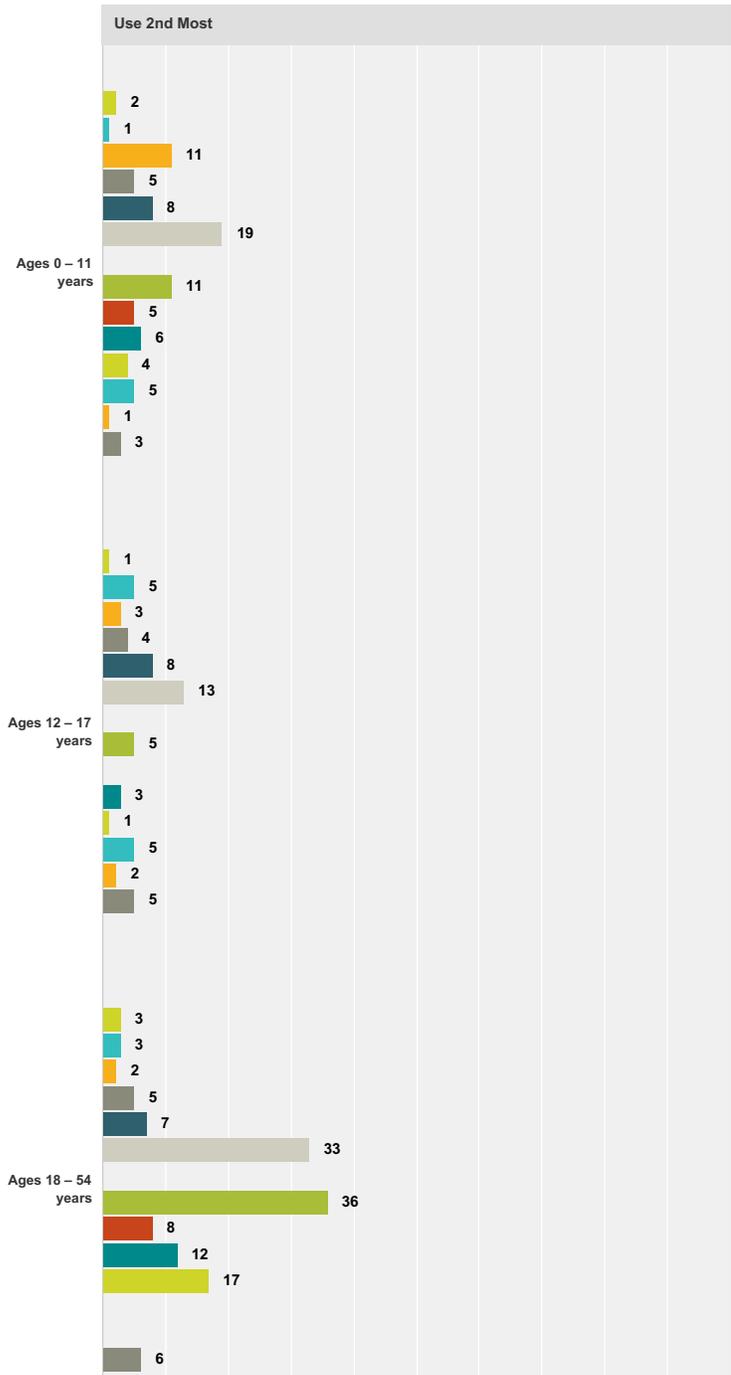
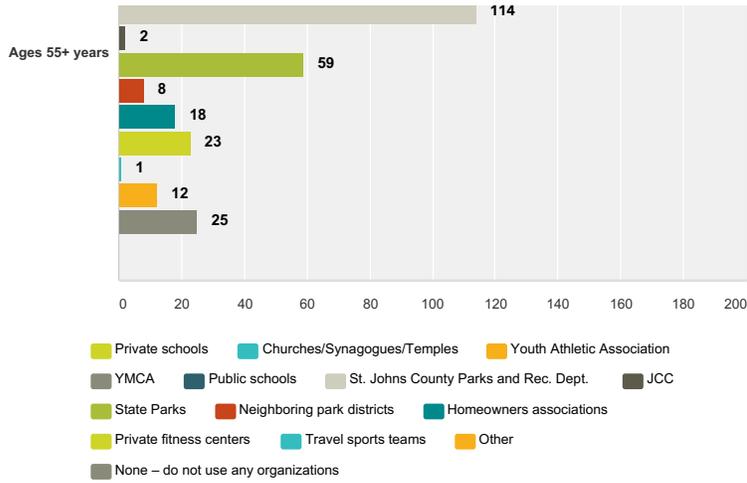
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q10 For each of the age groups shown below, please indicate which TWO organizations listed in the Dropdown menus you and your household USE THE MOST for parks and recreation programs and services.**

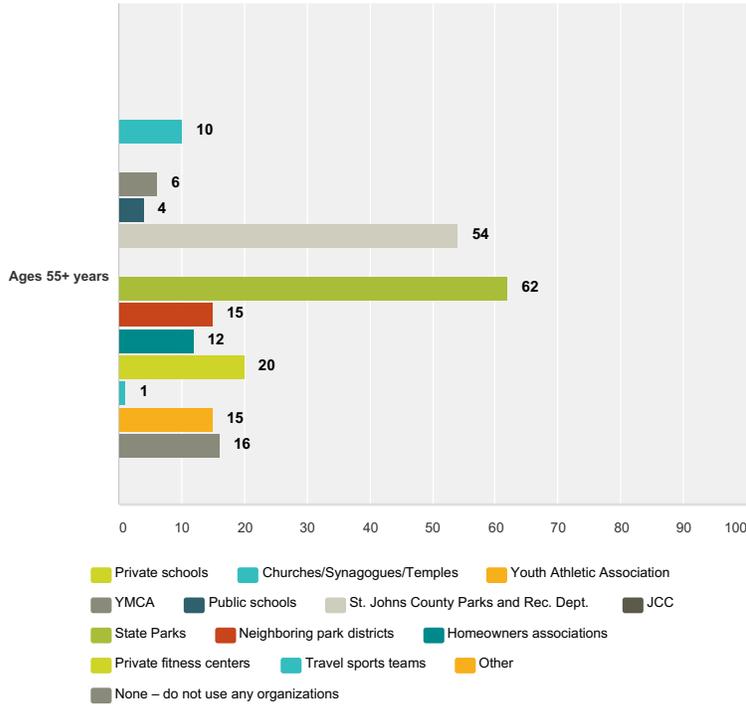
Answered: 556 Skipped: 131



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



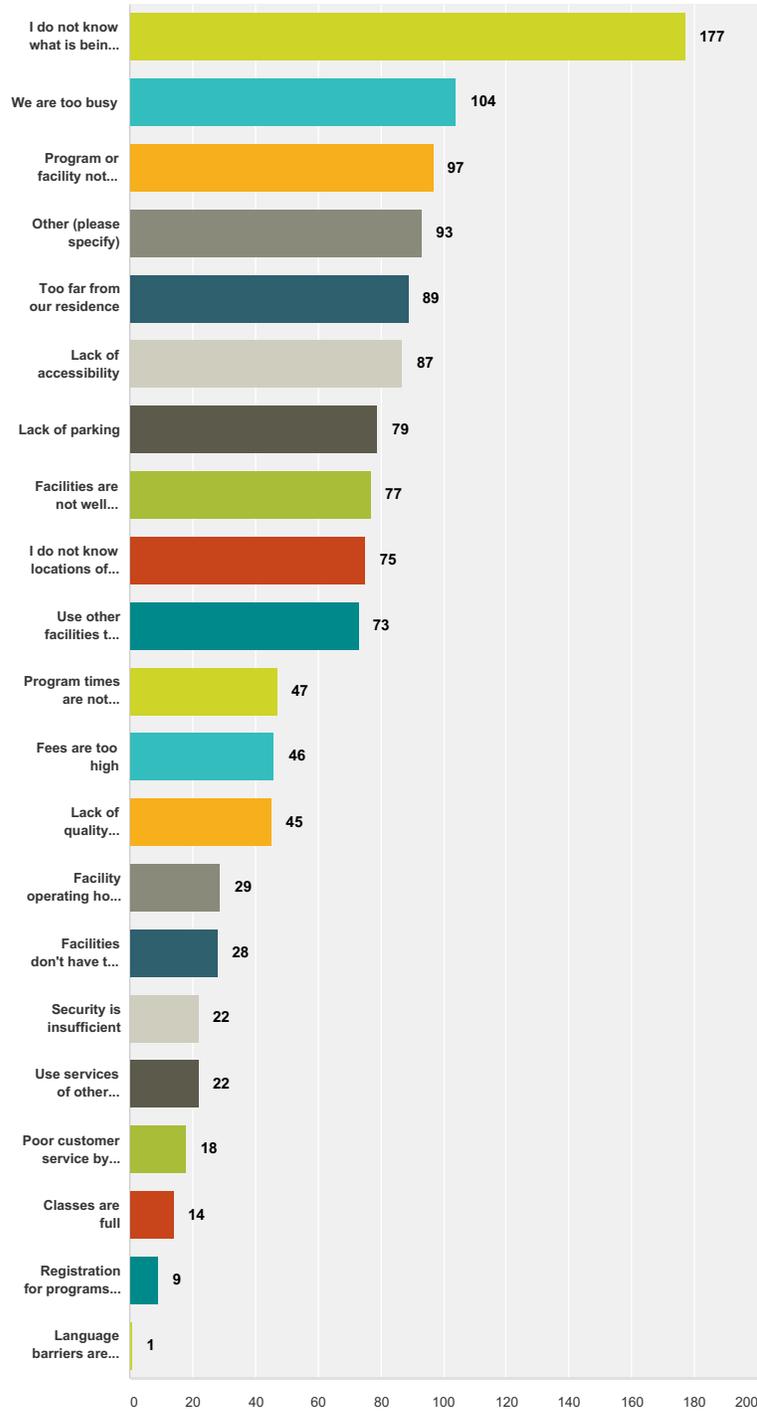
Use Most															
	Private schools	Churches/Synagogues/Temples	Youth Athletic Association	YMCA	Public schools	St. Johns County Parks and Rec. Dept.	JCC	State Parks	Neighboring park districts	Homeowners associations	Private fitness centers	Travel sports teams	Other	None – do not use any organizations	Total
Ages 0 – 11 years	2.25% 4	5.62% 10	17.98% 32	6.18% 11	10.11% 18	31.46% 56	0.00% 0	4.49% 8	1.69% 3	5.62% 10	0.56% 1	4.49% 8	3.93% 7	5.62% 10	178
Ages 12 – 17 years	3.51% 4	5.26% 6	13.16% 15	3.51% 4	19.30% 22	20.18% 23	0.88% 1	5.26% 6	0.88% 1	5.26% 6	0.00% 0	11.40% 13	6.14% 7	5.26% 6	114
Ages 18 – 54 years	0.35% 1	2.12% 6	0.35% 1	4.24% 12	2.12% 6	43.46% 123	0.35% 1	17.31% 49	2.47% 7	8.13% 23	9.54% 27	2.47% 7	3.18% 9	3.89% 11	283
Ages 55+ years	0.34% 1	2.76% 8	0.34% 1	5.52% 16	0.69% 2	39.31% 114	0.69% 2	20.34% 59	2.76% 8	6.21% 18	7.93% 23	0.34% 1	4.14% 12	8.62% 25	290

Use 2nd Most															
	Private schools	Churches/Synagogues/Temples	Youth Athletic Association	YMCA	Public schools	St. Johns County Parks and Rec. Dept.	JCC	State Parks	Neighboring park districts	Homeowners associations	Private fitness centers	Travel sports teams	Other	None – do not use any organizations	Total
Ages 0 – 11 years	2.47% 2	1.23% 1	13.58% 11	6.17% 5	9.88% 8	23.46% 19	0.00% 0	13.58% 11	6.17% 5	7.41% 6	4.94% 4	6.17% 5	1.23% 1	3.70% 3	81
Ages 12 – 17 years	1.82% 1	9.09% 5	5.45% 3	7.27% 4	14.55% 8	23.64% 13	0.00% 0	9.09% 5	0.00% 0	5.45% 3	1.82% 1	9.09% 5	3.64% 2	9.09% 5	55
Ages 18 – 54 years	2.27% 3	2.27% 3	1.52% 2	3.79% 5	5.30% 7	25.00% 33	0.00% 0	27.27% 36	6.06% 8	9.09% 12	12.88% 17	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	4.55% 6	132
Ages 55+ years	0.00% 0	4.65% 10	0.00% 0	2.79% 6	1.86% 4	25.12% 54	0.00% 0	28.84% 62	6.98% 15	5.58% 12	9.30% 20	0.47% 1	6.98% 15	7.44% 16	215

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q11 Please CHECK ALL the reasons that deter you or other members of your household from using parks, recreation facilities or programs of the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department more often.**

Answered: 519 Skipped: 168



Answer Choices	Responses	Count
I do not know what is being offered	34.10%	177
We are too busy	20.04%	104

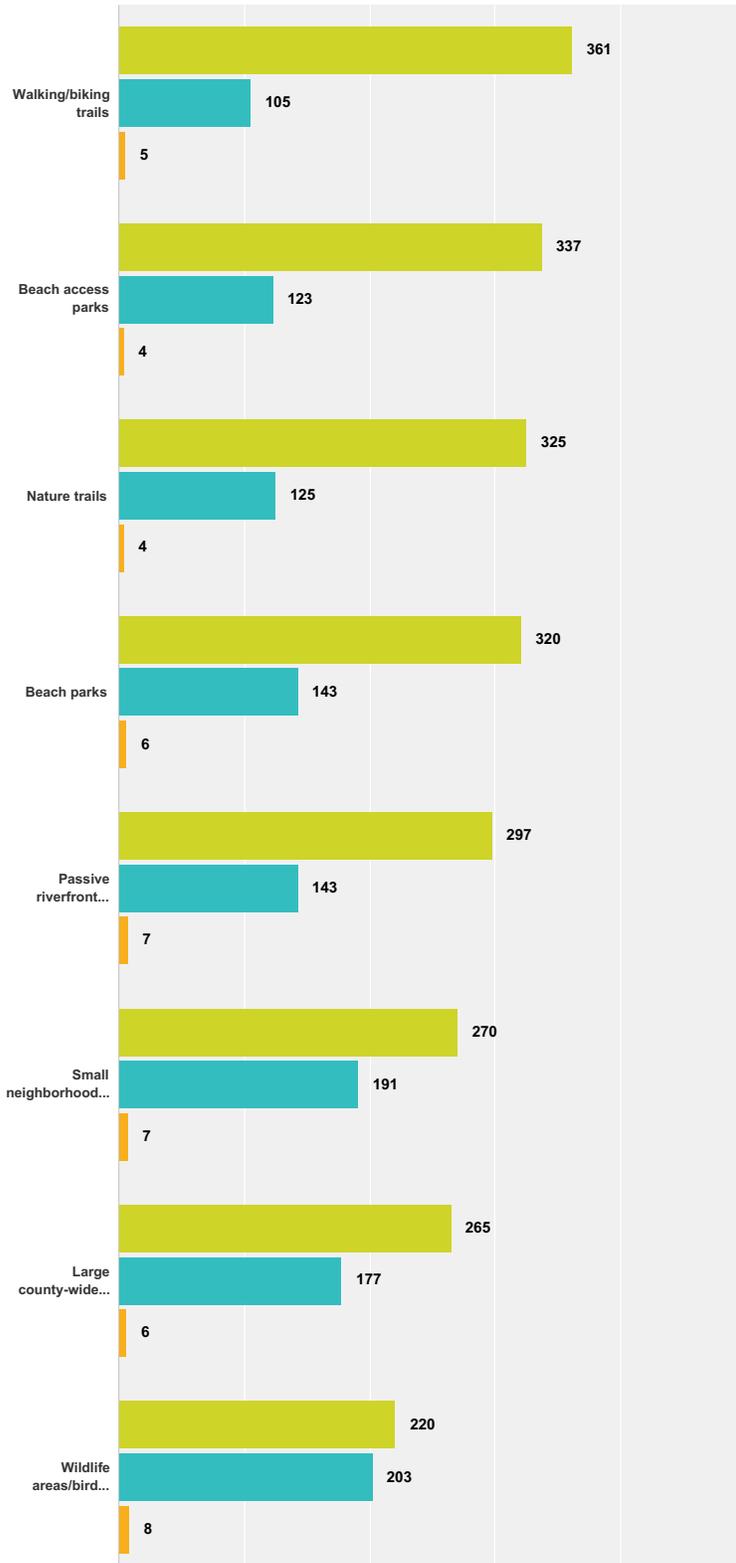
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

Program or facility not offered	18.69%	97
Other (please specify)	17.92%	93
Too far from our residence	17.15%	89
Lack of accessibility	16.76%	87
Lack of parking	15.22%	79
Facilities are not well maintained	14.84%	77
I do not know locations of facilities	14.45%	75
Use other facilities than County	14.07%	73
Program times are not convenient	9.06%	47
Fees are too high	8.86%	46
Lack of quality programs	8.67%	45
Facility operating hours not convenient	5.59%	29
Facilities don't have the right equipment	5.39%	28
Security is insufficient	4.24%	22
Use services of other agencies	4.24%	22
Poor customer service by staff	3.47%	18
Classes are full	2.70%	14
Registration for programs is difficult	1.73%	9
Language barriers are difficult	0.19%	1
<b>Total Respondents: 519</b>		

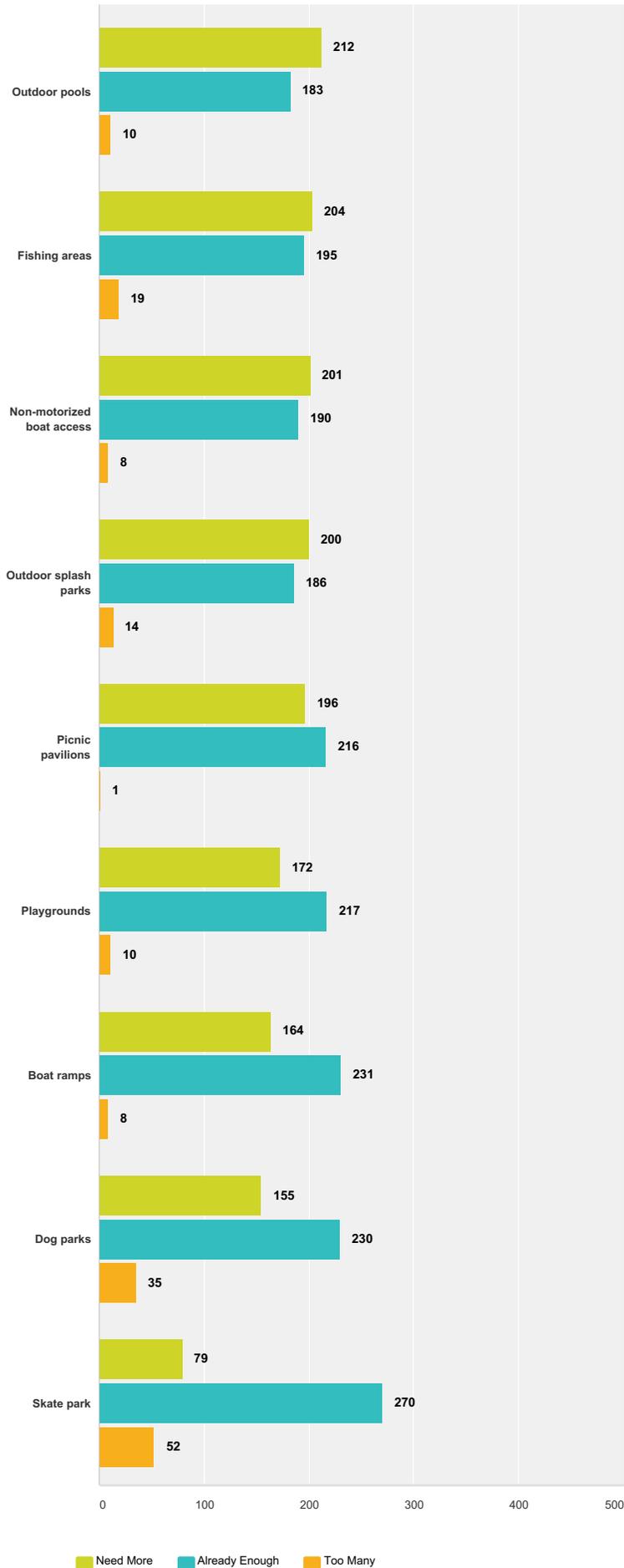
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q12 Below please find a list of parks and recreation FACILITIES. Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD NEED MORE, if there are ALREADY ENOUGH, or if there are TOO MANY of each of the parks and recreation facilities listed below.**

Answered: 546 Skipped: 141



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



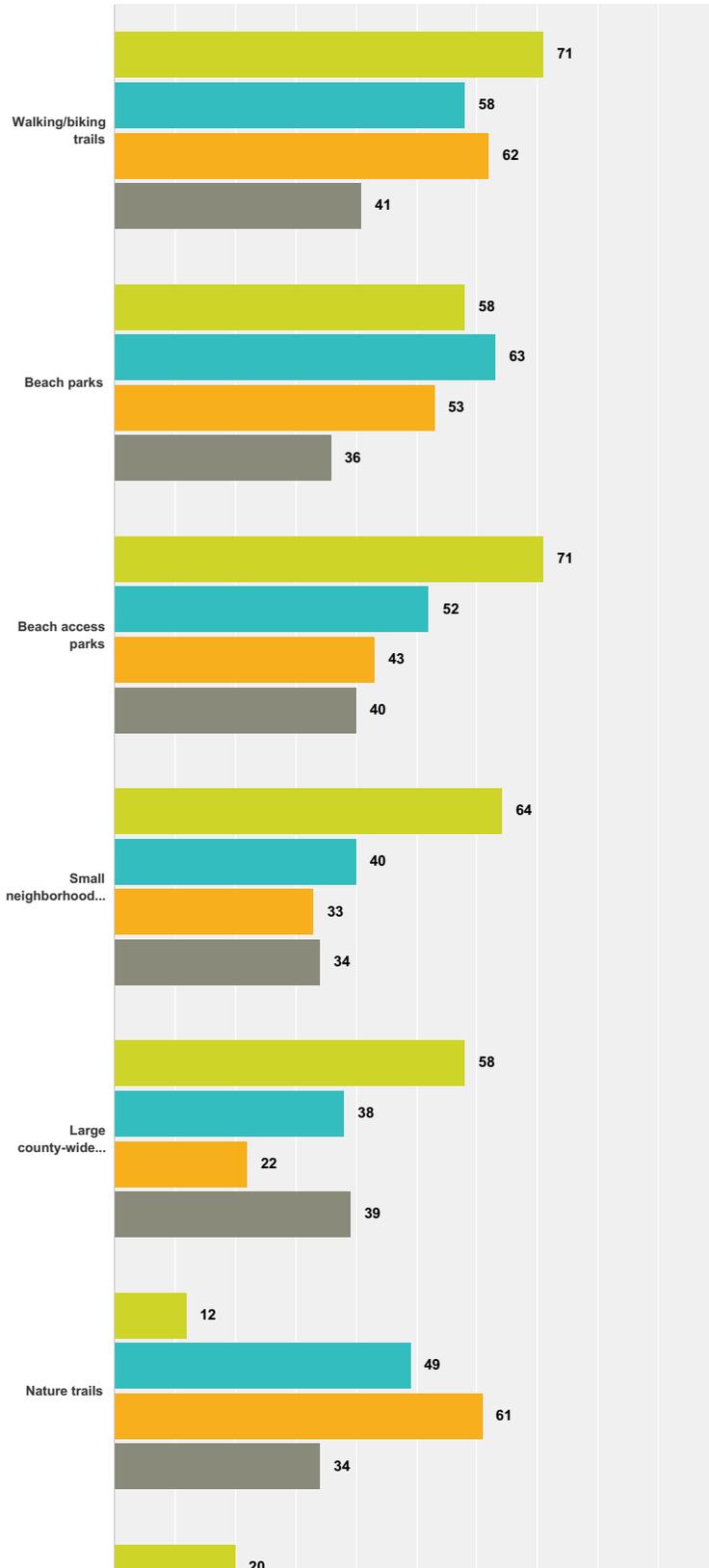
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

	<b>Need More</b>	<b>Already Enough</b>	<b>Too Many</b>	<b>Total</b>
Walking/biking trails	<b>76.65%</b> 361	<b>22.29%</b> 105	<b>1.06%</b> 5	471
Beach access parks	<b>72.63%</b> 337	<b>26.51%</b> 123	<b>0.86%</b> 4	464
Nature trails	<b>71.59%</b> 325	<b>27.53%</b> 125	<b>0.88%</b> 4	454
Beach parks	<b>68.23%</b> 320	<b>30.49%</b> 143	<b>1.28%</b> 6	469
Passive riverfront parks	<b>66.44%</b> 297	<b>31.99%</b> 143	<b>1.57%</b> 7	447
Small neighborhood parks	<b>57.69%</b> 270	<b>40.81%</b> 191	<b>1.50%</b> 7	468
Large county-wide parks	<b>59.15%</b> 265	<b>39.51%</b> 177	<b>1.34%</b> 6	448
Wildlife areas/bird watching	<b>51.04%</b> 220	<b>47.10%</b> 203	<b>1.86%</b> 8	431
Outdoor pools	<b>52.35%</b> 212	<b>45.19%</b> 183	<b>2.47%</b> 10	405
Fishing areas	<b>48.80%</b> 204	<b>46.65%</b> 195	<b>4.55%</b> 19	418
Non-motorized boat access	<b>50.38%</b> 201	<b>47.62%</b> 190	<b>2.01%</b> 8	399
Outdoor splash parks	<b>50.00%</b> 200	<b>46.50%</b> 186	<b>3.50%</b> 14	400
Picnic pavilions	<b>47.46%</b> 196	<b>52.30%</b> 216	<b>0.24%</b> 1	413
Playgrounds	<b>43.11%</b> 172	<b>54.39%</b> 217	<b>2.51%</b> 10	399
Boat ramps	<b>40.69%</b> 164	<b>57.32%</b> 231	<b>1.99%</b> 8	403
Dog parks	<b>36.90%</b> 155	<b>54.76%</b> 230	<b>8.33%</b> 35	420
Skate park	<b>19.70%</b> 79	<b>67.33%</b> 270	<b>12.97%</b> 52	401

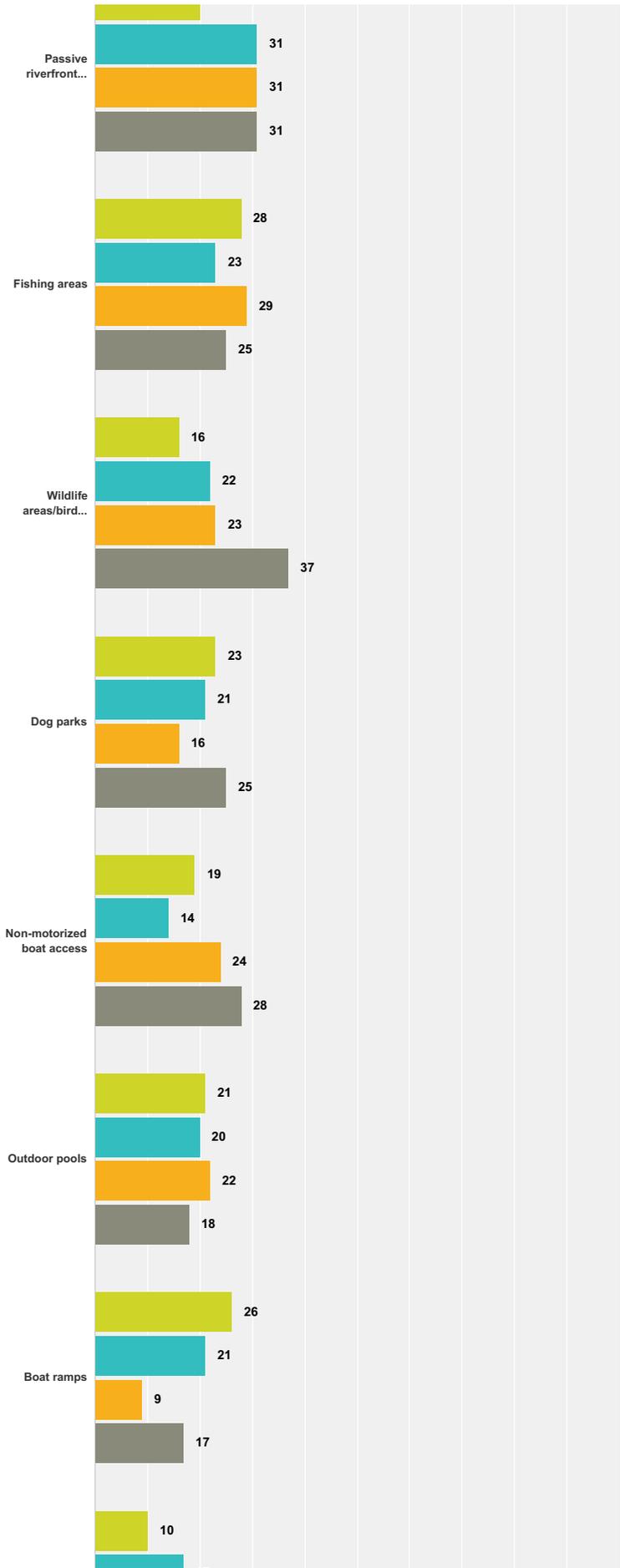
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q13 Which FOUR of the facilities from the list in Question 12, also shown below, are MOST IMPORTANT to your household?**  
**[Please select the facilities that are your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices.]**

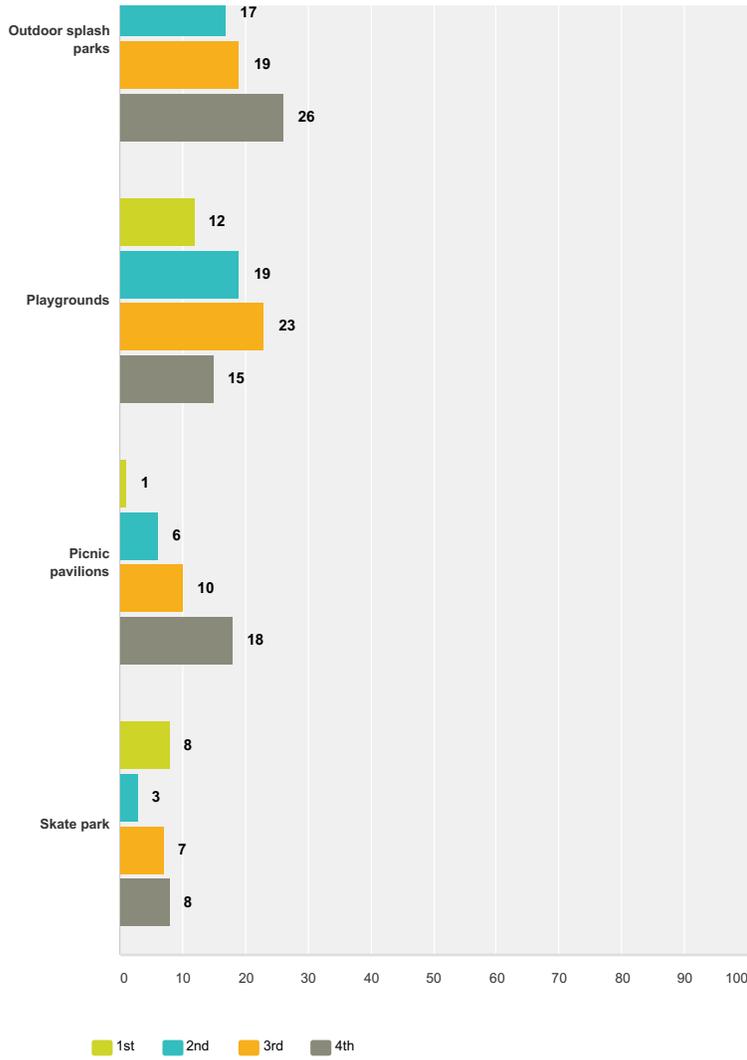
Answered: 531 Skipped: 156



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Walking/biking trails	30.60% 71	25.00% 58	26.72% 62	17.67% 41	232
Beach parks	27.62% 58	30.00% 63	25.24% 53	17.14% 36	210
Beach access parks	34.47% 71	25.24% 52	20.87% 43	19.42% 40	206
Small neighborhood parks	37.43% 64	23.39% 40	19.30% 33	19.88% 34	171
Large county-wide parks	36.94% 58	24.20% 38	14.01% 22	24.84% 39	157
Nature trails	7.69% 12	31.41% 49	39.10% 61	21.79% 34	156
Passive riverfront parks	17.70% 20	27.43% 31	27.43% 31	27.43% 31	113
Fishing areas	26.67% 28	21.90% 23	27.62% 29	23.81% 25	105
Wildlife areas/bird watching	16.33% 16	22.45% 22	23.47% 23	37.76% 37	98
Dog parks	27.06% 23	24.71% 21	18.82% 16	29.41% 25	85
Non-motorized boat access	22.35% 19	16.47% 14	28.24% 24	32.94% 28	85
Outdoor pools	25.93% 21	24.69% 20	27.16% 22	22.22% 18	81
Boat ramps	35.62% 26	28.77% 21	12.33% 9	23.29% 17	73

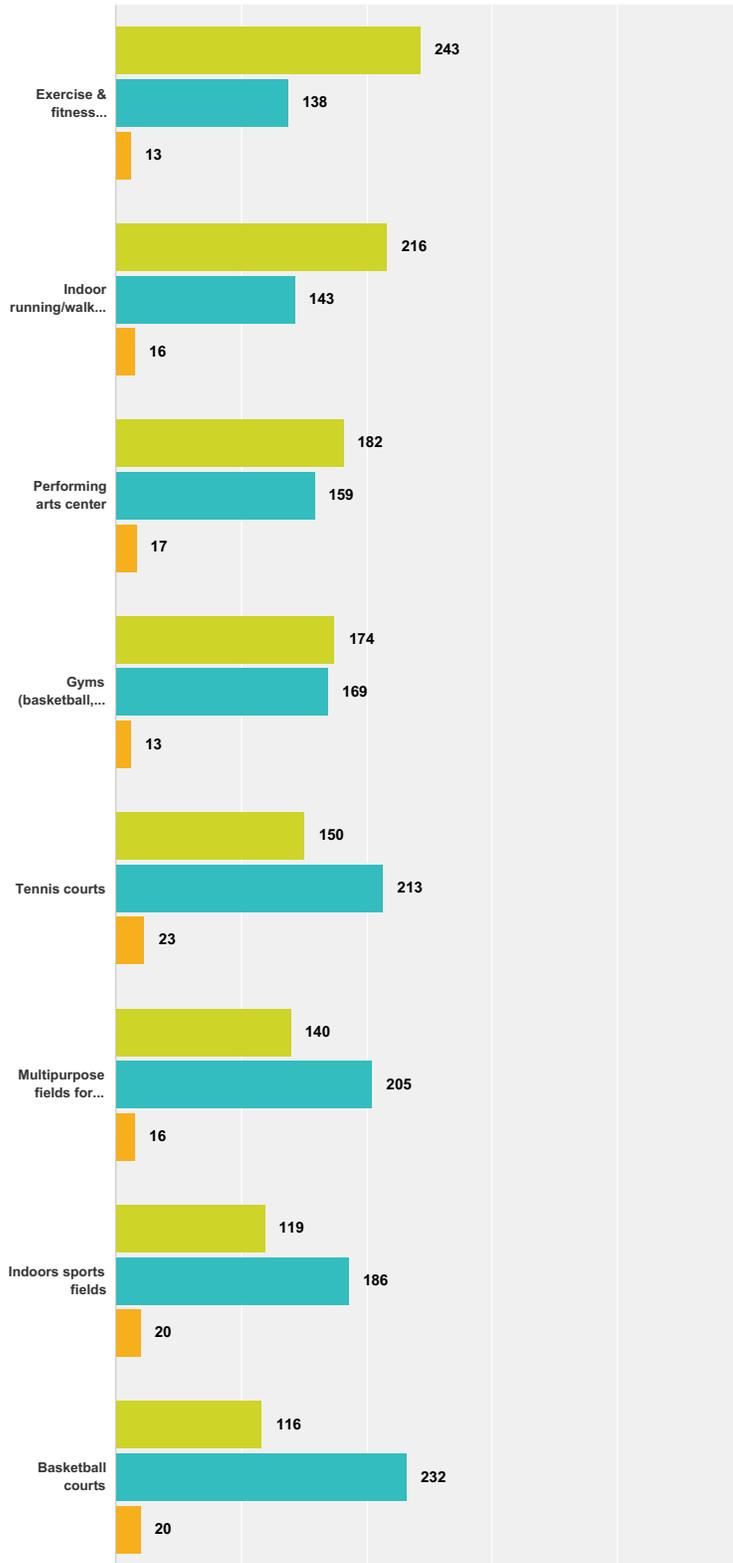
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

Outdoor splash parks	<b>13.89%</b> 10	<b>23.61%</b> 17	<b>26.39%</b> 19	<b>36.11%</b> 26	72
Playgrounds	<b>17.39%</b> 12	<b>27.54%</b> 19	<b>33.33%</b> 23	<b>21.74%</b> 15	69
Picnic pavilions	<b>2.86%</b> 1	<b>17.14%</b> 6	<b>28.57%</b> 10	<b>51.43%</b> 18	35
Skate park	<b>30.77%</b> 8	<b>11.54%</b> 3	<b>26.92%</b> 7	<b>30.77%</b> 8	26

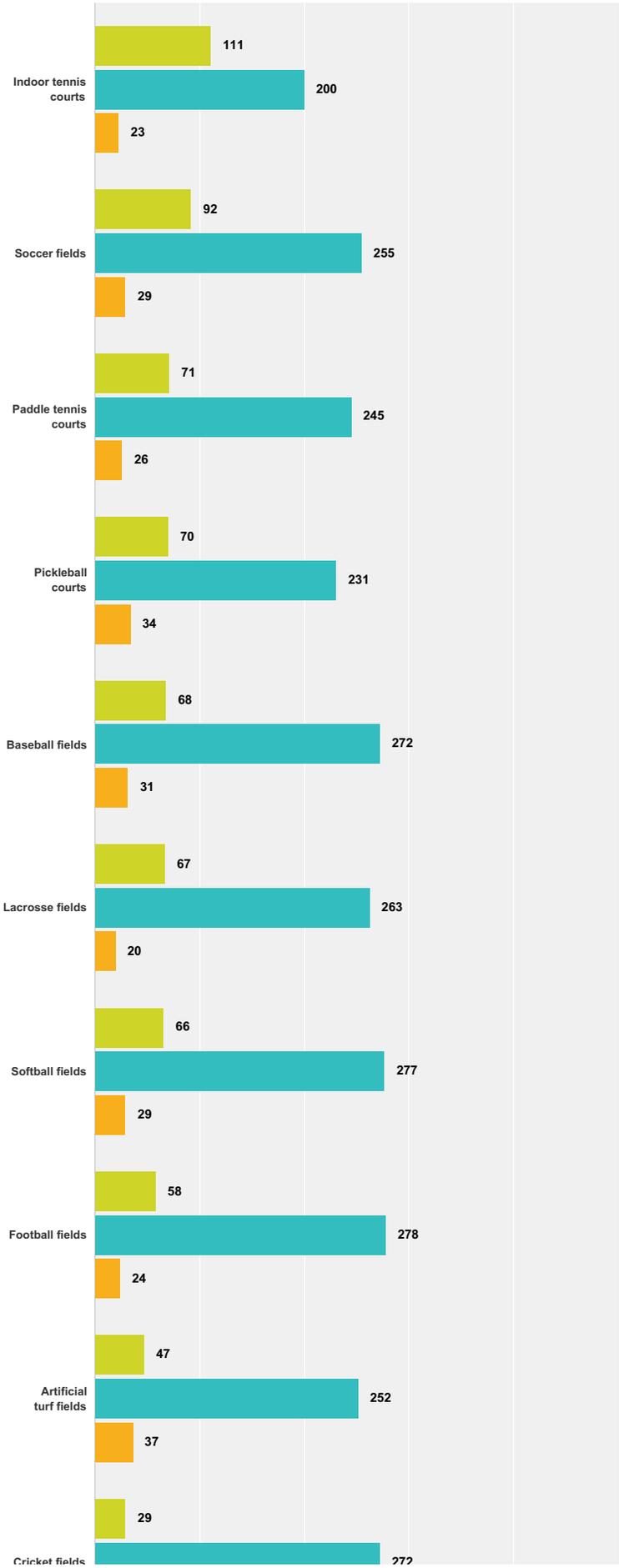
St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q14 Below please find a list of SPORTS FIELDS AND COURTS AND INDOOR FACILITIES . Please indicate if YOU or any member of your HOUSEHOLD NEED MORE, if there are ALREADY ENOUGH, or if there are TOO MANY of each of the parks and recreation facilities listed below.**

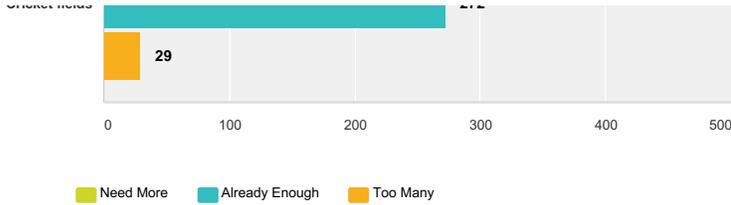
Answered: 475 Skipped: 212



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

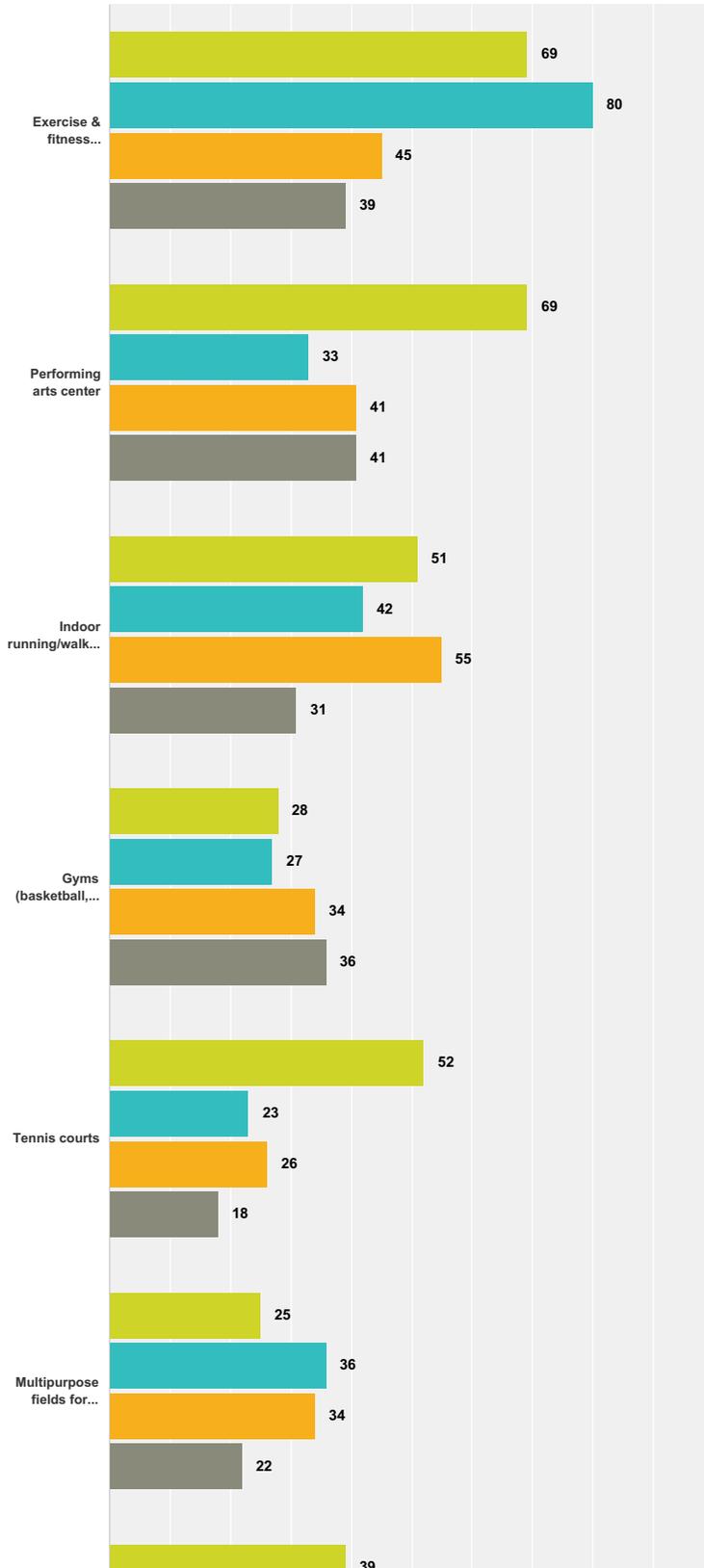


	Need More	Already Enough	Too Many	Total
Exercise & fitness facilities	61.68% 243	35.03% 138	3.30% 13	394
Indoor running/walking track	57.60% 216	38.13% 143	4.27% 16	375
Performing arts center	50.84% 182	44.41% 159	4.75% 17	358
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	48.88% 174	47.47% 169	3.65% 13	356
Tennis courts	38.86% 150	55.18% 213	5.96% 23	386
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	38.78% 140	56.79% 205	4.43% 16	361
Indoors sports fields	36.62% 119	57.23% 186	6.15% 20	325
Basketball courts	31.52% 116	63.04% 232	5.43% 20	368
Indoor tennis courts	33.23% 111	59.88% 200	6.89% 23	334
Soccer fields	24.47% 92	67.82% 255	7.71% 29	376
Paddle tennis courts	20.76% 71	71.64% 245	7.60% 26	342
Pickleball courts	20.90% 70	68.96% 231	10.15% 34	335
Baseball fields	18.33% 68	73.32% 272	8.36% 31	371
Lacrosse fields	19.14% 67	75.14% 263	5.71% 20	350
Softball fields	17.74% 66	74.46% 277	7.80% 29	372
Football fields	16.11% 58	77.22% 278	6.67% 24	360
Artificial turf fields	13.99% 47	75.00% 252	11.01% 37	336
Cricket fields	8.79% 29	82.42% 272	8.79% 29	330

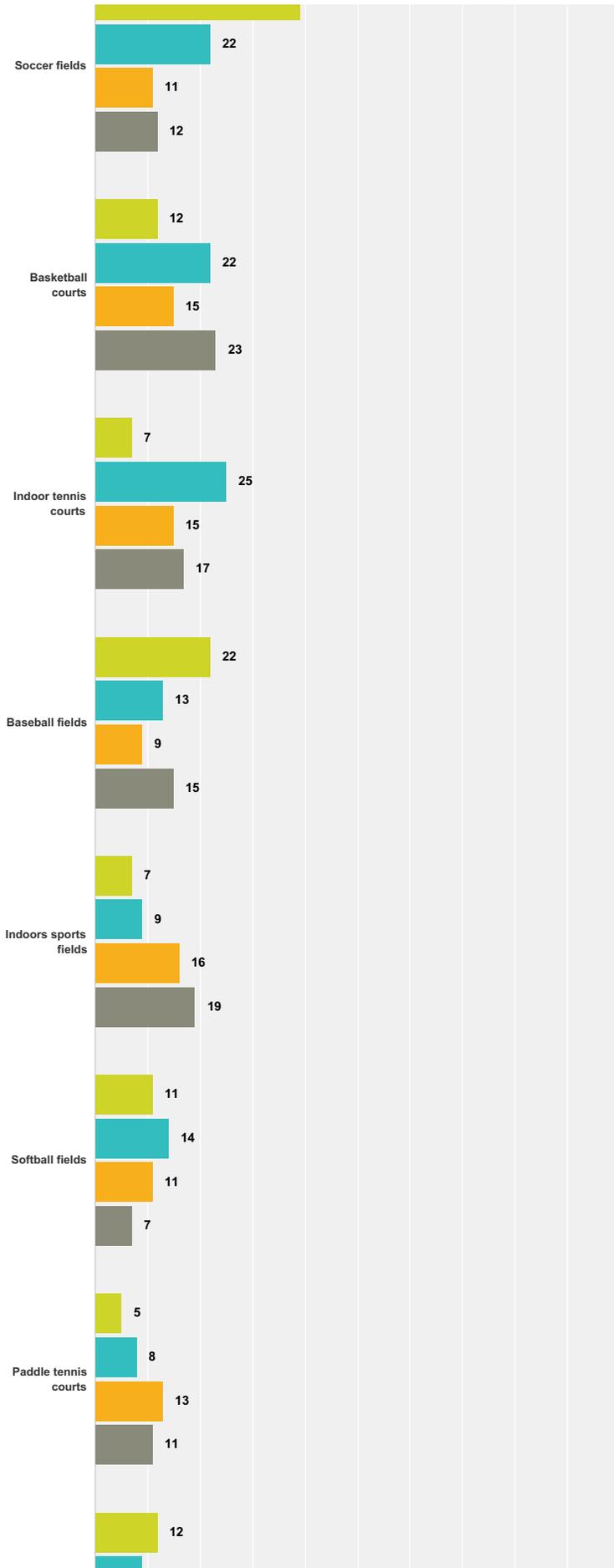
St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q15 Which FOUR of the facilities from the list in Question 14, also shown below, are MOST IMPORTANT to your household?**  
**[Please select the facilities that are your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices.]**

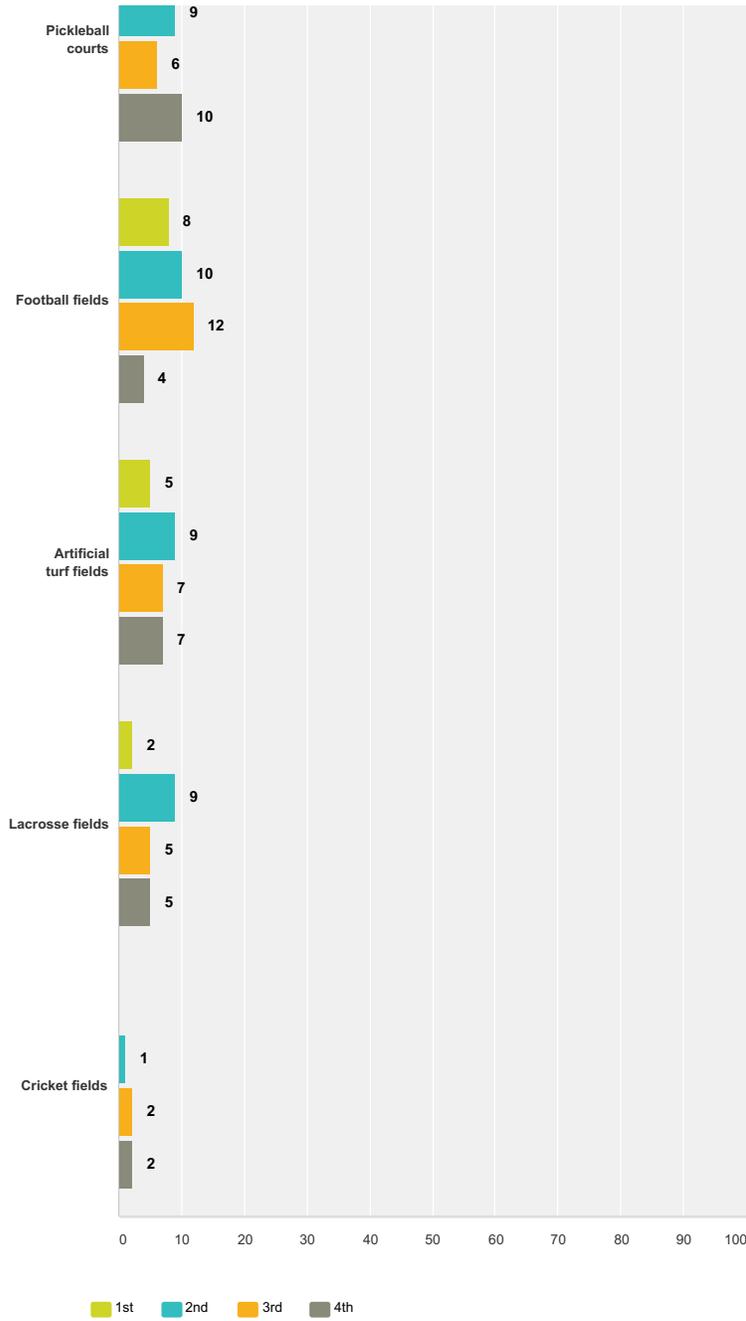
Answered: 441 Skipped: 246



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Exercise & fitness facilities	29.61% 69	34.33% 80	19.31% 45	16.74% 39	233
Performing arts center	37.50% 69	17.93% 33	22.28% 41	22.28% 41	184
Indoor running/walking track	28.49% 51	23.46% 42	30.73% 55	17.32% 31	179
Gyms (basketball, volleyball, etc.)	22.40% 28	21.60% 27	27.20% 34	28.80% 36	125
Tennis courts	43.70% 52	19.33% 23	21.85% 26	15.13% 18	119
Multipurpose fields for cricket, football, lacrosse, etc.	21.37% 25	30.77% 36	29.06% 34	18.80% 22	117
Soccer fields	46.43% 39	26.19% 22	13.10% 11	14.29% 12	84
Basketball courts	16.67% 12	30.56% 22	20.83% 15	31.94% 23	72

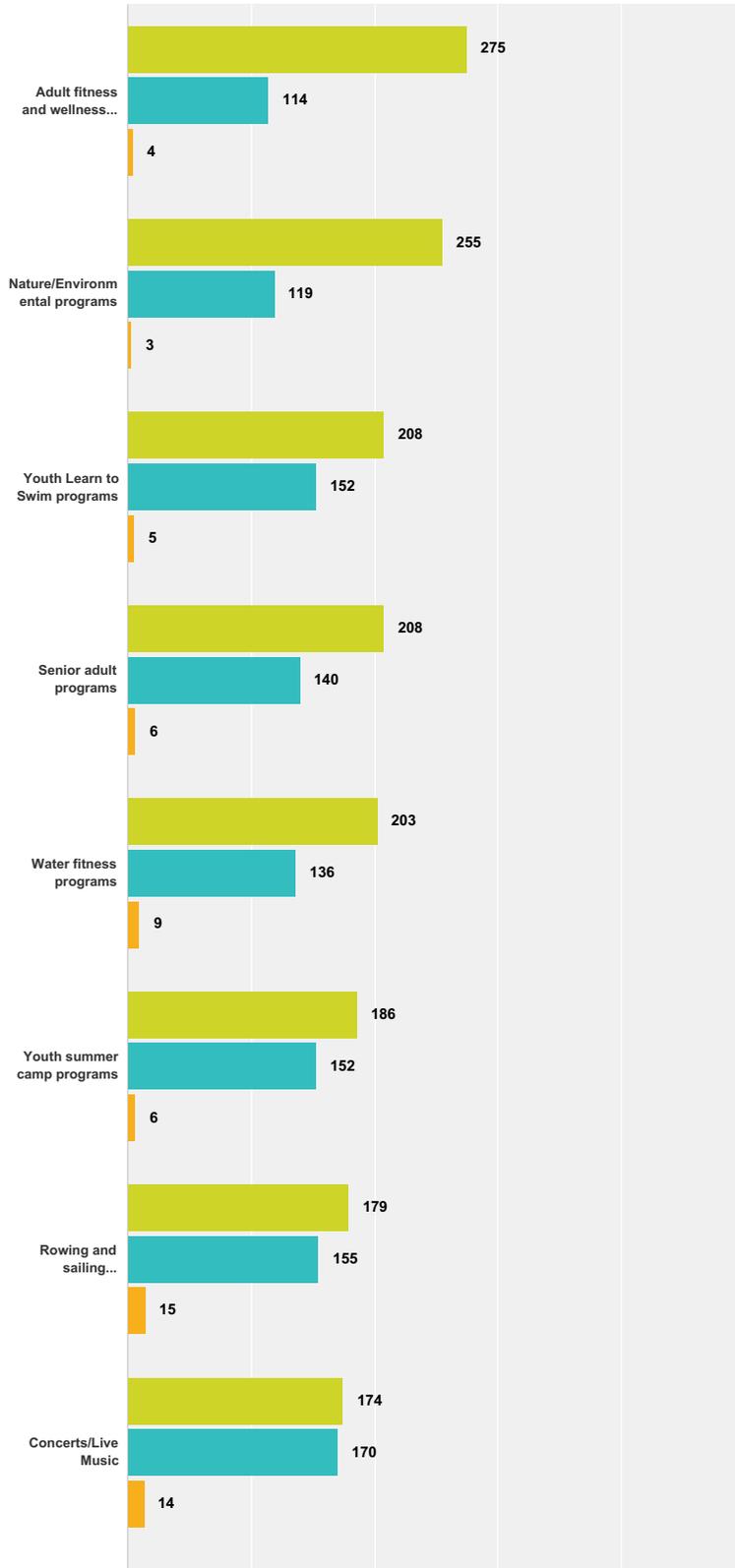
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

Indoor tennis courts	<b>10.94%</b> 7	<b>39.06%</b> 25	<b>23.44%</b> 15	<b>26.56%</b> 17	64
Baseball fields	<b>37.29%</b> 22	<b>22.03%</b> 13	<b>15.25%</b> 9	<b>25.42%</b> 15	59
Indoors sports fields	<b>13.73%</b> 7	<b>17.65%</b> 9	<b>31.37%</b> 16	<b>37.25%</b> 19	51
Softball fields	<b>25.58%</b> 11	<b>32.56%</b> 14	<b>25.58%</b> 11	<b>16.28%</b> 7	43
Paddle tennis courts	<b>13.51%</b> 5	<b>21.62%</b> 8	<b>35.14%</b> 13	<b>29.73%</b> 11	37
Pickleball courts	<b>32.43%</b> 12	<b>24.32%</b> 9	<b>16.22%</b> 6	<b>27.03%</b> 10	37
Football fields	<b>23.53%</b> 8	<b>29.41%</b> 10	<b>35.29%</b> 12	<b>11.76%</b> 4	34
Artificial turf fields	<b>17.86%</b> 5	<b>32.14%</b> 9	<b>25.00%</b> 7	<b>25.00%</b> 7	28
Lacrosse fields	<b>9.52%</b> 2	<b>42.86%</b> 9	<b>23.81%</b> 5	<b>23.81%</b> 5	21
Cricket fields	<b>0.00%</b> 0	<b>20.00%</b> 1	<b>40.00%</b> 2	<b>40.00%</b> 2	5

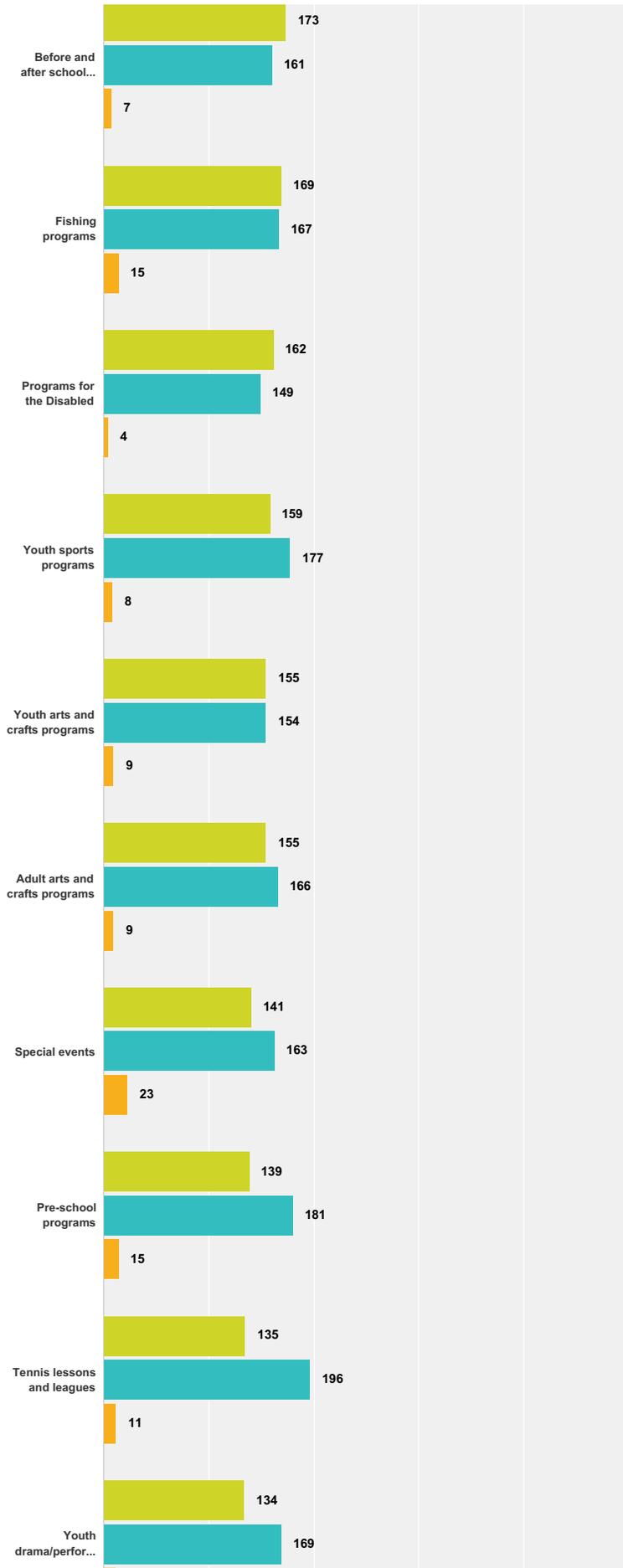
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q16** Below please find a list of **PROGRAMS** or **ACTIVITIES**. Please indicate if **YOU** or any member of your **HOUSEHOLD NEED MORE**, if there are **ALREADY ENOUGH**, or if there are **TOO MANY** of each of the parks and recreation facilities listed below.

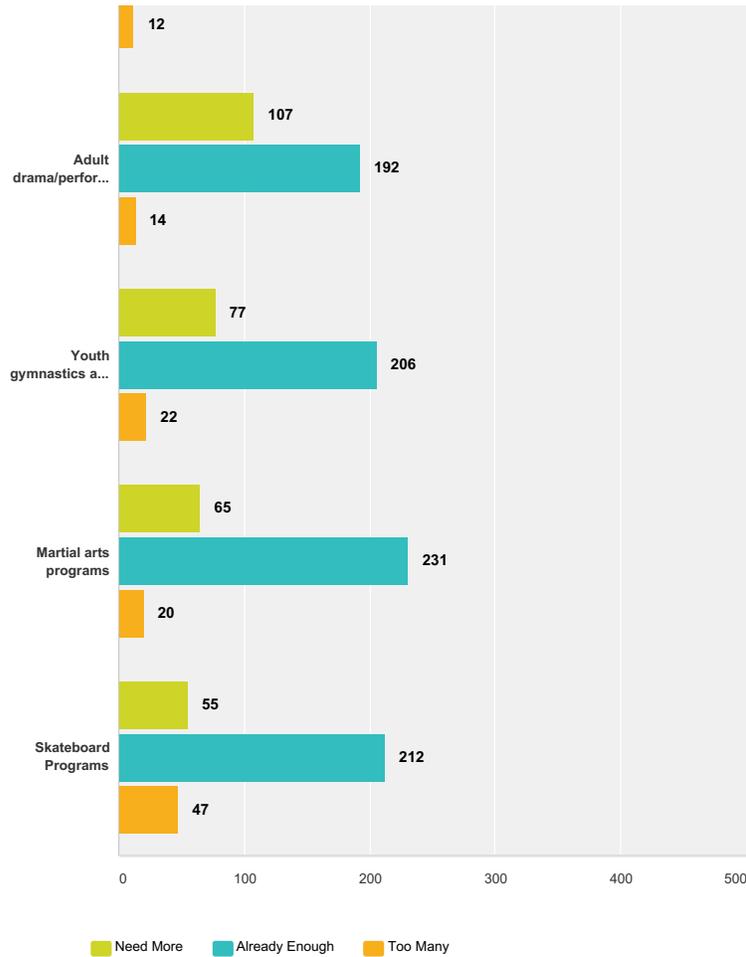
Answered: 473 Skipped: 214



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



	Need More	Already Enough	Too Many	Total
Adult fitness and wellness programs	69.97% 275	29.01% 114	1.02% 4	393
Nature/Environmental programs	67.64% 255	31.56% 119	0.80% 3	377
Youth Learn to Swim programs	56.99% 208	41.64% 152	1.37% 5	365
Senior adult programs	58.76% 208	39.55% 140	1.69% 6	354
Water fitness programs	58.33% 203	39.08% 136	2.59% 9	348
Youth summer camp programs	54.07% 186	44.19% 152	1.74% 6	344
Rowing and sailing Programs	51.29% 179	44.41% 155	4.30% 15	349
Concerts/Live Music	48.60% 174	47.49% 170	3.91% 14	358
Before and after school programs	50.73% 173	47.21% 161	2.05% 7	341
Fishing programs	48.15% 169	47.58% 167	4.27% 15	351
Programs for the Disabled	51.43% 162	47.30% 149	1.27% 4	315
Youth sports programs	46.22% 159	51.45% 177	2.33% 8	344
Youth arts and crafts programs	48.74% 155	48.43% 154	2.83% 9	318
Adult arts and crafts programs	46.97% 155	50.30% 166	2.73% 9	330
Special events	43.12% 141	49.85% 163	7.03% 23	327

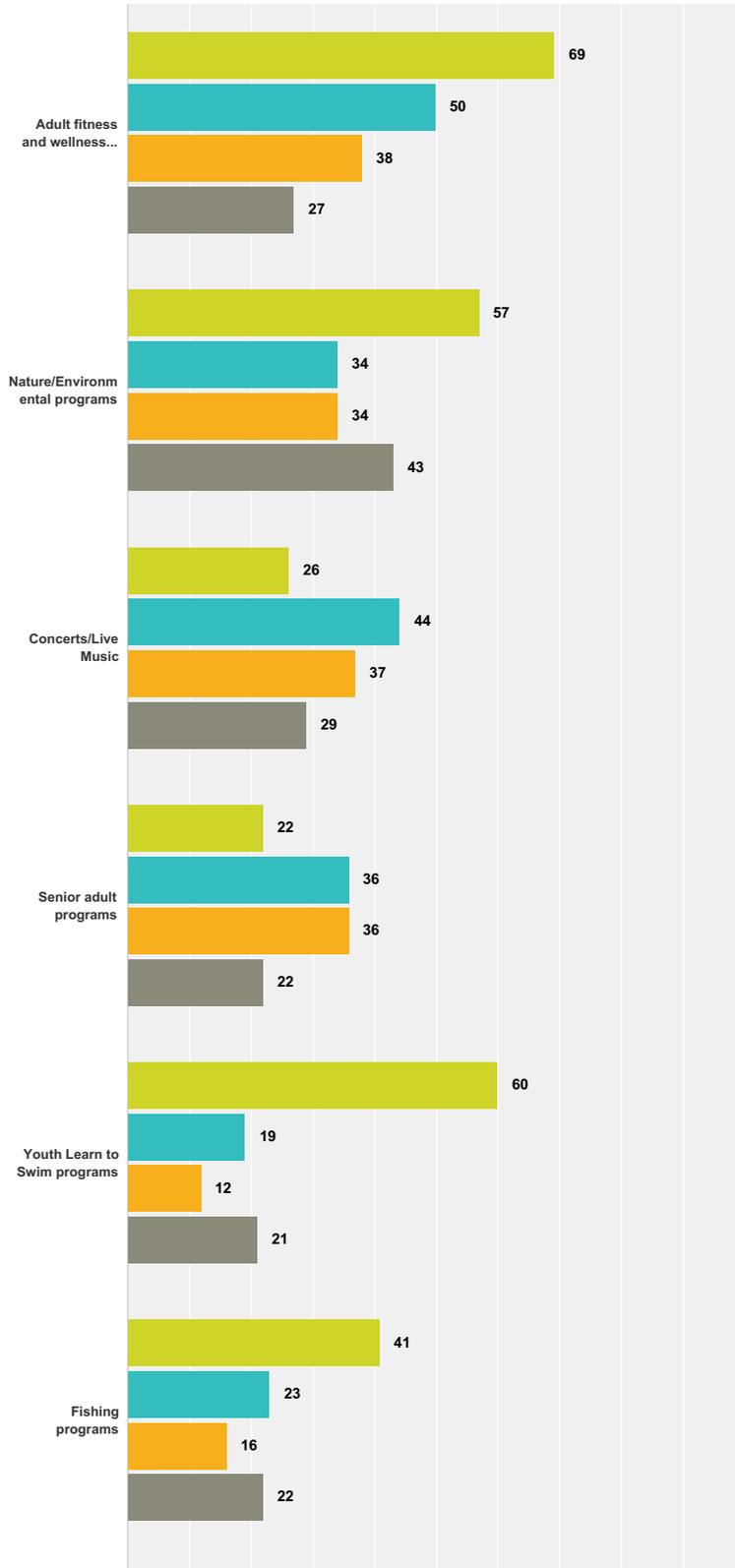
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

Pre-school programs	<b>41.49%</b> 139	<b>54.03%</b> 181	<b>4.48%</b> 15	335
Tennis lessons and leagues	<b>39.47%</b> 135	<b>57.31%</b> 196	<b>3.22%</b> 11	342
Youth drama/performing arts	<b>42.54%</b> 134	<b>53.65%</b> 169	<b>3.81%</b> 12	315
Adult drama/performing arts	<b>34.19%</b> 107	<b>61.34%</b> 192	<b>4.47%</b> 14	313
Youth gymnastics and cheerleading	<b>25.25%</b> 77	<b>67.54%</b> 206	<b>7.21%</b> 22	305
Martial arts programs	<b>20.57%</b> 65	<b>73.10%</b> 231	<b>6.33%</b> 20	316
Skateboard Programs	<b>17.52%</b> 55	<b>67.52%</b> 212	<b>14.97%</b> 47	314

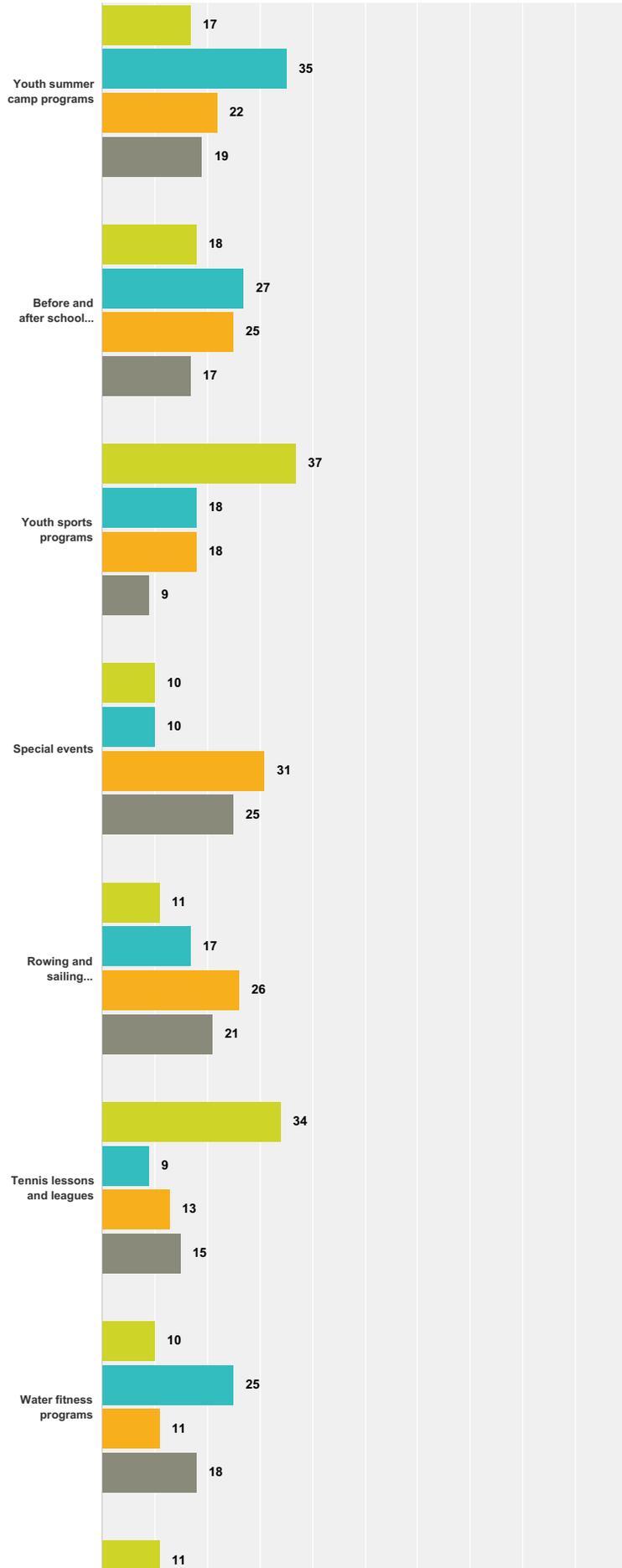
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q17 Which FOUR of the programs and activities from the list in Question 16, also shown below, are MOST IMPORTANT to your household? [Please select the facilities that are your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices.]**

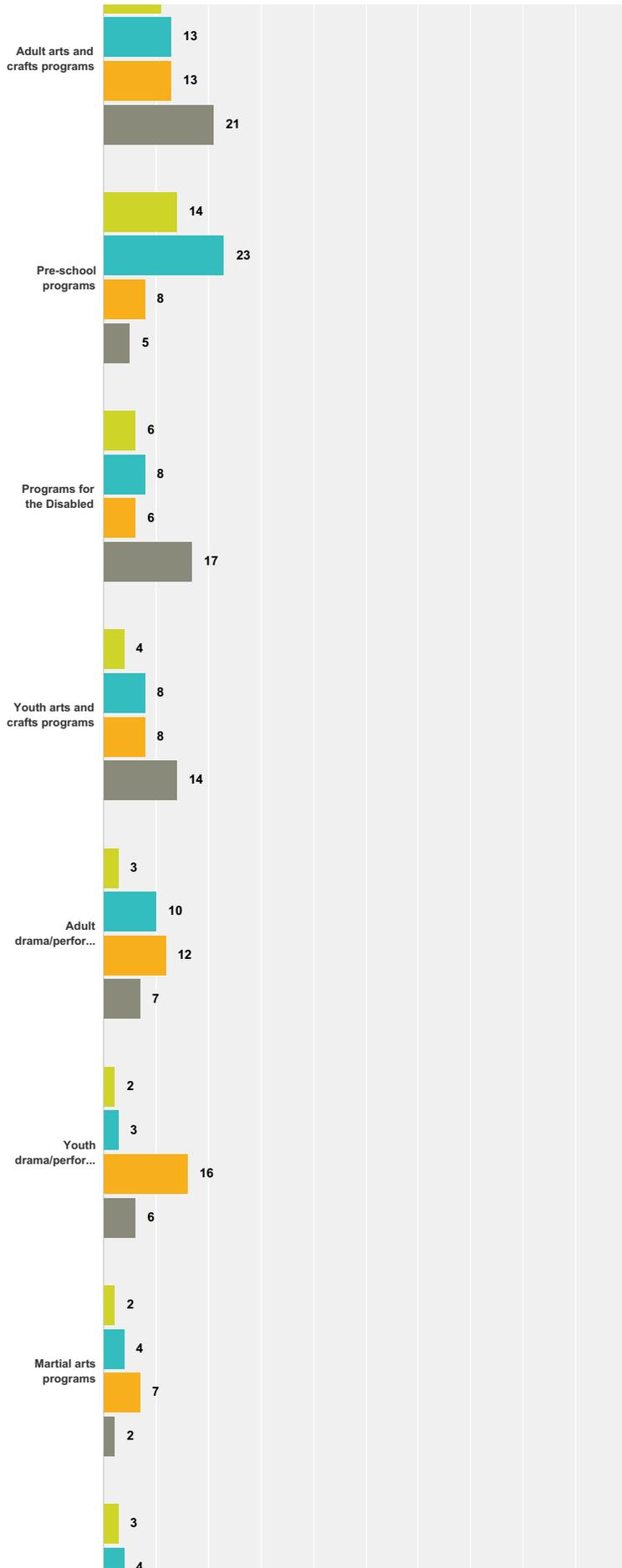
Answered: 463 Skipped: 224



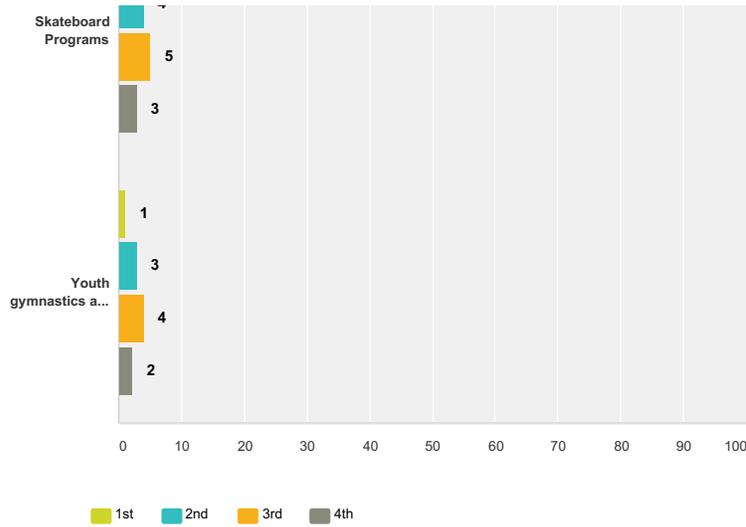
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

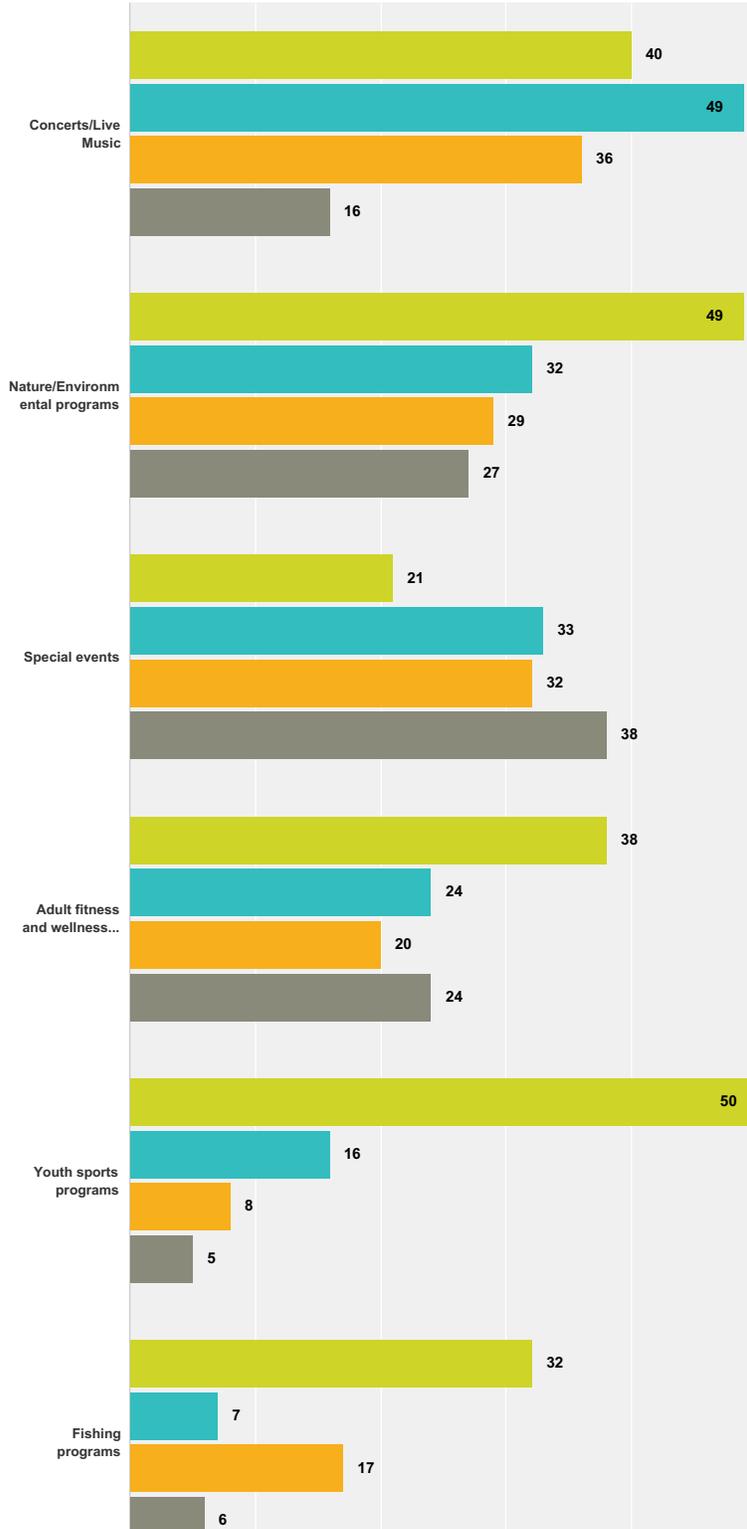


	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Adult fitness and wellness programs	37.50% 69	27.17% 50	20.65% 38	14.67% 27	184
Nature/Environmental programs	33.93% 57	20.24% 34	20.24% 34	25.60% 43	168
Concerts/Live Music	19.12% 26	32.35% 44	27.21% 37	21.32% 29	136
Senior adult programs	18.97% 22	31.03% 36	31.03% 36	18.97% 22	116
Youth Learn to Swim programs	53.57% 60	16.96% 19	10.71% 12	18.75% 21	112
Fishing programs	40.20% 41	22.55% 23	15.69% 16	21.57% 22	102
Youth summer camp programs	18.28% 17	37.63% 35	23.66% 22	20.43% 19	93
Before and after school programs	20.69% 18	31.03% 27	28.74% 25	19.54% 17	87
Youth sports programs	45.12% 37	21.95% 18	21.95% 18	10.98% 9	82
Special events	13.16% 10	13.16% 10	40.79% 31	32.89% 25	76
Rowing and sailing Programs	14.67% 11	22.67% 17	34.67% 26	28.00% 21	75
Tennis lessons and leagues	47.89% 34	12.68% 9	18.31% 13	21.13% 15	71
Water fitness programs	15.63% 10	39.06% 25	17.19% 11	28.13% 18	64
Adult arts and crafts programs	18.97% 11	22.41% 13	22.41% 13	36.21% 21	58
Pre-school programs	28.00% 14	46.00% 23	16.00% 8	10.00% 5	50
Programs for the Disabled	16.22% 6	21.62% 8	16.22% 6	45.95% 17	37
Youth arts and crafts programs	11.76% 4	23.53% 8	23.53% 8	41.18% 14	34
Adult drama/performing arts	9.38% 3	31.25% 10	37.50% 12	21.88% 7	32
Youth drama/performing arts	7.41% 2	11.11% 3	59.26% 16	22.22% 6	27
Martial arts programs	13.33% 2	26.67% 4	46.67% 7	13.33% 2	15
Skateboard Programs	20.00% 3	26.67% 4	33.33% 5	20.00% 3	15
Youth gymnastics and cheerleading	10.00% 1	30.00% 3	40.00% 4	20.00% 2	10

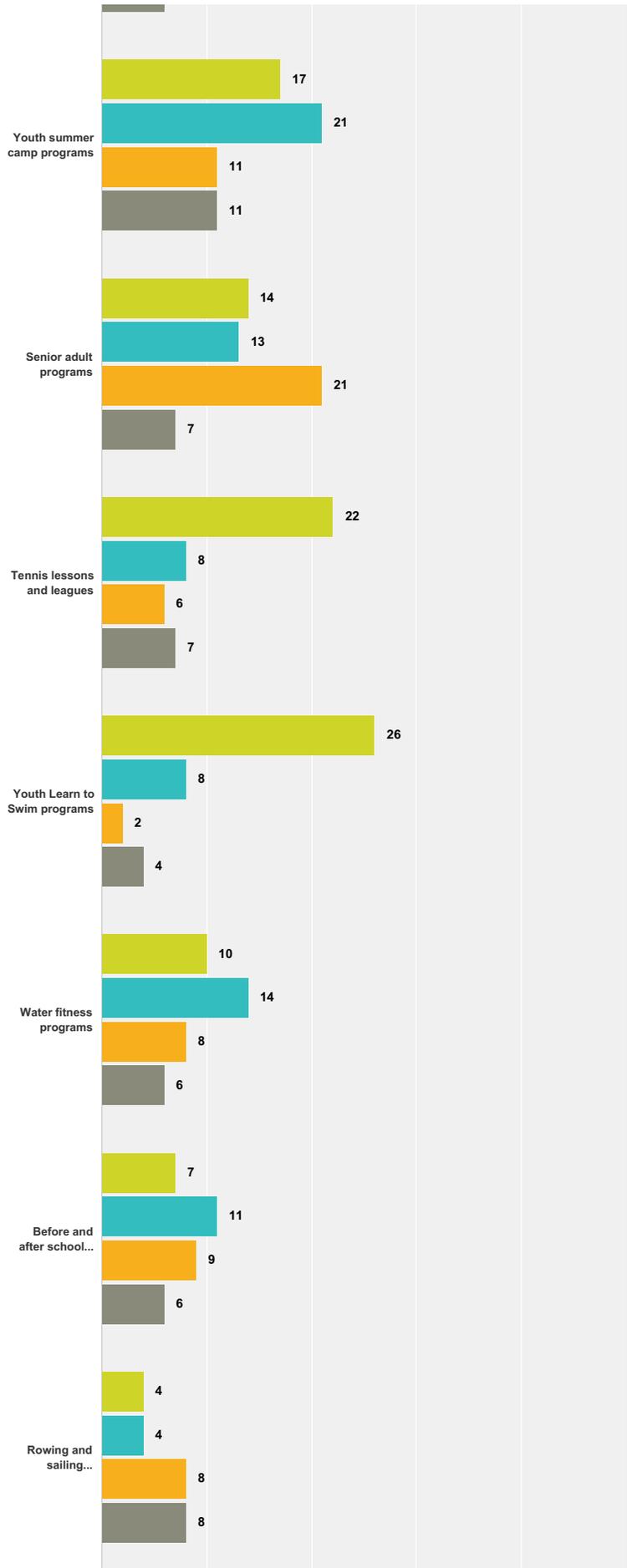
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q18 Which FOUR of the programs and activities from the list in Question 16, also shown below, do you or any members of your household participate in the MOST at St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department facilities? [Please select the facilities that are your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices.]**

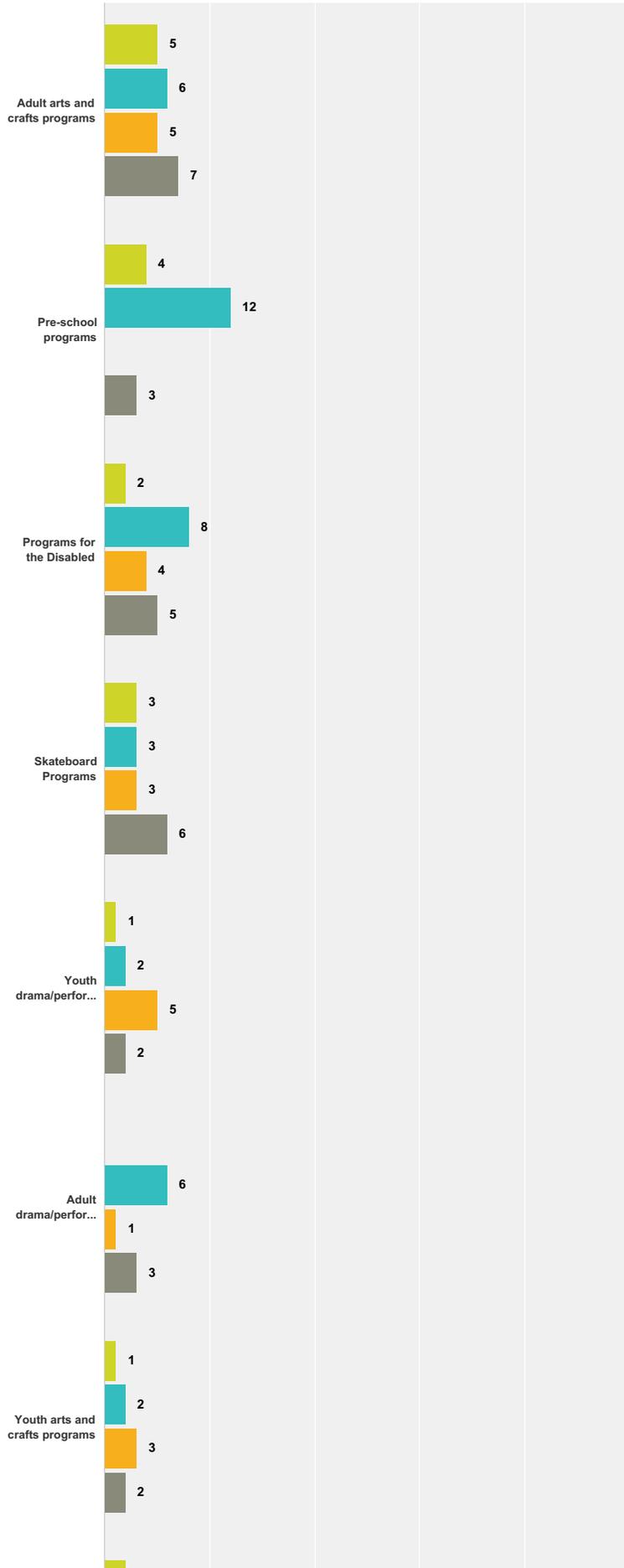
Answered: 356 Skipped: 331



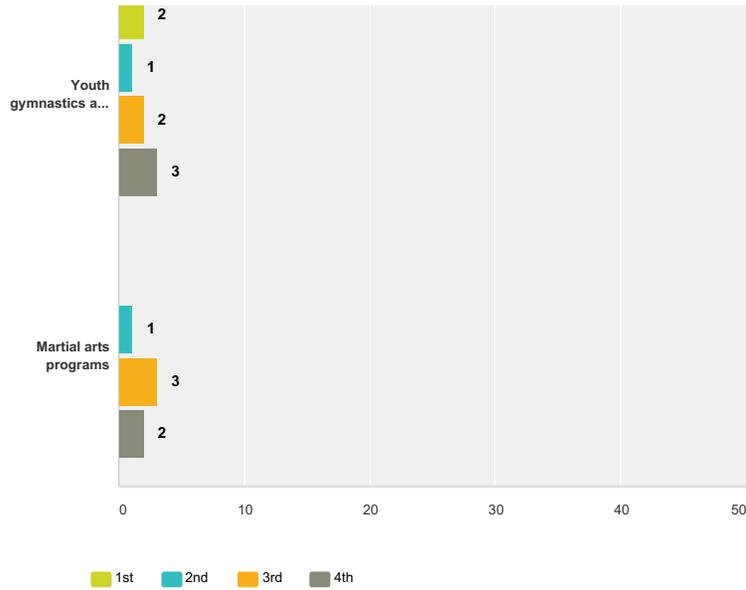
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

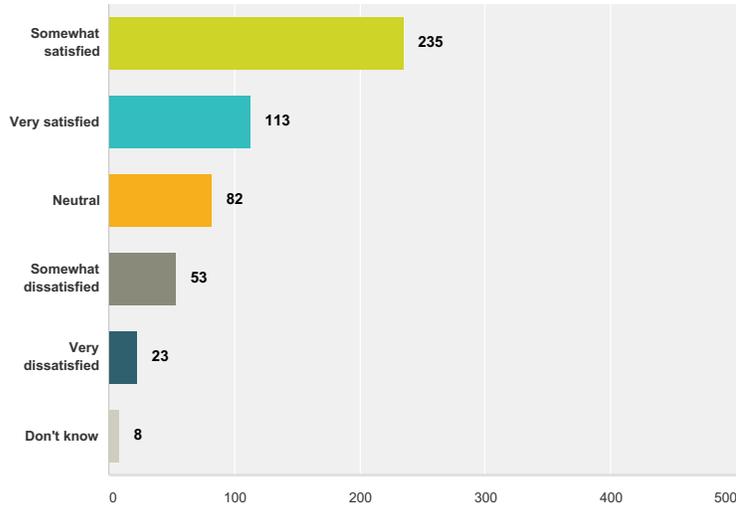


	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Concerts/Live Music	28.37% 40	34.75% 49	25.53% 36	11.35% 16	141
Nature/Environmental programs	35.77% 49	23.36% 32	21.17% 29	19.71% 27	137
Special events	16.94% 21	26.61% 33	25.81% 32	30.65% 38	124
Adult fitness and wellness programs	35.85% 38	22.64% 24	18.87% 20	22.64% 24	106
Youth sports programs	63.29% 50	20.25% 16	10.13% 8	6.33% 5	79
Fishing programs	51.61% 32	11.29% 7	27.42% 17	9.68% 6	62
Youth summer camp programs	28.33% 17	35.00% 21	18.33% 11	18.33% 11	60
Senior adult programs	25.45% 14	23.64% 13	38.18% 21	12.73% 7	55
Tennis lessons and leagues	51.16% 22	18.60% 8	13.95% 6	16.28% 7	43
Youth Learn to Swim programs	65.00% 26	20.00% 8	5.00% 2	10.00% 4	40
Water fitness programs	26.32% 10	36.84% 14	21.05% 8	15.79% 6	38
Before and after school programs	21.21% 7	33.33% 11	27.27% 9	18.18% 6	33
Rowing and sailing Programs	16.67% 4	16.67% 4	33.33% 8	33.33% 8	24
Adult arts and crafts programs	21.74% 5	26.09% 6	21.74% 5	30.43% 7	23
Pre-school programs	21.05% 4	63.16% 12	0.00% 0	15.79% 3	19
Programs for the Disabled	10.53% 2	42.11% 8	21.05% 4	26.32% 5	19
Skateboard Programs	20.00% 3	20.00% 3	20.00% 3	40.00% 6	15
Youth drama/performing arts	10.00% 1	20.00% 2	50.00% 5	20.00% 2	10
Adult drama/performing arts	0.00% 0	60.00% 6	10.00% 1	30.00% 3	10
Youth arts and crafts programs	12.50% 1	25.00% 2	37.50% 3	25.00% 2	8
Youth gymnastics and cheerleading	25.00% 2	12.50% 1	25.00% 2	37.50% 3	8
Martial arts programs	0.00% 0	16.67% 1	50.00% 3	33.33% 2	6

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q19 Please rate your level of satisfaction with the overall value your household receives from the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department.

Answered: 514 Skipped: 173

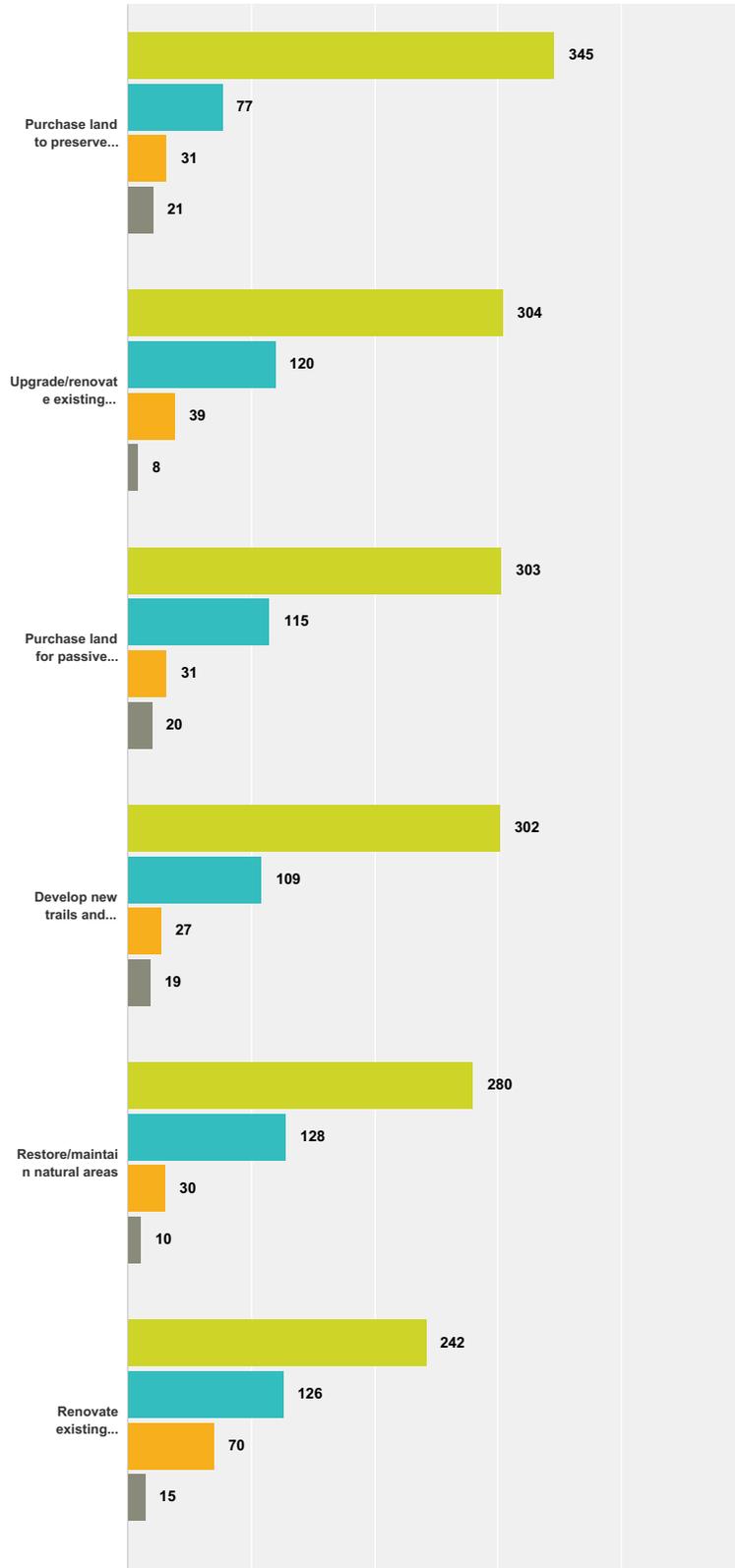


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Somewhat satisfied	45.72%	235
Very satisfied	21.98%	113
Neutral	15.95%	82
Somewhat dissatisfied	10.31%	53
Very dissatisfied	4.47%	23
Don't know	1.56%	8
<b>Total</b>		<b>514</b>

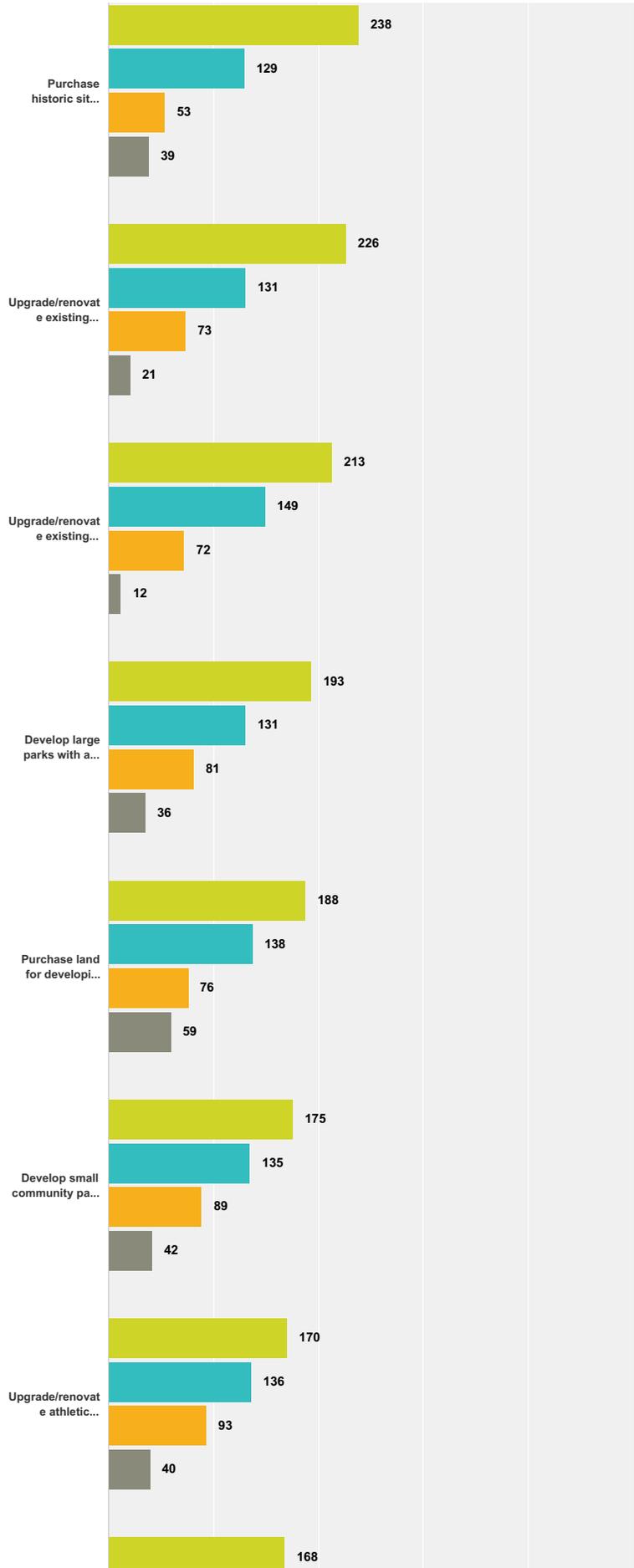
# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q20 The following are actions that the St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Department could take to improve the Parks and Recreation system. Please indicate how supportive you would be of each action by circling the number next to the action.**

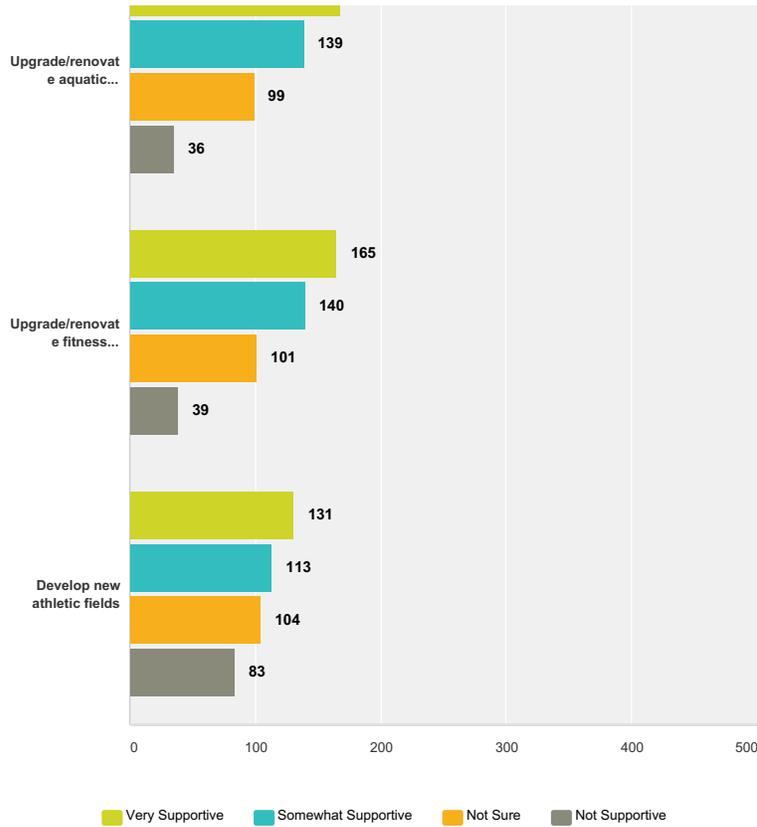
Answered: 501 Skipped: 186



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



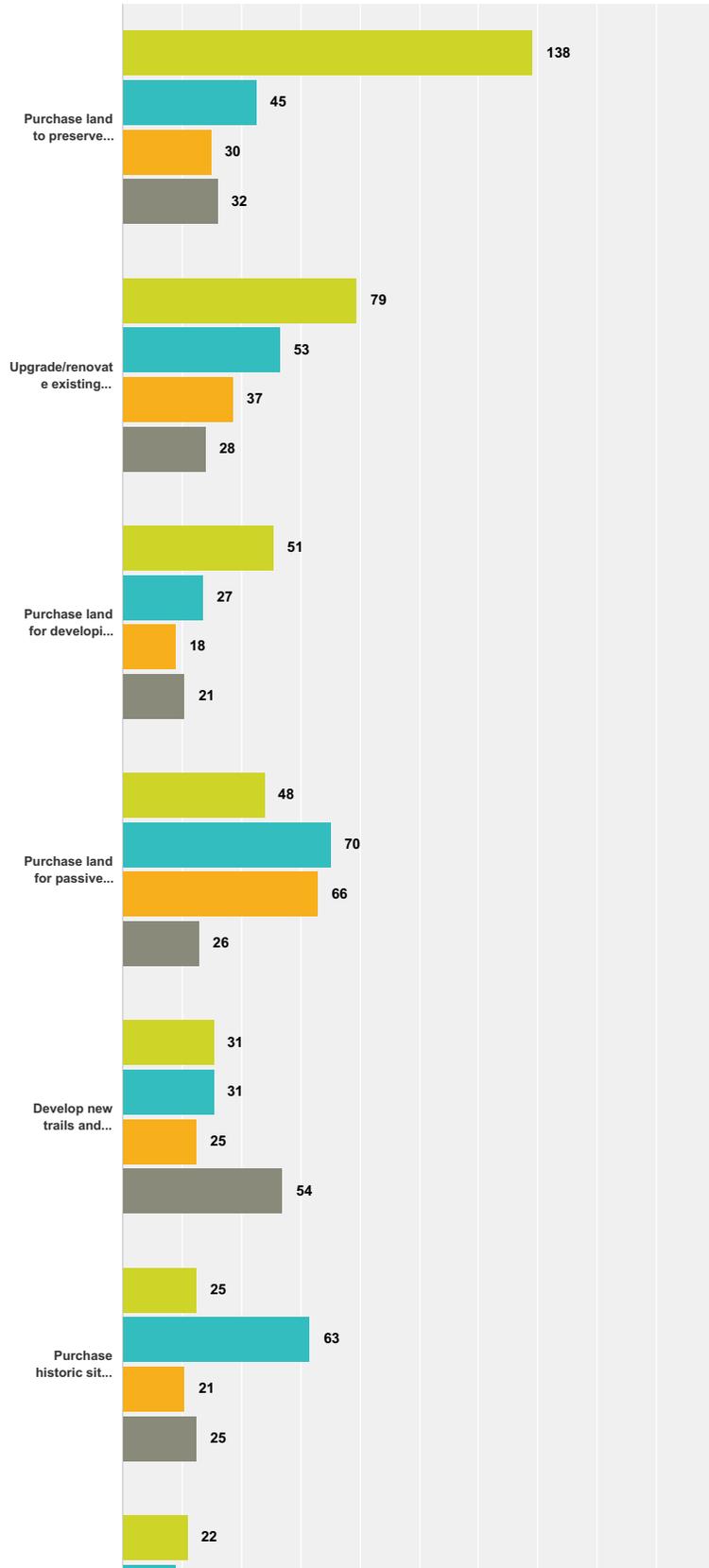
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



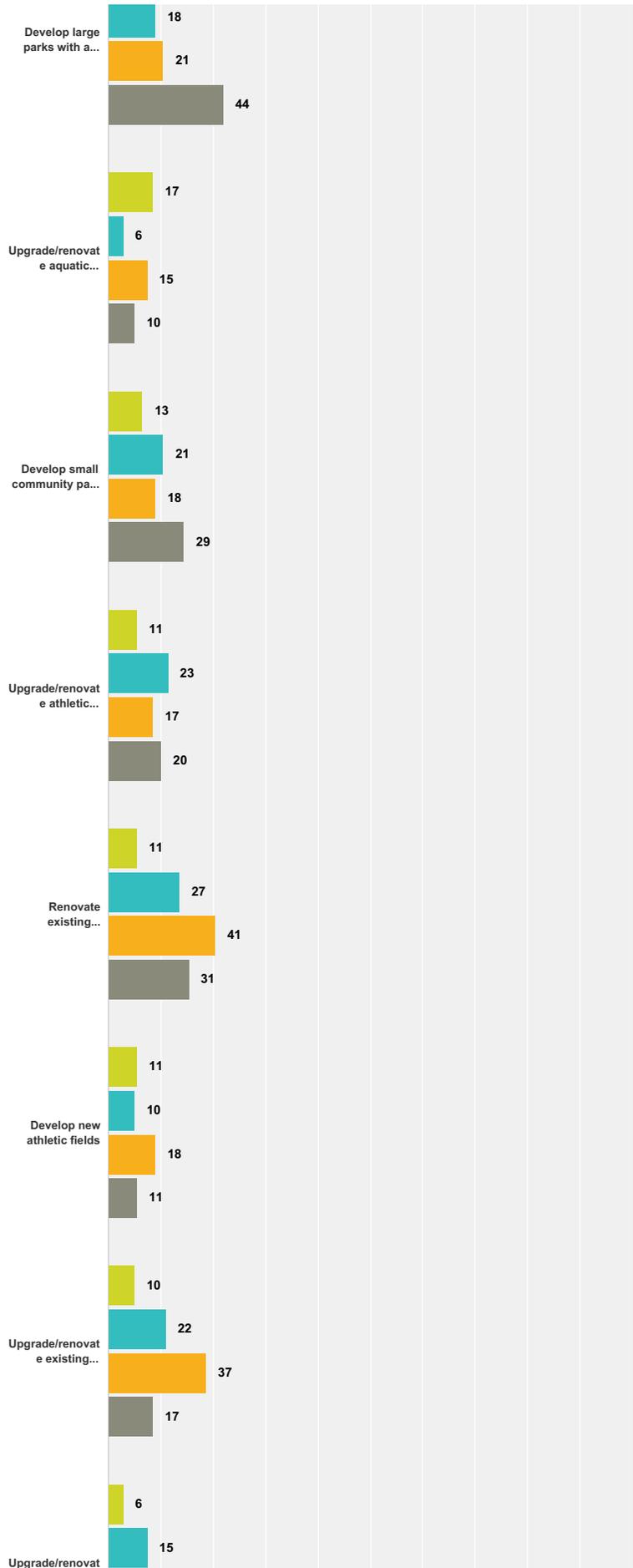
	Very Supportive	Somewhat Supportive	Not Sure	Not Supportive	Total
Purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas	72.78% 345	16.24% 77	6.54% 31	4.43% 21	474
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	64.54% 304	25.48% 120	8.28% 39	1.70% 8	471
Purchase land for passive recreational uses (such as trails, picnic areas, and shelters)	64.61% 303	24.52% 115	6.61% 31	4.26% 20	469
Develop new trails and connect existing trails	66.08% 302	23.85% 109	5.91% 27	4.16% 19	457
Restore/maintain natural areas	62.50% 280	28.57% 128	6.70% 30	2.23% 10	448
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	53.42% 242	27.81% 126	15.45% 70	3.31% 15	453
Purchase historic sites for preservation	51.85% 238	28.10% 129	11.55% 53	8.50% 39	459
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	50.11% 226	29.05% 131	16.19% 73	4.66% 21	451
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	47.76% 213	33.41% 149	16.14% 72	2.69% 12	446
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	43.76% 193	29.71% 131	18.37% 81	8.16% 36	441
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	40.78% 188	29.93% 138	16.49% 76	12.80% 59	461
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	39.68% 175	30.61% 135	20.18% 89	9.52% 42	441
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	38.72% 170	30.98% 136	21.18% 93	9.11% 40	439
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	38.01% 168	31.45% 139	22.40% 99	8.14% 36	442
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	37.08% 165	31.46% 140	22.70% 101	8.76% 39	445
Develop new athletic fields	30.39% 131	26.22% 113	24.13% 104	19.26% 83	431

**Q21 Which FOUR of these items would you be most willing to fund with your County tax dollars? [Please select the items that are your 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th choices.]**

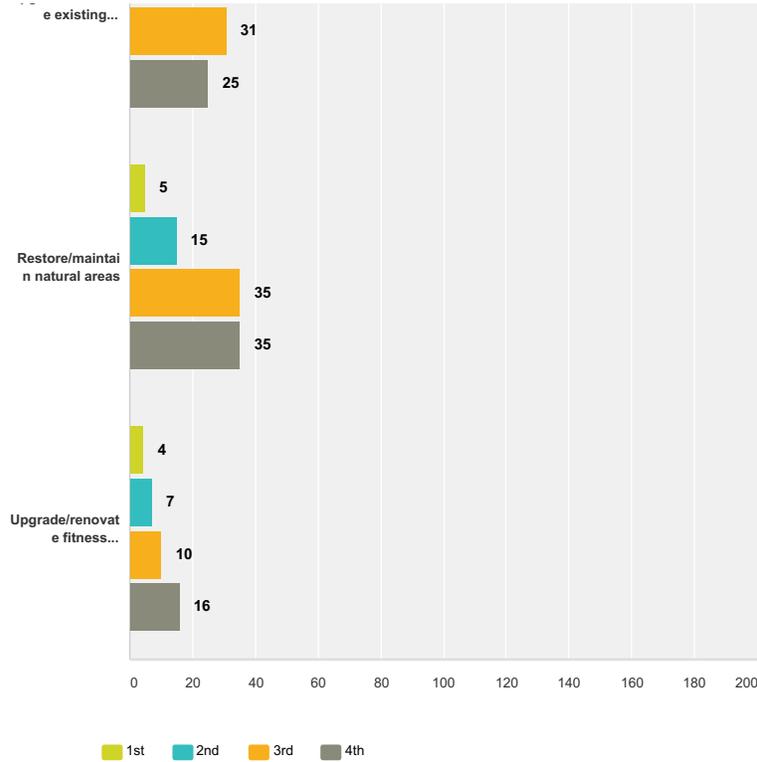
Answered: 483 Skipped: 204



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey



# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

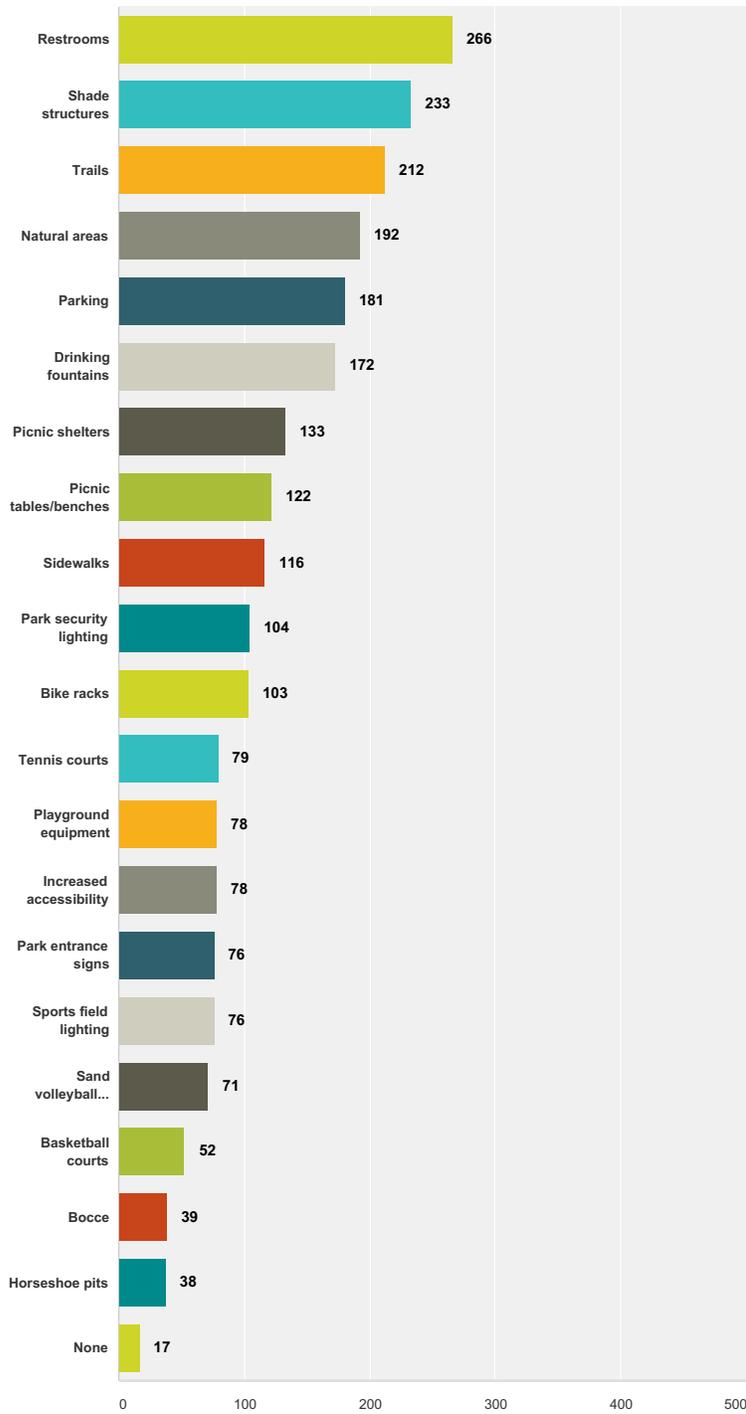


	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	Total
Purchase land to preserve open space and natural areas	56.33% 138	18.37% 45	12.24% 30	13.06% 32	245
Upgrade/renovate existing beach access parks	40.10% 79	26.90% 53	18.78% 37	14.21% 28	197
Purchase land for developing athletic fields & recreational facilities	43.59% 51	23.08% 27	15.38% 18	17.95% 21	117
Purchase land for passive recreational uses (such as trails, picnic areas, and shelters)	22.86% 48	33.33% 70	31.43% 66	12.38% 26	210
Develop new trails and connect existing trails	21.99% 31	21.99% 31	17.73% 25	38.30% 54	141
Purchase historic sites for preservation	18.66% 25	47.01% 63	15.67% 21	18.66% 25	134
Develop large parks with a greater variety of recreational facilities that serve a wider area	20.95% 22	17.14% 18	20.00% 21	41.90% 44	105
Upgrade/renovate aquatic facilities at existing recreation centers	35.42% 17	12.50% 6	31.25% 15	20.83% 10	48
Develop small community parks with limited recreational facilities that serve those nearby	16.05% 13	25.93% 21	22.22% 18	35.80% 29	81
Upgrade/renovate athletic fields, including lighting	15.49% 11	32.39% 23	23.94% 17	28.17% 20	71
Renovate existing walking/biking trails	10.00% 11	24.55% 27	37.27% 41	28.18% 31	110
Develop new athletic fields	22.00% 11	20.00% 10	36.00% 18	22.00% 11	50
Upgrade/renovate existing neighborhood parks	11.63% 10	25.58% 22	43.02% 37	19.77% 17	86
Upgrade/renovate existing County-wide parks	7.79% 6	19.48% 15	40.26% 31	32.47% 25	77
Restore/maintain natural areas	5.56% 5	16.67% 15	38.89% 35	38.89% 35	90
Upgrade/renovate fitness facilities at existing recreation centers	10.81% 4	18.92% 7	27.03% 10	43.24% 16	37

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q22** Listed below are potential additions that could be made to St. Johns County Parks. Please check ALL the additions you would most like to have made to the parks nearest to your residence.

Answered: 502 Skipped: 185



Answer Choices	Responses
Restrooms	52.99% 266
Shade structures	46.41% 233
Trails	42.23% 212

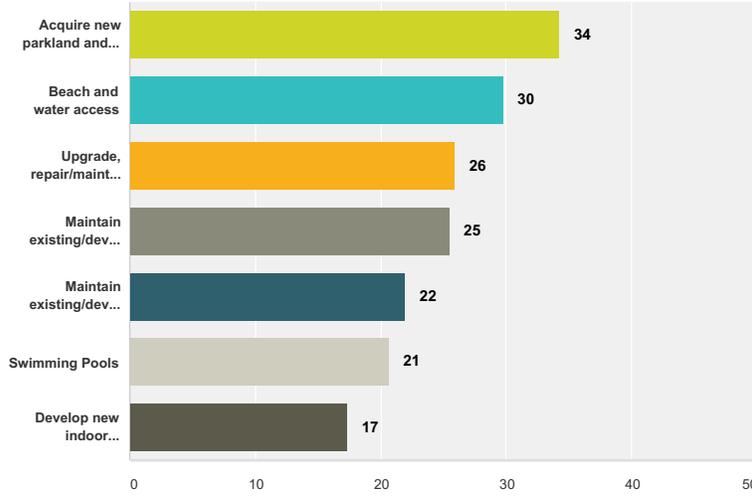
## St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

Natural areas	38.25%	192
Parking	36.06%	181
Drinking fountains	34.26%	172
Picnic shelters	26.49%	133
Picnic tables/benches	24.30%	122
Sidewalks	23.11%	116
Park security lighting	20.72%	104
Bike racks	20.52%	103
Tennis courts	15.74%	79
Playground equipment	15.54%	78
Increased accessibility	15.54%	78
Park entrance signs	15.14%	76
Sports field lighting	15.14%	76
Sand volleyball courts	14.14%	71
Basketball courts	10.36%	52
Bocce	7.77%	39
Horseshoe pits	7.57%	38
None	3.39%	17
<b>Total Respondents: 502</b>		

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q23 If an additional \$100 were available for Parks and Recreation facilities in St. Johns County, how would you allocate the funds among the categories listed below? [Please be sure that your allocation adds up to \$100.]**

Answered: 433 Skipped: 254

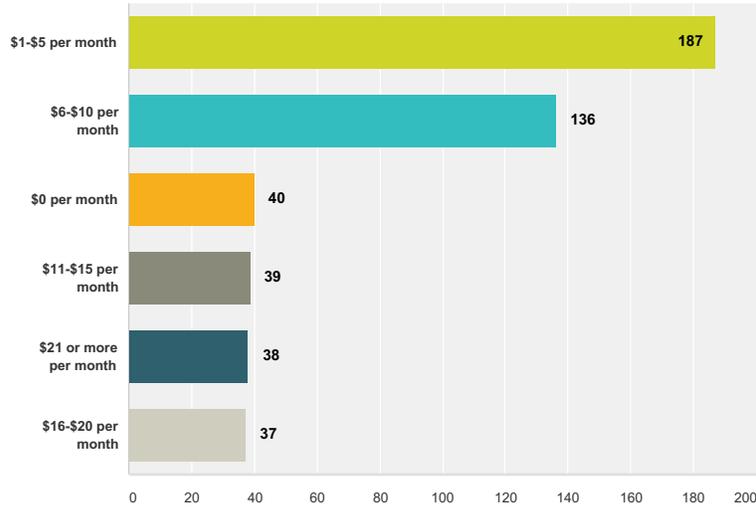


Answer Choices	Average Number	Total Number	Responses
Acquire new parkland and open space	34	10,454	303
Beach and water access	30	8,233	276
Upgrade, repair/maintain existing parks, community centers and playgrounds	26	7,451	286
Maintain existing/develop new sports facilities	25	5,345	208
Maintain existing/develop new trails	22	5,489	250
Swimming Pools	21	3,476	168
Develop new indoor recreation facilities (exercise, walking track, gyms, etc.)	17	3,052	176
<b>Total Respondents: 433</b>			

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q24 In order to fund improvements to the parks and recreation system, it may require some additional fees or tax support. How much in additional fees or taxes would you be willing to pay to fund the types of parks, trails, water front facilities, sports fields, indoor facilities and program services that are most important to you and members of your household? [Please check ONE.]**

Answered: 477 Skipped: 210

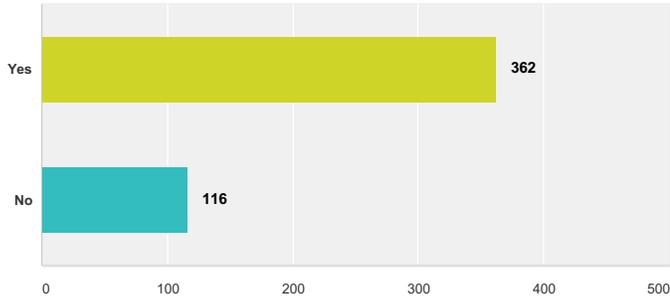


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
\$1-\$5 per month	39.20%	187
\$6-\$10 per month	28.51%	136
\$0 per month	8.39%	40
\$11-\$15 per month	8.18%	39
\$21 or more per month	7.97%	38
\$16-\$20 per month	7.76%	37
<b>Total</b>		<b>477</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q25 Would you support a 1/2-cent sales tax to maintain the quality of life in the County including improvements to the parks and recreation system?

Answered: 478 Skipped: 209

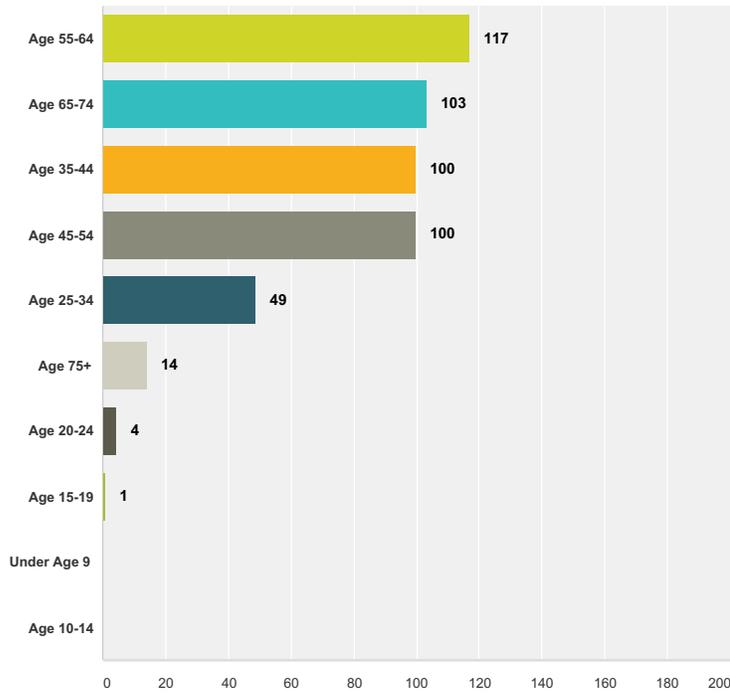


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Yes	75.73%	362
No	24.27%	116
<b>Total</b>		<b>478</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q26 What is your age?

Answered: 488 Skipped: 199

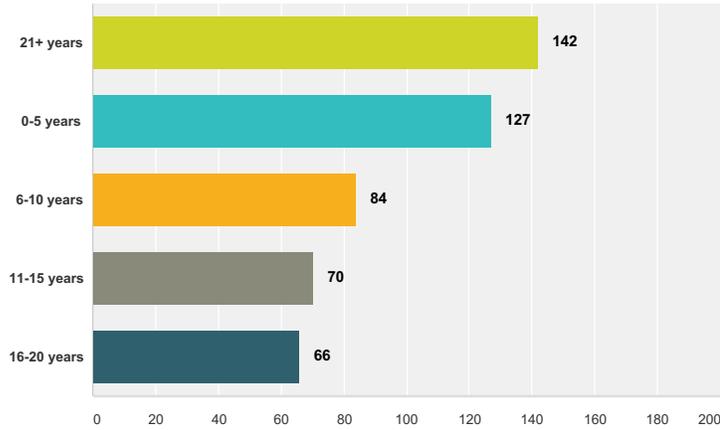


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
Age 55-64	23.98%	117
Age 65-74	21.11%	103
Age 35-44	20.49%	100
Age 45-54	20.49%	100
Age 25-34	10.04%	49
Age 75+	2.87%	14
Age 20-24	0.82%	4
Age 15-19	0.20%	1
Under Age 9	0.00%	0
Age 10-14	0.00%	0
<b>Total</b>		<b>488</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q27 How long have you lived in St. Johns County?

Answered: 489 Skipped: 198

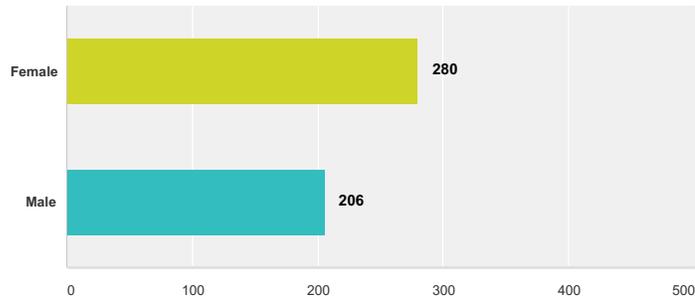


Answer Choices	Responses	Count
21+ years	29.04%	142
0-5 years	25.97%	127
6-10 years	17.18%	84
11-15 years	14.31%	70
16-20 years	13.50%	66
<b>Total</b>		<b>489</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q28 What is your gender?

Answered: 486 Skipped: 201

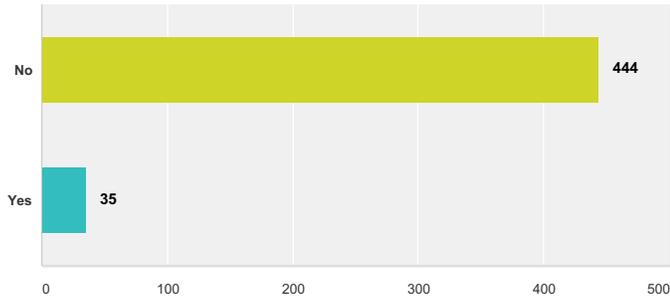


Answer Choices	Responses	
Female	57.61%	280
Male	42.39%	206
<b>Total</b>		<b>486</b>

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

## Q29 Are you or other members of your household of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish ancestry?

Answered: 479 Skipped: 208

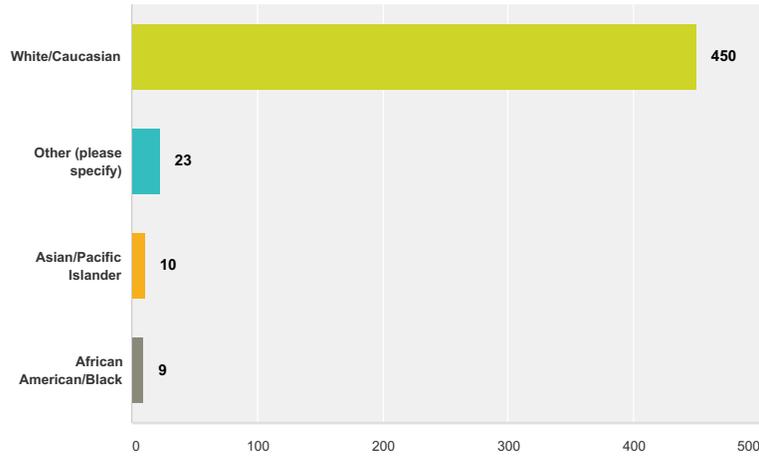


Answer Choices	Responses	
No	92.69%	444
Yes	7.31%	35
<b>Total</b>		<b>479</b>

St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q30 Which of the following best describes your race? (Check all that apply.)**

Answered: 480 Skipped: 207



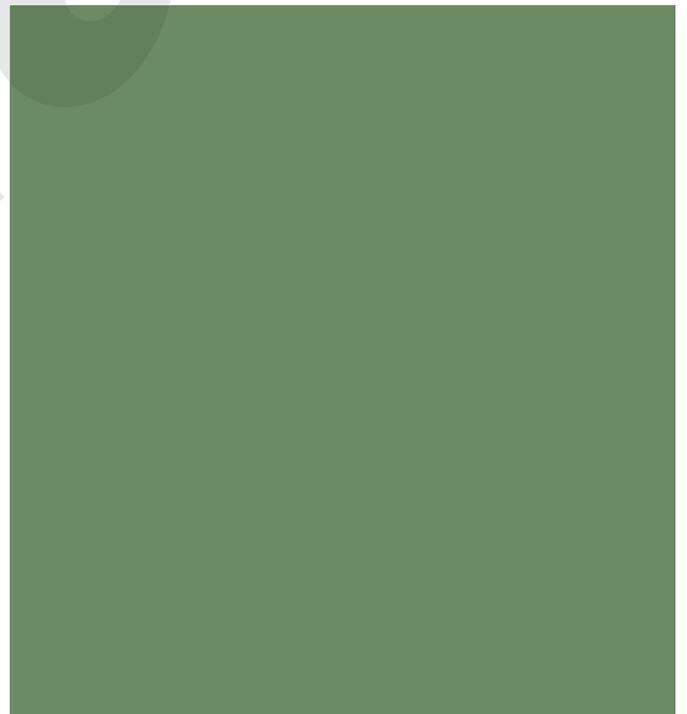
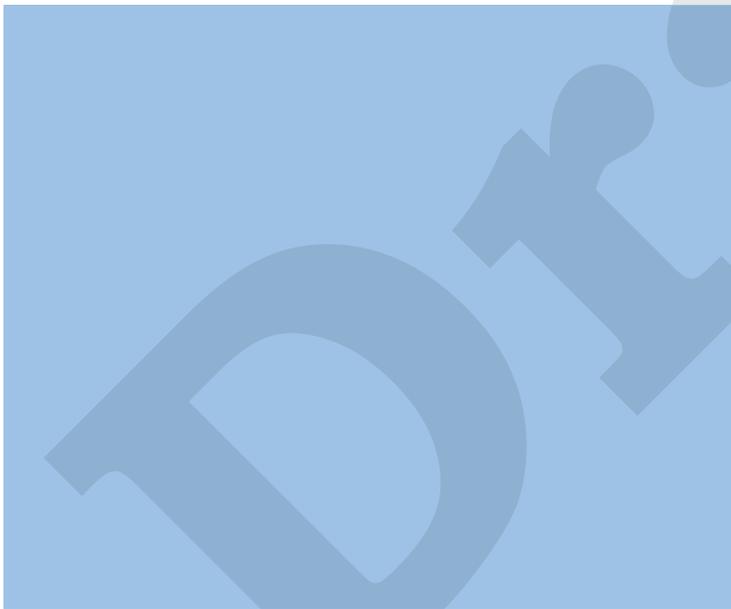
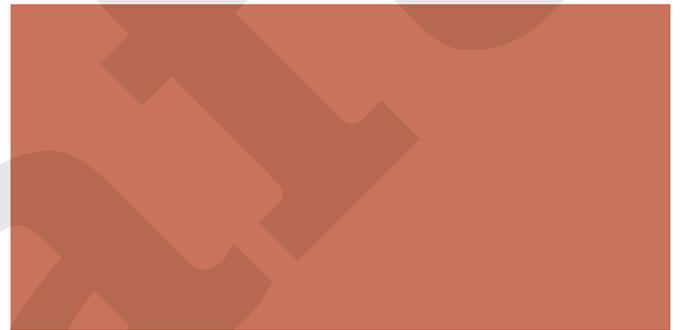
Answer Choices	Responses
White/Caucasian	93.75% 450
Other (please specify)	4.79% 23
Asian/Pacific Islander	2.08% 10
African American/Black	1.88% 9
<b>Total Respondents: 480</b>	

# St. Johns County Parks and Recreation Survey

**Q31 Your responses will remain completely confidential. The address information to the right will ONLY be used to help identify areas with special interests. Thank you!**

Answered: 410 Skipped: 277

Answer Choices	Responses	
Name	0.00%	0
Company	0.00%	0
Address	78.05%	320
Address 2	2.68%	11
City/Town	84.39%	346
State/Province	0.00%	0
ZIP/Postal Code	99.27%	407
Country	0.00%	0
Email Address	0.00%	0
Phone Number	0.00%	0



**St. Johns County Parks & Recreation**

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