



SECTION 1 | Introduction

Site Evaluation: Facilities

To better understand how the City of Sunrise's park system functions, the existing facilities and their functionality were evaluated based on the following typology:

- **Neighborhood Park** | a small park, generally 3 to 10 acres in size, which serves the basic recreation needs of neighborhoods in the urbanized area.
- **Community Park** | a larger park, generally 10 to 30 acres in size, which serves larger scale recreation needs of the urbanized area.
- **Regional Park** | a large park, generally over 30 acres in size, which serves a regional recreation purpose and attracts users from many communities
- **Urban Open Space** | a small space within the urbanized area between 1 and 3 acres, which serves passive urban recreation needs and typically contains some percentage of hardscape.
- **Resource Park** | a park based on the presence of a natural or cultural resource with some recreation opportunities.
- **Special-Use Facility** | a park or open space that provides a single/specific type of recreation facility. These parks generally have a high amount or programming.
- **Shared -Use Facility** | a non-specific recreation area managed by an entity other than the City of Sunrise Leisure Services Department (such as a public school), but shares the use of it's grounds and facilities with the City. The existing condition of the shared-use facilities in Sunrise were not evaluated by the project team.

Figure 1.1b shows the distribution of the different types of parks and recreation facilities found in Sunrise.

SECTION 1.1 | Process:

To evaluate how each individual park site is performing, the project team used the following criteria, developed by the Project for Public Spaces (PPS), a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people create and sustain public spaces that build stronger communities.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

- Is the park easy to reach?
- Can someone who lives nearby easily walk into the park?
- Does the park have clear signage and information?

Comfort and Image:

- What is the first impression someone has of the park?
- Is the park clean and well kept?
- Are there comfortable places sit?
- Does the park provide protection from bad weather?

Uses and Sociability:

- If the space is a general park, is there a mix of things to do?
- If the space is a special use park, how well does it fulfill its intended function?
- Is the park busy?
- How much of the park space is used versus parts that are unused?

To compliment the PPS guidelines, AECOM added a fourth category :

Opportunities:

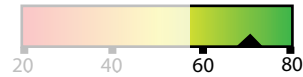
- How flexible is the park design?
- Are there any revenue/partnership/environmental opportunities?
- Is there evidence of embraced heritage resources such as accessible historical sites, interpretative signage, and/or features that help illustrate the history of the City?
- Is there evidence of design standards?

(A copy of the evaluation form used by the project team can be found in the Appendix)

Once an evaluation was made for each park it was assigned a score based

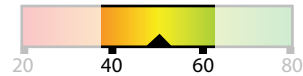
on how well it met the PPS and AECOM criteria. Once all scores were assigned, a matrix was created (**Figure 1.1a**) that allowed system-wide trends to become visible. It is important to note that there is no “one size fits all” set of criteria that can accurately evaluate every type of park, however seeing each individual park’s score helps to generate a general idea if that park is:

• **Exceeding Expectations :**



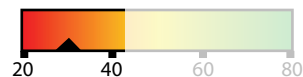
These parks are not only functioning as intended, it is also exceptionally well maintained, aesthetically pleasing, and safe. The park accommodates a wide variety of uses and consistently has a high level of activity. These parks show clear evidence of good design standards and some embraced heritage resources. There are many ways for users to be able to access the park including mass transit. These parks score in the 60-80 range.

• **Meeting Expectations :**



These parks function as intended. They are well maintained, and aesthetically pleasing. The park can accommodate several different activities and has a moderate level of activity. This park may or may not have a transit stop near by, but has reasonable sidewalk connectivity. This park is generally compatible with the surrounding land uses and provides the user with a genuine feeling of safety. These types of parks score in the 40-60 range.

• **Does Not Meet Expectations :**



These parks are not currently performing as intended, although they may still be well maintained and/or aesthetically pleasing. These types of parks have a low level of activity, few accommodated uses, and may not be compatible with the surrounding uses. These parks might or might not be perceived as safe by their users. It is common for these parks to be difficult to access either by transit or on foot. These types of parks score in the 20-40 range.

Figure 1.1a Parks Scoring Matrix

**CITY OF SUNRISE PARKS EVALUATION
SCORING MATRIX**

		S. CIVIC CENTER	FLAMINGO PARK	WELLEBY PARK	NOB HILL PARK	S. ATHLETIC COMPLEX	S. SENIOR CENTER	S. TENNIS CTR.	VILLAGE MULTIPURPOSE CTR.	SAWGRASS SANCTUARY	FLAMINGO RD. LINEAR PARK	OSCAR WIND PARK	PIPER FIELD	S. GOLF CLUB	ROARKE CLUB	SHOTGUN COM. CTR.	VILLAGE RD. LINEAR PARK	CITY PARK	ROLLER BEACH CLUB	NEW HOCKEY CTR.	VILLAGE CIVIC CTR.	GOLF SQUARE PARK	12TH STREET PARK	AVERAGE	
PROXIMITY, ACCESS, & LINKAGES	(MAX 25)	21	18	15	18	20	20	19	16	12	17	15	16	17	16	15	16	16	13	8	15	11	13	15.7 / 25	
VISIBILITY FROM A DISTANCE	(MAX 4)	2	3	3	3	2	3	2	3	1	3	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	2	1	3	1	2	2.3	
EASE IN WALKING TO THE PARK	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	3	4	2	3	2	3	4	4	4	3	2	4	2	3	3	1	3	2	4	3.1	
TRANSIT ACCESS	(MAX 4)	4	3	1	3	3	4	4	3	1	3	1	1	4	2	1	3	3	2	1	3	4	1	2.5	
CLARITY OF INFORMATIONAL SIGNAGE	(MAX 4)	3	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1.3	
ADA COMPLIANCE	(MAX 4)	4	2	3	3	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	3	3	4	3	3	2	3	2	3	2	1	2.9	
COMPATIBILITY W/ ADJACENT SPACES	(MAX 4)	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	3	2	3	3	4	2	3	4	4	4	1	1	2	1	4	3	
SAFETY LIGHTING*	(MAX 1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2.9	
COMFORT & IMAGE	(MAX 24)	24	23	24	24	24	21	24	21	23	24	23	22	20	24	19	23	22	18	18	14	10	6	20.3 / 24	
FIRST IMPRESSION/OVERALL ATTRACTIVENESS	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	2	1	1	3.3	
FEELING OF SAFETY	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	2	1	3.6	
CLEANLINESS/OVERALL QUALITY OF MAINTENANCE	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	3	2	1	3.5	
COMFORT OF PLACES TO SIT	(MAX 4)	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	2	4	4	4	3	2	4	2	3	3	2	3	3	2	1	3.1	
PROTECTION FROM INCLIMATE WEATHER	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	4	1	4	4	4	4	2	1	1	3.4	
EVIDENCE OF MANAGEMENT/STEWARDSHIP	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	2	2	1	3.6	
USES, ACTIVITY, & SOCIABILITY	(MAX 16)	16	15	15	14	14	13	12	13	11	9	11	10	8	5	8	8	4	6	5	4	4	4	9.5 / 16	
MIX OF USES/THINGS TO DO	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.3	
LEVEL OF ACTIVITY	(MAX 4)	4	3	3	4	4	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	1	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	2.4	
SENSE OF PRIDE/OWNERSHIP	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	2	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	2.7	
FREQUENCY OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES/EVENTS	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	3	2	3	3	4	3	1	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2.1	
OPPORTUNITIES	(MAX 19)	16	14	15	12	8	11	10	13	18	7	8	9	11	7	8	8	7	7	12	5	8	7	10.0 / 19	
PROGRAMMING FLEXIBILITY	(MAX 4)	3	3	4	2	1	3	2	4	4	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	2.1
REVENUE OPPORTUNITIES	(MAX 4)	4	4	4	2	3	3	3	3	4	1	1	1	4	1	2	3	1	1	4	1	1	1	2.4	
PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	(MAX 4)	4	3	1	4	1	2	2	3	3	1	1	4	2	1	1	1	1	2	4	1	1	1	2	
"GREEN"/ENVIRONMENTAL OPPORTUNITIES	(MAX 4)	2	2	3	2	1	1	1	1	4	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1.5	
EVIDENCE OF DESIGN STANDARDS*	(MAX 1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	0	3.6	
EVIDENCE OF EMBRACED HERITAGE RESOURCES*	(MAX 1)	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0.5	
EVIDENCE OF MAINTENANCE STANDARDS*	(MAX 1)	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	3.8	
TOTAL		78	70	69	68	66	65	65	63	60	57	57	57	56	52	50	50	49	44	43	38	33	30	55.5	

*BONUS POINT ADDITIONAL TO 80PT TOTAL

Figure 1.1b shows the distribution of the different types of parks and recreation facilities found in Sunrise.

Figure 1.1b Existing Parks and Recreation System Facilities Map

EXISTING PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM | Facilities



LEGEND

- City of Sunrise
- Water
- Roadway
- City-Owned Parks
- County Parks
- Undeveloped Facilities

REGIONAL PARKS

Markham County Park

COMMUNITY PARKS

- 1 City Park
- 2 Flamingo Park
- 3 Oscar Wind Park

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

- 4 12th Street Park
- 5 Golf Village Park

RESOURCE PARKS

- 6 Sawgrass Sanctuary
- 7 Shotgun Road Linear Park
- 8 Welleby Passive Park

SPECIAL USE FACILITIES

- 9 New River Civic Center
- 10 Nob Hill Park (Soccer Club Park)
- 11 Piper Field
- 12 Roark Hall
- 13 Roller Hockey Complex
- 14 Springtree Country Club
- 15 Sunrise Athletic Complex
- 16 Sunrise Civic Center
- 17 Sunrise Senior Center
- 18 Sunrise Tennis Club Park
- 19 Village Beach Club
- 20 Village Multi-Purpose Center

URBAN OPEN SPACE

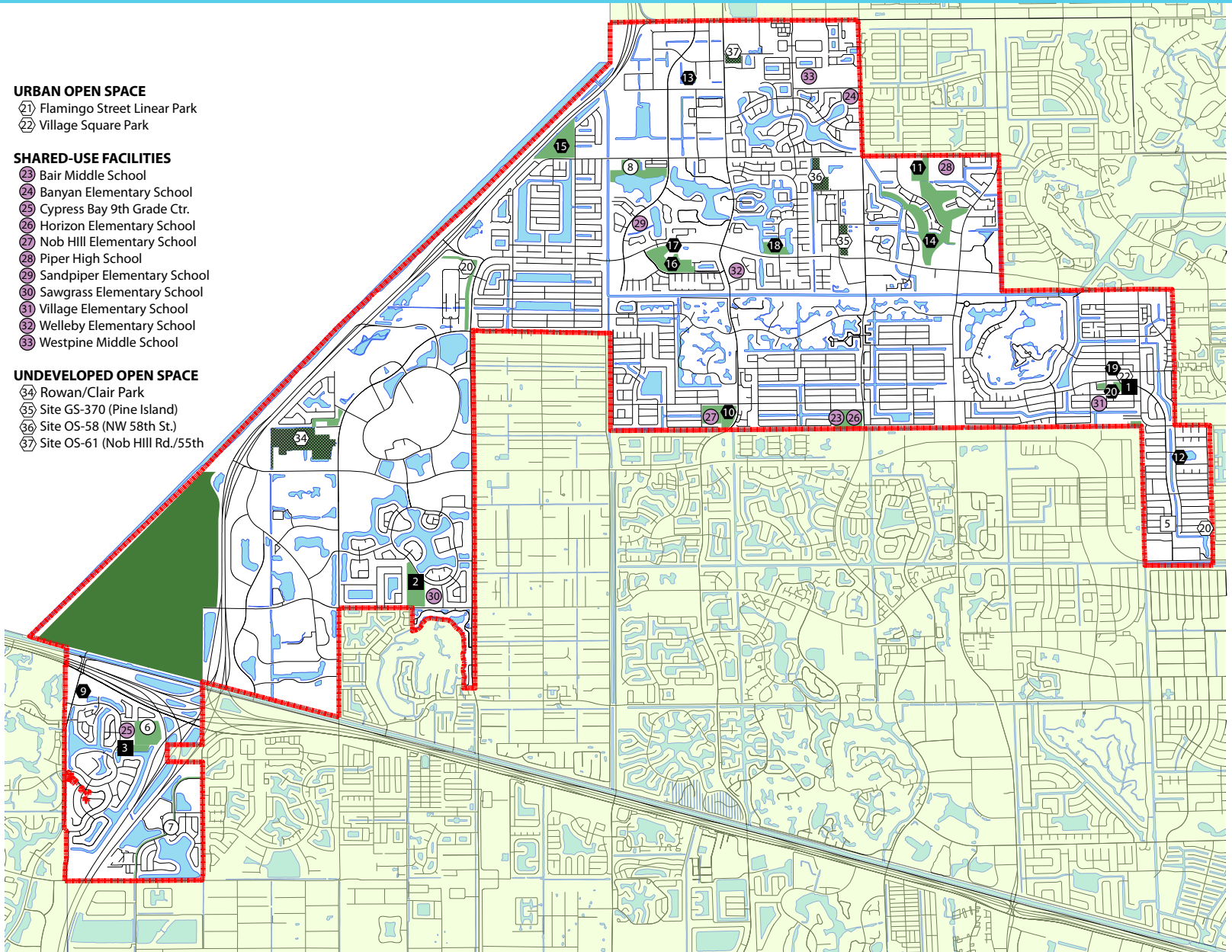
- 21 Flamingo Street Linear Park
- 22 Village Square Park

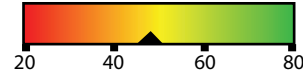
SHARED-USE FACILITIES

- 23 Bair Middle School
- 24 Banyan Elementary School
- 25 Cypress Bay 9th Grade Ctr.
- 26 Horizon Elementary School
- 27 Nob Hill Elementary School
- 28 Piper High School
- 29 Sandpiper Elementary School
- 30 Sawgrass Elementary School
- 31 Village Elementary School
- 32 Welleby Elementary School
- 33 Westpine Middle School

UNDEVELOPED OPEN SPACE

- 34 Rowan/Clair Park
- 35 Site GS-370 (Pine Island)
- 36 Site OS-58 (NW 58th St.)
- 37 Site OS-61 (Nob Hill Rd./55th)





CITY PARK

Park Type: Community (8.5 acres)

Summary:

City Park is located on the south side of Sunset Strip, east of 68th Avenue. This compact park offers two (2) softball fields, two (2) tennis courts, and a playground.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park is compatible with the adjacent school, multi-purpose center, and future library due to their shared civic nature, though a clearly reinforced physical connection, such as a common promenade, is lacking. Although City Park is located along a major road, the amount of fencing obscures the view into the park and limits ease of user access.

Comfort & Image:

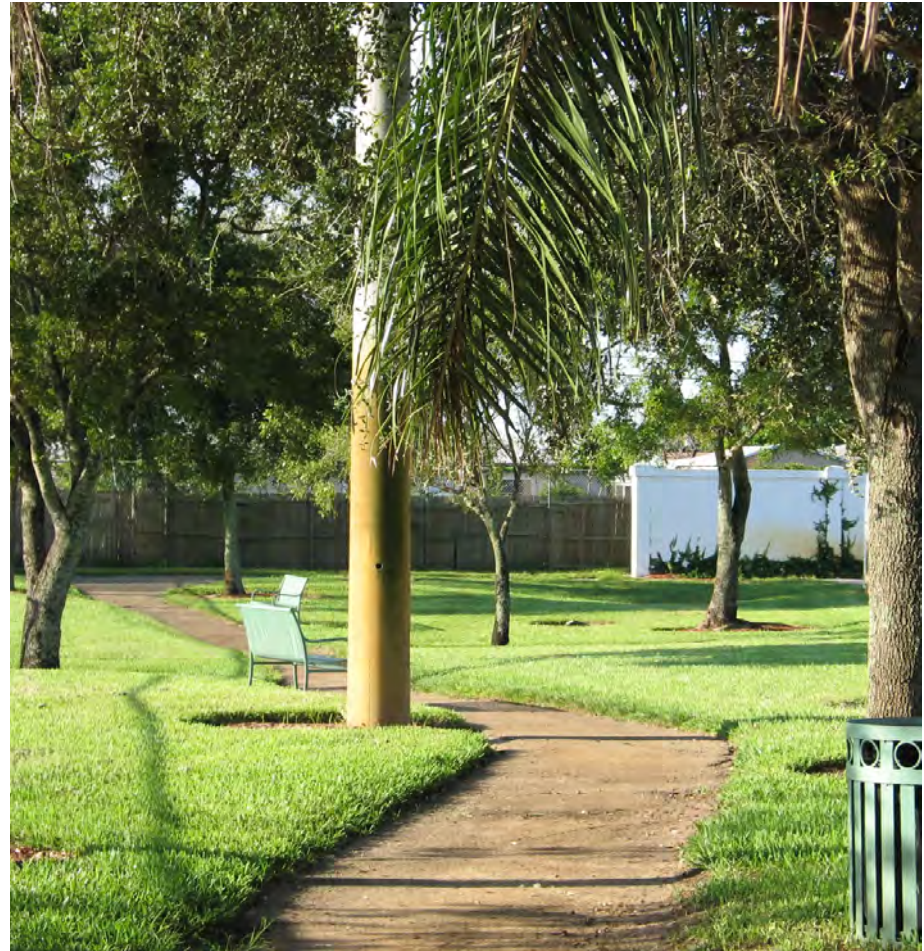
This park is attractive from the inside, but due to the multiple fences/walls it feels very enclosed. The park features are in good condition and are well maintained. The parking lot creates an unwelcomed separation between the park and the adjacent compatible uses.

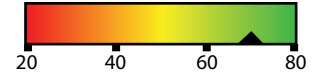
Uses & Sociability:

Due to the high amount of programming within the park, there is very little flexible open space. The children attending the adjacent school appear to use the playground, but lack the open space to run around. This lack of open space limits the amount of users the park is actually serving.

Opportunities:

A significant opportunity for City Park is reinforcing the physical connection with the adjacent school and multi-purpose center to allow for larger and more cohesive civic space. Doing so would increase the variety of both users and activities by allowing a shared use of all three existing facilities.





Flamingo Park

Park Type: Community (22.1 acres)

Summary:

Flamingo Park is adjacent to Sawgrass Elementary School on the northern side of NW 8th Street. This park features two (2) baseball fields, a soccer field, tennis court, playground, multi-purpose path, three (3) basketball courts, and an indoor meeting room.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Because of this park's set-back from the main road, visibility into the facility is limited. This park is mostly accessible and allows for ease when walking. The park is compatible with the surrounding residential land uses, however there is a current need for more pedestrian connections into these communities.

Comfort & Image:

This park is both welcoming and well maintained, offering its users safety and protection from bad weather. There are many areas to sit in this park, however few are private/peaceful. The park may benefit from the addition of seating areas that are set back from the active park uses.

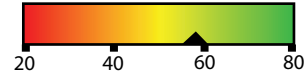
Uses & Sociability:

Flamingo Park offers a wide variety of activities that can accommodate people of all ages. Due to the sports leagues activity, the highest levels of activity occur during the evening and on the weekend.

Opportunities:

The park could generate revenue by installing and then renting pavilions. The addition of "destination" items such as a splash-pad, would also help draw in additional users. Due to the City's reciprocal use agreement with the Broward County School board there is an existing partnership with the adjacent Sawgrass Elementary that could allow for shared-use of their indoor recreational facilities. .





FLAMINGO ROAD LINEAR PARK

Park Type: Urban Open Space (13.2 acres)

Summary:

Running along the western side of Flamingo Road, between Oakland Park Blvd. and Panther Pkwy, this park offers users a paved multi-purpose trail with LifeTrail wellness/exercise stations, two (2) pavilions, and unprogrammed open space.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park allows for ease in walking as well as multiple transit stops along its route. Because of its location along a main thoroughfare, this linear park is highly visible to the motorist.

Comfort & Image:

This park is relatively new and all of its features are in excellent shape. The walking path can accommodate moderate levels of pedestrian traffic. The exercise equipment is high quality and contributes to the overall aesthetic of the park.

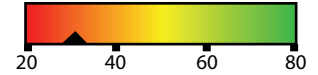
Uses & Sociability:

Because this park is used primarily as a fitness park, there are not as many opportunities for interaction with other users. The only programmed elements are the walking/exercise trail and the LifeTrail stations. The addition of some “destinations,” such as additional picnic pavilions or a playground, could create more opportunities for socialization.

Opportunities:

The park is bordered on the western side by a medium-density residential development, but connections into that community were not apparent. The establishment of both pedestrian and bicycle connections would allow for an increased number of park users and greater community connectivity.





GOLF VILLAGE PARK

Park Type: Neighborhood (1.3 acres)

Summary:

Located on Sunset Strip between NW 12th and NW14th Street, this park offers an embellished seating area and some green space that has been divided in half by a high, serpentine wall. This park also has a rich heritage as it was the location of Sunrise's first police station and City Hall.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park could serve as a civic connection between the residential communities to the east and west of Sunset Strip, however the existing wall prohibits any such connection. The amount of flexible open space in this park would be significant however it too is divided in half by the wall, thus rendering the amount left on either side mostly unusable.

Comfort & Image:

While both halves of this park are well maintained, only the eastern side has any park-like amenities. The existing amenities are high quality and help display the unique heritage of the site.

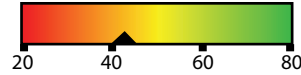
Uses & Sociability:

Because the park is divided into two completely separate halves, the amount of activities that can occur within each portion of the park are limited.

Opportunities:

If there were a passageway from the east side of the park to the west, this park could serve linkage point between communities. Appropriate screen plantings could achieve the same traffic/noise buffer as the wall, while still allowing pedestrian passage between the two spaces.





NEW RIVER CIVIC CENTER

Park Type: Special Use Facility

Summary:

The New River Civic Center is located in the south-western corner of Sunrise on Weston Road. Currently, the public meeting room (capable of seating 190 people) is the only room this multi-use facility that is available for use. In addition, the New River Civic Center houses other City offices, by the Leisure Services Department.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

While easily visible for Weston Road, this facility lacks a close transit access point. Due to the lack of informational signage, it is not readily apparent that the site is a City facility.

Comfort & Image:

The building's architecture is interesting and contributes to the overall pleasing aesthetic of the facility, however it was apparent that portions of the buildings exterior were in need of some maintenance/cleaning.

Uses & Sociability:

This special-use facility only serves one function pertaining to the Leisure Services Department; a public meeting room.

Opportunities:

To ensure a full return on this investment, the center should be frequently used by the community. Increased advertisement of the center's availability and a facility programming strategy could lead to an increased amount of usage.





NOB HILL PARK
Park Type: Special Use Facility (14.2 acres)

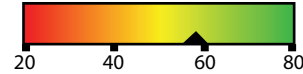
Summary:
 Nob Hill Park, also known as Soccer Club Park is located along Sunset Strip and Nob Hill Road. This park features three (3) lighted soccer fields each with spectator seating, a lake, two (2) bocce ball courts, and Nob Hill Clubhouse.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:
 Because this park is located on the corner of two main roads in Sunrise, it has a high level of visibility. The site provides ample parking for users, but does not have a transit stop within a quarter-mile walking distance.

Comfort & Image:
 The site is functional and well designed. There are many contributing details, such as ornate paving and spectator seating, that make this park unique and fitting for a soccer complex. In addition to being well designed, this park is also well maintained, despite its high level of use.

Uses & Sociability:
 Although this park is a soccer-specific facility, there are a few other recreational opportunities on site. The soccer field to the west is not as formal as those to the east and could therefore serve as a multi-purpose field. There is also room for the addition of a playground near the eastern fields.

Opportunities:
 Nob Hill Elementary School shares the fenced southern border of the soccer complex. Currently, there are two (2) connections between the school and the soccer complex, which could help activate the park during school hours.



OSCAR WIND PARK

Park Type: Community (7.2 acres)

Summary:

Oscar Wind Park is located on New River Circle, just south of the Sawgrass Sanctuary. The park is located along the bank of a lake and features a baseball field, soccer field, picnic pavilion, playground, and a multi-purpose path that connects with Sawgrass Sanctuary.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

One of the great things about this park is that it is directly connected to Sawgrass Sanctuary; the premier passive park in Sunrise. This connection allows users of both parks to be able to choose from a greater variety of recreation amenities and activities. Though there is ample parking on site, there are currently no transit stops within a quarter mile of the park.

Comfort & Image:

This park is well maintained and has a pleasing overall aesthetic. The lake along the southern border adds to the atmosphere of the park, however is generally inaccessible due to the fence running along the length of its bank.

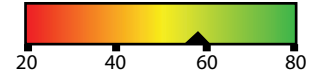
Uses & Sociability:

Because of the park's moderate level of programming and its proximity to Sawgrass Sanctuary, there are a wide variety of uses and activities available for all city residents.

Opportunities:

Regrading the lake bank would allow for both user safety and the removal of the fence running along the southern border of the site. This would create increased visual aesthetic as well as additional recreation opportunities such as fishing.





PIPER FIELD

Park Type: Special Use Facility (2.7 acres)

Summary:

Piper Field is located west of Piper High School on NW 44th Street. This park features a lighted multi-purpose field, baseball field, and a central restroom facility. Piper High School currently uses the site for band practice, ROTC training, softball, PE classes, and soccer practice. This park site is only open during scheduled programs.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Despite being immediately adjacent to Piper High, there are no transit stops within a half mile of this park facility. Because this park is only open during scheduled events, its general level of service is greatly reduced to those not participating in a sports league or high school activity.

Comfort & Image:

Like the majority of the special use facilities in Sunrise, Piper Field is well maintained and aesthetically pleasing. Though there is a covered restroom facility, there is not much additional bad weather protection on site. This issue could be problematic during a crowded sporting event if the weather turns foul.

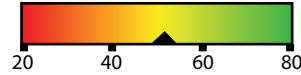
Uses & Sociability:

A common problem with many special use facilities is the lack of a variety of different uses/things to do and Piper Field is no exception. This issue is also further exacerbated by the park's limited operating hours.

Opportunities:

The park already has a partnership with the adjacent Piper High School, but it would benefit members in the surrounding residential communities if the park's multi-purpose field were more accessible for general recreational activities.





ROARKE HALL/POOL

Park Type: Special Use Facility

Summary:

Roarke Pool is part of a Roarke Hall; a community center located just north of Sunrise Boulevard and east of Sunset Strip. This facility features a large pool, restroom facilities, and a multi-purpose meeting room. Currently, the City maintains a joint-use relationship with Family Central; a not-for-profit organization that provides a child care resource and referral services who utilizes the facility.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This community center is located in an area of Sunrise that is predominantly residential. There are plenty of sidewalks leading into the surrounding communities and a transit stop within a quarter of a mile.

Comfort & Image:

The facility itself is very attractive. The architecture is interesting and the pool deck is luxurious in size and furnishings. The interior meeting room is equally as nice with a lot of natural lighting and quality furnishings.

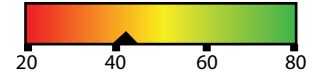
Uses & Sociability:

In the past, this facility saw the majority of its use during the summer months when the children from the surrounding communities were not in school. Once school resumed, the pool closed and the facility remained used only for occasional meetings. The current partnership with Family Central helps ensure that the facility is utilized to its fullest potential.

Opportunities:

In the absence of Family Central, this facility would benefit from additional programming and marketing. There should be an ongoing effort to publicize the availability of this facility to those groups who might be interested, but not aware.





ROLLER HOCKEY COMPLEX

Park Type: Special Use Facility (4.3 acres)

Summary:

This facility is located in Sunrise Commerce Park, southwest of the intersection of NW 50th Street and Nob Hill Road. The Roller Hockey Complex features three (3) regulation size roller hockey rinks, restrooms, and vending facilities.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Due to its location in the generally incompatible Sunrise Commerce Park and lack of any connection to the surrounding community, this complex is very inaccessible to any resident not traveling by car.

Comfort & Image:

This facility is very well designed and appears to be equally as well maintained.

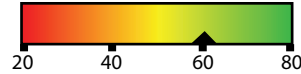
Uses & Sociability:

Roller hockey is the only recreational activity available at this facility. However, due to a change in the communities recreational trends, enrollment numbers for roller hockey leagues have dropped significantly since the parks completion in 2002.

Opportunities:

Because of the declining use, and the existing smooth concrete surfacing on the hockey rinks the City is considering retrofitting the park site to include a skate park. There are additional revenue generating opportunities if the City is willing to lease space in the on-site park building to a recreation vendor. Similar skate parks generate revenue by renting equipment, offering classes, hosting events, and selling sports-related equipment/general concessions. To assist with the provision of these services, partnerships ranging from local skating vendors to national sports drink companies could be established.





Sawgrass Sanctuary

Park Type: Resource Park (21.2 acres)

Summary:

Sawgrass Sanctuary is a 21 acre passive park that celebrates the city's ecological heritage while offering a variety of recreational opportunities. This park is located on New River Circle just east of Weston Road and features an observation deck, fishing pier and bank, a multi-purpose trail, and interpretative signage.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park is bordered by residential communities to the north and a school complex to the west. The park is also connected to Oscar Wind Park to the south. Despite the surrounding compatible land uses, there are no transit stops within a half mile of the park.

Comfort & Image:

This is a beautiful, passive park. Its open green spaces and large lake offer many pleasing views. The interpretative signage and natural feel add to the ecological character of the park. This park, like most in Sunrise is also well maintained.

Uses & Sociability:

Because of the large open space and low level of programming, this park has the ability to be flexible. There are many activities that can take place in this park, which can therefore accommodate a greater variety of users.

Opportunities:

In addition to being a passive park space, Sawgrass Sanctuary has the ability to be a major outdoor events venue. There are many revenue generating activities that could take place such as outdoor concerts, kayak festivals, and fishing tournaments. Transitioning the maintained turf areas to more drought-tolerant native plantings could also help reduce maintenance costs and water consumption.





SHOTGUN ROAD LINEAR PARK
Park Type: Resource Park (7.3 acres)

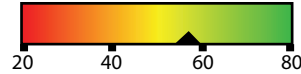
Summary:
 This mile-long linear park runs along Shotgun Road between SW 14th Street and SW 148th Avenue and features a paved multi-purpose trail, landscaping, and multiple seating areas.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:
 This park’s main function is access; it allows the surrounding residential communities a safe, facilitated connection between one and another.

Comfort & Image:
 Because this park has very little programming, the majority of its aesthetic appeal comes from the landscaping along the trail. The trail itself is primarily asphalt and would benefit from the addition of some speciality paving at key trail junctions. The park does provide some seating areas, but does not offer any protection from the elements.

Uses & Sociability:
 Like the Flamingo Road Linear Park, this park faces the same challenge of being a space through which most people just pass through. Due to the relatively narrow right of way and the proximity to adjacent roadways, there are no other existing recreational opportunities on site.

Opportunities:
 There are several lakes that are along the trail’s right of way, but there are no connections to them. The addition of some portions of boardwalk/fishing piers, interpretative signage, and picnic pavilions would increase both the variety of activities that can take place along the trail.



SPRINGTREE GOLF CLUB

Park Type: Special Use Facility (67 acres)

Summary:

This 67 acre, executive golf course is located just north of West Oakland Park Boulevard and along University Drive. This facility features a par 61 golf course, putting green, and a \$4 million clubhouse equipped with a pro shop, locker rooms, and a dining area.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

The course winds through several local roads and therefore affords some excellent views into the course. Although all users must begin at the clubhouse, there is a transit stop near by.

Comfort & Image:

During our site visit, the facility was beginning the renovation process, but it was evident that the course is of a high quality. The clubhouse is very luxurious, offering most amenities that a golfer would need.

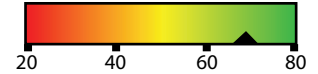
Uses & Sociability:

Aside from golf, there are no other recreation opportunities offered. The City may want to consider allowing the public to use the cart paths as walking paths after hours. The course appears to be well used, and equally well maintained.

Opportunities:

During the renovation process there may be some opportunity to make the new course more environmentally sustainable through the use of native plant species, reclaimed water, and environmentally sensitive management practices.





SUNRISE ATHLETIC COMPLEX (SAC)

Park Type: Special Use Facility (26.6 acres)

Summary:

The SAC is located at the corner of NW 44th Street and NW 115th Terrace. This facility is home to the City's Little League program, five (5) baseball fields, two (2) lighted tennis courts, a basketball court, two (2) racquetball courts, two (2) soccer fields, a football field, playground and community building.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park is bordered on two of its three sides by residential communities. These communities all have access to one of Sunrise's most active parks by utilizing the sidewalk network or one of the two transit stops near the facility.

Comfort & Image:

This park is an excellent example of a highly programmed, special use facility. All of the amenities offered are of a high quality and maintained as such. There are several retention ponds throughout the park site and contribute to the overall aesthetic, however the effect is limited because they are surrounded by fences.

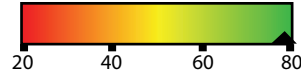
Uses & Sociability:

There is very little flexible open space in this highly programmed park, but there are a variety of different recreational activities that can take place, which accommodating many types of users.

Opportunities:

With the selective removal of some of the fencing within the site, the park could become a more beautiful and cohesive space. This would apply to both the fencing around the lake as well as that around the playground. There are opportunities within the site to replace some of the existing, unused turf with a lower maintenance ground cover that would help reduce regular maintenance costs.





SUNRISE CIVIC CENTER

Park Type: Special Use Facility (14.0 acres)

Summary:

Located near City Hall along Oakland Park Boulevard, the Civic Center is the signature civic facility within the City of Sunrise. This impressive facility offers an aquatics complex, theater/amphitheater, art gallery, grand ballroom/banquet hall, and an athletic club.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Even though this facility is located along the heavily traveled Oakland Park Boulevard, the main entrance is not exceptionally visible from the road due to its set-back. There are multiple bus stops that directly service this facility and there are several sidewalks that allow access from the southern side of the site.

Comfort & Image:

The facility is well built, highly detailed, and very well maintained. There are many premium features such as water-walls/fountains throughout the site.

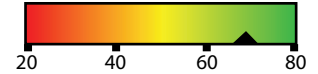
Uses & Sociability:

The majority of this facility does not serve a purely recreational need, however it does serve as the civic heart of the city. The multiple banquet halls and meeting rooms allow for the accommodation of many different types of community events and activities.

Opportunities:

The multiple events spaces within this facility allow for potential revenue generation by providing large, premium rental facilities for many types of events. Continued advertising efforts displaying the availability of the facility to interested parties could increase rental generated revenue.





SUNRISE SENIOR CENTER

Park Type: Special Use Facility

Summary:

This facility is located immediately adjacent to the Sunrise Civic Center Complex on Oakland Park Boulevard and features several meeting/classrooms, ballrooms, and a billiards room.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Because this facility is located along Oakland Park Boulevard, it is easily visible from the road. Similarly to the Sunrise Civic Center, there is one main sidewalk and multiple transit stops that service this facility. This facility fits in nicely with the other civic facilities in this area.

Comfort & Image:

The building's interior is nicely decorated and filled with comfortable furnishings. At the time of our site visit, there was renovation work taking place in the main entry, suggesting an improved future appearance. The landscape around the building is somewhat sparse.

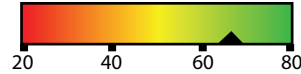
Uses & Sociability:

This facility is important to the senior citizens of Sunrise as it serves as a hub for all of their activities ranging from committee meetings to driver safety classes.

Opportunities:

Like the other civic centers, the senior center would benefit financially if it could rent out its meeting facilities on a consistent basis. The number of meeting rooms/ballrooms located at the site have flexibility when it comes to accommodating different types of groups and events.





SUNRISE TENNIS CLUB PARK/WELLEBY POOL

Park Type: Special Use Facility (9.7 acres)

Summary:

Located along West Oakland Park Boulevard and just east of Nob Hill Road, offers fifteen (15) tennis courts, a clubhouse, seating pavilions and the attached Welleby Pool.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park like many of the others, is fenced off from the surrounding community, and therefore inhibits any connection to them. Welleby pool is located next to this facility, however a reinforced, gateway connection between the two facilities is lacking.

Comfort & Image:

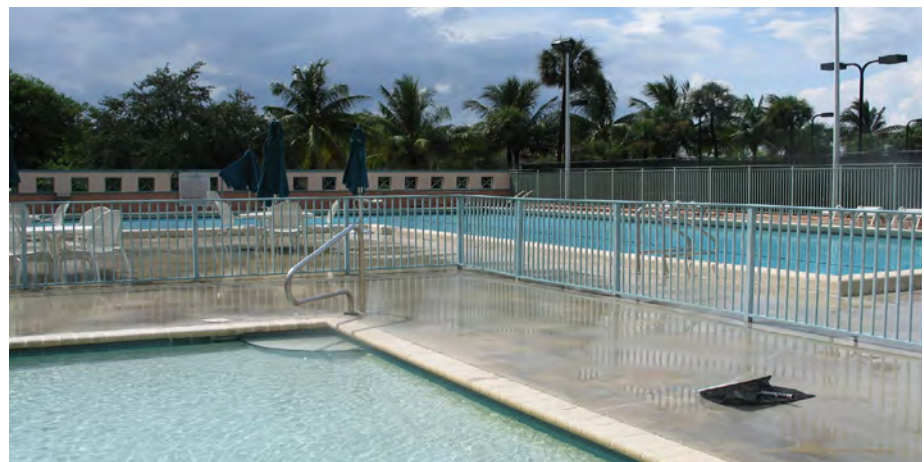
Like the soccer complex and the country club, this is a beautiful special use facility. The majority of the park's amenities are in excellent shape, despite their high level of use; evidence of a quality maintenance program.

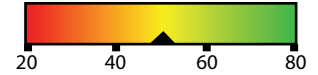
Uses & Sociability:

This park has two features; the tennis center and the pool. Both of these features service different recreational needs and therefore create a divide within the park. Due to the nature of special use facilities, this park is highly programmed and leaves very little room for any activity other than tennis or swimming.

Opportunities:

This park would benefit greatly from the addition of a common community recreation element (such as a tot-lot) that would bring non-tennis players or pool users to the park. This feature could be accessible from the street while still controlling access into the facility.





VILLAGE BEACH CLUB

Park Type: Special Use Facility (0.8 acres)

Summary:

Located north of Sunset Strip on the east side of NW 68th Avenue, this facility features a large pool, concessions building, restroom facility, and an open seating/play space near the pool.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This facility is located in a predominantly residential area of Sunrise but does not have much physical presence due to the privacy fencing and building set-back. The existing residential sidewalk network facilitates walking to the pool from the surrounding communities.

Comfort & Image:

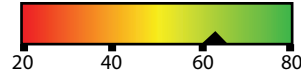
There are no views into the facility from NW 68th Avenue and the architecture of the building is only visible from NW 24th Street. Once inside the facility, the user can appreciate the quality design and construction of this facility. The pool area is tropical and inviting.

Uses & Sociability:

The facility functions well as a community gathering space during the summer months when it is open, however like Roarke Pool this facility closes down once school has gone back into session in the fall. The early closure of the pool limits the amount of use the facility sees on a yearly basis.

Opportunities:

It would be beneficial to open up some views into the facility from the surrounding streets and add some additional signage in an effort to help give the facility more of a community presence. Replacing the existing fence with something more durable, and potentially transparent could reduce maintenance costs in the long term. The development of off-peak programming could help ensure this facility sees year-round use.



VILLAGE MULTI-PURPOSE CENTER

Park Type: Special Use Facility

Summary:

Located along NW 68th Avenue, this facility serves as both a recreation facility and a learning center. Built as a joint venture with the school board of Broward County, this facility offers a full sized gymnasium, five (5) classrooms, and an administrative/office area.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Being immediately adjacent to both City Park and a school building, this facility is ideally located. While all three of these facilities are within 100 feet of each other, there is no common connection between them.

Comfort & Image:

The architecture of the building is very similar to that of The Village Beach Club and contributes to the overall aesthetic of the area. Both the exterior and the interior of the building are very well maintained.

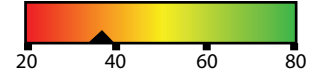
Uses & Sociability:

Like most community centers, this facility serves an important function to the surrounding community by contributing to both the educational and recreational needs of Sunrise residents. This facility also features one of the few gymnasiums in Sunrise.

Opportunities:

As mentioned with City Park, this facility would benefit greatly with the addition of a shared civic space, such as a common plaza, that could act as a connection to City Park, the future library site to the northwest, and existing school. This area has the potential to become a civic hub of the city.





VILLAGE SQUARE PARK

Park Type: Urban Open Space (0.2 acres)

Summary:

Located along Sunset Strip, just north of both City Park and the Village Multi-purpose Center, this urban park space offers a tree-lined plaza, a large central fountain, and several pavilions with benches.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

Due in part to this park's location along one of the main roadways in Sunrise, it is highly visible. In addition to the existing city sidewalk network, there are several transit stops within walking distance to east and west of the park.

Comfort & Image:

This park is in good condition, and appears to be maintained at an adequate level. There is a privacy fence that defines the northern border of the park which adds a feeling of enclosure to the park and potentially jeopardizes the users perception of safety.

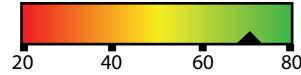
Uses & Sociability:

This park is unused during most parts of the day. Village Square Park is an urban park in a suburban portion of Sunrise. The lack of programming within this park combined with the immediate adjacency to City Park considerably limits the amount of users.

Opportunities:

This park would see an increase in users by the hosting of regular events such as a farmers market or small arts and crafts fair. This park needs to become a destination in order to provide people a reason to be there.





WELLEBY PASSIVE PARK

Park Type: Resource (28.8 acres)

Summary:

Located on the southwest corner of NW 44th Street and Hiatus Road, this large passive park features 29 acres of green space, ten (10) picnic pavilions, sand volleyball courts, a large playground, multi-purpose walking path, a small fishing bank, and a multi-purpose meeting room.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park is very visible from adjacent communities/roadways, however it offers only one transit stop that services the far eastern end of the site, nearly a half mile from the central playground.

Comfort & Image:

Welleby Park is passive in nature, and therefore affords some excellent views into the open green space. All of the park amenities are of a high quality and maintained as such. The site is bordered on the southern side by a large lake which adds to the overall natural aesthetic of the park. However, the lake has a fence that runs along the majority of its bank which prevents the park users from adequately utilizing it.

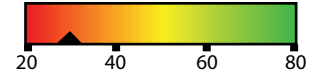
Uses & Sociability:

This park's flexible programming has helped it become one of Sunrise's most utilized park spaces that frequently hosts events ranging from art fairs to annual festivals in addition to meeting everyday recreational needs of Sunrise residents.

Opportunities:

Regrading the steep bank slopes along the lake would allow for the removal of the safety fence. Doing so would increase the visual appeal of the park as well as provide additional recreation opportunities for its users such as bank fishing and kayak access.





12th STREET PARK

Park Type: Neighborhood Park (0.8 acres)

Summary:

Located on NW 12th Street, east of Sunrise Golf Village Park, this park remains mostly undeveloped. There are some existing light poles and two (2) shuffleboard courts, all of which have fallen into severe disrepair.

Proximity/Access/Linkages:

This park is located in the back corner of a residential neighborhood, and is highly visible from within that community. Because of the existing sidewalk network, it is easy for local residents to walk to this park from the surrounding community.

Comfort & Image:

Currently, this park is in an undeveloped state. The grass was mowed at the time the project team was on site, but the park as a whole is not welcoming.

Uses & Sociability:

This park is the one of a few serving the communities in the southeastern corner of Sunrise, and should therefore be highly utilized. Because of its current condition, this park does not serve any function outside of a small open space.

Opportunities:

Even though this park is one of the most under utilized spaces in Sunrise, it is also one with the greatest amount of potential. Converting this park into a neighborhood park would add significantly to the level of service in this part of the city, which has very few parks.



SECTION 1 | SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The majority of facilities in Sunrise are in good to excellent condition. Generally, the facilities were clean, free of litter, had a maintained landscape, and were inviting to users. Very few instances of neglect or abuse were noted during the site visits with the exception of the 12th Street Park parcel which remains largely undeveloped. Although the parks appeared to be well maintained, a consistent, energizing character was lacking system-wide.

There is very little signage and wayfinding both within and leading to the parks in Sunrise. The lack of wayfinding or directional roadway signage leading to the parks makes the facilities difficult to locate for a user who may not be familiar with the area. In many cases the park entry signs, which are consistently bland in character, are either set back from the roadways or occur within the interior of the park thus further reducing their visibility from a roadway.

Residents have access to many different types of recreational facilities within the City of Sunrise. After completing the site visits, two different park models became apparent; active and passive. The “active” parks, such as the Sunrise Athletic Complex and Flamingo Park, are heavily programmed. These types of parks provide users with a combination of sports courts, ball fields, playgrounds, and community buildings, but typically lack flexible open space. This lack of open space limits users in “active” parks to participating in only the programs that are provided. The “passive” parks, such as the Sawgrass Sanctuary and Welleby Park, offer users large areas of flexible open space, access to natural elements, and walking/biking trails. Based on conversations with staff, the passive parks also host many of the City-sponsored events.