



City of Sanibel

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

Planning Department Agenda Memorandum

PARC Meeting Date: November 20, 2025

To: Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee

From: Paula McMichael, AICP, Planning Director

Date: November 7, 2025

The City has started an update to the Sanibel Plan, the city's comprehensive plan. The Sanibel Plan is a long-range planning and policy document that guides how the city addresses challenges, from hurricanes, traffic, and overdevelopment, to conserving native habitat and addressing sea level rise. The Plan turns 50 in 2026. Public involvement in the plan update is being directed through the Sanibel Plan Update Steering Committee, a group of seven representatives from the community that meet monthly to review elements of the Sanibel Plan. One of the topics for the next meeting of the steering committee on November 19, 2025, is the Recreation and Open Space Element. A copy has been provided to the committee for your reference.

Each element of the Sanibel Plan begins with "background discussion." This portion of the element is not regulatory language but a description of the subject, history, and existing (ca. 2012) conditions. Then there is a "plan" (or plans) with provisions – in the Recreation and Open Space Element, titled the "Plan for Recreation and Open Space" – followed by Goals, Objectives, and Policies (GOPs). These two portions—the plans and GOPs—constitute the regulatory language.

The steering committee is looking for input from the PARC committee on the topic of "recreation and open space." What are your thoughts on long-term goals for the city? For example, are additional recreational facilities needed to serve the community? Are improvements to existing facilities needed or need to be planned for? Line for line revisions and updates to existing conditions are not necessary, as the city's consultant is tasked with that work.