



# LAUDERTRAC



## PARKS AND PUBLIC PLACES UPDATE

Tracking Progress on Fort Lauderdale Commission Priorities for 2021

April 2021

### A PLAYFUL PARTNERSHIP TO INCREASE PARK ACCESS



Bennett Elementary Ribbon Cutting – February 5, 2021

## Fort Lauderdale and Broward Schools Joint-Use Sites

Parks play a significant role in the physical, social, and mental health of the neighborhood residents and visitors that they serve, and the overall wellness benefits that they provide underscores the importance of ensuring their accessibility to all community members. The City of Fort Lauderdale is dedicated to meeting the nationwide initiative supported by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) to ensure that all of our neighbors have safe, easy access to a quality park within a 10-minute walk of their home. The Parks Bond, in alignment with the Parks and Recreation System Master Plan as well as the City's Comprehensive Plan, is leveraging developed partnerships to expand the availability and use of public spaces for community members through a shared use agreement with Broward County Public Schools. This initiative has broad-based community support, and its success is a priority for the Education Advisory Board and Parks, Recreation and Beaches Advisory Board.

In FY 2020, City Staff led a Working Group and collaborated with Broward County Public Schools to identify nine new joint use playground sites with a focus on areas that lacked available public park or open space options within the City. The joint use parks initiative promotes shared community and school use of all publicly funded parks and recreation areas within the City of Fort Lauderdale, and a portion of bond funds will be utilized on proposed projects for both existing and newly identified locations for shared use. Joint use includes access to both city park and/or school playground areas as well as any available recreational courts or amenities.

The Working Group has since completed 15 visits to review site locations supported by school administration, conducted over 50 individual school meetings to solicit



input on selection priorities and criteria, and identified six short-term projects for immediate prioritization. The selection criteria was based on community need, the viability of the site's location, and overall impact on the enhancement of educational and/or recreational programming or site design. Additional meetings will be held with schools and community members before finalizing recommendations and project scope.

Twelve locations are currently available for shared use with an additional five sites planned to be available within CY 2021, and others to follow in 2022. The City most recently celebrated its partnership with Bennett Elementary with a ribbon cutting ceremony to announce the opening of a new playground and a play court for shared use at the school site located at 1755 NE 14th Street in Fort Lauderdale.

Currently Active Joint-Use Sites		
Sites	Address	Property Ownership
Bennett Elementary	1755 NE 14th Street	Broward County Public Schools
Carter Park	1450 W Sunrise Blvd	City of Fort Lauderdale
Croissant Park	245 West Park Drive	Broward County Public Schools
Floranada Park	5251 NE 14th Way	Broward County Public Schools
George English Park	1101 Bayview Drive	City of Fort Lauderdale
Lauderdale Manors Park	1340 Chateau Park Drive	Broward County Public Schools
Lockhart Park - School Stadium	1350 NW 55th Street	City of Fort Lauderdale
Sunrise Middle	1750 NE 14th Street	Broward County Public Schools
Sunset Park	3775 SW 16th Street	Broward County Public Schools
VSY Elementary	1000 SE 9th Avenue	Broward County Public Schools
Walker Elementary	1001 NW 4th Street	Broward County Public Schools
Warfield Park	1000 N Andrews Avenue	City of Fort Lauderdale

## GET INFORMATION AND UPDATES



**Parks Bond Program Website:** [www.ftlparksprojects.com](http://www.ftlparksprojects.com)

**Phone:** 954-828-PARK (7275)

**Email:** [parksinfo@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:parksinfo@fortlauderdale.gov)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/playlauderdale](http://www.facebook.com/playlauderdale)

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