

Park Safety Council

Quarterly Review of Park Conditions

To: Mayor Lenny Curry, Members of City Council, and Daryl Joseph, Director of Parks, Recreation and Community Services

Author: Bruce J. Tyson
Chair, Parks Safety Council

Date: August 15, 2022

Subject: Review of Parks Safety Inspections for February 2022 through June 2022

Attachments: Inspection results of Findings & Hazards for the Subject time period

This report is submitted in memory of Amari Harley and is a testament to the need to be “Ever Vigilant.”

The Council held meetings on May 23, 2022 and July 25, 2022 where Council members met with staff members of the City of Jacksonville Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department and reviewed the Department’s Park Safety Maintenance Reports for the months of February 2022 through June 2022. The Parks Facility Safety Officer completed 303 inspections in the above time period. The results of these inspections were broken down on the reports into the four categories listed below, with the number of parks in each category listed in parenthesis and the percentage of the parks inspected in brackets:

- No findings (167), [55.1%]
- Satisfactory with Findings (28), [9.2%]
- Satisfactory with Hazards (74), [24.4%]
- Unsatisfactory with Hazards (34), [11.2%]
- Total parks with Findings & Hazards (136), [44.9%]

The reports for the inspection conducted during the above time period listed comments that mentioned 255 safety findings and hazards. Eighty-five (85) [62.5%] of the 136 parks with parks with safety findings and hazards had multiple safety hazards. A summary of the safety findings & hazards is listed below (a member of the Council grouped the findings and hazards into the listed categories):

- Potential injury due to inadequate cushioning in playgrounds (74), (29.0%)
- Potential falling hazards from playground equipment and other areas (60), [23.5%]
- Potential laceration hazards from sharp or protruding objects (48), [18.8%]
- Potential tripping hazards from loose boards, holes, etc. (47), [18.4%]
- Potential electrical shock from power sources (10), [3.9%]
- Potential impalement hazards from protruding objects (8), [3.1%]
- Potential drowning due to unsecured access to pools, ponds & water bodies (6), [2.4%]
- Potential other hazards (28), [11.0%]

These results show that 136 [44.9%] of the parks inspected were found to have findings and hazards that could potentially cause harm to a user. While that may seem to be a small number, it becomes a more significant number if you consider that the City of Jacksonville has over 400 locations in the parks system. These include playgrounds, sports fields, community centers, pools, and water vehicle-related launching sites.

Inspections during this time period repeated 50 safety issues (22.4% of all noted issues) from previous inspections during 2020, 2021 and 2022.

It is difficult for this Council to thoroughly review each of the findings and hazards and determine the extent of the findings and hazards noted and the corrective action. The monthly reports provided to the Council only include corrective action during that month. The Council has been told by parks staff that corrective action is noted on the previous months' reports; however, reports listing corrective action for previous months are not currently being provided to the Council. The reports reviewed by the Council listed only 50 [36.8%] of the 136 parks with findings and hazards as having corrective action for some or all of the safety issues.

All items involving a hazard should be inspected as soon as reported, and corrective action taken, either corrected at that time or noted that materials need to be ordered with an expected date of repair provided. A qualified inspector should inspect all repairs requiring hardware or materials before being returned to service. Upon being returned to service, it should be noted what was done and when it was completed and inspected on the inspection list. This will provide the public with the necessary information to know that the items were properly completed.

The Council is also concerned about any safety-related items that come to City via MyJax, email, CARES, or any other method in addition to the items noted by the Parks Facilities Safety Manager. Many of these may have the same type of hazards that are reviewed because of the formal inspections. Having this information as well will result in the City Parks Department's ability to track trends in hazards and establish inspections on items on the trending list on a scheduled basis with the intent to prevent hazards. We are aware that all hazards cannot be eliminated, but if the occurrence can be reduced, it will provide a safer environment for those using the parks system.

Comments from the Parks, Recreation & Community Services Department, December 2, 2022

As reported from the Second Quarter Report dated 8/15/2022, 303 inspections were completed in that time period. As noted 167 had no findings (55.1%), with an additional 102 (35.6%) Satisfactory with Findings or Hazards and only 34 (11.2%) Unsatisfactory with Hazards. It is the objective to tend to these types of hazards with immediacy, either the same day as reported or within 24 hours to ensure the item(s) are made safe or taken out of service.

As reported in the Park Safety Council meetings, the Department is working with the Parks Facility Safety Officer to ensure that items are reported back to him as quickly as feasible so that the report is as accurate as possible. The department will continue to respond accordingly based on the priority system reported previously and to ensure that comments are supplied in a timely manner. Reports

with multiple month's corrective actions will be provided going forward. This should help in showing the full depth of the total number of hazards attended to in a given report period.

Priority Levels:

Priority 1 – immediate risk; to be inspected and attended to same day;

Priority 2 – moderate risk; inspection of item within 24 hours, to be attended to within 48-72 hours;

Priority 3 – low risk; to be inspected within 48 hours and attended to within 5-7 days:

Priority 4 – no risk perceived; to be inspected within 72 hours.

Of those items listed as remaining open, 13 had been completely closed and are not listed as such on the report.

Cardinal Park- Complete

Cesery Park- Complete

Gamewell Tot Lot-Complete

Huguenot Park- Complete

Jerusalem and White- Complete

Walter Jones Historical Park- Complete

Wiley Road Playground- Complete

Thomas Jefferson Park- Complete

Mitchell Park- Complete

Garden City Elementary Playground- Complete

Eartha Napoleon Park- Complete

Concord Park- Complete

Barney Browning- Complete

The Department appreciates the Council's work and will continue to work to make City parks safe spaces for our citizens and visitors.

Thank you,

Keith Meyerl, Division Chief

Recreation and Community Programming Division

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department

Parks Safety Council
Parks Safety Findings & Hazards - February 2022 through June 2022

Location	Park Inspection Date	Status	Summary	# of Safety Findings & Hazards
A. Phillip Randolph Heritage Park	4/12/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	4
Adolph Wurn Park	4/20/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Alberts Field	4/20/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Alejandro Garcia Camp Tomahawk	4/20/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	3
Alimacani Elementary Park	4/15/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	2
Argyle Forest Park	4/21/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	4
Arlington Lions Club Park	3/4/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Atlantic Highlands Park	4/15/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Baker-Skinner Park	4/20/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Barney Browning Park	4/26/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Barney Browning Park	4/26/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Beachwood Center & Park	4/28/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Belvedere Park & Center	4/26/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Bert Maxwell Boat Ramp	4/26/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Bethesda Park	4/26/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Bishopswood Park	4/21/2022	Completed	Unsatisfactory with hazards	1
Blue Cypress Park	4/28/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Bob Hayes Soccer Complex	5/9/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Boone Park	4/21/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Brackridge Park	5/3/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Brentwood Park	4/12/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Brookview Elementary Park	5/17/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Bruce Park	5/17/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Buck Park	5/19/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	4
Burnett Park	5/3/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Buster Ford Checkerboard Park	4/12/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Cardinal Park	5/6/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Carvill Park	5/9/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Cesery Park	5/19/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Charles (Boobie) Clark Park	5/9/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Chuck Rogers Park	3/7/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Chuck Rogers Park	5/19/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2

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Cisco Gardens Park	5/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	4
Concord Park	5/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Confederate Park	4/27/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Confederate Playground	4/27/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Corkscrew Park @ Northbank Riverwalk	4/27/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Criswell Park	5/6/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Crystal Springs Road Park	5/6/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Cuba Hunter Park	5/19/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	4
Dinsmore Park	5/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Dinsmore Boat Ramp	5/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Dinsmore Playground	5/25/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Drew Park	6/2/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Eartha H. Napoleon Park	6/9/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Ed Austin Regional Park	5/31/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Edgewood Park 1, 2, 3, 4	5/24/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Edwards Park	4/27/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Elizabeth "Betty" Wolfe Park	6/2/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Emmett Reed Center	4/27/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Emmett Reed Park	4/27/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Eugene M. Glover Playground	4/27/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Fishweir Park	5/24/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Fletcher Morgan Park	6/14/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Flossie Brunson Eastside Park	4/12/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Flynn Park	3/18/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Forestry Tower Park	6/2/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Forestview Community Center	6/17/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	1
Forestview Park	6/9/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Fort Family Regional Park at Baymeadows	6/2/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Gamewell Tot Lot	5/31/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Garden City Elem. Playground	6/17/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2

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Garden City Park	6/17/2022	Completed	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Genovar Park	6/14/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Gerrie's Park	6/13/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Glen Myra Park	5/11/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Glynlea Park	6/13/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Granada Park	6/14/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Greenland Park	6/14/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Greenscape Celebration Park	6/28/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Grunthal Park	5/11/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Hammond Park	6/17/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	2
Henry L. Brown Kooker Park	5/11/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Henry T. Jones Center	6/28/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Henry T. Jones Park	6/28/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Huffman Boulevard Park	6/13/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Huguenot Memorial Park	3/14/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Huguenot Park	6/28/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Huntington Forest	6/28/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
J.E.B. Stuart School	5/24/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
J.S. Johnson Park	5/26/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Jacksonville Heights Elem	6/15/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Jerusalem and White	6/28/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Jim King Boat Ramp/Sisters Creek	6/22/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Joe Carlucci Boat Ramp	6/22/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
John Stockton Elementary Park	6/8/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Julius Guinyard Park	6/10/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Justina Road Elementary Park	6/24/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Lake Lucina Elementary Park	6/24/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Leonard Abess Park	6/22/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3

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Liberty Park	6/10/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	2
Lonnie Wurn Boat Ramp	6/24/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Main St Pocket Park	6/10/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Manson "Bull" Felder Park	6/30/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Marion Park	3/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Marjenhoff Park	6/30/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Maxville Park	6/15/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
McGirts Creek Park	6/15/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Melvin Park	6/15/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Metropolitan Park	6/30/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Michael B. Scanlon Boat Ramp	6/22/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Mitchell Park	3/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Modesky Park	6/22/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Normandy Blvd Sports Complex	3/21/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Normandy Park	3/21/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Normandy Park	6/29/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Oak Harbor Boat Ramp	6/24/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Ortega Hills Playground	3/22/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Ortega Hills Playground	6/29/2022	Completed	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Panama Park	3/29/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	4
Riverview Park	3/29/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Scott Park	3/30/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Southside Park	3/18/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
St. Nicholas Playground	3/14/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	4
Stockton Park	3/21/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Sunny Acres Park	3/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Sweetwater Playground	3/21/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Tallulah Park	4/1/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Terrace Park	4/1/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Thomas Jefferson Park	4/1/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Tidewater Acres Park	3/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1

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Timuquana Park	3/21/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Tom Marshall Park	3/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Touchton Road Park	3/14/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Victory Park	3/4/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	3
Walter Jones Historical Park	3/18/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	1
Warrington Park/Woodland Acres	3/7/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	5
Westbrook Center and Park	4/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Westridge Park	3/22/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Westside Park	4/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Westwood Park	3/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	2
Whitehouse Park	4/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Wiley Road Playground	3/25/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Hazards	3
Willowbranch Park	4/4/2022	Open	Unsatisfactory with hazards	2
Yancy Park	4/4/2022	Completed	Satisfactory with Findings	1
Zeta Phi Beta Park	4/4/2022	Open	Satisfactory with Findings	1