

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA  
2023-2024 BUDGET**

**COMMUNITY RECREATION**

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- ✓ Continued to serve the community providing recreational facilities and programs for all ages:
  - Held several special events with a combined attendance of over 91,000 event participants.
  - Granada Golf course continued to operate at near capacity with over 50,000 rounds of golf.
  - Continued to provide programming to adults through the Adult Activity Center. In the past fiscal year, the center registered over 18,000 visits. In addition, there were over 8,800 different program registrations.
  - The Youth Center was a focal point of activity with an approximate 400,000 visits to the Youth Center facility, field and playground. There were over 13,000 individual program enrollments and approximately 35,000 fitness center visits. Summer camp increased with over 4,000 summer camp registrations.
  - Venetian Pool continued to be a premier destination for visitors with almost 56,000 visitors to the pool.
  
- ✓ Continued the development of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion services provided to participants. This year department staff presented programs, innovations, and initiatives such as:
  - Changed Special Populations division to the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion division and included inclusive DEI language in all job descriptions within the department.
  - Introduced Teen Scene social program for teens with intellectual disabilities and autism.
  - Increased participation of the My Squad Social Club, for adults with intellectual disabilities and autism, by hosting monthly events and opening the building for regular club hours.
  - Initiated the Inclusive Recreation Accreditation process through the National Inclusion Project.
  - Launched a Summer Camp Open House to promote department-wide summer programming and events and offer inclusive site tours.
  - Piloted a Social Emotional Learning program with the Youth Center.

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**  
**2023-2024 BUDGET**

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS – (Continued)**

- ✓ Renovated and reopened the Coral Gables Golf & Country Club providing a country club space for Coral Gables residents and venue services to the community.
  - Renovated and refurbished several areas of the club including the grand ballroom, swimming pool, kitchen facilities, café dining areas, roof, IT infrastructure, landscaping, fitness center and general building and parking improvements and repairs.
  - Contracted with new concessionaire to provide café offerings including breakfast and lunch services.
  - Acquired new fitness equipment for the fitness center including cardiovascular machines and weight equipment.
  - Introduced several new club events including the monthly members mixers, the Christmas Holiday event, Glow-in-the-Dark Easter Egg Hunt and Pollinator planting events.
  - Provided venue rental services for a variety of events including weddings, anniversary parties, trade shows, and awards galas.
- ✓ Developed service innovations and resource additions that increased customer service, cost savings and quality of life goals.
  - Began the transition from gas blowers to electric blowers for certain maintenance tasks.
  - Introduced beneficial microbes to spraying program to reduce fertilizer usage at the Granada Golf Course.
  - Installed 11 new dog waste stations to bring the total of dog waste stations maintained by the Department to over 130. Installed 4 new Little Libraries and 8 new memorial benches in parks.
  - Installed new LED lighting in the Youth Center and the Granada Golf Course maintenance facility.
  - Installed three blended line pickleball courts at the Youth Center outdoor basketball courts to provide multipurpose usage.
  - Addition of two new pickleball instructors to provide lessons and instructions at Salvadore Tennis Center and the Youth Center.
  - Provided a satellite office for Miami-Dade County for Golden Passport services at the Adult Activity Center and for Division of Motor Vehicles Services at the Youth Center.

**CITY OF CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA**  
**2023-2024 BUDGET**

**FISCAL YEAR 2023 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS – (Continued)**

- ✓ Developed new program and event offerings that met resident needs, increased customer satisfaction and advanced quality of life goals.
  - 2022 World Cup Final Watch Party – a special event featuring a live broadcast of the world Cup Final at the Youth Center with food, giveaways and participation games.
  - Partnered with the Coral Gables Community Foundation on the Museum of the Moon, a three-week event at Ponce Circle Park.
  - Introduced several Adult Activity programs including National Senior Citizen’s Day, End of Summer Social, Self-Defense Class, Gentle Yoga, Aqua Zumba, Joy Share Club and Hurricane Preparation class.
  - Introduced several new programs at the Coral Gables Youth Center including the monthly community sports event series, pickleball drop-in days, fitness programming and Abtrakadoodle classes for youth.
  
- ✓ The Community Recreation Department received accolades and recognitions this year including:
  - The Department continued annual compliance with National Reaccreditation by the Commission of Accredited Parks and Recreation Agencies and has maintained National Accreditation for its 22<sup>nd</sup> year.
  - Golf Course and Maintenance Superintendent Troy Hall named City of Coral Gables Employee of the Year.
  - The Venetian Pool was awarded the Jeff Ellis and Associates Gold Award for water safety. Venetian Pool also featured on America’s Back Roads television program focusing on hidden gems for travel across the country.
  
- ✓ Assisted in the development and renovation of parks and facilities.
  - Completion of the enhancements and renovations of Pierce Park. The enhanced park features three new playground structures including two different climbing apparatus, swings, renovated pavilion, new perimeter fencing, landscaping and security lighting and cameras.
  - Completion of a new park construction at Maggiore Park. Project included installation of two playground structures, perimeter fencing with entrance features complementing the neighborhood architecture, extensive landscaping and new walkways.
  - Began construction process on new projects slated including the renovation of the Granada Golf Course Pro Shop, the new Salvadore Dog Park and the renovation of the Granada Pro Shop restaurant space.
  - Began the community input process and concept design process for several upcoming projects including Phillips Park, Blue Road Park, William Cooper Park, Nellie B. Moore Park, and Toledo and Alava Park.