

City of Key West

District 5 Parks

Mary Lou Hoover

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD (ROGER
MCVEIGH), REVIEW AND PICTURES ON AUGUST 21, 2023

District 5 Parks

Berg Nature Preserve

Kitso Nature Preserve

CB Harvey Rest Beach

McCoy Indigenous Park/Bocce Parks

Spottswood Pocket Park

Dog Beach

Recognition: THANK YOU!

Before getting into the details and pictures of each of the 6 parks of District 5, we must recognize the City Staff of the Parks and Recreation Department (and also to the staff of Community Services) and the Leadership of these departments (Marcus Davila and Mike Turner) for the exceptional work and improvements made in the last 18 months, since a similar review of these same 6 Parks in February 2022.

Berg Nature Preserve

Atlantic Blvd at George St, adjacent to 1800 Atlantic Blvd Condominium Complex

Amazing transformation and improvements between February 2022 and August 2023

All of the rotten walkway posts have been replaced and a new rope railing installed

The graffiti on the entranceway sign has been removed

All of the low muddy spots have been corrected by the new gravel walkway

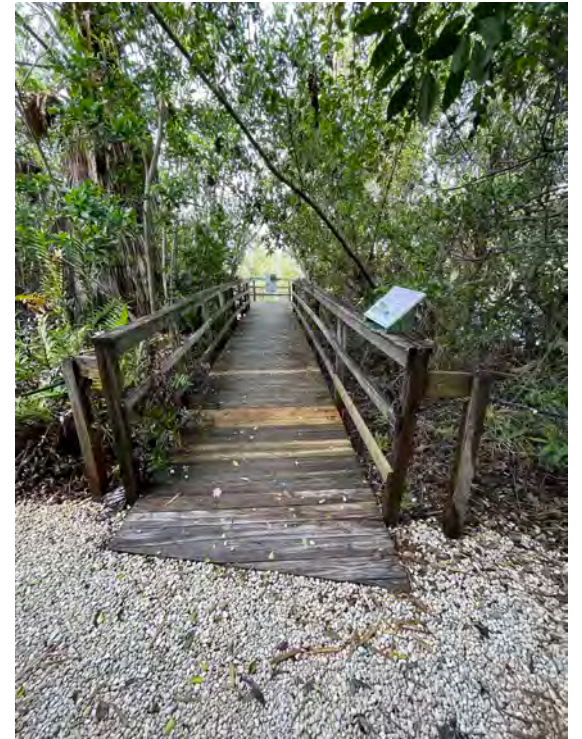
The broken boards of the walkway/overlook to the right/west have been repaired and it has been reopened

The grounds were clean with little trash

A significant number of educational signs added explaining the native vegetation/environment

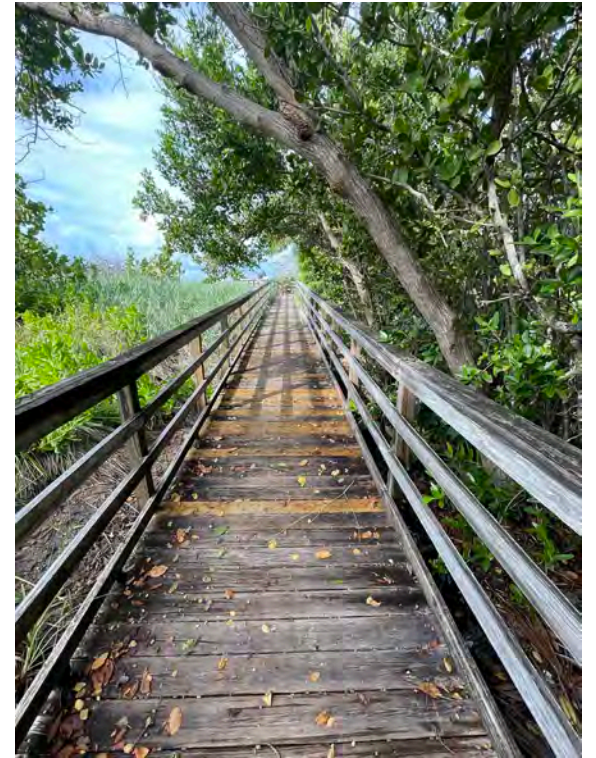
Although the board walks were safe and in good repair, it appears, based on their age and wear that these will need to be replaced in the next several years

Consideration might be given to the condition of bike racks as well as addition of public art













Kitso Nature Preserve

Atlantic Blvd at Thompson St, between Casa Caselles/Key West Beach Club Condominiums

Shorter trail than Berg directly to the ocean, similar to the Berg Nature Preserve, a very positive transformation over the last 18 months

All rotten boardwalk pieces and railings have been replaced/repared, entranceway signage was clean and clear of graffiti, and was free of trash

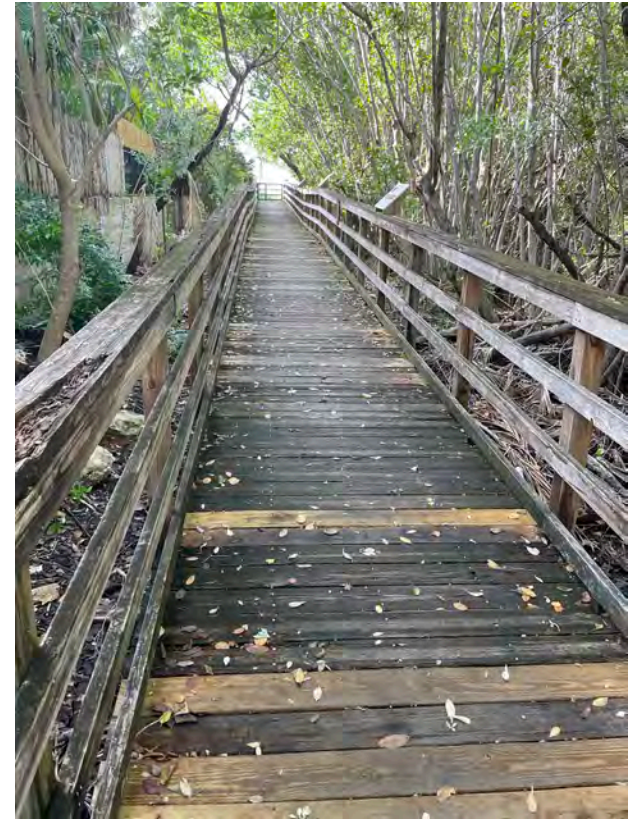
Informative educational signage throughout

Kudo to “CoastLove” for signage and cleanup?

Similar to Berg, boardwalks and railing are aging and likely will need replacing in several years

Potential improvements may include increased bike parking and public art











CB Harvey Rest Beach

Atlantic Blvd at White St, southeast corner along water, east of Edward Knight Pier

All broken posts have been repaired and rope railings are new/fresh

Nice new shade shelters installed (TDC)

Overall condition was clean and free of trash

Beach had a good bit of seaweed/sargassum, not unusual for this time of year, timing of removal?

Possible to paint and restripe parking area, looks worn, needs sprucing up?

Appears to be plenty of space for public art

Ground cover/vegetation is worn and gives the beautiful beachside park a worn feel, in spite of the overall excellent condition, possible to improve?









“Sonny” McCoy Indigenous Park (Bocce Courts)

Atlantic Blvd at White St, northeast corner across from Edward Knight Pier

Park was in good condition, clear of trash, signage was clean/neat without graffiti, new posts and rope fencing, newly paved parking lot, with fresh mulch around trees

Park is also the home of the Key West Wildlife Center/Wildlife Rescue

Park has a beautiful mural facing the parking area, with plenty of space for additional art installations

The bike racks appear worn and not permanently placed, maybe Ryan S can work on improving the bike parking facilities in each of these parks?

The primary recommendation would be to better utilize the large green space east of the Bocce Courts along Atlantic Blvd, grass needs work, access for cars needs to be controlled/eliminated, and consideration given to relocating storage use?













Spottswood Pocket Park

Corner of Alberta St and Seminole St adjacent to Casa Marina/Coconut Beach Resorts

Park is full of art with at least 3 custom memorial benches and haiku inscribed in the sidewalk

Although the park was not overflowing with seaweed, it does appear to need a good cleaning (some trash)/pressure washing and perhaps a coat of fresh paint throughout?

Signage is clean and in good order









Dog Beach

Corner of Vernon Ave and Waddell Ave adjacent to Louie's Backyard

Of all the District 5 parks, this one needs the most love and attention

Bike rack needs more spaces and repair/replacing, park needs some cleaning, illegal scooter rental storage from Barefoot Billys need to be addressed, etc.

It is a very small park, though appears to experience high use

Possible to clean and refresh more frequently?







