



Public Meeting: Planned Improvements for Sylvester Williams Park
Thursday, September 4, 2025 | 9:00 AM
Courthouse Annex Commission Room – 34 Forbes Street, Apalachicola, Florida

Franklin County is applying for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP)!

What is FRDAP?

The Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program provides funding to local governments to develop or improve public outdoor recreation areas, helping communities create safe and enjoyable spaces for residents and visitors.

Funding Details:

- Projects are capped at \$200,000
 - Franklin County qualifies for waived matching requirements, making this an outstanding opportunity to invest in our local parks
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Sylvester Williams Park: What's Happening?

Franklin County recently secured a long-term lease for Sylvester Williams Park from the City of Apalachicola, paving the way for significant improvements.

Recent upgrades include:

- ✓ Installation Of New Playground Equipment
- ✓ Engineering Underway for a Paved Parking Area
- ✓ Removal Of Unsafe Structures
- ✓ Gate And Fencing Repairs
- ✓ New Safety Signage
- ✓ Enhancements To the Softball Field
- ✓ Brush And Tree Clearing

These efforts are focused on safety, accessibility, and beautification. Now, the County is turning its attention to larger projects that will make Sylvester Williams Park a vibrant, family-friendly recreation destination for the community. Planned improvements include a variety of recreation enhancements, amenities, infrastructure upgrades, and landscaping projects designed to support active play, community gatherings, and overall enjoyment of the park for all ages.

Proposed Future Improvements:

➤ **Recreation Enhancements:**

- Basketball Court
- Pickleball Court
- Soccer/Football Play Area Upgrades
- Walking Track
- Outdoor Fitness Stations
- Dugout Renovations
- Bleachers for Soccer/Football Field

➤ **Amenities & Comfort:**

- Shade Structures / Pavilion
- Restrooms
- Hydration Stations
- Benches & Picnic Tables
- Trash & Recycling Bins
- Bike Racks

➤ **Infrastructure & Safety:**

- Parking Lot Pavement
- Lighting

➤ **Aesthetic & Landscaping:**

- Low-Maintenance Landscaping
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Current FRDAP Application:

For this grant cycle, Franklin County is applying for:

- **A full-sized basketball court**
- **A 12' x 24' shaded picnic pavilion**

This funding opportunity is a key step toward transforming Sylvester Williams Park into a welcoming hub for recreation, play, and community events, with future phases planned as resources become available.

Community Support Matters!

Your input is essential! We want these improvements to reflect the needs and priorities of the community. If you have questions or suggestions for future improvements, please contact:

Bree Robinson, County Planner

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