

## METROPOLITAN PARK

APRIL 12, 1982

METROPOLITAN PARK was purchased by the Department of Housing and Urban Development for \$1,005,400 in May, 1972.

The 23 acre waterfront tract will provide needed recreation open space for the Sports Complex and the entire community.

Its development will provide for the pursuit of active and passive recreation activities by large numbers of people.

METROPOLITAN PARK as proposed will compliment established events at the Sports Complex and will enhance the area for residents and visitors alike.

It will support additional expanding special events such as River Day, Hoedown/Showdown and "Mayport and all that Jazz".

Metropolitan Park will compliment the \$500 million Downtown Community Development project funded in part by Federal Programs with extensive private development.

It will illustrate the potential for success between private and public interests as Channel 7 is contributing nearly one half of the match required by the Department of Natural Resources.

The total amount proposed for the development of Metropolitan Park is \$4.5 million. \$2.25 will be allocated by the State and Federal government.

\$1.024 million is being contributed by Channel 7. This allows the City to receive a total of \$3.274 million in funds to develop Metropolitan Park for a City contribution of only \$1.125 million.

Plans for the park include an outdoor stage and pavilion with contour birthing for spectators and open recreation.

To compliment this area, terraced picnic areas, a riverfront walkway and additional parking and exhibit areas are being planned.

The riverfront will be made more accessible to both boaters and park participants.

Metropolitan Park, in conjunction with the Sports Complex and the St. Johns River, will provide a total community recreation facility and will make a strong recreation statement for the City.