

CHAPTER 5 - PLAN OBJECTIVES AND PROPOSALS

The Concept Plan established preliminary objectives and program statements which have been expanded in the Master Plan.

5.1 GENERAL PLANNING OBJECTIVES

With the exception of identified park nodes, restrict development to maximum of an integrated trail system, which would make the river valley accessible to the public yet protect the natural landscape and wildlife habitat areas.

1. Establish a stewardship of protection by balancing conservation of open space and recreation development, with the first priority on conservation and the second priority on low intensity, passive outdoor, and trail-based recreation activity.
2. Establish a natural park environment through the retention or enhancement of vegetation and wildlife habitat.
3. Match the type of trail and location of amenities to the biological and physical sensitivity of the river valley.
4. Extend the linear park system through a series of paths, trails and open space and basic amenity services.
 - the major emphasis on continuous trail development.
 - trails not necessarily on both sides of river.
 - trails interconnected by pedestrian bridges.
 - emphasis on river valley use by the whole city.
 - provision of connections to bike route systems.
 - enhance the variety of experiences by providing some alternative trail routes.
 - establish continuous routes for pedestrians, cyclists and dog walking.
 - provide washrooms, drinking water and telephones.
5. Severely restrict the development of new recreation and tourism facilities in the river valley while ensuring that existing destinations or attractions are linked to the trail network.
6. Provide accessibility regardless of age or mobility, when this can be accomplished without major alterations to site or without altering the intent of the experience. Design standards will accommodate the widest cross-section of age and skill levels.
7. To insure user safety is promoted through a combination of trail and facility design standards, safety education and awareness programs and enforcement measures.