

CITY OF COLUMBUS
COMPREHENSIVE WATERWAYS
MANAGEMENT PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR

APRIL 24, 1991



COLUMBUS
WATERWAYS
PREPARED BY:
COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT
WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

PARKS
WATERWAYS
A COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION PROJECT

**CITY OF COLUMBUS
COMPREHENSIVE WATERWAYS
MANAGEMENT PLAN
PHASE TWO.....O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR
APRIL 24, 1991**

Prepared for:

**CITY OF COLUMBUS
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**

Prepared by:

**WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE
RECREATION AND PARKS STAFF**

PREAMBLE

THE AMERICAN OUTDOORS

The majesty of the Great Outdoors helped make America and Americans what we are today. No mere coincidence matched a national character of independence, resourcefulness, and generosity with a land of splendor, vastness, and inspiration.

We find the outdoors a wellspring of the American spirit, vital to our belief in ourselves as individuals and as a nation. It has influenced our music, literature, science, and language; and molded our history, heritage, and national outlook. It has served as the training ground of athletes and philosophers, of poets and defenders of American ideals. It is the reward of blending freedom and responsibility.

Each generation must therefore ensure to the next, the inspiration of the outdoors dignity, power, and elemental freedom; the opportunity to participate in its challenges of discovery and personal involvement; and the fulfillment to be found in its endless opportunities for physical release and spiritual renewal.

We believe that the outdoors is a statement of the American condition. The recommendations of the President's Commission on Americans Outdoors reflect our shared commitment to keep that statement strong and vital, with a vigilance no less than that which guards our American freedoms.

The Report of the President's Commission
Americans Outdoors, the Legacy, the Challenge

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*** A special note of thanks to Columbus Recreation and Parks Commissioner Catherine Gillie for assisting with the two public workshops. Also to John McClintock of American Electric Power for technical assistance in document preparation.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
COMPREHENSIVE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT PLAN
PHASE TWO - O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR
RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION**

INTRODUCTION

The Comprehensive Management Plan was created to protect the most important asset of The Greater Metropolitan Columbus Area - the waterways of Central Ohio. This plan is concerned with the preservation and development of unique natural resources, unique in the sense that while many cities have a major waterway, Columbus has a **network** of reservoirs, rivers and streams which touch upon many communities.

Today, 56 Columbus parks and 65% of all the parkland in Columbus is located along the waterways of Central Ohio. Major developments include the Olentangy Bikeway, which was constructed in the mid 1970's, and the Downtown riverfront parks which began with the completion of Bicentennial Park in 1976. The Downtown riverfront has become a focal point of the area's cultural entertainment activities.

An objective of this plan is to provide leadership in developing a comprehensive guide to the future of Columbus' waterways.

STUDY ORGANIZATION

The Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan Study Organization is printed on the following page (See Exhibit 1-1).

The Waterways Management Task Force established the basis for consultation and coordination of these areas: Technical Committee, Special User Groups, Neighborhood Groups and, the General Public.

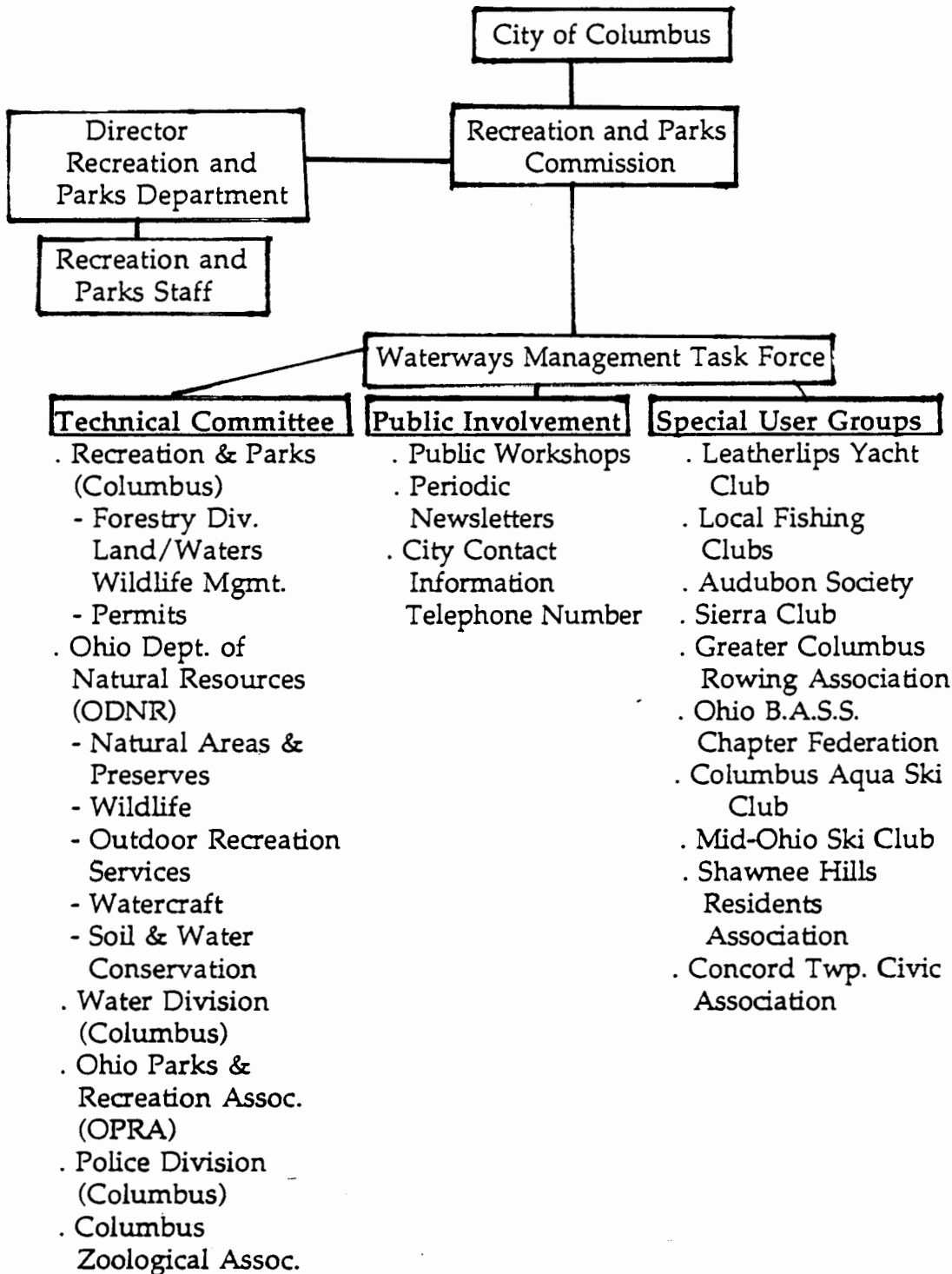
The Technical Committee was established in order to discuss Recreation and Land Use Planning aspects of the Comprehensive Management Plan. As shown in the exhibit, the Waterways Management Task Force worked with representatives from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), City Divisions, Ohio Parks and Recreation Association (OPRA), the Dublin Recreation and Parks Department, and the Columbus Zoo.

Contacts were made and meetings were held with Special User Groups of O'Shaughnessy Reservoir to review the plan and discuss the process. Representatives of these groups provided early input on existing land use, proposed changes, and looked at alternatives.

The Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan also provided for public involvement by Reservoir neighbors, other users, and interested citizens.

EXHIBIT 1-1

STUDY ORGANIZATION
 COMPREHENSIVE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT PLAN



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Public Involvement included (1) two public workshops; (2) periodic newsletters; and (3) the establishment of an information telephone number and designation of a City staff contact to answer questions.

The public information workshops were held during the process to facilitate the exchange of technical findings, citizen input and comments.

At each meeting, presentations were made at five (5) workshop stations, followed by a public comment/question station. A summary of meeting highlights was made at each subsequent meeting. The meeting notices were in local newspapers, noted in the program newsletter, and specified in letters sent to interested persons on a continually updated mailing list. In addition to the public workshops, a separate orientation was held with representation from special user groups of the Reservoir.

A newsletter was prepared periodically to present a summary of the Task Force's planning efforts. The newsletter also contained information regarding future meetings. The newsletters were sent initially to citizen groups, news media, O'Shaughnessy users, and other interested persons, and were supplemented with the listing of those people attending each public workshop. Each newsletter contained the name of a City staff contact and telephone number in the event further information and assistance were needed.

Copies of the newsletters and documentation for the public meetings are contained in Appendix B of this report.

ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN

This comprehensive management plan is intended to be an ongoing, working document. The Columbus Recreation and Parks Commission has adopted the goals outlined below. The Recreation and Parks Department will implement the recommendations contained in this report to satisfy the growing recreational demands on the waterways of Central Ohio. The Columbus Recreation and Parks Comprehensive Waterways Plan addresses the following key points that relate to waterway management:

PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION:

The role of public awareness and education is to inform visitors of the park rules, increase awareness about management strategies (e.g. the respecting of sensitive nesting areas), enhance the protection of the resources and reduce the propensity for vandalism.

DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES:

The management strategies will redefine the direction for long range maintenance operations relating to the watercourses. These directions relate to signage, mowing, preventive maintenance, property management, and neighbor relations.

WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS:

While the primary role of Columbus' reservoirs is to provide safe, clean drinking water for public consumption, this plan is concerned with the supply of water from the point of origin and entry into the stream. The quality of untreated water in the reservoirs and streams is important when considering recreational activities.

BOATING CARRYING CAPACITY:

The ODNR, Office of Outdoor Recreation, has developed a formula to determine safe boating carrying capacity that can be applied to Columbus waterways. This formula takes into account the different types of boating opportunities such as waterskiing, fishing, pleasure, etc., to determine a maximum number of vessels that should occupy a given waterway without putting the public's safety at risk. The carrying capacity rating system will assist the task force in developing policies relating to public and private docks and stakes, launch ramps and special activities on the waterways.

RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS:

This element of the plan addresses the inter-relationships of various forms of recreation, both passive and active, which provide areas for an optimum mix of the recreational opportunities. This element classifies existing areas and identifies user groups of known, current recreational activities. Details include the present use of each area and the services and facilities available, recommendations for improvements and cost estimates. This element identifies the potential to meet new and different recreational opportunities not currently being provided.

PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY:

The role of public safety and security is to protect both the public and the watercourse resources. This element focuses on enforcement, public boating safety, and updating existing park codes and rules.

ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT:

This component of the plan examines wildlife, fisheries, forest management and other related disciplines to formulate a program for the protection and preservation of the natural and environmental resources of the waterways.

LONG RANGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT:

This element combines all the aspects of this plan into a future needs assessment. This includes long range capital improvements needs, identifying potential parkland recreation areas, sensitive zones, boating carrying capacity ceiling limits and policies dealing with lease holders and adjacent watercourse neighbors.

THE O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

O'Shaughnessy Reservoir is the second phase in the development of an overall comprehensive waterways management plan for Columbus' waterways. Before the detailed management plan was developed, two important topics were examined to determine the current status of O'Shaughnessy Reservoir.

First, a history of the reservoir was summarized noting important events and data. Second, the plan identified three (3) major issues which significantly affected the long-term management of the reservoir. After laying this foundation, the plan presented each element along with a detailed analysis, recommendations, and preliminary cost estimates for improvements. The recommendations were then summarized.

HISTORY AND BACKGROUND

The O'Shaughnessy Reservoir named after Jerry O'Shaughnessy, is located one mile north of the Delaware/Franklin County line on the Scioto River. It is part of the Scioto River watershed. O'Shaughnessy Reservoir represents a significant percentage of all parkland managed by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department.

Construction for the reservoir was begun in 1922 and was completed in 1925, at the cost of \$2,200,000 which included the value of approximately 1159 acres of land. The reservoir itself (at normal pool elevation of 848.5 feet) has a surface area of 950 acres.

O'Shaughnessy provides opportunities for boating, sailing, sailboarding, fishing, hiking, bird-watching and picnicking. Park facilities include an instructional boating area, marina, public launch ramps and a wide variety of day-use picnic facilities.

MAJOR ISSUES

ISSUE #1 - BOATING CARRYING CAPACITY

The office of Outdoor Recreation, ODNR has devised a series of outdoor recreation standards for use in guiding recreation and parks professionals in the management of lakes and reservoirs. One of the most significant standards developed by ODNR is Boating Capacity Analysis. The process of Boating Capacity Analysis is used to determine an ideal boating capacity for O'Shaughnessy Reservoir. This information was used to calculate the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Rating.

Based upon the ODNR, Office of Outdoor Recreation formula O'Shaughnessy Reservoir is currently at 114% of maximum carrying capacity. This level of capacity requires strict management to ensure a safe and high quality experience.

ISSUE #2 - LAND MANAGEMENT

The City of Columbus owns approximately 314 acres of land surrounding O'Shaughnessy Reservoir including all shoreline acreage. The Recreation and Parks Department is responsible for the management of these lands. This land, like all city parkland, is managed under the philosophy that parkland is open to everyone.

A management plan which identifies the use for all city-owned lands surrounding O'Shaughnessy Reservoir must be developed. Active use areas such as boating facilities, picnic areas and shoreline fishing areas need to be clearly defined. Passive use areas and areas where human intrusion needs to be limited also need a management plan. Such a plan may include elimination of some access trails, development of new foot paths and visual vistas, and implementation of a well defined habitat maintenance plan.

Protection of the reservoir water quality, provision of public access and use opportunities, and the maintenance of an ecologically sound and aesthetically pleasing appearance must be the primary objectives of this land management plan.

ISSUE #3 - LAW ENFORCEMENT

The application of Law Enforcement's mission to the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir recreational area becomes a refined task in that the Columbus Division of Police staffs and maintains a Marine Park Patrol Section, which is a subordinate section within the Special Operations Bureau of the Police Division. The Division of Police recognizes the unique importance, or specialty, in marine enforcement efforts with the maintenance of a unique unit for such purposes.

Public comment, as well as projected future recreational area influences, dictate that the Marine Park Section concentrate efforts, from an active enforcement perspective, along those areas of encroachment, property destruction, litter abatement, water use restrictions, and strict enforcement of park hours of operations.

SUMMARY

While this plan details three (3) significant issues concerning O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, it in no way is intended to exclude other less relevant topics. Each of these individual issues merit significant ecological and economical consideration when attempting to develop a waterway management plan for O'Shaughnessy Reservoir.

The impact of these three issues were considered when developing recommendations for the management of specific areas, facilities, and habitats in the O'Shaughnessy region. This plan is designed to be flexible to future input. Future issues that may arise should be integrated into this working management plan.

ELEMENTS OF THE WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR

INTRODUCTION:

The following recommendations for O'Shaughnessy Reservoir were prepared by the Waterways Task Force for the Recreation and Parks Commission. Public comment was received on each recommendation and taken into consideration by the Task Force. As a result of two public workshops, the following elements summarize the input and review received from the community for O'Shaughnessy Reservoir.

ELEMENT #1.....PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION

- 1) Hold public workshops to gather information and to evaluate the development of the Management Plan.
- 2) Develop a public information survey to determine the expected recreational needs of the community.
- 3) Determine accurate visitation rates via road counter placements.
- 4) Develop educational materials to inform the public of the available resources.
- 5) Develop informational pamphlet for "contiguous property

owners" on proper stewardship of public lands, reference Element #2 D. (Appendix A, Example A-3)

- 6) Develop a waterways informational newsletter to inform the various user groups about critical issues facing the management of the Reservoir. An alternative to this site-issue specific item may be the utilization of the "Ohio Safe Boating Council's" quarterly publication; "CENTRAL OHIO BOATING JOURNAL".

**ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM A.....RESERVOIR SIGN PLAN**

- 7) Re-sign O'Shaughnessy Recreational Area using guidelines in the Department's signage manual.
- 8) Place in all Major Management Areas. ("information boards") Figure 1-1 (Photo).
- 9) Develop a signage system as depicted in the examples, as an aid in public/private reporting.
- 10) Establish a program of "Park Boundary Identification Markers" to be set along the property lines to distinguish between public/private property.
- 11) STUDY THE TRAFFIC FLOW USAGE AFFECTING THE RESERVOIR TO BETTER DETERMINE TRAFFIC FLOW IN THE RESERVOIR AREA IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A ONE WAY TRAFFIC SYSTEM ON CITY PARKLAND.

**ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM B.....MOWING AREA ROTATION AND CYCLES**

- 12) Adopt a viable mowing schedule, as detailed on Map 2, Appendix C of this Plan.
- 13) Establish minimum and maximum maintenance cycles by area and type.
- 14) Institute succession mowing improvements.
(Reference Ecosystem Element #7)

- 15) Recommend minimum personnel needs as spoken to elsewhere in this Plan.
- 16) Institute "border" mowing concepts area-wide. (Reference Ecosystem Element #7).

ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM C.....REFUSE COLLECTION

- 17) Inspect areas for quantity and location of barrels.
- 18) Increase litter enforcement activities by the Marine Park Patrol Section O'Shaughnessy Unit.
- 19) Institute litter prevention programs and violator reporting procedures through park watch and public awareness programs. (See Element #6).
- 20) Organize identified user groups as well as special interest/leaseholders and abutting property owners or civic associations in organized clean-up campaigns on a regular basis.
- 21) REVIEW APPLICABLE COLUMBUS CITY CODE, CHAPTER 919, FOR STRENGTHENED LITTER ENFORCEMENT CAPABILITIES. SEE BELOW.

919.20 LITTERING, IMPORTING OF RUBBISH AND TRASH PROHIBITED.

- (A) NO PERSON SHALL LEAVE, PLACE OR DISPOSE OF IN ANY MANNER LEAVES, GRASS CLIPPINGS, GARBAGE, PEELINGS OF VEGETABLES OR FRUIT, WASTE, REFUSE, RUBBISH, ASHES, CAN(S), BOTTLE(S), WIRE, PAPER CARTON(S), BOX(ES), MOTOR VEHICLE OR BICYCLE OR WAGON PARTS, FURNITURE, GLASS, OIL, SEWAGE, ANYTHING NATURAL UNDER OR UPON THE LANDS AND WATERS OF THE CITY PARKS AND WATERWAYS EXCEPT IN A RECEPTACLE DESIGNATED FOR THAT PURPOSE.
- (B) NO PERSON SHALL IMPORT INTO ANY AREA ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT FROM ANOTHER PLACE ANY OF THE ABOVE SUBSTANCES OR IMPORT INTO ANY AREA ADMINISTERED BY THE

DEPARTMENT FROM ANOTHER PLACE AND DEPOSIT ANY OF THE ABOVE SUBSTANCES IN ANY RECEPTACLE DESIGNATED FOR OR ORDINARILY USED BY THE DEPARTMENT FOR THE CONTAINMENT OF SUCH SUBSTANCES.

- 22) Examine the feasibility of "contracting out" for refuse service.
- 23) Cooperate with local jurisdictions on addressing illegal dumping.

ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM D.....NEIGHBOR RELATIONS
GROUP #1.....CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY OWNERS

- 24) Develop an informational pamphlet for contiguous property owners on the proper stewardship of public lands conveyed to their limited use.
- 25) Ensure that property owners who want to enjoy additional privileges on City Property will have an approved vegetation management plan on file with the Department. (See Appendix A).
- 26) Department staff will be available to assist property owners in the development of a vegetation management plan.
- 27) The Task Force recognizes that a transition period will result with the implementation of the vegetation management plan and encourages the mutual cooperation of the property owners and the department in their effort.
- 28) CONTIGUOUS PROPERTY OWNERS SHALL HAVE AN APPROVED VEGETATIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN AS A PRE-CONDITION TO OBTAINING A PRIVATE BOAT DOCK PERMIT.

GROUP #2.....ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS

- 29) Adjacent property owners are separated from city property by other publicly owned land such as a highway right-of-way. Adjacent property owners are entitled to the same rights and governed by the same regulations as the general public.

GROUP #3.....LEASE HOLDERS

- 30) Establish fee schedules for dockage and on site storage comparable to the City's private dock and stake holders rates.
- 31) Require clubs to adopt policies of non-discrimination.
- 32) Membership must be open to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.
- 33) Require Clubs to file their by-laws annually with the Recreation and Parks Department.
- 34) Require lessee to consult with the Department annually regarding management needs of lands they use, then submit a brief proposal for significant public service to be performed that year in consideration for their continued use of public lands.
- 35) The Department should evaluate all existing leases to ensure recommendations are being met and all state and local codes are complied with.
- 36) Fees derived from any agreements with these groups be placed in a Waterways Improvement Fund.
- 37) ALL LEASEHOLDERS WILL HAVE APPROPRIATE APPROVED SIGNAGE IDENTIFYING THE SITE AND THE LEASEHOLDER, AS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

GROUP #4.....SPECIAL EVENT USERS

- 38) Establish a license agreement with the Mid Ohio Ski Club.
- 39) SKI ZONE TO BE LOCATED AT A POINT 100' SOUTH OF OWL'S POINT AS ITS NORTHERN MOST BOUNDARY AND EXTENDING SOUTHWARD TO A POSITION COINCIDING WITH THE INTERSECTION OF STATE ROUTE 257 AND THE AREA KNOWN AS BUTTS'S CORNER.
- 40) Special event users shall strictly comply with all applicable law.
- 41) Place fees derived from any agreements with these groups in a Waterways Improvement Fund.

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- 40) Special event users shall strictly comply with all applicable law.
- 41) Place fees derived from any agreements with these groups in a Waterways Improvement Fund.

GROUP #5.....PUBLIC DOCK HOLDERS

- 42) Adopt an annual lottery system for dockage permits with staggered termination dates.
- 43) Codify a revised system under Chapter 921 of the Columbus City Code.
- 44) Adopt a permit fee system based upon the expected cost to repair and replace the dock facilities.
- 45) Place fees derived from any agreements with these groups in a Waterways Improvement Fund.

ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**ITEM E.....BANK STABILIZATION**

- 46) MAINTAIN A VEGETATIVE BUFFER CONSISTENT WITH THE MOWING PLAN.
- 47) Institute erosion control measures where they are cost-effective such as the use of riprap and bank vegetation.
- 48) Contiguous property owners must follow adopted Department Policy on "land-use". (See Element #2 Item D Group 1.)
- 49) Department staff will assist homeowners in implementation of vegetation management projects. (See Element #2 Item D Group 1.)
- 50) Review problem areas at least annually to assure that city land use policy is being implemented.

ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES**ITEM F.....DEDICATED STAFFING**

- 51) The Task Force recommends a thorough examination of department budget and staffing with special attention given to maintenance of the waterways.
- 52) Consideration of more resources including staffing to the waterways management programs.

ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM G.....ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

- 53) UTILIZE PARK MAINTENANCE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT SPACE OFFERED BY THE COLUMBUS ZOO RATHER THAN CONSTRUCT A NEW FACILITY AT HOME ROAD.
- 54) Establish a Preventive Maintenance Schedule as well as development of an on-going maintenance area improvements package.
- 55) Improve the public reporting system for emergency maintenance items via the Maintenance/Management Zone program signage.
- 56) DEVELOP PROGRAM EQUIPMENT NEEDS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE BASIC RECREATION DELIVERY SERVICES FOR THE RESERVOIR.

ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM H.....PARK ROADWAY AND PARKING MAINTENANCE

- 57) Review multiple access points for each of the Maintenance/Management Zones.
- 58) Establish traffic flow patterns from north to south in all multiple access areas. (See page 29 #5.)
- 59) Strive to identify and maintain single access points at all major management areas.
- 60) Bring approaches to grade at all defined entry/exit points to include extensions to defined grade level.
- 61) Re-define, by need, area parking. Once determined, designate by signage and curb stops.
- 62) Use signage and enforcement strategy to deter off-roadway parking in non-designated areas.
- 63) Identify off-site drainage influences for properly sized under road drainage tiles.
- 64) Identify pre-existing low spots and groundwater influences on existing park roadways for corrective actions.

- 65) Prioritize by area and type, a re-surfacing plan. Initial attention should be given to wash-outs, potholes, and the overall improvement to system integrity.
- 66) Implement a park road preventive maintenance program to ensure continued system integrity as well as developing and prioritizing an asphalt surfacing plan for all major roadways and parking areas servicing Recreation Areas.

**ELEMENT #2.....DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
ITEM I.....TRAIL-WAY SYSTEM**

- 67) Establish a Trail System for bike, walk, jog, run purposes within the management areas or reservoir.
- 68) Establish a canoe, kayak and small vessel route with development of portage and shore access points.
- 69) CANOES AND KAYAKS, SHALL BE OPERATED SOUTH OF BUOY #6 AND NORTH OF BUOY #1 AT O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR. AT A DISTANCE OF NO MORE AN 25' FROM THE SHORE.

THE DIRECTOR OF RECREATION AND PARKS SHALL DESIGNATE TURNING AREAS FOR ROWING SHELLS AND CROSSING POINTS FOR CANOES AND KAYAKS.
- 70) Increase shoreward idle speed zones from 75' to 100' to conform with ski requirements.
- 71) Evaluate Mill Creek confluence for access site for launching of small vessels.
- 72) REVIEW PROPOSAL FOR CANOE/KAYAK SLALOM COURSE BELOW O'SHAUGHNESSY DAM.

ELEMENT #3.....WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS

- 73) The Department of Recreation and Parks shall cooperate with the Division of Water and the Reservoir neighbors to adopt the bank stabilization recommendations outlined in Element #2, Item E.

- 74) The Department in conjunction with the Division of Water should seek to identify and locate all sources of point discharge into the Reservoir from adjacent property.
- 75) The Department should encourage the institution of water quality monitoring by voluntary assistance.

ELEMENT #4.....BOATING CARRYING CAPACITY

- 76) O'Shaughnessy Reservoir should be managed as a Regional Recreation Area.
- 77) The maximum carrying capacity should be based upon the pool elevation and 950 water acres.
- 78) Maintain an established use ratio of 75% public and 25% private docks and stakes when considering expansion of opportunities.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS

There were sixteen (16) major areas that were identified as requiring capital improvements. These areas are as follows along with the following recommendations for each:

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS AREA #1.....EASTBANK TAILWATERS ACCESS AREA

- 79) Do site evaluation for inclusion of the following:
 - 10-15 vehicle parking spaces on upper level.
 - Shared Parking access at Zoo Treatment Facility.
 - Construct On-site Parking.
- 80) Provide walk-in trail access to the lower levels.
- 81) Designate as Urban Wildlife Area.
- 82) Coordinate access with Columbus Zoological Society.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS AREA #2.....COLUMBUS ZOO

- 83) It is recommended Chapter 927.08 of the Columbus City Code have deleted the restrictions regarding fishing as they conflict

with Chapter 921.

- 84) Maintain Border Mowing.
- 85) Trim Trees along road right-of-way.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #3.....IZAAK WALTON LEAGUE NATURE PRESERVE

- 86) Prohibit boating on inlet/cove directly in front of observation blind.
- 87) Establish wildlife education tours.
- 88) Repair boundary fence.
- 89) Begin border mowing program.
- 90) Remove trees and woody growth from berm of S.R. 257 to boundary fence.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #4.....BOATING EDUCATIONAL FACILITY

- 91) Continue providing expanded public boating instruction programs.
- 92) Determine need for a handicapped instructional program for boating.
- 93) Bury existing utility feeds.
- 94) Plant trees recommended for visual enhancement.
- 95) Install security lighting and a public phone.
- 96) Convert present pit toilet into storage building.
- 97) Install portable toilet with handicapped features. Investigate economic feasibility of portable toilets maintained by private company.
- 98) Begin trail.

- 99) Signs.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #5.....RIVERSIDE MANAGEMENT AREA SOUTH**

- 100) Adopt the park plan included with Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan. It outlines use areas for hiking, picnicking, parking and urban wildlife management. The plan addresses ingress/egress points and utilizes a one way south bound traffic movement whenever possible.
- 101) Recommend upgrading of all facility maps to represent existing field conditions.
- 102) Plant trees recommended for visual enhancement.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #6.....WYANDOT SMALL VESSEL ACCESS AND RECREATION AREA**

- 103) Designate as a major Recreational Area.
- 104) Use signage at existing launch site to encourage greater use by small vessels.
- 105) Provide security lighting in launch area and at primary recreation locations.
- 106) Convert pit toilet to maintenance storage.
- 107) Construct portable toilet facility. Investigate economic feasibility of portable toilets maintained by private company.
- 108) Install public telephone for safety purposes.
- 109) Establish and maintain Urban Wildlife Management Area as delineated on the map.
- 110) Construct shelter house. Use of shelter house would be reserved through Permits Office.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #7.....HOME ROAD MARINA AND RECREATIONAL AREA**

- 111) Development plans underway to improve this entire facility. See

Plan Parameters.

- 112) Relocate gas service facility to this point from the Butt Road commercial area.
- 113) Convert pit toilet to maintenance/storage building.
- 114) Construct portable toilet facility. Investigate economic feasibility of portable toilets maintained by private company.
- 115) Provide concession operation with minimum levels of service. Levels of service to be delineated in lease agreement.
- 116) Construct shelter house.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #8.....ENFORCEMENT/MAINTENANCE FACILITY**

- 117) UTILIZE SPACE AVAILABLE AT THE COLUMBUS ZOO. IF THIS SPACE IS UNAVAILABLE IN THE FUTURE EVALUATE FEASIBILITY OF CONSTRUCTING MAINTENANCE/LAW ENFORCEMENT FACILITY AT HOME ROAD.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #9.....RIVERSIDE MANAGEMENT AREA NORTH**

- 118) Adopt the area park plan included as part of Phase 2 of the Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan. It outlines use areas for hiking, picnicking, bird watching, parking and urban wildlife management areas. Urban wildlife management areas take on greater importance in this area as various levels of succession will be established with their related edges and corridors, further enhancing the visual aspects along with increased habitat and diversity. In addition the plan will address ingress/egress points as well as utilize a one way north/south bound traffic movement whenever possible.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #10.....SPECIAL EVENT AREA**

- 119) Establish a license agreement with the Mid-Ohio Ski Club which delineates privileges and responsibilities for the Club.

- 120) Plant trees recommended for visual enhancement of area.
- 121) The area will be open to the public and special event users.
- 122) Utilize signage to state uses of area.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS

AREA #11.....OWLS POINT HANDICAPPED/DAY USE RECREATION AREA

- 123) Maintain current status of areas adjacent to State route 257 as UWMA's. Re-open the connecting road to the Point and trim back foliage and "scrub-type" trees to allow passage of vehicular traffic. Area should receive signs emphasizing Handicapped Access and Day Use Activity. Designate a minimum level of six handicapped fishing access pull-offs. A handicapped accessible "port-a-potty" system similar to that proposed for the Wyandot Area should be constructed. Security lighting of facilities and telephone availability for reporting purposes must be in place. Day-use by boaters can be accomplished via installation of docks on the "cove side" with posted two-hour maximum docking times. Canoeing and "car topper" vessels should be encouraged as a put-in location. The area should have improved picnicking facilities as well as a shelter house (on a reservable basis). Recreational improvements, over and above those noted, should be "area neighbor" donated.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS

AREA #12.....BELLPOINT RECREATION AREA

- 124) Proposed active Recreation Area just east of Delaware Street and north of Old S.R. 257.
- 125) Lease options with Concord or Scioto Township.
- 126) CONSIDER ESTABLISHMENT OF CANOE LAUNCH SITE.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS

AREA #13.....WHITE SULPHUR SPECIAL EVENT AND RECREATION AREA

- 127) Lease review of the Columbus Aqua Ski Club should be instituted within the context of recommendations contained elsewhere in this report. Area should be designated as a Special

Permit Recreation Area which is meant to convey the Area's availability as a special permit use site for organized groups, etc.

- 128) There are two private camping trailers/sites situated on what has been termed "rented grounds" directly adjacent to the area and accessed by either unauthorized gates and/or lack of fencing. Direct them to cease any entry onto the premises and institute fence repairs.
- 129) Sites restricted access to be maintained with outside special permitted users required to obtain keys to the area from the Department.
- 130) See Recommendation 8, page 42.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATION DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #14.....TWIN LAKES RECREATION AREA**

- 139) Examine feasibility of developing the entire area into a "Demonstration Wetlands project".
- 140) NATURE PRESERVE WITH AVIAN EMPHASIS.
- 141) Passive or Active recreational Opportunities Area.
- 142) Access trails.
- 143) Wildlife habitat renewals - UWMA Designation.

**RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #14A.....TWIN LAKES SPECIAL OBSERVATION AREA**

- 144) Develop into a restricted access nature/birding observation area. The site consists of a readily improved nesting area for water fowl.

**ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS
AREA #15.....SHAWNEE HILLS RECREATION AREA**

- 145) Site development into a passive community park. License option to the Village of Shawnee Hills.

- 146) LICENSE AGREEMENT TO INCLUDE VEGETATIVE BUFFERS CONSISTENT WITH MANAGEMENT PLAN.

ELEMENT #5.....RECREATIONAL DELIVERY SYSTEMS

AREA #16.....GLICK ROAD COOPERATIVE RECREATION AREA WEST

- 147) Lease option with the City of Dublin Recreation and Parks as a cooperative community recreational area.
- 148) Create Urban Wildlife Management Area.
- 149) CONSIDER CANOE/KAYAK SLALOM COURSE.

ELEMENT #6.....PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

- 150) Make any necessary Code changes to reflect management practices, improve safety conditions, and allow better service to the public.
- 151) INCREASE POLICE STAFFING LEVELS AND ADOPT MINIMUM STAFF LEVELS.
- 152) Institute waterways specific assignment criteria.
- 153) Establish an Area-wide Park Watch Program.
- 154) Heighten enforcement.

ELEMENT #7.....ECOSYSTEM AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

- 156) Seek expert advice in wildlife, fisheries, land forestry management practices as they relate to specific ecosystems of O'Shaughnessy.
- 157) Request the ODNR Division of Wildlife to conduct field studies on fish and wildlife habitat development.
- 158) Actively manage these ecosystems to improve the quantity and quality of the ecosystems.
- 159) Adopt succession management concepts.
- 160) Enhance vegetative buffers along the shoreline.

- 161) REQUEST THE DELAWARE COUNTY EXTENSION SERVICE TO CONDUCT EDUCATION OF UPSTREAM FARMING INTERESTS TO ENCOURAGE VEGETATIVE BUFFERS ALONG ALL FEEDER STREAMS, CREEKS AND SWALES.

LONG RANGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

This element of the plan describes in summary the actions needed to implement the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Park Master Plan. Although more detailed recommendations are provided in the previous sections of this plan, this section is important in that the priorities are recommended in such a manner as to gradually develop key recreation areas throughout the park. Critical linkages minimize impact in sensitive natural areas while fully realizing the potential of existing or proposed recreation areas.

The following outline form best summarizes the priorities for implementation of the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Park Master Plan as determined by the Waterways Management Task Force.

I. Active Use Management Prioritization

A distinction is made between focused active recreation and support structures, and passive recreation and environmentally sensitive areas and associated management practices. Active Use Management concentrates on area development including support facilities and capital improvements.

A. Access and Area Improvements

To address area development, initial priorities need to include road entrances, road closures, road improvements, followed by trail development which provide linkages between developed recreation areas.

1. Road entrance improvements
2. Road closures/access control
3. Road improvements
4. Trail development
5. Establish linkages (connection of recreation areas by trails or roads)

The above items when carefully executed will enhance the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Park Master Plan to minimize the

impact on the resource base by focusing activities in such a manner that the recreation area objectives are met and sensitive natural areas will be protected.

B. Specific Area Prioritization

The following areas are recommended for development over time in the order in which they appear. Specific implementation recommendations are stated in previous sections of this plan.

1. Home Road Marina and Recreation Area
2. Owls Point Recreation Area
3. Twin Lakes Nature Preserve
4. Bellpoint Recreation Area
5. Glick Road Recreation Area
6. Wyandot Small Craft Launch and Recreation Area
7. Leasure Point Memorial Recreation Area
8. EastBank Tailwaters Access Area
9. Boating Education Facility
10. Izaak Walton Nature Preserve
11. All Other East Bank Segments

This plan is flexible enough to alter the above order in which development may occur. Opportunities may present themselves for development out of sequence including grants, corporate sponsorship, etc. The above list represents the ideal circumstances. It is highly probable and acceptable that multiple projects occur concurrently and the objectives of this plan do not insist that one area must be fully completed to its ideal state before another area project begins.

II. Passive Use Management

Passive recreation and environmentally sensitive areas and associated management practices are equally as important as development of existing and new recreation areas. The status and health of the natural resources of O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Park Plan were at the heart of concern as this plan was developed. This plan acknowledges the importance of these resources (plants, fish, animals, geology, and history) and their relationship to us.

Special recommendations are noted in previous sections of this plan, however, the following items are important in the implementation.

A. Urban Wildlife Management Areas

The Urban Wildlife Management areas or other corridors of various sensitive resources must be inventoried and maintained in the habitat type best suited for the need. The following methods or practices when implemented will achieve the goals of this plan for maintaining diversity of plants and animals, chemical free shorelines, aesthetic beauty and related elements.

1. Old Field Succession Management
 - a. meadow
 - b. shrub
2. Succession Climax (Nature's laissez-faire)
3. Individual Stewardship Plans
 - a. Program Participation (through agreements)
 - b. Compliance (government inspection, enforcement)

This portion of the plan must be reviewed by natural resource professionals including review assistance periodically from staff of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and similar government agencies. Non-professionals in this field should not make decisions regarding habitat management practices. For Individual Stewardship Plans, adjacent neighbor support is a critical element. There is a great need to solicit and maintain their support in order to minimize possible encroachments and habitat destruction.

III. Linkage of Recreation Areas

Recreation areas should be linked together with multi-use trails to ensure access and protection of certain critical resource areas. This plan has demonstrated that vehicular access though important, must be controlled. Current uncontrolled vehicular access has caused encroachment onto wildlife habitat areas. It is not appropriate for the department of Recreation and Parks to provide vehicular access to all parkland at O'Shaughnessy Reservoir. It is the duty of the Department, however, to carefully manage vehicular access in order to protect sensitive natural areas. Access and parking areas issues are addressed in this plan to conveniently accommodate the recreational needs of the public without sacrificing the natural resources of the park. The following sites, prioritized in the order in which they appear are recommended for the creation of linkages. Specific recommendations are outlined in earlier sections of this plan.

A. Specific Linkage Prioritization

1. Home Road Marina and Recreation Area
 - a. Multi-use trails extending south through the Riverside Drive Recreation Area south to link Leasure Point Recreation Area and Wyandot Smallcraft Launch and Recreation Area.
 - b. Multi-use trails extending north through the Riverside Drive Recreation Area north to link various fishing accesses north to the Mid-Ohio Ski Club Area.
2. Owls Point Recreation Area
 - a. Multi-use trails south to Mid-Ohio Ski Club Area. This will link trails leading to Home Road Marina and Recreation Area.
3. Bellpoint Carry-in Craft Access and Recreation Area
 - a. Limited trail development
4. Glick Road Recreation Area
 - a. Limited trail development
 - b. Canoe trail development and link to Shawnee Hills Recreation Area
5. Wyandot Smallcraft Launch and Recreation Area
 - a. Multi-use trails extending north to Leasure Point Recreation Area.
 - b. Multi-use trails extending south to the Boating Education Facility.
6. Leasure Point Recreation Area
 - a. Multi-use trails extending north to Home Road Marina and recreation Area.
 - b. Multi-use trails extending south to the Wyandot Smallcraft Launch and Recreation Area.
7. EastBank Tailwaters Access
 - a. Limited trail development for fishing access
8. Boating Education Facility
 - a. Multi-use trails extending north to Wyandot Smallcraft Launch and Recreation Area.
9. All Other Segments
 - a. Trail development within the Twin Lakes Nature Preserve
 - b. Miscellaneous

Most of the recreation areas at the O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Park should be physically connected through some type of linkage, primarily multi-use trails. The above recommendations refer to an ideal progression of the development of trails using specified recreation areas as focal or beginning points. Since this plan is flexible and it is likely

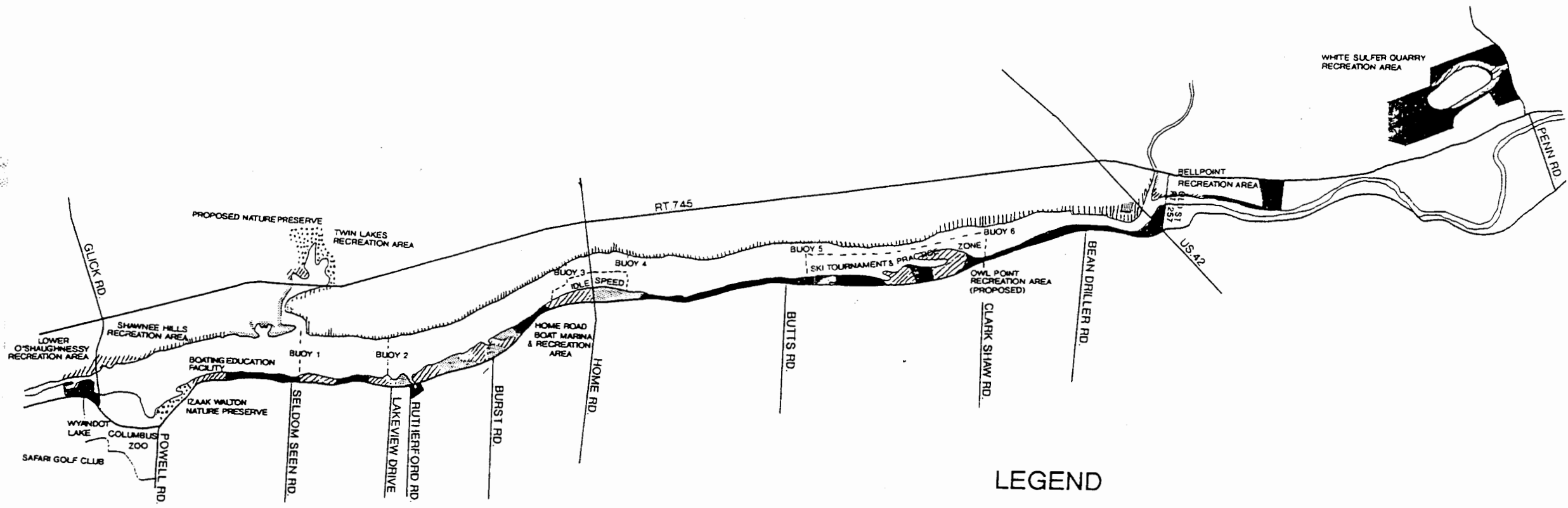
that opportunities to develop portions of the multi-use trails out of preferred sequence may present themselves, it is completely acceptable to do so. Linkage development should stem from areas most currently used by the public. For this reason the Home Road Marina and Recreation Area rates the highest for development potential regarding extending multi-use trails north to south. It is important to link existing developed recreation areas before creating multi-use trails leading to undeveloped areas. Although demand for public access may impatiently encourage otherwise, sound planning and public safety dictate that connections be made between existing developed recreation areas.

IV. Summary






The O'Shaughnessy Reservoir Park Comprehensive Plan concludes that this regional park should be managed for purposes of both resource protection and public recreation. The elements of the plan attempt to take into consideration a variety of influences, needs and facts pertaining to the development of this plan. It is important for future generations to be aware of the efforts made by this Waterways Management Task Force in planning the development of the entire park. Linkage corridors between existing and planned recreation areas are deliberately intended to remain natural or managed for wildlife purposes. The result of the plan is a consciousness to "think globally" in reference to practices protecting the environment, but to "act locally." It is fully expected that residential development will continue to encircle the park. For this reason and because of the generally increasing demands of the public for quality recreation space, implementation of the plan should occur on a timely and continuous basis.

O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR

MAPS



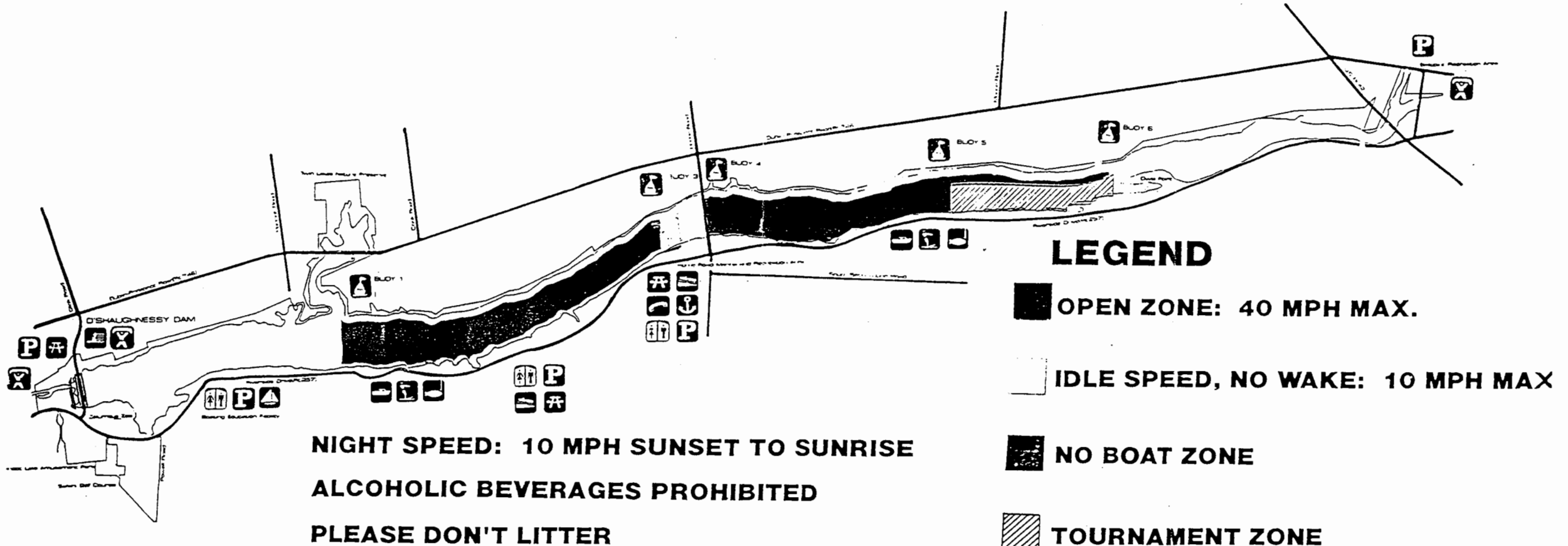
LEGEND

-  RECREATION AREA
-  NATURE PRESERVE
-  U.W.M.A.-OLD FIELD SUCCESSION
-  U.W.M.A.-SUCCESSION CLIMAX (WOODLAND)
-  INDIVIDUALIZED STEWARDSHIP PLANS



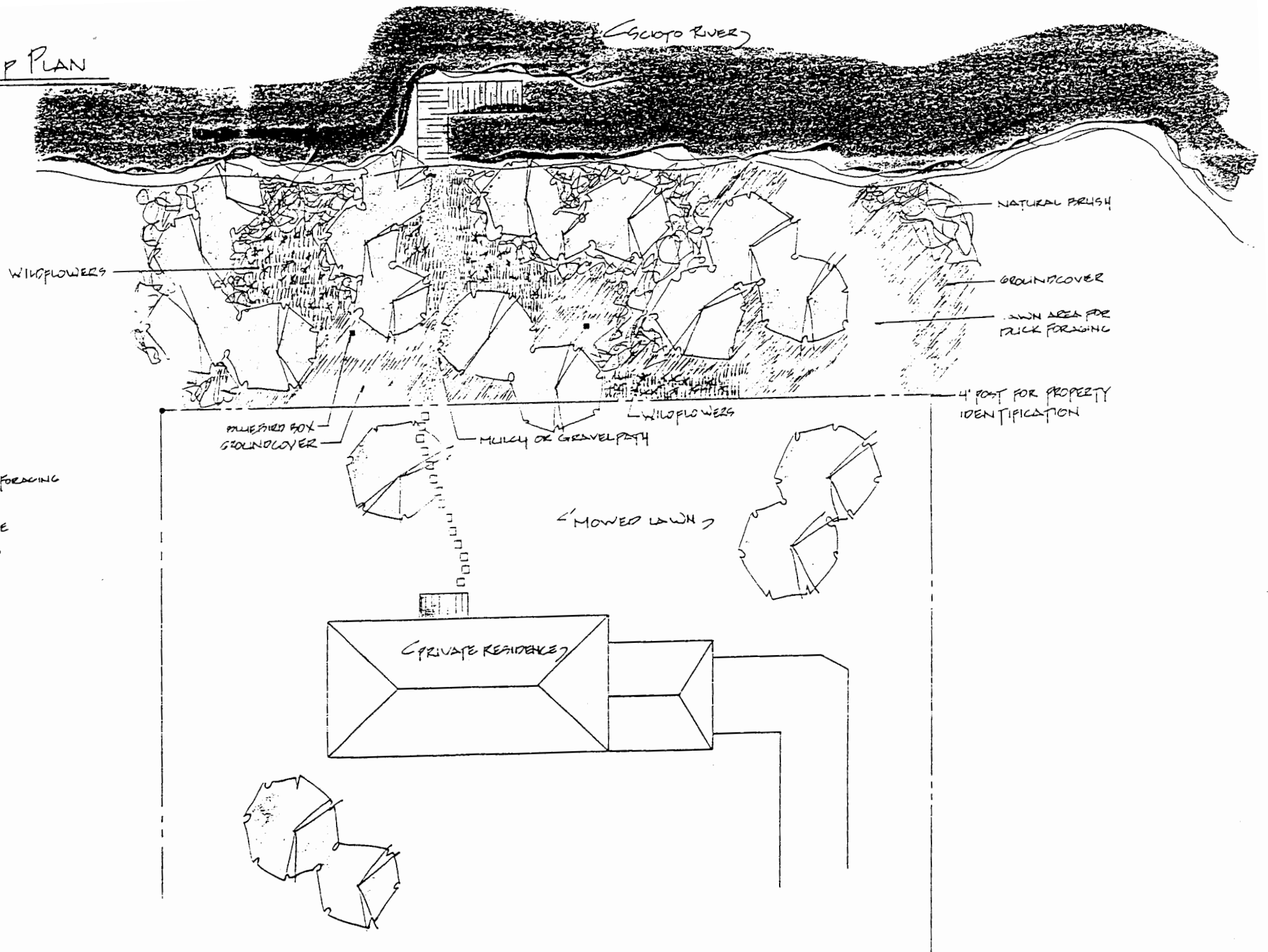
O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR

Columbus Recreation & Parks Department



APPENDIX A

SAMPLE LAND STEWARDSHIP PLAN



- FIVE FOOT PATH TO ROCK WITH APPROVED MATERIAL
- USE OF APPROVED WILDFLOWERS
- USE OF APPROVED GROUND COVERS
- APPROVE TREE PLANTING
- USE OF NATURAL FORBES & BRUSH
- USE OF LIMITED LAWN FOR WATERFOWL FORAGING
- NO CHEMICALS ON CITY PROPERTY
- STRESS TREE COVER ALONG WATERS EDGE
- USE OF BLUEBIRD, BAIT OR OTHER BOXES
- POST PROPERTY CORNERS

APPENDIX B

Waterways Task Force

Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan Phase II: O'Shaughnessy Reservoir



Number 3

Recreation and Parks Department

January, 1991

WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT PLAN COMMENCES

The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department Director James W. Barney appointed Task Force members, who were approved by the Columbus Recreation and Parks Commission to study the waterways located in and around Columbus. The Task Force has put together the following mission statement:

THE MISSION OF THE WATERWAYS TASK FORCE IS TO DEVELOP PLANS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION DIRECTING THE COLUMBUS RECREATION AND PARKS DEPARTMENT TO TAKE APPROPRIATE STEPS TO PROTECT THE WATERWAYS AND PARK RESOURCES IN CENTRAL OHIO, ENHANCE WATER QUALITY AND MANAGE THE WATERWAYS FOR MULTI-USE RECREATION.

ELEMENTS OF THE PLAN

The Comprehensive Management Plan is necessary to provide direction to the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department to take measures needed to satisfy the growing recreational demands on our limited waterway resources. Recreation is one aspect of the management plan, but the in-depth analysis provided by a comprehensive plan for O'Shaughnessy Reservoir is necessary to evaluate all needs in order to formulate a Columbus Waterways Plan. The Columbus Recreation and Parks Management Plan addresses the following key

points that relate to waterways management:

1. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
2. DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
3. WATER QUALITY CONSIDERATIONS
4. BOATING CARRYING CAPACITY
5. RECREATION DELIVERY SYSTEMS
6. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY
7. ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT
8. LONG RANGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

These elements must be carefully coordinated to address the interdisciplinary relationships that exist between each element of the plan. The goal is to create an individual plan for each reservoir and watercourse, which in turn will formulate one segment of an overall comprehensive management plan for the Columbus Metropolitan Area.

PHASE II: O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR FIRST PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

The first public workshop for the Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan has been scheduled for:

DATE: January 23, 1991

TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

PLACE: Safari Golf Course
10245 Riverside Drive
Club House Facility
(map on back)

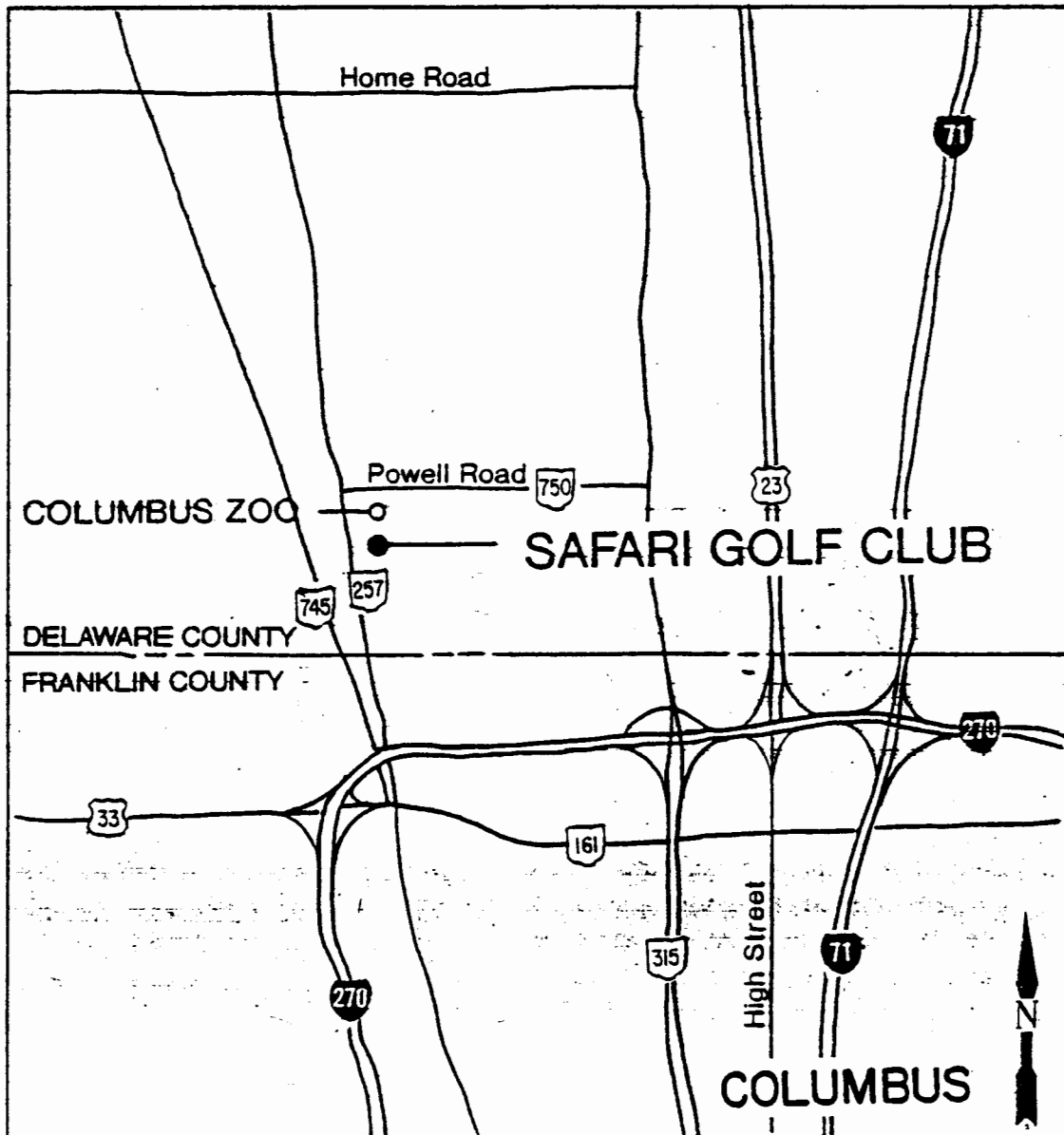
All interested persons are invited to attend the public workshop. The agenda for this meeting will deal exclusively with the key points that relate to the Management Plan.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions concerning this plan, or if you would like to be included on the O'Shaughnessy mailing list to receive copies of the newsletter, please contact:

CRAIG SEEDS
Recreation and Parks Department
420 W. Whittier Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 645-3305

LOCATION OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP



Waterways Task Force

Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan Phase II: O'Shaughnessy Reservoir



Number 4

Recreation and Parks Department

February, 1991

OVERVIEW OF FIRST PUBLIC WORKSHOP

The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks Department, held the first public workshop on the Comprehensive Waterways Management Plan. Over two hundred and fifty people participated in the workshop and provided input on the following key elements that are addressed in the Waterways Management Plan:

1. PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION
2. DEPARTMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES
3. WATER QUALITY
4. BOATING CARRYING CAPACITY
5. RECREATION DELIVERY SYSTEMS
6. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY
7. ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT
8. LONG RANGE NEEDS ASSESSMENT

During the workshop participants completed comment sheets on the elements outlined in the plan. These comments were given to the Waterways Task Force Committee for their review and implementation.

TASK FORCE TO PRESENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The Waterways Task Force Committee has reviewed the comment sheets from the first public workshop. The recommendations addressed in the plan have either been modified or augmented as a direct result of the input received from participants at the first workshop.

During the second workshop each participant will be given a packet with a set of modified recommendations for O'Shaughnessy Reservoir as prepared by the Management Task Force. Each participant at the second workshop will be asked to review the packet of information and make comments, prioritize projects or choose between various management strategies. If there are any questions, representatives will be available to discuss the elements of the plan and the recommendations being proposed.

The Task Force plans to present recommendations to the Recreation and Parks Commission in March. The goal is to begin implementation of this plan in the Spring of 1991.

PHASE II: O'SHAUGHNESSY RESERVOIR SECOND PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULED

The second public-workshop for the comprehensive waterways management plan has been scheduled for:

DATE: March 5, 1991
TIME: 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

PLACE: Safari Golf Course
10245 Riverside Drive
Club House Facility
(map on back)

Please plan to attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you have any questions concerning this plan, or if you would like to be included on the O'Shaughnessy mailing list to receive copies of the newsletter, please contact:

CRAIG SEEDS
Recreation and Parks Department
420 W. Whittier Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 645-3305

LOCATION OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP

